



2014

ENGLISH

# TRAVEL LOOPS

## BROCHURE



Download this brochure in PDF



TRAVEL LOOPS GROUP CO.,LTD

Address: Borey Angkor Shopping Arcade, N°B18, National Road 6, Kruos Village, Siem Reap Kingdom of Cambodia

Hot line: +855 12 867133 or +855 97 777 6977

Office Phone: +855 63 963 776/+855 63 964 776 / Fax: +855 63 965 776

E-mail: [inquiry@travelloops.com](mailto:inquiry@travelloops.com)

Web: [www.travelloops.com](http://www.travelloops.com)

All contents are copyright © 2013 by Travelloops.



# About US

Travel Loops has been a leader in creating the most exciting travel experiences in Indochina since 2009. We cater to the traveler who is seeking an authentic journey through one or all of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and Myanmar. As a truly multicultural company we share our experience and passion for the region by designing, creating and operating life-changing experiences for the discerning traveler. We will ensure you get the most from your trip, thrilling your senses with the history, natural beauty and culture of Indochina, not forgetting the people. Travel with us – it's life changing!



## Our Team

Based in our new office in Siem Reap, the team at Travel Loops is friendly, English-speaking, professional and customer-focused. Whether it is Management, Sales, Marketing or any of our other support departments, everyone is here to serve you, our customer, and to ensure that you don't just get a holiday; you get an unforgettable travel experience. Our team is made up of locals as well as expats in order to provide to our clients with the best travel through our shared experiences.



## Shareholders

Founded in 2009 by a Cambodian with 17 years experience in Tourism, the partners in Travel Loops are truly culturally diverse. Our market and network of business partners extends throughout Indochina, Asia, Western and Eastern Europe, Australasia, and North America and is expanding every year into new regions of the globe. Their mission is to continue to grow Travel Loops and to offer the most innovative travel experiences, including places seldom visited, but ensuring responsible tourism at all times. The long-term goals include increased growth, professionalism and reliability.



## Sales Department.

Our 5-strong Sales Team is here to ensure you get everything you want from a tour in Cambodia or Indochina. Most are long service employees, but we are expanding every year. Subsequently our sales team now has a vast knowledge of the options available to you, and the expertise to custom build your personal itinerary. Our ongoing training programmes ensure you receive the most professional service available.



# About US

## Operations Department



With members in both Siem Reap and Phnom Penh our Operations Team is there to support you once your Travel Loops experience begins. Services including tour guides and transportation are all taken care of by Operations. Whether or not you are on a cycling, adventure, or luxury tour, we will be there, behind the scenes at all times during your travel experience with Travel Loops. Travel in Asia can be unpredictable with, for example, airport and bus schedules changing at short notice. Don't panic – our expertise and local knowledge will be there to help at all times.

## Marketing Department



Our Marketing team is truly multinational ensuring our communications to you are always clear and across all modern technology channels such as our website or multi-lingual Facebook pages. Native Spanish, English and Russian speaking members are here to support, train and direct our front-line employees as well as co-operate with our many hotel and business partners.

## Adventure Team

Our team of guides, mechanics, porters and cycle tour leaders are there to look after you on our many off the beaten track adventures, whether it is along the Mekong Trail or through the Angkor Temple complex. Extremely well trained and with the highest level of training, expertise and professionalism you will soon realize you are in safe hands, and you can relax and fully appreciate your unforgettable travel experience with them. Our support vehicles may be part of your cycling experience, ensuring your safety at all times.



## Accounts Department



An important part of our back-office staff, the professional accounts department is there to deal with payments and accounts queries. We operate industry standard accounting standards using modern software, and can accept payments in several different ways. Accounts also play a key roll in our medium and long term financial planning and business plan strategies.





# OUR private tours

Travel Loops specializes in custom tours, tailored to every customer's needs. Whether it be a 3-day cycling tour of the Angkor temple complex on a budget or a 21-day, multi-country honeymoon trip in the lap of luxury we can accommodate all of your requirements. Just give us your ideas, dates and an approximate budget and we will put together a draft itinerary for you to review. From there we can fine-tune it until you are satisfied. We can build your tour around a specific style such as Culinary, Photographic, Culture & History or Cruising.

