

11 Days | Cultural Experiences In Cambodia

Overview:

Embark on an unforgettable journey with our 10 Nights and 11 Days Tour, where adventure meets relaxation in a perfect blend of exploration and cultural immersion. This meticulously crafted itinerary takes you through breathtaking landscapes, vibrant cities, and hidden gems, allowing you to experience the rich heritage and diverse beauty of the region. From stunning natural wonders to historical landmarks, each day promises new discoveries and memorable moments. Join us for an enriching experience that will leave you with lasting memories and a deeper appreciation for the world around you. Your adventure awaits!

Day 1: Arrival in Siem Reap

- Arrival: Upon your arrival at Siem Reap Angkor Airport, our friendly guide will be waiting to greet you and your group.
- Transfer to Hotel: Enjoy a comfortable transfer to your hotel, where you will check in and settle into your accommodations.
- Relaxation: Take the rest of the day to relax and unwind after your journey. Explore the hotel amenities or enjoy a leisurely stroll around the area.

Day 2: Sunrise at Angkor Wat

- Early Morning Pickup: At 4:30 AM, your guide will pick you up from your hotel.
- Sunrise at Angkor Wat: Experience the breathtaking sunrise over the iconic Angkor Wat temple. Capture stunning photographs as the first light of day illuminates this ancient wonder. Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world, is a breathtaking sight, especially at sunrise. As dawn breaks, the temple's silhouette emerges against the vibrant hues of the sky, creating a stunning backdrop reflected in the surrounding moat. Visitors gather in anticipation, cameras in hand, to capture the moment when the first rays of sunlight illuminate the intricate carvings and towering spires of this ancient Khmer masterpiece. The serene atmosphere, coupled with the soft sounds of nature awakening, makes the sunrise at Angkor Wat a truly magical experience, evoking a sense of wonder and reverence for the rich history and culture of Cambodia.
- Breakfast: After the sunrise, return to your hotel for a hearty breakfast to fuel your day.

After Your delicious breakfast, continue to visit:

- Angkor Thom South Gate: Continue your exploration with a visit to the majestic South Gate of Angkor Thom, adorned with impressive stone carvings. Angkor Thom South Gate is a remarkable entrance to the ancient city of Angkor Thom, located in Cambodia. Built in the late 12th century during the reign of King Jayavarman VII, this monumental gateway is adorned with intricate stone carvings and towering statues that depict a celestial battle between gods and demons. The South Gate serves as a striking symbol of the Khmer Empire's architectural prowess and spiritual beliefs, welcoming visitors into a realm rich with history and cultural significance. Its impressive structure and artistic details make it a must-see landmark for anyone exploring the wonders of Angkor.
- Bayon Temple: Discover the enigmatic Bayon Temple, famous for its numerous serene and smiling stone faces. Bayon Temple, located in the heart of Angkor Thom, is a breathtaking masterpiece of the Khmer Empire, built in the late 12th to early 13th century under King Jayavarman VII. Renowned for its distinctive architecture, Bayon features 54 towers adorned with serene stone faces believed to represent Avalokiteshvara, the Bodhisattva of compassion. The temple's intricate bas-reliefs depict historical events and daily life, offering a glimpse into the rich culture of the time. As one of the most iconic sites in the Angkor complex, Bayon stands as a testament to the artistic brilliance of the Khmer Empire, captivating visitors with its beauty and historical significance.
- Ta Prohm Jungle Temple: Conclude your temple visits at Ta Prohm, where nature intertwines with ancient architecture, famously featured in the movie "Tomb Raider." Ta Prohm, located in Cambodia's Angkor archaeological park, is a captivating temple built in the late 12th and early 13th centuries under King Jayavarman VII.

Famous for its stunning fusion of nature and architecture, massive trees and roots intertwine with the temple's ruins, creating a dramatic and picturesque landscape. Originally a monastery dedicated to the Buddha, Ta Prohm features intricate carvings and bas-reliefs depicting deities and mythological scenes. Preserved in a state that reflects its discovery, the temple symbolizes the powerful relationship between humanity and nature, making it a must-visit site for tourists and photographers alike.

