

DISCOVER SOUTHEAST CAMBODIA



10 days / 09 nights

Phnompenh – Toul Sleng – Takeo – Kompot – Ream National Park - Sihanoukville beach - Kompong Thom - Siemreap - Angkor

OVERVIEW

Tour code **CAH05**

Duration 10 days / 09 nights

Features An overland trip that captures the grandeur of historical kingdoms and the beautiful countryside. From Phnom Penh, we across the rural lands of Cambodia to a nice beach city Sihanoukville and the charming town of Kompong Thom before arriving at the magnificence of Angkor Temples. An interesting soft adventure since this part of the country receive very few visitors.

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

- Day 01 Arrival – Phnom Penh
- Day 02 Phnom Penh – Takeo – Kompot
- Day 03 Kompot – Ream National Park – Sihanouk Ville
- Day 04 Sihanouk Ville – Phnom Penh
- Day 05 Phnom Penh Exploration
- Day 06 Phnom Penh – Kompong Thom – Siem Reap
- Day 07 Siem Reap Exploration
- Day 08 Siem Reap Exploration
- Day 09 Siem Reap Exploration
- Day 10 Siem Reap – Departure

ITINERARY IN DETAIL

DAY 01 ARRIVE – PHNOM PENH (-/L/D)

Welcome to Phnom Penh – the city retains its traditional Khmer and colonial styles with French villas along tree-lined boulevards. After the short rest you will visit the Royal Palace compound build in 1866 by the Predecessors of King Norodom, is the most conspicuous feature and also one of impressive colorful Khmer-style Palaces. Nearside the colorful Khmer-style Royal palace is Silver pagoda (The emerald Buddha temple), display plenty of Buddha Statues that were decorated and made by diamond, emerald, gold and silver. We will stop at Independence Monument and explore the National Museum, a beautiful Khmer architecture building contains more than 5000 art objects made of sandstone,

bronze, silver, copper, wood and others. Walk up to sacred hill Phnom Daun Penh – also the name of a pagoda and name of the capital nowadays. Enjoy the night time and overnight in Phnom Penh

DAY 02 PHNOM PENH – ANGKOR BOREI – KOMPOT (B/L/D)



You will leave Phnom Penh and with stop at Tonle Bati lake and its nearby, a small picturesque Angkorian temple. We visit the quiet town of Takeo before taking a short cruise to Angkor Borei, located just few kilometers from Vietnam border. There is a small museum contains several copies of sculptures from the nearby ruins and few 4th-century artifacts. Our boat continues to pre Angkorian-style temple of Phnom Da and Asram Maharosei, a temple with ascending path over some big rocks. You then drive to Kep, a small city, served as a seaside resort for the French in the early 1900s. Three towns in the southern coast of Cambodia: Kep, Sihanoukville and Kompot remind us about the quiet residential area near the Mediterranean, with line of trees in sidewalk, wide roads, large villas and palace overlooking the Gulf of Thailand. We will be overnight in Kompot.

DAY 03 KOMPOT – SIHANOUK VILLE (B/L/D)

We will explore the none-touristy Kompot town with colonial style buildings. Not only famous by durian, Kompot but also is a region with plenty of other tropical fruits such as mango, pineapple, grapefruit, custard apple and coconut. We then continue along the coastline to Sihanouk Ville, a sea resort city of Cambodia. We will take a boat trip to Ream National Park, through the stunning mangrove forest and relax in your “privacy style” where you are on your own sand beach without disturbance from others. Overnight in Sihanouk Ville.

DAY 04 SIHANOUK VILLE – PHNOM PENH B/L/D

We will have full day relax in Sihanoukville beach with beer, seafood and enjoy the sunrise before heading back to Phnompenh for overnight. On the way you could have some stops to see the cultivation of villager in the rural area.

DAY 05 PHNOM PENH EXPLORATION (B/L/D)

In the morning we visit Tuol Sleng prison now is Genocide Museum, the most secret part of the Khmer Rouge regime. It's also called S-21 (abbreviated for Security Office 21), a Khme Rouge's premier security camp, specifically designed for the interrogation and extermination of anti Angkar elements. We continue to Choeng Ek museum, where between 1975 and 1978 about 17,000 men, women, children and infants detained and tortured at S-21 were transported for the extermination. Leave the relics of the bad history of Cambodia we will go shopping around Russian market, enjoy the bustling daily activities of the locals. We will take a cruise to see the sunset on the Mekong and Tonle Sap river in the “Four Arms” section where the Mekong meets the Tonle Sap river before splitting into two branches. Dinner and overnight in Phnompenh.

