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Homestays

A homestay is an immersive way to learn more about local life in Cambodia by staying with a family. Siem Reap Province is the most convenient place to experience a homestay in the kingdom as it lies close to Siem Reap International Airport and the majestic temples of Angkor. Choose from homestays in **Angkor Thom (AT)**, **Banteay Srei (BS)**, **Prasat Bakong (PB)**, **Sour Nukum (SN)**, **Svay Leu (SL)**, and **Puok (PK)** districts.

Bayon Smile Homestays (BS):
Nine spacious homestays in Banteay Srei. T: 011 985 069

Bongthom Homestay (BS):
An impressive boutique homestay offering lifestyle experiences. T: 012 520 092

Green House Homestay (BS):
A large farm offering homestay beds and camping in Banteay Srei. T: 012 630 327

Mahendra Ecododge (BS):
Smart wooden lodge under the shadow of Phnom Hlop. T: 012 429 590

Run Ta Ek Ecotourism Village (BS):
Sophisticated homestay organized by Apsara Authority. T: 012 817 616

Steung Touch Homestay (BS):
Friendly, family homestay in a remote area of Banteay Srei. T: 012 881 896

Tbeng Homestays (BS):
18 traditional homestays in this pretty Banteay Srei community. T: 092 966 047

Villa Banteay Srei (BS):
Upscale homestay with smart rooms. T: 010 98 6004

Angkor Rural Boutique Resort (PB):
An elegant boutique hotel near Rolous [www.arbrasia](http://www.arbrasia.com)

Kompong Phluk Homestays (PB):
Stilted homestays on the great lake. T: 092 734 869

Kork Srok Homestays (PB):
Attractive homestays near a lake in Prasat Bakong district. T: 092 508 995

Lom Lam Eco Village Homestay (PB):
Sophisticated homestay in Prasat Bakong. T: 012 656 662

Trapaeng Thom Homestays (PB):
Village homestays in Bakong District. T: 012 297 506

The Beige Resort (AT):
A luxury tented camp in the heart of Angkor Thom District. T: 078 390 008

Anlong Thom Homestay (SL):
Large homestay on the holy mountain of Phnom Kulen in Svay Leu. T: 012 827 728

Beng Mealea Homestay (SL):
A friendly homestay near Beng Mealea temple in Svay Leu. T: 097 555 2291

Khmar Po Homestays (SN):
10 well-presented homestays in Sour Nukum. T: 061 947 105

Kompong Kheang Homestay (SN):
Local and boutique homestays on the Tonle Sap lake. T: 012 881 896



Homestays are a great way to interact with a host Cambodian family

Temples

Getting 'beyond the temples' means leaving behind the central temples of Angkor, such as **Angkor Wat**, **Bayon** and **Ta Prohm**. However, there are some spectacular less-visited temples in the more remote districts of Siem Reap and these are well worth combining with community-based tourism experiences such as homestays and handicrafts. Highlights include beautiful **Banteay Srei**, the pyramid temple of **Bakong**, the jungle temple of **Beng Mealea** and the holy mountain of **Phnom Kulen**.

Banteay Srei:
The 'Jewel of Angkor', this petite temple is home to the most beautiful carvings found anywhere in the Khmer empire. **Banteay Srei District**

Banteay Samre:
Dating from the same period as Angkor Wat, this is a thoughtfully restored 12th century temple. **Banteay Srei District**

Kbal Spean:
This is the chance for a beautiful jungle trek to this sacred site that includes Hindu deities carved into the river bed. **Banteay Srei District**

Phnom Bok:
This hilltop temple offers some of the best views over the lowland paddy fields of rural Cambodia on a clear day. **Banteay Srei District**

Chau Srei Vibol:
This impressive hilltop temple offers striking views over the surrounding countryside and includes a contemporary wat on the summit. **Prasat Bakong District**

Rolous Group:
Home to the first major pyramid temple of Prasat Bakong, the stucco-clad brick temple of Preah Koh and the inscriptions of Lolei. **Prasat Bakong District**

Beng Mealea:
The ultimate Indiana Jones experience, this huge temple is built to the same floor plan as Angkor Wat, but is subsumed by jungle. **Svay Leu District**

Phnom Kulen:
The holy mountain is home to the lost city of Mahendraparvata and host of ancient early Angkorian temples. Famous for the River of a Thousand Lingas and a stunning waterfall. **Svay Leu District**

Spean Ta Ong:
Route 66 was an ancient Angkor highway and this is the most spectacular bridge along its route, forgotten in the forest. **Chi Kraeng District**

Banteay Ampil:
A small Angkorian temple that sees almost no visitors, it is possible to access via village ox cart in Sour Nukum. **Sour Nukum District**



A giant stone elephant at Srah Damrei on the holy mountain of Phnom Kulen

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Restaurants

There are many restaurants in Siem Reap Province, including everything from large tourist-style restaurants to local food stalls serving authentic local specialties. Some restaurants can also offer traditional cooking classes for those interested in Khmer cuisine. Homestays and boutique hotels also offer a range of local dishes for guests.

