



# The Best of Siem Reap

5 Days / 4 Nights

SIEM REAP

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❖ **Duration:** 5 Days / 4 Nights

❖ **Tour type:** Private

❖ **Arrival:** Siem Reap

❖ **Group size:** Upon enquiry

❖ **Availability:** Year round

❖ **Departure:** Siem Reap

## TRIP OVERVIEW

highlights of your journey

- **The Marvelous Temples of Angkor**

Explore the infamous World Heritage site of Angkor, the "City of Temples" and witness Angkor Wat at its stunning time – at dawn and sunrise.

- **Escape from crowds and go beyond the Siem Reap's limits**

Discover the jungle-overgrown temple of Beng Mealea which gives a very 'Indiana Jones' feel to the experience, the intricating pink temple of Banteay Srei "the Citadel of Women", and the fascinating boat trip on Tonle Sap Lake, Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake.

- **Experience the arts of Khmer kitchen**

Enjoy a delightful local market tour and learn to cook the Cambodian way with assistance from a Khmer chef and his/her crew.

- **Dinner with Apsara Dance Performance & Siem Reap's night market tour**

An enchanting evening with authentic Khmer cuisine and witness the hundred-year-old "Royal Ballet of Cambodia" or "Apsara Dance" and stroll around the live Siem Reap night market.



## TRIP ITINERARY

### day by day program

#### DAY 1 - SIEM REAP ARRIVAL

On arrival in Siem Reap, your tour guide meets you as you exit from the Restricted Area at the airport and offers you a private transfer to your hotel.

#### Overnight in Siem Reap

#### DAY 2 (B/D) - SIEM REAP / FULL DAY ANGKOR TOUR WITH SUNRISE

Today rise early to catch the spectacular sunrise over the world's largest religious ruins of **Angkor Wat** and discover this mighty temple at dawn, regarded by many as the quintessential Angkor experience. After exploring the ruins in detail led by your professional tour guide, return to the hotel for a late leisurely breakfast.

The religious citadels of Angkor Wat are the "crowning jewel" of Khmer architecture and one of Asia's most magnificent archaeological ruins. Constructed under the reign of Suryavarman II (1113-1150), Angkor Wat is covering an area of 480 acres encircled by an enclosure wall nearly four miles long. The temple's greatest sculptural treasure is its 1-mile-long bas-relief that wraps around the walls of the outer gallery along with the 2000 figures of Khmer Devas and Apsaras.

#### **Optional Angkor Dining Experience (subject to supplement charges):**

- **Private Champagne Breakfast in Angkor**  
*Enjoy a relaxing Champagne breakfast in a beautiful traditional Khmer wooden house overlooking the picturesque royal bathing pool of Srah Srang – a luxurious and peaceful conclusion to a perfect Angkorian morning.*
- **A private picnic Khmer lunch near Srah Srang "The Royal Baths"**  
*Enjoy a private traditional Khmer lunch at the beautiful traditional Khmer wooden house overlooking the royal bathing pool of Srah Srang regarded as the quintessential Angkor experience.*

Later this afternoon, depart to explore the encroaching jungle **Ta Prohm**, also known to be the undisputed capital of the "Kingdom of the Trees". Once home to 600 exquisite dancers, Ta Prohm is a wondrous site, with giant fig and kapok trees strangling the ancient stonework in a photogenic interplay of man and nature. This temple has been featured in several Hollywood movies such as Tomb Raider, Indiana Jones, and Two Brothers.



Continue to discover the ancient fortified city of **Angkor Thom**, built in the 10th century by the greatest Khmer ruler, King Jayavarman VII (1181 – 1201). Travel to the Victory Gate of Angkor Thom. Walk along the 8m-high laterite wall (500m) of the ancient city to the relatively unvisited and magical East Gate. The crematoria built against the outside of the city wall are best seen from up on the wall and give rise to the popular name of — Gate of Death. Then take another 1.5 Km walk to **Bayon temple “The Giant Smiling Faces temple”**. The structure of the giant faces of the Bayon temple is staggering in its construction. Sixteen chapels inside the structure indicate its religious importance, while on the outer perimeter over 1,200 meters of exquisite bas-relief record scenes of daily life from 11th century Angkor. Its third level is stunning – 49 towers are adorned with 172 smiling faces of the omnipresent Avalokitesvara.

Move on to visit the nearby **Terrace of the Elephant, and the Terrace of the Leper King** to view their detailed stone carvings. From there walk through the shaded parkland to visit the triple-tiered mountain temple of the Baphuon, also known as the Pyramid temple in Angkor. As the sun begins to set, walk to the **Ta Kav Gate** (West Gate of Angkor Thom) to view the beautiful sunset over the rice fields and the reflection of the golden light over the city gate.

