

# CAMBODIA

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- Phnom Penh on the move...
- Costaline of Sihanoukville
- Siem Reap Weekend holiday for traveller
- Explore River Life in Northeast Cambodia

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## Tourism of Cambodia

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# PHNOM PENH

## **the capital of Cambodia**

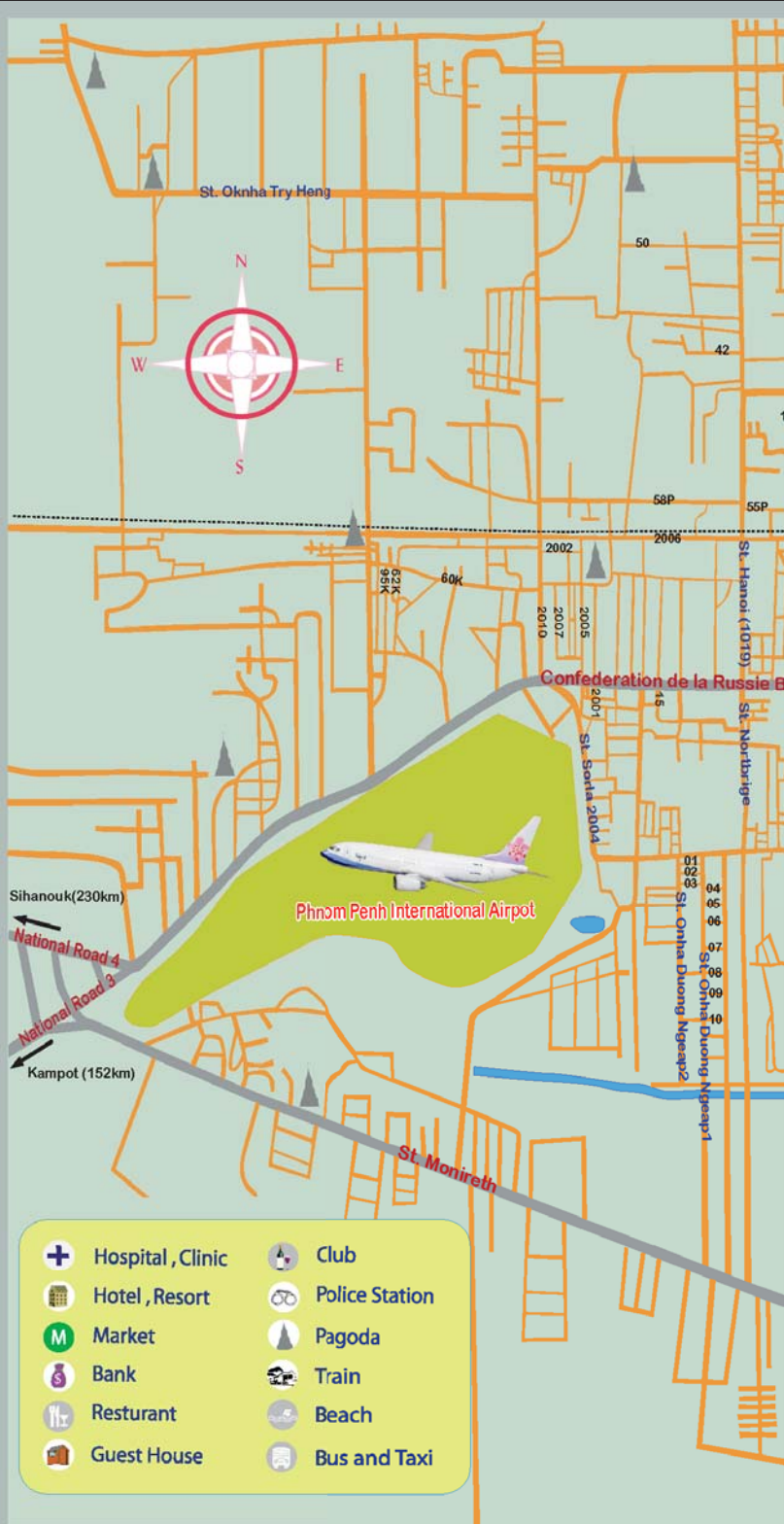
It is situated at the confluence of three rivers, the mighty Mekong, the Bassac and the great Tonle Sap, what was once considered the 'Gem' of Indochina. The capital city still retains a lot of its considerable charm with plenty to see. It exudes a sort of provincial charm and tranquility with French colonial mansions and tree-lined boulevards amidst monumental Angkorian architecture. There are many interesting tourist spots in the capital.

Beside the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda, the National Museum and Wat Phnom, there are several market places selling (wooden/stone) carvings, paintings, silk, silver, gems and even antiques. Indeed, it is an ideal destination for a leisurely day tour and business trip.



# Tourism of Cambodia

## PHNOM PENH MAP







## National Museum

Located in the North of the Royal Palace, the National Museum is easily recognized because of its distinctive rusty-red exterior and traditional Cambodian terracotta roof. Built between 1917 and 1920, the Museum offers a charming setting for a stunning collection of ancient Khmer artifacts. There are more than 5,000 interesting items including an eight-arm statue of Vishnu (7th century), a statue of Shiva (9th century), and a statue of Buddha dating back to pre-Angkorian times.



Visitors would also see a statue of King Jayavarman VII (1181), the Khmer king being credited with the establishment of a network of roads in Cambodia, using innovative construction techniques to raise them above the level of swamps and building sophisticated bridges. Also on display are pottery and bronze pieces dating back to the periods of Funan and Chenla (4th to 9th century). Tour guides are available. There are also books and souvenirs on sale inside the museum. No photography is allowed inside the museum, which its opening hours are between 8:00-11:00 and 14:00-17:00.

## The Royal Palace & Silver Pagoda

The Silver Pagoda is located within the compound of the Royal Palace. Inside the gleaming yellow walls of the Palace compound are the Throne Hall; the Chanchhaya Pavilion, especially made for performances of classical Cambodian dance; the Napoleon III Pavilion, offered to King Norodom by Queen Eugenie, the wife of Napoleon III, and the royal residential quarters.

The palace was originally wooden structured and initially constructed in 1892



during the reign of King Norodom, but rebuilt late in its present grandeur by King Sihanouk in 1962.

The King spared no effort to make this a true embodiment of the brilliant Khmer art with a tinge of rich ancient culture. 5,329 pieces of silver tiles, each weighing 1,125 kilo, made up the floor of the Silver Pagoda, giving its name among foreigners. The Silver floor alone weighs over six tones, known to Khmers as Preah Vihear Preah Keo Morokat (the Emerald Pagoda).



The pagoda serves less as a functioning temple than a depository for cultural treasures, housing the 17th century Emerald Buddha and some 1,650 artifacts comprising of Buddhist statues made of a variety of precious metals such as gold, silver and bronze, with diamonds, sapphires, rubies and other precious stone inlays. Inside the main hall stands a statue, representing the Buddha Maitreya. This statue is made of solid gold and weighs 90 kg including the stand and parasol.



