

# Cambodia Explorer

## 11 days | Ho Chi Minh City to Bangkok



*Kicking off in Ho Chi Minh City, explore Cambodia's capital Phnom Penh, ride the bamboo train in Battambang and marvel at the magnificent Angkor Wat. Finish up with a visit to scenic Tonle Sap Lake and the buzzing capital of Bangkok.*

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Ho Chi Minh City - free time to explore the 'Pearl of the Orient' or join an optional city tour
- Phnom Penh - independently explore Cambodia's capital or take in the highlights on optional tours
- Battambang - enjoy a ride on the famous bamboo train, visit Phnom Sambov Mountain, Battambang Market and a local village
- Siem Reap - free time to shop at the central market and take in the nightlife of Siem Reap's famous 'Pub Street'
- The Angkor Complex - gaze in wonder at incredible Angkor Wat, visit the iconic Ta Prohm Temple and explore the ancient city of Angkor Thom
- Kampong Phluk - visit the floating villages of Kampong Phluk, built within the floodplain of the Tonle Sap Lake

- Bangkok - independently explore Thailand's vibrant capital

#### What's Included

- 10 breakfasts
- 10 nights 3 star hotels
- Private transportation in air-conditioned vehicles and public tourist bus from Ho Chi Minh City - Phnom Penh
- Bamboo train ride in Battambang
- Guided sightseeing in Battambang, the Temples of Angkor and Tonle Sap Lake
- Escorted by an English speaking local guide (days 1 - 9)

#### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$10-20pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$45-55pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Airport arrival and departure transfer
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$3 - 6 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

### ITINERARY

#### Days 1-2 : Ho Chi Minh City



Monday. Welcome to Vietnam and the start of your adventure! At 6pm your tour guide will host a welcome meeting in the hotel for you and your fellow travellers.

Day 2 offers free time to explore the sights of Ho Chi Minh. This city sees old and new collide, with gleaming skyscrapers and trendy restaurants mixed with ancient pagodas and colourful markets. Be sure to check out the historic Reunification Palace and the War Remnants Museum, as well as sample the city's tasty street food. **Overnight - Ho Chi Minh City (B:1)**

#### Day 3 : Ho Chi Minh City to Phnom Penh

Ho Chi Minh City – Phnom Penh. Today we journey by public bus across the border into Cambodia. Arriving in the capital Phnom Penh, we check-in to our hotel and catch a tuk tuk to the Mekong River. Here we enjoy

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a scenic stroll and a drink at the Foreign Correspondents Club.

**Overnight - Phnom Penh (B)**

## Day 4 : Phnom Penh



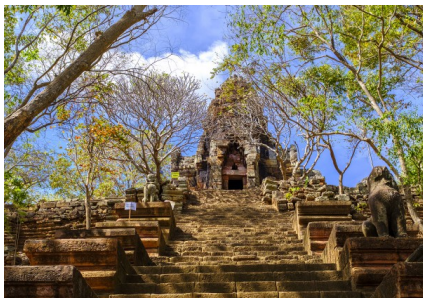
Enjoy a free day exploring Phnom Penh independently or join one of our optional excursions. Our morning sightseeing tour visits the National Museum, the Silver Pagoda and the Central Market. Or, those interested in Cambodia's recent history can visit the Killing Fields and notorious Toul Sleng prison on our afternoon tour. Those feeling energetic can also visit the scenic Koh Dach island on an optional cycling trip.

**Overnight - Phnom Penh (B)**

## Day 5 : Battambang

Phnom Penh – Battambang. Today we journey to Battambang, a rural province known as the 'rice bowl of Cambodia', stopping enroute to visit a local pottery. Our next stop is the Phnom Sambov Mountain, with the golden Wat Sampeou at its peak. Half-way to the summit, we visit a group of caves once used as 'killing caves' by the Khmer Rouge that have since become a place of pilgrimage. **Overnight - Battambang (B)**

## Day 6 : Bamboo train and Wat Banan



Battambang – Siem Reap. Following breakfast, we take a visit to Battambang

Market, which sells plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables. We then continue to a local village, known for its historic wooden houses, where Cambodian families give us a fascinating insight into local life. Next we take a ride on the famous bamboo train, a 2.5 x 4-metre raft-like device used by the locals to transport their goods, before driving to Wat Banan, one of the best-preserved temples of Battambang.

Our final stop is Siem Reap, where the rest of the day is free to spend at your leisure.

**Overnight - Siem Reap (B)**

## Day 7 : Angkor Temple Complex



This morning we explore Cambodia's biggest attraction, the magnificent Angkor Wat. The best-preserved of all the temples within the Angkor Complex, this three-tiered structure rises 65-metres above the ground. This afternoon we explore the ancient city of Angkor Thom, with the 12th century Bayon temple known for its giant stone-carved faces at its centre.

