

MOMENTS

by On the Road Experiences

on the road

**Beyond Angkor:
A Journey of Compassion & Discovery in Cambodia
From Phnom Penh to Koh Kong (7 or 10 Days)**


ON THE ROAD
BACK ROADS | HIDDEN GEMS
Soul Driven

ON THE ROAD
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Soul Driven

Welcome!

We love road journeys. They are by far our favourite way of traveling. We think the world of western China and the countries that border on this region – think Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Myanmar, for example.

On the Road Experiences is all about sharing with like-minded travelers just how beautiful a road journey in these varied lands can be. Now turn the page to find out what we've come to love so much...

Yours truly,



Peter Schindler



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Itinerary Map

Where you will leave your trail.



Day by Day

- Day 1**
Arrival in Phnom Penh -
Welcome to Phnom Penh
- Day 2**
Phnom Penh to Chhlong -
An unique experience
- Day 3**
Chhlong -
In and around Chhlong
- Day 4**
Chhlong to Siem Reap -
Along the Mekong to Siem Reap
- Day 5**
In and around Siem Reap -
The Arts and Angkor
- Day 6**
Siem Reap to Battambang -
Bats and colonial Battambang

- Day 7**
Battambang to Pursat -
Explore Battambang then a
short drive to Pursat
or
Battambang to Phnom Penh -
Drive to Phnom Penh and
depart
- Day 8**
Pursat to Koh Kong -
Adventure driving through the
Cardamom Mountains
- Day 9**
In and around Koh Kong -
Exploring fishing villages and
the surroundings
- Day 10**
Koh Kong to Phnom Penh -
Drive to Phnom Penh and
depart

Yes, it is possible...

A driving holiday in this part of the world is indeed possible. We take care of everything. All you need to do is come, drive and enjoy a rare adventure!

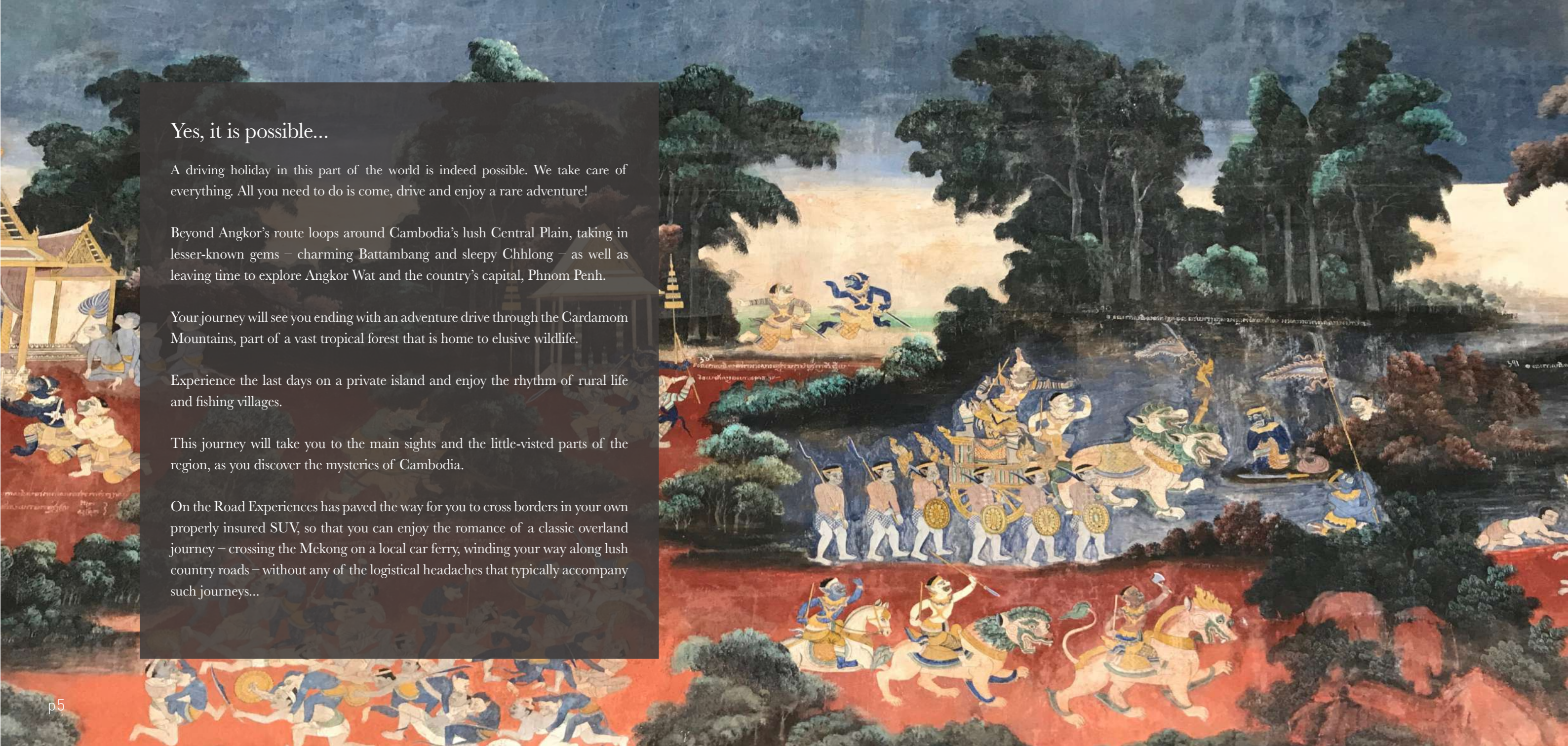
Beyond Angkor's route loops around Cambodia's lush Central Plain, taking in lesser-known gems – charming Battambang and sleepy Chhlong – as well as leaving time to explore Angkor Wat and the country's capital, Phnom Penh.