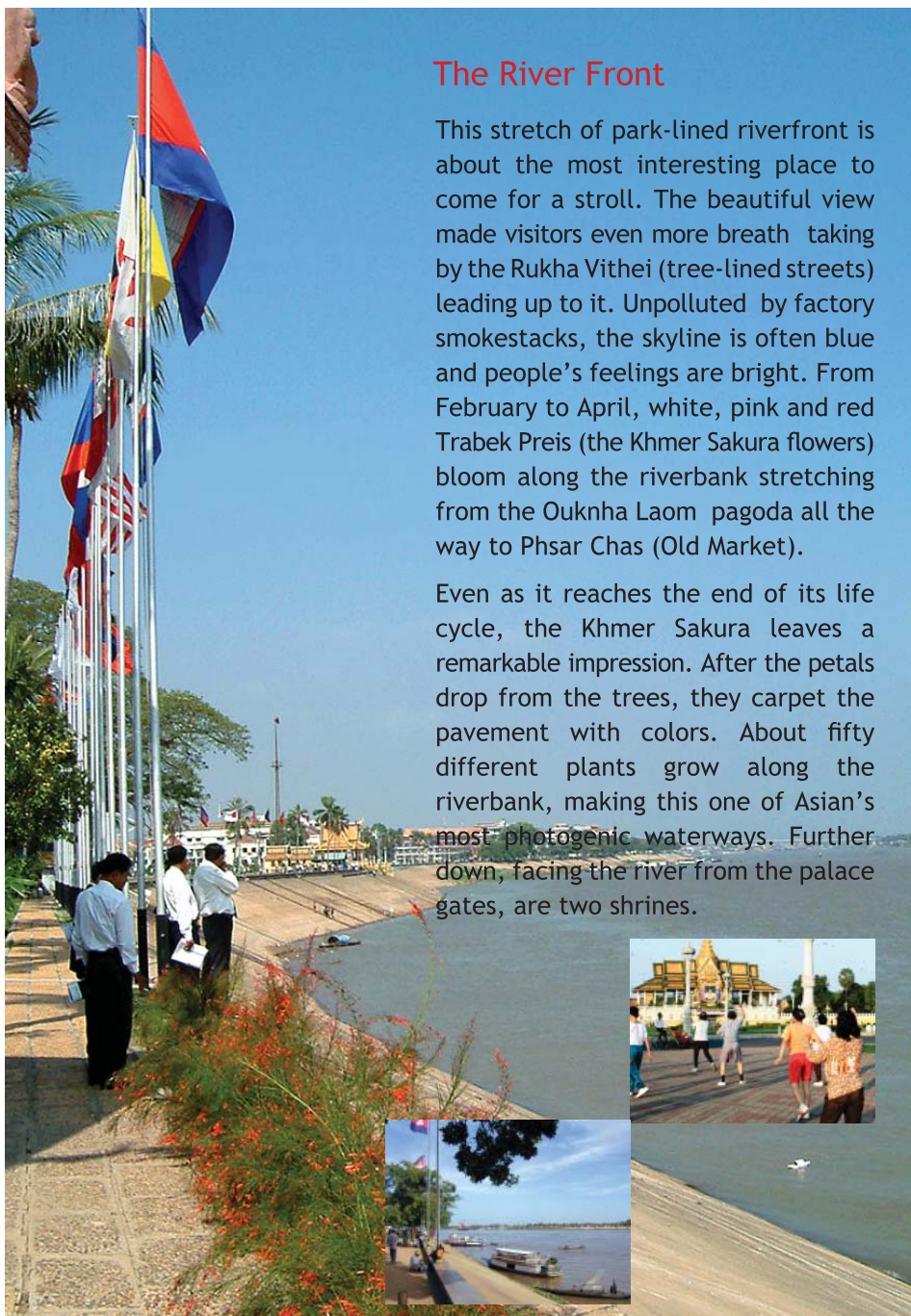
The statue is also studded with 2,086 diamonds. On its crown is a 25 karat jewel, the largest among the gems on the statue. In the pavilion inside the main hall which houses the Emerald Buddha, there is also a small glass casing where a sacred relic of the Buddha is preserved in a silver and gold stupa (monumental tomb). The walls enclosing the pagoda are covered with rare frescoes depicting episodes from the Khmer version of the Ramayana epic.

Everyday opening hours between 7:30-11:00 and 14:30-17:00

## The River Front

This stretch of park-lined riverfront is about the most interesting place to come for a stroll. The beautiful view made visitors even more breath taking by the Rukha Vithei (tree-lined streets) leading up to it. Unpolluted by factory smokestacks, the skyline is often blue and people's feelings are bright. From February to April, white, pink and red Trabek Preis (the Khmer Sakura flowers) bloom along the riverbank stretching from the Ouknha Laom pagoda all the way to Phsar Chas (Old Market).

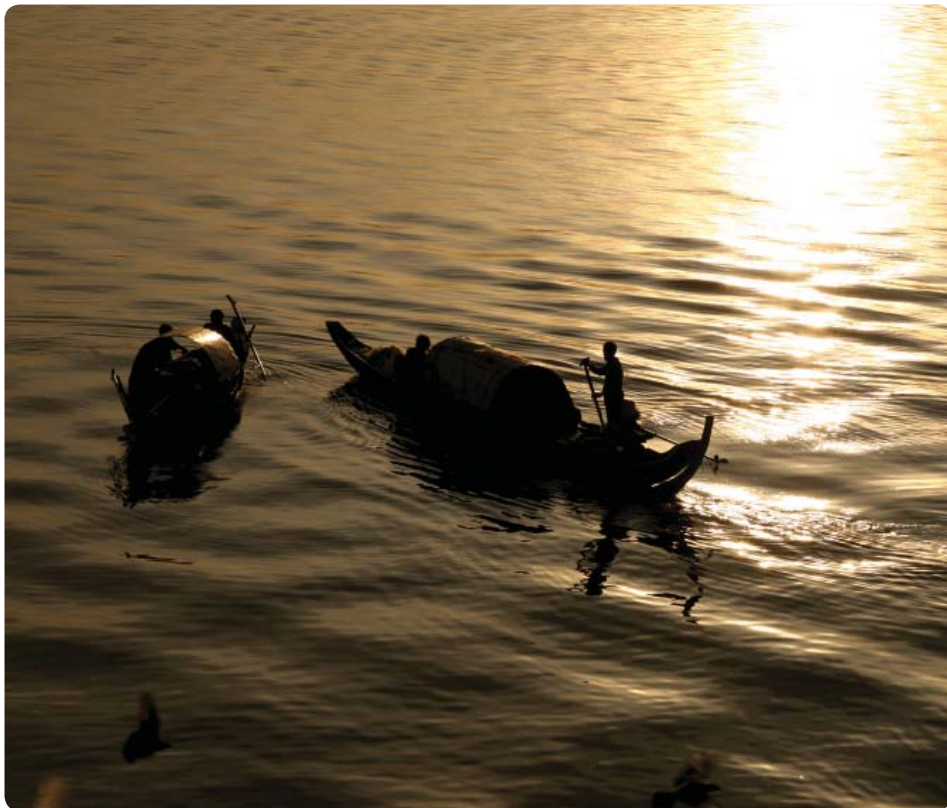
Even as it reaches the end of its life cycle, the Khmer Sakura leaves a remarkable impression. After the petals drop from the trees, they carpet the pavement with colors. About fifty different plants grow along the riverbank, making this one of Asian's most photogenic waterways. Further down, facing the river from the palace gates, are two shrines.





The shrine on the left is devoted to an animist spirit called Neak Ta, and it receives many devotees mostly in the evening while the one on the right, close to the elaborate flagpole of the Royal Palace, is a Buddhist shrine where hundreds of worshipers come to you can come to worship from dawn to dusk.

Many makeshift stalls surround the shrine selling young coconuts, incense sticks, candles, flowers and even living birds for worshipers to release them for merits.



Small tourist boats can be found along the riverfront, offering 1-2 hour cruise along the river whenever you want. Price usually between US\$10-US\$20 is negotiable with the operators. Across the street, pubs, restaurants and shops line the way. Many tourists are seen along this stretch in open-air cafes, sipping beer or coffee, or shopping the local products along the river bank.

## Independence Monument

Standing tall in the city center at the intersection of Norodom and Sihanouk Boulevards, is the Independence Monument. Inaugurated in 1958 to commemorate the declaration of Cambodia's independence from foreign rule, it now serves as a monument to Cambodia's the death of Cambodians in the wars. When night falls, the monument is beautifully illuminated by red, blue and white floodlights, representing the colors of national flag. Walking in the monument is not permitted but its best view is from the west across the street.





## Choeung Ek Memorial (The Killing Field)

Located about 15km southwest of Phnom Penh, it was once an orchard and a Chinese cemetery before Pol Pot led the Khmer Rouge and turned the place into one of his killing fields. During the regime, it was estimated that more than 2.5 million people had perished; many of whom were brutally executed here. Choeung Ek is now a group of mass graves, with a memorial stupa housing, and thousands of skulls are witness to the terrible genocide that took place during the regime of the Khmer Rouge. This site is usually combined with a visit to the Toul Sleg Genocide Museum.