Ancient Restaurant (BS):
A small local restaurant located opposite popular Banteay Samre Temple. T: 012 217 266

Angkor Palm Farm (BS):
Rural restaurant serving traditional Khmer fare in refined surroundings. T: 012 232 205

Devatas (BS):
A sophisticated restaurant from the team behind The Sugar Palm in Siem Reap. www.devatas-restaurant.com

Preah Dak Nom Ben Chok (BS):
A famous rice noodle soup from Banteay Srei that comes with curry or a fish broth. T: 012 410 770

Parvis (BS):
The closest restaurant to Banteay Srei temple offers a mixed menu in stylish surroundings. T: 076 555 5960

Rom Chong Restaurant (BS):
An attractive thatched restaurant offering authentic Khmer food. T: 012 766 961

Srey Kulen Restaurant (BS):
A large local restaurant just a short distance from Banteay Srei temple. T: 077 704 131

Natural Vegetable Food Place (PB):
Attractive garden restaurant serving organic vegetables and local specialties. T: 012 674 670

Kompong Pluk Restaurants (PB):
Several floating restaurants located in this striking stilted village on the Tonle Sap. T: 092 734 869

Stoeng Troicheck Restaurant (PB):
Extensive restaurant with traditional pavilion dining and impressive menu. T: 017 422 247

Trav Kod Restaurant (PB):
Popular picnic and barbecue spot on the shores of Trav Kod Lake. T: 012 273 213

Green Restaurant (PK):
Picnic-style restaurant in Puok District offering Khmer flavours in the countryside. T: 070 558 666

Rabbit Garden Restaurant (PK):
A friendly Cambodian restaurant that serves Khmer cuisine and offers camping. T: 017 929 931

Beng Mealea Kitchen Restaurant (SL):
Popular restaurant catering to visitors exploring this outlying temple. T: 017 872 938



Nom Ben Chok noodles are a popular homemade dish in the village of Preah Dak, Banteay Srei

Nature

Siem Reap is abundant in natural attractions. As well as signature wildlife experiences such as **Angkor Center for the Conservation of Biodiversity** and **Banteay Srey Butterfly Centre**, there are also great trekking opportunities on **Phnom Kulen** and the birding area of **Chang Kran Roi**. The floating villages of the **Tonle Sap Lake** offer seasonal flooded forest and abundant fish and bird life. Food is available at all sites

Banteay Srey Butterfly Centre:
Learn about their life-cycle from caterpillar to cocoon to beautiful butterfly. www.angkorbutterfly.com **Banteay Srei District**

Angkor Center for Conservation of Biodiversity:
Commonly known as ACCB, this sanctuary offers a home for rare species. www.wacbc-cambodia.org **Banteay Srei District**

Lotus Pond:
Wildlife watching by boat and flooded forest. T: 085 612 000 **Banteay Srei District**

Prey Kbal Teuk Community Forest:
A community forest in Banteay Srei that is home to some carnivorous pitcher plants. T: 097 91 24 265 **Banteay Srei District**

Srah Doun Riek Lake:
This natural beauty spot is a clearwater lake near Prey Kbal Teuk. T: 012 63 03 27 **Banteay Srei District**

Kompong Phluk:
This unique stilted village has seasonal flooded forest to explore by traditional boat. **Prasat Bakong District**

Phnom Kulen:
The holy mountain of Phnom Kulen offers some of the best trekking in Siem Reap, on the trail of the lost city of Mahendraparvata. **Svay Leu District**

Toteung Thngal Community Forest:
An extensive tract of unexplored community forest near Beng Mealea temple. **Svay Leu District**

Leather Carving (PB):
Explore these dramatic rock formations on a hill with panoramic views. **Angkor Chum District**

Kompong Kheang:
One of the largest, Tonle Sap communities with a large tract of seasonal flooded forest, there is also a small floating village here. **Sour Nukum District**

Me Chrey:
Kayak through the flooded forest at Me Chrey and spot rare water birds with a local guide, this floating village moves with the rise and fall of the Great Lake. **Puok District**

Chang Kran Roi:
This remote area of jungle is home to rare birdlife and nature trails. T: 071 496 4267 **Varin District**



There are lots of curious rock formations in the forest of Chang Kran Roi in Varin District

Handicrafts

Cambodia's tradition of artistry is exemplified by the incredible bas-relief carvings on the Temples of Angkor and its intricate staturary. There are many handicraft initiatives around Siem Reap Province, including silk and cotton weaving, pottery and stone carving. However, it is not just the tangible culture that is such an important link to Cambodia's glorious past, but also intangible culture such as the arts of classical dance and shadow puppetry.

