

# EXPLORE THE ANCIENT CITY OF ANGKOR

Visiting the Angkor temples is of course a must. Whether you choose a Grand Circle tour or a lessdemanding visit, you will be treated to an unforgettable opportunity to witness the wonders of ancient Cambodian art and culture and to ponder the reasons for the rise and fall of this great Southeast Asian civilization.

We have carefully created twelve itinearies to explore the wonders of Siem Reap Province including the must-do and also less famous but yet fascinating monuments and sites.



## 1. SMALL CIRCUIT TOUR

The "small tour" is a circuit to see the major temples of the Ancient City of Angkor such as Angkor Wat, Ta Prohm and Bayon. We recommend you to be escorted by a tour guide to discover the story of this mysterious and fascinating civilization. For the most courageous, you can wake up early (departure at 4:45am from the hotel) to see the sunrise. (It worth it!)

#### Monuments & sites to visit

MORNING: Prasats Kravan, Banteay Kdei, Ta Prohm, Takeo

AFTERNOON: Prasats Elephant and Leper King Terrace, Baphuon, Bayon, Angkor Thom South Gate, Angkor Wat

2. GRAND CIRCUIT TOUR

The "grand tour" is also a circuit in the main Angkor area but you will see further temples like Preah Khan, Preah Neak Pean to the Eastern Mebon and monuments Ta Som & Pre Rup. This tour also offers the opportunity to admire Banteay Srei (Women temple or Pink Temple). This temple located about 37km away from Siem Reap is known for the beauty of the carving details.

#### Monuments to visit:

MORNING: Prasats Banteay Srei, Banteay Samre, Pre Rup

AFTERNOON: Prasats East Mebon, Ta Som, Neak Pean, Preah Khan



### 3. PHNOM KULEN

The Phnom Kulen mountain range is located 48 km northwards from Angkor Wat. Its name means 'mountain of the lychees'. There is a sacred hilltop city site on top of the range. Phnom Kulen is considered a holy mountain in Cambodia, of special religious significance to Hindus and Buddhists who come to the mountain in pilgrimage.

On this plateau is Preah Ang Thom, a 16th-century Buddhist monastery notable for the giant reclining Buddha – the largest in Cambodia.

#### Sites to visit:

Reclining Buddha, River of 1,000 linga, Waterfalls











# 4. PHNOM KULEN & BANTEAY SREL

Visiting Phnom Kulen (Kulen Mountain) which is an isolated chain of mountains in the Dangrek Mountain Range. It stretches for around 40km and is about 45km outside of Siem Reap town. At the highest point, the mountain reaches 487m and it averages above 400m across the range. In the afternoon, heading over to Banteay Srei temple (Pink sandstone temple) which is located about 37km away from Siem Reap town. You'll also have the opportunity to stop at a local community along the way and experience the daily life of the locals living there.

#### Monument & sites to visit:

MORNING: Giant reclining Buddha, River of 1,000 linga, Waterfalls

AFTERNOON: Banteay Srei

## 5. PHNOM KULEN & BENG MEALEA

We will form a private group tour to uncover the special religious significance and the natural beauty of Phnom Kulen Mountain, Cambodia's most sacred plateau, located 50 km north of Siem Reap. Learn why the site serves as a place of pilgrimage to both Hindus and Buddhists by visiting the Reclining Buddha, the River of 1,000 Linga and the Phnom Kulen Waterfalls.

After a refreshing swim, we continue 7 km southeast of Phnom Kulen to Beng Mealea. This monument is now partially overgrown ruins, and was built during the 12th century during the reign of Suryavarman II (at about the same time as Angkor Wat) - its layout and style closely mirror Cambodia's most famous monument.

#### Monument & sites to visit:

MORNING: Giant reclining Buddha, River of 1,000 linga, Waterfalls

AFTERNOON: Beng Mealea

# 6. KBAL SPEAN & BENG MEALEA

Monuments & sites to visit: Banteay Srei & Kbal Spean



Kbal Spean was a refuge of 11th-13th century religious hermits and over the centuries - they carved linga, pedestals, animals and sacred friezes into the surrounding rocks and riverbeds.

