# DISCOVA

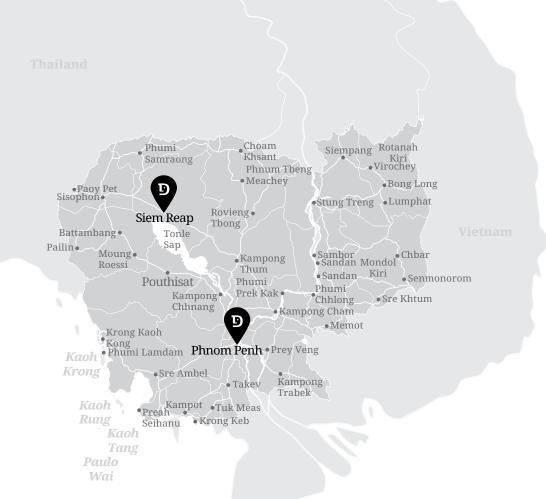
# Cambodia





# Chum reap suor! My name's Vuttha and I'd like to welcome you to beautiful Cambodia.

As a tour guide in Siem Reap, I love my job because I get to meet people from around the world - the best part of it is seeing the transformation travellers go through when visiting Cambodia. Usually, when people think of Cambodia, the first thing that comes to mind is Angkor Wat and the glorious temples of the Khmer Empire. Then they often learn about the genocide and the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge regime. But, when they leave Cambodia, travellers almost always say that what they loved most about their trip here is the people. The kind and humble people who, despite the tragedies they have recently endured, have never lost their spirit or smile.



Ð	Climate & Weather Averages in Cambodia													
禁	Temperatures can rise up to 20 °C during the day but at	Destination	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cold	night can plummet to 15 °C or lower.	Phnom	淡	× ×	× ×	-\fo					禁	禁	斧	淡
禁	Temperatures usually between 22 °C and 32 °C	Penh	禁				ST ST	À		ST ST	À	À	淤	淤
Warm		Siem	,		,		- <u>i</u> Ch	- <u>:</u> Ch	***	-ij:	-iji-	-iji-		
Hot	Temperatures rise above 32 °C	Reap	際	標	崇	標			**************************************			**************************************	粋	禁
Rain	Regular rainfall with high humidity and temperatures usually between 25 °C and 33 °C	Sihanoukville	**	*	*	*	禁ぐ	※	※	※	業	業で	**	*

<sup>\*</sup> The actual climate of Cambodia's Regions can vary a bit.

As Cambodia is a tropical country sitting just on top of the equator, it's usually hot and humid. Cambodia has two primary seasons, wet and dry, with a gradient of temperatures within those two. Dry season stretches from October until the end of April, and wet season begins in May and lasts through September. It's hottest between March and June and tends to be coolest between October and December.

Wet season can be a fun time to visit, as there are fewer tourists, and the countryside blooms into healthy hues of green. In the heart of the monsoon swells, typically in September and October, travel to more remote parts of the country can be challenging or impossible because of dangerous road conditions. High season crowds come around December and January, when the weather is sunny and dry, and it's easier to travel to the countryside.

Borneo

# Cambodia Destination Guide

# Things to Know



**Population** 

16 million



**Capital City** 

Phnom Penh



Time Zone

UTC +7, ICT, Indochina Time



# Language

Khmer is the official language of Cambodia and is spoken by the majority of the population. However, there are no fewer that 19 recognized indigenous spoken languages. Many of these are related to the dominant Khmer language.



# **E** Currency

Cambodia's official currency is the riel (KHR). The US dollar is its secondary currency. ATMs dispense US dollars, and they are accepted everywhere, as long as they are newer bills in good condition. Small change will be returned in riel, as coins are not used. Prices may be quoted in either dollars or riel. Money can be changed at any bank. Be sure to have riel on hand when travelling to more rural regions, as the Cambodian riel is the primary currency used in the countryside.



### Visa

Most visitors to Cambodia are eligible for a visa on arrival at Siem Reap or Phnom Penh International Airports as well as at land border crossings between Thailand, Laos, or Vietnam. A tourist visa on arrival is valid for a single entry of 30 days, and a one-time extension is possible. Most nationalities are also eligible to apply for a tourist e-visa. If arriving by air, this is a good option, though it should be noted that not all land borders accept the e-visa. It is best to check on this before travel. It may be easiest to apply for a visa ahead of time at a Cambodian embassy outside of the country to avoid any hassle or misunderstanding at the border.

Most ASEAN nationals can stay in Cambodia visafree for 14 or 30 days. All visa applications require a passport with six months validity and an empty page, as well as two passport photos. As travel policies change regularly, please check the official government website for the latest regulations before visiting.

www.evisa.gov.kh/

# **Festivals**

#### Live some local traditions



#### **Khmer New Year**

Khmer New Year, or Chol Chham Thmei, is the biggest holiday in Cambodia. The three-day celebration falls in mid-April, at the end of the harvest season. Citizens drain out of cities to celebrate with their families in local villages.

# **Water Festival**

The Water Festival, or Bon Om Touk, sees citizens flock to Phnom Penh and Siem Reap to watch the boat parades and races. The holiday marks the end of rainy season and the changing direction of the Tonle Sap River.

# **Pchum Ben Day**

This 15-day religious festival, also known as "Ancestors' Day", is celebrated at the end of Buddhist Lent and is one of the nation's biggest celebrations. Cambodian's will pay respect to their deceased relatives by visiting pagodas to pray and provide offerings.

# Cambodia Destination Guide

# **Fleet Ownership**

In Cambodia, Discova can offer the following fleet through our rich supplier network.



BMW 7 Series (Max 2 pax)



Lexus RX 300 (Max 2 pax)



Hyundai H1 Starex (Max 6 pax)



Coaster Van (Max 7-10 Pax)



Hyundai Univers Xpress 45seat (Max 19-35 pax)





# **Responsible Travel Initiatives**



# Fight Against Single-Use Plastic



# Social Enterprises...



179 Plastic-Wrapped Napkins replaced with Biodegradable Wet Towels



193,137 Plastic Bottles Saved in 2019 ...are an easy and sustainable way to give back to local communities. In Cambodia, we work with social enterprises that empower local artists, create opportunities for rural communities, and provide training for disadvantaged youth.