#### **Dinner with Apsara Dance Performance & Siem Reap’s night market tour**

Finally, enjoy your enchanting evening with authentic Khmer cuisine while witnessing the hundred-year-old “Royal Ballet of Cambodia” or “Apsara Dance”. Stroll around the live Siem Reap night market before returning to your hotel for a good night’s sleep.

#### **Overnight in Siem Reap**

### **DAY 3 (B/L) - SIEM REAP / GO OFF THE BEATEN TRACK**

Today, your guide will take you through timeless rural Cambodian villages and countryside escaping from crowds and going beyond Siem Reap’s limits to discover **Beng Mealea**, ‘Lotus Pond’ in Khmer, for a unique jungle experience. Undiscovered for centuries, Beng Mealea is one of the very few temples of which elevated wooden walkways allow you to walk above the ruins’ collapsed galleries and towers whilst shaded by the jungle canopy, giving a very ‘Indiana Jones’ feel to the experience.

Lunch will be served at “Bong Thom Khmer House”, a nice local restaurant on the outskirts of Siem Reap that offers the real taste of Khmer food.

After the lunch break, the famous **Banteay Srei temple “the Citadel of Women”**. Built in pink sandstone, the walls are covered in exquisitely preserved carvings of unusual delicacy. Because of its small size, fairy-like atmosphere, and extraordinary examples of Khmer sculpture, this temple is often a favorite among visitors.



Conclude today with **Kampong Phluk “Harbour of the Tusks”**, a fascinating fishing community on the fringes of the magnificent Tonlé Sap Lake, Southeast Asia’s largest freshwater lake. Embark on a captivating boat trip to see its glory as you pass through the floating village where the fisherman and their families live in stilted houses. Relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery dominated by the tranquility of the lake that dots the landscape.

## Overnight in Siem Reap

### DAY 4 (B/L) - SIEM REAP / EXPERIENCE THE ARTS OF KHMER KITCHEN

Today you will learn to cook the Cambodian way and experience the arts of a Khmer traditional Kitchen with assistance from a Khmer chef and his crew. Learn how to prepare some of the kingdom’s best-loved dishes including a delectable fish Amok.

This morning at 9 AM, travel the local way with a Remork (Tuktuk) – an easy and comfortable, to explore a local market, where the colors and aromas of fresh, vibrant ingredients will thrill your senses led by one of the kitchen brigades with a shopping list for today’s menu as your guide. You will be led through the labyrinth of tunnel-like passageways that weave from one area of the market to the other.

Return to the indoor kitchen where you will be guided through time-honored Khmer cooking techniques to create some of its most storied dishes from preparation to cooking. Lastly, time to enjoy your culinary creation serving as your lunch. Unwind or indulge, it’s the perfect complement to the majestic temples.

#### Includes:

- Market tour
- Three-course Khmer Cuisine
- Cooking Lesson
- Lunch break
- Mineral water, soft drinks & local beers
- Set up amenities and decorations
- Recipe and certificate provided to participants

#### Explore Angkor’s less-visited temples by Remork (Tuktuk)

This afternoon, set off with Remork (Tuktuk) and venture on a less-traveled road deep into Angkor Park to discover the hidden gems of Angkor – another fascinating corner of Angkor including the mountain temple of Pre Rup, the East Mebon temple built within the Eastern Baray (guarded at its corner by stone figures of harnessed elephants), Ta Som is a captivating and charming temple (like Ta Prohm, there is a tree growing through part of the structure which provides excellent photo opportunities), Neak Pean, or the “coiled serpents” is a fountain built in the middle of a pool, and Preah Khan or “Sacred



Sword” – constructed as a monastery and teaching complex in 1191 by Jayavarman VII, it is unique in its sense of religious tolerance, with sections dedicated to Buddhism, ancestor worship, and the Hindu gods Shiva and Vishnu. Once inside the second enclosure, look for the delicate frieze of ‘apsaras’ or celestial dancers, in the Hall of Dancers.

**Evening option: Visit Phare Circus Performance by Phare Artists:** *“Phare, the Cambodian Circus” is an offshoot project of Phare Ponleu Selpak (PPS), performed by students and professional artists from the center and used to perform around the world. It’s an amazing blend of traditional and modern theatre, music, dance, acrobatics, juggling, and contortion beautifully choreographed and performed in a story about Cambodian lives and society.*

### **Overnight in Siem Reap**

#### **DAY 5 (B) - SIEM REAP / DEPARTURE**

Enjoy some free at your leisure until it’s time for the transfer to the Siem Reap Angkor International Airport for your flight home or next destination.

