



Travel *Cambodia*

— PROUDLY BRISBANE OWNED & OPERATED

10 Nights – 11 Days

Explore.
Connect.
Give back.

2027 ITINERARY



Travel Cambodia

We are so glad you are joining us for the trip of a lifetime.

This trip is a bit of everything: ancient wonders, sunset views and getting your hands dirty building something that truly matters.

From the majestic wonder of Angkor Wat to the first drop of water from a new well, you are here to see the sights make a difference and leave a piece of your heart behind.

We have carefully composed the first two days of your trip to be much more than just "sightseeing." By immersing you in the history and culture of the Khmer (pronounced Kmi) people from the very start, we want to provide the essential context you will need to truly appreciate Cambodia, its people and in particular, village life.

We believe that the more you understand the heart of Cambodia, the more meaningful every interaction and story will become once we begin our journey to the villages.

"You can thank us later!"





DAY 1

Arrival

- Arrive Siem Reap International Airport
- As you exit the terminal, you will be greeted by Deb and the crew and driven to your accommodation in a private air-conditioned mini-bus. (The airport has now moved, and as such, unfortunately, Tuk Tuks are not safe to use given the drive is one hour from Siem Reap on a national highway. Yes, many Tuk Tuk drivers have lost their income. Don't despair we have the rest of the trip (apart from one day) in Tuk Tuks where you can have the wind in your hair and hear, feel and smell Cambodia! Check-in is at 2.00 PM as such until then, we will spend some time chatting over a cold drink and perhaps a swim before we head on out for lunch.
- Today is about immersing you in the culture of Cambodia in preparation for Angkor Wat on Day 2.
- After lunch and once check-in is completed, we travel via traditional Tuk Tuks (with our own trusted drivers) to a 12th-century Pagoda where we will find ourselves guests of Buddhist monks. We will take part (if you choose to) in an ancient Cambodian Buddhist Water Blessing ritual designed to cleanse bad luck, promote good health and bring good fortune to your trip. Monks chant in Pali while pouring holy water, often infused with jasmine or lotus, over willing participants to symbolise purification of body, speech and mind. NOTE: you can opt for water sprinkles instead.
- The ceremony ends with a monk tying a red string around your wrist to symbolise the blessing. This blessing is all about deepening your connection to the Cambodian culture and encourages a sense of presence and gratitude before your journey begins in full. We then make our way back to our accommodation and relax before heading out for cocktails and then on to the Apsara Theatre for dinner and Apsara show (Khmer, Western and Vegetarian Cuisine)

What's included? Airport pick-up, Tuk Tuk travel, water blessing, Apsara show and dinner.



Angkor Wat

- Today we continue with our immersion into Cambodian culture and history. Angkor Wat is the world's largest religious monument. The Angkor Archaeological Park actually spans 400 square kilometres! The Angkor Wat complex itself covers 162.6 hectares. Angkor means "city" and "Wat" refers to the temple grounds, pagoda and surrounding monastery complex. Remember, a strict dress code applies, and a hat is a MUST.
- After breakfast, we leave our accommodation and head out to Angkor Wat. Our private Tuk Tuk drivers take us on a sometimes bumpy drive along gorgeous tree-lined roads.
- We will also visit Ta Phrom (Tomb Raider movie fame) and finish at Bayon Temple
- Generally, this temple tour takes around 3.5 to 4 hours, and as we make our way back to our accommodation, we will stop for lunch on the way.
- There will be some free time for a swim in the afternoon.
- In the late afternoon/early evening, we wander down to the river to "dine under the stars".
- After dinner, we slowly make our way back to our accommodation via the old market, shops, foot massages, drinks and whatever else falls our way.

What's included? Angkor Wat, Ta Phrom and Bayon Temple ticket, Tuk Tuk travel





DAY 3

A LOO 4 A POO

- Today is your first day on the build project "A LOO 4 A POO".
- We start the day with a visit to the local market to buy ingredients for lunch. Cooking lunch is always a shared occasion between Rhett (a member of the WaterWorks crew), village ladies and us.
- On the way to the project, keep a keen eye on your surroundings as you will see Cambodians going about their daily life, buffalo, cows and often monks undertaking their early morning walk to receive gifts of food for the day and passing on prayers in thanks. The day will be spent digging holes/trenches for concrete toilet drains and helping with the water well (or you can sit & enjoy the hustle and bustle)
- A day on our project site is never the same. This will be a long day, and we'll provide morning tea and lunch.
- Children normally turn up out of nowhere, and playtime is a lot of fun (colouring pencils, books and balls are provided).
- There is no set time for when we leave the build site.
- Dinner is at the wonderful restaurant at our accommodation.
- At 6.45 PM, we travel via Tuk Tuk to experience the world-famous Phare (Human) Circus

