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# UNSEEN Cambodia 5D4N

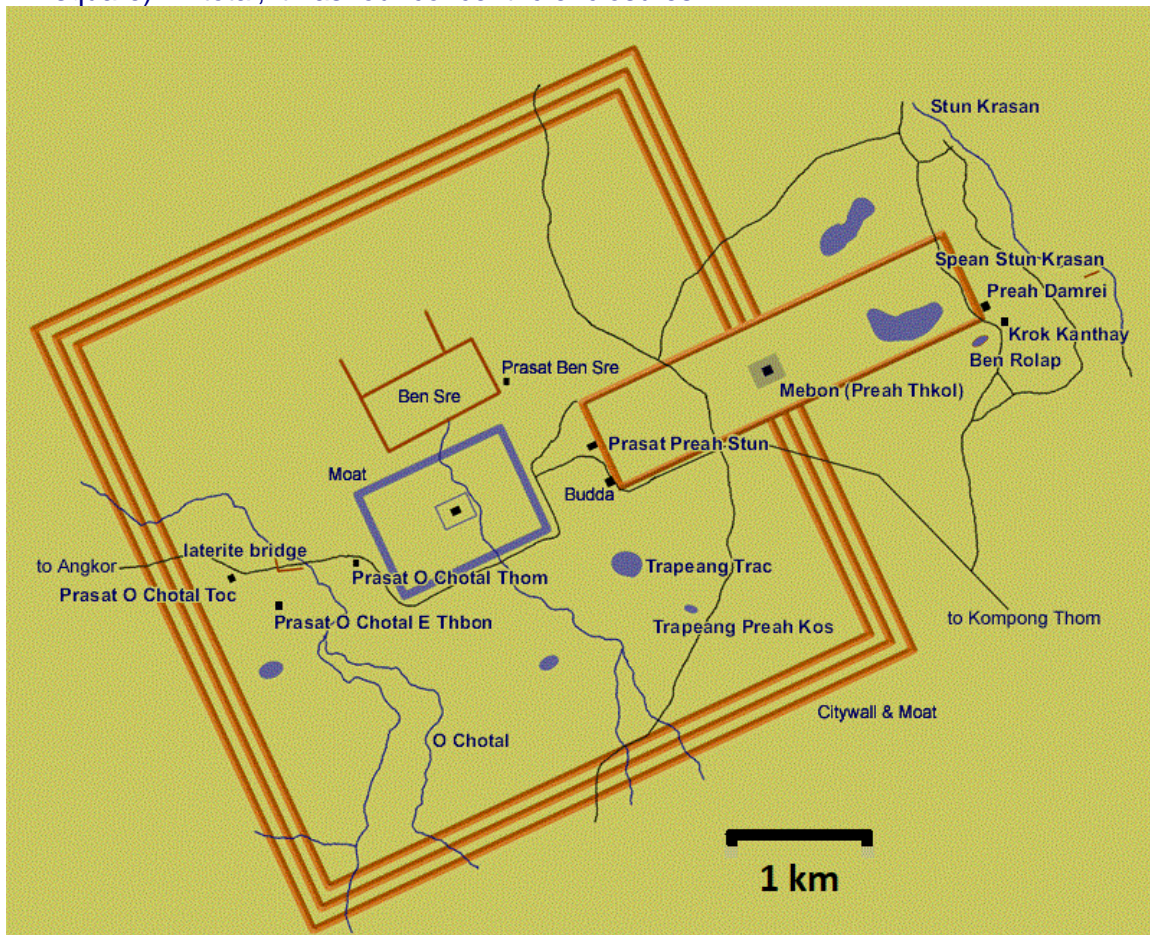
*UNESCO World Heritage PREAH VIHEAR, Preah Khan Kompong Svay, Koh Ker, Anlong Veng, Choeng Phnom border & Phnom Kulen*



## DAY 1 Siem Reap – Preah Khan Kompong Svay - Preah Vihear town (L/D)



Morning 7.50am arrival at Siem Reap airport. Transfer to **Preah Khan of Kompong Svay**, located in Preah Vihear province. Preah Khan means “**Holy Sword**”. The post-fix “**of Kompong Svay**” is added to avoid confusion with another temple (in Angkor) which has the same name. It stands as the **largest single religious complex ever built during Angkorian Era**, as its **exterior enclosure is over 22 km square** (compared to Angkor Thom city enclosure of 9 km square and Angkor Wat’s enclosure of just under 2 km square). In total, it has four concentric enclosures.



Unusually for Khmer sites (which are typically oriented eastward), the temple complex is aligned to the northeast. It was said that this temple complex site was first started in the 11th century by King Suryavarman I; was home to King Suryavarman II (builder of Angkor Wat) and later used as a hiding place for the future King Jayavarman VII (who then defeated the invading Chams, claimed the throne and moved his capital back to Angkor in 1181).