\*\*\* End of Service \*\*\*



## SERVICE TERMS

### inclusions & exclusions

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Please note that tour price varies on group size, season, and accommodation

#### **INCLUSIONS:**

- Return airport transfers and sightseeing with a private air-conditioned vehicle (unless otherwise stated) and a professional English-speaking tour guide (other languages are available subject to additional charge)
- All admission fees for mentioned visits
- 4-night stay at your chosen accommodation
- Meals as outlined in the itinerary (food only)
- A private cooking class with a local market tour
- Boat trip as indicated in the itinerary
- Local bottled water & cold towels
- All taxes and service charges

#### **EXCLUSIONS:**

- Gratuities
- Camera/video entrance fees (if any)
- Cambodia visa fee (if any)
- Meals & drinks not specified in the above inclusions
- All personal and travel insurance
- Other personal expenses
- Optional tours/activities



## GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

### SPECIAL IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE:

#### **Customized tours/activities:**

All our itineraries and activities are designed to give you a flavor of what is possible in each destination and can be customized to individual tastes. Please contact us for further details and we would be delighted to help arrange your journey of a lifetime.

#### **Rates:**

All rates quoted above are in US Dollars (USD) and based on our best-estimated costs. Though we cannot guarantee, we will try our best to maintain the rates. The confirmed price will be advised upon booking is made. Prices may be subject to change only under exceptional circumstances due to sudden and substantial market, tax, or currency fluctuations; if so we will give a pre-notice of min 30 days and the option to cancel.

#### **Availability:**

Please note that all the above services & and package tours have not been booked yet, they are proposed for your information only. We will not launch any reservations before we receive your confirmation. The availability is subject to change without prior notice and can only be confirmed upon booking time.

#### **Minor changes:**

If one or some proposed service(s) is (are) not available at the moment of booking, we will try to find out other possibilities/options or other similar services (s) in order to avoid as many important changes as possible. We do everything to give our clients the best experience possible based on their interests, comfort, and travel styles. However, we would keep full rights to make any necessary changes to the tour programs/activities mainly for our clientele's benefits, security, and safety.

#### **How to book the tour/activity:**

Please send us your inquiry or reservation to [chhuong@acltravel.com](mailto:chhuong@acltravel.com). Our normal reply is within 24 hours. Payment & cancellation terms and conditions will be advised upon the booking being made.

#### **Deposits:**

Deposits may be requested to start working on a file and to secure reservations for services such as flights, cruises, and hotels as well as for certain peak travel periods. The need for deposits and the amount and conditions applying to them (refundable, non-refundable) will be mentioned by our travel specialist case by case at the time of travel planning and quotation.

#### **Cancellation Policy**

**Cancellation by Client:** Cancellation must be made in writing to ACL Travel and will be subject to our General Booking Terms & Conditions (unless different terms have been mentioned at the quotation/booking time)

**Cancellation by ACL Travel:** ACL Travel reserves the right due to unforeseen circumstances to cancel any travel arrangements prior to departure. In such an event a full refund will be offered.

#### **Unused Travel Services**

No refund is possible for any service included in the price of a travel arrangement that is unused.



**Travel & Health Insurance:**

All travel and health insurance is always NOT included in any of our tours/activities. We strongly recommend the purchase of travel insurance (covering emergency medical evacuation) for trips to Cambodia.

**Liability:**

All disputes, claims, and litigation regarding services shall first be settled by way of negotiation and mutual understanding involving ourselves and third-party suppliers at fault. ACL Travel will act as an intermediary and mediator between agent/client and third-party suppliers and defend the interests of our agent/client. If such negotiation and mutual understanding fail, the disputes, claims or litigation shall finally be settled by local arbitration in Cambodia.

**Claims:**

ACL Travel will do the utmost to provide the services to the best of our capacity and to the satisfaction of you, our Agent, and your clients. It is the understanding that we act as an intermediary between the agent/client and airlines, hotels, transport operators, tourism suppliers, and other contractors providing services in-country. We exert due care and diligence in selecting our local suppliers and shall in no event be directly liable to the agent/client, by reason of breach of services or unsatisfactory services provided by third parties or by way of indemnity or in tort or otherwise, for any loss, injury, damage, delay, change in schedule or other adverse events which are beyond our control and could not have been avoided even if applying special care and diligence.

**Useful Contacts:**

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