



Bandarawela Mahamevnawa Buddhist Monastery

The Bandarawela monastery, near the town of Ella, is home to over 30 Theravada Buddhist monks. From the top of their mountain they can look out at the busy world below. Anyone who makes the trek up the mountain will be rewarded with spectacular views and spectacular spiritual teachings of the Buddha.

You can visit us without an appointment, but if you would like to guarantee that a monk is available to take you on a tour or ask questions, or if you are a professional tour guide, please contact us at info@mahamevnawa.lk or call +94 768255729.

Things to See and Do

- Talk with monks about Buddhism
- Get personal meditation instructions from the monks
- Join in with evening chanting
- meditate
- Watch an historic stupa being built. If you like you can even help.

What to Bring

- Food for yourself. If a meal is taking place you will be invited to join, but otherwise there are no shops close to the monastery.
- Water bottle. Free drinking water available.
- Umbrella to protect from sun.
- Shoes that can be easily removed
- If you like, flowers to offer at shrines.

Attractions near the monastery

- Little Adams Peak
- Ravana Elle Falls
- Nine Arches Bridge, Demodara
- Dova Raja Mahavihara, ancient temple with Buddha statues
- Bogoda Wooden Bridge
- Muthiyangana Raja Maha Viharaya

Distance from…

Ella Town: 8 km
Ravana Falls: 13.5 km
Dowa Rajamaha Viharaya: 6 km **Nuwara Eliya:** 53 km via via Bandarawela-Welimada Road
Muthiyangana Raja Maha Viharaya, Badulla: 24 km

Directions

Along the way, you can mention to people that you are trying to get to Mahamevnawa (Maha MAY oo naa wa) Buddhist Monastery in Kumbalwela.

From Elle train station: Take a three-wheeler to the Bandarawela Mahamevnawa Bhavana Asapuwa (aprox Rs 800 - 1000).

From the Bandarawela bus station: Take a bus heading to Badulla and get off at the Kumbalwela Junction. Take a three wheeler to the Bandarawela Mahamevnawa Bhavana Asapuwa (aprox Rs 300).

From Badulla Road at the base of the monastery hill: If you are starting from Badulla Road where the monastery entrance sign is, it is about 4 km. Except for the last 200 meters, the road is a series of paved switchbacks. Many people walk or ride a scooter quite easily. Follow the sign at the top to the pagoda.

Monastery Open Hours

Everyday 8 am to 9 pm
Evening Puja: 6pm

Monastery Information: MahaMevNawaBM.org/bandarawela