

# 'Solos Only' 40 Years + CAMBODIA HIGHLIGHTS



'Sharing the journey, takes 'alone' out of solo travel.' ®

# 7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

Cambodia is much more than temples. The history of Cambodia is both inspiring and sobering, uplifting and heart breaking. Exclusively for solo travellers, this 7 day itinerary uncovers the highlights of Siem Reap and Phnom Penh.

Starting out in Siem Reap; see breathtaking, historical temples and ruins where you will feel transported back in time to a magical era of spiritual and historical significance. The tour includes the amazing Wonder of the World and largest religious monument in the world, Angkor Wat. From Siem Reap, fly to Phnom Penh for a three-night stay featuring a foodie's safari, city highlights and a sobering visit to the Killing Fields, and visits that reveal the stark reminders of the atrocities committed by the Khmer Rouge.

For this short but rewarding visit to Cambodia, enjoy group dining at local restaurants, a flight to connect Siem Reap and Phnom Penh to reduce road travel time, locals guide and superior hotel accommodation.

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- An in depth visit the largest
- religious monument in the world Angkor Wat
- Other temple visits including Preah Khan, Neak Pean and Ta Prohm temple
- A 'foodies' market safari, Siem Reap
- City highlights tour, Phnom Penh
- Visit the Genocide Museum of Toul Sleng
- A sombre visit to the Killing Fields of Choeung Ek
- A local market tour and cooking class, Phnom Penh
- Cambodian meals for lunch and dinners at some local restaurants
- Farewell dinner sunset boat cruise
- Easy paced stay; 3 nights Siem Reap, 3 nights Phnom











# **INCLUSIONS**

### **ACCOMMODATION & MEALS**

- 6 nights superior hotels (4 star)
- daily breakfast
- 3 lunches
- 4 dinners

### SIGHTSEEING & GUIDES

- English-speaking locally based tour guides
- Entry fees to all monument visits as detailed by the itinerary
- Tours and excursions as per itinerary
- English-speaking group escort for group sizes 6 or more

### **TRAVEL**

- Private transportation by airconditioned vehicle
- Internal economy airfare Siem Reap to Phnom Penh
- Arrival airport to hotel transfer #

### **ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

- Porterage in and out of hotels included where available
- All applicable taxes in Cambodia for included services
- Small group, not more than 16 travellers

# Airport Transfers are included for all flights on day 1 given that you provide your flight itinerary to us prior to 45 days before departure.

Travel insurance is a mandatory requirement for joining this tour and is in addition to the package price.



# **Exclusions**

- Airfares to/from Cambodia unless requested)
- Airport transfers unless specified
- Travel insurance
- Excess baggage
- Visa fees if applicable
- Any tips or porterage at airports, hotels, drivers & local staff
- Meals and beverages not specified on itinerary
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry & medical expenses
- Incidental expenses such as taxi fares, telecommunications

# **ABOUT US**

At Encounter Travel we offer holiday **groups for solo travellers**. All trips are age-matched so there's more chance you'll share your journey with like minded travellers. Visiting destinations across Australia and around the globe, choose from short escapes to leisurely touring, cruise and resort groups.

We are a multi award winning tour company; two time winner of the global **Solo Travel Awards**, winner in the **Australian Travel Awards** in the specialist category, LUXLife Hospitality **Best Specialist Solo Travel Agency** – Australasia, and LUXLife Travel & Tourism **Best Solo Traveller Tour Operator** - Australia.









Content in this flyer is only a part of the information. For full details please refer to our website.

# **FELLOW TRAVELLERS**

You will enjoy this group experience with a maximum of 16 travellers. This is a Solos Only tour (couple free). You are welcome to join with a friend, but couples do not join this tour.

# TRAVEL DATES

Tuesday 9 - Monday 15 April 2024 Tuesday 22 - Monday 28 October 2024

# **PRICES**

Tour price, with own room AUD \$2755

# **ITINERARY**

# DAY 1 Siem Reap - Arrival

Welcome to the Kingdom of Cambodia! Begin your exploration in Siem Reap, where ancient temples whisper the secrets of the Khmer kingdom's past.

This evening enjoy the local taste of a Khmer set menu dinner at our hotel.

Meals: Dinner

SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Arrival transfer
- Dinner at the hotel

## DAY 2 Siem Reap - Explore the Majestic Angkor Wat

Embark on a journey to Angkor Wat, the epitome of Khmer architecture and the cherished national symbol of Cambodia; the largest and most exquisitely preserved of the Angkor temples.