Bayon Smile Carving (BS):
Handcarved wooden statues of deities associated with the temples of Angkor, produced by the Bayon Smile Tourism Community, on sale near Banteay Srei temple. T: 011 985 069

Krama YU YU Weaving Workshop (PB):
Cotton kramas with contemporary designs. T: 012 632 791

Leather Carving (PB):
Hand-carved shadow puppets which are used in traditional performances in Siem Reap town. T: 012 602 019

Lo Yuyi Ceramic Centre (PB):
Handicrafts workshop producing original pottery and scarves. T: 012 576 715

Phnom Chrey Handicrafts Cambodia (PB):
This traditional village appeals to Chinese visitors looking to learn about local life in Cambodia. T: 097 445 1998

Prolong Khmer (PB):
Handicrafts project including striking contemporary cotton kramas (scarves) and Angkor-inspired pottery. T: 012 630 598

Khmer Group Art of Weaving (PB):
There are lots of small enterprises around Siem Reap Province engaged in traditional silk and cotton weaving. T: 093 665 466

Stone Carving (PB):
Stone carving workshop that recreates the sandstone sculptures seen around the temples of Angkor. T: 012 771 713

Angkor Silk Farm (PK):
This stunning silk farm is part of a world-renowned handicrafts revitalization project operated by Artisans Angkor. Free tours daily from Siem Reap. T: 063 963 330 www.artisansdangkor.com

Puok Handicrafts (PK):
Traditional cotton and silk weaving, plus handicrafts in a rural village setting, linked to the Angkor Handicraft Association (AHA). T: 017 618 885 www.aha.kh.com

Institute of Khmer Traditional Textiles (AT):
This is a Japanese-run silk weaving centre in Angkor Thom district that also offers homestays in their extensive compound. T: 012 634 844 www.kittearth.org



There is a thriving handicrafts industry in Siem Reap, including wood carving

Activities and Lifestyle

Siem Reap Province is made up of living, breathing communities engaged in traditional agricultural lifestyles, which can be a fascinating glimpse of local life for visitors. There are also some great activities on offer, including boat trips, ox cart rides and more. It's also a great province to explore on two wheels for keen cyclists.

Banteay Srei Boat Association (BS):
Take a short boat ride on the beautiful ancient reservoir of Banteay Srei temple. T: 011 985 069

Cambodia Landmine Museum (BS):
Learn about the scourge of landmines at this impressive educational museum. www.cambodiaindianmuseum.org

Pov Theory Dragon Farm (BS):
Fruit farm with camping, local picnics, home-made food and fishing. T: 012 779 204

Sacred Dancers of Angkor (BS):
Versed in the art of classical dance, this troupe has a training centre. T: 092 226 393

Sugar Palm in Preah Dak (BS):
Learn how locals harvest the sugar palm tree to make candy and drinks. T: 092 929 831

Tani Ceramics Museum (BS):
A museum dedicated to ancient Angkorian pottery and kiln sites. T: 012 237 222

The Bloom (BS):
Orchid Collection Greenhouse and trekking wild orchids. T: 089 411 850

Kompong Phluk (PB):
Explore flooded forest in a local boat and see the incredible bamboo skyscrapers that characterize this village.

Trav Kod Lake (PB):
A popular Bakong District beauty spot for paddling in the lake or enjoying a local lunch, plus camping. www.travkod.com

Siem Reap Booyoung Country Club (PB):
Top 18-hole international golf course located in Prasat Bakong District. www.siembreapbooyoung.com

Kayaking at Me Chrey (PK):
Cruise to this floating village and explore the surrounding flooded forest by kayak. www.mechreytonlesap.com

Ox Cart rides in Siem Reap:
Try the original 4WD, the ox cart, still a traditional means of transport in the countryside in BS, PK and SN.

Phokeethra Country Club (PK):
One of the leading golf courses in Siem Reap, operated by Accor Hotels. www.phokeethraangkor.com

Kompong Kheang (SN):
Take to the water to visit one of the biggest villages on the Tonle Sap, including homestays and some floating houses. T: 092 655 017

Tom Nok Makak (CK):
A large reservoir where it is possible to enjoy a local picnic or explore local rivers by boat, it is located a short distance north of NH6.



Shek Thom is a popular form of traditional entertainment involving large leather shadow puppets

Recommended Tour Operators

Buffalo Trails www.buffalotrails-cambodia.com
Buffalo Trails is a friendly, responsible tour operator focusing on Cambodian history, culture, lifestyle and the environment. Our guides ensure an up close and personal experience with the community, allowing you to see authentic Cambodia while making a positive contribution.