Your journey will see you ending with an adventure drive through the Cardamom Mountains, part of a vast tropical forest that is home to elusive wildlife.

Experience the last days on a private island and enjoy the rhythm of rural life and fishing villages.

This journey will take you to the main sights and the little-visited parts of the region, as you discover the mysteries of Cambodia.

On the Road Experiences has paved the way for you to cross borders in your own properly insured SUV, so that you can enjoy the romance of a classic overland journey – crossing the Mekong on a local car ferry, winding your way along lush country roads – without any of the logistical headaches that typically accompany such journeys...



Journey of Discovery

Back Roads. Hidden Gems.



“

START YOUR
JOURNEY IN THE
VIBRANT
CAPITAL CITY OF
PHNOM PENH...”

PHNOM PENH,
CAMBODIA



“

EVEN THOUGH YOU
MIGHT NOT DARE
TO TRY, THE INSECT
MARKET IS WORTH
A VISIT ON THE WAY
TO CHHLONG...”

SKUN,
CAMBODIA



“

THE LONGEST
BAMBOO BRIDGE
IN THE WORLD,
REBUILT EVERY YEAR
AFTER THE
RAINY SEASON...”

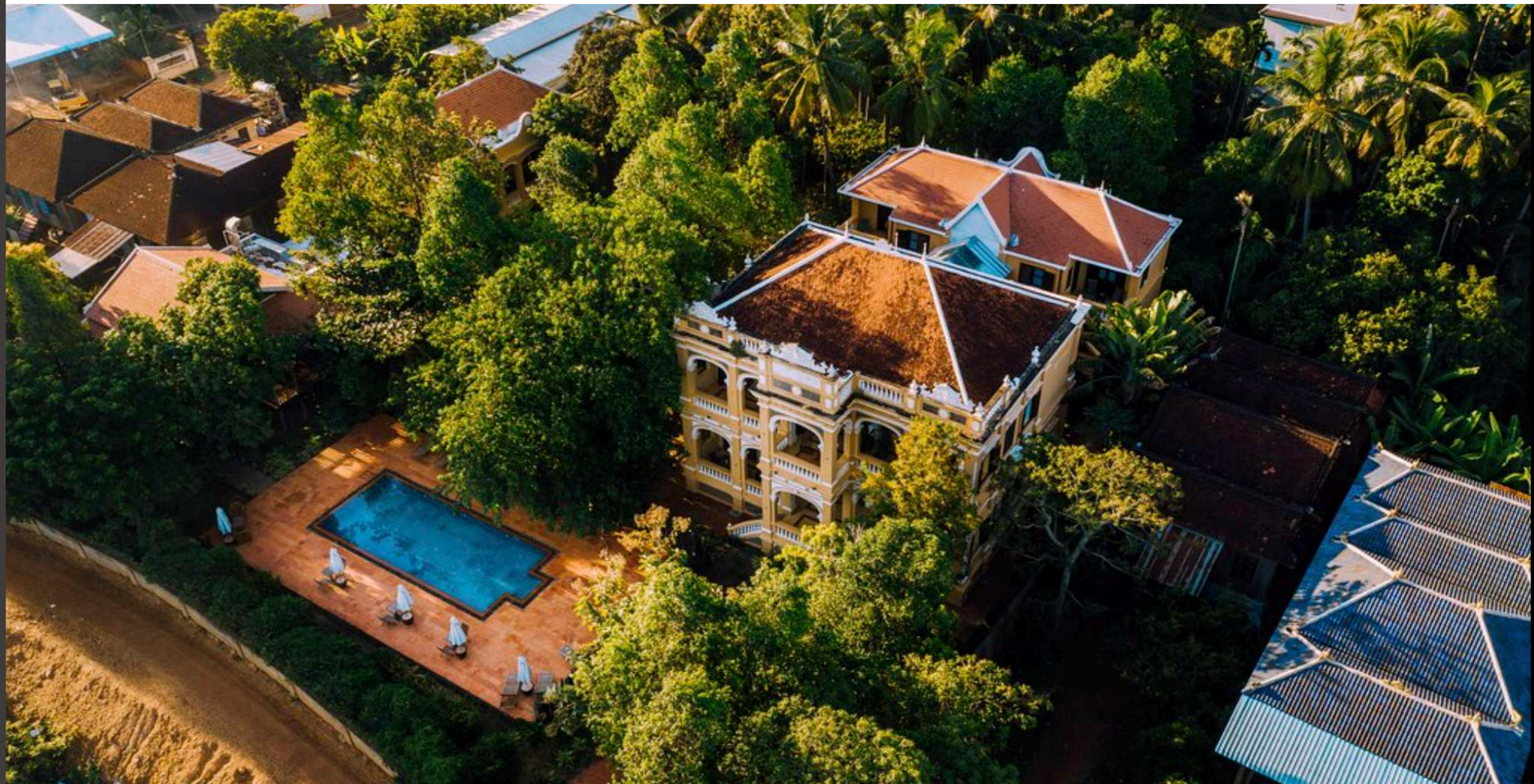
KAMPONG CHAM,
CAMBODIA



“

A HIDDEN GEM
IN A VERY
LOCAL TOWN -
CHHLONG...”

KRATIÉ,
CAMBODIA



“

WITH SOME LUCK
WE CAN WATCH THE
MEKONG DOLPHINS...”

KRATIÉ,
CAMBODIA



“
BEAUTIFUL TEMPLES
ARE SPREAD AROUND
KRATIÉ...”

KRATIÉ,
CAMBODIA



“

PREPARED TO GET
WET AT A MONK
BLESSING...”

ON THE ROAD IN
CAMBODIA



“

CROSSING THE
MEKONG THE OLD
FASHIONED WAY...”

CAMBODIA



“

LONELY
ROADS...”

NEAR CHHLONG,
CAMBODIA



“

CASHWEW
NUTS & RUBBER
PLANTATIONS AND
LOCAL LIFE...”

ON THE WAY TO
SIEM REAP



“

A GEM
OF A HOTEL...”

SIEM REAP,
CAMBODIA



“

SUNRISE OVER
ANGKOR WAT..”

ANGKOR WAT,
CAMBODIA



“

BE AMAZED
BY THE
KHMER HERITAGE...”

ANGKOR WAT,
CAMBODIA



“

CHEF KASUL
PREPARING EACH
DISH FROM FARM
TO TABLE...”