## Classic

We pride ourselves on our offerings for Classic tours of Cambodia. Our knowledge and expertise in Cambodia is second to none. We will take you to all the key towns and their sites that you must see during your time in Cambodia. Depending on budget we can arrange very comfortable accommodation in one of our recommended hotels, whether it be a boutique, 3, 4 or 5 stars. Let our highly experienced and knowledgeable local guides show you all the key sites using comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles. And as a company resolved to deliver responsible tourism, we will do this with minimal intrusion to the environment and ecosystem.

### What's Included

1. **Entrance Fees:** To scenic spots as listed in the itinerary.
2. **Meals:** All meals as specified in the detailed itinerary.
3. **Private Transfers & Airport Pick-up and drop-off.**
4. **Professional English-speaking tour Guide:** Other languages available on request.
5. **Accommodation:** Based on double occupancy of one twin room.
6. **International (Southeast Asia) and domestic airfares, Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge.**
7. **Service Charge & Government Taxes.**
8. **Arrangements Fees:** The tour cost includes planning, handling, operational and communication charges.
- \*9. **Equipment:** Where relevant, a quality mountain bike, kayak etc. and safety equipment, back-up vehicle (for parties of 6 or more) and cycle guide as per the detailed active tour itinerary.

### What's Excluded

1. **Long-haul flights , Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge.**
2. **Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand or Laos Entry Visa Fees.**
3. **Excess Baggage Charges.**
4. **Personal Expenses:** Expenses of a purely personal nature such as tips and gratuities, drinks, telephone calls, optional activities, etc.
5. **Meals:** Any meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary.
6. **Single Room Supplement:** Listed separately.
7. **Travel Insurance:** It is compulsory. In addition Travelloops reserves the right to request a copy of the policy before the date of arrival.
8. **Payment fees.**



### Sample itinerary:

- Day 1: Phnom Penh Arrival
- Day 2: Phnom Penh – City Tour
- Day 3: Phnom Penh – Kampong Cham
- Day 4: Kampong Cham – Kampong Thom
- Day 5: Kampong Thom – Siem Reap
- Day 6: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples
- Day 7: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples
- Day 8: Siem Reap – Floating Village
- Day 9: Siem Reap – Battambang
- Day 10: Battambang
- Day 11: Battambang – Sihanoukville
- Day 12: Sihanoukville
- Day 13: Sihanoukville – Phnom Penh – Departure

*\*This itinerary is presented to give an example of what kinds of tours are possible. We can design custom tours from luxury, first-class tours to low-cost budget tours. Just let us know what kind of tour we can design for you.*

## World Heritage & National Parks



Angkor Wat is the Jewel in the Crown of the many temples and dates back to the 12th Century and before, and is a 'must see' on any trip to Cambodia. It is only 5 Km from Siem Reap which means you are spoilt for choice of hotels, restaurants and other attractions.



Phnom Penh is the vibrant, bustling capital city. Here you can visit many cultural treasures such as the Royal Palace, The Silver Pagoda, the Khmer Rouge prison S-21, and of course the notorious Killing Fields.



Ream National Park and Bokor National Park are both situated south of Phnom Penh. Ream is by the sea near Sihanoukville, so you can grab a hammock for a while, while Bokor is the site for a new mountain resort. If casinos are your thing, there are several to choose from at Bokor.



Sihanoukville and Kep are the two coastal towns, both with beautiful sandy beaches. Sihanoukville is the busier, livelier resort, whereas Kep is a quiet fishing town. You can visit the islands off the coast of Cambodia from both towns.



# OUR private tours

## Photography

While it is a cliché, it still has to be said that Cambodia truly is a photographer's dream destination. Our photographic tours cover many styles, including street life, portraiture and landscapes. Unlike other crowded workshops on offer, all of our photographic trips are intended for UP TO A MAXIMUM of 5 participants, which means we can offer continuous feedback from the tutor. Your tutor will be one of our top-class, professional photographers. This makes the trip a truly exclusive and personalized learning experience. At the end of each days shooting, our skilled tutors will host editing sessions, making sure you get the most memorable images possible.

### Trip Features

The aim of the trip is not only to take home some great pictures, but also to improve photographic skills, learn how to edit your work and find a personal style by exploring different kinds of photography including landscape, portrait, street, etc. Post-production and editing sessions at the end of each day will help you make the very most of this trip.

