

# CAMBODIA SOFT ADVENTURE



10 days - 9 nights



**Phnom Penh - Toul Sleng - Kompong Cham - Kratie Irrawaddy dolphins - Rattanakiri elephant riding - Kompong Thom - Siem Reap – Angkor - Ta Prohm**

## OVERVIEW

Tour code **CAL01**  
 Duration 10 days / 9 nights  
 Features Get out of the popular tour to Angkor only to experience the real daily life of the Cambodian people. From the provinces along Vietnam border such as Kratie and Stungtreng to the North highland of Cambodia Rattanakiri where a lot of hill tribal people inhabits, the tour is considered as an exploring of hidden Cambodia.

## ITINERARY IN BRIEF

- Day 01 Arrival – Phnom Penh
- Day 02 Phnom Penh – Kompong Cham – Kratie
- Day 03 Kratie – Rattanakiri
- Day 04 Rattanakiri kayaking
- Day 05 Rattanakiri elephant riding
- Day 06 Rattanakiri – Kompong Cham
- Day 07 Kompong Cham – Kompong Thom – Siem Reap
- 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 – KOMPONG CHAM – KRATIE (B/L/D)

We start our day to explore the Eastern Cambodia with first stop at Kampong Cham, the fertile lowland area of Cambodia renown by its peaceful rural landscape with rice fields. We arrive in Kratie in the afternoon. Hotel check-in then we have a light city tour to explore the tranquil town with visit to the villages in the bank of Mekong river. In the late afternoon, we will stop to see the rare freshwater Irrawaddy Dolphins before heading back to the town for overnight.

### DAY 03 KRATIE – RATTANAKIRI (B/L/D)



After a morning short city tour to Kratie pagoda and local market, we will drive along Mekong river up north to Rattanakiri, the remote northeast province of Cambodia, close to the border with Vietnam and Laos. The province by itself shares the identical geography with Central island of Vietnam, with red soil worth for industrial crops like rubbers, pepper, coffee. We arrive in Banlung, the capital or Rattanakiri in the afternoon, where we have hotel check in before jump on the rugged bumpy roads to discover the surrounding waterfall. We spend time for swimming at volcanic lake of giant Loam – Yeak Loam, surrounded by primary rainforests. Overnight in Ban Lung.

#### **DAY 04 BANLUNG – TONLE SAN KAYAKING (B/L/D)**

Today we will have full day river rafting through the jungles. We leave Banlung for Kacon village where you will get a short instruction of how to use inflatable kayak then start rowing cross over Tonle San river to Tompoun, a cemetery performs the real custom of local people. We take downstream eastbound to a sandy non-touristy island where temporarily appear in dry season only. We will have lunch here and take bird watching by binoculars or cool off in the shallow water. We leave the island in the afternoon for Vouensai where our bus's waiting for your transfer to Banlung for overnight.

#### **DAY 05 BANLUNG – ELEPHANT TREKKING (B/L/D)**

Another day with adventure funny activities by an elephant riding deeply into the jungles to see the pure nature, wildlife, waterfalls and visit the hill tribes. The total time of riding on the back of elephant are 6 hours along the winding tracks through the tropical forests, stops for meeting and chatting with local people and enjoy the landscape of highland of Cambodia. We will return to Banlung late afternoon for dinner and overnight.

#### **DAY 06 BANLUNG – KOMPONG CHAM (B/L/D)**

We will visit the local market where minority people come the sell and exchange products then heading to Chlong, a small peaceful village at the Mekong river bank, renown by its both Khmer and Colonial architecture. One of the highlight of this area is a wooden house called 100-column built in 19th century. We continue driving to Kompong Cham with stop at Chhup, the biggest rubber plantation in the country, established during the French colonial time by Michelin, the famous French tire maker. We also visit Wat Nokor Pagoda, an 11th-century Mahayana Buddhist temple with a large reclining Buddha statue. Overnight in Kompong Cham.

#### **DAY 07 KOMPONG CHAM – KOMPONG THOM – SIEM REAP (B/L/D)**

We will leave Kompong CHam for Siemreap this day, with stop at Sambor Prei Kuk, a part of Chenla Kingdom, cover an area of around 1000 arcs with hundred Pre-Angkor styled temples. The road conditions are basic, but in return you will get a great journey with temples, rain forests ad Khmer traditional villages. We will arrive at Siemreap in the afternoon and after hotel check-in, you will start to explore Angkor, the Unesco World Heritage starting with Banteay Srei, a temple with remarkable preservation of excellent carving art and Banteay Samre, a rose-colored sandstone walls are decorated by carvings and bas-reliefs. We continue

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 visit Prasat Kravan with its unique brick sculptures, Srah Srang – “The Royal Baths” was once used for ritual bathing and Banteay Kdei surrounded by four concentric walls. We finally finish with Thommanon and Chaosay Tevorda temple then back to Siemreap for overnight.

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

We continue visiting 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 sunset 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 - DEPARTURE (B/L/-)**

Our last day has responsible activities with visits to a local village. Your ideal travel is not only for leisure, but also help 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 will be transferred to airport for your onward flight. End of services.

#### **SERVICES INCLUDED**

- 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
- Elephant trekking in Rattanakiri
- Kayaking in Rattanakiri
- Bottles of drinking water every day

#### **SERVICES EXCLUDES**

- 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.