

DIFFERENT TASTE OF CAMBODIA

11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS



I. HIGHLIGHTS

- Delve into the captivating beauty of the Angkor Temples, where ancient wonders and intricate architecture unveil the rich history of Cambodia.
- Journey along the tranquil backwaters of the Tonle Sap River en route to Battambang, immersing yourself in the scenic splendor of rural Cambodia.
- Embark on an exploration of the stunningly ruined Temple of Banteay Chhmar, a hidden gem echoing with tales of the past.
- Immerse yourself in authentic Cambodian hospitality with a local homestay, offering a unique opportunity to connect with the culture and traditions of the region.

II. ITINERARY

DAY 1

ARRIVAL SIEM REAP

Upon your arrival in Siem Reap, you'll be warmly greeted and transferred to your hotel to check in and unwind. In the afternoon, prepare for a unique experience as you're whisked away on a Tuk Tuk, Cambodia's iconic mode of transportation, to explore the ancient wonders of Roluos

Temples. Delve into history as you visit Lolei, Preah Ko, and Bakong temples, each offering insights into Cambodia's rich heritage. After a day of discovery, retire to your accommodations in Siem Reap.

DAY 2

SIEM REAP

Gear up for a full-day Angkor Tour by bicycle, beginning with the magnificent Angkor Wat, a testament to Cambodia's cultural and religious significance. Marvel at its grandeur and intricate carvings as you ascend through galleries and courtyards, soaking in the awe-inspiring atmosphere. Continue your journey to Angkor Thom, where you'll discover the enchanting Bayon Temple and other iconic landmarks. Conclude your day with a visit to Ta Prohm, embraced by nature's embrace, before witnessing the breathtaking sunset over Angkor's majestic ruins.

DAY 3

SIEM REAP

Embark on a Jeep journey to Kbal Spean, the "River of a Thousand Lingas," hidden deep within the Cambodian jungle. Marvel at the intricate carvings adorning the riverbed before venturing to Banteay Srei, known as Angkor's ultimate art gallery. Learn about Cambodia's history and the impact of landmines at the Cambodia Landmine Museum before returning to Siem Reap for the evening.

DAY 4

SIEM REAP

After breakfast, embark on a boat trip to Kampong Khleang, one of the largest and least visited villages on Tonle Sap Lake. With a population of about 10,000 people, all making a living from the fishing industry, Kampong Khleang offers a fascinating glimpse into rural Cambodian life. Explore the canals (wet season) or streets (dry season) of this incredible town and cruise into the open waters of the great lake to see a small floating village. Learn about the natural flood barrier and the unique way of life in this remote community. Return to Siem Reap for a relaxing evening.

DAY 5

SIEM REAP - BANTEAY CHHMAR

Bid farewell to Siem Reap as we head north to the Banteay Meanchey province, home to the captivating jungle temple of Banteay Chhmar. This remarkable temple, known for its signature faces of Jayavarman VII, offers a glimpse into Cambodia's rich history and architectural wonders. After a delightful lunch prepared by a local women's group, we'll begin our exploration of Banteay Chhmar, marveling at the magnificent carvings of Lokesvara with 32 arms and exploring the beautiful yet ruined Hall of Dancers. Our adventure continues as we explore the outer complex, including the outer gate of Ta Prohm and the jungle-clad face tower of Samnang Tasok. Visit the local silk weaving school, Soeries du Mekong Silk Center, and spend the night

with a local family to immerse yourself in their lifestyle and culture. **Please note: Accommodation is basic with rooms equipped with fans and shared local-style bathrooms with Western-style toilets.**

DAY 6

BANTEAY CHHMAR – BATTAMBANG

Start your day with a hearty breakfast prepared by your hospitable hosts before setting out to explore the local market in Banteay Chhmar. Witness the vibrant colors and bustling activity as locals engage in their daily routines. Afterward, we'll continue our journey to Battambang, stopping en route to visit the Banteay Torp Temple and observe village activities. Upon arrival in Battambang, take some time to relax and enjoy the leisurely pace of this charming city.

DAY 7

BATTAMBANG

Begin your day with a village tour by bike or Tuk-Tuk with a local student guide. Explore the picturesque countryside surrounding Battambang, visiting Cambodian families who produce traditional products such as rice paper, dried bananas, and bamboo sticky rice. Experience everyday life in rural communities and taste fresh local products. Conclude your morning tour with a visit to a memorial site for the victims of the Khmer Rouge. In the afternoon, journey to Phnom Banan, a beautiful temple on a 400m hill, and enjoy breathtaking views from the mountaintop. Visit a vineyard and the only wine production in Cambodia before heading to Phnom Sampeou, a natural rock formation consisting of a series of caves. Learn about the area's history and witness the mesmerizing sight of bats leaving the cave at sunset. Return to Battambang for a relaxing evening.

DAY 8

BATTAMBANG - PHNOM PENH

Bid farewell to Battambang as we depart for Phnom Penh, Cambodia's bustling capital city. Along the way, we'll visit Oudong, an ancient capital of the Khmer Empire, and explore its historical significance. Upon arrival in Phnom Penh, take some time to relax and settle into your accommodations.

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DAY 9

PHNOM PENH

Embark on a full-day city tour of Phnom Penh, starting with a visit to the National Museum, the country's leading historical and archaeological museum. Explore its impressive collection of artifacts and gain insights into Cambodia's rich cultural heritage. Next, visit the Royal Palace, a complex of buildings that serves as the royal residence of the King of Cambodia. Marvel at the stunning Khmer architecture and explore the various structures within the compound, including the Throne Hall, Temple of the Emerald Buddha, and Silver Pagoda. Learn about Cambodia's tragic past at the Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, formerly known as Security Prison 21, and pay tribute to the victims of the Khmer Rouge regime. Return to your hotel for a relaxing evening.

DAY 10

PHNOM PENH

After breakfast, venture outside of Phnom Penh to visit the Killing Fields of Choeung Ek, a sobering reminder of Cambodia's tragic past. Explore the memorial stupa and reflect on the lives lost during the Khmer Rouge regime. Afterward, enjoy lunch (own arrangement) before boarding a ferry to Koh Dach, also known as Silk Island, on the Mekong River. Explore the idyllic island, where silk weaving is still a key element of village life, and observe local artisans at work. Take in the peaceful surroundings and return to Phnom Penh in the evening for a final night in the city.

DAY 11

PHNOM PENH

Enjoy your final morning at leisure in Phnom Penh before transferring to the airport for your departure flight. Take this time to reflect on your unforgettable journey through Cambodia and bid farewell to this enchanting land of ancient wonders and vibrant culture.

— END OF SERVICES —

Tour extensions: pre-tour or post-tour extensions are available, which would include accommodation and private transfers, please speak to Focus Asia travel consultant for further details.