SIEM REAP,
CAMBODIA



“

UNMATCHED
IN BEAUTY AND
ELEGANCE,
CAMBODIAN APSARA
DANCERS ARE
RECOGNIZED FOR
THEIR EXQUISITE
COSTUMES AND
MESMERIZING HAND
MOVEMENTS...”

SIEM REAP,
CAMBODIA



“
DRIVING ON
BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY
ROADS TOWARDS
BATTAMBANG...”

ON THE WAY TO
BATTAMBANG,
CAMBODIA



“

SUNSET OVER
PHNOM SAMPOV,
THE STUNNING
LIMESTONE
MOUNTAIN..”

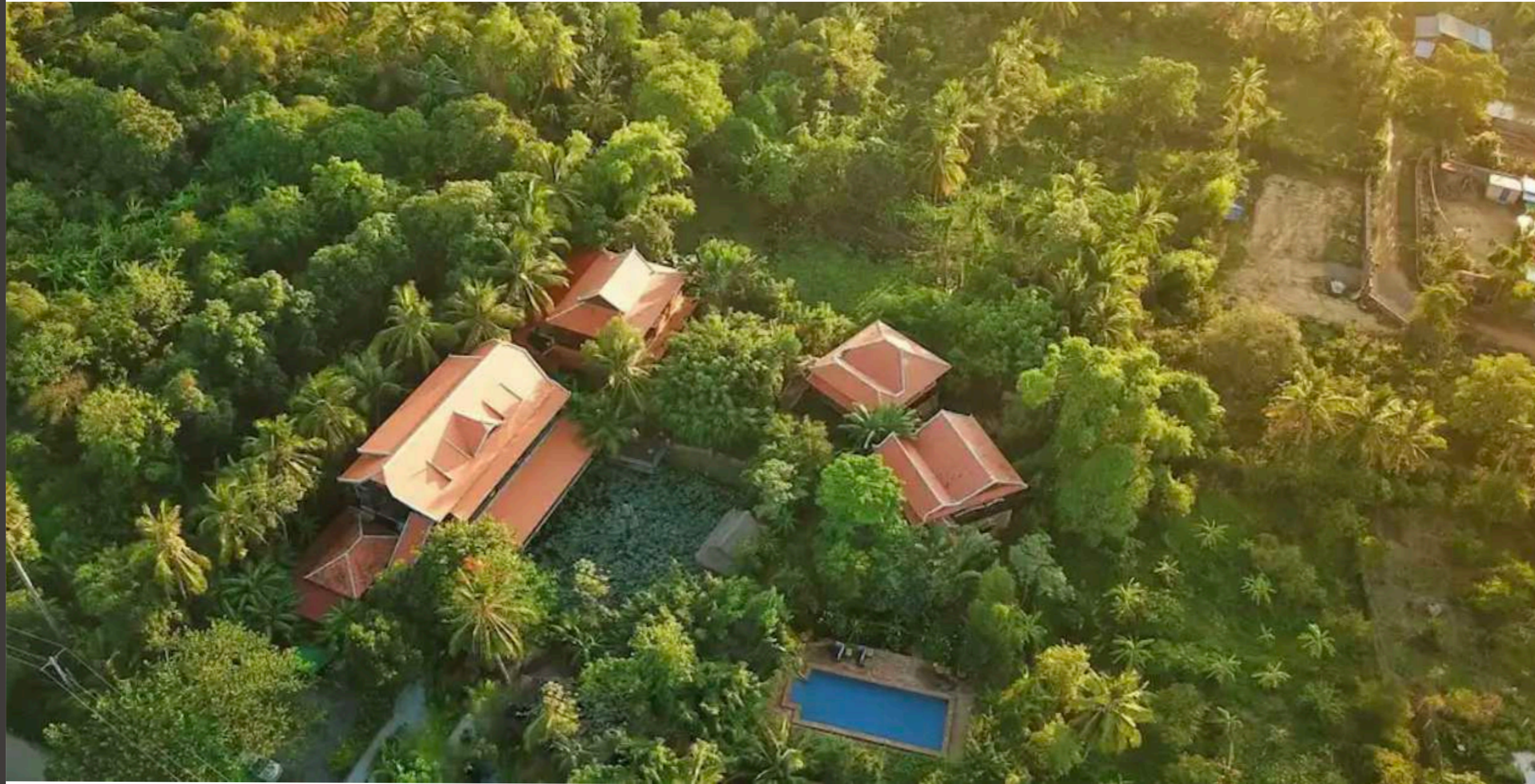
BATTAMBANG,
CAMBODIA



“

STAY AT ANOTHER
OASIS...
MAISON WAT KOR...”