On hand will be an experienced English-speaking guide / translator who will give you the benefit of their local knowledge at all of the sights you visit as well as assist in communications with the local communities you may pass through or stay with. Travelling will be in a private vehicle with air conditioning or if you choose to combine the trip with cycling, a high quality mountain bike.

### Suggested Requirements

- A serious interest in photography.
- A digital reflex camera with a good selection of lenses (wide, standard, telephoto etc.).
- Good camera proficiency is suggested but the workshop is open to all levels.
- A willingness to take pictures every day for the duration of the trip (it means for example getting up very early in the mornings to catch the best light).
- Be ready to be challenged, get close to strangers and step outside your comfort zone.
- A laptop computer with photo editing software installed (Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 4.0) to edit the photos at the end of each day.



### Itinerary Sample:

- Day 01: Siem Reap Arrival – Sunset in Angkor Wat
- Day 02: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples
- Day 03: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples
- Day 04: Siem Reap - Phnom Kulen National Park, Kyunghyu
- Day 05: Siem Reap – Psa Krom, Bakong
- Day 06: Siem Reap - Beng Mealea, Kompong Pluk
- Day 07: Siem Reap - Battambang
- Day 08: Battambang
- Day 09: Battambang - Phnom Penh
- Day 10: Phnom Penh
- Day 11: Phnom Penh - Siem Reap
- Day 12: Siem Reap – Departure

*\*This itinerary is presented to give an example of what kinds of tours are possible. We can design custom tours from luxury, first-class tours to low-cost budget tours. Just let us know what kind of tour we can design for you!*

## OUR photographers



Alessandro Vannucci is an Italian freelance photographer & videographer based in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

He specializes in travel reporting, photojournalism, humanitarian issues and documents with photos and video projects. For more than four years he has lived for six months a year in Siem Reap, where he continues to volunteer with other members of the NPO. This way of life has led him to be an expert on the country and local customs. Main collaborations and pictures posted:

guardian.com, shoot4change.net, unduetrestella.eu, togetherforcambodia.com, travelloops.com, geography.org.uk, woposhu.com, top-depart.com, demotix.com, womenandgirls.tumblr.com, bibliopoems.blogspot.com, outandaboutafrica.blogspot.com, boell.de, concertcambodia.org, awhf.net, swatassist.posterous.com, wissw dradio.com, viajaefrica.com

[www.alessandrovanucci.com](http://www.alessandrovanucci.com)



Thomas Cristofolletti is an Italian freelance photographer & videographer based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

For the past two years he's been working on several social video & photography projects in South East Asia for different international NGOs, and his photographs have also been featured in several international travel magazines and newspapers. His work focuses on documenting the day-to-day goings-on and traditions of the people he portrays, as well as the places they live in.

He has also cofounded of [www.punto14.net](http://www.punto14.net) — a video and photo production company mainly focused on social issues based in Phnom Penh. So far, he's travelled and made photographic and video reports in: U.S.A., Mexico, Guatemala, Bolivia, Peru, Turkey, Morocco, Japan, Thailand, The Philippines, Laos, Taiwan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar and many European countries. His work has been published in several magazines and newspapers in Italy, Spain, Russia, United Arab Emirates and France, and his photos have been exhibited in Italy, Spain, England, US and Cambodia.

[www.thomascristofolletti.com](http://www.thomascristofolletti.com)



# OUR private tours

## Cycling

By far the best way to see the real Cambodia up close is by bicycle. We specialize in eco-tours, and because we are concerned about global pollution, we want to reduce our environmental impact as much as possible, and cycling is an excellent way to do this. While Phnom Penh can be congested, and Siem Reap chaotic, the majority of the roads in our tours on are the red dirt back roads, through some of the most stunning landscape anywhere in the world. These tranquil roads follow river trails, pass through very friendly villages, and generally go at a very relaxed pace, stopping often at picturesque spots for water or meal breaks. Should anyone struggle a bit, don't worry as we provide (for groups of 6 people or more) a support vehicle just in case.

### Features

Our team has created a number of easy and interesting cycling itineraries. Bear in mind that Cambodia has very little in the way of hills – most roads are level or a short, gradual incline. On the longer stretches if required, we will provide motorized transport in an air-conditioned minivan. We can design customized Cycling Tours for any level of cycling, for any interest, and for any budget; from luxury class tours to economy class tours. Our equipment is first class; our mountain bikes are all of a high quality and are maintained to a very high standard.

