



# Theme: Meet the locals - 13 days

*Individualized program for G Guest*

2 participants - 13 days / 12 nights

Travelling from 01 September 2020 to 13 September 2020

Cambodian Travel Partner  
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## INTRO

We take each individual traveler and every request seriously to create a trip which suits you best. Our key is the fact that we listen. We just want to take all of this on board and tailor your itinerary to exactly what you require, rather than just try to sell you an off the shelf tour.

Our years of experience are here for you. We understand that every person has different preferences and requirements. We are here to get together with you and decide what exactly suits you the best, whether it be a particular hotel, attraction, itinerary or group profile, we can create a magical, one of a kind tailor-made experience.

Based on your interests and wishes, we will work on making an initial itinerary for you. After this, we are happy to adjust whatever you want to, creating a final itinerary that is certain not to disappoint. We just want to work closely with you at every step, making sure that your needs are taken care of completely.

Here you will find an example tour in the theme: Meet the locals. Let us know if we can help you to create your own dream.

## Cambodia

Cambodia is a kingdom in Southeast Asia. It is 181,035 square kilometres (69,898 square miles) in area, bordered by Thailand to the northwest, Laos to the northeast, Vietnam to the east, and the Gulf of Thailand to the southwest. Cambodia has a population of over 15 million. The official religion is Theravada Buddhism, practiced by approximately 95 percent of the population. The country's minority groups include Vietnamese, Chinese, Chams, and 30 hill tribes. The capital and largest city is Phnom Penh, the political, economic, and cultural centre of Cambodia. The kingdom is a constitutional monarchy with Norodom Sihamoni, a

monarch chosen by the Royal Throne Council, as head of state. The head of government is Hun Sen, who is currently the longest serving non-royal leader in South East Asia and has ruled Cambodia for over 30 years. Cambodia has become a popular destination and the country is developing fast. The city of Siem Reap was about thirteen years ago a small place with dirt roads and one traffic light, nowadays is the most touristic city of the country and the historical heart of Cambodia. The temples of Angkor is about seven kilometers of the city center and there are a lot of facilities to entertain the tourists from all over the world. But Cambodia is not only Angkor Wat. This fascinating, friendly country has so much more to offer. Countryside tours, floating villages, white sand beaches, tropical islands, jungle trekking, the mighty Mekong river, bicycle tours, cooking class, waterfalls, hilltribes, and much more.



### Day by Day

- DAY 1: Tuesday, 01 September 2020 - Siem Reap airport -> Siem Reap
- DAY 2: Wednesday, 02 September 2020 - Siem Reap
- DAY 3: Thursday, 03 September 2020 - Siem Reap
- DAY 4: Friday, 04 September 2020 - Siem Reap
- DAY 5: Saturday, 05 September 2020 - Siem Reap -> Banteay Chhmar
- DAY 6: Sunday, 06 September 2020 - Banteay Chhmar -> Battambang
- DAY 7: Monday, 07 September 2020 - Battambang

DAY 8: Tuesday, 08 September 2020 - Battambang

DAY 9: Wednesday, 09 September 2020 - Battambang -> Kampong Chhnang

DAY 10: Thursday, 10 September 2020 - Kampong Chhnang -> Phnom Penh

DAY 11: Friday, 11 September 2020 - Phnom Penh

DAY 12: Saturday, 12 September 2020 - Phnom Penh


DAY 13: Sunday, 13 September 2020 - Phnom Penh -> Phnom Penh airport

## DAY 1: Tuesday, 01 September 2020 - Siem Reap airport -> Siem Reap

### Welcome in Cambodia + monk blessing

Welcome to Cambodia! We pick you up at the airport and take you to your hotel where you will be served a welcome drink and provided information on Cambodia and your fantastic trip ahead. We understand that traveling can be exhausting, and so we let to take it easy for today. You might like to freshen up in your room or relax on the deck chairs in the palm tree garden with a view of the swimming pool. Add a cup of coffee or a refreshing cocktail and your holiday can begin. At the end of the afternoon, your tour leader will take you to a pagoda where you learn more about Buddhism and be blessed by a monk, a very unique experience.