BATTAMBANG,
CAMBODIA



“

COLONIAL
BUILDINGS, TRENDY
COFFEE SHOPS,
STREET ART – THAT
IS THE VIBE OF
BATTAMBANG...”

BATTAMBANG,
CAMBODIA



“

EVENING
ATMOSPHERE IN
PURSAT..”

PURSAT,
CAMBODIA



“

ROUNDBABOUTS
FEATURE FOR WHAT
THE PROVINCE IS
FAMOUS FOR...”

PURSAT PROVINCE,
CAMBODIA



“

THE FIRST PART IS ON
A STUNNING ROAD
TOWARDS
THE THAI BORDER,
BUT THEN...”

ON THE WAY TO
KOH KONG,
CAMBODIA



“

OFF ROAD
FOR A DAY...”

THROUGH
THE CARDAMOM
MOUNTAINS,
CAMBODIA



“
OUR HOST FAMILY
FOR A LOCAL
LUNCH...”

THE CARDAMOM
MOUNTAINS,
CAMBODIA



“

COFFEE BREAK AT
AN ARMY CAMP..”

ON THE ROAD IN
CAMBODIA



“

YOUR PRIVATE
ISLAND GLAMPING
EXPERIENCE...”

KOH KONG,
CAMBODIA



“

SUNSET OVER
KOH KONG...”

KOH KONG,
CAMBODIA



Accommodation

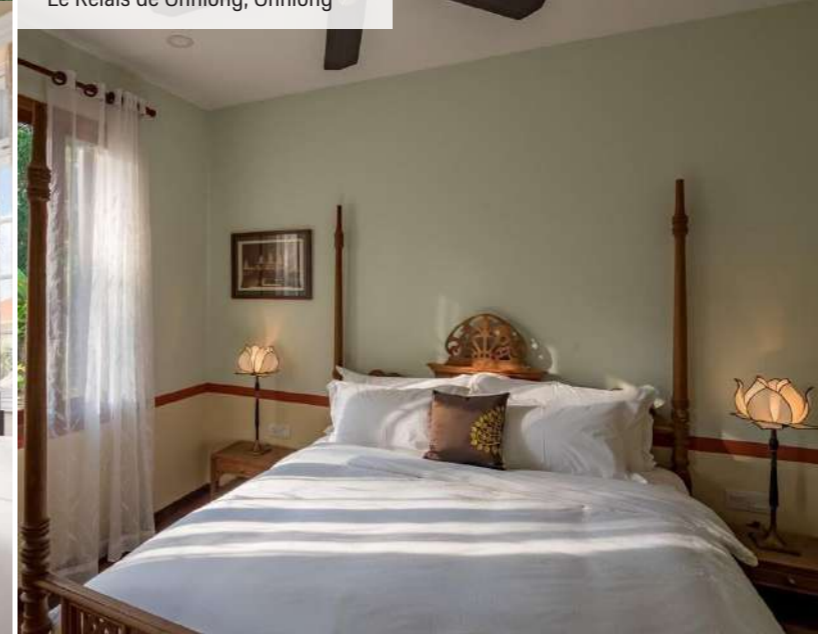
Immerse yourself in luxury stays



Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh



Le Relais de Chhlong, Chhlong



Accommodation

Immerse yourself in luxury stays



Zannier Hotels Phum Baitang, Siem Reap



Maisons Wat Kor, Battambang



Accommodation

Immerse yourself in luxury stays



Pursat Riverside Hotel and Spa



Canvas and Orchids Retreat, Tatai



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Culinary Discovery

Travel and fine food go together

While this itinerary is not one of our 'Foodie'-themed journeys, we do believe that each one of our journeys should introduce you not only to hidden gems of cultural and scenic beauty, but that sampling local cuisines is also a must.