Butterfly Tours butterflytours.asia
Butterfly Tours is a locally-run, Cambodian students' company that introduces guests to the rich yet unseen interiors of Siem Reap, Battambang and Kampong Speu. Visitors are guaranteed an experience like no other, supporting a sustainable effort that benefits rural Cambodian communities.

Hanuman Travel www.hanumantravel.com
Authentic encounters and off-the-beaten-track adventures with local guides around Siem Reap, including Banteay Srei homestays, the lost city of Mahendraparvata by motorbike and remote Temple Safaris. "One of the world's top travel fixers" according to The Sunday Times.

Hidden Cambodia www.hidden-cambodia.com
Hidden Cambodia Dirt Bike Tours - a Cambodian-Irish operation est 2000 provides unique off-road and enduro tours through the country with Honda XR250, Yamaha WR250 & KTM motorbikes. Phnom Kulen, Preah Vihear, Koh Ker and Preah Khan remain popular destinations. Training beginners to experienced riders.

Indochine Expeditions www.indochineexpedition.net
Discover the countryside around Siem Reap by kayak, on foot and by mountain bike. There are hidden temples, secret lakes, an inland sea and a mysterious chain of hills to explore. Private trips for small groups with support vehicles.

Siem Reap Vespa Adventures vespaadventures-sr.com
Vespa Adventures Siem Reap is the original Vespa tour experience provider in Siem Reap. Founded by Akim in 2013 the experienced Vespa Adventures Siem Reap team have been delivering exhilarating and unique experiences every day to people from all over the world.

Terre Cambodge www.terrecambodge.com/en/
For nearly three decades we offer customised responsible and sustainable travel to all corners of Cambodia. Experience a homestay in Phnom Kulen, trek through the countryside, explore remote villages, or take a custom mountain bike tour. Our dedicated team can design the perfect trip for you

Travel Asia a la Carte www.travelasia.travel
Get closer to your destination with unique encounters and personal touches all crafted just for you. We specialise in customised tours with responsible, sustainable tourism featuring homestay and village visits ensuring authentic, local experiences in Siem Reap and beyond.

Triple A Adventures tripleacambodia.com
Fun and authentic day tours in and around Siem Reap. Activities include kayaking, countryside tours, floating villages, cycling, oxcart rides, monk blessings and food tours. Escorted by a great local guide, the tours are designed to give authentic Cambodian experiences.

Villa Chandara www.villachandara.com
Join us at Villa Chandara for a very memorable evening; savour authentic Khmer cuisine in a fine-dining setting overlooking the rice paddies, on the edge of a village far from the tourist crowds. All profits go to support educational initiatives in the village community.

Getting around Siem Reap Province

There are a variety of transport options available to visitors travelling to Siem Reap. Environmentally-friendly options include exploring on foot once in an individual district or touring the province by bicycle, widely available for hire in Siem Reap town. Motorised transport options on offer in Siem Reap include: motorbike taxi, known as a moto; remark-motos, commonly referred to as tuk-tuks; and private cars and minivans with driver. Don't forget to factor in the weather to your planning, as Siem Reap and Cambodia experience three distinct seasons: the cool season (November-February), the hot season (March-May) and the wet season (June-October). Some forms of transport aren't really appropriate in the wet season months. Note that the tropical sun is strong all year round, so use plenty of sunscreen, particularly if riding a bicycle or travelling by motorbike.

Walking:
Distances are too great to consider walking between districts in Siem Reap, but several districts offer village and countryside walks to learn about local life, including Banteay Srei, Prasat Bakong, Svay Leu and Sour Nukum. There are also some good trekking opportunities in the hills of Banteay Srei, Svay Leu and Varin districts, where some extensive jungle is still found.

Cycling:
It is possible to cycle to districts closer to Siem Reap town for the day or for overnight stays, including Banteay Srei, Prasat Bakong, Puok and Sour Nukum. There are good quality imported mountain bikes available for rent in Siem Reap town, as well as Green e-bikes that include an electric battery if you're feeling tired in the heat.

Motorbike:
Small motorbikes are available for rent to foreigners in Siem Reap, but this option is only advisable for those with riding experience in Asia. Motos (motorbikes) are widely available for rent with a motodup (motorbike driver). Many of these drivers are knowledgeable and can also give you some background on key sights in each district, acting as an unofficial tour guide. It is possible that some of the homestay owners can provide a moto for travel between sights in their local area.

Remark-moto:
Officially known as remark-motos in Cambodia, many visitors call them tuk-tuks. They are motorbikes with a canopied carriage attached to the back. These are the most popular form of transport for independent travellers and provide some protection from the elements. Some remark drivers can also act as unofficial tour guides and know the province well. Some homestays include transport by tuk-tuk as part of an overnight package.

Minibus:
A minibus is a useful option for families or small groups of travellers exploring Siem Reap beyond the temples. Seating up to 10 people, a minibus is cost-effective for large families or small groups of friends. Guesthouses, hotels and travel agents in Siem Reap can assist in arranging a minibus for one day or for a longer customised itinerary.

