



**CAMBODIA
TRAVEL TRAILS**

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Tour Name: Phnom Penh to Angkor Wat and Back Tour 6d5n

Tour Code: PA6

Tour Duration: 6 days / 5 nights

Tour Operates: all year round / on demand

Number of Pax: available upon request

Tour Price: available upon request

Pick-up time on day I: at 5am (but flexible and available upon request) at your preferred pick up location in Phnom Penh

Hotel in Siem Reap: at guest's own reservation

Drop-off time on day VI: earliest at 10:30am and onward to 10pm, at your preferred drop off location in Phnom Penh

Kindly let us know your pick-up information when you have it available?

Pick up location is flexible, available upon request, includes:

Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Phnom Penh
Upon arrival at Phnom Penh international airport PNH
Upon arrival at Phnom Penh ferry port
Upon arrival at any bus station in Phnom Penh
Upon arrival at train station in Phnom Penh
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Kandal province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Ta Keo province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Kam Pot province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Sihanoukville province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Kampong Speu province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Kampong Chhnang province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Por Sat province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Battambang province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Banteay Meanchhey province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Kampong Thom province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Kampong Chham province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Preah Vihear province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Oudor Meanchhey province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Kratie province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Steung Treng province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Ratana Kiri province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Mondoul Kiri province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Svay Rieng province
Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Prey Veng province
And more...

Kindly let us know your drop-off information when you have it available?

Drop off location is flexible, available upon request, includes:



Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Phnom Penh
Upon arrival at Phnom Penh international airport PNH
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Hotel, Airbnb and residence in Prey Veng province
And more...

Day I - Pick up in Phnom Penh, transfer onward to Siem Reap, visit Angkor Wat and Phnom Bakheng Hill sunset or Pre Rup temple sunset

In the morning - at 5am (but flexible and available upon request), you will be met and welcomed by our transfer company representative in Phnom Penh at your hotel in Phnom Penh.

Kindly let us know your pick up information when you have it available?

And then picked up and chauffeured onward by our private luxury A/C minivan to Siem Reap.

Siem Reap - is the provincial capital of Siem Reap province. This small town crossed by a river coming from the Kulen Mountain is the gateway for the visit of the Angkor Park which is over 400 km² and is home of more than 100 temples dating from the 9th to 13th century.

Upon arrival in Siem Reap, you will be met and welcomed by our English speaking guide and then check in to your hotel.

After check in to hotel, transfer for lunch at local restaurant (lunch is at your own cost)

Angkor Wat - after lunch, transfer to visit the magnificent temple Angkor Wat, built by Suryavarman II in the early 12th century. Angkor Wat symbolizes Mount Meru, home of the gods, and considered the pinnacle of Khmer architecture. This Vishnuite temple is the King's funerary temple, which is why the temple is oriented to the west. Inside the temple the walls are covered by carvings and bas-reliefs depicting the Hindu mythology and the wars during the reign of Suryavarman II. As well, Angkor Wat is well-known for the 1800 Apsara dancers decorating the temple. It is



said to take a lifetime to discover all the wonders of this temple.

Return to Siem Reap after watching sunset over the top of **Phnom Bakheng Hill**. Dominating the flat landscape, this 10th Century mountain temple is the most popular spot in the area to watch a classic sunset over Angkor Wat and the surrounding forest or

Watching sunset at **Pre Rup** temple, a Hindu temple, built as the state temple of king Rajendravarmān and dedicated in 961. It is a temple mountain of combined brick, laterite and sandstone construction. The temple's name is a comparatively modern one meaning "turn the body". This reflects the common belief among Cambodians that funerals were conducted at the temple, with the ashes of the body being ritually rotated in different directions as the service progressed.

During the night of your stay in Siem Reap, you can enjoy Siem Reap nightlife, night markets, foods and other fun activities in Siem Reap downtown, Pub Street areas and city formerly French colonial head quarter.

Overnight at your hotel in Siem Reap.

Day II - Angkor Wat sunrise, Angkor Thom, Bayon, Ta Prohm, small circuit and Rolous Group

Angkor Wat Sunrise - at 5am, pick up for viewing the picturesque sunrise at Angkor Wat.

Return to hotel for breakfast

Angkor Thom City complex - after breakfast at your hotel, transfer to **Great City of Angkor Thom**, the last capital of the Great Khmer Empire under the reign of Jayavarman VII. This city is surrounded by an 8 m high wall; each side of the city is 3 kilometers long. It draws a perfect square you access this town through 5 gates, 4 of them represent the cardinal points and the 5th one the Victory Gate was the one leading directly to the Royal Palace Area.

You will arrive via the **South Gate**, an impressive stone gate carved with Elephants and 4 giant faces. On each side is a row of 54 gods or demons holding the sacred Naga snake.

After passing through the South Gate, you will go down along this shady road to the **Bayon** temple. This temple lies exactly in the center of the city. The particularity of this monument is the 54 towers representing the 54 provinces of the then Great Khmer Empire. Each tower has 4 faces. This is the only temple in Cambodia depicting scenes of the everyday life at the time of the empire.