Wherever you travel with us, we will order, with very few exceptions, dishes fresh and on location with an emphasis on local produce. It is not uncommon for our guides to venture into the kitchen to pick this, that or the other vegetable and to ask the cook to prepare them in the finest possible way. (On occasion we do pre-order a meal: this will normally be the case only for special occasions!)

Finally, if you have special dietary requirements are particularly interested in the culinary aspect of one of our journeys, please let us know.





DAY 1 WELCOME TO PHNOM PENH

Arrive in Phnom Penh per your own arrangements. We will pick you up from the airport and take you to your hotel. You will have the remainder of the afternoon free to explore Cambodia's capital – join shoppers in the lively Central Market, stroll along Sisowath Quay or visit the Royal Palace.

In the evening we will meet for a welcome dinner and road safety briefing.

Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 0 km

Duration: 0 hours

Hotel

Raffles Hotel Le Royal Phnom Penh



DAY 2 AN UNIQUE EXPERIENCE IN A SMALL MUSLIM COMMUNITY ON THE MEKONG

Our first driving day takes us to Chhlong, a small town on the Mekong, 200km (5hrs driving time) northeast of Phnom Penh. We will make a few interesting stops along the way, including an insect market for snacking. In the late afternoon we arrive at our destination for today. Once a bustling port for French and Chinese traders, today decaying colonial- era villas line the streets.

This region is home to the Cham people, a Muslim community living alongside the Buddhist Khmers – you might spot village mosques on today's drive. After arriving, you can enjoy the hotel grounds.

In the evening we will enjoy a dinner at the hotel.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 250 km

Duration: 8 hours

Hotel

Le Relais de Chhlong, Chhlong
(***)



DAY 3 IN AND AROUND CHHLONG

Today we explore the area around Chhlong and drive 1 hour further North towards Kratie. Here we continue with a boat excursion on the mighty Mekong River, where we were granted the unique opportunity to witness the Mekong Dolphins in their natural habitat. Thanks to the concerted efforts of Cambodia and various non-governmental organizations, these endangered creatures have made a remarkable comeback.

After a local lunch we embark on a leisurely drive back towards Chhlong, taking the opportunity to visit the captivating temples spread throughout the area. Each temple exuded a unique charm, showcasing the intricate artistry and spiritual significance that resonates within Cambodia's rich history.

As the evening sets in, indulge in another delightful dinner at the hotel, enjoying traditional Khmer dishes prepared with locally sourced ingredients.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 120 km

Duration: 3-4 hours

Hotel

Relais De Chhlong, Chhlong (***)

DAY 4 ALONG THE MEKONG TO SIEM REAP

We leave Chhlong early today and take a car ferry across the Mekong. Our way leads us slowly away from the Mekong through rubber tree plantations and small villages. Lunch will be a local affair along the way towards Siem Reap. The road towards Siem Reap might be a bit busier, time permitting we make a stop at the fishermen's village Kampong Khleang. A traditional stilted village community found living high above the lake's waters and the village provides homes for some 20,000 residents - it is the largest single community on the fringes of the Tonle Sap Lake. Then we make our way to Siem Reap and our hotel for the next two nights.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 250 km

Duration: 8 hours

Hotel

Le Relais de Chhlong, Chhlong (***)

DAY 5 THE ARTS AND ANGKOR

As the base for visiting Angkor Wat, Siem Reap is one of the most famous destinations in Cambodia. Angkor itself is one of the most important archaeological sites in Southeast Asia. It extends over approximately 400 square kilometres and consists of scores of temples and hydraulic structures (basins, dykes, reservoirs, canals).

Although the entire site is known as Angkor Wat, the name actually refers to a single large temple within the Angkor region.

For several centuries Angkor was the centre of the Khmer Kingdom. Temples such as Angkor Wat, the Bayon, Preah Khan and Ta Prohm are the finest existing examples of Khmer architecture.

