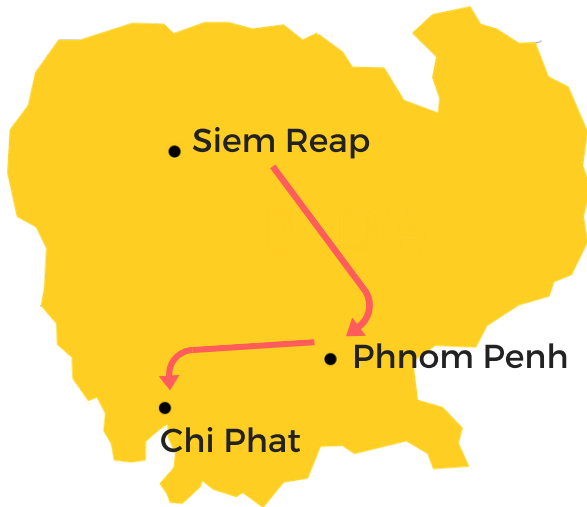


Culturally Curious Itinerary

10 Days in Cambodia



Cambodia often gets overlooked by travelers in Southeast Asia, with the exception of a stop off to explore the Angkor Complex. If you want to see a bit more of what this incredible country has to offer, the 10-day itinerary has it all: history, ruins and trekking in the jungle.

Day 1-2: On day one, explore Ta Prohm as the sun rises. The crowds will all be over at the main temple, so you'll likely have this spot all to yourself at this time. It's pretty magical to watch as this ancient temple covered in trees materializes out of the dark. Stop by Banteay Srei and admire the incredible carvings and then get some lunch. Finally go to the most famous temple, Angkor Wat. Take in the amazing reliefs, and try to imagine what this place was like when the complex was a bustling city.

The next day, head into the park early and watch the sunrise from Phnom Bakheng. Once again, it's likely you'll have the place to yourself. After

exploring here, head to Angkor Thom and Bayon. End the day exploring Ta Keo.

Day 3: Catch a morning bus to Phnom Penh. If you get in early enough, stop by the Royal Palace and the National Museum. Spend the evening wandering along the river front and then walk up to Wat Phnom, the highest point in the city and watch as the sun sets over the river.

Day 4: Spend the day learning about the recent history of Cambodia and the **Khmer Rouge's legacy**. Start out at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. Wander through the buildings of the school-turned-prison, bearing witness to some of the worst aspects of humanity.

Travel Tip: The Angkor ruins are still temples. Act and dress respectfully.



After you've taken in the prison, follow in the final footsteps of thousands to the Cheong Ek Killing Fields. Pick up an audio tour and pay your respects to the lives lost here.

Day 5: Get up early and head to the bus station and catch a bus heading towards Anduong Teuk to make your way to Chi Phat, a community-based ecotourism village in the **Cardamom Mountains**. You'll get off just before a bridge and then go to the restaurant with blue pillars. You'll be able to take either a boat or a motorbike to the village from here.

Upon arrival in the village, you'll be able to arrange the type of stay you want to have and can book the adventure you want to have over the next two days.

Day 6-7: Spend the days hiking and trekking through the Cardamom Mountains. Take advantage of the opportunity to spend the night in the jungle. You'll get to see a waterfall, ancient burial jars, bats and a variety of other things. Most of the guides are reformed poachers, so they not only know the jungle like the back of their hand, they are invested in ensuring a



positive experience for you.

Day 8: Wake up early to catch the boat back to the roadside. Catch a bus back to Phnom Penh, which can drop you off near the airport, allowing you to catch an evening flight out.