# (ក្តី) Local Community



# **Protecting Children**

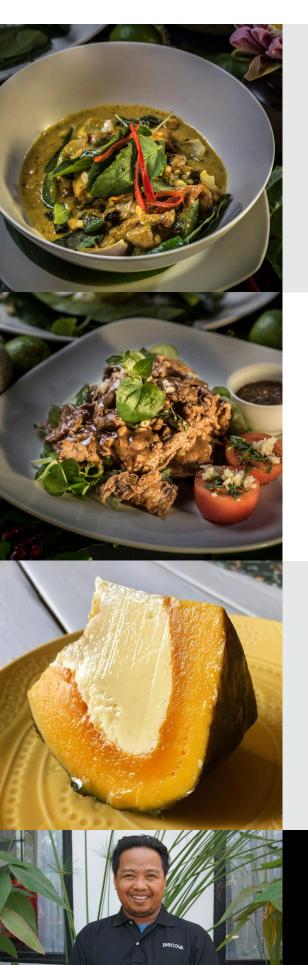
From service-learning projects for educational travel groups to homestays and cultural activities run by local hosts, our community-based tourism projects are designed to support the sustainable development of the communities whilst allowing travellers to experience the local life in Cambodia.

One such example is our initiative in the Chansar and Knapor Communes. Located only 35 kilometres from the tourist hub of Siem Reap, Discova offers a variety of programs, allowing travellers to experience the life and culture of rural Cambodians, whilst giving back to the community at the same time.

Childsafe Movement trains individuals and organisations, providing them with the tools to protect children. We are working on implementing ChildSafe throughout Discova to do our part in protecting children worldwide.

# What to Eat

#### Taste some local food



#### Samlar Kakou

The "1000 ingredient soup" that dates back to the Angkor empire. It's typically served with fish, vegetables, and meat, but vegetarian versions are common. Recipe varieties are endless, but every bowl is an orchestra of flavour, needing no sides.

#### Lok Lak

Lok Lak is a dish of marinated beef or pork slices stir-fried in brown sauce and served with rice or French fries and salad. Dip the meat in the accompanying dish of lime-pepper sauce for a divine combination.

# Sankhya Lapov

This traditional dessert is cooked by filling the inside of a pumpkin with sweet coconut custard, then steaming the whole ensemble together. A single slice — or the entire pumpkin — can be served hot or chilled.

"Fish amok is a must-try food for anyone in Cambodia. It's the country's national food, curried fish steamed so tender that it nearly melts in your mouth. The orange curry is creamy, and coconut-based, which pairs perfectly with the fish, and it's topped with red bell pepper and lime leaf. It's traditionally served in a banana leaf bowl alongside rice."



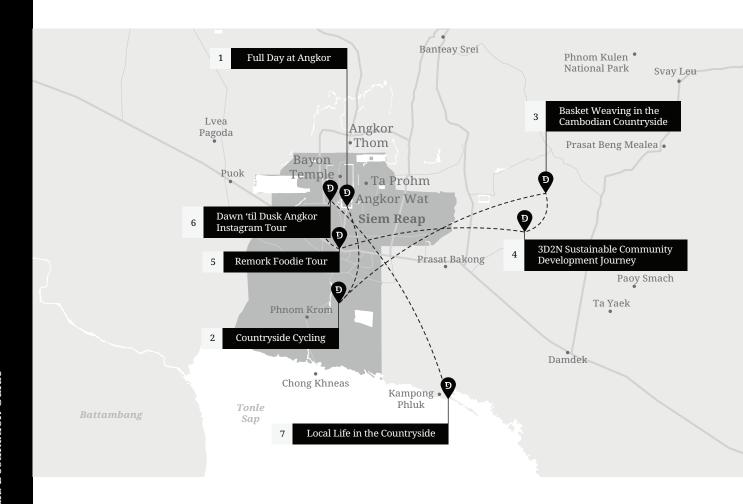
# Join us on an imaginary 21-day trip through Cambodia

From ancient history and heart-warming hospitality to mesmerising scenery, get a deeper understanding of Cambodia on this 21-day journey. Visit the world-famous structures of Angkor and discover equally impressive hidden temples. Experience local life in the countryside and learn about artistic heritage in a traditional dance workshop. Taste Khmer specialities, cycle through historic Battambang, and kayak the crystal-clear waters of Koh Rong.



# Siem Reap

Siem Reap is the gateway to Angkor Wat, the 12th century temples that lingered after the fall of the Khmer Empire with a mystical air of steadfast solemnity. In the last decade, Siem Reap has catapulted from a tiny town into a booming tourist city. Hit a spa between visits to the Angkor temples, or march through the legendary "Pub Street" where party bars sell dirt-cheap beer and blast music onto the pavement.





# 1. Full Day at Angkor

Get a sense of the grandness of the ancient Khmer empire through the impressive structures of Angkor. Explore the overgrown Ta Phrohm and Ta Som Temples and discover some of the archaeological park's lesser-visited sites. Admire the outstanding Preah Khan Temple and end the day at the majestic Pre Rup Temple.

# 2. Countryside Cycling

Spend an afternoon exploring Siem Reap's wonderful countryside and have the chance to simultaneously support the local community! Pedal through picturesque farmland to encounter friendly locals who will provide insight into village life. Energise with fresh coconut and local snacks before heading to the top of Phnom Krom mountain. End the day with a sunset view overlooking endless rice fields and Tonle Sap Lake reflecting the sun's warmth.

# 3. Basket Weaving in the Cambodian Countryside

Experience a true taste of rural Cambodia whilst helping to support the craftsmanship of local women. Enjoy a walking tour of a charming countryside village and observe the fascinating practice of bamboo weaving - this traditional artform is predominantly carried out by female villagers who will provide guidance and support for those wanting to try weaving for themselves.





# 4. 3D2N Sustainable Community Development Journey

Stay with a Cambodian family to learn about the local ways – support the development of rural education by helping community gardens supply local schools' meal programs, learn to make traditional crafts, help farm livestock, and embark on a fun-filled ox cart ride through the countryside. This is an experience that will create incredible bonds with the locals and memories to last a lifetime.