To reach the temple, you'll cross a vast moat and along a grand causeway. Upon entering the main structure, ascend through a succession of galleries and courtyards until you reach the central sanctuary, which offers panoramic vistas over the causeway and the surrounding countryside. The outer gallery walls feature the world's longest continuous bas-relief, depicting tales from Hindu mythology, including the renowned Churning of the Ocean of Milk.



Other temple visits today include Preah Khan temple, Neak Pean temple and sunset at Bakheng Temple Hill. Lunch today while out exploring the temples is at a local restaurant.

# **Discover Preah Khan Temple**

Preah Khan, constructed by King Jayavarman VII, is a sprawling temple complex with towering enclosures and winding corridors nestled within a jungle setting.

### **Explore Neak Pean Temple**

Neak Pean is a Buddhist temple featuring a square pool with four smaller square pools arranged along each axis. In the centre of the large central pool lies a circular island encircled by two intertwined nagas.

## Witness the Sunset at Bakheng Temple Hill

Wrap up the day by experiencing the sunset at Bakheng Temple hill.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Hotel breakfast
- Angor Wat, Preah Khan, Neak Prean visits
- Sunset from Bakheng Temple hill
- Local restaurant lunch

### SPECIAL NOTES:

t's a long and full day out but very rewarding - bring water, sun protection, wear comfortable shoes.



# **ITINERARY**

## DAY 3 Siem Reap

**Exploration of Angkor Thom** 

The fortified city of Angkor Thom sprawls across a 10 square kilometre expanse, enclosed by formidable walls and wide moats. Your journey begins at the imposing South Gate. Explore the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper Kings, once used for public ceremonies and adorned with dramatic bas-reliefs. Continue your visit to the ruins of Baphuon, Royal Enclosure, and Phimeanakas, culminating with the enigmatic Bayon Temple.

Our exploring continues, and we visit Ta Prohm template, one of Angkor's most renowned attractions, retains much of its original jungle overgrowth, offering a glimpse into how most Angkor monuments appeared to European explorers during their first encounters.

Indulge in a Siem Reap Street Food Adventure

Towards the end of the day embark on a delectable journey to experience Khmer cuisine, with a Siem Reap street food tour along Road 60. Travel via Tuktuk to the evening market, meander through the stalls, and learn about various desserts, fruits, and snacks on display. Seek out bustling stalls to savour the local offers, from seasonal fruits to traditional treats like barbecued meat or fried insects. After two hours of culinary exploration, sit down at a popular local restaurant for a sumptuous Khmer feast served family style.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

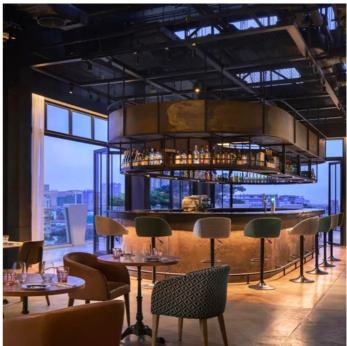
- Hotel breakfast
- Visit Angkor Thom
- Visit Ta Prohm temple
- Street food adventure
- Local restaurant dinner

### DAY 4 Siem Reap – Phnom Penh

There is some free time this morning before a transfer to Siem Reap Airport to fly to Phnom Penh. Arriving to Phnom Penh airport, your guide will escort you to your hotel. Tonight, dinner at our hotel with a Western Set Menu.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner





### **SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:**

- Siem Reap hotel breakfast
- Flight Siem Reap to Phnom Penh
- Airport transfers
- Dinner at a local restaurant



### **ITINERARY CONT'**

### DAY 5 Phnom Penh - Explore Cambodia's Capital City

The bustling riverfront promenade along the mighty Mekong River is a hub of activity, from the chaotic traffic to bustling sidewalks filled with street vendors and pedestrians. Visit the National Museum, the Silver Pagoda, and the Royal Palace, the current residence of King Norodom Sihamoi. Take some time to indulge in souvenir shopping at one of Phnom Penh's captivating markets

### Reflect on Cambodia's History

Pay tribute to Cambodia's history by visiting the Toul Sleng Genocide Museum. Housed in a former high school, this museum served as the primary interrogation and torture facility during a dark period. Unchanged since then, it stands as a testament to the thousands of individuals who passed through its doors, with only seven surviving.