### Best Travel Time:

There are two seasons in Cambodia, wet and dry. From early May to the end of October is the rainy season. It often rains heavily but for short periods of time, mostly later in the day or during the night, after which the sun returns. The rain cools the air and freshens up the lush green of the rice plantations. It is cooler in the dry season, which runs from early November to early February, when it starts heating up again, building to the hottest month of April. So the best time for rain lovers is between May and October and from November to early March for those who like it dry and cool. However bear in mind the rainy season can make cycling very challenging, with the back roads turning from dusty to muddy, sometimes localized flooding is unavoidable and with some of the downpours so heavy, progress may be hindered.



### Sample Itinerary:

- Day 1. Phnom Penh - Arrival
- Day 2. Phnom Penh - City Tour
- Day 3. Phnom Penh - Koh Dach Island (25 Km).
- Day 4. Phnom Penh - Kampong Cham (60 Km).
- Day 5. Kampong Cham- Kratie (50 Km).
- Day 6. Kratie. (30 Km).
- Day 7. Kratie - Kampong Thom.
- Day 8. Sambor Prei Kuk - Siem Reap (60 Km).
- Day 9. Siem Reap - Angkor Main Temples (24 Km).
- Day 10. Siem Reap - Banteay Srei, Banteay Samre and Pre Rup (75 km).
- Day 11. Siem Reap - Kulen National Park (30 km).
- Day 12. Beng Mealea-Bakong Temple (63 Km).
- Day 13. Siem Reap - Battambang (25 km).
- Day 14. Battambang- Phnom Penh (25 km).
- Day 15. Phnom Penh - Kep (40 km).
- Day 16. Kep - Kampot (30 km).
- Day 17. Kampot - Bokor Mountain- Kampot (20 km).
- Day 18. Kampot - Sihanoukville (45 km).
- Day 19. Sihanoukville - Ream NP & waterfall (38 km).
- Day 20. Sihanoukville - Phnom Penh - Departure.

*\*This itinerary is presented to give an example of what kinds of tours are possible. We can design custom tours from luxury, first-class tours to low-cost budget tours. Just let us know what kind of tour we can design for you!*

## OUR Equipment



### Our bicycles:

All of our equipment is of the highest quality. Our Trek and GT mountain bikes are well maintained and the safety helmets provided meet the official recommended safety standards.



### Our trucks:

Our 2 support trucks carry everything we may need, including bikes, our drivers are skilled mechanics and can deal with virtually any situation. They will be on hand to support any tour with 6 people or more.



### Our Camping Equipment:

On trips that include a few nights camping, you will still remain comfortable in our quality tents and mattresses. Moreover our porters will carry everything necessary to cook and make your stay in the jungle as comfortable and safe as possible.



# OUR private tours

## Honeymoon

Cambodia is fast-becoming a popular honeymoon destination. Celebrate your marriage like a King and Queen. The choice is yours as we help you and your spouse create your perfect honeymoon. You could opt to explore the wonders of the Angkor Temples or live it up in the bustling capital of Phnom Penh, or simply chill out on your own luxurious, private island resort. Our expertise in custom tours and our passion for customer satisfaction will ensure you have a honeymoon to remember.

After a visit to the vibrant, bustling capital city of Phnom Penh, you will be ready to chill out and be pampered a little before heading home. Again you are spoilt for choice, as you can see from the following options.

1. A very exclusive resort with all of its luxury facilities to relax in comfort before heading home.
2. A literally floating, heavenly eco-resort on the Tatay River with all of its luxury facilities to relax in comfort.
3. The beautiful coastal town of Kep, famous for its superb fresh seafood and its French colonial feel, offers plenty of attractions for relaxation and unwind before.
4. The beautiful beaches of the coastal resort of Sihanoukville.

### What's Included

1. **Entrance Fees:** To scenic spots as listed in the itinerary.
2. **Meals:** All meals as specified in the detailed itinerary.
3. **Private Transfers & Airport Pick-up and drop-off.**
4. **Professional English-speaking tour Guide:** Other languages available on request.
5. **Accommodation:** Based on double occupancy of one twin room.
6. **International (Southeast Asia) and domestic airfares, Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge.**
7. **Service Charge & Government Taxes.**
8. **Arrangements Fees:** The tour cost includes planning, handling, operational and communication charges.