Besides the 12th century central temple which the locals call **Prasat Bakan**, visit also **Preah Damrei** (a small square 9th century pyramid temple now with 2 carved elephants since the 2 others are in National Museum of Phnom Penh and Guimet

Museum, Paris), **Prasat Preak Thkol** (an island temple located in the middle of the reservoir), **Prasat Preah Stung** (with a central tower adored with 4 faces of Avalokiteshvara, like at Bayon of Angkor), **Prasat Chaktomuk** (with 4 standing Buddha statues, facing the cardinal directions, denoting the Buddhist concept of the 4 Brahmaviharas). Due to its isolated location, Preah

Khan of Kompong Svay is one of the less-visited Angkorian sites. It was added to the **UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List** on March 27, 2020.

Transfer to Preah Vihear town for dinner and overnight at **Green Palace Hotel**.

## **DAY 2 Preah Vihear town - Koh Ker - Sra'Aem (B/L/D)**



After breakfast at hotel, check out and visit **local Kompong Pronak market**, **Prasat Chey Prem temple** and **Weaves of Cambodia** (a project that provides livelihood for those disabled by land mines by employing them to produce quality scarves, shawls & textiles).



Transfer to **Koh Ker**, an ancient city of the Khmer empire, with more than 180 sanctuaries found in a protected area of 81 square kilometers. Its ancient name was Lingapura (city of lingams) and during the reign of the kings Jayavarman IV and Harshavarman II, it was the capital of the empire (928–944 AD). Under Jayavarman

IV, the Koh Ker-style was developed and the art of sculpture reached a pinnacle. The city of Koh Ker was on the most important strategic route of the Khmer empire. Coming from Angkor and Beng Mealea to Koh Ker this road led to Prasat Preah Vihear and from there to Phimai in Thailand and Wat Phu in Laos. Koh Ker was added to the **UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List** in 1992.



Visit **Prasat Thom**, a 36m tall 7-tiered pyramid temple; Koh Ker's signature temple and the only pyramid temple in Cambodia. With construction beginning in 928AD, it is believed to be King Jayavarman IV's state temple. Originally on the top platform stood a huge lingam probably more than 13 ft. high and having a weight of several tons.

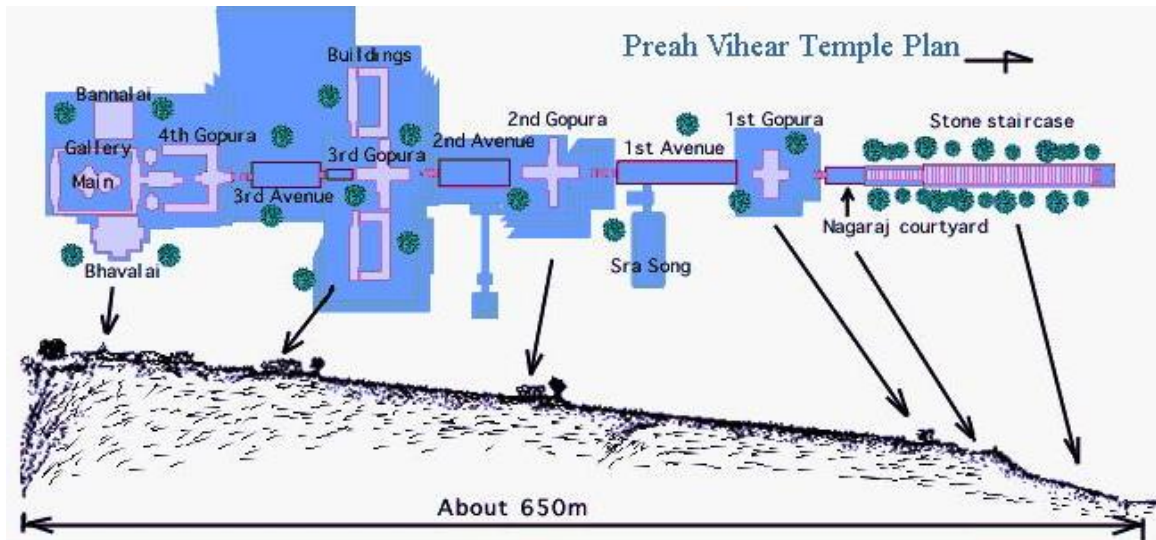
Continue to **Prasat Chen** (dedicated to god Vishnu, instead of Shiva, the prevalent god depicted in Koh Ker), **Prasat Krahom** ("Red Temple", due to its red bricks construction), **Prasat Ling** (which has 5 towers, each with a linga), **Prasat Thneng** (which has among the largest linga found in Cambodia) and **Prasat Damrei** (Elephant Temple; 4 elephant statues guard the temple's 4 corners).