Everyday opening hours from 07:30am - 17:00pm

## Toul Sleng Genocide Museum

Located on street 113 in the Boeung Keng Kang district, this was a high school turned prison under the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975-1979. This high school was converted into the S-21 prison and interrogation facility.

Inmates were systematically tortured to extract information and confessions and then subsequently sent to the killing fields of Cheung Ek for execution. More than 14,000 prisoners processed through this prison and only nine had left the prison alive but eight of them met their death later from disease contracted during their incarceration.



The building now serves as a museum and a testament to the genocidal madness of the Khmer Rouge regime.

Everyday opening hours between 07:30am - 17:00pm



## Wat Phnom

Located in the intersection of street 96 and Norodom Boulevard, this is the legendary founding place of the name, Phnom Penh. Legend has narrated that in 1372, a wealthy widow named Penh fished a floating Koki tree out of the mighty Mekong River.

Inside the hole of the tree, she found five statues of the Buddha, four in bronze and one in stone. She then located an auspicious place and elevated the location to construct a shrine to house her statues.



The place became the highest point in the area and came to be known by people as Wat Phnom. ‘Wat’ stands for temple and ‘Phnom’ means hill in Khmer. People began building their homes around the hill and soon a town and then a city evolved. Later, the city became known as Phnom Penh, after the hill (Phnom) and its founder (Lady Penh).

## Phsar Thmei (New Central Market)

The dark-yellow Art Deco Phsar Thmei (New Market) is also referred to as the Central Market, a reference to its location and size. It was constructed in 1935-1937. The Art deco building is shaped in the form of a cross with a nice central dome.

It has four wings filled with shops selling gold and silver jewelry, antique coins, fake name-brand watches and other items. Around the main building are stalls, offering Krama (checked scarves), stationery, household items, cloth of sarongs, flowers and second hand clothes, usually from Europe and the US.



For photographers, the fresh food section affords a lot of opportunities. There are host of good food stalls on the structure's western side, which faces Monivong Blvd. Central Market is undoubtedly the best of Phnom Penh 's markets for browsing. It is the cleanest and has the widest range of products for sale. Opening hours are from early morning until early evening.



## Tuol Tom Pong Market (Russian Market)



More commonly referred by foreigners as the Russian market, it is located at the corner of St. 440 and St. 163, south of Mao Tse Tung Blvd. It is the best place in town for souvenir shopping, having a large range of real and fake antiquities. Items for sale include miniature Buddha, silk, silver jewelries, gems, branded clothing, videos, and a host of other goodies. It is well worth popping in for a browse.

## WEEKEND HOLIDAY IN PHNOM PENH

### FRIDAY: ARRIVAL -PHNOM PENH

Arrive in Phnom Penh around noon - Visa processing - meet with guide for transfer to the hotel. A half-day city tour in the afternoon, including national museum of Khmer arts, silver pagoda on the same ground of Royal Palace, River Front Park, renowned Wat Phnom and boat cruise along Mekong river bank. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

### SATURDAY: PHNOM PENH

Morning visit Tuol Sleng museum of genocidal crime and Cheung Ek killing fields. Afternoon city orientation tour including, Phnom Penh municipality hall, national library, national bank, Independence monument and shopping at new central market. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

### SUNDAY: DEPARTURE

Free leisure time for shopping until transfer for departure flight. End of Service.

For booking [www.tourismcambodia.com/tours](http://www.tourismcambodia.com/tours)





## Cyclo Orientation

Morning pick up from any hotel in Phnom Penh, take a tour with the old fashioned mode transportation used by the manpowered workhorse. The old-fashioned way of sightseeing which highlight the historical capital starting from Wat Phnom that is the first pagoda was built in 1373, national museum where is the collective of post Angkorian antiques which reflected to the Khmer Art and culture.



Then from the north River Front toward south, enjoying photography the colonial buildings and city lifestyle with the garden and river view. Stop on the garden of independence monument which has a unique and peculiar style.

The ride will take you to visit many old colonial buildings, parks and garden that remind one of the country's French heritage, and its people who always have a smile for you.



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# Sihanoukville

## Province

It is a small southern province of Cambodia. The capital sits on a peninsula with beaches and tropical islands around. It is, also known as Kampong Som, was founded in 1964 to be the only deep-water port in whole Cambodia.

It is gradually being redeveloped as a holiday destination in Cambodia. With its nice sandy beaches and several paradise islands have made it become a popular tourist destination.

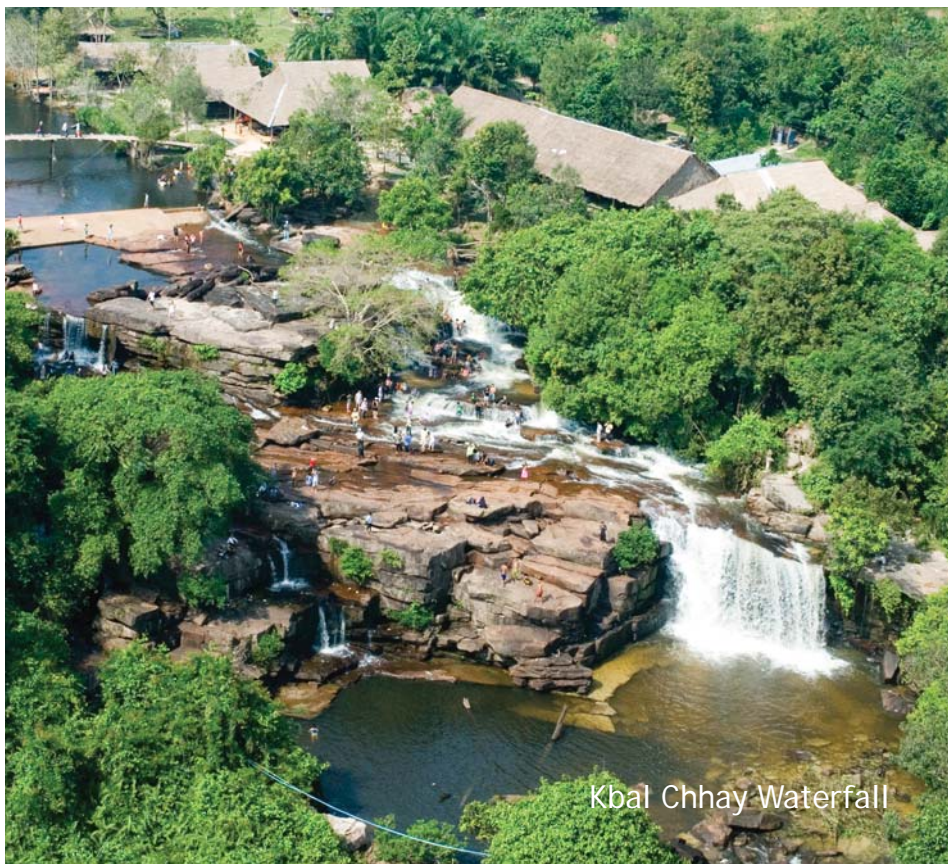
In honor to the king, who fought for the independency of Cambodia, the provincial capital was called Sihanoukville and located in the southwest corner of Cambodia, about 232km from Phnom Penh via national road N° 4. White-sand beaches that include Sokha, O'chheuteal, Pram Pi Chan, and Deum Chrey beautify this coastal city.

These beaches are known for their quiet, cozy atmosphere and the large stretches of white sand and clear waters and these make them popular spots for families on vacation. These seaside paradises with the refreshing coolness of the fresh water streams can be enjoyed all year round.



The famous sea side resort of Sokha is formed by wide and huge streets and quite new big concrete buildings. As the town is not a small place due to it's wide spread urban areas, the best way to get around is to hire a motorbike.

Beside the nice beaches and some very nice vantage points there isn't that much to see in the town itself. To catch a nice view on the city you best climb the small hill to Wat Leu.



