

# Classic Cambodia

## 6 days | Phnom Penh to Siem Reap



Experience the best of Cambodia in under a week with this spectacular 6-day group tour. Explore the many sights of Phnom Penh and learn about the horrors of the Khmer Rouge at the Killing Fields and Tuol Sleng. Then fly up to Siem Reap to discover the incredible Angkor Temple Complex, including the most famous temple in the region - the legendary Angkor Wat.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Angkor Wat – Discover this legendary Khmer masterpiece and opt to return to the temple at sunrise for a truly incredible bucket list experience
- Angkor Temple Complex - Admire the many stone faces of the Bayon Temple in Angkor Thom and visit the iconic Ta Prohm temple
- Phnom Penh – Embark on an eye-opening city tour featuring the National Museum of Fine, diamond encrusted Buddha statues at The Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda, and learn the horrors of the Khmer Rouge

regime at Tuol Sleng and the killing fields

- 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 – Examine Angkorian artefacts at the intriguing Angkor National Museum and enjoy free time to stroll down famous 'Pub Street'

#### What's Included

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

#### 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 guide 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)**

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## 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 which houses 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 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 Tuoul 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.

**Important Please Note:** The Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda are currently closed, in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The date these sites will reopen is still uncertain. If they remain closed there will be free time in Phnom Penh this afternoon.

**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 astonishing 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 the ground. Believed to be the largest religious building in the world, Angkor Wat contains thousands of exquisitely crafted wall carvings and extensive bas-reliefs. Spend the evening at leisure. There are plenty of lively bars and restaurants in the compact city centre which is easily navigated on foot.

### Important Please Note:

The Angkor Museum in Siem Reap is currently closed and a reopening date has not yet been announced.

**Overnight – Siem Reap (B)**

## Day 4 : Angkor Thom & NGO circus project



Early this morning take the chance 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 village of Preak Dak along the way.

At Preak 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 fascinatingly blends circus skills with interpretations of modern life and issues in Cambodian society. **Overnight – Siem Reap (B)**

## Day 5 : Free time in Siem Reap



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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 is 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)

## ACCOMMODATION

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

**Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel or start point 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.



### Tara Angkor Hotel

This stylish and sophisticated hotel offers luxurious accommodation with elegant dining, fantastic facilities and a perfect location. The spacious rooms are wonderfully finished with smart wood flooring and ensuite bathrooms, plus there is free WiFi access. The hotel's bars and restaurants provide a diverse range of international and local cuisine, with a buffet breakfast served at Tong Tara Restaurant and cocktails served at Lily Lounge and the pool bar. The hotel also features a spa, outdoor swimming pool, complimentary bicycle rental, and for budding chefs - cooking classes in Thai and Khmer food! This hotel is just six kilometres from the Angkor temple complex.



## BEFORE YOU GO

### Entrance Fees

Entrance fees to most sites are not included, although reasonably priced. The entrance fee amount is noted under exclusions on page one of this document and a breakdown of the entrance fees is provided upon arrival in your Welcome Letter.

For tours starting in Vietnam we collect from all tour participants the entrance fees on Day 2 of the tour. All funds collected in Vietnam are payable in either US dollars (USD) or Vietnamese dong (VND).

Multi-country tours starting in Laos: Please note if you are travelling on our Laos to Vietnam, Inside Indochina or Indochina Discovery tour your entrance fees will be split into two separate payments. Entrance fees for Laos will be collected on day 2 of the tour in Vientiane and entrance fees for

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Vietnam/Cambodia/Thailand will be collected on day 8 in Hanoi.

## Tipping Kitty

At the start of your tour, we collect from all tour participants a small tipping kitty (the amount is noted under exclusions on page one of this document). This kitty covers tips throughout your holiday and 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 guide/s. For a job well done, we would suggest USD \$3-6 per traveller, per day. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

Multi country tours starting in Laos: Please note if you are travelling on our Laos to Vietnam, Inside Indochina or Indochina Discovery tour your tipping kitty will be split into two separate payments. The tipping kitty for the Laos section of your tour will be collected on day 2 of the tour in Vientiane. Then, on day 8 in Hanoi the Vietnam/Cambodia/Thailand tipping kitty will be collected for these onward touring arrangements.