Angkor was intended as an earthly representation of Mount Meru, the Mount Olympus of the Hindu and Buddhist faiths. Khmer kings each strove to better their ancestors, a process that culminated in Suryavarman II's (r 1112-52) construction of Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious building.

There is much to see in Angkor. We will start the day early, and watch sunrise over the temples. Thereafter, you can arrange the day as you wish; explore as much of Angkor as possible, or relax at the hotel through the heat of the day, and head out again in the evening. Whatever you would like to do, our team will do their best to help you realise your plans.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 0-100 km

Duration: 0-9 hours

Hotel

Zannier Hotels Phum Baitang, Siem Reap (*****)

DAY 6 BATS AND COLONIAL BATTAMBANG

After a leisurely morning we depart for Battambang. With a rich architectural heritage, a thriving art scene, and stunning surrounding countryside, Battambang is a tranquil respite from the hustle and bustle of Phnom Penh and Siem Reap.

The first part of our drive is on a busy road, but then we turn away on a

beautiful country road and soon on some sandy tracks through villages and paddy fields. We arrive in Battambang in the early evening.

Before we check-in into our hotel we will make a stop at the bat cave.

As dusk falls every day at around 5 or 6 pm, thousands upon thousands of these nocturnal creatures leave their nests and pour out of the cave, reminiscent of a smoke column billowing up to the sky. It takes up to 40 minutes for all of the bats to exit, so you'll have plenty of time to take a good photo.

Afterwards we drive to our small boutique hotel, the Maisons Wat Kor.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 170 km

Duration: 5 hours

Hotel

Maisons Wat Kor, Battambang (****)

DAY 7 EXPLORE BATTAMBANG THEN A SHORT DRIVE TO PURSAT

Today we explore the charming city of Battambang, where history, art, and cuisine come together to create a delightful experience. Our leisurely day begins with a delicious breakfast, energizing us for the adventures that await.

We start by visiting an ancient house in the neighborhood, immersing ourselves in Cambodia's rich and sometimes dark history. As we explore, we gain a deeper understanding of the country's past and its impact on the present.

Next, we make our way to the heart of Battambang downtown, where the governor's house awaits. This landmark allows us to witness the grandeur of Cambodian architecture and feel the elegance of the past.

But it's time to indulge in one of Battambang's most renowned features – its cuisine. Despite not boasting any Michelin-starred restaurants, this quiet provincial capital has been recognized by UNESCO as a gastronomical destination. We venture into the local market, with its vibrant colors and enticing aromas, to sample the flavors that make Battambang famous.

As we wander through town, we can't help but be enchanted by the charming colonial-era buildings standing proudly along narrow lanes. The "walking district" near the market comes alive with contemporary art galleries, local and foreign cafes, shops, and bars that have found their home in the old shophouses. It's a treasure trove for art enthusiasts and those seeking a slice of Battambang's vibrant culture. In the later afternoon it is time for our short drive to Pursat, a less charming town but a necessary stop for our long drive to Koh Kong the next day.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 120 km

Duration: 3 hours

Hotel

Pursat Riverside Hotel and Spa,
Pursat (**)

DAY 8 ADVENTURE DRIVING THROUGH THE CARDAMOM MOUNTAINS

Today is all about adventure, as we drive the winding road through the Cardamom Mountains down to the South.

We begin our long drive on well-paved roads to the town of Thmorda, where a local family welcomes us and prepares a take-away meal for us. We'll be venturing off the beaten path, following a breathtaking route that runs alongside the Thai border. This hidden gem is rarely explored by tourists, offering a unique and immersive experience. However, please note that road conditions can vary depending on the season, so be prepared for a potentially bumpy ride!

Our road eventually leads us to Tatai, where we safely park our cars and embark on a serene sailing journey to the Canvas and Orchids Retreat. Here, amidst the tranquil surroundings, we'll indulge in an extraordinary glamping experience. This private sanctuary provides the perfect setting to unwind and connect with nature.

To conclude this eventful day, we'll savor a delightful dinner at the hotel-owned restaurant. Prepare to be treated to a culinary experience that complements the beauty of our surroundings.



