

# Classic Cambodia

## 6 days | Phnom Penh to Siem Reap



*Experience the best of Cambodia in under a week with this short and sweet tour. Explore the sights of Phnom Penh before flying down to Siem Reap to discover the incredible Angkor Temple Complex.*

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Angkor Wat – discover this legendary Khmer masterpiece and opt to return to the temple at sunrise for an incredible experience
- Angkor Temple Complex - admire the many stone faces of the Bayon Temple in Angkor Thom and visit iconic Ta Prohm
- Phnom Penh – enjoy a tour of highlights including the Silver Pagoda and discover the horrors of the Khmer Rouge regime at Toul Sleng
- NGO Phare Cambodian Circus – join an evening of entertainment as we watch this celebrated circus show
- Tonle Sap Lake – cruise on Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake and visit the colourful floating villages of Kampong Phluk
- Siem Reap – explore the interesting Angkor National Museum and enjoy free time to stroll down the famous 'Pub Street'

#### What's Included

- 5 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 1 dinner
- 5 nights 4\* & special class hotels
- Economy class flight Phnom Penh - Siem Reap
- Airport arrival and departure transfers days 1 and 6
- Guided sightseeing - Phnom Penh, Siem Reap and the Temples of Angkor
- Escorted by an English-speaking Cambodian tour guide
- All transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles
- Boat trip on Tonle Sap Lake

#### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$15-25pp, paid in USD
- Entrance Fees: USD\$105-115pp, paid in USD
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$3 - 6 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guides is an entirely personal gesture

### DETAILED ITINERARY

#### Day 1 : Phnom Penh



Monday. Welcome to Cambodia! Upon arrival you'll be met and transferred to our hotel. Enjoy free time before a group dinner this evening. **Overnight - Phnom Penh (D)**

#### Day 2 : Phnom Penh City Tour



Today we'll enjoy a full day sightseeing tour of Phnom Penh starting at the National Museum of Fine Arts, housing the world's finest collection of Khmer sculpture. We continue with the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda, famed for its lavish decorations – the floors are paved with silver tiles and statues

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of Buddha are encrusted with thousands of diamonds.

We later come face to face with the horrors of the Pol Pot regime as we visit Toul Sleng (Security Prison - S21), a school that was gruesomely transformed into a torture chamber under the Khmer Rouge and visit the Killing Fields where over 10,000 people were executed. **Overnight - Phnom Penh (B)**

### Day 3 : Angkor Wat



Phnom Penh – Siem Reap. Hotel check out and transfer to the airport for our included flight to Siem Reap. After time to freshen up we visit the Angkor National Museum - a fascinating archaeological museum dedicated to the collection, preservation and presentation of Angkorian artefacts and Khmer civilisation, with collections mainly dated from Khmer Empire's Angkor period circa 9th to 14th-century.

This afternoon we explore incredible and iconic Angkor Wat, easily the most famous and best-preserved of all the temples within the Angkor complex. It is a massive three-tiered structure crowned by five lotus-like towers rising 65 meters from ground level. Believed to be the largest religious building in the world, Angkor Wat contains thousands of wall carvings and extensive bas-reliefs. Spend the evening at leisure. There are plenty of great bars and restaurants in the compact city centre which is easily navigated on foot. **Overnight - Siem Reap (B)**

### Day 4 : Angkor Thom & NGO circus project



Early this morning opt to see Angkor Wat bathed in the spectacular golden light of sunrise. Later we drive out to see the well-preserved temples of Banteay Srei, stopping at an exotic butterfly sanctuary and the a village of Preaek Dak along the way.

At Preaek Dak each of us will have the opportunity to plant mango or jack fruit saplings as part of our tree planting initiative, operated in conjunction with this community. The majority of villagers here are on low incomes and by providing them with trees that bear fruit, they are able to feed their families and make an income by selling the fruit. It's also a way of offsetting carbon emissions - a win all round. We're hoping to plant some 3,000 trees and cover an area of 15-20 hectares, providing the village of 200 with a sustainable source of income.