### Accommodation:

 A 4 star hotel

### Included today:

✓ Transfer airport to hotel

✓ English speaking guide

✓ TukTuk to pagoda



## DAY 2: Wednesday, 02 September 2020 - Siem Reap


### Angkor tour by bicycle - Taste for a good cause

Escape the crowds, the busy roads and the well-worn tourist trail at Angkor as we cycle the small tracks and minor roads to see a different side of the Angkor Temples. This is a guided bike tour of the most intriguing of the major temples. We visit Ta Prohm, The Elephant Terrace and the Bayon, along with a couple of less visited ones on the way. On our way back to town, we ride along small trails through the villages. If you can ride a bike, then you will love this tour. The distance is approximately 30 km on mainly flat tracks and small roads. We can stop often for photos, temple exploration on foot and refreshments. It will be a very enjoyable ride on a good bike with a friendly Cambodian cycling guide. Please wear appropriate clothing that fully cover the knees and shoulders which is compulsory when entering certain sections of Angkor Wat. This should also be observed throughout all temple areas for reasons of cultural sensitivity.

In the evening we will bring you around in a private tuk tuk to restaurants whose main goal is that of investing in their teams and the local communities. By dining at these amazing venues you are also helping to improve the lives of the people of

Cambodia.

Accommodation:

 A 4 star hotel

Included meals:

Included today:

- ✓ Entrance Fee Angkor Wat
- ✓ Taste For A Good Cause

- ✓ Bike the Angkor temples private tour




 **DAY 3: Thursday, 03 September 2020 - Siem Reap**

Siem Reap Photography Tour

Your guide will direct you to sites of hard-to-access photo opportunities while also being respectful of the local Khmer culture. This is a recommended tour for everyone wanting to experience a true slice of Cambodian village life. Most of the exploration will be done in the classic tuk-tuk. The tour starts along the beautiful 8km long reservoir of West Baray and take you deeper into the countryside to the farmlands and its inhabitants up close. Dotted along the way are stilt houses constructed with palm leaves and bamboo, a method unchanged for centuries. The residents of these houses employ age-old cooking methods; you may even sample some delicious home cooked treats during the tour. Next, you continue on along the countryside to find interesting subjects, working towards reaching some hidden temples that even locals might not know of and will make for some stunning photography.

Accommodation:

 A 4 star hotel

Included meals:

Included today:

- ✓ Tonle Sap Lake Photography Tour



## 🏠 DAY 4: Friday, 04 September 2020 - Siem Reap

### Peak into a life of a khmer farmer

Today you will visit a local farmer's rice farm that is surrounded for miles with paddy fields and the raw countryside. Experience a eye opening day in the countryside where you will participate in rice farming, cooking a local meal, interacting with a local farming family and much more!. Discover daily lives of Khmer farmers and their families.

#### Accommodation:

🏠 A 4 star hotel

#### Included meals:

ⓑ Ⓛ

#### Included today:

✓ Rice Farming Experience - join in tour



## 🏠 DAY 5: Saturday, 05 September 2020 - Siem Reap -> Banteay Chhmar

### The unknown temple (siem reap to Banteay Chhmar)

We leave Siem Reap for Banteay Chhmar Temple, via Sissophon. All activities around the temple are run by the members of the community, i.e., homestays, local guides, etc. Built in the 12th century, the Banteay Chhmar Temple, along with nine surrounding temples, is considered to be one of the largest temple complexes of the Angkor period. Similar to the Bayon Temple, it was built with several face towers.

At the homestay, you will get the chance to mingle with the family, followed by lunch and a walk through the temples. Afterwards, you will experience riding on an ox wagon on the way to visit the Mekong Silk Center. In the evening, we will take you to a special place near the temple for a scrumptious dinner accompanied by traditional music.