#### Discova the Difference

This is a community-based tourism project that we're immensely proud of. Perfect for individual travellers, families, groups and educational trips. There is a huge range of rewarding experiences included over the course of the three days, to ensure that every participant positively contributes to the sustainable development of Chansar.



### 5. Remork Foodie Tour

Embark on a gastronomic adventure aboard a "remork" (aka tuk-tuk) – Cambodia's iconic form of local transport. Stop by a night market to sample local delicacies, from grilled meat with 'Khmer cheese' to more daring snacks like crickets and dried frog. Ignite the senses with a wander through the night market and finish off the evening with fresh craft beers at Siem Reap's one and only microbrewery.



# 6. Dawn 'til Dusk Angkor Instagram Tour

Experience the wonders of Angkor and have these moments captured by a professional photographer. Uncover impressive backdrops throughout the ancient ruins – whether it be famous sites or hidden gems, the local photographer will lead the way! Discover different scenes in the countryside and finish the day with a view of the sunset atop Phnom Krom Mountain, overlooking endless rice fields and Tonle Sap Lake.

#### Discova the Difference

This full-day experience has been developed specifically to give travellers picture-perfect memories amidst the ancient Angkor Kingdom whilst supporting the enterprises of a local photographer.



# 7. Local Life in the Countryside

Get a taste of rural Cambodia! Explore the fascinating ecosystem of Tonle Sap Lake, visit the stilted fishing village of Kompong Phluk, and spend the afternoon with a local family. Complete with a fun oxcart ride and a monk's blessing, this unforgettable experience will not only provide unique insights into Cambodian culture but also contribute to improving the lives of the local community.

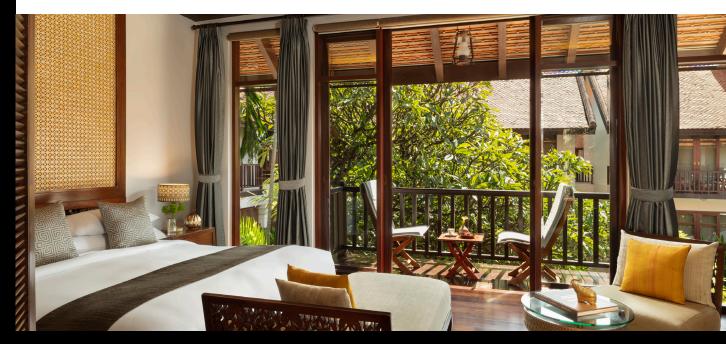


Off the beaten track experiences with a local expert which help support our communities.

# Cambodia Destination Guide

# **Our Recommended Hotels**

Siem Reap



#### **Anantara Angkor Resort**

National Road No. 6, Khum Svaydangkum, Siem Reap 17252, Cambodia.

Experience Cambodia's ancient wonders in unparalleled comfort with Anantara's all suites luxury experience. Immerse yourself in local culture with Anantara's range of Signature Experiences, like guided tours of Angkor's monumental heritage with our resident Temple Guru, culinary journeys including dining and cooking classes, or private market tours with our Streetwise Guru. Temple experiences allow unrivalled immersion into Angkor's history whilst Anantara's extensive Discovery Guidebook collates the region's essential highlights for further adventures.



# **ANJALI by Syphon**

🕴 #1705 Korean-Cambodia Friendship Road 30, Krous Village, Svay Dangkum, Siem Reap, Cambodia..

Anjali by Syphon is a peaceful oasis in the heat and jostle of Siem Reap. The beautiful setting blends modern cutting-edge design with an abundance of flowers and tropical hanging gardens. From the moment of arrival, guests are invited into the sensory environment where modern guestrooms, a vibrant lounge, innovative cocktails and high class cuisine create more than just a hotel experience, but a lifestyle destination.



## Bensley Collection – Shinta Mani Siem Reap ★★★★

Junction of Oum Khun Street, Siem Reap, Cambodia.

With ten exquisitely designed private-pool villas set within tropical landscaped gardens, this hotel offers guests a haven within the vibrant streets of Siem Reap. Guests can enjoy the many rooftop lounges or bask in the tranquility of a romantic bath under the stars, all shaded by the gardens of the royal residence nearby. With the magical Angkor Temple Complex not too far away, this hotel offers guests convenience and opulence all in one.



#### **Treeline Urban Resort**

Achasva Street Wat Bo Village, Krong Siem Reap, Cambodia.

Treeline Urban Resort is a privately-owned, 48-room design hotel on Siem Reap's Riverside in Cambodia. Treeline Urban Resort offers a one-of-a-kind home for guests travelling to the gateway city for the temples of Angkor. Masterfully crafted with leading Cambodian artists, this curated experience includes dedicated spaces for a growing private collection of contemporary art.



# The Aviary Hotel



Sangkat Svaydangkum 9, Preah Sangreach Tep Vong St, Krong Siem Reap 17252, Cambodia.

Set in the heart of Siem Reap town, The Aviary Hotel is a sophisticated urban oasis that has been inspired by nature and Cambodia's rich heritage of traditional crafts. This 43-room eco-friendly hotel in Siem Reap is a relaxing sanctuary filled with locally commissioned artworks, which celebrate the beauty and diversity of the Kingdom's birdlife. Luxurious, welcoming and personal, It offers thoughtfully designed, quality accommodation in a modern environment with a uniquely Cambodian twist.





