



# AROUND CAMBODIA

## Classic Tour | 15 Days | Physical Level 1

Siem Reap – Battambang – Phnom Penh – Kampot – Kep – Phnom Penh

Spend two weeks exploring Cambodia's complex history and fascinating heritage. Cover all the highlights of the kingdom, from cooking classes to cultural shows, dinner cruises and — of course — the majestic temples of Angkor.

- Discover captivating Phnom Penh
- Learn Cambodian history at the Killing Fields and Tuol Sleng
- Kick back in coastal Kampot
- Unravel the mysteries of the silk making process
- Explore colonial Battambang
- Be inspired by majestic Angkor
- See local life on Tonle Sap

## TOUR MAP



## AROUND CAMBODIA TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- All meals
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escort (if your group is 10 or more passengers) or Local Guides
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders (please see visa section below for further information)
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides

*The only things you may have to pay for are personal expenditures e.g., drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping, early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary.*

## CLASSIC TOURS:

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These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of Southeast Asia on an excellent value group tour whilst travelling with like-minded people. The tours are on a fully inclusive basis so you will travel with the assurance that all your arrangements are taken care of. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escorts and local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

## PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:

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Our tours come with a physical rating to guide you in selecting a holiday that suits your comfort level. Joining any of our tours involves independent mobility and the ability to stay active throughout the day, which is essential for fully enjoying the unique charm of each destination.

'Around Cambodia' falls under a Physical Level 1 category. This indicates a level of fitness that allows you to comfortably remain on your feet with occasional rests. Expect to effortlessly navigate boarding and disembarking from various modes of transport, including coaches, trains, and boats. You'll be walking around remarkable sites and ascending steps to capture those awe-inspiring views!

Please Consider:

- Sightseeing may often involve walking for a reasonable duration, sometimes over multiple steps, or uneven surfaces.
- Boarding and alighting from various boat sizes independently is part of the experience.

Our National Escort is dedicated to providing a high level of service and support throughout your journey. However, their primary role is to manage the daily aspects of the tour. They are unable to offer extensive personal physical assistance. We kindly ask our travelers to be prepared for the physical aspects of the tour to ensure a comfortable and enjoyable experience for everyone.

## JOINING YOUR TOUR:

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The tour is 15 days in duration including international flights.

Travellers booked on a 'Land Only' package, the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour. Please advise your international flight times to our reservations team.

Join the tour on Day 2 in Siem Reap and end the tour on Day 14 in Phnom Penh. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

### ITINERARY CHANGES:

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We intend to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours, or as dictated by local conditions. In these circumstances, we will endeavour to make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

## DETAILED ITINERARY

### Days 1-2: Fly overnight to Siem Reap

Meals: D

Our representative will meet all today's arrivals outside the Arrivals Hall at Siem Reap Angkor International Airport ahead of the 45-minute transfer to the hotel.

Check into your room, or store luggage if arriving earlier than the check-in time. This evening, meet your group for dinner and a welcome briefing with your Cambodian Local Guide or National Escort.

*Early check-in is not included. Additional nights before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.*



### Destination Information

**Siem Reap** – Siem Reap translates to ‘the defeat of Siam’, in reference to the centuries-old conflict between Cambodia and Thailand. Since the French purchase of Angkor from Siam, Siem Reap has grown from a small village to a popular tourist destination, thanks to its proximity to the World Heritage Site of Angkor Wat.

### Day 3: Angkor

Meals: B, L, D

The UNESCO-managed Angkor complex boasts over 1,000 temples, and was the seat of the colossal Khmer Empire from the 9th to the 14th centuries.

We spend the morning at the city of Angkor Thom, built by Jayavarman VII during his restoration of the Angkorian Empire in the late 12th century. Here, sights include the enigmatic Bayon, the Elephant Terrace and the Terrace of the Leper King. One of the most evocative ruins here is to the monastery temple of Ta Prohm, enveloped in a labyrinth of jungle just outside Angkor Thom.