Kbal Chhay Waterfall

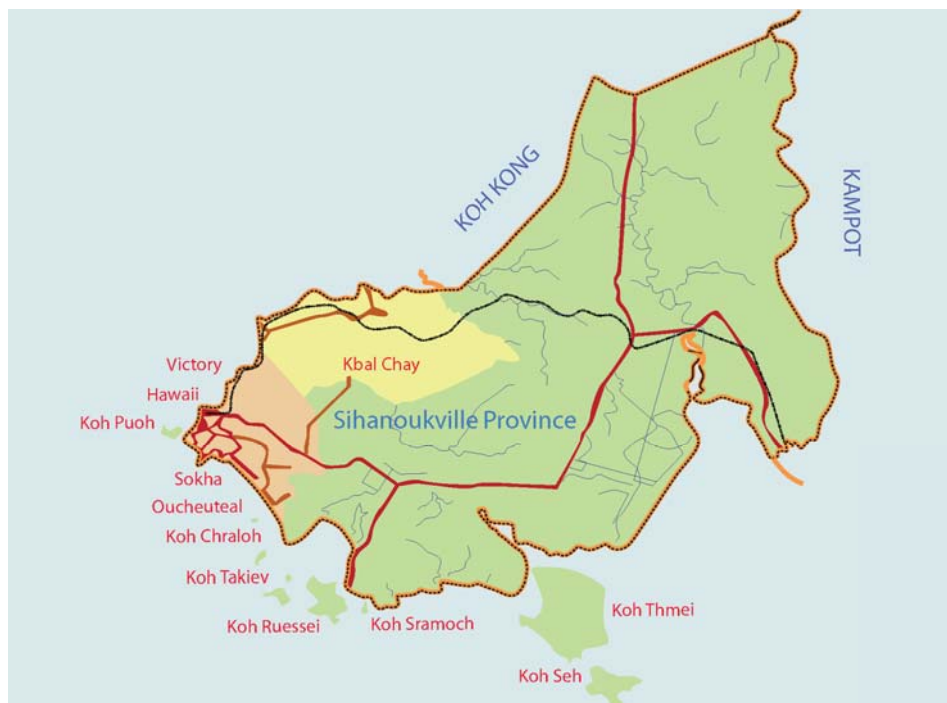
Wat Krom is another place of interest as this is a recently build pagoda, because the older one was destroyed by the Khmer Rouge and it houses a sanctuary called Yeah Mao, the guardian of the cost.

Nearby to the town there are nice places for a detour such as the Ream National Park and the beautiful Kbal Chhay Waterfall.

## Geography

Sihanoukville is a very small province with 868 square kilometers surface. It's located in the Southern part of the country and bordering to the North with Koh Kong, to the East with Kampot and to the West and South with the Gulf of Thailand.

Most parts of the province belong to the peninsula showing a hilly face with some scattered forested areas. It consist of the typical plain wet area for Cambodia, covering rice fields and other agricultural plantations.



The northeast of the province end on the hill foods of the Bokor National Park and the Cardamom Mountains symbolize the southern end. The average altitude of the province is supposedly not higher than 40m above sea level.

It is a small peninsula with beaches and tropical islands, off its south and west are coast lines and the commercial port is to the north west. The beaches line the west contour of the city from north to south including Victory beach, Lumhekai beach, Koh Pos beach.



## Population

The current population in this province is about 235,190 people or 1.6% of the country's total population (14,363,519 person in Cambodia, 2007, provincial government data), with 117,250 male and 117,940 female. The population density is therefore 271 people per square kilometer.



## Healthy

Medical services in Sihanoukville are very limited and basic. The best Medical service is offered by the CT Clinic. This is the only one trusted by Expats who live in Sihanoukville. The public hospital not advisable but in case of major trouble evacuation is necessary.

## Climate

The country has a tropical climate - warm and humid. In the monsoon season, abundant rain allows for the cultivation of a wide variety of crops. The year-round tropical climate makes Cambodia ideal for developing tourism. Travelers need not to fear natural disasters such as erupting volcanoes or earthquakes, and the country is not directly affected by tropical storms because of the surrounding high land and mountains.

The average temperature is about 27 degrees Celsius; the minimum temperature is about 16 degrees. December and January are the coolest months, whereas the hottest is April.

General information about the provincial climate:

- Cool season: November- March (20-28c)
- Hot season: March- May (26c -35c)
- Rainy season: May - October (24-34c, with humidity up to 90%.)



The best time to visit is from the beginning end of the rains in November. The dry, warm, breezy weather that follows lasts through January. Night temperatures can get down to a chilly 20° but the days hover around 28°-30°. Many think December and January are best with their balmy temperatures and blue skies.

At the end of January, Sihanoukville begins to warm and continues to get hotter through July (maximum 35°). After February, cool 'mango showers' occasionally blow in from the north. December through June is said by some local outfitters to be the best scuba weather with clearer (though cooler) waters than the rest of the year.



## Economy

Business opportunities in Sihanoukville are varied from financial activities to tourist and travel related industries.

In conjunction with the government's objective of marking Sihanoukville as a resend major tourist destination beside its status as an international off shore financial center.

Because of the importance of exports to Cambodia's economy, Sihanoukville and its port are earmarked for further significant development by the local government and through international monetary support.



The agricultural sector of Sihanoukville plays definitely not a big role in the provincial economy, as the rocky peninsula isn't the place for cropping and such things.

# How to get there ?

As Sihanoukville improves a lot in part of trade, tourist business and other sectors, the road from Phnom Penh have been rebuild properly. Now you can run the perfectly paved National Highway No 4 linking the capital with this seaside resort (230km).

The province could also be entered directly through Koh Kong Province from nearby Thailand, as more and more tourists do. It's doable either by the bumpy Major Road 48 passing the edge of the Cardamom Mountains or by speedboat from Koh Kong town, next to the Thai border.

## By overland

**From Phnom Penh :** Bus relatively comfortable; the air conditioning buses depart Phnom Penh several times per day (starting from 7:00 to 13:45). The trip takes about 4 hours, most of travelers usually stop over at Yei Mao hill for offering fruits and worship and then continue to Sihanoukville.

## From Koh Kong

If you are in Koh Kong and want to visit to Sihanoukville, you can travel by speedboat , taxi or public buses.





## Share Taxi

Most sharing taxi depart Phnom Penh before 10:00am, though you can still find one into the mid afternoon. The price is less expensive than the bus ticket but you will enjoy the real lifestyle of local transportation.

The share taxi offer a cramped and harrowing two and half to 3 and half hour ride with 8 or more people stuffed in a compact car. Private taxi can be arranged but you need to negotiate the price prior take off. In Phnom Penh taxi wait at the southwest corner of the Central Market (Phsar Thmey). In Sihanoukville, Phnom Penh bound taxi wait on Street 108.

## Motorbike

travel by motorbike take you hours trip on national highway No 4. You can rent motorcycles at Lucky Motorcycle shop on Monivong, near Street 184 in Phnom Penh or at Angkor Motorcycles on street 51 near the famous Walkabout Bar.

Fast, easy, but still relatively dangerous road. Speeding taxi and reckless Lorries are the norm. Slow down through the villages, watch for slow animals and oblivious children. By all means wear a helmet and bear in mind that medical help and rescue is virtually non-existent in the countryside.

## By Sea

**Speed Boat** : There are daily boat departing from Koh Kong to Sihanoukville, the trip will takes about 4 hours. It's worth the tour as you pass by some virgin beaches and nice costal formations.

## By Air

The Keng Kong airport is being renovated by the SCA company and schedule to be completed by end of 2009. The Siem Reap airways will be the first start flying to Sihanoukville from Phnom Penh and Siem Reap. It is located near Ream National Park and about 13km from down town of Sihanoukville. Check out the [www.tourismcambodia.com](http://www.tourismcambodia.com) for flight update.



# Where to stay ?

From the budget to high class hotels, you can select according to your choice, make sure to arrange for the luxury accommodation prior visiting , other wise the only choice of guesthouses. During the public holidays and weekend, most of the hotels are fully booked. you need to book at last months a head.

More information check [www.tourismcambodia.com/hotels](http://www.tourismcambodia.com/hotels)



# Tourism of Cambodia

## Sihanoukville Map







	Hospital, Clinic		Club
	Hotel, Resort		Police Station
	Market		Pagoda
	Bank		Train
	Resturant		Beach
	Guest House		Bus and Taxi

# Beach and Island



## Where to enjoy sun bathing in Sihanoukville?

From the shore and surrounding hills, many of the country's small islands can be seen. Many of the beaches are filled with grass hut restaurants and bars, some of the beaches are rocky, a couple are big resorts, and some are pure sandy beach.