Our last stop today is Ta Prohm temple, one of the most popular in the Angkor complex after appearing in the Tomb Raider movie starring Angelina Jolie. Slowly being overtaken by nature, the temple features vast tree trunks growing over its crumbling ruins. Returning to our hotel, the rest of the day is free to explore Siem Reap. **Overnight - Siem Reap (B)**

## Day 8 : Tonle Sap Lake



Siem Reap – Tonle Sap Lake. After breakfast we visit Tonle Sap Lake and a cluster of villages known as Kampong Phluk. Built on the floodplain, the villages feature colourful houses built on stilts over the water. Returning to Siem Reap, enjoy free time this afternoon either checking out the atmosphere of Pub Street or browsing the stalls of the central market. You may also join us in the evening for an optional dinner and Apsara dance show.

**Overnight - Siem Reap (B)**

## Day 9 : Journey overland to Bangkok

Siem Reap - Bangkok. It's a long journey today (10 - 11 hours), as we drive across the border into Thailand and on to the buzzing capital of Bangkok. After hotel check-in, spend the evening at leisure.

**Overnight - Bangkok (B)**

## Days 10-11 : Bangkok



(B:2)

## HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

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Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

## Hoang Phu Gia Hotel

Offering a prime location in the city centre of Ho Chi Minh, the Hoang Phu Gia Hotel is set between the bustling downtown area and China Town. Its guestrooms are cosy and comfortable, with free WiFi and room service available. When it comes to food and drink, you have a choice of two restaurants serving European, Asian and traditional Vietnamese cuisine. However, for breakfast you're truly spoilt for choice, with a complimentary buffet of over 30 different dishes.



## Universe Central Hotel

This laid-back hotel offers a great location just 3 kilometres from the Ben Thanh Market, which sells an array of crafts and textiles, and the impressive Notre-Dame Basilica. Guestrooms are well-equipped, with 24-hour room service available and high-speed internet access. Unwind with a massage in the hotel's spa, which offers a steam bath and sauna for you to relax in after your journey. A buffet breakfast is served in the hotel's restaurant, which offers a tasty range of European, Asian and Vietnamese dishes.



## Cardamom Hotel & Apartments

Offering views of the Tonle Sap River, this modern hotel has a pagoda-inspired facade and a great location, just minutes' walk from Phnom Penh's central market and Royal Palace. Its bright guestrooms feature free WiFi and tea and coffee making facilities,

with room service available from 10:30am to 11pm. Enjoy all day dining at the Mimosa Restaurant, which serves both Asian and Western cuisine. Or, if you're looking to relax, head to the laid-back Poulowai Lobby Bar for a range of drinks and cocktails.



## Khemara Battambang 1

This contemporary hotel offers a great location, just a 10-minute drive from the Beoung Chhuok Market and tranquil Sangke Lake. Its comfortable and air-conditioned guestrooms feature poolside views, as well as tea and coffee making facilities and a minibar. Guests keen to get in a workout can head to the hotel's fitness centre or the spa offers a sauna, jacuzzi and rejuvenating massage treatments for those wanting to unwind. The restaurant serves Western and Asian dishes, however its speciality is traditional Khmer cuisine, which you can enjoy alfresco surrounded by a tropical garden.



## New Riverside Hotel

The New Riverside Hotel is the perfect place to get away from the noise of the city and relax for a while. The spacious and beautifully decorated rooms line the outdoor pool that stretches through the middle of the property. The hotel is surrounded by a range of lush, exotic plants that fill the air with their fragrances, blending perfectly with the scent of fresh Khmer and international dishes coming from the dining hall. The hotel is also well-located close to Pub Street and the famous Angkor Wat.



## W22 Hotel

Located in one of Bangkok's most culturally dynamic districts, the W22 Hotel is surrounded by exotic markets, old-world shops and an array of street food. Its main feature is an airy seven-storey atrium, where you can relax on comfortable lounge seating with a coffee or cocktail. Guests can also head to the common room to play a game or two on the pool table or explore the Art Space, which contains regular exhibitions by local artists. Spacious, well-appointed guestrooms feature minimalist décor and high-speed WiFi, with the Fork & Cork Restaurant and Bar serving creative Thai cuisine.



## PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons (or 3 persons if you wish to book a triple) sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same gender, this can be arranged, thus avoiding the single person supplement.

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## PRICES / DATES 2019

Date	Twin Share	Single
07 Oct	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
21 Oct	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
04 Nov	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
23 Dec	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
30 Dec	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695

## PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
27 Jan	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
02 Mar	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
30 Mar	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
20 Apr	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
11 May	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
01 Jun	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
29 Jun	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
27 Jul	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
17 Aug	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
31 Aug	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
21 Sep	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
02 Nov	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
16 Nov	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
30 Nov	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695
28 Dec	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695

## PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
11 Jan	AUD 1,295	AUD 1,695

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