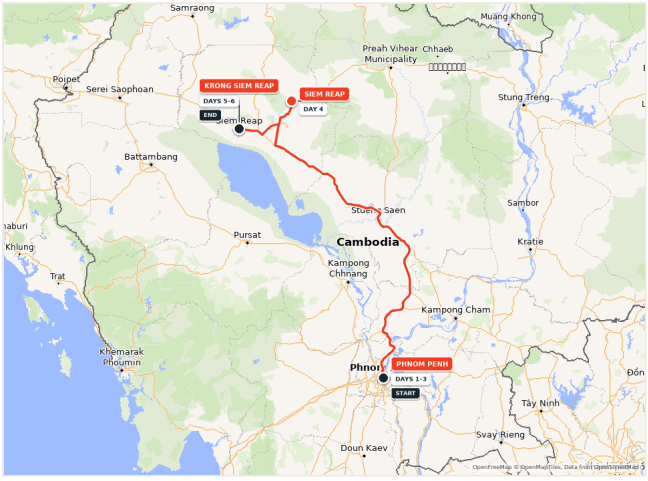
ENCOUNTERS TRAVEL

Your passport to adventure

Cambodia Encounters

COUNTRY(IES)	Cambodia
TOUR TYPE	Small Group
TRANSPORT	A/C minibus/car
GROUP SIZE	Min: 2 | Max: 12
DURATION	6 days
STARTS	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
ENDS	Siem Reap, Cambodia
MEALS	Breakfasts - 5, Lunches - 0, Dinners - 1

TOUR ROUTE MAP **6 Days**



ROUTE: **Phnom Penh** (Start) → **Siem Reap** → **Krong Siem Reap** (End)

HIGHLIGHTS

Phnomh Penh - Toul Sleng Museum, Choeung Ek Killing Fields, Royal Palace & Silver Pagoda, spider market, Tonle Sap Lake, Kulen Mountain stay, Siem Reap - Angkor Wat temples, Ta Prohm, street food walk

Itinerary

DAY 1 — Your Cambodia adventure begins, transfers included

Land at Phnom Penh International Airport and travel directly to the hotel in the capital. After arrival, settle into the accommodation and take some time to rest following the journey. This straightforward arrival day provides a gentle introduction to Phnom Penh and leaves you ready for the sightseeing and activities planned for the following stages of the trip.

ACTIVITIES

- **Arrive at Phnom Penh International Airport**
  Arrive at Phnom Penh International Airport in Cambodia to start your tour. Meet your local representative and clear formalities before heading into the capital.
- **Transfer from Phnom Penh Airport to Hotel**
  A road transfer from Phnom Penh International Airport into central Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Settle into your hotel and receive a short briefing about the days ahead.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Phnom Penh hotel	None

DAY 2 Exploring Phnom Penh's history

This day explores Phnom Penh’s complex history and cultural identity through its most significant landmarks. Visits to Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and the Choeung Ek Killing Fields Memorial provide important context to Cambodia’s recent past and the resilience of its people. The focus then shifts to cultural and artistic heritage at the National Museum of Cambodia, followed by the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda, which reflect the country’s royal traditions and craftsmanship. Free time later allows you to explore Phnom Penh at your own pace, whether along the riverside or within the city’s neighbourhoods.

ACTIVITIES

- **Explore Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum in Phnom Penh**
  Visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum in Phnom Penh, Cambodia to learn about the Khmer Rouge period. The former prison site offers a powerful introduction to the country's recent history.
- **Explore Choeung Ek Killing Fields Memorial in Phnom Penh**
  Explore the Killing Fields of Choeung Ek on the outskirts of Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Walk past memorial stupas and mass graves that commemorate the victims of the regime.
- **Explore National Museum of Cambodia in Phnom Penh**
  Discover the National Museum of Cambodia in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, housed in a beautiful Khmer-style building. Browse an extensive collection of sculptures and artefacts from different eras of Khmer history.
- **Explore Royal Palace in Phnom Penh**
  Visit the Royal Palace complex in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, official residence of the King. Wander through ornate courtyards and ceremonial halls that showcase traditional Khmer architecture.
- **Explore Silver Pagoda in Phnom Penh**
  Step inside the Silver Pagoda within the Royal Palace grounds in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. See the silver-tiled floor and treasured Buddha statues decorated with gold and precious stones.
- **Free Time in Phnom Penh**
  Enjoy free time in Phnom Penh, Cambodia to explore night markets and riverside areas at your own pace. Sample local street food or shop for crafts and souvenirs in the evening.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Phnom Penh hotel	Breakfast