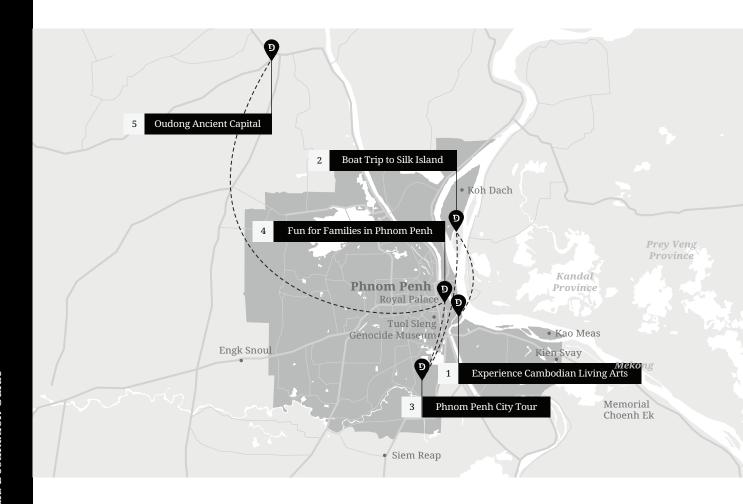


P Rok Rak Street, Mondul 3, Sla Kram, Siem Reap, Cambodia.

The temples stand nearby. Serenity is in the air. A secret lake by itself, the swimming pool reflects majestic palm trees. Nestled in a vast expanse of tropical flora, there are 49 living spaces, most of them with their own private pools. Guests are invited to rest, relax, and contemplate in this one-of-a-kind oasis. One of a kind.

# **Phnom Penh**

Phnom Penh is Cambodia's capital, a frenetic city buzzing with paradox, simultaneously gritty and charming. Sitting at the confluence of three rivers, it was once the "Gem of Indochina". Colonial mansions and old-style Khmer architecture sit alongside brand new high rises, hotels, and shopping malls. Most visitors come to check out the important historic sites located here, like the Genocide Museum and the Killing Fields.





# 1. Experience Cambodian Living Arts

Spend an afternoon dancing in the steps of ancient Khmers with a traditional dance workshop. Led by budding young performers, the artists combine their passion and talent to protect an important aspect of the nation's cultural heritage. After mastering the fundamentals, enjoy an inspirational evening performance of "Earth & Sky" with a deeper appreciation for the performing arts and what it represents for Cambodia.

# 2. Boat Trip to Silk Island

Travel over the smooth waters of the Mekong en route to the charming Silk Island. This traditional, stilted silk-weaving village is home to families who make their livelihoods from the traditional process of hand looming and dyeing vibrant silks. Explore the village and chat with the locals before a picnic lunch and a stop-off at a local Buddhist monastery.

# 3. Phnom Penh City Tour

Spend the morning exploring Cambodia's capital and its major landmarks including the fascinating Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda, and the National Museum. In the afternoon, visit the sobering and poignant Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum for a startling glimpse into the country's tragic history. The tour then ends on a lighter note at the colourful Central Market.

# 4. Fun for Families in Phnom Penh

Uncover the nation's history and culture through iconic sites and ancient traditions. Take a private cycle tour along Phnom Penh's ambient riverfront to the majestic Royal Palace, Silver Pagoda and Wat Phnom. Delve into the ancient art of Khmer dance in an interactive workshop with professional dancers, then end the day with a magnificent dinner cruise along the river.

# 5. Oudong Ancient Capital

Explore Oudong, the ancient capital of Cambodia, on a half-day trip from Phnom Penh. This small collection of stupas is set high on a hilltop overlooking the countryside below. The views from the top are quite impressive. You'll find the ashes of former monarchs, battle scars from war, and an interesting look into Cambodian history.

# Cambodia Destination Guide

# **Our Recommended Hotels**

**Phnom Penh** 



#### **Palace Gate Hotel & Resort**



#44B, Street Sothearos Blvd (corner of street 240), Sangkat Chey Chumneas, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Located adjacent to the splendors of the Royal Palace, Palace Gate Hotel & Resort offers 104 rooms and suites. Relax by the pool, sip cocktails at sky bar, or pamper yourself at the spa. Mealea Restaurant, a heritage French colonial villa, offers both French and Royal Khmer cuisines.



## SUN & MOON, Urban Hotel

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#68, corner of street 136 and 15, Sangkat Phsar Kandal 1, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (12206)

In a universe of endless journeys, SUN & MOON, Urban Hotel offers an inspired blend of art, design and comfort in a new hospitality concept in the heart of Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Wonder. This unique and centrally-located urban hotel captures the vibrance, soul and energy of the Cambodian capital and invites you to stay, and be inspired...



#### La Rose Suites



👽 #1/4B, Street 21, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chamkamon, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

La Rose Suites is a luxurious 5-star boutique hotel in the heart of Cambodia's bustling capital. Nestled on a quiet street near Independence Monument, the Royal Palace and National Museum, this is the perfect location for a walk in the local park or a stroll along the riverside promenade.



# The Aquarius Hotel & Urban Resort



No 5, St 240, Sangkat Chakto Mukh, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The Aquarius Hotel combines modernity with the serenity of nature, nestled in the heart of Phnom Penh, surrounded by the famous and momentous landmarks. There are 66 lavish rooms and suites, each designed with unique features and a careful attentionto-detail. Take the charming city in from the open air sky bar alongside the salt-water infinity pool. This escape evokes chic comfortability.

#### Kravan Hotel





🛡 #58, Street 228, Sangkat Chaktomok, 12207, Cambodia.

The Kravan Hotel delights the travel-savvy modern guests with a genuine, inviting ambiance in the Heart of Phnom Penh. Located on street 228 just a corner from the most popular business boulevard Preah Monivong. It is within walking distance to popular local and international restaurants, beer gardens, bakeries, branded coffees, health clinics, mini-marts, and other local services. Kravan has been specially designed to make travellers stayings, luxurious, comfortable, and peace of mind.

