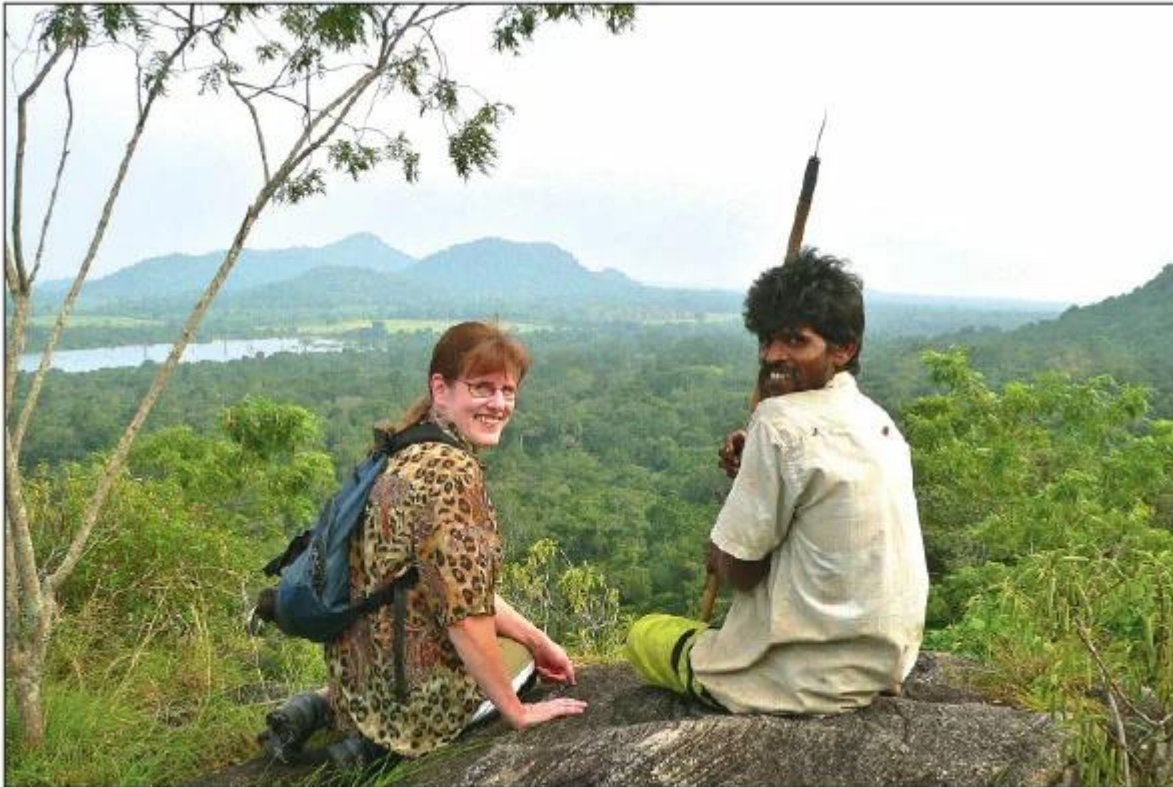


Sri Lanka Featured As A New Paradise



A documentary titled 'The Emerald Isle' shown on ARTE TV, a Franco-German TV network, described Sri Lanka as a green holiday destination as well as an upcoming and leading ecotourism destination.

Sri Lanka is featured as an island that offers much more than just tropical beaches. The programme portrays the interior of the island, from the mountain regions to the tea plantations and national parks while showcasing the traditional way of life of the people. The Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage is depicted as a unique shelter for elephants. In addition, various conservation initiatives are also described.

The documentary, produced with the assistance of the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Authority was directed by Pascal Sarragot and filmed by Salvatore Guadagnino.

According to ARTE TV, the motive is to search for real paradises where man and nature lives in harmony and people are conscious of preservation of these natural and potential tourism attractions.

The documentary also featured Tree Tops Jungle Lodge, an ecolodge situated in Moneragala District.

According to Lars Sorensen of Tree Tops, Sri Lanka is increasingly recognised as one of the world's most attractive destinations when it comes to nature tourism.

"Sri Lankan ecotourism has contributed to transform the general image of this amazing island to qualify as a new nature tourism paradise".