### What's Excluded

Long-haul flights , Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge / Cambodia Entry Visa Fees / Excess Baggage Charges. / Personal Expenses / Meals: Any meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary. / Single Room Supplement: Listed separately. / Travel Insurance / Payment fees.y. In addition Travel-loops reserves the right to request a copy of the policy before the date of arrival.

8. **Payment fees.**



### Sample Itinerary:

- Day 01: Siem Reap - Arrival
- Day 02: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples & Sunset Cruise.
- Day 03: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples – Photo Session.
- Day 04: Siem Reap – Phnom Penh.
- Day 05: Phnom Penh- City Tour - Sunset Dinner Cruise.
- Day 05: Phnom Penh – Romantic hideaway.
- Day 06: Romantic hideaway.
- Day 07: Romantic hideaway
- Day 08: Romantic hideaway.
- Day 09: Romantic hideaway. - Phnom Penh – Departure

*\*This itinerary is presented to give an example of what kinds of tours are possible. We can design custom tours from luxury, first-class tours to low-cost budget tours. Just let us know what kind of tour we can design for you!*

## Hideaway options



### SONG SAA PRIVATE ISLAND

In the warm sapphire waters of the Gulf of Thailand, Cambodia's islands nestle like dazzling natural jewels. Song Saa Private Island lies secluded in this magnificent seascape, just 35 minutes by boat from the port of Sihanoukville.



### TATAI 4 RIVER ECOLOGDE

You won't find a more environmentally friendly resort than this one. The 4 Rivers Eco Lodge captures the imagination while offering the luxury of a four-star boutique resort. Set in virgin forests, right on the river, you will find peaceful seclusion, privacy, luxury, and exclusivity.



### KNAI BAN CHATT RESORT

Opened to the public in 2006, this resort still prides itself on its signature blend of privacy and personalized service. The lush and private grounds house a collection of completely remodeled and expanded colonial villas, creating a unique seaside destination to discover the splendors of Cambodia and its beautiful and friendly people.



### SOKHA BEACH RESORT - Sihanoukville-

The award-winning Sokha Beach Resort is set amidst 23.5 hectares of beautifully landscaped beachfront and garden with its own private 1.5-kilometer, pristine, white sandy beach. Choose to stay in this peaceful oasis, or take a short tuk-tuk ride to Downtown Sihanoukville .



# OUR private tours

## Cultural Heritage

Cambodia has a very long and rich history, with amazing civilizations living in spectacular settings such as Angkor Wat and the ancient capital Angkor Thom, dating back to the 12th Century and before. More recently under the Khmer Rouge entire peoples and their traditions were completely wiped out, their culture ground into the dirt. It is therefore very exciting to see that the importance of many traditions has not been lost on the Cambodians, as there are many aspects of the culture undergoing a revival. From the national martial arts, to the handicrafts, through to music and the arts, the skills of the past are alive and well in many parts of Cambodia. Travel Loops can include visits to many cultural events and authentic craft workshops. You can go to the Bokator Stadium, see how the silk scarves are woven, enjoy a cooking class to know more about the secrets of the Cambodian Cuisine, be amazed at the lacquer, carving and sculpture skills, and be thrilled by the spectacular circus performers. Find out more about the religious customs of those who practice the dominant Buddhism.

### What's Included

1. **Entrance Fees:** To scenic spots as listed in the itinerary.
2. **Meals:** All meals as specified in the detailed itinerary.
3. **Private Transfers & Airport Pick-up and drop-off.**
4. **Professional English-speaking tour Guide:** Other languages available on request.
5. **Accommodation:** Based on double occupancy of one twin room.
6. **International (Southeast Asia) and domestic airfares, Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge.**
7. **Service Charge & Government Taxes.**
8. **Arrangements Fees:** The tour cost includes planning, handling, operational and communication charges.
- \*9. **Equipment:** Where relevant, a quality mountain bike, kayak etc. and safety equipment, back-up vehicle (for parties of 6 or more) and cycle guide as per the detailed active tour itinerary.

### What's Excluded

Long-haul flights , Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge / Cambodia Entry Visa Fees / Excess Baggage Charges. / Personal Expenses / Meals: Any meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary. / Single Room Supplement: Listed separately. / Travel Insurance / Payment fees.