#### Sofitel Phnom Penh Phokeethra



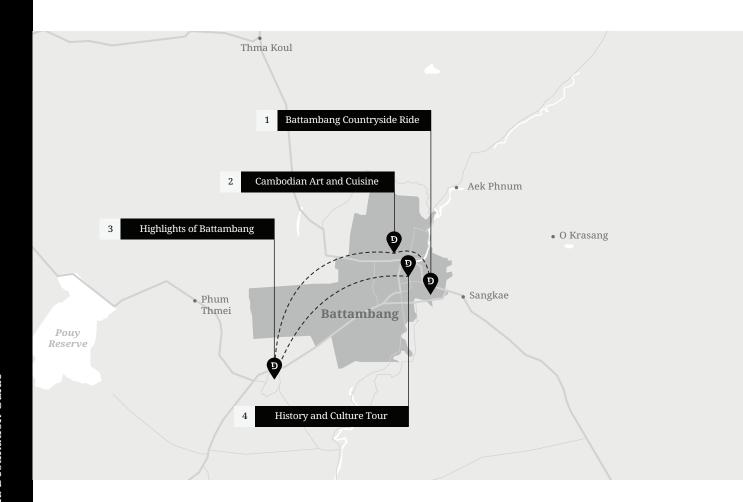


26 Old August Site Sothearos Boulevard, Sangkat Tonle Bassac Phnom Penh, 12301, Cambodia.

Welcome to the Kingdom of Wonder. Immerse yourself in a luxurious haven of tranquility and French colonial elegance. Sofitel Ambassadors greet guests in each step of their experience in our inspired 5-star hotel. We're located in close vicinity of a large scale shopping mall, government offices, embassies, major tourist attractions and the charming riverfront. Delight in one of our four gourmet restaurants for the ultimate culinary journey.

# **Battambang**

Battambang is Cambodia's second largest city, but it's fairly compact and easy to get to know. Despite its relative size, it has a small-town feel, set on the banks of a river in the heart of Cambodia's rice bowl. This fertile setting makes it a great place to try authentic Cambodian cuisine. It's also known for being a hub for Cambodian arts, so be sure to check out some of the many galleries here





# 1. Battambang Countryside Ride

Bicycle through Battambang into the true heart of Cambodia. Connect with friendly locals to learn more about Khmer culture, meet Muslim families, and ask a fortune-telling military veteran about his past and the future. This is a fun and immersive journey into the rural side of the country and a rare opportunity to experience local life.

#### 2. Cambodian Art and Cuisine

Spend the morning with some of Battambang's world-famous circus performers and artists; learn to juggle, play traditional instruments, and paint masterpieces. In the evening, get a taste of authentic Khmer cuisine while delving into the local street food scene.

# 3. Highlights of Battambang

Explore the depths of Cambodian culture, history, and nature with this full-day tour. Learn to make rice paper by hand and tour a fish paste market to better understand these staples of Cambodian culture and cuisine. At Phnom Sampeau, the tragic Khmer Rouge Killing Caves are mourned near "Bat Cave", where millions of bats make a spectacular exodus at dusk.

# 3. History and Culture Tour

Spend the day peeling back the layers of Cambodia's culture and history! Wander the streets of Battambang to visit local stalls and admire remnants of the 20th Century, with French architecture prevalent throughout the town. Peruse through the Provincial Museum and visit a temple to learn more about Buddhism and the monastic lifestyle.

# 1

# **Our Recommended Hotels**

#### **Battambang**



# **Classy Hotel & Spa**



159D, Street 207, Phum Romcheck4, Sangkat Rattanak, Battambang, Cambodia.

Classy Hotel & Spa is conveniently located across from Stung Sangke River and within walking distance to traditional market, restaurants, shopping, and the old french town. It is also just twelve kilometers from Phnom Sampouv, twenty-five kilometers from Phnom Banan, and a much shorter ride to an improvised French colonial rail vehicle called a Norry. Classy Hotel & Spa is a convenient address for travellers of Education, Business, and Leisure.



### **Battambang Resort**

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Wat Ko Village, Battambang

The luxurious Battambang Resort has been warmly welcoming guests since 2012, establishing its reputation as a small piece of paradise right here in Cambodia. The beauty of Battambang provides the perfect setting for this very special resort. Located in the midst of countless serene rice fields, local farmers can be seen tending to their daily work not far from the ancient village and famous bamboo train.



#### **Maisons Wat Kor**



🗣 #221, Street 800 (river street), Wat Kor Village, Sangkat Wat Kor, Krong Battambang, Battambang Province, cambodia

Maisons Wat Kor are charming houses accommodation located in the heart of Khmer Village, Battambang city, a small beautiful village bearing the same name. It has preserved very beautiful traditional wooden houses on stilts and offers the authentic atmosphere of the local villages and countryside.

## **Bambu Battambang Hotel**





Phum Romchek 5, Sangkat Rottanak, KO Street, Battambang.

Bambu Battambang Hotel was opened as a boutique hotel concept and offers its guests the ultimate accommodation experience with its 16 luxurious bedrooms arranged in 4 traditionally inspired buildings in Battambang, Cambodia. When designing the hotel we wanted to combine all that was best in the local Khmer and French colonial architecture whilst providing our guests with maximum comfort and convenience.

# La Villa Battambang





N 185 Pom Romchek 5, Sangkat Rattanak Krong, Battambang, Cambodia.

Situated on the banks of the Sangker river in Battambang, in the west of Cambodia, the hotel La Villa is a haven for peace and tranquility. Our guest house is an ancient colonial residence from the 1930's filled with Art Deco and antiques that will entice all connoisseurs.

#### Au Cabaret Vert





N° 57, Toul Ta Ek, Otakom 2 / Battambang.

Au Cabaret Vert is an Eco Resort Hotel with the first natural pool in the heart of Battambang. Hidden behind an elegant colonial style villa, in a charming tropical garden, our villas with private terrace offer a moment of serenity before discovering the charm of Battambang. Come to Enjoy the French Style: unique in Battambang!

After your day trip, order a cocktail at the poolside to watch the sunset, and then enjoy our French and Cambodian fine cuisine.

# The Islands of Cambodia

Venture off Cambodia's southern coastline to find a collection of islands where powdered white sand stretches out into a turquoise horizon. Whether it be a luxurious private island getaway or a more simple bungalow escape, this magnificent part of the country defines the true meaning of 'tropical haven' and has plenty to offer all types of travellers.





# 1. Koh Rong Kayaking

Launch a kayak from the sugar-white sands of Koh Rong to enjoy the crystal clear waters from above the surface. Try to spot tropical fish swimming below whilst paddling around the island's shore, exploring mangroves and nearby beaches. The calm waters make this a great activity for anyone and there's no need to venture far in order to find adventure.