Private Car:
Private taxis or cars are available for hire through guesthouses, hotels and travel agents in Siem Reap. They are a useful option for a family or for those people who want a little more protection from the elements. Private cars can be used for transfers from Siem Reap to relevant districts or for a day of sightseeing around the province.

Siem Reap Beyond the Temples

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An Introduction to Siem Reap Beyond the Temples

SIEM REAP PROVINCE OFFERS THE VISITOR AN ECLECTIC MIX OF REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCES THAT ARE JUST A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE COSMOPOLITAN TOWN OF SIEM REAP, WHICH BOASTS AN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PLUGGING IT INTO THE REST OF ASIA AND BEYOND. DISCOVER A SLICE OF LIFE BEYOND THE TEMPLES AND EXPERIENCE THE REAL CAMBODIA WITH A VISIT TO SOME OF THE LESSER-KNOWN SIGHTS OF SIEM REAP PROVINCE.

The majestic temples of Angkor are one of the most iconic sights in the world. ANGKOR WAT is the heart and soul of Cambodia and is believed to be the largest religious building in the world. The BAYON is one of the world's most mysterious temples, with its signature enigmatic faces staring down from on high, and the 'Tomb Raider' temple of TA PROHM is the ultimate Indiana Jones fantasy where nature has run riot. But just as there is more to Angkor than its wats, so too is there much more to Siem Reap Province than its legendary temples.

Stay another night in Siem Reap, as the province offers some of the most accessible homestays in Cambodia, ranging from traditional village houses to beautiful boutique hotels. Staying in a local village is a very different experience from staying in the bustling town of Siem Reap and recommended for an authentic experience. And it is not just traditional village houses set amid verdant ricefields, but there are also homestays available in the unique floating villages and stilted houses of the TONLE SAP.

Seek out some inexpensive local restaurants and foodstalls in the province serving classic Cambodian cuisine, including local specialties such as the NOM BEN CHUK noodles of BANTEAY SREI. Several of Siem Reap's districts border the TONLE SAP LAKE and fresh fish and shellfish are widely available. It's also possible to learn the secrets of Cambodian cuisine with a cooking class at one of the homestays in the province.

Lifestyle activities are available, including village walks, farm visits, ox cart rides and boat trips in natural beauty spots. Trekking and cycling are taking off with hikes to sacred mountains and biking through traditional villages. When it comes to nature, Siem Reap is home to the ANGKOR CENTRE FOR CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY, a wildlife rescue centre, some rare forest birds in the wilds of CHIANG KRAN ROI, and the holy mountain of PHNOM KULEN, home to some shy mammals in its forest.

Siem Reap is not just a base to explore the temples of Angkor, it's the place to plan some authentic off-the-beaten track adventures.



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ITINERARY 2 DAYS 1 NIGHT

Land and Lake in Siem Reap Sotr Nikum District

HIGHLIGHTS
KOMPONG KHLEANG
KHINAR PO VILLAGE
TEUK CHOB COMMUNITY FOREST
BANTEAY AMPIL TEMPLE
LOCAL HOMESTAY
OX CART RIDE
VILLAGE WALKS

Depart Siem Reap and travel to the Tonle Sap Lake town of KOMPONG KHLEANG. One of the biggest stilted villages on the Tonle Sap, spend the morning cruising among the stilted houses by boat and include a visit to the Great Lake itself. After lunch in a local homestay, travel to the community of KHINAR PO to stay for the night. Take a short walk into the TEUK CHOB COMMUNITY FOREST. Enjoy a local dinner with our host family. The cooks of KHINAR PO are well known for their delicious traditional food.

On the second day, start with a village walk to learn about local life in the traditional community of KHINAR PO, including a visit to some local farms. Later, visit the remote temple of BANTEAY AMPIL, which sees almost no tourists due to its isolated location. It is like the Angkor of old before the advent of modern tourism. Take an ox cart ride to the temple, especially if visiting in the rainy season. After lunch in the village, return to Siem Reap.



Sotr Nikum District: Ox carts are a traditional form of transport in the Cambodian countryside and it is possible to hitch a ride in some villages

ITINERARY 2 DAYS 1 NIGHT

Angkor Roads of Siem Reap Svay Leu & Chi Kraeng Districts

HIGHLIGHTS
BENG MEALEA TEMPLE
PRASAT CHREY
PRASAT BOMPONG PLOK
POEUNG KOMNOU
SPEAN TA ONG
SPEAN PRAEH TUOS
LOCAL HOMESTAY
TOM NOB MAKAK

Depart Siem Reap for the immense jungle temple of BENG MEALEA. After exploring BENG MEALEA TEMPLE and the smaller temples of PRASAT CHREY and PRASAT BOMPONG PLOK, enjoy a home-cooked lunch at BENG MEALEA HOMESTAY. In the afternoon, take a gentle trek in community forest. Later, return to Beng Mealea Homestay for the night, including dinner with the host family.