### Sample Itinerary

- Day 01: Siem Reap Arrival
- Day 02: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples - Apsara Dancing
- Day 03: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples - Monk Chatting
- Day 04: Siem Reap – Cooking Class – Phare Circus
- Day 05: Siem Reap – Phnom Penh
- Day 06: Phnom Penh – Cultural Tour
- Day 07: Phnom Penh – Koh Sdach (craft workshops) - Bokator Stadium\*
- Day 08: Phnom Penh – Departure

\* The Stadium only opens on Saturdays, so in case your itinerary doesn't allow you to attend to a fight, we will arrange a visit to a school of Bokator in Siem Reap instead.

\*\*This cycling itinerary is presented to give an example of what kinds of tours are possible. We can design custom tours from luxury, first-class tours to low-cost budget tours. Just let us know what kind of tour we can design for you!

## Get to know

**Bokator** is one of the oldest existing martial arts in Cambodia, oral tradition indicates that Bokator or an early form thereof was the close quarter combat system used by the armies before Angkor 1700 years ago. The term Bokator translates as "pounding a lion" from the words bok meaning to pound and tor meaning lion.

**Cambodian Cuisine** is one of the oldest cuisines in the world, with recipes unchanged for hundreds of years. It is simple food, not too spicy but deliciously aromatic. Good use is made of local produce such as fish and fresh vegetables, combined with a blend of pepper, herbs and spices, to create simple fresh dishes with seasonality playing an important role. In the south, fresh seafood and crab are caught, sold and cooked literally within a few hours. d, at times, extravagant presentation of dishes with plenty of herbs, leaves, pickles, dipping sauces, edible flowers and other garnishes and condiments.

**Living Arts:** Dance of the Apsara Divinities is the title of a Khmer classical dance created by the Royal Ballet of Cambodia in the mid-20th century. The apsara is played by a woman, sewn into tight-fitting traditional dress, whose graceful, sinuous gestures are codified to narrate classical myths or religious stories.

Acrobatic shows at Phare circus in Battambang or Siem Reap will amaze you along with jugglers, street performers and musicians.

**Handicrafts:** Watch how the woven silk scarves are made, how the Buddha statues are sculpted, the lacquer ware is produced, ceramics fired and amazingly detailed wood carvings are hand-crafted. All of this using mainly traditional methods.

**Religion and Superstition:** Learn more about the spiritual side of Cambodia, the pagodas, the monks and their chanting and meditation. This goes hand in hand with many ancient beliefs and superstitions, many of which go back literally centuries.



# OUR private tours

## Green Tours

While 'responsible tourism' may be the latest buzzword in the travel industry, Travel Loops has been practicing this since the beginning. We will of course take you to Angkor Wat and other temples, to Phnom Penh and other cities, but we will also take you to places off the beaten track. We specialize in looking after the natural environment of Cambodia and all the countries we visit, preferring to hike or bike as opposed to taking a 4x4 into the unspoiled rural areas. Not only does this keep the trails etc. in the best condition, it also means we reduce our carbon footprint. Similarly when we engage with the communities that you meet, we are careful not to intrude too much in their day-to-day lives.

### Suggested Requirements

There will be a reasonable amount of walking and cycling, in keeping with the 'green' theme. An average or above average level of fitness may be required as some treks or uphill cycles can be arduous, though never for too long. An awareness of environmental issues would be useful, as well as being prepared for outdoor issues like mosquitos, high temperatures and also high humidity.

### What's Included

1. **Entrance Fees:** To scenic spots as listed in the itinerary.
2. **Meals:** All meals as specified in the detailed itinerary.
3. **Private Transfers & Airport Pick-up and drop-off.**
4. **Professional English-speaking tour Guide:** Other languages available on request.
5. **Accommodation:** Based on double occupancy of one twin room.
6. **International (Southeast Asia) and domestic airfares, Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge.**
7. **Service Charge & Government Taxes.**
8. **Arrangements Fees:** The tour cost includes planning, handling, operational and communication charges.
- \*9. **Equipment:** Where relevant, a quality mountain bike, kayak etc. and safety equipment, back-up vehicle (for parties of 6 or more) and cycle guide as per the detailed active tour itinerary.

### What's Excluded

Long-haul flights , Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge / Cambodia Entry Visa Fees / Excess Baggage Charges. / Personal Expenses / Meals: Any meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary. / Single Room Supplement: Listed separately. / Travel Insurance / Payment fees.