Some of these beaches are crowded with beach chairs, umbrellas, bars, and traveler. A few beaches are rocky, and nice to look at, but not for swimming. From most beaches, you can take trips to these islands by renting a boat for snorkeling and fishing.

## Sokha Beach

Sokha beach is a private beach with 1.5 kilometers long, it is for the hotel guests only . Well groomed beaches, not too many people, and for a fee (if you're not a hotel guest), children play ground, a beautiful swimming pool, fitness center, and lobby lounge. At the near end of Sokha are a few hillside and Cliffside bungalows.





## Victory Beach

At the bottom of “The Hill”, near the port, Victory beach has quickly become the tourist beach on the West side of town. An easy walk from Victory Hill, with plenty of seafood, boating activities, guesthouses, and a full service casino. Some quiet beach in the middle, and some restaurants toward the port.



## O'chheuteal Beach

On the East side of town, about a 5 minute motorcycle ride from downtown. This beach runs about 2 kilometers from Serendipity Beach to O'tres Beach. O'chheuteal is filled with beach stands and chairs. Seafood, burgers, pizza, and booze. Most places serve Khmer style food, but many now offer Western dishes. Across the street from the beach, there's an assortment of restaurants and hotels.





## Serendipity Beach

The tourist beach on the East Side. No beach stands here, just Western style bars and restaurants. One of the few places with rooms right on the beach. Many new internet shops, clothing, MP3 downloads, tour services and boat departures to the islands. Serendipity has turned into the shopping section of town.





## Hawaii Beach

This is more of a fishing village than a swimming beach, with a handful of longtails and fishing boats usually moored offshore and a motley array of food stalls set under the trees. A number of boat trips run to outlying islands from here, including Snake Island just offshore. Prices for a day-long boat-trip start at \$20.





## O'tres Beach

Outside of town, O'tres is the quietest beach in town. Several small beach stands with food and umbrellas are available. Also, sailboat and kayak rentals, and have a lot of sand and water.







## Ream National Park

It's about 29 kilometers from downtown of Sihanoukville, towards Phnom Penh to the park entrance. Probably another 10 kilometers to get inside the park. Just inside the park entrance, you can find the ranger station on the left, after you pass the entrance to the airport.





It is one of 7 National Parks in Cambodia, established in 1993 by the former King, His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk. The park covers 15,000 hectares of land and 6,000 hectares of marine habitat. There are 155 species of birds in the park including a few threatened species. Boat trips on the river and through the mangrove channels, then into the Gulf of Thailand ocean.

The park offers walking tours of the mountain, safari tours of the smaller mammals and birds and waterfalls. Inside the park, have one Pagoda called Wat Ream, a Buddhist temple, is also worth a trip.



On the seaside, there are many food stands, specializing in fresh seafood. Many local tourists are traveling to Sihanoukville, never forget to visit and enjoying seafood. Only a few guesthouses have opened on the beach.

# What to do in Sihanoukville ?

## Cycling

Is one of the most popular sport in Sihanoukville, the bicycles can be rented from any guest houses, it is pretty cheap. Mountains, beaches, downtown, bar hopping are favorite destinations. You can get a tour outside of town with Stray Dog Adventures, (dirt bike tours). Also, a few places rent motorized bicycles now, which do not require a drivers license.



Everywhere you look on the street, the beaches, the mountains, in houses, you'll see motorcycles. Unless you come in a tour group with a bus, or rent a car, at some point you'll be on the front or back of a motorcycle.

## Walking and Biking

If you see someone walking down the street, it's probably a tourist. Local people here rarely walk. The walk from downtown to most beaches is a half hour, (3 minutes by car or motorcycle) and you can walk around downtown in less than an hour. A few places have bicycles for rent. You can also get electric bicycles, which do not require a driver's license.

## Boat cruise

From any beach or hill in town, you can see islands. Most of the beach places and guesthouses can arrange day trips, overnight trips, scuba diving, snorkeling, and island trips. The day trips to the islands with snorkeling and breakfast and lunch generally cost about \$15 and up.

# Where to eat ?

Food everywhere. Every street corner, driving down the street, on the beach, on rooftops and at your hotel. Cheap food, expensive food, good food, and some bad food ( fried spiders ? grilled dog ? )

## Seafood

With ocean on three sides of town, there's no shortage of fresh seafood to be found. All the beaches have seafood restaurants, downtown has a nice selection, and some of it even walks down the street on someone's shoulders or on a bicycle.





## Traditional Khmer Cuisine

Grilled pressed squid, Cambodian curry, chicken, beef, pork, and lots of fish, tropical fruits, and vegetables, and meat soups, and don't forget your rice.

### Try something different

Grilled dog, snake, fried tarantulas, boiled turtle..... how about some fresh baked grasshoppers. If it moves here, someone's going to eat it.



Check out **Grand Restaurant Kampuchea** on the Golden Lions Circle, and **Chi Khmer** near Serendipity. Finally, the **Traditional Khmer Cookery School** offers cooking classes, and you get to eat the food you make.

## Foods of the World

There's authentic foods from all over the world made by the people all over the world living here. French, Italian, Indian, Sri Lankan, German, Japanese, Australian, Greek, German, Swedish, and many more. You can skip traveling all over the world, once you come to Sihanoukville.

### Khmer Food

#### 1. Chhne Meas

Krong Street, Sangkat 3. ☎ 012 340 060

#### 2. Traditional Khmer Cookery

Ekareach Street, Sihanoukville. ☎ 092 738 615

#### 3. Chhner Mlop Chrey

Near Holiday Hotel. ☎ 034 933 737

### German Food

#### 7. Luna D'autunno

downtown, near Holy Cow. ☎ 092 798 781

### Swiss Food

#### 9. Swiss Garden

Ekareach Street, Sihanoukville. ☎ 092 699 102

### Austrian Food

#### 11. Schnitzel Wirtin

Ekareach Street, Sihanoukville. ☎ 099 270 175

### Russian Food

#### 13. Oceania

Location near Victory Beach. ☎ 012 224 728

### Frence Food

#### 15. La Paillote

Sangkat 3, Mondul 3. ☎ 012 227 001

#### 16. Mick & Craigs

near the Golden Lions Circle. ☎ 012 484 051

#### 17. Les Feuilles

Ochheuteal Beach. ☎ 034 933 910

See map to find the location on page 36-37

www.tourismcambodia.com

### Western Food

#### 4. Happa

Street 4, Village 4. ☎ 034 934 380

#### 5. Holy Cow

Nº. 083, Ekareach Street. ☎ 012 478 510

#### 6. Le Jardin

Nº. 360, Ekareach Street. ☎ 012 286 191

### Indian Food

#### 8. Sweet Chilli

Ekareach Street, Sihanoukville. ☎ 017 843 119

### Czech Food

#### 10. New World Hotel

Ekareach Street, Sihanoukville. ☎ 034 934 001

### Mexican Food

#### 12. Red Snapper

Ekareach Street, Sihanoukville. ☎ 011 827 155

### Thai Food

#### 14. La Or

Location near Golden Sands Hotel. ☎ 011 460 976

### Chinese Food

#### 18. Red House

St. 2 Thnou, just off the Golden Lions. ☎ 016-460 668

#### 19. Treasure

Koh Pos Beach. ☎ 012-838 385

#### 20. Cool Banana Bungalows

Street to Serendipity Beach. ☎ 034 933 709

# Night Life

Daylight ends around 6pm here, and the vacation continues. Many beach restaurants stay open until the last customer leaves. **Restaurants** with French, Japanese, Italian, Indian and many other cuisines come to life. Some bars and the **casinos** are open 24 hours a day.

## Bars & Discos



On the beaches, islands, rooftops, downtown, up-town, inside, outside, street side, you can't walk one minute without finding something to quench your thirst. A number of bars and discos are now open all night, for your partying pleasure.

**Legal drinking age 18**

## Beach Bars

By Cambodian proverb says: if you have a beach, you must have a bar nearby. Except for the East ends of O'tres and O'chheuteal, and Hun Sen Beach, which are unoccupied beach, you're bound to find a few places to your liking.

