

THE CLASSIC HOLIDAY & BEACH

PHNOM PENH - SIEM REAP- SIHANOUKVILLE

15 Days / 14 Nights

Day 01: Arrival Phnom Penh

(-)

Welcome to Cambodia.

Upon arrival at the Phnom Penh airport, you will meet *your guide* and be transferred to the hotel for check-in. *[Standard check-in time: 1400 hrs]*

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 02: Phnom Penh

(B)



Breakfast at your hotel.

A discovery tour of Phnom Penh At 8:00 a.m., you will be met by your driver and guide. Gain insight into the recent dark history of Cambodia at the **Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum**, a former school converted into a detention center during the Khmer Rouge. Visit the equally harrowing Killing Fields of **Choeng Ek**. These are tough visits, but important for learning about the country's history.

Afternoon: visit **Central Market**, built in 1937 during the French colonial period. Selling gold and silver jewelry, electronic equipment, clothing, fake watches and bags, suitcases, dried and fresh food, and lots of souvenirs. Next is **Wat Phnom**, a beautiful hilltop temple with manicured gardens. followed by the **Royal Palace** and **Silver Pagoda**, named for the 5,000 silver tiles that cover the pagoda's floor, known for its collection of gold, silver, crystal, and bronze Buddha statues.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 03: Phnom Penh

(B)

Breakfast at your hotel.

Today we go to Silk Island, home to a silk weaving village and silk center, to see the silk-making process from beginning to end, a traditional craft in Phnom Penh. Then there is Koh Dach Pagoda, a bright yellow temple where we can see a variety of the island's Water Festival boats that were designed for battle more than 1,000 years ago. If we have ample time, we stop at the nearby beach.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 04: Phnom Penh – Siem Reap

(B)



Breakfast at your hotel.

At 8:00 a.m., pickup at the Phnom Penh hotel for your transfer by vehicle to Siem Reap. During the drive, we break up the trip with two stops to visit local sites. Roughly 55km from the capital, we make a stop at a local village, Skuon, better known as Spider Town. This busy market village boasts a small community that has become infamous for its hunting and consumption of tarantulas. First eaten during the reign of Khmer Rouge, when food was scarce and starvation was rife, tarantulas are still widely consumed today, particularly in Skuon, where these arachnids are found in abundance. We take time to explore the local market to see the many ways these high-protein creep crawlers are prepared and to try a few if you dare!

At noon, we have a short break.

The second stop is a visit to Sambor Prei Kuk. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2017, Sambor Prei Kuk is an archaeological site in Cambodia located in Kampong Thom Province. These buildings are characteristic of the pre-Angkorean period and have a simple external plan. Architectural features include numerous prasats, octagonal towers, shiva lingams and yonis, ponds and reservoirs, and lion sculptures. We take time to explore the grounds and ruins, admiring the ancient architecture, then we continue on our drive towards Siem Reap.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 05: Siem Reap

(B)



Breakfast at your hotel.

Visit **Wat Thmei**, one of the killing field memorials, a small memorial stupa that contains the skulls and bones of victims killed during the regime of the Khmer Rouge from 1975 to 1979. We continue the tour at the **Apopo Visitor Center** to learn about the history of conflict in Cambodia and the impact the region's landmines have on the local communities. In place to make a difference are what's known as the "hero rats." Because of their light weight, the rats have been trained to sniff buried landmines, which is a huge help in de-mining the region. Watch the rats in action at the helm of their trainers. The day ends with a visit to the **Angkor National Museum**, an archaeological museum dedicated to the collection, preservation, and presentation of Angkorian artifacts. The collections are mainly dated from the Khmer Empire's Angkor period, circa 9th to 14th centuries, with most of the artifacts discovered in and around the Angkor archaeological sites nearby.

The second half of the day explores two highlight temples, **Banteay Samre** and **Banteay Srei**. Banteay Samre, built under Suryavarman II and Yasovarman II in the early 12th century, is a Hindu temple in the Angkor Wat style. We follow Banteay Samre with Banteay Srei, one of Angkor's most beautiful temples. Built largely of red sandstone, this gem of a temple boasts a pink color and some of the most exquisite depictions.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 06: Siem Reap

(B)



An early morning pick-up at 5:00 a.m. for *sunrise* at Angkor Wat Continue to see inside the Angkor Wat Temple, Angkor Park's most revered temple and the largest religious monument in the world. Inside the temple, the walls are covered with stone carvings and bas-reliefs, which are absolutely breathtaking. Your guide will explain the stories in exquisite detail and provide you with ample time to explore the inner and outer grounds of the temple. You will be transferred back to the hotel for breakfast and to relax.