#### Accommodation:

🏠 A 0.5 star hotel

#### Included meals:

ⓑ Ⓛ ⓓ

#### Included today:

✓ Private Car with english speaking driver

✓ Banteay Chhmar tour




**DAY 6: Sunday, 06 September 2020 - Banteay Chhmar -> Battambang**

Banteay Chhmar to Battambang

Breakfast is served by the family at 7:30am. An hour later, you will be picked up for a walking tour around the Banteay Chhmar local market. On our way to visit a Temple, we will drive along rice fields during which you can see villagers going about their daily activities. After a picnic lunch at the temple, we say farewell to this special place and continue our trip towards Battambang, the second largest city in Cambodia. Battambang is a big city, but notably different from Phnom Penh or Siem Reap. It has a beautiful countryside and is known for the famous bamboo train. You will spend the night at a resort, with a beautiful palm garden and a swimming pool with Jacuzzi, just outside the city


Accommodation:


Included meals:

 A 3 star hotel

Included today:

 Private Car with english speaking driver

 Banteay Chhmar tour



**DAY 7: Monday, 07 September 2020 - Battambang**


Battambang tour with bamboo train

We will start at 8.30am with a ride on the famous bamboo train. The bamboo train is a 2.5m x 4m raft-like device that is made from bamboo for local villagers to transport their good. There is only one track used for both directions so if another bamboo train is coming from the opposite direction, the drivers decide which train has the lighter load or fewer passengers, and has to unload their goods and passengers, and dismantle off the track to let the other train by. After this unique experience, we will explore the north of Battambang driving up to Wat Ek Phnom, a temple built in the 11th century. We stop at a village to watch how the locals produce fish paste, sticky rice, rice wine, rice papers, noodles and clay water pots used in the countryside to collect rainwater. You will also get a chance to learn more about the Khmer Rouge when we get to the Well of Shadows, a monument to honour the people killed during the war. Not far from the monument, we will visit the hundreds of fruit bats

hanging on trees and making their loud and ultrasonic sounds. At lunch time, you will have the opportunity to go for a swim. Afterwards, we drive through small villages and rice fields in our tuk-tuk towards Phnom Sompov Mountain. The mountain is about 140 meters high and there are 800 steps to the top. We will avoid climbing up the steps and ride a motorbike up to the first part of the mountain to visit the temples, shrines, and killing caves used during the Khmer Rouge period. Here, we will be able to look over all of Battambang and enjoy the vast and beautiful scenery. We will end our journey before sunset by walking down the mountain steps, stopping by to watch thousands of bats flying out of their caves on the mountain side at dusk

Accommodation:

Included meals:

 A 3 star hotel

Included today:

✓ Battambang tour; english speaking guide, tuktuk, bamboo train




 **DAY 8: Tuesday, 08 September 2020 - Battambang**

Discover Customs & Culture - Half Day Walk and Bike Tour

First, we visit families in a Muslim fishing village outside of Battambang, exploring the village on foot and learning about their traditional livelihoods, family history, and ways of living. We stop for coffee and a quick rest before we ride through the countryside to a Buddhist temple for a chance to chat with a young and friendly Buddhist monk. The tour includes a Cambodian style lunch at a family home.

Accommodation:

Included meals:

 A 3 star hotel

Included today:

✓ Half day tour: english speaking guide, tuktuk, bike, lunch




Farmhouse - The smiling gecko

Today you will head south down Highway 5 towards the capital, Phnom Penh. As you drive you will be able to take in the simple yet beautiful vistas of daily life outside the main cities. 90 kilometers outside the capital you will make a stop in Kampong Chhnang or the "The Port of Pottery". Also a rich fishing and agricultural province, it is the ceramics which gives the province its name that it is most famous for. You will visit a pottery where the traditional skills to make these beautiful vases and pots have been handed down from generation to generation, providing the area with its justifiably proud history and traditions. After this fascinating experience you will continue to the Farmhouse.