What's included? Tuk Tuk travel, morning tea, lunch, colouring books, balls, pencils, building materials, builder fee and Phare Circus ticket



DAY 4

Water Well Magic & Village School Visit

- Our day starts with a short walk to a fabulous restaurant for breakfast.
- From there, we make our way back out to the project site via Tuk Tuk.
- Lunch will be provided, and cooking lunch will be a joint effort.
- Don't wait to be asked to join in cooking lunch and building; just pitch in when and where you feel the need
- Today is also the first day of the water well installation. Try your hand at jetting water down a pipe to around 18 metres to tap into the groundwater. "Be prepared to get wet".
- During the afternoon, we will visit a local village school where the children learn English for free.
- Early evening, we travel by Tuk Tuk to 60 Road for dinner. 60 Road is a local roadside buy, swap and sell market with a fair-ground and pop-up restaurants.

What's included? Tuk Tuk travel, lunch, Well and builder fee





DAY 5

Handover

- Tuk Tuk pickup to spend our final day at the project.
- Ensure you have a hearty breakfast, as lunch may be late today.
- A LOO 4 A POO doubles as a washroom/change-room; as such, we will stop at the local markets along the way to buy a few gifts for the family. For example: big wash bowls, soap, detergent and anything else they may need for their toilet and water well. We will also purchase ingredients for lunch.
- Handover includes the laying of the WaterWorks CAMBODIA plaque and a short speech to give thanks (AWKUN) to the family for allowing us to build them A LOO 4 A POO, WATER WELL and for their hospitality. We will also offer them good luck money to place in the corner of the toilet.
- No project handover is ever complete without loud music and an opportunity for the locals to teach you a few dance moves
- Dinner will be at a local restaurant.

What's included? Tuk Tuk travel, Lunch, gifts for the family



Lotus Silk Farm & Sunset Cruising

- This morning starts with a short Tuk Tuk ride to the Lotus Silk Farm.
- On our guided tour, we discover the art of centuries-old silk production and learn how the sacred lotus flower is transformed into stunning textiles using ancient Cambodian techniques.
- You will be able to indulge in lotus tea, lotus biscuits and even lotus ice cream.
- We are then taken on a ride to a lotus lake where we enjoy a scenic boat ride along tranquil waterways by the breathtaking lotus fields. We will be there in dry season, lots of lotus but not a sea of pink as in the wet season. Still very beautiful.
- This experience is located in a very poor area of Siem Reap. The Lotus Silk farm has opened up many employment opportunities for the local families.
- This excursion is about supporting the community as much as it is having fun wearing silly lotus hats.
- Lunch is back in Siem Reap and the afternoon is free time to relax, visit the museum or wander the back streets of Siem Reap, where you will find hidden shops, cafes and relaxing river spots.
- Late afternoon, we travel to Tonlé Sap for a Sunset Cruise.
- Our cruise will take us along the waters of Tonlé Sap, the largest freshwater lake in SE Asia. It is unique as its volume changes from 2,700 square kilometres in the dry season to 16,000 square kilometres during the rainy season, and once a year it flows backwards!!
- There are over 100 floating villages on Tonlé Sap. The water level will be quite low when we visit; however, you will be able to see just how high the water levels rise by the height of the stilt houses. There is even a floating school, police station and shop.
- We finish the day with a fabulous dinner at a restaurant in the Wat Bo District.

What's included? Tuk Tuk travel, Lotus Silk Farm ticket, sunset cruise

Note: If you wish to have a drink on the cruise, you will need to purchase before leaving our accommodation.





DAY 7

Kulen Mountain Magic

- After breakfast, we travel by private air-conditioned minibus to Kulen Mountain.
- Kulen Mountain is 50 KMS from Siem Reap, and it's the birthplace of Cambodia's Independence & the Khmer Empire in the 11th century.
- Kulen Mountain is a very sacred site with a giant reclining Buddha (carved into the mountain rocks) and the river of 1,000 lingas (penis). The linga carvings are believed to date back to the 9th century.
- The 16th-century giant reclining Buddha is inside the grounds of a Buddhist Monastery and is the biggest of its kind in Cambodia (8 metres in length).
- The views of the mountain range and the deep Cambodian jungle are breathtaking.
- There will be an opportunity to cool down with a swim in the natural water pools (depending on water levels)
- A picnic lunch will be provided
- Our trusted Tuk Tuk drivers also join us as guests on this trip.
- We don't have a departure time; we leave when we are ready (most people never want to leave).
- Dinner will be at one of our favourite local restaurants.