Transfer to **Sra'Aem** village in the north part of Preah Vihear province, near to the imposing cliffs of the Dangrek Mountain range and the border with Thailand. Check in **Preah Vihear Boutique Hotel** to overnight.

### DAY 3 Sra'Aem - Preah Vihear - Anlong Veng – Choeng Phnom (B/L/D)



Morning, transfer to base of **Dangrek Mountain Range** bordering Thailand. Then hop on a **pick-up truck for journey up mountain road** (about 20min 1 way) to reach **Preah Vihear**, the **UNESCO World Heritage** Khmer Empire built temple that is located atop the Dangrek Mountain range (1,722 feet above sea level). Built during the reigns of Suryavarman I and Suryavarman II (dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva), its cliff top location with grand views of the plain below makes it the Khmer temple with the most spectacular setting. These are considered **the most spectacular views** your eyes can feast on **in the whole of Cambodia!!**



Then visit lower part of **Ancient Stairway**, the old route used to reach Preah Vihear temple. Visit **Eco-Global Museum**, showcasing archaeological collections from Preah Vihear and beyond, as well as traditional household materials of the locals.



POL POT

TA MOK

Transfer to **Anlong Veng** in Oddar Meanchey province to visit **Pol Pot Cremation Place, Ta Mok's Srah Chhouk Pagoda, Ta Mok House** and **Ta Mok's Lake**.

Pol Pot and Ta Mok, respectively called "Brother No. 1" and "Brother No. 5", were leaders of the Khmer Rouge government of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979); both were very responsible for orchestrating the mass genocide of the period. After breaking away from Pol Pot's leadership in 1997, Ta

Mok arrested and held Pol Pot in custody until Pol Pot's death in 15 Apr 1998. Ta Mok was later captured in March 1999 by the Cambodian army and died 21 July 2006 while waiting for his trial.

Transfer to **Choeung Phnom**, a village on the **border with Thailand** with a **border crossing**, and a **casino** to lure Thais and others to try their luck. Overnight at **Sangam Resort & Casino**.

## DAY 4 Choeng Phnom - Phnom Kulen - Siem Reap (B/L)



Depart for **Phnom Kulen** (meaning "mountain of lychees") is considered a holy mountain in Cambodia, of special religious significance to Hindus and Buddhists who come to the mountain in pilgrimage. Phnom Kulen was added to the **UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List** in 1992. Visit **Phnom Kulen Waterfall**, **Preah Ang Thom Sleeping Buddha** (16th-century Buddhist monastery with the **largest giant reclining Buddha in Cambodia**), **ruins of the Leper King Temple** and **1000 Lingas River**.



Return to Siem Reap and check in **City River Hotel**. At leisure and dinner on your own.

## DAY 5 Siem Reap departure (B)

At leisure until transfer to airport for flight home.

**RATES:** per person, twin sharing, valid till JULY 2022

11 or more: RM 1590      9-10 paxs: RM 1690      7-8 paxs: RM 1790

4-6 paxs: RM 1970      Single Supplement: RM 350

Rates & itinerary subject to changes in FOREX rates, unforeseen surcharges, weather, etc.

### INCLUSIVE:

- a) Return airport transfers and tour excursion using private van/coach
- b) Hotel accommodation with daily breakfast:
  - PREAH VIHEAR TOWN: Green Palace Hotel (3 star)
  - SRA'AEM: Preah Vihear Boutique Hotel (3 star)
  - CHOEUNG PHNOM: Sangam Resort & Casino (4 star)
  - SIEM REAP: City River Hotel (3 star) or similar
- c) Meals as indicated in itinerary above
- d) English speaking tour guide
- e) Entrance fees for attractions & activities as indicated in itinerary above
- f) Return pick-up truck transfers from base up to Preah Vihear
- g) 2 bottles drinking water per day (except on last day)

**EXCLUDING:**

- a) Airfare, airport taxes, fuel surcharges
- b) Tipping for guide & driver
  - 4 paxs group: Guide USD 25 /group total and Driver USD 15 /group total
  - 5 or more group: Guide USD 10 /traveler total and Driver USD 5 /traveler total
- c) Dinner on Day 4 and Lunch on Day 5
- d) Travel insurance – can be arranged separately
- e) Expenses of personal nature like room mini-bar charges, laundry charges, drinks during meals, tipping to hotel staff, any activities not part of itinerary, etc.
- f) Malaysians don't need visa to visit Cambodia. Other nationalities to be advised.