Today we visit the South Gate with its huge statues depicting the churning of the ocean of milk and see the ancient capital of Angkor Thom, built in the late 12th century, before heading onwards to Bayon Temple, which is unique for its 54 towers decorated with over 200 smiling faces of Avolokitesvara. Baphuon is like an artificial mountain that recently re-opened after years of restoration. Following, you may visit the Royal Enclosure, the Elephants Terrace, and the Terrace of the Leper King. Then continue to the popular temple of Ta Prohm, which is the modern name of the temple at Angkor, built in the late 12th and early 13th centuries. However, it is probably more famous for being the location where they filmed the Tomb Raider movie.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 07: Siem Reap

(B)

Breakfast at your hotel.

Today free at leisure and relax at hotel.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 08: Siem Reap

(B)



Breakfast at your hotel.

This morning, come and experience the daily lives of elephants. Spend your time observing them as they enjoy their natural surroundings. Make meals for elephants, walk with them into the forest, and witness how they choose to spend their time. With 75 remaining captive elephants in Cambodia, the protection of this amazing animal is more critical than ever. A visit to the elephant in the forest will not only help the elephants of the Angkor area but all elephants in Cambodia through the KEF's longer-term objectives, for we believe in the power of education and tourism as drivers for conservation.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 09: Siem Reap

(B)



Breakfast at your hotel.

Get a new experience with a scooter ride behind our expert driver to see daily life in rural Cambodia. From gathering sugar palm juice to sampling some of the local exotic fruits, Our guides will introduce you to locals so you can learn how they live. You will get a unique glimpse into Khmer life. Being at the historic heart of Cambodia on this tour, we also invite you to visit and experience one of the most intriguing remnants of the Khmer Empire, where a remarkable temple restoration is ongoing. The tour will end with us arriving at a private farm we own, where you will enjoy a traditional Khmer lunch with refreshing drinks while taking in the countryside view.

Afternoon, we set off to Tonle Sap Lake, where you will discover different aspects of the floating village activities, from crocodile farming to fishing farms, traditional medicine shops, boat shops, spirit houses, floating schools, and more. Afterward, you will be transferred to the 500-year-old Wat Preah Prom Rath, which is a modern-looking temple and monastery located in the heart of Siem Reap. Bring candles and incense sticks to the pagoda and participate in a *good-luck blessing ceremony*, performed by local monks. Sit on the mat while the monks chant blessings and sprinkle holy water on you—a traditional way that is believed to pass on the good luck of the gods. Afterwards, a sacred thread will be tied around your wrist. This will protect you from any evil spirits or accidents. Before you leave, you will receive a small keepsake from the monk to remind you of this special moment.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 10: Siem Reap

(B)



Breakfast at your hotel.

Today, explore the mountains, waterfalls, and remote temples of Phnom Kulen. Pick up is at 8:00 a.m. in your hotel lobby for a 2-hour journey through rural Cambodia to our first destination. Considered by Khmers as the most sacred mountain in Cambodia, it is a place of pilgrimage. Main stops at Phnom Kulen include admiring the panoramic vistas from the massive reclining Buddha, the biggest of its kind in Cambodia, the "River of a Thousand Lingas" carving of sacred lingas on the river banks, and the waterfalls of Phnom Kulen. We stop to take a dip in the cool waters and visit the nearby temple ruins.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 11: Siem Reap – Sihanoukville (Island)

(B)

Breakfast at your hotel.

Today our driver will meet and accompany you to the airport for a flight to Sihanoukville city. Suggest flight K6 131 11:30–12:40 (price in supplement)

Upon arrival at Sihanoukville airport, *our driver* will meet and greet you and assist you to the pier for connecting the speed boat to your resort.

- 15:00 Get one a speed boat by *Buva Sea* to resort (*our driver* will pass you the boat ticket; please keep it for both ways).
- Upon arrival at the island, our hotel team will meet and greet you, then accompany you to the resort.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 12-14: Island

(B)

Breakfast at your hotel.

Free at Leisure.

Lunch and dinner are on your own account.

Accommodation: As selected.

Day 15: Island – Sihanoukville – Phnom Penh Airport

(B)

Breakfast at the resort and check-out.

- 08:45am Our hotel team will accompany you to the pier to get one of the same boat company (*Buva Sea*," you need to show your ticket that passes by our drive on March 19).
- Upon arrival at main land, the driver will meet you to assist with luggage and take you to Phnom Penh Airport.

You will expect to arrive in Phnom Penh by 15:00 PM, depending on the traffic allowed. *Suggest flight VN 920 17:30–09:10 (price in supplement): "Once stop in Venetian city."*

End of Service.