On the second day, make an early visit to POEUNG KOMNOU to see the religious rock carvings. Later, follow the ancient Angkor road from BENG MEALEA to PHUM KHIVAU via the impressive jungle bridge of SPEAN TA ONG. Visit the remote temple of WAT PRAEH THEAT before travelling to the large manmade reservoir of TOM NOB MAKAK to enjoy a local picnic lunch. One of the largest reservoirs in Siem Reap, it is also possible to take a local boat trip along the nearby river. Then travel south to Kompong Kdei to visit SPEAN PRAEH TUOS, one of the best preserved Angkor bridges in Cambodia.



Svay Leu & Chi Kraeng Districts: Beng Mealea lies on an ancient Angkor road connecting Angkor Thom and Prasat Bakon

ITINERARY 1 DAY

Living Siem Reap Puok District

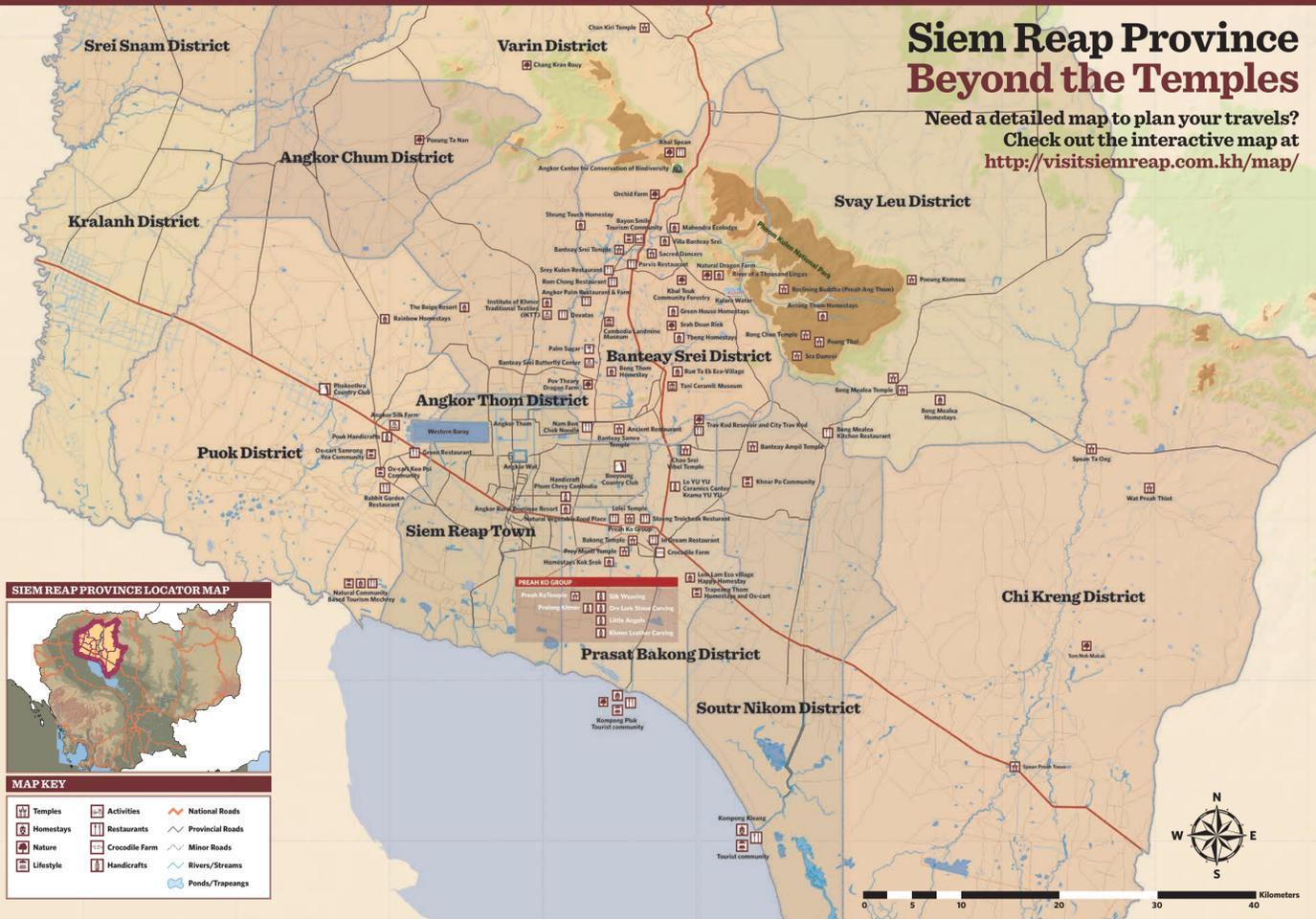
HIGHLIGHTS
ME CHREY FLOATING VILLAGE
TONLE SAP LAKE
TRADITIONAL OX CART RIDE
EXTENSIVE RICE FIELDS
ANGKOR SILK FARM
LOCAL WEAVING