DAY 3

Visit the 'spider market' and explore Kampong Kleang on Tonle Sap Lake. Overnight at Kulen Mountain

This journey travels from Phnom Penh into Cambodia’s rural heartland, linking roadside culture, historic landmarks, and lakeside communities. Stops along the way include Skun Spider Market and a stone carving workshop in Santuk District, offering insight into regional traditions and craftsmanship. The route continues to the ancient Naga Bridge at Kampong Kdei before reaching Kampong Khleang on Tonle Sap Lake, where a boat trip through the floating village reveals daily life shaped by seasonal waters. The day concludes with a drive to Kulen Mountain and an overnight stay at a mountain resort, transitioning from lakeside landscapes to cooler highland surroundings.

ACTIVITIES

- **Drive from Phnom Penh to Skun Spider Market**
  Travel by road from Phnom Penh, Cambodia towards Skun district in the countryside. Watch city streets give way to rural villages and farmland along the way.
- **Explore Skun Spider Market in Skun District**
  Stop at the Skun “spider market” in central Cambodia to see stalls selling fried insects and local snacks. Experience a quirky slice of Cambodian roadside culture.
- **Explore Stone Carving Workshop in Santuk District**
  Visit a stone carving workshop in Santuk district, Cambodia and watch artisans shape traditional Khmer sculptures. Learn how local craftspeople keep ancient skills alive.
- **Explore Naga Bridge in Kampong Kdei**
  Explore the ancient Naga Bridge near Kampong Kdei in Cambodia, lined with carved serpent balustrades. Walk across the historic laterite bridge that once carried Angkor-era traffic.
- **Drive from Kampong Kdei to Kampong Khleang**
  Continue by road from Kampong Kdei, Cambodia towards the stilted village of Kampong Khleang on Tonle Sap. Pass rice fields and small settlements on the way to the lake.
- **Boat Trip on Kampong Khleang Floating Village, Tonle Sap Lake**
  Board a boat at Kampong Khleang on Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia to explore floating and stilted homes. Glide past submerged forest, schools and fishing boats that reveal life on Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake.
- **Drive from Kampong Khleang to Kulen Mountain Resort**
  Drive from Kampong Khleang, Cambodia towards your resort at the foot of Kulen Mountain. Watch the scenery change from flat lake plains to wooded hills.
- **Thisak Resort Stay in Kulen Mountain**
  Check in at Thisak Resort near Kulen Mountain in northern Cambodia. Enjoy the peaceful countryside setting and relax before tomorrow's visit to the sacred plateau.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Thisak Resort	Breakfast

DAY 4

Explore the Kulen Mountains. Visit the Tbeng community to learn about local life. Siem Reap Night Market (Street 60)

This full day journey combines sacred landscapes, natural landmarks, and everyday rural life in northern Cambodia. You travel from the Phnom Kulen mountain area to explore ancient spiritual sites, including the River of a Thousand Lingas, hilltop pagodas, and the Kulen waterfalls, where nature and Khmer belief systems intersect. The experience then shifts into community life with visits to local gardens, livestock areas, and traditional craft activities that reflect daily livelihoods. A Buddhist blessing ceremony adds cultural depth before the route continues back toward Siem Reap. The day concludes with time to explore a lively local night market and relax in the city.

ACTIVITIES

- **Drive from Thisak Resort to Phnom Kulen Mountains**
  Travel by road from Thisak Resort up into the Phnom Kulen Mountains in Cambodia. The road climbs into a protected area used for temple ruins and waterfalls.
- **Visit River of a Thousand Lingas – Phnom Kulen**
  Visit the River of a Thousand Lingas on Phnom Kulen in Cambodia, where ancient carvings decorate the riverbed. See Hindu symbols and figures etched into the rock beneath the flowing water.
- **Visit Pagoda and Reclining Buddha – Phnom Kulen**
  Explore a hilltop pagoda on Phnom Kulen, Cambodia that houses a large reclining Buddha statue. Take in views across the jungle while learning about the site's spiritual importance.
- **Explore Kulen Waterfall in Phnom Kulen**
  Walk to Kulen Waterfall on Phnom Kulen in Cambodia and cool off by the natural pools. Enjoy time to relax in the shade and appreciate the forest surroundings.
- **Picnic Lunch in Kulen Waterfall Area**
  Enjoy a picnic-style lunch near Kulen Waterfall in northern Cambodia. Dine outdoors while listening to the sound of falling water and birds in the trees.
- **Drive from Kulen Mountain to Tbeng Community**
  Travel by road from Kulen Mountain, Cambodia to the rural Tbeng community outside Siem Reap. Pass village houses, fields and local roadside stalls on the way.
- **Visit Vegetable Gardens and Livestock – Tbeng Community**
  Stroll through vegetable gardens and livestock areas in the Tbeng community near Siem Reap, Cambodia. Learn how families grow food and raise animals using traditional methods.
- **Explore Damnak Thlork Vea Pagoda in Tbeng Community**
  Visit Damnak Thlork Vea Pagoda in the Tbeng area of Cambodia. Explore the temple grounds and see how the pagoda serves as a spiritual hub for local villagers.
- **Buddhist Blessing Ceremony in Damnak Thlork Vea Pagoda**
  Receive a Buddhist blessing from a monk at Damnak Thlork Vea Pagoda in rural Cambodia. Experience a peaceful ritual that offers insight into local religious practice.
- **Visit Traditional Mat and Noodle Making – Tbeng Community**
  Observe traditional mat weaving and occasional Khmer noodle making in the Tbeng community near Siem Reap,