#### 2. Bioluminescent Plankton Encounter

Experience the magic of bioluminescent plankton on an unforgettable evening boat trip from Koh Rong. This natural phenomenon is not uncommon around Cambodia's islands, yet the sparkling glow is only visible in areas with little light pollution. Let the local skipper find the best spots and enjoy the true wonder of the ocean when it sparkles in darkness.

# 3. Sihanoukville Snorkelling Discovery

Sihanoukville is the gateway to Cambodia's beautiful southern islands and home to stunning white-sand beaches. Join a day of snorkelling to discover the best of what the underwater world has to offer in the surrounding area and nearby islands. Swim peacefully through calm waters, search for colourful tropical fish and admire the coral reefs.

# 4. Tropical Island Hideaway

Escape to Rabbit Island to experience true relaxation. Sunbathe on white sand away from crowds of tourists and walk around the tiny island to discover fishing communities hidden between the palm trees. Swim and snorkel in clear warm water to see schools of colourful tropical fish, then dig into the day's freshest catches at a beachside seafood barbeque.

# **Cambodia Destination Guide**

# **Our Recommended Hotels**

The Islands of Cambodia



### **Koh Russey Villas & Resort**

• Koh Russey, Ream Commune, Sihanoukville

Just a short speedboat ride away from the Khmer Riviera, and right at the heart of Koh Russey Island, Koh Russey Villas & Resort boasts 50 luxurious pavilions and 13 pool villas, an ideal natural retreat with its 1.2 km private beach facing the open ocean. The resort design was inspired by the traditional geometry of the Cambodian Krama fabric, symbol of the Khmer people with its presence in their daily lives.



### Six Senses Krabey Island

♥ Koh Krabey Island, Ream Commune, Preah Sihanouk Province, 18000 P.O. Box 9553 Cambodia.

Six Senses Krabey Island is just 10-minutes from the airport to its mainland jetty. There's several dining and refreshment alternatives complementing the 40 private pool villas that feature sustainable materials and modern technology. Guest activities include a Six Senses Spa, land and water excursions, an observatory, an open-air cinema, and a kid's club.



### Song Saa Private Island

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Moh Rong Archipelago, Cambodia.

Created with sustainability in mind, Song Saa Private Island reflects the beauty of the Cambodian coastline. It's a place that breathes in time with nature, built from local materials, by local hands, and infused with local art and soul. An evolved tropical getaway with a pristine private beach, spacious wooden villas, heavenly spa sanctuaries and a preserved coral reef, Song Saa Private Island lets you detach from the world and tune into simple luxuries.

#### **Sok San Beach Resort**



Sok San Village, Koh Rong Island, Preah Sihanouk Province, Cambodia.

Sok San Beach Resort, Koh Rong island, is a traditional yet modern Khmer-style hotel located on one of the most beautiful islands of Cambodia. We can be reached from the mainland in less than an hour making us a secluded yet convenient seaside retreat.

### The Royal Sands Koh Rong Resort



Sok San Village, Koh Rong (Island), Sihanouk Ville, Cambodia .

The Royal Sands is a 67-Villa luxury barefoot resort on the paradise Island of Koh Rong in the Cambodian archipelago, surrounded by pristine beaches, crystal clear waters, and unspoilt tropical islands. The resort's design incorporates high-quality and sustainable materials including teak, bamboo and limestone, with open-air venues for enjoying unspoilt views of our legendary sunsets. All villas offer outdoor 'salas', while others feature beachfront views and their own personal pools.

# La Passion by Achariyak

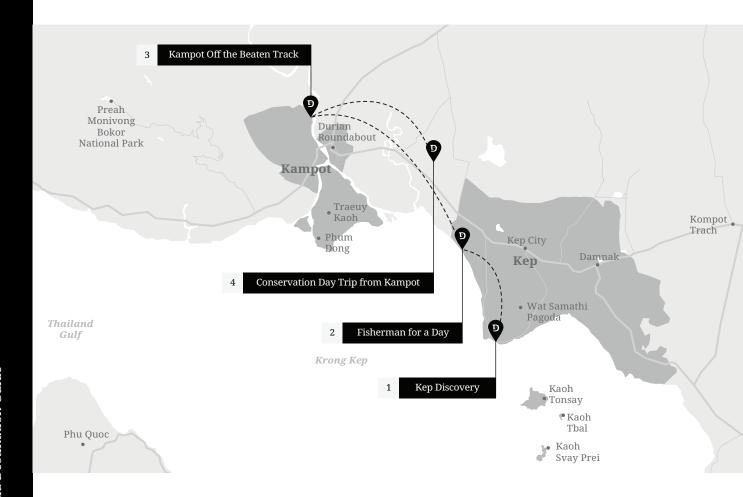


Saracen Bay, Koh Rong Sanloem, Preah Sihanouk, Cambodia

La Passion by Achariyak is laid back, quiet and serene –a secret hideaway, unspoiled by tourism or the need to be the next "it" vacation spot. Infusing the traditional with the contemporary, we have created a haven that truly reflects the personality, beauty, hospitality and values of 21st century Cambodia. Set within acres of native jungle on the shores of idyllic Saracen Bay on the Cambodian island of Koh Rong Sanloem, you will be 20 kms from the mainland but a million miles away.

# Kampot & Kep

The charming riverside town of Kampot offers a contrast to the coastal vibe of Kep, just 25 kilometres away. Travellers can easily lose track of time in Kampot with visits to pepper plantations, cycling to salt flats, or exploring national parks. Kep, on the other hand, offers a great family-friendly beach holiday where lazing on the beach and eating freshly caught crab is almost compulsory.





# 1. Kep Discovery

Discover the glitz of Kep's swanky past and bask in the spoils of its resource-rich resilience today. Tour abandoned mansions where high-rollers once hosted cocktail parties, ghosts of Kep's former glamour snatched away by tragedy. Visit salt fields, rice paddies, a fish sauce factory, and Kep's famous crab market to experience the enduring foundations of everyday life for every Cambodian.

# 2. Fisherman for a Day

Find out first-hand what it takes to be a traditional fisherman in the beautiful waters of Cambodia! Try a number of local fishing methods, under the guidance of a professional, then make a brief visit to Koh Karang Island to learn more about the area's marine conservation projects. Enjoy a snack and swim before returning to the shore.

