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**Tour Name:** Preah Khan Kampong Svay Excursion

**Tour Code:** A1W

**Tour Duration:** 1 day

**Tour Operates:** all year round / on demand

**Number of Pax:** available upon request

**Tour Price:** available upon request

### Pick-up and drop-off location

Can be anywhere upon request

Hotel in Siem Reap

Upon arrival in Siem Reap airport

Upon arrival in Siem Reap bus station

Upon arrival in boat pier in Chong Kneah floating village

Any AirBnB and residences in Siem Reap

Any residences in Siem Reap.

### Pick-up and drop-off direction

Kindly provide your pick-up and drop-off styles for direction!

### PREAH KHAN KAMPONG SVAY

**Preah Khan Kampong Svay** - in the morning, after breakfast at the hotel, pick up and transfer onward to Preah Khan Kampong Svay temple. The archeological complex of Preah Khan (of) Kampong Svay or Prasat Bakan (according to local pronunciation) or Bakan Svay Rolay is located 100 km east of Angkor, in Preah Vihear province, Cambodia. It stands as the largest single religious complex ever built during Angkorian Era, as its exterior enclosure is about 5 km square, even if the isolated location makes it one of less visited Angkorian sites.

### History

There are few historical data about Preah Khan Kompong Svay. French scholars argued it had been founded in the 11th century, probably by Suryavarman I. It was a royal residence during the kingdom of Suryavarman II and even Jayavarman VII lived here, before recapturing the capital city of Yasodharapura from invading Chams in 1181, and improved the complex

### The discovery of the complex

After some French missions at the turn of the 19th century, Victor Goloubew in 1937 engaged in aerial surveys which revealed the real extension of the complex.

Many famous Khmer sculptures come from here, such as the putative head of Jayavarman VII which is exposed at the National Museum of Phnom Penh. The sculptures and carvings of Preah Khan of Kompong Svay are among the peaks of Khmer art and the temples have been widely sacked in the past by official expeditions, like Louis Delaporte's one, whereas thieves have largely damaged many structures while looting sculptures and carvings from the second half of the 1990s.

### The site

Preah Khan Kompong Svay covers an area about 5 kilometers square, is oriented to north-east and has four concentric enclosures. It was provided with water by a large baray (2.8 km by 750 m but almost completely dried at present), which crosses the eastern side. On an artificial island (mebon) in the middle of the baray there is Preah Thkol, a cruciform temple in sandstone with a standing central tower. In the southeastern corner stands the remains of the 15 metres high pyramid of Preah Damrei, with laterite enclosure and two stone elephants (Damrei means elephant) at its upper corners. The other two elephants are exhibited at the National Museum of Phnom Penh and Guimet Museum in Paris.



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Inside the exterior enclosure, in the middle of the western side of baray, there is Prasat Preah Stung with a peculiar four-faced central tower in Bayon style, which is preceded by a landing-stage with nāga balaustrades. A laterite causeway leads from here to a centric enclosure, 701 m by 1097 m, surrounded by a moat and endowed with four gopuras similar to Angkor Thom. Near the eastern gopura there is a dharmasala.

The inner laterite enclosure contains the central sanctuary, that stands on a two-tier platform. The central tower collapsed because of a looting attempt in 2003. It has entrances in all cardinal directions and is rounded by a windowed gallery.

### **World heritage status**

This site was added to the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List on September 1, 1992 in the Cultural category.

Lunch at local restaurant (at your own costs)

Return to Siem Reap.

**TOUR ENDS**



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### **PRICE**

- private solo tour: USD255
- private tour for 2 persons: USD153 per person
- private tour for 3 persons: USD135 per person
- private tour for 4 persons: USD120 per person
- private tour for 5 persons: USD110 per person
- private tour for 6 persons: USD100 per person
- private tour for 7 persons: USD92 per person
- private tour for 8 persons: USD88 per person
- private tour for 9 persons: USD85 per person
- the more people, the better price.

### **INCLUDED**

- Full tours and transfers by private luxury A/C vehicle
- English speaking guide
- All entrance fees for mentioned visit.

### **EXCLUDED**

- Meals not mentioned
- Accommodation
- Visa fees \$30 (visa on arrival, please bring 1 of your recent passport-size photo to visit your Cambodia visa). Southeast Asian passport holders do not require a Cambodian visa
- Drinks, laundry, telephone calls, tips and expenditure of a personal nature
- Personal travel insurance
- Any services not mentioned in itinerary.

### **Contact in Siem Reap**

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