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Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 290 km

Duration: 9-10 hours

Hotel

Canvas and Orchids Resort (****)



DAY 9 EXPLORING FISHING VILLAGES AND THE SURROUNDINGS

We're not ready to leave our island paradise yet. We spend the day here, relaxing after yesterday's epic drive and unwinding in nature. You've got options here: hike through the surrounding jungle, mountains and rainforests; kayak down the rushing Tatai River; or take a dip in the Tatai Waterfalls. Wrap it all up with a sunset cruise and a dinner back at our floating lodge.

A place land experience like no other, you may never want to book a boring hotel again.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 0 km

Duration: 0 hours

Hotel

Canvas and Orchids Resort (****)

DAY 10 DRIVE TO PHNOM PENH AND DEPART

Today we are on the road early in order to reach Phnom Penh by 1pm. Please make sure you do not book your return flight with a departure before 3pm. We hope you have enjoyed your time with us On the Road and we can welcome you another time again.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 278 km

Duration: 5 hours

Choice Of Cars

What will you be driving?

We include in the package price an SUV procured from Avis, our longstanding partner in Asia.

All of our SUVs are meticulously maintained Fords, typically the latest models or no older than 2 years.

SUVs are the ideal choice for driving journeys in this region due to their spaciousness, accommodating a great amount of luggage, photography equipment, and godd-and-bad weather gear.

Additionally, they enhance the sense of adventure, exploration, and discovery that embodies

journeys in this area, regardless of the comfort or luxury of the accommodations for the night.

Moreover, SUVs provide ample clearance when needed, ensuring a sense of safety and all-around capability.

Therefore, SUVs from reputable brands are our preferred vehicle option.



What's Included / Best Travel Time

Sit back and enjoy.

Generally speaking, our journey packages and prices are all-inclusive. Once you've paid and you arrive at the starting point, you really won't have to take out your wallet again except for liquids (alcoholic drinks and petrol) and presents to take home!

Cars – a modern SUV is provided for all driving days, expertly maintained and serviced by Avis, and covered by the best insurance available.

International Journey Host, Guide and Support Vehicle – you will be accompanied by a registered Laos or Cambodian tour guide, an On the Road Experiences host and a fully equipped lead car with a local support driver.

Routes – A well-researched itinerary and carefully crafted journey experience. You will receive a detailed route book before your departure. We will also supply each car with printed maps.

Driving License – All arrangements, fees and permits for driving in Laos and Cambodia are included

Fuel & Tolls – we provide petrol for the car throughout the journey and pay all tolls

Airport Transfers – all airport transfers are included

Permits and logistics –all entry, border crossing and road permits are included

Hotels – the best available or five-star accommodation is included in each overnight stop

Meals – breakfast (a choice of Western and Local is provided), and lunch and dinner are included on all driving days, as are drinks. Meals on non-driving days as specified above. Prepare for a culinary adventure!

Goodies – you will enjoy an On the Road Home-Away-from-Home Kit containing wet towels, anti-bacterial gel and basic toiletries, and a daily picnic basket containing fresh fruit, water, and a mixture of sweets and nibbles

Other Essentials – we provide each car with walky-talkies

Activities, Meals, Transport during 'free times' as indicated in this Journey Dossier

The Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong recommends that travelers take out comprehensive

travel insurance that suits your needs after understanding the tour activities and the cover of various travel insurance policies.

Meanwhile, We, the company, strongly recommends travelers should purchase suitable comprehensive insurance for this journey and check whether your travel insurance policy covers all activities of the tours (including self-pay activities), and clearly understand the insurance policy. The company is not responsible for any risk.

What's Not Included

- Your flights to and from Cambodia/Phnom Penh
- Personal shopping (e.g., gifts, souvenirs).
- Visas (if required)
- Alcoholic drinks (unless explicitly included)
- Activities, meals, transport during 'free times' as indicated in this Journey Dossier

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

JUN

JUL

AUG

SEPT

OCT

NOV

DEC



ON THE ROAD
BACK ROADS | HIDDEN GEMS
Soul Driven

*“Do not go where the path may lead,
go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”*

- Ralph Waldo Emerson -