Cambodia. Meet craftspeople and sample simple homemade foods.

- **Drive from Tbeng Community to Siem Reap**
  Drive from the Tbeng community, Cambodia back towards Siem Reap city. Watch village scenes fade as you approach the lively temple town.
- **Explore Street 60 Night Market in Siem Reap**
  Explore Street 60 Night Market on the edge of Siem Reap, Cambodia, a favourite with local families. Try Khmer street food, fresh fruit and adventurous snacks in a lively evening setting.
- **Free Time in Siem Reap**
  Enjoy free time in Siem Reap, Cambodia after visiting Street 60. Wander the market stalls, taste local dishes or simply soak up the atmosphere before returning to your hotel.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Siem Reap hotel	Breakfast

DAY 5 Temple visits - Angkor Thom, Angkor Wat, Ta Prohm

Spend the day visiting Angkor Thom, Angkor Wat and Ta Prohm, focusing on the architecture, religious symbolism and royal history of the Khmer Empire. Within Angkor Thom, see the principal monumental areas including the Bayon and ceremonial spaces before continuing to the other major temples. The organised sightseeing concludes before returning to Siem Reap for dinner, with no additional temple visits added beyond those supported by the source.

ACTIVITIES

- **Explore Angkor Thom South Gate in Siem Reap**
  Enter the ancient city of Angkor Thom near Siem Reap, Cambodia through its monumental South Gate. Pass under towers decorated with serene stone faces.
- **Explore Bayon Temple in Angkor Thom**
  Explore Bayon Temple at the heart of Angkor Thom in Cambodia, famed for its many smiling stone faces. Wander multi-level galleries filled with carvings and bas-reliefs.
- **Visit Royal Enclosure and Phimeanakas – Angkor Thom**
  Walk through the Royal Enclosure and Phimeanakas in Angkor Thom, Cambodia. See the remains of royal residences and pyramidal temple structures within the former city.
- **Explore Elephant Terrace in Angkor Thom**
  Visit the Elephant Terrace inside Angkor Thom, Cambodia, decorated with carved elephant processions. Imagine royal ceremonies that once took place on this long platform.
- **Explore Terrace of the Leper King in Angkor Thom**
  See the Terrace of the Leper King in Angkor Thom, Cambodia with its deep relief carvings. Learn about the legends that gave this enigmatic structure its name.
- **Explore Angkor Wat Temple Complex in Siem Reap**
  Explore Angkor Wat near Siem Reap, Cambodia, the largest and best-preserved temple in the Angkor region.

Admire its soaring towers, galleries and detailed bas-reliefs dedicated to Vishnu.

- **Explore Ta Prohm Temple in Siem Reap**
  Visit Ta Prohm temple near Siem Reap, Cambodia, where giant trees and roots envelop ancient walls. Experience the atmospheric blend of jungle and stone that makes this site so memorable.
- **Dinner at Spoons Restaurant in Siem Reap**
  Dine at Spoons Restaurant in Siem Reap, Cambodia, a social enterprise training local youth for hospitality careers. Enjoy Khmer cuisine while supporting a community-focused project.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Siem Reap hotel	Breakfast,Dinner

DAY 6 Bon Voyage! Airport transfer included

This short concluding segment allows time to relax and enjoy Siem Reap at your own pace before onward travel. You have free time to revisit favourite spots, explore local cafés or markets, or simply unwind after the journey through Cambodia’s cultural highlights. The experience then transitions smoothly with a hotel transfer to the airport. It marks a calm and unhurried end to your stay in Siem Reap.

