



Polgahawela Mahamevnawa Buddhist Monastery & The Sambuddha Raja Maligawa

Mahamevnawa Polgahawela is a very large, active Theravada Buddhist Monastery about 2.5 hours from Colombo. It is home to over 100 monks. There are many things for visitors to see and do. Monks are available to speak to in English for tours or to answer questions about meditation. The Sambuddha Raja Maligawa is itself a living classroom for learning about the Buddha and his teachings. Plan on spending about 1.5 hours for a complete guided tour. There is no charge for admittance or the guided tours.

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 +94 779 700 001.

Things to See and Do

- Sacred Gautama Buddha Mansion
- Dhammachakkha Stupa
- Sacred Bodhi Tree Complex
- Bookshop with large selection of English Dhamma Books on Buddhism
- Guided or self-guided tours in English
- Speak with a monk in English about Buddhism or meditation
- Meditate in various semi secluded public places around the monastery

Buddha Mansion Open Hours

Tuesday to Friday: 8 am to 9 pm

Saturday & Sunday: 6 am to 9 pm

(Inside Buddha Mansion closed Mondays for cleaning)

Evening Puja: 5:30 pm to 7 pm

What to Bring

- Food for yourself. There are a few stalls with snacks on the road outside the monastery.
- Water bottle. Free drinking water available on site.
- Umbrella to protect from sun.
- Shoes that can be easily removed
- If you like, flowers and/or oil to offer at shrines. There are a few stalls selling flowers on the road outside the monastery.

Monastery Information: MahaMevNawaBM.org/polgahawela

Mansion Information: SamBuddhaRajaMaligawa.lk

Distance from...

Colombo Fort Station: 75.6 km via Colombo–Kandy Rd/Kandy Rd/A1

Bandaranayaka Airport: 62.1 km via Negombo–Mirigama Rd/B324

Kandy Clock Tower: 58.0 km via Kandy Rd/A1

Negombo: 61.1 km via Negombo–Mirigama Rd/B324

Additional Distance as a Side Trip

Traveling between Ambepussa and Kurunegala on the A6: 8 km round trip from the A6 and back.

Traveling between Colombo and Kandy on the A1: 16.4 km detouring at Ambepussa; 19 km returning to the A1 at Kegalle, saving 18 km on the A1.

Directions from Colombo

Along the way, you can mention to people that you are trying to get to Mahamevnawa (Maha MAY oo naa wa) Polgahawela (POL gaha way la)

By train: From Pettah (Colombo) take the train to Polgahawela train station. From the Polgahawela train station the easiest way is hire a three-wheeler (for about 400 Rs.)

By Bus: From Colombo Bus Stand take a Kurunegala bus and get off at the Yalgammodara Junction (at the railway crossing) right before Polgahawela Town. At this stop you will see a huge gateway across the road. You can hire a three-wheeler from there to take you to the monastery (for about 150 Rs.) or you can catch a bus that heads down that road to Narammala.

By Car: Take the A1 Colombo-Kandy road to Ambepussa. Then take the A6 Kurunegala road to the Yangalmodara Junction (at the railway crossing) right before Polgahawela Town. Turn left through the huge gateway across Narammala road. You will reach the monastery, on the left, in about 4km.



Main Shrine of Sacred Buddha Mansion



Paintings in the Grand Hall



Dhammachakkha Stupa



Sacred Bodhi Tree Complex

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