- Return to Hotel: After a full day of exploration, return to your hotel to relax and enjoy the evening at your leisure.

Day 3: Temples Immersion & Tonle Sap Great Lake

- Morning Pickup: At 8:30 AM, your guide will pick you up from your hotel to explore and visit:

- Prasat Banteay Srei: Visit the exquisite Banteay Srei temple, known for its intricate carvings and pink sandstone. Banteay Srei, the "Citadel of Women," is a stunning 10th-century temple located 37 kilometers north of Siem Reap, Cambodia. Renowned for its exquisite pink sandstone and intricate carvings, it is a masterpiece of Khmer art dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva. Built during King Rajendravarmā II's reign, the temple features detailed reliefs of Hindu deities and mythological scenes. Its smaller scale and intimate atmosphere, along with its remarkable preservation, make Banteay Srei a cherished jewel of Khmer architecture.

Prasat Beng Mealea: Next, explore the lesser-known Beng Mealea temple, a hidden gem engulfed by jungle. Beng Mealea is a captivating temple located about 60 kilometers east of Angkor Wat in Cambodia. Built in the early 12th century during the reign of King Suryavarman II, this sprawling temple complex is a stunning example of classical Khmer architecture, yet it remains largely overgrown and in a state of natural decay, which adds to its mystical charm. Unlike the more restored Angkor Wat, Beng Mealea is often less crowded, allowing visitors to explore its crumbling walls, intricate carvings, and lush jungle surroundings at a leisurely pace. The temple's design features a series of galleries, courtyards, and towers, all intertwined with trees and vines, creating a breathtaking fusion of man-made and natural beauty. Beng Mealea offers a glimpse into the grandeur of the Khmer Empire while inviting adventurers to discover its hidden treasures amidst the ruins.

- Kompong Khleang Fishing Community: Continue your journey to the Kompong Khleang. Kompong Khleang is a captivating fishing village located on the shores of Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia. Renowned for its stunning stilted houses that rise dramatically during the monsoon season, the village offers a unique glimpse into traditional Khmer life. With a population of around 10,000, it thrives on fishing and aquaculture, showcasing vibrant local culture and community spirit. Visitors can explore the serene waterways, witness the daily routines of fishermen, and enjoy breathtaking sunsets over the lake, making it a remarkable destination for those seeking an authentic Cambodian experience.

Tonle Sap Great Lake is Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake, located in central Cambodia. It supports a rich biodiversity and provides livelihoods for millions through fishing and aquaculture. The lake experiences significant seasonal fluctuations, expanding during the monsoon and shrinking in the dry season. Home to floating villages and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, Tonle Sap showcases stunning natural beauty and a unique cultural heritage, reflecting the deep connection between its communities and the environment.

- Return to Hotel: After a day filled with cultural experiences, return to your hotel to relax and unwind.

Day 4: Phnom Kulen and Koh Ker Tours

- Morning Pickup: At 9.00 AM, check out from your hotel and meet your guide then head out to visit:

- Phnom Kulen National Park: known for its beautiful waterfalls and historical significance.

Phnom Kulen, located in Cambodia, is a sacred mountain and historical site renowned for its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty.

It is considered the birthplace of the Khmer Empire, where King Jayavarman II declared independence from Java in the 9th century. The site features stunning waterfalls, ancient temples, and the famous River of a Thousand Lingas, where intricate carvings in the riverbed symbolize fertility and prosperity. Visitors can explore the remnants of ancient structures, including the 16th-century Wat Preah Ang Thom, which houses a large reclining Buddha. Phnom Kulen is not only a spiritual destination but also a picturesque retreat, attracting both pilgrims and tourists alike.