Depart Siem Reap for PUOK DISTRICT to visit some local handicraft projects that supply some of the boutiques and galleries in Siem Reap, including the ANGKOR HANDICRAFT ASSOCIATION (AHA - www.aha-kh.com). When in Siem Reap town, do visit the AHA Market where you can buy all the original local handicraft products from Cambodia with a seal of authenticity. Also visit the ARTISANS ANGKOR SILK FARM, a handicraft revitalisation project that offers skills training and employment opportunities to young Cambodians.

After lunch, experience an ox cart ride, a traditional form of transport in the Cambodian countryside, the original 4WD. Then it is time to visit the floating village of ME CHREY, where life takes place on the water. One of the smaller floating villages on the lake, it is an atmospheric place to explore by boat. It is possible to explore the flooded forest of ME CHREY village by kayak and this is a memorable opportunity to spot water birds. For those that want to extend the stay, it is possible to camp at Rabbit Garden Restaurant or sleep at Rainbow Homestay.



Puok District: Handicrafts provide a living for several communities in Puok District, including basket making and silk weaving



Siem Reap Province Beyond the Temples

Need a detailed map to plan your travels? Check out the interactive map at <http://visitsiemreap.com.kh/map/>

ITINERARY 2 DAYS 1 NIGHT

Wild Siem Reap Angkor Thom, Angkor Chum & Varin Districts

HIGHLIGHTS
INSTITUTE FOR KHMER TRADITIONAL TEXTILES (IKTT)
POEUNG TANON
CHIANG KRAN ROI FOREST
WATERFALL
BIRDLIFE
OVERNIGHT CAMPING
PRASAT KIRI SAN

Depart Siem Reap for Angkor Thom District to visit the silk weaving centre at the INSTITUTE FOR KHMER TRADITIONAL TEXTILES. There is also a homestay here for those that do not want to camp in the forest. Continue to the curious rock formations of POEUNG TANON in ANGKOR CHUM DISTRICT. Enjoy the views over lowland Siem Reap while exploring this area of natural beauty. Experience a local lunch at the site and meet the friendly monks that have made a home here. After lunch travel to BANTEAY VARIN DISTRICT and the natural wilderness that is CHIANG KRAN ROI FOREST. See sunset at Poeng Chan Kroi Horm before setting up camp at the small jungle waterfall here and enjoy a local meal in this peaceful setting.

This morning take an early trek to visit the famous 'CHIANG KRAN ROI' that give this area its name, hundreds of strangely shaped lava rocks that resemble cooking pots according to local villagers. It may also be possible to spot some rare birdlife in this remote forest location. Enjoy lunch back at the waterfall before travelling back to Siem Reap via the Angkor-era temple of PRASAT KIRI SAN, which sees very few visitors compared with more popular Angkor temples near Siem Reap town.



Angkor Thom, Angkor Chum & Varin Districts: Siem Reap Province is home to much wildlife, including wild gibbons in Chung Kran Roi, Varin District

ITINERARY 2 DAYS 1 NIGHT

Sacred Siem Reap Svay Leu District

HIGHLIGHTS
PHNOM KULEN
RIVER OF A THOUSAND LINGAS
WAT PRAEH ANG THOM RECLINING BUDDHA
WATERFALL
SRAH DAMREI
BAT CAVE
PRASAT DAMREI KRAB
PRASAT RONG CHEN
POEUNG TRAL
LOCAL HOMESTAY

Depart Siem Reap for the holy mountain of PHNOM KULEN to explore the vestiges of the lost city of MAHENDRABARVATA. Take a local motorbike excursion around the main sights of Phnom Kulen, including the BAT CAVE, a secret viewpoint, the giant stone animals of SRAH DAMREI, the brick temple of PRASAT DAMREI KRAB, the first pyramid temple of PRASAT RONG CHEN and the holy carvings of NOBUNG TRAL. A picnic lunch can be organised by local villagers to enjoy along the way. Take a short trek in the community forest of ANLONG THOM before travelling to the nearby ancient baray (reservoir) of TA NUP. Continue to ANLONG THOM for an overnight homestay in a traditional village.

On the second day, explore ANLONG THOM village on foot to learn about local life. It is also possible to visit WAT PHUM ANLONG THOM, the local village temple. Travel by motorbike back to ANLONG THOM via the lava field of WAT PRAEH KRAB. See the famed River of a THOUSAND LINGAS and visit the giant reclining Buddha of PRAEH ANG THOM for views over the Kulen forest. Enjoy a local lunch above the impressive waterfall and some free time to take a dip in the natural pool below. Later, return to Siem Reap.