Just outside the city, amidst a serene rural landscape, lies the Killing Fields. These fields bear witness to the atrocities committed between 1975 and 1978, where thousands were laid to rest in mass graves. Although these visits can be emotionally challenging, they offer essential insights into Cambodia's history, resilience, and survival.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

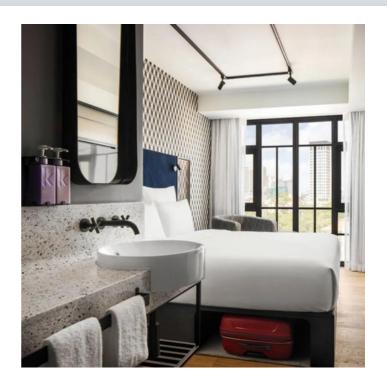
### SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Hotel breakfast
- Phnom Penh city sightseeing
- Market visit
- Visit Toul Sleng Genocide Museum
- Visit the Killing Fields
- Lunch at a local restaurant

### DAY 6 Phnom Penh - Private Cooking Class

In the morning, make a visit to the local market via Remork (Tuk Tuk), accompanied by a Cambodian chef who will help you discover local flavours. Cambodia boasts an abundance of world-class ingredients, and the chef will impart culinary and medicinal knowledge based on the season's offerings.

After your market experience, return to the kitchen with the chef, where each participant will have their fully equipped cooking station. The chef will then demonstrate the preparation of the dishes you will create. Explore Cambodia's unique culinary techniques, and afterward, savour your own culinary creations in a relaxed setting.



The afternoon is yours to enjoy at your leisure.

# **Sunset Cruise Over Tonle Mekong**

At the end of the day depart from our hotel to embark to join a sunset cruise and take in the sparkling lights of the capital. During the cruise some drinks are served (2 units per person) from a selection of wine, beer, or soft drink, or bottle of water. Afterwards, it's a short drive from the pier to a local restaurant for a farewell dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

# SNAPSHOT – WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Hotel breakfast
- Cooking class
- Lunch together
- Sunset boat cruise
- Farewell group dinner





# **ITINERARY CONT'**

### DAY 7 Phnom Penh

This morning you can enjoy breakfast reflecting on your time in Cambodia before your homeward journey.

Meals: Breakfast

Itineraries may be subject to change, due to circumstances outside of our control. If there is any itinerary change prior to departure of significance, we aim to inform you prior to travel. Itinerary changes while on tour will be informed by your tour leader/guide while on tour.

# **GETTING THERE**

Starts: Siem Reap Ends: Phnom Penh

# **First Day Information**

Arrival day commences with airport to hotel transfer. In the evening come together for a group welcome dinner.

### **Final Day Information**

There are no tour excursions on the final day.

Consider the hotel check in time on arrival and the hotel check out time on departure. If you arrive prior to the check in time, the hotel will store your luggage until the check in time and can also store your luggage until you are ready to depart for your onward journey.

Hotel check in: most hotels have check in from 2PM or

Hotel check out: most hotels require check out by 10AM or 11AM.

### **AIRPORT TRANSFERS**

On Arrival

Airport transfers to group hotel are included on arrival given that;

- you arrive on day 1 of the tour or
- you have extended your stay and you have booked the group hotel with us

### **Encounter Travel**

Tel (AU) : 1300 653 692 | (NZ) : 0800 653 e holidays@encountertravel.com.au

w encountertravel.com.au

PO Box A1088 Sydney South NSW 1235 Australia

ATAS Accreditation: A10439 | CATO Accreditation: 45818310 | ABN 23 119 642 992

If you are making your own flight arrangements, we require your flight itinerary no later than 45 days priors to travel (and even if you are not making airport transfer arrangements with us). Where transfers are part of your arrangement, if your itinerary is not provided to us within the required timeframe, you forfeit the airport transfers or additional fees may be incurred for the service.

### **On Departure**

Hotel to airport transfers are by your own arrangements.

### **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

As an Australian travel company we can provide flight assistance for flights originating from Australia. If joining the tour from outside Australia we recommend making your own flight arrangements or to use the service of a travel advisor located within your country of residence for access to best fares.

# THE PACE [3 OUT OF 5]

This is a medium paced, small group tour. An average level of fitness at least is required for this tour. There is a mix of days; between more leisurely days and other days that require longer periods on foot, standing, walking and climbing stairs. This tour is not suitable for anyone not able to stand and walk for long periods and/or unable to climb stairs without assistance. You need an average level of fitness (or above) to be suited to this tour.

### Disclaimer:

Any content in this publication maybe subject to change or correction, and without notice.

We have taken great care to prepare and publish the trip information and in good faith we believe it to be accurate at the time we published the information. However, as is the nature of travel, plans may need to change from time to time and often unexpectedly. If trip details need to change, in most cases your final documentation issued prior to your departure will be updated. However, it's also possible that an itinerary change may be necessary while on the trip. It could be related to unexpected weather or road conditions or another example could be an announcement of a closure of a facility we planned to use. In these cases, we will make all best endeavours to provide an alternative, of equivalent or similar standard.

Information in this publication is in part, and for full trip details please refer to our website. Full terms and conditions are available on our website and provided when a quote is issued.