**Seabreeze Steakhouse, Sokha Resort, Serenity, Cantina, Treasure Island Seafood, Seabreeze & K2 Indian, Independence Hotel, Sokha Hotel, Cloud 9, Tropical Season, Star Bar Otres, Otres Nautica, Bamboo Shack.**

## Downtown Bars

If you stay more than a week, you might want to find something differences, here are the following near by bars operated by some foreigner and Cambodian.



Espresso Kampuchea, Angkor Inn, Angkor Arms, Britannia, The Marlin, The Small Hotel, Holy Cow, Le Consulat, Fisherman's Den, G'Day Mate, Oasis, Small Green, Snooky's Bistro, Traveller's Rest, The Bavarian, Darby O'Gill's, Britannia, Emerald Bar, Zen Garden, & Ocean's Hotel.

## Late Night Bars

or early morning bars, depending on your point of view. Some places are open 24 hours a day. Some close after midnight when the last customer leaves.

Indian Curry Pot, Angelo's, Crazy Rabbit, Corner Bar, Sakal Bungalow, Blue Frog, Snake Pit, Angkor Arms, Le Tropicana, The Small Hotel, Utopia, Romdoul's Place, Poco Loco, Purnell's, Tiki Hut, Sandgroper, Crazy Rabbit, Emerald Bar, Mojo, Outback, Underground.

## Bars on "The Hill"

The hill is Sihanoukville backpackers' paradise. 24 hours a day; all the services you need. In English and several other languages.

La Trattoria, Indian Curry Pot, Crazy Rabbit, Romdoul's Place, Corner Bar, Blue Frog, Rainy Season Bar, Sakal Bungalows, La Paillote, Golden Rooster, Le Tropicana, Crazy Rabbit, Taxi Club, Nikka's, Le Barometre. Just off the hill, try the Snake Pit at The Snake House and Oceania.

## Disco

A few disco's in town. Most open after 9 or 10pm. Try Blue Storm (downtown), or Biba's (near the port).