From the Bayon continue by walk to the **Baphoun** recently re-opened to the public. There you will pass by the **Phimeanakas** the location of the **Royal Palace**. The only remaining are a pound and a temple. The palace was made of wood and did not survive the time and the wars.

Then continue to the **Terrace of the Elephants**. This Terrace was the place where the parade was done for the king. Next is the **Terrace of the Leper King**, depicting the water world.

Taprohm (known as Tobm Raider temple) and small circuit - continues to **Ta Prohm** - one of the most popular temples of the Angkor Complex. This temple was built in the memory of the King Jayavarman VII's mother. When found by the French conservators at the end of the 19th century, they deliberately left this temple in the same condition as it was discovered, overgrown by strangler fig and silk-cotton trees, giving the temple a mystical and romantic appeal.

Your visit will also include **Banteay Kdei**, a Buddhist monastery from the late 12th century, and **Srah Srang**, also known as the "pool of ablution", the identical twin temples of **Tommanon** and **Chaosay Tevoda**, and **Krovan** temple.



Lunch at local restaurant (at your own cost)

Rolous Group - continues visit Rolous group, consists of three temples of **Preah Ko, Bakong** and **Lolei**.

Preah Ko - six towers displaying set on a platform, all beautifully preserved carvings. Originally surrounded by walls and gopuras of which only vestiges remain. Preah Ko was one of the first major temples of the empire at the early Khmer capital of Hariharalaya. Preah Ko (Sacred Bull) derives its names from the statues of bulls at the front of the central towers.

Bakong - the most impressive member of the Rolous Group, sitting at the center of the first Angkorian Capital, Hariharalaya, stands 15 meters tall and is 650x850m at the outer wall.

Lolei - ruins of an island-temple built in the middle of a now day baray, Indratoka, the first large-scale baray constructed by a Khmer King. Lolei consists of four brick towers on a double laterite platform.

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Overnight at your hotel in Siem Reap.

Day III - Excursion Banteay Srei, Kbal Spean River of 1000 lingam waterfall and grand circuit

Banteay Srei - in the morning, after breakfast at your hotel, depart for an excursion to visit Banteay Srei, made of pink sandstone and is one of the smallest temples you can visit but one of the most beautiful as well. Built in 967AD by a guru to Jayavarman V, it showcases the most exquisite, deep and complex carvings in all Khmer architectures. As well the carvings and bas-relief are in a perfect condition although being here for more than millenary.

Kbal Spean waterfall - continue to the original "River of a Thousand Lingas" Kbal Spean is and intricately carved riverbed deep in the foothills the Cambodian jungle. Lingas are phallic representations sacred to Hinduism as symbols of fertility, and hundreds of them are carved into the rock here, as are several carvings of Gods and animals above the small waterfall. The area was only rediscovered in 1969 when French researcher Jean Boulbet was shown the carvings by a local hermit. Kbal Spean lies 50Km northeast of Siem Reap 18Km from Banteay Srei on a dirt road. It takes from 1-2 hours to get there from Siem Reap.

Lunch at local restaurant (at your own cost)

On the way back to Siem Reap you will visit the isolated temple of **Banteay Samre**. Situated on the eastern edge of the Angkor complex, this temple is very similar to Angkor Wat. The structure with its typical lotus flowers shaped tower but has very compact proportions. This temple was built during the best period of the Khmer architecture and its condition is almost perfect.

Grand circuit - in the afternoon, explore the highlights of the Grand Circuit, like the overgrown **Preah Khan** temple and **Neak Poan** with its artificial lakes. Continue to **East Mebon** temple and return to Siem Reap after viewing sunset at the **Pre Rup** temple.

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Overnight at your hotel in Siem Reap.



Day IV - Excursion Preah Vihear, Koh Ker and Beng Melea

Preah Vihear – in the morning, after breakfast at the hotel, you will be met and welcomed by our English speaking guide, picked up and transferred onward to visit Preah Vihear Temple. It is situated atop cliff in the Preah Vihear province of northern Cambodia (180 kilometers from Angkor Wat) and on the border of Kantharalak district (amphoe) in Sisaket province of eastern Thailand. In 1962, following a lengthy dispute between Thailand and Cambodia over ownership, a majority of the International Court of Justice in The Hague awarded the temple to Cambodia.

Affording a view for many kilometers across a plain, Prasat Preah Vihear has the most spectacular setting of all the temples built during the six-centuries-long Khmer Empire. As a key edifice of the empire's spiritual life, it was supported and modified by successive kings and so bears elements of several architectural styles. Preah Vihear is unusual among Khmer temples in being constructed along a long north-south axis, rather than having the conventional rectangular plan with orientation toward the east. The temple gives its name to Cambodia's Preah Vihear province, in which it is now located.