Enjoy lunch before devoting the afternoon to the fascinating and awe-inspiring temple complex of Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world. It predates the city of Angkor Thom, and is considered to be Cambodia’s spiritual heart. Later, return to Angkor Thom to enjoy the sunset from its moat, with a refreshing drink in hand.

### Destination Information

**Angkor Thom** – (lit. ‘Great City’) This was the last capital of the Khmer empire, established by Buddhist King Jayavarman VII in the 12th century. This walled city covers an area of 9 square kilometres and encompasses many temples.

**The Bayon** – A late 12th century state temple at the centre of Angkor Thom. Its beautifully crafted central towers are decorated with four opposing faces representing the Buddha, and probably modelled after the founder, King Jayavarman. Bayon's stone galleries display extraordinary bas-reliefs incorporating over 11,000 figures.

**Elephant Terrace and Terrace of the Leper King** – These giant viewing platforms were used for public ceremonies, which served as a base for the King's grand audience hall. The Elephant Terrace is named for the carved elephant parade on its eastern side. To the north is the Terrace of the Leper King, named for a statue found there.

**Ta Prohm** – One of Angkor Thom's most atmospheric ruins, swallowed by the roots of the jungle, Ta Prohm has several towers, closed courtyards and narrow corridors to explore. Originally dedicated to Sri Jayarajadamani, the mother of the king who established Angkor Thom, it was made famous by the film Tomb Raider.

**Angkor Wat** – This 12th century temple complex is the largest religious monument in the world. Surrounded by a 190-metre moat and taking 30 years to build, Angkor Wat showcases the Khmer civilisation at its grandest. With its fascinating decorative flourishes, extensive bas-relief and multiple tiers, it is the best-preserved temple within the complex. Angkor temples were traditionally dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, but Angkor Wat broke tradition in that it was originally dedicated to Vishnu, and was later reworked as a Buddhist temple.

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**Day 4:           Cooking Class, Silk Farm & Circus**

Meals: B, L, D

Join a morning cooking class at an organic farm. Pick up supplies at the local market, then head to the farm to pick some organic ingredients. Your chef will guide you in creating a traditional Khmer lunch.

This afternoon, visit Golden Silk Pheach, a local NGO. This Cambodian silk farm is bringing the centuries-old tradition of hand-woven Khmer silk production back to life while providing skilled work to locals. Continue to Banteay Srei, a 10<sup>th</sup>-century temple famous for its pink sandstone architecture and astonishingly fine carving.



This evening, after an early dinner, watch a rollicking performance by graduates of the PHARE Cambodian Circus. This NGO transforms the lives of disadvantaged youths through vocational arts training.

**Destination Information**

**Golden Silk Pheach** – This NGO was founded by Sophia Pheach in 2002, with the hope of reviving traditional gold silk techniques whilst creating employment for local women, many of whom were orphaned under the Khmer Rouge. Learn about the production process from silkworm to a final piece, and the preservation of a craft which was almost lost.

**PHARE Cambodian Circus** – Stone carvings from ruins across Cambodia show the importance of circus arts throughout the kingdom's history. Yet when the Khmer Rouge regime banned almost all performances across the country in the 20th century, many of these arts were almost lost. PHARE was founded in 1994 as a performing arts school with a twofold mission: to revive these forgotten arts and provide vocational training to disadvantaged youths who might otherwise have a bleak future. In 2013, the school opened its Big Top tent in Siem Reap, where graduates perform nightly. Profits support the school in Battambang, which teaches a variety of arts as well as providing a formal education.

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**Day 5: Tonle Sap Lake**

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy a morning cruise on Tonle Sap Lake, visiting a local village and observing the way of life of these lake communities. The exact village visited will depend on water levels at the time of your visit.

Return to Siem Reap for an afternoon at leisure. This evening, sit down to dinner with an Apsara dance show.