# 3. Kampot Off the Beaten Track

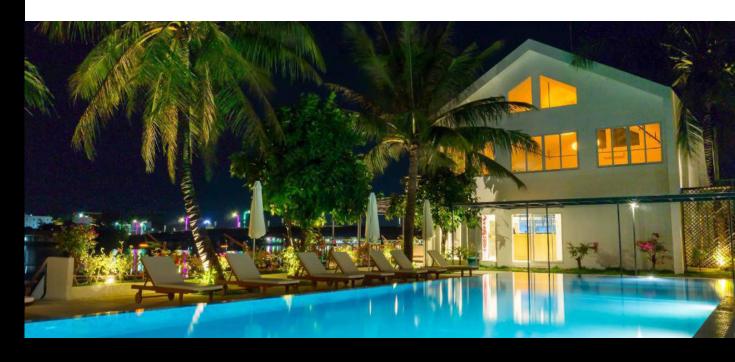
Get a different view of Kampot with a fun day of outdoor adventures! Embark on a steep, top-rope climb to a cliffside summit and be rewarded with fantastic views below. Spend the afternoon kayaking along the river through jungle foliage and mangrove swamps. This day amidst nature is one that won't soon be forgotten!

# 4. Conservation Day Trip from Kampot

Visit Trapeang Sangkae Community and be welcomed by the locals dedicated to environmental conservation. Contribute to their efforts by taking a boat journey to collect mangrove seeds from the lake and then plant them in designated fields near the sea. This is a unique day where travellers can get involved in environmental conservation and have the chance to enjoy kayaking, trekking, or swimming in the area too.

# **Our Recommended Hotels**

**Kampot & Kep** 



#### The B Resort

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🗣 #129, Street 3 Tvy ChErng Village Sangkat Angdon Khmer, Krong Kampot.

The B Resort is located in Kampot. Kep National Park is a local landmark and some of the area's attractions include Kampot Salt Fields and La Plantation. This hotel features a restaurant, an outdoor pool, and a 24-hour front desk. Free WiFi in public areas and free self-parking are also provided. All 32 rooms provide free WiFi, minibars, and flat-screen TVs. Free bottled water, safes, and showers are among the other amenities that guests will find.



### **Veranda Natural Resort**



Kep Hillside road, Kep, Cambodia.

Veranda Natural Resort in Kep is a unique place in Cambodia to be able to relax whatever your age and style. Indulge in the Resort's offering of food while reveling in the warm ambiance of the secret restaurant and bakery or simply enjoy drinks or coffee at our book shoop.



#### **Knai Bang Chatt Hotel**

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Wrong Kaeb, Cambodia

Knai Bang Chatt is the embodiment of an idea: that travel can be an art form. We believe that the majority of so-called travel is actually tourism: predictable, mass-produced, and ignorant of the world around it. At Knai, we create the opportunity to travel in luxury without any guilt; to feel rejuvenated while still inspiring the senses; to enjoy the finest things in life without damaging nature. Above all, we create a space where travel can be a mind-opening experience that helps you learn and grow. We invest in our community and local ecology in a spirit of compassion, so that travel becomes about giving and expanding, not about taking and stagnating.

#### Samanea Beach Resort





Yep Road (33A), Kep, Kingdom of Cambodia.

The ruins of seaside cottage were lying on the land before the Resorts construction. We tried to use the same materials (bricks, stone, cement tiles) for its renovation (It is now the reception) and for the other buildings, for a better integration in Nature. The sumptuous natural surrounding where Samanea is situated gave us the obligation to give a very special attention to environment and sustainability issues.

# **Boutique Kampot Hotel**





Phum 1 Ouk Saphea, sangkat Kampong Kandal, Kampot Town, Kampot Province.

Boutique Kampot Hotel, a new building inspired by French colonial architecture, is the city's most atmospheric location. The inspiration behind Boutique Kampot is to provide our guest the nostalgia of the province's unique history while energizing them with comfort and relaxation.

#### The Columns Hotel





2 37 Phoum 1 Ouksophear, Kipling Ln, Krong Kampot.

The Columns is located on a quiet tree-lined street in the heart of old town Kampot. Our historic French Colonial houses have been restored to their original charm but with the addition of modern functionality and comforts. The relaxing atmosphere and central location make for an ideal place to stay while exploring the town and its surroundings.

# **Unique MICE Venues**

We offer a range of MICE services in Cambodia



# Khéma Angkor

#### Siem Reap

Combining bakery, café, deli, and gourmet restaurant, the indoor and rooftop space of this beautifully restored colonial building provide an elegant setting for any special events.

# **Romchong Cooking Class**

#### Siem Reap

Lauded as one of Siem Reap's best Khmer restaurants, a hands-on cooking class of traditional Cambodian cuisine will spice up any incentive or teambuilding activity.

# Culture Night by Borei Angkor Hotel Pavilion

#### Siem Reap

Delectable Khmer cuisine and a colourful showcase of Cambodian dance, this luxury hotel's cultural dining experience is a vibrant spectacle for all the senses.

# Temple Dinner at Thommanon

#### Siem Reap

Dine like royalty with an exclusive twilight dinner experience inside the world-renowned Angkor complex.

# **Unique Educational Opportunities**

We ensure our innovative range of themed programs and educational tours for adults and students make a positive impact and provide opportunities for inspiration, exploration, and learning.

In partnership with the local community and authorities, Discova's educational travel experts have set up a community-based tourism project in the Chansar and Knapor Communes. Located only 35 kilometres from Siem Reap, it

is one of the most disadvantaged regions in the country; 80% of the local community live in poverty. By setting up this initiative, we offer educational groups access to a range of service-learning experiences and immersive activities that promote cultural exchange whilst ensuring sustainable development of the community. All groups are accompanied by Discova's facilitators, providing translation services and cultural guidance.



# **Service Learning**

Educational travel groups can take part in a range of building projects which have been carefully selected through a community needs analysis. Past projects include the construction of family homes, teacher dormitories, sanitation facilities, and libraries. Discova's educational experts provide well-informed project management, ensuring groups contribute effectively to the development of the communities and that donations benefit the projects directly.

