

PROGRAM ITINERARY

► Thursday March 4

Departure on an international flight.

► Friday March 5

Arrival in **Siem Reap** where you are met by your On-site Coordinator who will escort you to your hotel. Tonight enjoy a **Welcome Dinner**.

Hotel: **Khemara Angkor** or similar.

► Saturday March 6

Siem Reap is the capital city of Siem Reap Province. This small town is the gateway to the Angkor Archeological Park, which is over 40 km² and is home to more than 100 temples dating from the 9th to the 13th centuries.

After breakfast you are picked up from your hotel for a tour to the **City of Angkor Thom**, which houses some of Angkor's most famous monuments. You will arrive via the South Gate, an impressive stone gate carved with elephants and 4 giant sandstone faces. Each side has a row of 54 gods or demons holding the sacred Naga snake. From here you enter the city and arrive at the **Bayon Temple** which lies exactly in the center of the city. The monument is famous for the 54 towers representing the 54 provinces of the then Great Khmer Empire. Each tower has 4 faces. Continue on foot to the **Baphuon**, the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper King.

Then visit **Ta Prohm Temples**, built in the mid 12th to early 13th centuries. Ta Prohm is unique in that it has been left largely as it was found: overgrown by jungle trees and vines with many parts of the temple crumbling to the ground. This makes Ta Prohm one of the most picturesque and memorable of the Angkor temples.

This afternoon you will visit the biggest religious temple in the world; the magnificent **Angkor Wat Temple**, built by Suryavarman in early



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Cambodia is a land of contrasts and diversity; an alluring country with a deep and rich, if sometimes tragic, history. **Siem Reap** is the gateway to the **Temples of Angkor**, a magnificent complex built between the 9th and 14th centuries which includes more than 100 temples. Accompanied by an expert guide, students will learn about the history of the temples, their religious significance, and the methods used to build them. Contemporary Cambodian history and culture will also be explored with visits to **Battambang**, somewhat off the beaten path, but the second largest city in the country, as well as the **Genocide Museum** and other visits in **Phnom Penh**, the nation's capital, which will reveal the extent of the horror that the Khmer Rouge perpetrated on the people of Cambodia. Today Cambodia is a vibrant and exciting nation, blending a rich history and tradition with an exhilarating contemporary energy.

The World is Your Classroom



12th century. Inside the temple the walls are covered by carvings and bas-reliefs depicting Hindu mythology and the wars Suryavarman II made during his reign. Angkor Wat is also well known for the 2000 Aspara dancers decorating the temple. Enjoy sunset over Angkor Wat before returning to your hotel.

► Sunday March 7

Depart Siem Reap for a visit to **Lake Tonle Sap** where you will have the opportunity to learn about life on the lake. Tonle Sap is South East Asia's largest freshwater lake with its size varying greatly depending on the season. During the dry season it is roughly 2,500 km², swelling to about 4 times its size in during the wet season: 10,000 km²! We will board a boat and visit the **Kampong Pluk**. Kampong Pluk is a cluster of three villages of stilted houses built within the floodplain of the Tonle Sap about 16km southeast of Siem Reap. Flooded mangrove forest surrounds the area and is home to a variety of wildlife including crab-eating macaques.

Lunch is included today.

► Monday March 8

In the morning, transfer from Siem Reap to **Battambang**. Sitting on the Sangker River just southwest of the Tonle Sap Lake, Battambang town is at the heart of Cambodia's rice bowl and even though it is the country's second biggest town, it still has a very local, untouristed, provincial atmosphere.

In the afternoon, visit Ek Phnom Penh and the city.

Hotel: **Stung Sangker** or similar

► Tuesday March 8

Free day in **Battambang**. Your guide and driver are at the disposal of the group.

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PROGRAM ITINERARY continued . . .



► *Wednesday March 10*

After breakfast transfer back to Siem Reap where the group will have a private visit with the Chief Monk at the city's main Pagoda. Overnight in Siem Reap.

► *Thursday March 11*

Morning transfer to the Cambodian capitol, **Phnom Penh**. Phnom Penh was once considered one of the most beautiful cities in Asia, and, despite its recent turbulent history, retains its graceful, colonial charm.

Hotel: **Sunway Hotel** or similar

► *Friday March 12*

In the morning, your half day tour of Phnom Penh includes a visit to the **Royal Palace** complex. This palace dates from 1866 and was the last one built during the French colonial period. The same complex houses the **Silver Pagoda**, named for the over 5000 silver tiles that cover its floors. Its original name is **Wat Prakeo**, meaning Temple of the Emerald Buddha. In this temple you will view a collection of Buddhas in

gold, silver, crystal, and bronze. Continue on to the National Museum, built in 1917. Housed there are over 5000 statues, lingas and others artifacts arranged according to pre- Angkor and post -Angkor periods of Cambodia history.