ACTIVITIES

- **Free Time in Siem Reap**
  Enjoy free time in Siem Reap, Cambodia after visiting Street 60. Wander the market stalls, taste local dishes or simply soak up the atmosphere before returning to your hotel.
- **Travel from Siem Reap Hotel to Airport**
  Travel from your hotel in Siem Reap, Cambodia to Siem Reap International Airport. Your road transfer brings you from the town back towards your departure point.
- **Depart from Siem Reap International Airport**
  Depart from Siem Reap International Airport in Cambodia at the end of your Tour. Say goodbye to the temples, countryside and communities you have visited.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS	EXTRAS
N/A	Breakfast	Extra day in Siem Reap - post-tour, Half-day local village tour & cooking class, Half-day silk farm tour, Half-day remote temples tour, Half day cycling tour of the temples, Half-day tour to Tonle Sap Lake

INCLUDED

- 5-nights accommodation in 4-star hotels
- All transport and transfers in private AC car/minibus
- 24-hour airport arrival & departure transfer service
- Services of a local tour guide during sightseeing and activities
- Admission fees, with instruction where necessary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Phnom Penh historical tour
- Spider Market and 'Street 60' Market visits
- Tonle Sap Kampong Khleang Community Visit
- Kulen Mountain resort stay
- Tbeng Community Experience
- Angkor region Temples tour

EXCLUDED

- International Flights (available on request)
- Visas fees
- Travel insurance (compulsory, get a quote here)
- Single room supplements
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Drinks, snacks and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Optional tours
- Tips for tour guides and drivers
- Any other items not mentioned above

Tour Options

Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you're visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

All accommodation based options (e.g. Single supplements, extra nights, cruise upgrades) should be booked and paid for in advance so that we can make the appropriate arrangements. Other options may either be booked and paid for in advance or while you are on the tour, though we recommend booking in advance to ensure there are no issues with availability.

Many options are priced the same throughout the year, but some may incur single or high season supplements , full details are given on the tour reservation form or on request.

Extra day in Phnom Penh - pre-tour

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the start of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport arrival transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Extra day in Siem Reap - post-tour

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the end of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport departure transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Important Notes

1 Accommodation

We use good quality hotels rated at the local 4-star level on this tour. Hotel rooms all have air-conditioning and en-suite bathrooms.

All couples will be given a private double room.

Please check the Single Room Supplement option for details on room sharing options and charges for solo travellers on this tour.

2 Transport

Our trips aim to feature a mix of different transport options. We want you to feel like you're really experiencing the country you're travelling through, but at the same time we want you to finish journeys refreshed enough to enjoy the next stage of the tour. As this tour through Cambodia covers a relatively short distance and we want to be flexible with our stops between Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, we only use private vehicles (minivan/minibus depending on the number of travellers).

3 Group Size/Tour Leaders/Guides

We are committed to making sure our small-group tours in South East Asia have low maximum numbers as we feel this gives everyone in the group the best chance to get to know their fellow travellers and to hear and make the most of their guide. Having a smaller group also allows us to be a bit more creative with the places you stay and activities you do, which may simply not be possible with larger numbers. The group size for this tour is therefore a minimum of 2 and maximum of 12.

At Encounters Travel we aim to only use local guides and reps. We feel this gives you the best experience of the country and the sites you are seeing.

4 Dates & Prices

We run regular small-group departures on this tour throughout the year starting on Mondays. All departures are guaranteed to run with a minimum of 2 people. Departure dates and prices are listed on our website and on a separate dates & prices sheet available on request. Extra nights can be added to the start and/or finish of the tour if you would like to extend your time.

The tour can also be run privately on any other dates for any number of people. An additional supplement will be due for private departures, the amount depending on your dates and the number of people in your party.

5 International Flights

We want to give you as much flexibility as possible when it comes to booking your holiday with us. So, to take account of people with varying travel plans, we don't include your international flights in the main tour price. We are however very happy to suggest flights to go with the tour. Please contact us with your preferred dates and departure airport and we'll give you a selection of airlines, times and fares to choose from.

Your airport arrival & departure transfers are included on the first and last days of the tour.

Most of our Cambodia tours start and finish in either Phnom Penh airport (PNH) or Siem Reap airport (REP).

If you are booking a tour that combines Cambodia with Vietnam we may not include connecting flights between the two countries in the tour price (see the inclusions/exclusions or extension option sections for details). This flight can often be built into your main international flight ticket, or we may be able to book this flight for you separately if you prefer - please contact us and we will advise you on available airlines, times and prices.