Located in the countryside about 80 km north of Phnom Penh, the farm of Smiling Gecko is surrounded by paddy fields and rolling hills. During a two-day trip, you have the opportunity to gain an insight into the structures of an innovative and holistic social project and the work we do on the ground. You will meet the families who will show you the Smiling Gecko farm. You will visit the new Smiling Gecko School and see for yourself the progress made in our long-term school project.

Accommodation:

Included meals:

 A 4 star hotel



Included today:

 Private Car




From Farmhouse to the bustling capital city

You will receive a guided tour of the Smiling Gecko Farm, including a visit to the various cluster projects. A visit to the SGC HISF | EDUCATION CAMPUS will provide you with an insight into the progress we are making in the field of education. From the guesthouse, you can take a walk into the hills to visit the local Buddhist monastery and see the monks during their morning prayer while enjoying a breath-taking sunrise. After lunch we will continue our way to Phnom Penh. Phnom Penh is the vibrant bustling capital of Cambodia. Situated at the confluence of three rivers, the mighty Mekong, the Bassac and the great Tonle Sap, what was once considered the 'Gem' of Indochina. The capital city still maintains considerable charm with plenty to see. It exudes a sort of provincial charm and tranquillity with French colonial mansions and tree-lined boulevards amidst monumental Angkorian architecture. Phnom Penh is a veritable oasis compared to the modernity of other Asian capitals. A mixture of Asian exotica, the famous Cambodian hospitality awaits the visitors to the capital of the Kingdom of Cambodia. In the evening you will visit Cambodian Living Arts to see a traditional dance show or take a sunset cruise on the Mekong (optional)

Accommodation:

Included meals:

 A 3 star hotel



Included today:

✓ Private Car

✓ Dinner & Show

✓ TukTuk to Cambodian Living Arts




 **DAY 11: Friday, 11 September 2020 - Phnom Penh**

City tour with cyclo and tuk-tuk

In the morning, a traditional Khmer cyclo takes you to the Royal Palace to see this spectacular century-old complex of Khmer architecture. Afterwards, you will visit Wat Phnom, where the name Phnom Penh was derived from. This pagoda stands on a 35-meter-high hill surrounded by trees where monkeys play in the shade. A tuk-tuk will then take you to the Genocide Museum of Tuol Sleng, before continuing to Choeung Ek or the Killing Fields where thousands of people were tortured and buried in mass graves. This may be a disturbing site to visit, but it gives an insight into the country's troubled past, enabling visitors to understand more about how far the wonderful people of this country have come.

Accommodation:

Included meals:

 A 3 star hotel

Included today:

✓ Cyclo Half day

✓ English speaking guide


✓ Entrance Fee Royal Palace, Killing Fields, Tuol Sleng Museum



Best of Phnom Penh Backstreets

The more we walk through the backstreets of Phnom Penh, the more we come to love and discover the pulse of this awesome city. Since finding our first host, we have taken hundreds of travellers through the backstreets to meet and interact with Cambodians from all walks of life. We are confident that these interactions between locals and travellers have fostered countless special moments. Therefore, we have put together a collection of the most popular hosts as rated highly by our past guests. We are certain that you will likewise spend an amazing time with them. What will you do today? Martial Arts Initiation Class, Coconut Carving Workshop, Insect cooking class, Fishing and at the end of the day you will have a dinner on a boat.

Accommodation:

 A 3 star hotel

Included meals:

Included today:

✓ Best Phnom Penh Back Street - 10h - Mi2pax - Free Pick up



Time to say goodbye...

The final journey of your trip in Cambodia will be a private transfer to the international airport of Phnom Penh to catch your flight. We truly hope that you had a wonderful time with us in our beautiful country, and that you leave with happy memories that will last a lifetime. Cambodia has so much more to offer, and we would be delighted to welcome you back anytime for more of this fantastic country and its charming people. Have a safe trip home and we hope to see you again soon!

Included meals:



Included today:

✓ Transfer to airport



## Additional info