Svay Leu District: The sacred mountain of Phnom Kulen is a popular place of pilgrimage for Cambodians and includes an impressive waterfall

ITINERARY 2 DAYS 1 NIGHT

The Nature of Siem Reap Banteay Srei District

HIGHLIGHTS
BANTEAY SREI TEMPLE
BANTEAY SAMRE TEMPLE
PHNOM BOK
KHAL SPEAN
BANTEAY SREI BUTTERFLY CENTRE
CAMBODIA LANDMINE MUSEUM
ANGKOR CENTRE FOR CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY (ACCB)
KHAL TEUK COMMUNITY FOREST
LOCAL HOMESTAY

Depart Siem Reap for the local village of PRAEH DAK to sample a delicious local speciality, NOM BEN CHUK rice noodles, including learning about noodle making or riding a traditional ox cart. Continue to the BANTEAY SREI BUTTERFLY CENTRE to learn about the lifecycle of these arthropods. Later stop at a traditional sugar palm village to learn about palm sugar. Nearby is the CAMBODIA LANDMINE MUSEUM, a flagship centre promoting mine awareness.

Head to beautiful Banteay Srei, Angkor's ultimate art gallery. Enjoy a local lunch before walking to the baray (reservoir) to take a boat ride. Continue to KHAL TEUK COMMUNITY FOREST for a trek to see the varied flora and fauna, including carnivorous pitcher plants. Later, travel to a traditional village to stay in a local homestay.

In the morning, take a short village walk to learn about local life and agriculture. Then join the morning wildlife tour at the ANGKOR CENTRE FOR CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY (ACCB), a rescue centre for wildlife that is home to many rare species. After lunch, we travel to the 12th century temple of BANTEAY SAMRE. Finish with a trip to the hilltop temple of PHNOM BOK, which offers stunning views.



Banteay Srei District: Banteay Srei Temple has a beautiful baray (reservoir) where it is possible to take a boat trip

ITINERARY 2 DAYS 1 NIGHT

The Spirit of Siem Reap Prasat Bakong District

HIGHLIGHTS
ROLUOS GROUP OF TEMPLES
CHAU SREI VIBOL TEMPLE
KOMPONG PHLUK
LOCAL HANDICRAFTS
PROLONG KHMER
LO YU-YU CERAMICS
TRAU KOT LAKE
LOCAL HOMESTAY

Travel to the ROLUOS group of temples to visit LOLEI and PRAEH KO temples, both with impressive plasterwork. Several local craft initiatives are located in the Prah Ko area, including the LITTLE ANGELS KHMER ART LEATHER CARVING, STONE AND WOOD CARVING WORKSHOP, SILK AND COTTON WEAVING AT KHMER GROUP ART OF WEAVING, and the PROLONG KHMER POTTERY AND WEAVING TRAINING CENTRE, where it is possible to do a pottery class or order an original design. Finish here with a visit the impressive 9th century pyramid temple of PRASAT BAKONG.

After lunch, travel to the remarkable stilted village of KOMPONG PHLUK on the TONLE SAP LAKE, where the houses have been nicknamed 'bamboo skyscrapers'. After exploring the village by boat experience a paddle boat ride into the vast flooded forest. Overnight in a homestay or, for more comfort, there is the ANGKOR RURAL BOUTIQUE RESORT.

On the second day, take a village walk around the vegetable farms of KORK SROK to learn more about local life. Venture further north to visit LO YU-YU CERAMICS CENTER and KRAMA YU-YU. Then continue to TRAV ROD LAKE, a popular picnic spot. Enjoy some free time swimming here and sample a local lunch. Later visit the atmospheric hilltop temple of CHAU SREI VIBOL with the option of sunset over the rice fields.



Prasat Bakong District: Explore the incredible stilted village of Kompong Phluk, home to the famous 'bamboo skyscraper' houses

Experience Wildlife Conservation Firsthand!

The Angkor Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity (ACCB) is a wildlife conservation centre located at the trailhead to Kbal Spean, about 12 Km north of the famous women's temple (Banteay Srei Temple). We currently care for ca. 550 animals, out of 45 different species, all native to Cambodia.

Come join our daily guided tours, available from Monday to Saturday at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, to learn about rescue stories and our efforts in conservation breeding. Advanced booking is preferred. Not available to join us at either 9 am or 1 pm? You can request for a tour that fits your own schedule best. Availability for on-request tours is between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm.



For booking & more information, please contact us at bookings@accb-cambodia.org, or +855(0) 99 60 40 17. See our recent stories: <https://www.facebook.com/ACCBCambodia/>

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