We do also sometimes advertise flight inclusive packages from selected airports. Where these are shown on our website, prices are correct at the time of quoting, but are subject to continued availability of the fare used. Prices will be reconfirmed at the time of booking, and we will also provide the flight times and airline details before tickets are issued.

Flight inclusive prices are based on the cheapest Economy ticket class available which is generally non-refundable and non-changeable unless the flight is cancelled for reasons such as Covid-19, in which case the airlines are more flexible. More flexible ticket options, as well as Premium Economy and Business Class tickets are available on request for an additional supplement. Any changes made to flight inclusive bookings will be subject to the airline rules on your ticket.

Flight CO2 Emissions:

Traveling by air is an amazing way to explore the world, but flights also contribute to carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions that impact the environment. By considering the airline's CO2 emissions when you choose your flight, you can help minimize your travel footprint.

When selecting your international flights and airline, we do therefore recommend that you try and also take into account the flight CO2 emissions. Some airlines and flight search websites (eg. Google Flights, Skyscanner) do publish this information, so you can compare between your flight options and make an informed decision. Thankfully, many airlines are working towards sustainability efforts, and choosing a greener option allows you to contribute to positive change while still enjoying your incredible adventure.

6 What to take

Luggage: Suitcases, rucksacks or fabric holdalls are all fine to bring with you to Cambodia, though if your itinerary has many stops and different travel included within it, we recommend packing light and not bring any large cases. You should also bring a small daypack/bag to take out during the day. Your main luggage will normally be left in

the hotel during your sightseeing trips - you will not need to carry it far, and there are nearly always hotel porters to assist.

Luggage limits: There is no luggage limit for this tour. However, most airlines restrict you to between 20kg and 25kg for your hold luggage and between 5kg and 10kg for hand luggage. Please check with your airline before travelling to the airport.

Climate and Clothing: The best time to visit and enjoy Cambodia's famous temples, Wat's and pagoda's are during the cooler months of December and January when humidity is low and there is little rainfall. Please be aware that though these areas are more exposed to the elements and the cooler temperatures of this time of year are a blessing they are also the busier tourist months of the year and main sights can be crowded. Though Cambodia can be visited at any time of year it is best to avoided April with its extreme temperatures in the 40's and May, June when the south western monsoon brings rain and high humidity. You may wish to coordinate your trip with one of the annual festivals, such as Bon Om Tuk, a three-day Water Festival, in October or November, marking the changing of the flow of the Tonle Sap River and is also seen as thanksgiving to the Mekong River for providing the country with fertile land and abundant fish or Khmer New Year which usually falls on April 13th or 14th. Take light clothes with something warmer for the winter nights if you are travelling to the north. Some light raingear would be useful in the wet season.

Other items: We recommend you also bring:

- Cool footwear (sandals are ideal). If you are interested in exploring the reefs, a pair of reef shoes is recommended to avoid injuries. If you are trekking, then bring comfortable and sturdy walking shoes or light walking boots.
- Swimming costumes - rash-guards/t-shirts are recommended for snorkelling to avoid sunburn.
- Sunscreens, after sun lotions and personal hygiene products - Please adhere to 100ml restrictions for anything you wish to carry on hand-luggage on flights.
- Prescription medications (if required) - please bring supporting documents.
- Power adapter for phones, laptops etc
- Sunglasses and hats
- Basic first aid kit and toiletries
- Money belt
- Small torch
- Dive certification card and log book if you intend to participate in SCUBA diving.
- Sleeping bag if your tour includes any hill-tribe or village trekking

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7 Booking & Payment

If you would like to book a place on this tour, please complete the online reservation form on our website (via the Dates & Prices tab on the tour page). You may make a deposit or full payment online, or just hold a reservation if you prefer (full payments are due 8 weeks before departure). We will then contact you with more details about how to complete your booking. Payments may be made by debit or credit card (subject to a card processing fee), or by making a bank transfer, or posting us a cheque/bank draft. Full details will be provided in your booking confirmation email. Please contact us if you would like any more information or have any questions before making

a booking.

8 Financial Security

We are a UK registered company and are committed to providing our customers with financial protection to provide peace of mind and to allow you to book with confidence.
We have therefore partnered with Trust My Travel Ltd., which provides financial protection services to over 2000 partners around the world. Funds paid to us by our customers are protected via an Insurance policy held by Trust My Travel. Each traveller and the description of services sold is declared against Trust My Travel's insurance policy directly against our financial failure. In the event of our insolvency, you will be refunded for any unfulfilled products and/or repatriation to the UK (where applicable). Please see our website or booking conditions for more information.