On July 7, 2008, Preah Vihear was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Construction of the first temple on the site began in the early 9th century; both then and in the following centuries it was dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva in his manifestations as the mountain gods Sikharesvara and Bhadresvara. The earliest surviving parts of the temple, however, date from the Koh Ker period in the early 10th century, when the empire's capital was at the city of that name.

Today, elements of the Banteay Srei style of the late 10th century can be seen, but most of the temple was constructed during the reigns of the Khmer kings Suryavarman I (1002 -1050) and Suryavarman II (1113 -1150). An inscription found at the temple provides a detailed account of Suryavarman II studying sacred rituals, celebrating religious festivals and making gifts, including white parasols, golden bowls and elephants, to his spiritual advisor, the aged Brahman Divakarapandita. The Brahman himself took an interest in the temple, according to the inscription, donating to it a golden statue of a dancing Shiva. In the wake of the decline of Hinduism in the region the site was converted to use by Buddhists.

Lunch at local restaurant (at your own costs)

Koh Ker – after lunch, continue visit Koh Ker. It is a former capital of the Khmer Kingdom, pre-dating Angkor, and is home to many spectacular 10th century temples. A brief interruption: the exception took place in 928AD when, for reasons that remain unclear, there was a disruption in the royal succession. King Jayavarman IV moved the capital 100 km from Angkor north to Koh Ker, where it remained for 20 years. When the capital returned to Angkor, it centered not at Phnom Bakheng as it had before, but further east at the new state-temple of Pre Rup (961AD).

Beng Melea - continue to visit Beng Melea. Sprawling jungle temple covering over one square kilometer, the temple is largely overrun by vegetation and very lightly touristed, giving it an adventures, 'lost temple' feel. Photographers: trees growing from the broken towers and galleries offer some of the best 'tree in temple' shots aside from Ta Prohm. Constructed in a distinctly Angkor Wat style under the same king that built Angkor Wat, Beng Melea preceded and may have served as a prototype of sorts for Angkor Wat. Though there are some lintel and doorway carving, there are no bas-relief and the carvings are comparatively sparse. When the temple was active, the walls may have been covered, painted or had frescos. In its time, Beng Melea was at the crossroads of several major highways that ran to Angkor, Koh Ker, Preah Vihear (in northern Cambodia) and northern Vietnam.

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Overnight at your hotel in Siem Reap.



Day V - Kulen Mountain Waterfall excursion

Kulen mountain waterfall - in the morning, after breakfast at your hotel, leave for **Phnom Kulen** Mountain waterfall. Jayavaraman II was the first king of the Angkorian era, though his origins are recorded in history that borders on legend. He is reputed to have been a Khmer prince, returned to Cambodia around 790AD after a lengthy, perhaps forced stay in the royal court in 'Java'. Regardless of his origin, he was a warrior who, upon returning to Cambodia, subdued enough of the competing Khmer states to declare a sovereign and unified 'Kambuja' under a single ruler. He made this declaration in 802AD in a ceremony on Kulen Mountain (Phnom Kulen) north of Siem Reap, where he held a 'god-king' rite that remain more than hundred decades.

Lunch at local restaurant on top of Kulen Mountain (at your own cost)

Return to Siem Reap.

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Overnight at your hotel in Siem Reap.

Day VI - Chong Kneah floating village, return and drop off in Thailand

Chong Kneah floating village - in the morning, after breakfast at your hotel, transfer to the Phnom Krom pier for boat on Tonle Sap Lake to visit floating village of Chong Kneah at the edge of Tonle Sap Lake. Cambodia's Great Lake, the Boueng Tonle Sap (Tonle Sap Lake) is the most prominent feature on the map of Cambodia – a huge dumbbell-shaped body of water stretching across the northwest section of the country. In the wet season, the Tonle Sap Lake is one of the largest freshwater lakes in Asia, swelling to an expansive 12,000km². During the dry, half of the year the lake shrinks to as 3000 km², draining into the Tonle Sap River, which meanders southeast eventually merging with the Mekong River at the "Chaktomuk" confluence of river opposite Phnom Penh.

Then it's time for shopping at the Artisans d'Angkor, where you can observe young Cambodians being trained in the making of traditional crafts.

Lunch at local restaurant (at your own cost)

Returning time - at 4pm (but flexible and available upon request), part ways with the tour guide, you will be chauffeured back to Phnom Penh.

Kindly let us know your drop off information when you have it available?

Tour Ends



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Price

- Available upon request.

Included

- Full transfers to and from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap by private luxury A/C vehicle with driver only
- Licensed local English speaking guide for guided tour in Angkor park
- Private boat cruise at Chong Kneah floating village
- All entrance fee for mentioned visit.

Excluded

- Meals not mentioned
- Accommodation in Siem Reap
- Visa on Arrival fee \$30. Please bring one of your recent passport-size photos to visit your Cambodian Visa on Arrival. South-East Asian passport holders do not require a visa to enter Cambodian
- 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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