We return to the Angkor Temple Complex this afternoon to explore the ancient city of Angkor Thom. Surrounded by an 8m high wall Angkor Thom was the last capital of the Great Khmer Empire under the reign of Jayavarman VII. In Angkor Thom you will see the fabulous Bayon Temple, Baphuon, the royal enclosure, and the Terraces of the Elephants and the Leper King. The last stop on our tour of the Angkor Complex is Tra Prohm Temple, which unlike the other temples here has been left in the same ruined state that it was first discovered in. Swallowed by the jungle, vast muscular roots envelop the crumbling towers and walls whilst the trees' foliage dapples the temple in shadow.

This evening you're guaranteed to be entertained watching the incredible Phare Cambodian Circus. The Phare NGO circus project trains street kids to become very

talented circus artists and the popular show blends circus skills with interpretations of modern life and issues in Cambodian society.

**Overnight - Siem Reap (B)**

### Day 5 : Free time in Siem Reap



This morning we drive to Kampong Phluk, a cluster of three villages of stilt house built within the floodplain of Tonle Sap lake about 16 km southeast of Siem Reap. We'll see houses built on soaring stilts which hover over the Tonle Sap Lake whilst nearby, the petrified trees of a flooded forest are revealed whenever the water level drops. After a boat trip on the lake and lunch, we return to Siem Reap where the afternoon is free for you to spend at leisure. Perhaps pick up some last minute souvenirs at the central market or head down to lively Pub Street.

Note: Between Feb - July the water levels at Kompong Phluk village maybe too low to go boating, if so, we will visit Chong Kneas floating village where it will still be possible to go boating. Afternoon and evening at leisure.

**Overnight - Siem Reap (B, L)**

### Day 6 : Siem Reap

Saturday. After breakfast and hotel check-out, an included departure transfer takes you to the airport.(B)

#### 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. If you require a complete list of the confirmed hotels for your tour please request this from your reservations consultant two weeks prior to your departure. **Please refer to your Tour**

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**Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.**

## Harmony Phnom Penh Hotel

Just 5 minutes from the Royal Palace, the Harmony Hotel in Phnom Penh is an elegant hotel with a great location. The spacious rooms feature plush furnishings with a smart decor of dark wood flooring and white walls with accents of colour. The hotel features a rooftop infinity pool and Jacuzzi with views across the river and the city, a perfect spot to relax after a busy day sightseeing. Guests can dine on a choice of Asian and Western dishes at the hotel's restaurant and enjoy a wide selection of beverages.



## Kravan Hotel

The Kravan Hotel offers comfortable and spacious guest rooms in a quiet location close to the heart of Phnom Penh. This stylish hotel has an outdoor rooftop pool, in addition to a rooftop bar and a restaurant which offer fantastic panoramic views across the capital. Free wifi is offered throughout the property and there is fitness centre located on the top floor where guests can indulge in various spa treatments and massages.



## Angkor Paradise Hotel

Not far from Angkor Wat, the Angkor Paradise Hotel offers elegant accommodation in a world famous setting. Guest rooms are beautifully furnished with traditional wooden floors and all mod cons. All rooms have either fabulous views of the city or the hotel's outdoor pool. The hotel also boasts a great onsite restaurant,

fitness centre and pool terrace. The Angkor Paradise Hotel is situated a short distance from Siem Reap international airport and the majestic Angkor Archaeological Park.



## Modular Group Tours

Our longest group tour in Southeast Asia is our Bangkok to Angkor Wat - 29 day tour. All other Signature tours that we offer are sectors of this larger tour. This means that on your holiday you may join travellers who started their tour in Bangkok, Luang Prabang, Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City. There may also be travellers who continue on to Laos or Bangkok when you end your tour in Siem Reap.

### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

#### Cambodia Country Guide

#### Entrance Fees - collected in USD.

Entrance fees to most sites are not included, although reasonably priced. In Cambodia, we collect entrance fees on Day 2 of the tour (the amount is noted under exclusions on page one of this document). A breakdown of the entrance fee total is provided upon arrival. All funds collected in Cambodia for entrance fees are payable in USD.

#### Tipping Kitty - collected in USD

At the start of your tour, we take a small tipping kitty (the amount is noted under exclusions) from all tour participants to cover tips throughout your holiday. This saves you the hassle of knowing when and how much to tip bellhops, luggage handlers, bus drivers, train conductors and other support staff throughout the tour.

This amount does not include a tip for your tour guides. For a job well done, we would suggest USD \$3 - 6 per person per day. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal

gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

## Health Requirements

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Cambodia from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Tetanus, Typhoid, Hep A, Diphtheria and Polio are recommended.

