

# Cambodia in Bloom - From Royal Grace to Angkor Glory

📅 2 Nights / 3 Days

## Overview

Dive deep into the heart of Cambodia where ancient legacies meet regal grandeur. This 3-day, 2-night journey offers a sweeping look into a land shaped by empires, conflict, and resilience. Begin in Phnom Penh, a city gracefully balancing its royal charm with a sobering past. Gilded palaces, Khmer architecture, and grand museums reveal the pride and depth of its culture, while the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum offers a haunting reminder of its recent history. Travel overland through a mosaic of provinces to reach Siem Reap, where the majestic ruins of Angkor whisper stories of a golden age. Walk the paths once tread by ancient kings, stand before the world's largest religious monument, and feel the timeless energy of temples reclaimed by nature. With seamless transfers, guided insights, and immersive experiences, this short trip offers a powerful glimpse into Cambodia's soul—mystical, majestic, and deeply moving.

## Highlights

- 🏰 Discover the grandeur of Phnom Penh's Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda
- 🏰 Stroll through Khmer history at the National Museum
- 🏰 Reflect at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (S21) and learn Cambodia's recent past
- 🏰 Enjoy a scenic private road journey across 3 Cambodian provinces
- 🏰 Stop at Skun District—home of the famous fried spiders
- 🏰 Explore Ta Prohm, the jungle-covered 'Tomb Raider' temple
- 🏰 Stand in awe at Angkor Wat, a UNESCO masterpiece of art and spirituality
- 🏰 Experience the peaceful West Gate of Angkor Thom, away from tourist crowds
- 🏰 Stay refreshed with cold towels and water throughout the tour

## Detailed Itinerary

### Day 1 - Welcome to the Kingdom - Arrival & Royal Wonders of Phnom Penh

Step into Cambodia's soulful capital where heritage meets modern vibrance. Upon arrival, your guide will meet you and begin your Phnom Penh city discovery. You'll explore the Royal Palace, built in 1866, a spectacular compound of traditional Khmer architecture and home to the King of Cambodia. Nearby lies the Silver Pagoda, glistening with over 5,000 silver floor tiles and home to a priceless collection of Buddha statues carved from emerald, gold, and adorned with diamonds. Continue to the Independence Monument, a striking lotus-inspired structure honoring the country's hard-won freedom from colonial rule. At the National Museum, housed in an elegant red sandstone building, browse through over 5,000 ancient Khmer artifacts showcasing Cambodia's artistic brilliance.<br>In the afternoon, brace for an emotional visit to Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (S-21), a sobering reminder of the country's recent dark past during the Khmer Rouge era. Once a school turned torture center, its exhibits are a haunting tribute to the strength and spirit of the Cambodian people. Rest for the night in Phnom Penh, where riverfront cafés and lively markets await if you wish to explore.

### Day 2 - Road to Ruins - Overland to Siem Reap & The Magic of Angkor

After breakfast, depart Phnom Penh for a scenic road journey northward toward Siem Reap. Travel along National Route 6A, crossing through three of Cambodia's charming provinces. En route, stop at Skun District—famous for its bizarre local delicacy: fried tarantulas. Whether you sample or just snap a photo, it's an unforgettable experience. Another short rest in Kampong Thom offers insight into rural Cambodian life before you continue toward the ancient lands of Angkor.<br>Upon arrival in Siem Reap, head straight to the magnificent temple complex of Angkor. Enter the vast city of Angkor Thom through the rarely used West Gate, offering a quiet, mystical experience. At Ta Prohm, witness nature's reign over stone as banyan trees consume the temple ruins—a dreamlike scene immortalized in Tomb Raider. Finally, step into the breathtaking splendor of Angkor Wat. This monumental structure, with its five lotus-shaped towers and legendary bas-reliefs, narrates scenes from Hindu mythology and stands as Cambodia's proud symbol of heritage. Spend the evening at leisure or explore the vibrant night markets of Siem Reap.

### **Day 3 - Departure Day - Journey Back with Timeless Memories**

After breakfast, it's time to say goodbye. Your private transfer will take you from Siem Reap back to Phnom Penh Airport (approximately 6 hours), offering one last look at Cambodia's countryside. Reflect on your journey—from regal Phnom Penh to the mystical ruins of Angkor—as you prepare to depart for your next destination. Until we meet again in the Kingdom of Wonder.

### **Accommodation Used**