Our most recent and significant achievement was the construction of a five-classroom building at Chansar High School, which was opened in February 2020. Over the course of almost two years, a total of 18 educational groups helped in the successful implementation of this project, thus creating a healthier learning environment for the local children.

# **Cultural Immersion**

From gaining a different perspective to being adaptive to different environments – there's no better way to learn about a different culture than by immersing into the community life. In the Chansar and Knapor Communes, educational groups can experience local lifestyles through homestays and a variety of cultural activities. These range from cooking classes and rice farming to handson craft workshops and countryside hikes. The residents have been trained and financially supported to become service providers creating additional revenue streams for the host communities.

Our community-based project in the Chansar and Knapor Communes is Discova's first educational program open for FIT travellers. Being able to choose from a variety of programs, independent travellers get the opportunity to engage in different cultural activities which, in turn, support the livelihood of the community.

# **Adventure Seeker**

There's plenty of opportunities to get off the beaten track and enjoy some exciting Cambodian adventures.



Go exploring in Phnom Kulen – Cambodia's most sacred mountain – where Buddhist pagodas and local homes pop-up along the climb to an amazing summit view. Complete with a stunning waterfall, lush jungle, and hiking trails of varying difficulties, Kulen Mountain and its namesake national park is a local gem still waiting to be discovered by visitors.



Head to the charming city of Battambang to enjoy cycling in the countryside. Pass by French colonial sites, appreciate the scenic farmland and discover traditional products such as rice paper, rice wine, and dried bananas. Choose a guided tour with a young local undergoing vocational training to get a deeper glimpse of Cambodian culture and for the chance to enjoy a homecooked lunch at a family home.

**Cambodia Destination Guide** 

Fly at great speed through the UNESCO World Heritage designated Angkor Archaeological Park with a worldclass zipline experience! Explore the ancient jungle and be surrounded by wildlife, butterflies, flowers, fauna, and towering trees - zipping through the rainforest offers an adrenaline rush like nothing else!

# **Culture Enthusiast**

Travellers will be enchanted by cultural gems and traditions that the people of Cambodia have fought hard to revive.



Delve into the ancient art of traditional **Khmer music and dance**. Participate in a workshop led by young performers to learn about the basic moves and the depth of what they represent for Cambodian culture. Choose to watch a captivating performance and, in turn, contribute to the revival of this incredible, yet endangered art form.

Pay a visit to **Theam's Gallery** where Master Lim Muy Theam invites visitors into the distinctive world of Cambodian art. With an impressive private collection of local artifacts displayed alongside artworks conceived onsite – many by young apprentice artisans – visitors can enjoy relaxing in the tranquil setting whilst immersing in Khmer culture.

Visit a temple, pagoda or monastery to learn more about Buddhism and the role it plays in the daily life of Khmers. Whether it be rituals or relics that intrigue you, a visit to a sacred site can be both spiritually and culturally uplifting. Participate in a blessing or chat with a resident monk to uncover interesting stories of those who dedicate their life to Buddhism.

# **Nature and Wildlife Lover**

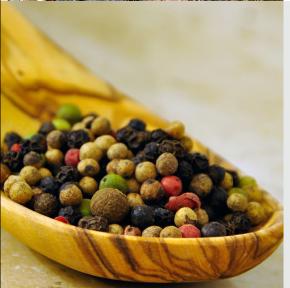
From towering mountains to flat plains and clear coastal waters, there is a diverse array of nature and wildlife to be discovered.



Experience the amazing natural phenomenon that is bioluminescent plankton when visiting Koh Rong's surrounding waters during the magical hours of darkness. Swim, snorkel, or paddle and be mesmerised by the tiny glowing specs that come to life when the water is disturbed.



Meet Cambodia's wild east in **Mondulkiri Province** where a paradise of green pastures, fresh waterfalls, and verdant rainforests are home to the nation's widest variety of wild animals including bears, leopards, and elephants. Immerse in nature's gifts and support the conservation of this truly unique part of Cambodia by getting involved in a variety of ecotourism projects in the area.



Get acquainted with the iconic **Kampot pepper** and uncover what it is about the area that creates the best black, red, and white pepper in the world. Visit a pepper plantation to find out more about the unique farming techniques and environmental factors that make these peppercorns so special.

# **Curious Learner**

Get immersed in the history and traditions where an array of new discoveries awaits.



The people of Cambodia are survivors – and there's much to be learned about the **brutal genocide** that killed almost a quarter of their population between 1975 and 1979. Visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek Killing Fields to uncover the chilling truth about what happened and pay respect to the millions who lost their lives.

As the largest religious monument in the world, measuring a massive 162.6 hectares, Angkor remains one of South-East Asia's most important **archaeological sites**. Uncover the little-known secrets about the life of ancient Khmers and how they designed, constructed, carved, and moved these spectacular religious structures.

From silk weaving and broom making to lacquerware and ceramics, the history of Cambodia's **traditional crafts** can be traced back to pre-Angkorian times. Participate in a workshop to learn from the skilled artisans who've carried their craftsmanship through multiple generations and find out about the role these traditions play in modern life.

# **Socialiser**

Cambodia may not come to mind as a party destination, but there's plenty of evening fun to be had for those who are looking for it.



Anyone who is looking to party in Cambodia will find the capital offers the best place for revelling. The **Foreign Correspondents Club** (known fondly as 'FCC') is considered an iconic landmark in Phnom Penh and is a popular venue to imbibe the night away.



Where there are tourists, there is always loud music and bright lights – in Siem Reap, that place is **Pub Street**. Find bars and restaurants galore offering cheap drinks, delicious food and live music until the early hours of the morning. Between bar-hopping, visit the nearby night market for some late-night bargains too!



While Koh Rong offers an idyllic paradise for relaxation on sandy shores, once the sun has set part of the island comes to life offering an exciting party destination. Koh Touch in particular has built up quite a reputation as a lively beach party destination with an array of night clubs, bars, and restaurants to choose from.

# Offices

# Siem Reap

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www.discova.com