There is the risk of malaria in parts of Cambodia so it is very important to check with your doctor before you go, to see whether malarial medication is required for the areas you are visiting. Yellow fever is not present in Cambodia but a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from those travelling from an infected region.

#### Water

Tap water in Cambodia is not considered safe to drink. It's recommended to only drink bottled mineral water, which is readily available in hotels, shops and restaurants.

#### Climate

Cambodia has a tropical monsoon climate with two seasons; Rainy season from May to November, when the countryside is lush and green, and dry season from late November to April, when there are long days of glorious sunshine and clear skies. Temperatures in Cambodia remain fairly constant and warm throughout the year, apart from in the north, when winters (December to March) are generally colder.

#### Guides

In Cambodia, a Cambodian national guide is offered for arrangements in Phnom Penh. Upon arrival to Siem Reap you will meet a specialist regional guide who will lead your tour from here on.

If travelling on our Thailand & Angkor Temples tour, your Cambodian tour guide will meet you upon arrival to Siem Reap Airport and conduct all arrangements from there forward till your return to Thailand.

## Time & Voltage

Cambodia is 7 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time(GMT).

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The voltage in Cambodia is 230v. In Cambodia 3 types of plugs are commonly accepted: 2 flat prong plugs (type A), the 2 round pin european plug (type C) and many of the new 4 and 5 star hotels use the British standard 3-pin plug (type G). To cover all bases, it is best to pack an international travel adaptor!

## Currency

The official currency of Cambodia is the Cambodia Riel but USD is also widely accepted and sometimes preferred in larger stores and supermarkets.

Pound Sterling, US Dollars, Euro and other major currencies can be exchanged in Cambodia at various bureau de changes in major cities and towns. However foreign currency is also widely accepted and often desired more so it can give the shopper more buying power. ATMs can be found in all larger towns and cities and some five star hotels. We recommend you take a mixture of cash (preferably USD) and credit/ debit cards for ATM's. It's advisable to request bank notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities.

Traveller's Cheques are not recommended as they're often difficult to exchange and incur high fees.

## Essential Packing

- Lightweight cotton garments. Ladies will need to have their shoulders and legs (to below the knee) covered when visiting the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh and Angkor Wat. Please pack accordingly
- Comfortable walking shoes in addition to flip flops/ thongs
- DEET based mosquito repellent & antihistamine cream
- Bring a 2 flat prong (type A) and a 2 round pin (type C) electrical adaptors. A universal adaptor will cover all bases
- Lightweight, fold up raincoat/ poncho/ umbrella
- Two spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs

- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch

## Visas

British, Australian, Canadian, New Zealand, South African and USA passport holders are able to obtain a 30 day tourist visa upon arrival to Cambodia when entering via Pochentong International Airport in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap International Airport (in the Angkor Wat Region) and at the Moc Bai (Vietnam) and Bavet (Cambodia) land border. We use the Moc Bai/Bavet land border crossing for all our group tours that travelling from Vietnam to Cambodia.

At each of these entry points you must submit a photocopy of your passport (identification page) and one passport size photograph. The cost of the visa is currently USD30. Note: at the land border sometimes immigration will ask for more. In this situation point to the sign above the ticket window indicating that the cost is actually USD30 (subject to change). Further, you are best to give the exact amount i.e. USD30 as often if you give more you will not receive change.

Alternatively, it is now also possible to obtain an e-visa in advance of travel. The e-visa allows for a length of stay up till 30 days. The e-visa is valid for 3 months from date of issue, not date of arrival, so please ensure that you do not obtain this visa too far in advance. Online processing time for this visa is 3 days. The e-visa is valid for entry via Pochentong International Airport in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap International Airport (in the Angkor Wat Region) and at the Moc Bai (Vietnam) and Bavet (Cambodia) land border. It is not valid at any other land or water border. To obtain an e-visa for Cambodia go to: <https://www.evisa.gov.kh/Default.aspx>

It is also possible to obtain a 30 day tourist visa prior to arrival via the Cambodian Embassy in your home port, though please note tourist visas arranged with the embassy are valid for one month from date of issue, not date of arrival.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after your departure date, if it is not you may be refused entry into

the country. Visa requirements are subject to change and visa procurement is solely the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go Tours.

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