**Destination Information**

**Tonle Sap** – The Tonle Sap Lake joins with the 120 kilometre long Tonle Sap River, which flows into the Mekong River. Water levels in the Mekong vary according to the season and directly affect the direction of flow in the Tonle Sap River, which flows for 6 months in one direction and 6 months in the other. There are multiple communities living on the lake, whose main source of income is fishing.

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**Day 6: Siem Reap - Battambang**

Meals: B, L, D

Journey approximately 3 hours west to Battambang, Cambodia's lesser-known city. With a population of less than 120,000, Battambang is a laidback city nestled on a bend of the Sangkae River and surrounded by attractive countryside.

Admire the colonial architecture of the city on an introductory tour, then enjoy some time at leisure before dinner.



### Destination Information

**Battambang** – Cambodia’s third largest city. Situated amid scenic countryside, on the banks of the Sangkae River, sleepy Battambang possesses some of Cambodia’s grandest and best-preserved colonial architecture. For more than a century, it was a provincial capital of the Thai province of Inner Cambodia, ceded to French Indochina in 1907; however, the population was always predominantly Khmer.

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#### Day 7: Battambang

Meals: B, L, D

Climb to the top of Phnom Banan to reach the Prasat Banan Temple and admire the breathtaking view. Return to the town and walk through the charming village of Wat Kor with its 20 heritage houses dating back to the early 20th century.



This afternoon, visit Cambodian families in the countryside, who produce local products such as rice paper, dried bananas, and rice wine, made in the same way they have been for generations. You will have the chance to learn, interact with local people, taste local products, and support local families at the same time.

This evening, we head to the hill of Phnom Sampov to witness an unforgettable sight: Sampov's colony hundreds of thousands of bats, streaming out of the mountainside out into the night. Please be assured that the bats are at a safe distance, are accustomed to tourists and will not approach you.

### Destination Information

**Prasat Banan Temple** – Located on the top of a small hill, the temple was built in the 11th century and consists of 5 towers. There are many steps to the top - please let the guide know if you need to pause, or prefer not to join.

**Wat Kor** – Gain an insight into traditional Khmer life in the village of Wat Kor. It is known for its twenty Khmer heritage houses from the early twentieth century, built from now-rare hardwoods and surrounded by orchard gardens.

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#### Day 8: Battambang – Phnom Penh

Meals: B, L, D

Spend the day driving south to Phnom Penh, stopping enroute for lunch and - if you choose - to climb the many steps to the summit of Oudong, Cambodia’s former royal capital.

On arrival in Phnom Penh, any further time before dinner is at leisure. The total driving time today will be around 6 hours through the countryside.





### Destination Information

**Oudong** – Oudong (also Udong) was Cambodia’s royal capital from 1618 to 1866, during the post-Angkorian period. Eventually King Norodom moved the royal court to Phnom Penh in 1866. It offers spectacular views of the surrounding countryside, with innumerable sugar palm trees and 18 ancient chedis (stupas).

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### Day 9: Phnom Penh

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy a morning walking tour of Phnom Penh, a European-esque city of airy boulevards and French architecture, seeing its monuments and impressive buildings. Though scars of the city's tumultuous past remain, this vibrant city has been engulfed with a lively energy.

After lunch, visit the Royal Palace, dating from the late nineteenth century and still the king's official residence.



### Destination Information

**Royal Palace** – The ornate roofs of the Royal Palace are the most striking feature of Phnom Penh’s skyline, constructed in the elaborate Khmer style and glittering with gold. The palace has been the official residence of Cambodia’s monarchs since its construction in the 1860s.

**Silver Pagoda** – The Silver Pagoda is part of the Royal Palace complex, and is also known as the Temple of the Emerald Buddha thanks to the precious statue displayed there. Its rich decoration includes silver tiles, Italian marble, and murals of the Reamker (Cambodia’s national epic, a Buddhist tale similar to the Hindu Ramayana).