## Groups & guides

The longest *Signature Range* tour we offer in Southeast Asia is our *Indochina Discovery 23 day tour*. All other *Signature Range* tours we offer (with the exception of the family tours) are sectors of this larger tour.

As our tours are modular, travellers may join you part way through your holiday, for example in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City or Phnom Penh on our *Signature Range* tours. There will also be travellers who end their tour when you continue on.

### Guides:

In Laos, a Lao national guide escorts our tours from Vientiane through to Luang Prabang.

In Vietnam a Vietnamese national guide escorts our tours from Hanoi through to Ho Chi Minh City.

In Cambodia, our tours have two guides, a Cambodian national guide in Phnom Penh and a specialist regional guide in Siem Reap.

Our tours that end in Bangkok are not fully escorted for the Thailand sector. On our *Signature Range* tours there is a local Thai guide for the Bangkok city tour.

## What to pack

Please check local temperatures so you can pack accordingly. Visit [www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com)

- Lightweight cotton garments. Ladies may need to have their shoulders and legs (to below the knee) covered when visiting certain sites, so please pack accordingly
- Comfortable walking shoes in addition to flip flogs/thongs
- DEET based mosquito repellent and antihistamine cream
- Universal travel adaptor
- Lightweight, fold up raincoat/poncho/umbrella
- Tour Voucher and a copy of your travel insurance policy, spare passport photos and a photocopy of your passport
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swimming costume and torch
- Sleep sheet if taking an overnight sleeper train in Vietnam. These also can be easily purchased in Hanoi at an approx. cost of USD\$5
- An overnight bag, if your tour includes a night aboard a Junk boat in Halong Bay. As we will be returning to Hanoi, it is not essential that you take your big bag/suitcase with you

## It's not like home

Travel to far-flung corners of the earth involves lifestyles and conditions that are sometimes very different from what

you are used to back home. You must come prepared to cope with unusual situations, local inadequacies and unpredictable events, as and when they occur. Foreign travel is definitely not suitable for people who expect or demand everything to go exactly as planned. With the greatest respect and in the interest of your ultimate enjoyment you must understand this. Things can and do change in foreign countries.

## Shopping experiences on your tour

All shopping experiences on your tour have been noted in the itinerary and they have been carefully selected based upon positive feedback from On The Go travellers. You are under no obligation to partake in a listed shopping experience and you are most welcome to wait inside or outside the premises.

In the tourism industry it's common practice for commission to be offered in exchange for recommending particular shops or suppliers. This can become an issue when clients feel obliged to purchase goods. We do our best to avoid this by monitoring all shopping experiences offered.

Although we only visit reputable retailers, please note that we cannot explicitly guarantee the quality of their products. All purchases made whilst on holiday with us are at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with your purchase. On The Go cannot be held responsible for any items that you buy if they fail to meet expectation, or any shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.

## Cambodia Country Guide

### Visas & passports

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

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that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Cambodia.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book all services. Please be advised visa requirements are subject to change, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. For information about visas, head to [www.onthegotours.com/Cambodia/Visas](http://www.onthegotours.com/Cambodia/Visas)

## What to expect in Cambodia

Please visit [www.onthegotours.com/Cambodia/Travel-tips-and-useful-info](http://www.onthegotours.com/Cambodia/Travel-tips-and-useful-info) for local customs, currency, WiFi and other helpful information to prepare you for your holiday.

## Health requirements & water

You should seek medical advice for vaccinations and about medications before travelling.

### 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.

## Airline luggage allowance

If your tour includes international or domestic flights within the region please be mindful that the free baggage allowance for Economy class travel is strictly 20kg and 1 piece of hand luggage up to 6kg. Any additional weight is charged at a per kilo rate. You may wish to bear this in mind whilst shopping.

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