- Koh Ker Temples: Continue to the Koh Ker temple complex, a fascinating archaeological site with impressive ruins. The Koh Ker temple complex, located in northern Cambodia, is a stunning archaeological site that served as the capital of the Khmer Empire during the 10th century. Known for its unique architectural style, the site features over 180 temples, with the most notable being the towering Prasat Thom, a seven-tiered pyramid that rises majestically above the surrounding jungle. Koh Ker is celebrated for its intricate carvings and the blend of Hindu and Buddhist influences, offering a fascinating glimpse into the rich cultural heritage of the Khmer civilization. This lesser-known gem is a testament to the ingenuity and artistry of its builders, making it a captivating destination for history enthusiasts and adventurers alike.

- Lunch Break: Enjoy a leisurely lunch at a local restaurant, sampling traditional Cambodian cuisine.

- SraEm small town: After lunch, journey to the stunning Preah Vihear Temple. Arriving at the small town of SraEm, check in to your hotel, and take some time to relax.

Day 5: Prasat Preah Vihear and Sambor Preikuk

- Morning Pickup: At 7:30 AM, To visit:

Prasat Preah Vihear is an extraordinary Hindu temple complex situated atop a 525-meter cliff in the Dângrêk Mountains of Cambodia, near the border with Thailand. Constructed during the first half of the 11th century under the reign of King Suryavarman I, the temple is dedicated to the god Shiva and exemplifies the architectural brilliance of the Khmer Empire.

The site is renowned for its stunning layout, which follows a north-south axis and consists of a series of sanctuaries linked by a system of pavements and staircases. Each level features intricate carvings and sculptures that reflect the artistic mastery of the Khmer builders. The temple complex not only offers breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding landscape but also serves as a testament to the spiritual and cultural significance of Hinduism in the region.

Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2008, Prasat Preah Vihear has been a focal point of historical and territorial disputes, particularly between Cambodia and Thailand. Despite this, it remains a symbol of national pride and a vital part of Cambodia's rich cultural heritage, attracting visitors who seek to explore its historical depth and architectural beauty.

- Return to Hotel: After exploring the temple, return to your hotel for your refreshment and check out, continue to visit:

Sambor Prei Kuk, located in Cambodia's Kampong Thom Province, is an extraordinary archaeological site that dates back to the 7th century, serving as the capital of the Chenla Kingdom. This site is distinguished by its impressive collection of pre-Angkorian temples, which reflect the early development of Khmer architecture and culture.

Among the more than 100 temples, the most notable include Prasat Sambor, characterized by its intricate sandstone carvings and unique brick construction, and Prasat Tor, which features a distinctive design that highlights the artistry of the era. The temples are adorned with elaborate bas-reliefs depicting various deities and mythological scenes, offering a glimpse into the spiritual life of the time.

Sambor Prei Kuk was officially recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2017, underscoring its historical significance and the need for preservation.

The site not only provides valuable insights into the early Khmer civilization but also illustrates the transition from Hinduism to Buddhism in the region. Today, Sambor Prei Kuk stands as a testament to Cambodia's rich cultural heritage, attracting historians, archaeologists, and travelers eager to explore its ancient wonders.

- Check-in at Kompong Thom City: Arrive in Kompong Thom City, check in to your hotel, and enjoy your stay while relaxing.

Day 6: Phnom Santuk and Phnom Penh

- Morning Pickup: At 8:30 AM, check out from your hotel and meet your guide, to visit:

- Phnom Santuk Historical Site: Visit the historical site of Phnom Santuk, where you can climb to the top for panoramic views and explore the ancient temples. Phnom Santuk, located in Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia, is a significant historical and cultural site known for its stunning hilltop temple complex and ancient rock carvings. Rising 634 meters above the surrounding landscape, the site features a series of pagodas and shrines, including the prominent Wat Santuk, which dates back to the 7th century. Visitors can explore the impressive stone carvings of Buddhist figures and inscriptions that reflect the region's rich spiritual heritage. With its breathtaking views and historical significance, Phnom Santuk serves as a vital link to Cambodia's past, attracting both pilgrims and tourists seeking to experience its serene beauty and cultural depth.

- Travel to Phnom Penh: Continue your journey to the capital city, Phnom Penh. Stop by the Skun!