### Sample Itinerary:

- Day 01: Siem Reap - Arrival
- Day 02: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples & Sunset Cruise at Baray Reach Dak Community.
- Day 03: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples & visit ACCB Visitor Center.
- Day 04: Siem Reap – Kratie - Koh Trong Community.
- Day 05: Kratie - Irrawaddy Dolphins Watching.
- Day 05: Kratie - Phnom Penh city tour.
- Day 06: Phnom Penh - Chi Phat Community.
- Day 07: Chi Phat - Tatai - 4 Rivers Ecolodge.
- Day 08: 4 Rivers Ecolodge - Koh Kong Mangrove and Tatai Waterfall.
- Day 09: 4 Rivers Ecolodge. - Kep
- Day 10: Kep- pepper plantations - Phnom Penh-departure

*\*This itinerary is presented to give an example of what kinds of tours are possible. We can design custom tours from luxury, first-class tours to low-cost budget tours. Just let us know what kind of tour we can design for you!*

## Wildlife Rescue & Environment Protection

### ACCB ( Angkor Centre For Conservation of Biodiversity):

Cambodia's wildlife is endangered due to poaching, illegal wildlife trading and deforestation. Numerous species are already on the brink of extinction. The Angkor Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity (ACCB), located near the famous temples of Angkor, is the first nature conservation centre in Cambodia. The ACCB aims to contribute to the conservation of wildlife and biodiversity in Cambodia.

### OSMOSE

Starting in 1999, Osmose has undertaken an extensive pilot project linking conservation and development in the Prek Toal area of the Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia, north of Siem Reap. The site is the last breeding stronghold in Southeast Asia for large waterbirds, which were then seriously threatened by massive egg and chick collection for local consumption. The project implements an original approach integrating waterbird conservation, environmental education and ecotourism, with the equitable development of the local communities as an overall goal.

### SAM VEASNA CENTER

Ecotourism is more than taking tours to view wildlife in a natural habitat. It is also a mechanism for protecting that environment. The ecotourism generates income and employment for villagers in remote sites who provide food, accommodation and local guiding for the visitors. SVC and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Cambodia are dedicated to fulfilling the aims of ecotourism: long-term environmental, socio-cultural and economic sustainability.



# OUR private tours

## Active

For those who like a holiday that keeps you active, we can also build a tour that will more than satisfy your needs. Our expertise in creating a truly magical experience can include cycling, kayaking, hiking and trekking – or any combination. Follow the Mekong River by cycling alongside, or kayaking on the river itself. We can design a tour that is full of activities, or maybe just a few days. As always, we will work with you to produce the best active tour that suits your preferences and abilities. Try a day of quad bikes, or well off the beaten track on a dirt bike? All of our tours have a difficulty and comfort grading.

### Suggested Requirements

It is highly recommended you have adequate travel insurance, which covers you specifically for these activities. As in all sports and adventure activities there is an element of risk and good insurance is a must.

Because we cater just for you, the level of fitness required for an Active tour depends on you. For general trekking and cycling we prefer an average level of fitness. Long, uphill stages of any tour are rare. Each suggested itinerary comes with an indication of the fitness required, along with accurate distances covered each day, whether it be walking, biking or kayaking.

### What's Included

1. **Entrance Fees:** To scenic spots as listed in the itinerary.
2. **Meals:** All meals as specified in the detailed itinerary.
3. **Private Transfers & Airport Pick-up and drop-off.**
4. **Professional English-speaking tour Guide:** Other languages available on request.
5. **Accommodation:** Based on double occupancy of one twin room.
6. **International (Southeast Asia) and domestic airfares, Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge.**
7. **Service Charge & Government Taxes.**
8. **Arrangements Fees:** The tour cost includes planning, handling, operational and communication charges.
9. **Equipment:** Where relevant, a quality mountain bike, kayak etc. and safety equipment, back-up vehicle (for parties of 6 or more) and cycle guide as per the detailed active tour itinerary.