**Day 10: Phnom Penh & the Killing Fields**

Meals: B, L, D

Reflect on the history of the country with visits to the Tuol Sleng Museum and to the Killing Fields, where you will learn about the suffering of the Khmer people under the brutal Khmer Rouge regime of the 1970s.

The visit to the Tuol Sleng Museum involves 1 hour on foot. This museum is also the site of the former S21 prison used by the Khmer Rouge, and commemorates the atrocities that occurred here during the regime of Pol Pot.



The transfer south-west to the Killing Field orchards will take approximately half an hour. These visits are educational, and deeply important to the Cambodians, but both sites can be confronting and emotional; you will be given time to explore on your own. There is a film shown at the Killing Fields, which is not required viewing, but you may be asked to remove your shoes before entering the film room. Be aware that the memorial stupa contains victims' skulls, which are visible; it can be avoided if you prefer.

Return to Phnom Penh, where the afternoon is at leisure. This evening, enjoy a visit to a local sky bar. Enjoy views of the city as night settles in, and perhaps consider how this invigorating capital is moving forward to a brighter future.

**Destination Information**

**Khmer Rouge** – A totalitarian group of revolutionaries who seized and held power in Cambodia from April 1975 to January 1979. The Khmer Rouge turned Cambodia into a military dictatorship in which all rights, arts and intellectual pursuits were abolished. Approximately 2 million Cambodians (nearly 25% of the population) were killed in labour camps, prisons and mass execution sites. They continued their guerilla warfare for many years after the Vietnamese forces invaded and overthrew them in 1979.

**Pol Pot** – Born Saloth Sar, Pol Pot was one of the most brutal dictators in world history. He created the Khmer Rouge as a guerilla force, and organised the Phnom Penh coup in 1975, installing himself as prime minister.

**Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum** – This former secondary school was seized by the Khmer Rouge in 1976 and turned into the brutal S-21 prison; one of almost 200 such prisons operated by the Khmer Rouge and Santebal (secret police). An estimated 20,000 people were imprisoned and tortured here between 1976-79. Today, the museum commemorates the atrocities that occurred here during the regime of Pol Pot.

**Choeung Ek Killing Fields** – This orchard was the site of one of the Khmer Rouge's largest mass execution sites. Today, it is a memorial site with a Buddhist stupa at the centre.

**Day 11: Kampot**

Meals: B, L, D

Head south, driving 2-3 hours through the countryside to the beach town of Kampot. Stop enroute at Tonle Bati before travelling to a pepper farm to learn about the renowned Kampot pepper. Look out for salt fields enroute to the city centre. On arrival in Kampot, enjoy an introductory walking tour of this relaxed coastal town.

**Destination Information**

**Tonle Bati** – View the ancient temples at Tonle Bati, built in the late 12th century by Jayavarman VII.

**Kampot** – The former port city of Kampot is an enchanting small town best known for its sleepy, relaxed atmosphere and its salt and pepper production. Wander the town and glimpse the former glory of its French Colonial architecture.

**Kampot pepper** – Pepper from this region is considered some of the best in the world. The province enjoys ideal elevation and humidity for pepper production, along with quartz-rich soil that nourishes the vines. Kampot pepper is the first Cambodian product to receive the French appellation DOC - a geographical indication that protects trade names for special food products. The EU also granted Kampot pepper protected geographical indication status in 2016. Because it is rare abroad, it is usually reserved for recipes that highlight its qualities, such as sauteed crab, steak au poivre and cacio e pepe.

**Day 12: Day Trip to Kep**

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy a trip along the coast to the beach town of Kep, starting with lunch at the sailing club. Enjoy a couple of hours at leisure to relax and explore Kep, perhaps stopping at the local seafood market or small beach, before returning to Kampot.

Driving time is approximately 45 minutes each way.

**Destination Information**

**Kep** – From the turn of the century to the 1960s, Kep was Cambodia's premier holiday destination. You can view the ruins of the luxurious villas from those days dotted by the seaside. Modern Kep is now known for its relaxed atmosphere, fresh seafood and oceanfront crab shacks.