9 Responsible Tourism

It is impossible not to have an impact on the local environment, cultures and eco-systems when you travel. However, it is very possible to try and ensure that these impacts are as limited, or positive as possible. We are committed to ensuring that we try to leave our host countries in a better state than we found them and encourage and assist our travellers to help us with this.
The following are a few simple tips that require very little effort on your part but which will help ensure that any effect you have on the locations you visit is positive rather than negative.

- Don't prejudge: Things in different countries will almost certainly be different. That doesn't make them worse or inferior, just different.
- Communicate: Don't expect locals to speak your language. Take the trouble to learn a few words or phrases of the local language. Don't worry about sounding silly. Most locals are patient and accommodating and appreciate you making the effort to communicate in their language.
- Conserve energy: Be careful not to waste valuable resources. Use local resources sparingly. Switch off lights, air-conditioning and fans when you leave the hotel room and don't waste water. Remove superfluous packaging. Many countries have far less efficient waste disposal systems than ours. Remove packaging from newly acquired items before leaving home.
- Don't litter: No matter how untidy or dirty the country you're travelling in may look to you, avoid littering, as there is no need to add to the environment's stress. Many of the countries we visit have a tough challenge dealing with rubbish and waste. Please consider taking home as much plastic waste as you can (e.g. water bottles).
- Choose environmentally friendly products: By using environmentally friendly (bio degradable) sun creams, shampoos and detergents you can help reduce pollution.
- Respect local customs and traditions: As you are a guest in these countries, you should also comply with the local customs. If you are friendly and well mannered, the locals will reciprocate and it will only enhance your experience. It's important to follow dress and behaviour guidelines especially when visiting religious or sacred sites (your tour leader will advise you how best to do this).

- If a client commits an illegal act the client may be excluded from the tour and Encounters Travel shall cease to have responsibility to/for them. No refund will be given for any unused services.

All porters are employed and equipped following guidelines set by the International Porter Protection Group (IPPG).

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10 Follow Us Online

You can stay in touch with us online by following us on Facebook and Twitter. We post updates on relevant travel news in our destination countries, special offers and discounts and other interesting travel related news and information.

www.facebook.com/encounterstravel

https://x.com/encounterstravl (yes, without the 'e')

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11 Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is compulsory on all of our tours and needs to cover personal accident & liability, medical expenses and repatriation, travel delay & abandonment. We also strongly recommend that you take out cover against cancellation and lost/stolen baggage. Personal medical insurance does not normally provide sufficient cover and is generally not suitable for travel on our tours. You will not be able to join your tour if you have not provided us with details of your insurance or if you arrive without cover in place (no refunds will be due in this event).

Considering travel insurance for your trip? World Nomads Travel Insurance offers coverage for more than 150 adventure activities as well as emergency medical, lost luggage, trip cancellation and more.

If your tour includes car hire, or if you plan to arrange a hot air balloon flight locally or do some scuba diving during your tour, you should check the small print in your policy to make sure these are covered (these are covered in our policy). Please also check the maximum altitude that you will be reaching and that full cover including emergency evacuation is provided up to this altitude.

If you are taking expensive camera gear or other electronic equipment with you then please check the coverage and the fine print of your policy to ensure that you have sufficient cover.

IMPORTANT: We must have your travel insurance details (policy number and type of insurance) before you depart or you may not be allowed to join the tour. If you haven't told us already, please let us know the details when you can. You should take a paper copy of your insurance policy with you as you may be asked to show this at the start of the tour.

Covid-19

Before purchasing any travel insurance, please check the coverage provided for situations related to Covid-19, and for the rules about government travel advice. Your normal policy may not be suitable.

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12 Before you travel

It is important when considering and preparing to travel anywhere in the world that you have a good understanding of the country you are visiting, its laws and customs, and the possible risks and situations that may occur. This

includes specific risks related to your itinerary (eg. does it involve water & can you swim, are you fit enough for the activities included), as well as more general risks such as terrorism and natural disasters.

General details and links to more information about health risks, visa requirements, money, and travel insurance are given in these tour notes. We recommend that you re-read all these before your departure as well as the small print of your travel insurance policy so you know exactly what is covered and what is not.

You should take copies of your important travel documents with you and ideally also store them online securely as a backup. Make sure that you have given us your emergency contact details and told that person where and when you are travelling. Ensure you take enough money with you and that you have access to emergency funds.

Finally, you should read through and stay updated with the current official government travel advice for your destination. We are registered partners with the UK Foreign Office's 'Travel Aware' campaign which provides further useful and invaluable information.

travel aware
gov.uk/travelaware

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13 **Reduce Plastic Waste with Water-to-Go Filter bottles**

Traveling responsibly means minimizing plastic waste, but staying hydrated on the go is essential. At Encounters Travel we are committed to reducing single-use plastics, which is why we've partnered with Water-to-Go. Their portable filtration system removes over 99.9% of contaminants from any non-saltwater source, turning even questionable water sources into safe drinking water.

