



Itinerary--Trip to Cambodia February 18 - March 3, 2018

Day 1, Sun., Feb 18, 2018--San Diego to Phnom Penh

Make your own flight arrangements to arrive in Phnom Penh on Monday, February 19, 2018. Plan to depart from Siem Reap the evening of March 2 or morning of March 3.

Day 2, Mon. Feb 19, 2018--Arrival – PHNOM PENH

Upon arrival at Phnom Penh International Airport, our local guide will meet and welcome you with a jasmine garland, then transfer you to the hotel. We have asked the hotel to provide early check-in for those arriving in the morning, but this will be possible only if rooms are available.

Overnight at Queen Grand Boutique Hotel and Spa

Day 3, Tues Feb 20, 2018--PHNOM PENH (B, L, D)

Breakfast at the hotel.

We'll give those who arrived late last night a little extra time to sleep in. Early risers can relax by the pool or take a stroll on your own.

We'll meet our guide at 10:00 a.m. for an orientation and then start our city tour of Phnom Penh, with a stop at Wat Phnom, the legendary founding of Phnom Penh, where the first pagoda was constructed in 1372.

After lunch at a local restaurant, we'll visit the Royal Palace with its Silver Pagoda. Named for its silver tiled floor, it houses a collection of priceless Buddhist and historical objects including the "Emerald Buddha." Next, we'll go to the National Museum which houses one of the world's largest collections of Khmer art, including sculptural, ceramics, bronzes, and ethnographic objects. Its collection includes over 14,000 items, from prehistoric times to periods before, during and after the Khmer Empire, which at its height stretched from Thailand, across present-day Cambodia, to southern Vietnam. Next, we'll visit the Central Market, located in a unique,



domed art deco building, with four arms branching out into vast hallways with countless stalls of goods. Constructed in 1935, it is a Phnom Penh landmark. Before dinner, we'll take an evening Cyclo ride along the riverside to enjoy local life.

Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Queen Grand Boutique Hotel and Spa.

Day 4, Wed, Feb 21, 2018--PHNOM PENH (B, L, D)

Breakfast at hotel.

Today we'll visit Choeung Ek, the site of a former orchard and mass grave of victims of the Khmer Rouge, about 11 miles south of Phnom Penh. It is known as The Killing Fields, where the Khmer Rouge regime executed over one million people between 1975 and 1979. Mass graves containing 8,895 bodies were discovered at Choeung Ek after the fall of the Khmer Rouge regime. Many of the dead were former political prisoners who were kept by the Khmer Rouge in the Tuol Sleng detention center. Today, Choeung Ek is a memorial, marked by a Buddhist stupa, filled with more than 5,000 human skulls.

After lunch at a local restaurant, we'll visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (S-21), chronicling the Cambodian genocide. The site is a former high school, which was used as the notorious Security Prison 21 (S-21) by the Khmer Rouge from 1975 to 1979. Tuol Sleng, just one of at least 150 execution centers established by the Khmer Rouge, was the largest center of incarceration and torture.

In the afternoon, you will have time to relax at the hotel or shop at some of Phnom Penh's high-end shops along Street 240 or look for art on Street 178.

In the evening we'll enjoy an Apsara Dance Performance by Cambodian Living Arts, then have dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Queen Grand Boutique Hotel and Spa.

Day 5, Thurs, Feb 22, 2018--PHNOM PENH TO BATTAMBANG (B, L, D)

Breakfast at hotel

After breakfast, we will board our air-conditioned bus and head to Battambang province, the western-most province of Cambodia, famous for its rice plantations and tropical fruits. More than just a natural resource, the province is known for its ancient temples. On the way we will stop in Kampong Chhnang to visit a school that trains children in the ancient martial art of kickboxing and wrestling. After lunch in Kampong Chhnang we'll continue to Battambang. After checking into our hotel, you'll have time to relax and swim in the hotel pool before heading for a sunset ride on Battambang's famous Bamboo train. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Bambu Battambang Hotel

Day 6, Fri, Feb 23, 2018--BATTAMBANG (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel

Today we'll head for the rural villages where the Cambodian Village Fund has been helping the communities build schools and roads. We'll visit the primary and secondary schools and participate in community service activities. We'll return to Battambang in the afternoon.



After dinner at the hotel (not included), we'll board the bus for the Phare Ponleu Selpak Circus, where the performers are children from nearby villages who have been trained by a French NGO.

Overnight at Bambu Battambang Hotel

Day 7, Sat, Feb 24, 2018--BATTAMBANG (B, L, D)

Breakfast at hotel

After breakfast we'll board the bus for Battambang's Wat Domrei Sor to meet with Venerable Sovechea to learn about Buddhism, pagodas, and meditation. Then we'll go to the Cambodian Village Fund's scholarship house in Battambang to meet the Cambodian Village Fund's scholarship students. After a short visit with the girls and a tour of their house, we'll all head to Kaun Khlong Village.

Lunch will be served in the village at the home of Nem Vanna and his wife, Kosel. After lunch we'll divide into groups to visit the homes of the scholarship girls. In the afternoon everybody (Americans and Cambodians) will board the bus and return to the hotel for a party, including a buffet dinner.

Overnight at Bambu Battambang Hotel

Day 8, Sun, Feb 25, 2018--BATTAMBANG (B, L, D)

Breakfast at hotel.

After breakfast we'll take a half-day cooking class (9:00 - 1:00), including a market tour. Markets in Cambodia are most interesting in the morning hours when fresh produce arrives and most Cambodians do their shopping. You will prepare three dishes from scratch, and then eat the food you prepared for lunch.

After lunch and a brief time to relax, we'll take the scholarship girls to visit Phnom Sompav to see the killing caves. At sunset we'll watch thousands of bats leaving their caves for the night.

Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Bambu Battambang Hotel

Day 9, Mon, Feb 26, 2018--BATTAMBANG (B, L, D)

Breakfast at hotel.

After breakfast we'll head for the lovely Battambang countryside in tuk-tuks to see the rural people at work, making rice wine, rice paper and crafts. Then we'll visit Ek Phnom, a Hindu temple, built in the 11th century. Lunch at local restaurant.

After lunch there will be free time for relaxing and swimming at the Bambu Hotel. Then we'll board the bus for Kaun Khlong Village to teach English classes at the Cambodian Village Fund's English language school. We'll return to Battambang in time for dinner.

Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Bambu Battambang Hotel

Day 10, Tues, Feb 27, 2018--BATTAMBANG – SIEM REAP by Private bus (B, L, D)

Breakfast at hotel.

Transfer by private bus to Siem Reap. We'll go directly to a local restaurant for lunch.

After lunch we'll check-in at our hotel. We'll have free time to enjoy the pool at the hotel or do some shopping.

In the late afternoon, we'll take a boat tour of floating and fishing villages in the Tonle Sap Great Lake, which is one of the world's most productive bodies of fresh water. Each year, millions of fish come to spawn in the seasonally flooded forest surrounding the lake, attracting myriad water birds as well as people, who have settled in villages along the shores and who live with the rhythms of the water. This ecosystem of extraordinary biological richness and balance between humans and nature was recently designated as a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. It is this fusion of water and forest, this dense and intertwined world of fish, birds and people which we invite you to immerse yourself in. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Sokha Angkor Resort

Day 11, Wed, Feb 28, 2018--SIEM REAP (B, L, D)

This morning we'll get up early to see the sun rise over Angkor Wat. We'll have breakfast at a nearby café and then start our tour of Angkor Thom, the lost city of the Khmer empire.



We'll enter Angkor Thom on elephants from the South Gate (or ride elephants around Bayon Temple). After saying "good bye" to our elephants, we'll visit the giant faces of famous Bayon and Baphoun Temples, the Elephant and Leper King Terraces, and the unforgettable jungle temple of Ta Prohm (where the movie Tomb Raider was filmed). We'll have lunch at a restaurant inside the Angkor compound.

After lunch, we'll visit the World Heritage Angkor Wat Temple. We'll study both the splendid architecture and the famous bas-reliefs until sunset.

Dinner at a local restaurant.

After dinner, we'll visit the Night Market and Pub Street.

Overnight at Sokha Angkor Resort

Day 12, Thurs, March 1, 2018--SIEM REAP (B, L, D)

Breakfast at hotel.

After breakfast we'll take the bus for an excursion to the holy Kulen Mountain, where the Angkor era began. We'll see thousands of lingas, the large reclining Buddha, and the waterfall where we can take a dip in the cool water. It was here that King Jayavarma II proclaimed independence from Java in 802 A.D.

We'll have a picnic lunch on the mountain. After lunch we'll head down to visit the pink stone Banteay Srei temple. Next, we visit the Akira Landmine Museum where we'll see deactivated landmines and learn about the consequences of war. We'll return to our hotel and then go to a local shop to enjoy a 1-hour foot/body massage.

Dinner at a local restaurant.

After dinner you will have another opportunity to shop at the Night Market and Pub Street.

Overnight at Sokha Angkor Resort

Day 13, Fri, March 2, 2018--SIEM REAP – Departure (B, L, D)

Breakfast at hotel.

In the morning we'll visit a Silk Farm, located in Puok district, a 15-minute drive from Siem Reap. The 8-hectare farm has mulberry fields, silk worm breeding and silk weaving using traditional Khmer knowledge. Next, we'll visit Western Baray, a water reservoir built in the Angkorean era and still in use for agriculture today. Lunch at a local restaurant.

After lunch we'll visit Les Artisan D' Angkor, a workshop that teaches the unique crafts of wood and stone carving in the traditional and style of classic Cambodian artistry. Then we'll visit T Galleria/DFS which offers world top-brand duty-free products.

Depart Siem Reap in the evening.

Day 14, Sat, March 3, 2018--Arrive San Diego.

Price (land cost only): \$2,495 per person, double occupancy. Single supplement--\$500

To reserve space for this trip, send a deposit of \$500 per person , payable to Cambodian Village Fund, to:

Cambodian Village Fund
c/o Bill and Nancy Bamberger
4376 Argos Dr.
San Diego, CA 92116-2330

Final payment for the trip is due by December 15, 2017.

Price includes the following services:

- + Airport transfers
- + Private transfer and transportation with air-con bus
- + Sightseeing with English speaking guide
- + Meals as program above
- + Accommodations with daily breakfast at hotel above for 11 nights
- + All fees to the temple compound and all other sites shown in program above
- + Ticket for Apsara Performance by Cambodian Living Arts
- + Private bus transfer from Phnom Penh- Battambang - Siem Reap with guide escort
- + Bamboo train ride in Battambang
- + Tuk-Tuk rides in Battambang with countryside activities
- + Phare Ponleu Selpak Circus
- + Cooking class in Battambang
- + Cyclo ride in Phnom Penh
- + Elephant ride in Siem Reap
- + Foot/body massage in Siem Reap (60-minutes)
- + Drinking water provided on tours
- + Boat ride in Tonle Sap Great Lake in Siem Reap
- + Arrival welcome jasmine garland

NOT INCLUDED:

- Arrival Visa Fee (\$30/Pax)
- Insurance
- Drinks
- Tip for guide and driver
- Personal Expenses
- Domestic and International Air-Tickets
- Optional visit besides the program above and others not mentioned.