In the afternoon, learn about Cambodia's turbulent recent past with a visit to the **Tuol Sleng Museum** of Genocidal Crimes. The museum is housed in a former school which was taken over by the Khmer Rouge and used as a detention and torture center. You will also visit Cheung Ek, better known as the Killing Fields, located 15 kilometres outside of the city.

► *Saturday March 13*

Today enjoy an excursion to **Koh Dach Island**. The island is a center for many traditional crafts, most notably silk weaving. Tonight you have a **Farewell Dinner**.

► *Sunday March 14*

Transfer to the airport for your return flight to the USA.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Accident & Sickness Insurance

CSA includes full medical and accident insurance for every program participant. This coverage includes:

- \$50,000 Accident & Sickness Medical Expense (\$100.00 deductible)
- \$50,000 Emergency Medical Evacuation
- \$25,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment
- \$10,000 Repatriation of Remains
- Bedside visitation by friend or relative – economy class airfare
- An international assistance center which is available to help 24•hours a day

Cultural Studies Abroad (CSA) is the agent for, certain carefully selected carriers, wholesalers and service companies, all of which are disclosed principals and independent contractors. CSA is not responsible for any negligent act or omission by any of these organizations, such as ship or flight delay, cancellations or prevention of the performance of any obligation its part to be performed including, but not limited to, any product sold by CSA resulting from seizures under local process, sanctions, quarantine restrictions, acts of governmental authority, strikes, work stoppages or labor disputes (whether resulting from disputes between carriers and employees, or between other parties), war or hazards incident to a state of war, fire, acts of god or nature including, without limitation, floods, earthquakes or weather conditions, mechanical difficulties, riots or civil commotions, or any other acts, matters of things, whether or not of a similar nature, beyond the control of CSA or its representative carriers, wholesalers and service companies.

Cultural Studies Abroad reserves the right to refuse service and /or terminate the participation of any program participant whose health or mental condition or physical infirmity impedes the operation of the program, or whose conduct is discourteous to others or incompatible with the best interests of the group. In case of removal, participant shall have no claim for refund of any kind for any portion of the program, used or unused.

Accommodations: Often, quoted hotels are not confirmed until the entire group has made the initial deposit. CSA reserves the right to change hotels, if necessary, within the same category. Changes in hotels do not warrant cancellation by participant without penalty. All rates are based on double occupancy unless otherwise specified.

A limited number of single rooms will be available at a supplemental charge due at the time of final payment

Alterations to Published Itinerary: CSA reserves the right to alter, modify, or withdraw the itinerary of any program if air schedules and/or events beyond its control deem it necessary. Itinerary changes made by contractors abroad are beyond the control of CSA and should changes be made, the participant and CSA are bound accordingly.

Itinerary Deviations: Extensions after the program must be requested in writing to Cultural Studies Abroad as soon as possible but no later than 90 days prior to departure. A \$50.00 per person deviation fee will apply plus any supplemental airfare. Cultural Studies Abroad assumes no liability or responsibility for any participants deviating from the group program. Participants arriving and departing independently are responsible for their own transfers.

Not included in the cost of the program: Visa fees not specifically mentioned; passport and photos; items of a personal nature, such as laundry, telephone calls, beverages or items not covered in included meals; meals not included, optional excursions, excess baggage charges, luggage handling in U.S. at beginning and end of the program; expenses due to flight delays or other irregularities.

Program Price: Program prices are based on rates of exchange, land, and air tariffs as of the date of initial deposit and are subject to adjustment due to circumstances beyond the control of CSA, including lack of participation. Any adjustment to the price for these reasons is not grounds for withdrawal with full refund.

Air Transportation: Departures from the U.S. are on recognized scheduled air carriers utilizing special group fares. The specific airline, fare used, and itinerary is at the discretion of CSA and is not confirmed until the minimum group size has been met. Airline and schedules are subject to change at all times.

Cancellation: Cancellations will only be accepted in writing via email, or mail addressed to Cultural Studies Abroad, 1401 Jones Street, Suite 205, San Francisco, CA, 94109. The date the cancellation is received by CSA shall determine the cancellation date.

Standard Cancellation Fees: the standard cancellation fees apply as follows:

- Up to 90 days prior to departure, \$100.00 per person
- Between 90 and 61 days prior to departure, \$250.00 per person
- Between 60 and 31 days, 50% of the program price
- Between 30 days and day of departure, 100% of program price