Continuing to Banteay Srei, Angkor's ultimate art gallery. This petite pink sandstone monument has exceptional 10th century sculpture. The elaborate carvings are the finest found in Cambodia - the name translates as 'Fortress of the Women', perhaps due to the female guardians carved in great detail?



# 7. BENG MEALEA& ROULOS TEMPLES

Beng Mealea is a temple in the Angkor Wat period located 40 km east of the main group of temples at Angkor, Cambodia. Roluos is a Cambodian modern small town and an archeological site about 13 km east of Siem Reap along NH6. Once it was the seat of Hariharalaya, first capital of Khmer Empire north of Tonlé Sap. Among the "Roluos Group" of temples there are some of the earliest permanent structures built by Khmer. They mark the beginning of classical period of Khmer civilization, dating from the late 9th century.

### Monuments to visit:

MORNING: Prasats Beng Mealea

AFTERNOON: Prasats Bakong, Preah Ko, and Lolei





# 8. BENG MEALEA & KOMPONG KHLEANG OR KOMPONG PHLUK

Head off the beaten track outside Siem Reap and explore the 'jungle monument' of Beng Mealea. This 12th-century complex is less popular than well-known Angkor, but it offers visitors a no less fascinating look. Learn about Suryavarman II architecture before a stop at floating village. Kompong Khleang/Kompong Phluk is another dwelling on the magnificent Tonlé Sap lake, and one of the Siem Reap attractions that should not be missed as part of a trip out to the great lake. Kompong Khleang/Kampong Phluk is a traditional stilted village community found living high above the lake's waters.

### Monuments & sites to visit

MORNING: Prasats Beng Mealea

AFTERNOON: Floating village

## 9. BENG MEALEA, KOMPONG KHLEANG & ROULOS TEMPLES

Exploring Beng Mealea a sprawling jungle temple covering just over one kilometer. Largely overrun by vegetation and not overly visited due to its remote location, the temple gives off an adventurous 'lost temple' vibe as you explore the piles of stones from its towers and courtyards, hidden amidst the thriving bush.

On the way back, visiting a floating village on Tonlé Sap Lake. Take a boat ride through remote stilted villages before setting off to a set of Roluos group for the last visiting of the day.

### Monuments & sites to visit:

MORNING: Prasats Beng Mealea

AFTERNOON: Kompong Khleang, Bakong, Preah Ko



The temple complexes of Beng Mealea and the pink sandstone beauty Banteay Srei will fulfil your desires to seek out new Angkor monuments of extraordinary value and stature.

The Beng Mealea, or "Lotus Pond" Temple, from the early 11th Century built by Suryavarman II as a Hindu Temple and is hidden in a maze of jungle. Architecturally, Beng Mealea is noted for its innovative, for its time, construction of hallways, it was a very large temple with wide galleries foreshadowing Angkor Wat. The sprawling jungle temple covering over one square kilometer is largely overrun by vegetation so there is plenty to see, explore and walk around.

After enjoying a simple lunch en route and you will visit Banteay Srei. Named 'The Citadel of Women' this is a tiny, yet very enchanting temple, which is one of the jewels in this remarkable city. Built of red sandstone in the tenth century and dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, the carved male and female figures in the niches are exquisitely executed in both style and proportion.

Monuments & sites to visit: MORNING: Beng Mealea AFTERNOON: Banteay Srei

# 11. KOH KER & BENG MEALEA

Get away from the crowds at Angkor Wat on a full-day tour to two spectacular monuments out- side of Siem Reap. Prasats Beng Mealea and the Koh Ker group are located in the Cambodian coun- tryside within a 3-hour drive of Siem Reap. You'll pass small villages and pockets of pristine jungle en route for a closer look at daily life in rural Cambodia

Monuments & sites to visit: MORNING: Prasats Bram, Neang Khmau, Chrap, Banteay Pi chean, Krachap, Linga shrine, Prasats Thneng, Thom AFTERNOON: Beng Mealea





# 12. PREH VIHEAR & KOH KER

About 75 miles (120km) from Siem Reap, in the jungle of northern Cambodia, lie the ruins of Prasat Koh Ker – built in the 10th-century by Jayavarman IV. High atop a 1,700-foot (525m) Dangrek Mountain cliff, in the Preah Vihear province, sits the monument of Prasat Preah Vihear – an ancient Hindu monument built over the period of the Khmer Empire. Explore both and give something back, on this full-day guided-tour.

