



CAMBODIA SHORT STAY

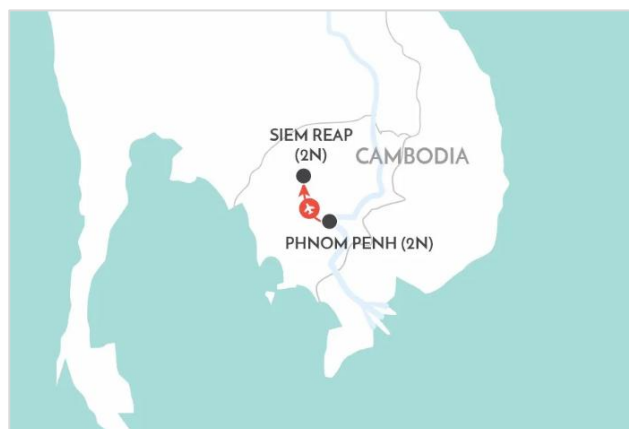
Short Stay | 5 Days | Physical Level 1

Phnom Penh (2N) – Siem Reap (2N)

Combine the poignant history of Phnom Penh with the awe-inspiring temples of Angkor during this classic Cambodia itinerary.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Daily tours and entrance fees
- Transportation and transfers as stated
- English speaking guide



ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive Phnom Penh

Meals: None

On arrival in Phnom Penh, you will be met and transferred by private car to your hotel. The rest of the day is at your leisure.

**Destination Information**

Phnom Penh – The capital of the Kingdom of Cambodia is built around four river arms formed by a sharp curve in the Mekong River, near the junctions of the Bassac and the Tonle Sap tributaries. This charming city has a pleasant blend of oriental and colonial architecture, with reminders of a troubled past.

Day 2: Discover Phnom Penh

Meals: B, L

Today you will discover Cambodia's captivating capital city. Reflect on the tragedies of the 1970s at the Killing Fields and Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum.

After lunch at a local restaurant, enjoy a visit to the Royal Palace, the majestic Silver Pagoda which houses intricate Buddha images and the National Museum.

Then end the day with a relaxed sunset cruise on the mighty River Mekong.

**Destination Information**

Tuol Sleng Museum – This former school was used by the Khmer Rouge as a detention and torture centre in the late 1970s. Today this building houses paintings and photographs of the victims. You can see the crude cells built in the classrooms and the torture devices used to extract confessions by the regime.

The Royal Palace – Built in 1866 by the French, these ornate buildings are the official residence of the reigning Cambodian royal family and King Sihamoni.

Day 3: Phnom Penh to Siem Reap

Meals: B, L

This morning you will transfer to Phnom Penh airport by private car, for your flight to Siem Reap.

On arrival in Siem Reap you will visit the fortified city of Angkor Thom and Bayon. From here you visit Baphoun, Phimeanakas and the Elephant Terrace, used as a giant viewing stand for public ceremonies and the Terrace of the Leper King.



End the day with a visit to the magnificent Angkor Wat.

Destination Information

Siem Reap - Siem Reap is a bustling tourist destination due to its proximity to both Tonle Sap Lake and the ancient Khmer capital, Angkor. Angkor is home to Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious monument, and the spiritual and cultural heart of Cambodia. This huge complex of palaces and temples was built on the sprawling alluvial plain to the north of Tonle Sap.

Angkor Thom – This was the last capital of the Khmer empire, established by Buddhist King Jayavarman VII in the 12th century. This walled city, covering an area of 9 square kilometres, is flanked by a row of 54 stone figures on each side, which leads you through a 23-metre imposing stone entrance gate to the various temples inside.

The Bayon – A rich, late 12th century state temple at the centre of Angkor Thom. Its beautifully crafted central towers are decorated with four opposing faces representing Jayavarman. Bayon's stone galleries display extraordinary bas-reliefs incorporating over 11,000 figures.

Elephant Terrace and Terrace of the Leper King - The Elephant Terrace is named for the carved elephant parade on its eastern side. Giant viewing platforms used for public ceremonies, served as a base for the King's grand audience hall. To the north is the Terrace of the Leper King, named for a statue found at the platform.

Angkor Wat – This 12th century temple complex is the largest religious monument in the world. Surrounded by a 190-metre moat and taking 30 years to build, Angkor Wat showcases the Khmer civilisation at its grandest, and was designed to represent Mt Meru, the Hindu equivalent of Mt Olympus. With its fascinating decorative flourishes, extensive bas-relief and multiple tiers, it is the best-preserved temple within the complex. Angkor temples were traditionally dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, but Angkor Wat broke tradition in that it was originally dedicated to Vishnu, and was later reworked as a Buddhist temple. The silhouette on the flag of Cambodia is that of Angkor Wat, and it is recognised as Cambodia's spiritual and cultural heart.

Day 4: Explore Siem Reap

Meals: B, L

This morning, take a boat trip on Tonle Sap Lake visiting floating fishing villages complete with schools, restaurants and even a hospital.

After lunch, visit Banteay Srei, a Hindu temple dedicated to Shiva and Banteay Samre, dating back to the same period as Angkor Wat.

**Destination Information**

Tonle Sap - Called the 'Great Lake', Tonle Sap is one of the two major topographical features of Cambodia and is one of the world's richest sources of freshwater fish. During the rainy season it can swell from 3,000sq km to 7,500sq km.

Day 5: Depart Siem Reap

Meals: B

This morning, journey around the 'small circuit' temple trail, including Kravan, Banteay Kdei, Srah Srang, Ta Prohm, Takeo, Thammanon and Chau Say Tevoda.

Later, you will be transferred to the airport by private car for your onward flight.

**Destination Information**

Ta Prohm – One of Angkor Thom's most atmospheric ruins, swallowed by the roots of the jungle, Ta Prohm has several towers, closed courtyards and narrow corridors to explore. Originally dedicated to Sri Jayarajacudamani, the mother of the king who established Angkor Thom, it was made famous by the film Tomb Raider.

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