The Skun Giant Spider Market, located in Skun, Cambodia, is a unique and intriguing destination for adventurous food lovers and curious travelers. Known for its unusual delicacies, the market specializes in fried tarantulas, which are a local delicacy. Vendors prepare these giant spiders by frying them until crispy, often seasoning them with garlic and salt to enhance their flavor.

Visitors to the market can witness the bustling atmosphere as locals and tourists alike sample the crunchy arachnids, which are said to have a taste reminiscent of crab or shrimp. The market not only offers spiders but also a variety of other

exotic snacks, including insects like crickets and silk worms. The Skun Giant Spider Market has become a cultural landmark, showcasing Cambodia's unique culinary traditions and the resourcefulness of its people. For those willing to step outside their culinary comfort zone, it provides a memorable experience and a taste of local life.

- Check-in at Hotel: Upon arrival, check in to your hotel and take some time to relax and enjoy the amenities.

Day 7: Exploring Phnom Penh

- Morning Pickup: At 8:00 AM, your guide will pick you up for a day of exploration.

The Royal Palace in Phnom Penh is the official residence of the King of Cambodia, built in the 1860s during King Norodom's reign. This stunning complex features a blend of traditional Khmer and French colonial architecture, highlighted by the Silver Pagoda, which houses precious artifacts, including a gold Buddha adorned with diamonds. Surrounded by beautifully landscaped gardens, the palace serves as a symbol of the Cambodian monarchy and cultural heritage. While it remains an active royal residence, parts of the palace are open to the public, making it a significant tourist attraction and a representation of Cambodia's rich history.

The National Museum of Cambodia, located in Phnom Penh, is the country's largest museum dedicated to preserving and showcasing Khmer art and cultural heritage. Opened in 1920, the museum features a stunning collection of over 14,000 artifacts, including sculptures, ceramics, and ethnographic items, primarily from the Angkor period. The museum's architecture is inspired by traditional Khmer design, with a beautiful courtyard and gardens that enhance its serene atmosphere. Visitors can explore exhibits that highlight Cambodia's rich history, art, and culture, making it a vital destination for those interested in understanding the country's heritage.

The National Museum serves as an important resource for both locals and tourists, promoting appreciation for Cambodia's artistic legacy.

S-21, or Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, is a former high school in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, that was transformed into a notorious prison and interrogation center by the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975 to 1979. During this period, an estimated 20,000 people were tortured and executed there, making it a symbol of the Cambodian genocide, which claimed around 1.7 million lives.

The site features preserved cells, torture rooms, and haunting photographs of victims, serving as a stark reminder of the brutality of totalitarianism. After the Khmer Rouge was overthrown in 1979, S-21 was converted into a museum in 1980 to honor the victims and educate the public about the atrocities committed during this dark chapter in history. Today, it stands as a powerful testament to resilience and a call for human rights awareness.

Choeung Ek, commonly known as the Killing Fields, is a site located about 15 kilometers south of Phnom Penh, Cambodia. It was one of the primary execution grounds used by the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975 to 1979 during the Cambodian genocide. An estimated 20,000 people were killed and buried there, many of whom were political prisoners, intellectuals, and perceived enemies of the state.

Today, Choeung Ek serves as a memorial and museum, featuring a stupa filled with the skulls of victims, as well as mass graves and informational displays about the atrocities committed during this period. It stands as a poignant reminder of the horrors of genocide and the importance of remembering and learning from history.

- Return to Hotel: After a day of reflection and learning, return to your hotel to relax.

Day 8: Journey to Battambang

- Morning Pickup: At 8:30 AM, check out from your hotel and begin your journey to Battambang.

- Pottery Villages: Along the way, stop to visit local pottery villages, where you can see artisans at work and perhaps purchase unique souvenirs.

Pottery villages and local rice fields are integral parts of rural life in many regions, particularly in Southeast Asia. These villages are often characterized by their rich traditions of craftsmanship, where artisans create beautiful pottery using age-old techniques passed down through generations. Visitors can witness the intricate process of shaping clay into functional and decorative items, such as pots, bowls, and vases, often adorned with traditional designs.