**Day 13: Return to Phnom Penh & Dinner Cruise**

Meals: B, L, D

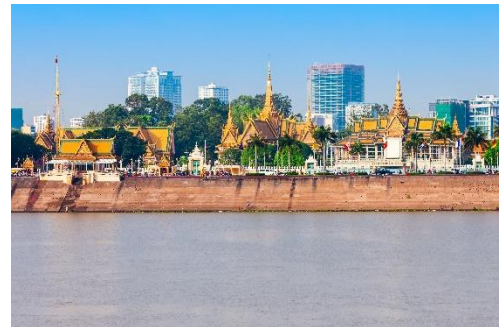
Return to Phnom Penh, pausing enroute at the former French hill station of Bokor. Relax in Phnom Penh this afternoon, before a laidback farewell dinner cruise on the Mekong river.

**Day 14: Departure**

Meals: B

You will be transferred from the hotel to the airport, according to the departure time of your international flight. Any time before your flight is at leisure.

*Check out is usually at noon – please contact our Reservations team if you would like to prebook Late Checkout. Please note: Only breakfast is provided on the group's day of departure.*



## AROUND CAMBODIA TRAVEL INFORMATION

### VISAS:

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An entry visa are required by all visitors to Cambodia and Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department can assist you with the process of obtaining a visa. Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back into Australia.

Effective 01 July 2024, all guests travelling to Cambodia must complete a mandatory online e-immigration application within 7 days prior to their arrival. You may complete the form via the mobile phone app called Cambodia e-Arrival (CeA), or the form can be completed online at <https://arrival.gov.kh/>

The app and the registration process are free of charge. Please see our website for more information including links to the mobile apps and web platform: <https://help.wendywutours.com.au/knowledge/cambodia-e-arrival-card>

Please note the visa procedures and requirements may change at any time. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate, Wendy Wu Tours acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa.

Wendy Wu Tours does not accept responsibility for lost or undelivered items.

All information with regards to visas will be updated regularly on our website as we find visas process' are changing on regular basis. For the latest information on visa procedures, processing times and requirements, please kindly refer to our website <https://www.wendywutours.com.au/help-and-advice/passports-and-visas/>

### INSURANCE:

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We strongly recommend that you take out a policy as soon as you pay your deposit. Wendy Wu Tours cannot in any way be made liable for any additional cost incurred by the customer on any tour due to the customer not having adequate travel insurance.

We also encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents (especially relevant international contact numbers) with them while on tour. We advise that you check the inclusions and procedures for lodging claims prior to your departure. These documents should be stored separately from the original.

## EATING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA:

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Southeast Asia is home to an incredibly rich food history. The local cuisine is known for its intense flavours, spices and some of the freshest ingredients you can find. In general, meals include either rice or noodles and are packed full of flavour. Lemongrass, ginger, lime leaves, coriander, fish sauce and soy sauce are used in many local dishes. Whilst Southeast Asian food has a reputation for being hot and spicy, each region actually has its own distinct characteristics. Vietnam, for example, is perhaps best known for its fresh and aromatic dishes – relying heavily on flavours from fresh herbs such as mint, basil and dill.

When dining in Southeast Asia, although some restaurants have adopted a western approach to dining, expect some restaurants to follow the traditional communal style of eating. Typically, this will mean each diner has their own small bowl and may serve themselves from a variety of shared dishes. At some local restaurants, appetizers and main courses might be served when they are ready instead of following a particular order.

Determining when it's appropriate to use chopsticks, forks or spoons can be challenging for some travellers, even other Asians, as each country has different customs. In Vietnam, dishes are normally placed in the centre and people serve food for themselves with their own chopsticks and bowl. Usually, chopsticks or other utensils are provided to scoop the food into your bowl to prevent your own chopsticks from touching the food that remains on the table. Dining in Southeast Asia is fairly casual with not too many rules. Leaving food on the plate is not considered rude.