# Siem Reap

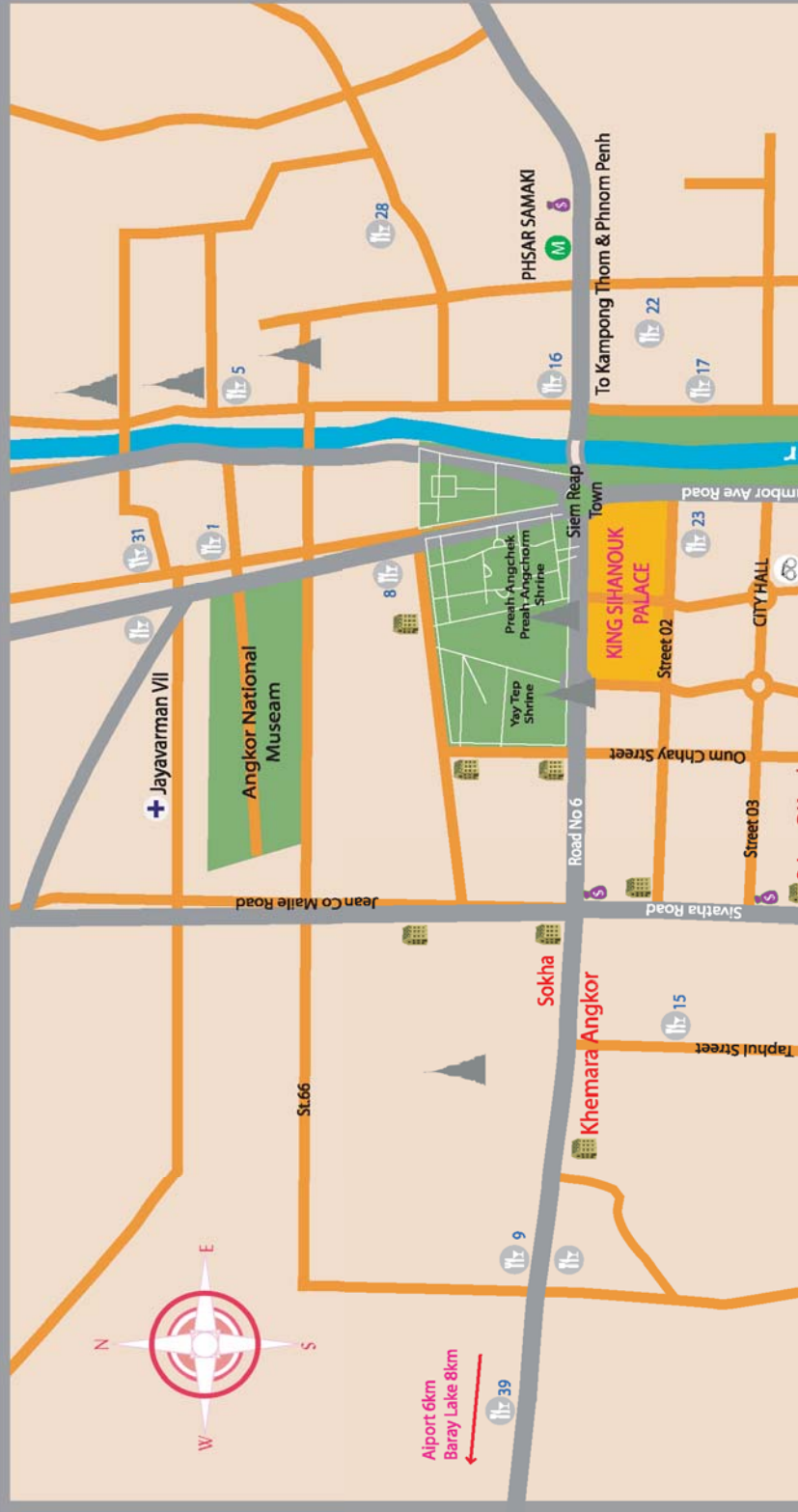
## Province

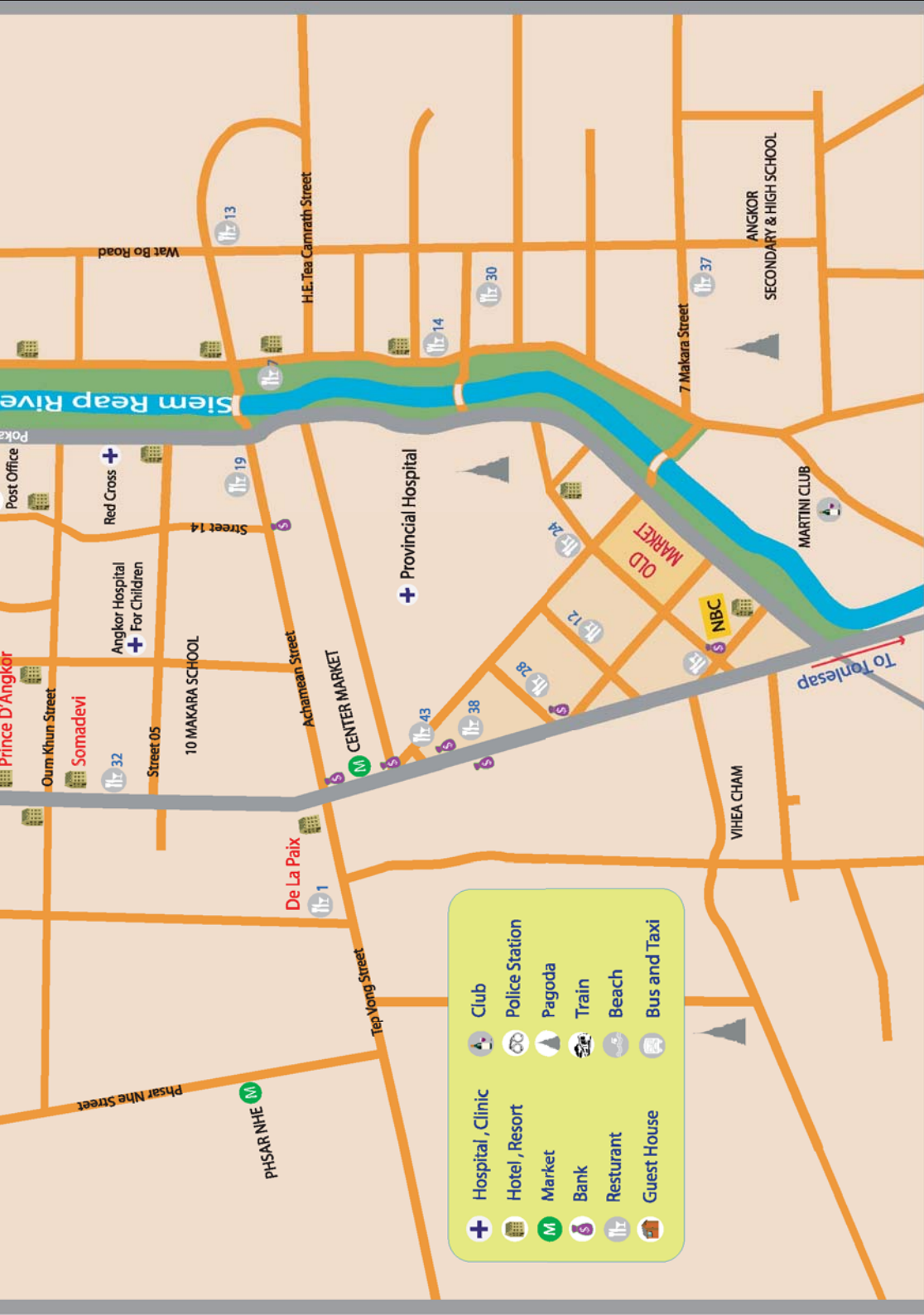
Visitors can travel to Siem Reap by air from Phnom Penh and Bangkok. There are also regular flights from Singapore, Ho Chi Minh City and Vientiane. Visas are available on arrival at the Siem Reap and Phnom Penh airports. From Phnom Penh, there are also daily buses or overland by speedboat along the magnificent Tonle Sap to explore new culture, meeting local fishermen in their floating villages and tasting ethnic khmer food. Some visitors make their way to Siem Reap overland from Thailand via the Aranyaprathet/Poipet border crossing. Siem Reap today, being a popular tourist destination, has a large number of hotels and restaurants. Most smaller establishments are concentrated around the Old Market area, while more expensive hotels are located between Siem Reap-Angkor International Airport and the town along National Road 6. There are a variety of mid-range hotels and restaurants along Sivatha, and budget to mid-range hotels in the Phsar Leu area.



# Tourism of Cambodia

## Siem Reap Map





# 3 Day in Siem Reap

## What to do with your weekend in Siem Reap ?

Siem Reap is a major tourist hub in Cambodia. The most recognizable of the temples, Angkor Wat, literally Capital Temple, was built by King Suryavarman II during the early 12th century.

Recently the city has seen a great deal of expansion; hundreds of hotels, restaurants and shops, catering to both international and Cambodian tourists have opened to serve the influx of visitors.



At Last 3 days in Siem Reap visitors will suffice with a newfound love for ancient cultures, Asian religions, and sunsets. Good options abound for visiting more far-flung temple ruins and trekking or boat trips to remote mangrove swamps and a large bird sanctuary are enough to keep you busy for a stay of any length. Bring your sense of adventure, your camera, and a youthful sense of wonder. You won't be disappointed by amazing Angkor.



## DAY 1

### Angkor Wat

The temples of Angkor, built by the Khmer civilization between 802 and 1220 AD, represent one of humankind's most astonishing and enduring architectural achievements. From Angkor the Khmer kings ruled over a vast domain that reached from Vietnam to China to the Bay of Bengal.

The structures one sees at Angkor today, more than 100 stone temples in all, are the surviving remains of a grand religious, social and administrative metropolis whose other palaces, public buildings, and houses were built of wood and are long since decayed and gone.



### Elephant Rides

During the day, elephants await customers near Bayon or at the South Gate of Angkor Thom. In the evenings, elephants are stationed at the base of Phnom Bakheng, ready to transport riders up the hill for sunset.

## Balloon Rides

Unique new addition to the Angkor area. Take a tethered helium balloon ride 200 meters straight up for an amazing aerial view of Angkor Wat, Phnom Bakheng, West Baray and other ruins amongst the surrounding jungle and rice paddies. Bring a camera and binoculars if you have them. The big, yellow balloon is based on the road from the airport to Angkor Wat, about a kilometer from the front gates of Angkor Wat.



## Aki Ras Landmine Museum

Aki Ra's Landmine Museum in Siem Reap consists of a simple corrugated iron building, surrounded by a handful of roughly built sheds and open air sleeping and eating quarters. Mr Aki Ra who is a 31 year old mine clearer is the founder and director of this museum. It is solely because of Aki Ra's clearance of landmines that a local village of 500 has grown up around the museum site. Aki Ra has not only cleared the mines but also educated his neighbors on mine awareness, safety and first aid.

## DAY 2

### Sun set at Phnom Bakeng

Bakeng Mountain is where most people come to enjoy the sunset views, so in the evening it gets very crowded. Once you have climbed to the top of the mountain, take a look back and you are rewarded by superb views of Angkor Wat in the distance, just sitting in the jungle. Then you are faced with another



climb, to the top level of the temple, more steep steps! But the view of the sunset is unrivalled, provided you get there early to book your space.

### Angkor National Museum

Angkor National Museum is the newly open; it will take visitors through the journey back in time from the creation to the highest point of civilization. Through the use of interactive exhibits, visitors will develop a deeper understanding of customs, traditions and different beliefs of the ancient empire. A tour of the museum will be joyful for both visitors who have a good understanding



of ancient Khmer civilization and visitors who do not have any previous knowledge of the ancient Khmer empire. All artifacts will be divided into 8 galleries in perceptive order of the evolution which are enhanced by a realistic atmosphere. Throughout out the whole experience Angkor National Museum will allow this legend to slowly reveal before your eyes.

## Cambodian Cultural Village

A unique, sprawling new cultural attraction in Siem Reap, intended to introduce the visitor to Cambodian culture and history. Wax museum with scenes and figures from history. Fascinating 1/20th scale models of sites such



as Phsar Thmey and the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh and the hills and temples of Oudong. Full scale models of a variety of Cambodian architectural types, including different styles of huts and homes, hill tribe houses, pagoda and mosque. Live shows, traditional dance performances and music. Traditional Khmer wedding, Apsara Dancing, performance of ethnic minorities from North-east of Cambodia, Circus, Popular games, Peacock dancing, Acrobat, elephants shows, boxing, and more... show twice per day.

## DAY 3

### Countryside Tours

If your schedule allows, set aside a day or three to get out of the Siem Reap Town/main temple area and into the countryside. The vast majority of Cambodia live and work in the rural countryside and a countryside tour or even a day trip to a remote temple ruin can provide a glimpse of real Cambodia picture, bucolic scenery, rice paddies and water buffalos, countryside pagoda and little villages filled with traditional stilted houses. And there are a number of ways to see it: by 4WD or dirtbikes, ATV, bicycle, ox cart and more. The following tour operators specialize in countryside expeditions.



### Butterfly Garden

Butterflies Garden Restaurant features 1,500 tropical butterflies and a koi pond in a romantic, private garden. Creative tropical cuisine, including unique Khmer specialties, is served at breakfast, lunch and dinner. An array of fresh juices, shakes, beer, wine and cocktails is also available. Butterflies Garden Restaurant specializes in group events of all kinds from corporate retreats to children's birthday parties.

# What to Shop ?

Siem Reap is an excellent place to buy Cambodian souvenirs, handicrafts, textiles and art. Only Phnom Penh offers a comparable selection, but much of what is available in Siem Reap is unique to Siem Reap. Until recently, the Old Market (Phsar Chas) and vendors at the temples were the only places to buy souvenirs. Over the last few of years there has been a small boom of new shops, galleries and boutiques, offering a more varied selection of quality handicrafts and silks as well as original artistic creations - paintings, prints, carvings and such.