DAY 06 PHNOM PENH – KOMPONG THOM – SIEM REAP (B/L/D)

We will go overland to Siemreap this day, with first stop at Skuon town to see (or even try) sautéed spiders, a local food. The road conditions are basic, but in return you will get a great journey with temples, rain forests and Khmer traditional villages. You will visit Sambor Prei Kuk, a part of Chenla Kingdom, cover an aea of around 1000 arcs with hundred Pre-Angkor styled temples. We will arrive at Siemreap in the evening for overnight, with last stop at archeological “Naga Bridge” at Kompong Kdei.

DAY 07 SIEM REAP EXPLORATION (B/L/D)

Today we get up early to enjoy sunrise over ancient land of Angkor area and go to the pagoda to offer food to monks. It is a traditional culture and have no meaning of beggary. You will have great breakfast with them on the ground floor of the pagoda, enjoy the hot green tea and talk about the meditation life. We continue to visit Angkor, the Unesco World Heritage starting with sacred Ta Prohm winded by the roots of giant big trees and creepers. Ta Prohm is famous by choosing for major activities of Tomb Raider acted by Celebrity Angelina Jolie. We continue to Prasat Kravan with its unique brick sculptures, Srah Srang – “The Royal Baths” was once used for ritual bathing, Banteay Kdei surrounded by four concentric walls and finally finish with Thommanon and Chaosay Tevorda temple. We explore Banteay Srei a temple with remarkable preservation of

excellent carving art. We stop at Banteay Samre, a rose-colored sandstone walls are decorated by carvings and bas-reliefs before heading back to Siemreap for overnight.

DAY 08 SIEM REAP EXPLORATION (B/L/D)

We explore the Unesco World Heritage Angkor by an easy biking on the roads-less-traveled. Ride along the jungle on well-paved trails, passing through local villages, you will reach Angkor Wat, highlighted by the longest continuous bas-relief in the world, carved on the walls and tell the stories of Hindu legends. We will explore some of Angkor's most beautiful temples including: The ancient capital of Angkor Thom, the South Gate, Bayon Temple - unique with its 54 towers decorated with over 200 smiling faces, Baphuon temple, north of Bayon represented of holy Mount Meru the residence of the gods in Hindu tradition. We will go around The Royal land, the Elephant Terrace and the Terrace of the Leper King. We stop at the less-traveled west gate of Angkor Thom before calmly relaxing at Bakheng hill for a romantic sun set view. We will return to Siemreap downtown for dinner, enjoy 1-hour foot massage and have funny time at bars and pubs at Angkor night market. Overnight in Siemreap.

DAY 09 SIEM REAP RESPONSIBLE DAY (B/L/D)

We will have a responsible day with visits to a local village. Your ideal travel is not only for leisure, but also helps them with sustainable income and give them the real helpful aid. We will meet the friendly host family, study their life structure then help them to complete their daily tasks from simple thing of cleaning to the hard work with cultivation in rice field, rice sorting and rice husking. We head to the local school, where children are willing to practice English with you. We stop at a pagoda to see the interesting insight into Buddhism in Cambodia and with Khmer people. We take a bull cart to go around the villages, rice field and lines of palm trees before boarding a boat in Tonlesap, the biggest fresh-water lake in South East Asia. Enjoy the bustling life of local people in floating villages with floating schools, floating restaurants, and even floating hospitals. We come back to Siemreap for overnight.

DAY 10 SIEM REAP – DEPARTURE (BL)

The last but not least day will be a long journey west to the Beng Mele, a small county at the foot of the Phnom Kulen mountain.. It was the spring of a canal run to the great Tonle Sap Lake, which probably used to transfer sandstone and wooden blocks to build up the Angkorian monuments. Phnom Kulen is a holy mountain for Cambodian pilgrimage. We will see 1000 carvings in the sandstone 10cms under the water level, highlighted with Hindu God Vishnu and lotus flower. We continue to visit Beng Mealea 12th century temple is nearly the size of Angkor Wat but squeezed in jungles. We will be back to Siem Reap for the late onward flight. End of services.

<u>SERVICES INCLUDES</u>	<u>SERVICES EXCLUDES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 09 nights accommodation with twins share ● Meals mentioned in program (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch and D: Dinner) ● Air-conditioned transfers. ● Sightseeing and entrance fees ● Boat trip as mentioned in program ● English speaking guide ● Bike & 1 hour foot massage ● Bottles of drinking water every day ● Elephant ride up Bakheng Hill (one way) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Visa stamped fees ● International air ticket to / from Cambodia and int'l airport tax ● Other meals not mentioned in programs. ● Tips, drinks, personal expenses and others.