Those with dietary requirements - just make sure to inform your booking agent of any specific requirements well in advance of your trip. Please read your travel guide, which you will receive with your final documents for more information about eating in Southeast Asia. We recommend that when it comes to Asia food, you stay open minded and try to be adventurous!

## GROUP SIZE:

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Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by a national escort. There will usually be no more than 28 travellers in a Classic Tour group, although you may encounter other Wendy Wu tour groups while you are travelling.

All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 8 travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so. For groups with fewer than 10 travellers, departures will operate with local guides only.

### ACCOMMODATION:

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Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between Australia and Vietnam. All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort/Local Guide. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

**Solo travellers:** If you are a solo traveller and willing to share a room, you will not have to pay a single supplement for any hotel rooms. Willing to share single travellers booking within 75 days of the first day of a group tour will be subject to availability. If no suitable match is available at time of booking you will be required to pay all single supplements.

### PORTERAGE:

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Please be aware that portering is not included on our tours in Southeast Asia. You will therefore need to be able to handle your own luggage within the hotel and when using transportation like trains and coaches.

### TRANSPORT:

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**Coaches:** Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. **However, mini buses may be used for smaller groups (under 10 passengers).** Roads in Vietnam have generally improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road - not just one or two kilometres as you may be used to. For this reason, the timings listed in the itinerary are approximations only.

### TIPPING POLICY:

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Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and Southeast Asia is no exception. However, it is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time. In order to avoid any inconvenience Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your national escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed to local guides and drivers throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the national escort.

If you are travelling in a smaller group with local guides only, then tipping is paid in each destination. To be fair to the guides we ask for slightly higher amounts per traveller with small groups.

We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy but we do recognize that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour.

### **DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA:**

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Although Southeast Asia is developing quickly, it still lacks the international standards of civil infrastructure and tourist facilities. Concepts of personal responsibility are also different to those in Australia. Consequently, tourist and public facilities may not uphold the same safety standards as in Australia; for example, you may see a hole in the road without a warning sign or safety barricade. All of our suppliers meet local safety standards as a minimum. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense, refer to notices and follow advice from your National Escort or Local Guides.

### **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:**

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If you are travelling within the below Public Holidays please note that celebrations can last a couple of days and during these times some businesses will be closed and coach, air and train travel may be affected. Tourist attractions will be open, but may be crowded. Khmer New Year is 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> April every year, the King's birthday is 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> May and the Water festival is between 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November in 2024 and between 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November in 2025.

### **SOUVENIRS:**

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We want to be able to give you an opportunity to buy souvenirs, so we include some stops at museums or exhibitions which demonstrate a craft or product unique to that region with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone, so we aim to take you to places, which hold local interest. We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts and crafts and understand their historical and cultural importance.

### **LUGGAGE:**

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All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of 5kg. It is essential that your luggage is lockable. Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated.



### PERSONAL EXPENSES:

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You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you. Based on the advice of previous customers an approximate amount of \$300AUD per person, per week should be sufficient; however, for those that can't resist a bargain or may wish to participate in all of the optional excursions, consider allocating a higher amount.

### CLIMBING STEPS:

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Sightseeing at nearly all of the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps. These palaces were built to provide defense against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steps to slow down the advance of enemies once they were inside. The steps tend to be quite large, not level and sometimes without handrails. Hindu and Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs. This means you sometimes need to walk from the bus park to the entrance, and/or need to climb some steps inside.

People with knee or hip injuries, who have poor balance or are otherwise unable to complete these activities independently should consider the suitability of this itinerary carefully.

### VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

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We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful [www.travelvax.com.au](http://www.travelvax.com.au)

### BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

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We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with [www.smartraveller.gov.au](http://www.smartraveller.gov.au) as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

### AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

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Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice including a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

Updated: September 2024