### Monuments to visit:

MORNING: (start from 6:30 or 7:00) Prasat Preah Vihear AFTERNOON: Prasats Koh Ker







# RESERVATION

Whatever your touring preference, our hotel staff are happy to make recommendations and arrangements for you. Please do not hesitate to contact us at:

Email : reservations@viroth-villa.com. Tel : +855 (0)63 761 720

# ENTRANCE TICKETS REGULATIONS

1. Entrance fees:

All foreign visitors are required to purchase an entrance ticket to the Angkor Archaeological Park and are three type of the ticket prices as follows:

- One day visit US\$37 (photo required)

• Three day visit and validity of ten days from the issue date US\$62 (photo required) • Seven day visit and validity of one month from the issue date US\$72 (photo required) (this ticket price includes a US\$2 contribution to the Katha Bopha Children's Hospital Fund)

2. Working hours of Ticket Centers commence at 5:00am and close at 5:30pm every day. • Entry tickets for a one-day visit are issued up to 5:00pm • Entry tickets issued after 5:00pm are valid for the next day

3. Visiting hours commence and end as listed: Angkor Wat and Sras Srang start from 5:00am and end at 5:30pm Phnom Bakheng and Pre Rup start from 5:00am and end at 7:00pm Other monuments & sites start from 7:30am and end at 5:30pm The tickets sold above permit visits to all monuments & sites, except Phnom Kulen, Floating village, Beng Mealea and Koh Ker.

4. The purchase of entrance tickets must be made at the Ticket Centers. Tickets purchased from a third party are not valid.

Entrance tickets are not transferable to third parties and cannot reimbursed. If a visitor loses his/her ticket, they must purchase a new ticket. Children under 12-year-old are not required to buy an entrance ticket by showing their passports.

# INFORMATION

# ANGKOR VISITOR GUIDE OF CONDUCT

Angkor was the capital of the Khmer Empire (9th to 15th centuries) and once the largest city in the world(12th century). Today, Angkor is still an active spiritual site for Buddhists and citizens who engage in daily worship, prayer and meditation. Angkor is also a living site where over 130,000 inhabitants have lived for many generations.

The APSARA National Authority has been responsible for the conservation and sustainable development of Angkor since 1995. One of its goals is to harmonize tourist experiences with public safety and respect towards the community. This official Visitor Code of Conduct was designed to support this goal. It was developed in cooperation with local communities, visitors, tour guides and restoration teams.

To enhance your experience and to preserve Angkor for generations to come, we kinldy urge you to observe the following points:



SMOKING AND LITTERING



MONKS

close to monks.



MONUMENTS



RESTRICTED AREAS on loose stones.



CANDY OR MONEY TO CHILDREN Buying items, giving candy or money to children encourages them not to attend school but to beg. If you wish to help the children, please consider donating to a recognized charity.



### DRESS CODE

Revealing clothes such as shorts and skirts above the knees and showing bare shoulders are prohibited in sacred places. Respectful dress is strongly



### SACRED SITES

As Angkor is a sacred site, loud conversation, noises and other inappropriate behaviour in Cambodian culture is considered to be offensive and may disturb other visitors. Please keep calm and be respectful.

As a member of the World Health Organization, Angkor has been a smoke free site since 2012. Smoking cigarettes disturbs others and cigarettes can start bush fires. To protect the environment, please do not smoke and litter.

Monks are revered and respected. If you want to take pictures, please ask for permission first. Women should not touch nor stand or sit too

Touching carvings, sitting on fragile structures, leaning on temple structures, moving or taking archaeological artifacts and graffiti are strictly prohibited. Backpacks, umbrellas with sharp tips, tripods and high heels are discouraged from beingbrought or worn inside the temples.

For your own safety and for the conservation of Angkor, please comply with all signs on the site and be mindful of your steps at all times. Do not climb