What's included? Mini bus travel, entry ticket to Kulen Mountain, picnic lunch



APOPO & West Baray

- Our morning begins with a wander to a local restaurant for breakfast.
- After breakfast, our trusted Tuk Tuk drivers will collect us for a short trip to Apopo.
- This is an amazing experience and includes a small landmine museum.
- Thanks to Apopo, the village surroundings are free from landmines.
- Lunch will be at a local restaurant in Wat Bo district, and from there we wander down the road to the oldest working monastery in Cambodia, Wat Bo monastery, for a guided tour.
- After the tour, we make our way along the riverside to our accommodation.
- Later that evening, we say thank you to our Tuk Tuk drivers by spending the sunset with them at a local swimming spot (with palm leaf huts on stilts) called "West Baray".
- West Baray was constructed during the Khmer Empire period and is the largest hand-cut water reservoir on earth. It is 8KM long by 2.0KM wide
- There is a small island in the middle which houses a temple. Long trousers are recommended, as is mosquito repellent. We may even take a boat ride out to view the temple island (depending on availability).
- Dinner will be at West Baray; however, some of you may prefer to wait until we return to the accommodation, as it is targeted to Khmer. Bring your swimmers, shorts etc.
- Once we leave West Baray, we will head back to our accommodation to change and then head out for more night time exploring, 75-cent beers and more.

What's included? Tuk Tuk travel, Apopo ticket, West Baray

Optional extra: Guided tour of Wat Bo monastery with a local guide, US\$10 per person (not included in the tour price).





DAY 9

Free Day

- Today is yours to spend as you wish. Sleep in, relax by the pool, have a massage, shop or wander the back streets of Siem Reap.
- Or hang out with Deb and join her for whatever she's up to that day.
- Optional activities, such as a buggy tour or a visit to the museum, can be arranged at your own cost.
- We meet again for dinner together.

What's included? Nothing today. It's your free day, so meals and any activities you choose are at your own cost.

Slow down, soak it up and enjoy Siem Reap at your own pace.



Trailer Ride & Rice Paddies

- 8.30 AM departure via Tuk Tuk to visit families and check on water wells in a different village from the project build.
- We may even spend a short time learning how to weave a basket and plant a tree or two.
- On the outskirts of this village lies an old temple ruin that tourists are not given access to (except us). It is a small, dilapidated temple. It was originally built in the 11th century (in the shape of a boat) and is part of the Angkor Wat Archaeological Park.
- Our transport to this site is via a traditional (but modern) Khmer trailer.
- After the temple visit we will stop for morning tea (provided) and then travel via Tuk Tuk to our next village to meet and greet with families, introduce you to the village chief and cook lunch with the families.
- After lunch we will be guided by one of the village ladies to view the rice paddies and the dry canal that supports Angkor Wat in the rainy season.
- Canals around Siem Reap were built during the construction of Angkor Wat in the 11th century, and then they were expanded during the time of the Khmer Rouge.
- We also deliver 10KGS of rice to each sponsored family.
- At no set time we make our way back to our accommodation to relax.
- Our last dinner together blends huts, hammocks and fine dining in a magical setting 20-30 minutes via Tuk Tuk from our accommodation.

What's included? Tuk Tuk travel, 10KGS of rice for each sponsored family, morning tea, basket weaving, trailer trip, temple visit, lunch, guided walk





DAY 11

Goodbyes

- Today we say goodbye (LEAHAEY)
- Enjoy a slow last morning. Take one more swim, sit with a coffee by the pool, or wander out for any last-minute souvenirs.
- It's a good time to swap photos and contact details with your fellow travellers. Many of us leave as strangers and go home as friends.
- We can swim and relax at our accommodation until we are picked up and driven to the airport in our air-conditioned mini-bus.
- Deb and the crew will see you off. Don't forget to say Arkoun (thank you) one last time.

What's included? Airport Drop off

Cambodia is a destination where things can change quickly. When this happens, we need to "go with the flow" and adapt. As such our itinerary is subject to change at short notice. The days may switch around as the "to-do list" expands and changes.

But that's what we love about Cambodia: it is raw, it is living, and it is the Kingdom of Wonder.

You came to explore. You made connections. You gave back. Now go home and tell everyone about it.





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PROUDLY BRISBANE OWNED & OPERATED

Travel *deeper*. Connect with the culture.
Meet the locals.

Thank you for choosing to travel with us. Every traveller who books with Travel Cambodia helps fund clean water, filters and toilets for rural families through WaterWorks Cambodia.

Leahaey for now. We hope to see you back in the Kingdom of Wonder.

A handwritten signature in yellow ink, appearing to read 'Zoe B'.

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