Given that tap water is un-safe to drink in many of the countries in which we operate, we recommend purchasing a Water-to-Go bottle prior to departure. This will help you avoid the use of single use plastic bottles and keep you hydrated on the go.

Save big! Get a huge 25% off your Water-to-Go bottle and other Water-to-Go products (such as filters, lids, and carriers). Use code **ENCOUNTERS25** at checkout (valid in the UK, USA and Canada).

How Water-to-Go Technology works:

- Their reusable, BPA free water bottles contain their own unique 3-in-1 filtration technology effectively providing clean safe drinking water from any non-salt water source around the world.
- Three different (1 traditional and 2 nano) technologies are combined in one filter cartridge to remove up to 99.9999% of microbiological contaminants in water.

The three technologies used in a Water-to-Go filter are:

- Mechanical filtration – A tiny pore size, so small contaminants can’t fit through.
- Electrical – A positive charge reduces the pore size even further and attracts contaminants like a magnet, trapping them inside the filter.
- Activated Carbon – Unlike most carbon based filters, instead of using adhesives to glue the carbon particles together, (which vastly reduces the carbon’s efficiency) it is contained within the membrane, helping to

reduce contaminants whilst eliminating bad tastes and odours. Try filtering water from your tap at home and taste the difference!

Water-to-Go filter bottles deliver safe, healthy water worldwide

- Water-to-Go filters remove bacteria, viruses, waterborne disease, protozoa, heavy metals such as lead as well as harmful chemicals.
- Their filters remove Chlorine and Fluoride from tap water.
- The filter will eliminate harmful contaminants from the water but allow beneficial minerals such as sodium and magnesium to pass through leaving you with the healthiest water possible.
- Water-to-Go filters have been independently tested against internationally recognised standards by industry specialists including The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (UK), BCS Laboratories (USA), Bangalore Test House (India) and IMI (China).

Use Water-to-Go products and you'll be healthier, wealthier and helping to make the world a better place!

- Depending on filter size, each Water-to-Go filter is able to replace 260 or 400 single-use plastic water bottles!
- They ensure you have access to safe water anywhere in the world without ever having to buy environmentally damaging bottled water.
- Their water bottles deliver safe, clean drinking water at just 5p per litre.
- The filter membrane is biodegradable and the shrouds are recyclable.
- The water bottles are used and approved by everyone from backpackers to commuters, gym users to expecting mums. Perfect for everyday, outdoor and travel.

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14 Private & Tailor-made Tours

While our group departures offer a fantastic way to explore with like-minded travellers, we understand that some guests prefer a more exclusive experience. Most of our group tours can be booked on a private basis, allowing you to enjoy the same expert-led routes with your own dedicated party. The primary advantage of choosing a private arrangement is the flexibility it provides; we can easily customise the itinerary to include your preferred style of accommodation or adjust the pace to suit your needs. Private tours can be run on the same start days as our group tours, or on other dates. However, some activities within our trips are restricted to particular days of the week - we will advise you on anything like this that we need to work around. Pricing will be based on the number of travellers in your party, and any customisations you may like to make.

For those seeking something truly unique, our specialist sales team is available to collaborate with you on a completely tailor-made tour, designed from the ground up to match your specific interests, accommodation level and requirements.

To request a quotation for a private or tailor-made tour, please contact us.

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15 Transfers

Our South East Asia tours all include a 24-hour arrival and departure airport-hotel transfer service, and all other transfers throughout the tour. If you are already in the country then we will provide you with your first hotel details, contact numbers for our local representatives, and details of your first meeting time.

16 Entrance Fees

The tour price includes entrance fees to all the tourist sites mentioned in the itinerary. You will need to cover the cost of entrance to any other extra sites that you may wish to visit.

17 Tipping

Tipping is not part of culture in South East Asia in the same way that it is standard practice in other parts of the world. However it has become more customary but not compulsory in the tourist and service industry. Tipping is always optional, and any amounts paid should reflect excellent service. You may therefore wish to tip your guide and driver at the end of the tour. You should not feel obliged to tip any particular amount, and should consider your personal budget. We are often asked to provide a guide however, and can suggest that approx. USD 5-10 per person per day would be appropriate for your guide(s).

18 Health and Vaccinations

You should ensure you are fully insured for medical emergencies including emergency evacuation and repatriation.