Surrounding these pottery villages are lush rice fields, which play a crucial role in the local economy and culture. Rice cultivation is not only a primary source of sustenance for the community but also a symbol of their agricultural heritage. The sight of vibrant green rice paddies, especially during the planting and harvesting seasons, creates a picturesque landscape that reflects the harmony between nature and human activity.

Together, pottery villages and rice fields offer a glimpse into the daily lives of rural communities, showcasing their craftsmanship, agricultural practices, and deep connection to the land. Visitors to these areas can enjoy authentic cultural experiences, from participating in pottery-making workshops to exploring the serene beauty of the rice terraces.

- Check-in at Battambang: Arrive in Battambang, check in to your hotel, and take some time to relax and enjoy the local atmosphere.

Day 9: Bamboo Train and Local Experiences

- Morning Pickup: At 8:00 AM, your guide will pick you up for a unique experience.

- Bamboo Train Ride: Experience the local Bamboo Train, a fun and unique mode of transportation that offers a glimpse into rural life.

The Battambang Bamboo Train Ride offers a unique and exhilarating experience that combines adventure with community support in Cambodia's picturesque Battambang Province. This charming ride, known locally as "norry," features handmade bamboo platforms mounted on wheels, gliding along the remnants of an old railway track through lush countryside and vibrant rice fields.

As visitors embark on this nostalgic journey, they not only enjoy breathtaking views and the thrill of the ride but also contribute to the local economy. The bamboo train is operated by local families, providing them with a sustainable source of income and promoting community development. By choosing this tour, travelers engage with the culture and resilience of the local people, making their experience both memorable and impactful. The Battambang Bamboo Train Ride is more than just a scenic adventure; it's a meaningful way to connect with the heart of Cambodia while supporting its communities.

- Explore Local Villages and Markets: Visit nearby villages and markets, where you can taste local products such as rice wine, banana snacks, and fresh fruits.

- Return to Hotel: After a day of exploration, return to your hotel to relax.

- Afternoon Visit to Phnom SamPov: At 3:00 PM, visit the historical site of Phnom SamPov and enjoy the sunset at the Bat Cave, where thousands of bats emerge at dusk. Phnom Sam Pov, located near Battambang, Cambodia, is a stunning hilltop site famous for its breathtaking views and the nearby Bat Caves. Visitors can hike to the summit to explore ancient temples and enjoy panoramic vistas of the surrounding countryside. As dusk approaches, the Bat Caves come alive with thousands of bats emerging in a spectacular display, creating a mesmerizing natural phenomenon. The sunset tour offers a perfect blend of cultural exploration and natural beauty, as the sky transforms into vibrant hues, making it an unforgettable experience for travelers seeking adventure and tranquility in Cambodia.

- Return to Hotel: After a captivating day, return to your hotel to unwind.

Day 10: Return to Siem Reap

- Morning Pickup: At 10:00 AM, check out from your hotel and begin your journey back to Siem Reap.

- Check-in at Siem Reap: Upon arrival, check in to your hotel and take some time to relax and enjoy your stay. At 7:00 PM, we will go for a farewell dinner, which is included in the tour.

Day 11: Departure Day

- Free Time: Enjoy your final day in Cambodia at your leisure. Explore any last-minute sights or relax at your hotel.

- Transfer to Airport: When the time comes, our guide will pick you up from your hotel and transfer you to Siem Reap Airport for your departure.

- End of Holiday: Your unforgettable journey through Cambodia concludes, filled with cherished memories and experiences.

Duration 11-day Tour

Senior English Tour Guide

Instant confirmation

Free Cancellation up to 14 Days

Note:

Full Package

Premium Tour

Private Small Group

Inclusion of:

Air-Con Vehicle & Hotels

Senior English tour guide

Mineral waters & napkins

All tickets & Entrance fees

Exclusion of:

Meals & personal expenses.