The Old Market still has the widest variety of souvenirs, as well as the best selection of items such as baskets, silver work and musical instruments. It also offers an interesting local ambiance, but the boutiques, galleries and specialty shops offer generally higher quality items and a more sophisticated selection of Cambodian products. Of particular interest are the traditional craft workshops and silk farms where you can see crafts in the making as well as buy the final product.



## Cambodian Silks

Silks are prized by silk collectors the world over. Most of the silk available in Cambodia is hand loomed using the traditional ikat method of dyeing the threads and looming in the patterns. Both raw and fine silks are available in the form of bolts, sarongs, clothing and various handicrafts. Many of the pieces available are potential collector's items.

## Statues and Carvings

Statues and carvings of traditional subjects, often copies of Angkorian era works as well as Buddhas and various Hindu gods and personages, are available in stone, wood and brass. Statues make for relatively heavy, bulky souvenirs but



are still very popular because of their beauty and artistic value.

## Temple Rubbings

Are for sale everywhere in Siem Reap the temples, the souvenir shops and the Old Market but are, in fact, neither actual rubbings nor from the temples. They are in fact made from a heavy paper that is moistened then molded over recreations of original and imagined Angkorian-era temple carvings. Nevertheless, these rubbings are distinctive, light weight, transportable, inexpensive and uniquely Cambodian souvenirs.

# Where to Stay ?

Siem Reap has an ever-growing number of hotel and guesthouse rooms, and a variety that is wide enough to satisfy all tastes and requirements. Though staying right in the middle of town is a bit more convenient to the Old Market and Sivatha road area, the town is relatively small making any location almost equally convenient as any other.

Angkor Palace Resort



Royal Angkor Resort



Prince D'Angkor

There are now several four and five-star hotels in town, especially along the airport road. Less expensive mid-range rooms with a/c, cable TV, and hot water are available.

For more information, please visit: [www.tourismcambodia.com/hotels](http://www.tourismcambodia.com/hotels)

# Where to eat ?

There is no shortage of restaurants in Siem Reap. They have been opening steadily over the past couple of years. Siem Reap offers an excellent variety of restaurants.

There are also plenty of moderately priced Cambodian and international restaurants. Almost every restaurant offers Cambodian food.





**Khmer Food :**

1. Tonle Chaktomuk	☎ 012 719 091
2. Banteay Srey Thmei	☎ 012 983 457
3. Banteay Srey	☎ 012 881 307
4. Pka Chuk (Lotus Ret)	☎ 012 896 388
5. Neary Khmer	☎ 012 422 247
6. Borey Sovann	☎ 012 842 258
7. Sampheap	☎ 012 820 064
8. Eat At Khmer	☎ 012 280 748
9. Thida Spean Neak	☎ 012 307 902
10. Dead Fish Tower	☎ 012 630 377
11. Madam Butterfly	☎ 063 963 816

**Thai Food :**

22. Chiang Mai Thai	☎ 012 980 833
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**Mexican Food :**

24. Viva	☎ 092 209 154
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**Western and Asian Food :**

26. Lotus Village	☎ 012 710 626
27. FCC Angkor	☎ 012 580 894
28. Red Piano	☎ 012 854 150
29. Terrass des Elephants	☎ 063 965 570
30. Butterflies Garden	☎ 063 761 211
31. BBQ Suki	☎ 063 965 650

**Chinese Food :**

35. Wood House	☎ 012 297 369
36. Joan Yen Lau	☎ 063 760 269

**Japanese Food :**

39. Kobe	☎ 012 985 038
40. Red Orchid	☎ 092 199 988
41. GINGA	☎ 012 655 398
42. Kroma Yamato	☎ 012 517 905

11. Angkor Palm	☎ 063 761 436
12. Soup Dragon	☎ 012 731 152
13. Viroth's	☎ 012 778 096
14. Bopha Angkor	☎ 063 964 928
15. Orchidee Angkor	☎ 012 776 728
16. Arun Restaurant	☎ 012 890 396
17. New Bayon	☎ 012 855 209
18. Koulen II	☎ 092 630 090
19. Angkor Mondial	☎ 012 854 789
20. Amazon Angkor	☎ 012 966 988
21. Jasmine Angkor	☎ 012 365 888

**German Food :**

23. Tell Restaurant	☎ 063 963 289
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**Vegatarian Food :**

25. D' Wau Restaurant	☎ 092 689 761
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**Indian Food :**

32. Curry Walla	☎ 092 459 723
33. Little Indian	☎ 012 652 398
34. Maharajah	☎ 092 506 622

**French Eurasian Food :**

37. Alliance Café	☎ 012 809 010
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**Korean Food :**

44. Pyongyang	☎ 012 451 270
45. Myung Ga	☎ 012 486 483

**Italian Food :**

38. Ecstatic Pizza	☎ 012 436 869
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**Cantonese Food :**

43. Hong Kong Restauraan	☎ 063 966 226
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See map to find the location on page 56-57

# Explore River Life in Northeast Cambodia



The Mekong Discovery Trail takes you into the heart of the Mekong where the beauty of the river and the friendliness of the people create unforgettable river life experiences in northeast Cambodia.

The Mekong Discovery Trail is a network of safe, ecotourism journeys through some of the most natural and least populated parts of the Mekong.

The free trail guide provides maps, transport and accommodation options. You can travel on a small part of the trail, or all of it. You can travel alone or with a group. There are many options along the 180 km trail, which runs between Kratie and the Cambodian/Laos border. But remember to allow enough time to go with the flow of river life.

Along the trail, you will have the opportunity to see critically endangered Mekong River Dolphins, while minimizing your impact on them and the habitats they rely on.

By using the Trail, you will also be assisting river communities, some of the poorest (but most welcoming) in Cambodia.





## Mekong River Dolphin Viewing

The Trail offers many opportunities to view critically endangered Mekong River Dolphins. Less than 100 of these animals are left in the Mekong. Well managed ecotourism is part of the solution to increase their value to local communities and ensure their long-term protection.

## Horse Carts in Kratie

Kratie town is famous for its horse carts. The Trail has helped establish a local association of horse cart operators who will conduct tours around the town and north along the Mekong River to the famous Kampi dolphin pool. Travelling by horse cart is a unique way to experience the riverside town of Kratie and its many attractions including the French colonial architecture.



Image from [mouthtosource.net](http://mouthtosource.net)

## House Boats on the Mekong

A very special way to relax and experience the Mekong River is on a traditional river boat. Sit back and enjoy the magnificent sunsets and sunrises and spectacular flooded forests of the Ramsar wetlands. Buy fish from passing boats and stop at riverside villages to shop in local markets.

## Mountain Biking with No Carbon Emissions

One option along the Mekong Discovery Trail caters especially for experienced and intrepid mountain bike riders who are prepared for an ‘off the beaten track’ experience. You will travel through some of the least disturbed and most remote parts of the Mekong, and stay overnight in guesthouses and home stays in rural villages along the way.



## Local Produce from the Farms and Markets

Kratie and Stung Treng Provinces are famous for their sticky rice (krolan) and pickled fish (nem), as well as delicious tropical fruits and fresh fish that are included in local dishes. Taste some while you travel along the Mekong Discovery Trail. You’ll find a recipe for the famous Fish Amok along the river trail.

## Home Stays and Wat Stays

In Local Communities a very personal way to experience the home life and daily rituals of Khmer villages is to stay in homes or Wats. Home stays and Wat stays are available at several places along the Trail. The Trail guide book provides a few tips about etiquette to make it easier to connect with the local cultures.

## Trekking in the Forests

along the Mekong River There are opportunities to trek through fringing forests that line the banks of the

river, and to enjoy wonderful views over the maze of islands and braided river channels north of Stung Treng.





# Cambodia Picture House

Royalty Free Stock Images



City Link Ads



Brocon's Apartment in Phnom Penh



Angkor Palace Resort



Royal Angkor Resort

Commercial Photography Services  
HP: 015 877888



Pool's View of Angkor Palace Resort

SPK Digital Image Center

#262B, Monivong Blvd, Sangkat Beoung Raing,

Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia

Tel: 855-23 215750 Fax: 855-23 222801 [www.cambodiapicturehouse.com](http://www.cambodiapicturehouse.com)