Recommended vaccinations and other health protection measures vary according to the country you are visiting and where you are travelling from. We recommend you contact your GP/medical practitioner or a travel clinic for current information on vaccinations needed for your destination. You should ensure that you are up to date with vaccines and boosters recommended for your normal life at home, including for example, vaccines required for occupational risk of exposure, lifestyle risks and underlying medical conditions. In addition, additional courses or boosters normally recommended for the countries in this region are:

Thailand: Additional vaccinations: Hepatitis A, Tetanus. Malaria map. Yellow Fever certificate: Required if arriving from or having transitted through an infected area.
Vietnam: Additional vaccinations: Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid. Malaria map. Yellow Fever certificate: Required if arriving from an infected area.
Cambodia: Additional vaccinations: Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid. Malaria map. Yellow Fever certificate: Required if arriving from or having transitted through an infected area.
Laos: Additional vaccinations: Diptheria, Poliomyelitis, Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid. Malaria map. Yellow Fever certificate: Required if arriving from an infected area.

The above information can change at short notice. For up to date health information & vaccination requirements we recommend that you contact your medical practitioner or a travel clinic.

Malaria: Vaccinations are not available against Malaria, which is a disease transmitted by mosquitoes that can be very serious and sometimes fatal. You should avoid mosquito bites by covering up bare skin with clothing such as

long sleeves and long trousers and applying insect repellents to exposed skin. When necessary, sleep under a mosquito net. Mosquitoes are most active during and after sunset. You should consult with your GP/medical practitioner/travel clinic about the most appropriate malaria prophylactic medication to take for the regions you are visiting.

Yellow Fever: This disease is spread by infected mosquitoes that bite during the day. A Yellow Fever Certificate of vacinnation may be required as a condition of entry depending on which country you are arriving from, or that you have travelled or transitted through recently (including connecting flights with stopovers of over 12 hours). You can view this US CDC information about where the virus is present and follow the links to further information detailing which countries need you to have a Yellow Fever vaccination as part of their entry requirements. Please ensure you have this certificate with you and to hand if necessary.

Please inform us of any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or asthma and any prescription medicine you may be taking. We also need to know about any food allergies or physical disabilities that you may have.

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19 Voltage

Sockets are two round or flat pronged and 220 volts (Type A, B, C). Universal adaptors are available in most airport shops if you don't have one already. Standard European adapters will work fine, though sometimes they may feel a little loose in the sockets. All hotel rooms have electrical sockets where you can re-charge cameras, phones etc. Hair dryers are normally available on request from the hotel reception if not in your room already.
If you have US appliances (110 volts) you will need a voltage converter as well as a plug adapter.

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20 Time

The time in Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos is GMT plus 7 hours. Daylight saving adjustments are not observed.

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21 Money - Cambodia

The Cambodia currency is the 'Riel' (KHR). US$ are widely accepted in the country and more or less work as a second currency. Because of its location so close to Thailand, you will find that Thai baht is also accepted in most places. Bear in mind that if paying in US$ or Thai baht, your change will be given back in riels.

It's also possible to change Thai baht or US$ with local private moneychangers, at some shops and markets or as usual, any banks that you may come across. These banks will also change most other currencies such as Sterling, Euros etc. The banks tend to open from 7.30am to 2.30pm.

If you have travellers cheques in major currencies then the banks will accept these although it is likely that a commission will be charged.

In Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, banks and even some travel agents will allow you to draw cash against most major credit cards but you can expect a surcharge of around 3-4%. These days, more and more shops, restaurants and hotels in the major tourist destinations will accept payment with credit cards. Until recently, Cambodia had no ATM's whatsoever but this is changing fast and it's now possible to withdraw money from ATM's located in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap. Most credit cards and some debit cards are accepted but its best not to rely on this as a way

of accessing your funds while in the country.

22 Passports and Visas - Cambodia

Passports should be valid for at least six months after your departure from the country. Please do not bring an almost full or almost expired passport. Visa arrangements are the responsibility of the traveller, and requirements are subject to change by the local authorities.

Many nationalities (including British, EU, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand amoungst many others) can obtain a 30-day tourist visa on arrival in Phnom Penh or Siem Reap Airport (and some land borders). At the time of publishing the visa fee is $30.00. You'll need to make sure you have a passport sizes photograph for the visa. If you are arriving via Phnom Penh or Siem Reap Airports then you can obtain an e-visa prior to arrival at - www.evisa.gov.kh/ (these are not accepted at land borders).

As visa regulations often change we recommend that you check this information with your nearest consulate. Obtaining the correct visa is the responsibliity of the traveller.