Temples of Cambodia

This 6 day tour is the best way to see the Cambodian temples, you will be taken off the tourist trail seeing temples that sadly most visitors never hear of let alone visit.

We start the tour with Kulen Mountain which boasts stunning views of the surrounding area as well as a nearby waterfall and the underwater carvings of 1000 lingas. Moving on Banteay Srei offers some of the most magnificent carving to be seen in the Archaeological Park. The next temple that we will visit is the incredible jungle temple of Banteay Chhmar, often overlooked by many tourist groups. We then spend a whole day at the Angkor Temples which it goes without saying are a must for any trip to Cambodia.

Our exploration continues with Beng Mealea & Koh Ker with both temples offering a stark reminder of the power of nature and how ultimately it is able to retake even the grandest of buildings. Our final journey north and around to Kampong Thom rewards you with the stunning views from the top of Preah Vihear, sitting at the top of a 700m high cliff. Before finishing where it began at the sansstone temple complex of Sambor Prei Kuk which is an exciting way to finish and put all the pieces into place.

**Trip Information**

**Tour includes**

- Airport pick up and drop off
- Overnights as mentioned
- Excursions as mentioned
- Transportation in private A/C vehicle
- English speaking guide
- Meals as mentioned (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner - excludes drinks)
- All taxes

**Tour excludes**

- All International flights & Visa fees, currently $20 per person
- International airport tax (Included in Airline Ticket)
- Meals, unless mentioned differently
- Beverages and personal expenses
- Other excursions and entrance fees
- Travel insurance (cover against all cancellation costs, medical expenses, including repatriation and evacuation in the event of accident of illness)
Prices & Hotels

### Standard Hotels

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hotels</th>
<th>Price from £</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Siem Reap:</td>
<td>Angkor Home Hotel, Frangipani Villa</td>
<td>599</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preah Vihear:</td>
<td>Reaksmsy Sokun Guest House</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kampong Thom:</td>
<td>Sambour Prei Kuk</td>
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### Superior Hotels

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<tr>
<td>Siem Reap:</td>
<td>Maison 557, Sojourn, Pavillon D'Orient</td>
<td>699</td>
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### Luxury Hotels

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<td>Siem Reap:</td>
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All prices are correct at the time of publishing however Prices and Accommodation are subject to availability and can only be confirmed at the time of booking.

Please note: During high season periods (such as Christmas and New Year) hotels often levy a surcharge and these are not included in the above prices. Your consultant will be happy to advise you of these.
Complete trip details

Day 1  **Kulen Mountain & Banteay Srei: Siem Reap** (Meals B/_/_)

Our tour of the Cambodian Temples begins with a trip to Kulen Mountain (Holy Mountain) located 50km north of Angkor Wat temple. Here we will visit the beautiful underwater carvings of the 1000 lingas (phallic symbols) that lie just beneath the water’s surface, it is believed that the lingas provide the water with fertility which is important as the water flows into Tonle Sap lake and thus is key to fishing and farming in the surrounding areas. We then continue to climb the mountain, until we reach the summit, here is a small Wat which houses a large Buddha (‘Preah Ang Thom’). You can enjoy the view before we begin our descent stopping at a waterfall where you can enjoy a quick dip before lunch at the base of the mountain.

Now we travel to Banteay Srei (‘Citadel of Women’) this is the only temple that is known to have been built without the Kings authority. It is however an impressive site boasting magnificent carvings and is a great way to start our tour of the Cambodian temples. Once you have finished exploring the temple we return to Siem Reap where the evening is yours to spend as you wish.

Day 2  **Banteay Chhmar: Siem Reap** (Meals: _/_/_)

Today we travel to Banteay Chhmar, this incredible jungle temple now under the jurisdiction of UNESCO is famous for its signature faces of Jayavarman VII. The temple itself is dedicated to the then crowned prince Indravarman and to the four royal servants who gave their lives defending him in battle. One of the most impressive sites at this particular temple is the magnificent carvings of Lokesvara with 32 arms, nicknamed lok sam-pee (Mr 32) by Khmers, as well as the beautiful Hall of Dancers.

Day 3  **Angkor Temples** (Meals: B/_/_)

Today we head out to explore the incredible Angkor temples home to the magnificent Angkor Wat temple! Your guided tour of the Siem Reap temples begins with the most famous of the Angkor temples the stunning Angkor Wat temple. Your guide will begin by unravelling the mysteries of the bas-reliefs that tell of tales from Hindu mythology and of the glories of the Khmer empire. We then continue to Ta Prohm temple which has been left exposed to the elements and as you will see is almost being taken back by nature. In the afternoon we continue to explore the Angkor temples, with a visit to Angkor Thom an immense walled city built as an impregnable fortress at the heat of King Jayavarman VII’s kingdom. Here you will see fantastic sites such as the Terrace of the Leper King, the Terrace of Elephants and at the southern end the Baphuon, one of the most beautiful of the Angkor temples. The climax of the day will be the temple of Bayon, which is at the exact centre of Angkor Thom and is a site close to rivalling the beauty of Angkor Wat temple.

Day 4  **Beng Mealea & Koh Ker: Preah Vihear** (Meals: _/_/_)

Today we leave Siem Reap behind for a couple of days to discover lost temple of Beng Mealea, Koh Ker and the hill top temple of Preah Vihear. Beng Mealea is one of the Cambodian temples that nature has consumed and looks like something you would see in an Indiana Jones film. Once you have finished exploring this temple we continue to Koh Ker a remote temple that actually became the capital of Angkor when Jayavarman IV (928-942) fell out with his family, stormed off to the northwest and established it as his capital.

Day 5  **Preah Vihear to Kampong Thom** (Meals: B/_/_)

This morning we rise early to explore Preah Vihear temple, which sits on top of a 700 meter high cliff. While the climb may leave you a little out of breath the view from the top is magnificent and will take what is left of your breath away! The temple is often described to be Cambodia’s soul an after spending time exploring the temple you will see why. We then stop for lunch and travel south to the town of Kampong Thom. Once here you have time to walk or cycle along the river and get acquainted with your new surroundings.

Day 6  **Sambor Prei Kuk Temple Complex, Siem Reap** (Meals: B/L/_)

Sambor Prei Kuk temple complex is a great way to end this Cambodian temples tour, once on site a local guide meets us and takes us through the three main Cambodian temples that are found in the complex: Prasat Sambor, Prasat Tao and Prasat Yeai Poeun. You can either walk between the temples or cycle if you prefer. A picnic is provided so you can enjoy more time at these temples and soak up everything that you have seen on this incredible temple tour.