### What's Excluded

Long-haul flights, Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge / Cambodia Entry Visa Fees / Excess Baggage Charges. / Personal Expenses / Meals: Any meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary. / **Single Room Supplement:** Listed separately. / **Travel Insurance / Payment fees.**



### Sample Itinerary

- Day 01: Siem Reap - Arrival
- Day 02: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples (hiking & tree top zip line)
- Day 03: Siem Reap - Phnom Kulen (cycling & Trekking)
- Day 04: Phnom Kulen - Beang Melea (cycling and trekking)
- Day 05: Beang Melea - Siem Reap (countryside quadbike ride)
- Day 06: Siem Reap - Mondulhiri (Elephant Valley Project)
- Day 07: Elephant Valley Project.
- Day 08: Mondulhiri - Phnom Penh
- Day 09: Phnom Penh (cyclo tour)
- Day 10: Phnom Penh - Departure

*\*This itinerary is presented to give an example of what kinds of tours are possible. We can design custom tours from luxury, first-class tours to low-cost budget tours. Just let us know what kind of tour we can design for you!*

## OUR Activities

### Quad Bikes

Fun! Travelling through the rice fields and back roads on a quad bike is an unforgettable experience and can easily be included in our Active tour.

### Dirt Bike

The back roads of Cambodia were made for the modern dirt bikes – a day on the bikes can be an additional option on your tour.

### Zip Line

Descending from the forest canopy to the jungle floor on a zip line is a must-do for thrill seekers. Just one more option to fit into your Active tour.

### Hiking/trekking

One of the best ways to see the temple sites in the Angkor complex and the real Cambodia is on foot. We time everything, and there are always adequate rest stops, usually by a waterfall or scenic Beauty spot.

### Kayaking

There is a lot of water in Cambodia from the vast Tonlé Sap lake, to the mighty Mekong River. Many of the trekking and cycling paths run alongside, but a day in a kayak can be added to get you in the water for an unforgettable day.

### Elephants

As a company that practices responsible tourism, we do not recommend an elephant ride. Thankfully there is a growing awareness of not only the cruelty involved (out of sight of tourists) in training an elephant to carry people, but of the fact that a large strong-looking elephant does not have a backbone designed to carry the weight of 6 or more people.

Instead we will take you to the EVP (Elephant Valley Project) where working elephants are rescued or retired from many years of arduous labour. This is a truly magical place.



# OUR private tours

## Educational & Volunteer

Cambodia has a very diverse history with the darkest period being under the rule of Pol Pot and his Khmer Rouge. Responsible for the horrific deaths of several millions of their own people, followed by war involving Vietnam, thankfully the country is now starting to recover, albeit slowly. Travel Loops tours will educate you on the history, both modern and ancient. Voluntourism is a recently coined word and refers to the many tourists who come to Cambodia to 'do some good' while they are there. Unfortunately this is often not the case, but in fact the opposite. We can point you in the direction of many bona fide organisations, which can demonstrate complete transparency so that you can be sure you really are helping a little.

### How to help

There are now hundreds of orphanages and Non Government Organisations (NGOs) throughout Cambodia. Unfortunately corruption is rife in SE Asia and many are just businesses in disguise, making their founders rich by exploiting the people they are claiming to help. There are simple things you can do, or rather not do. Never give money to street kids – they will never get off the street. Check out any NGO through an organization such as ConCERT Cambodia who have vetted over 30 NGOs in the Siem Reap area and find out how you can help. Travel Loops and ConCERT work closely together.

### What's Included

1. **Entrance Fees:** To scenic spots as listed in the itinerary.
2. **Meals:** All meals as specified in the detailed itinerary.
3. **Private Transfers & Airport Pick-up and drop-off.**
4. **Professional English-speaking tour Guide:** Other languages available on request.
5. **Accommodation:** Based on double occupancy of one twin room.
6. **International (Southeast Asia) and domestic airfares, Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge.**
7. **Service Charge & Government Taxes.**
8. **Arrangements Fees:** The tour cost includes planning, handling, operational and communication charges.
- \*9. **Equipment:** Where relevant, a quality mountain bike, kayak etc. and safety equipment, back-up vehicle (for parties of 6 or more) and cycle guide as per the detailed active tour itinerary.

### What's Excluded

Long-haul flights , Airport Tax, Fuel Fee, Service Charge / Cambodia Entry Visa Fees / Excess Baggage Charges. / Personal Expenses / Meals: Any meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary. / Single Room Supplement: Listed separately. / Travel Insurance / Payment fees.



### Sample Itinerary:

- Day 01: Siem Reap - Arrival
- Day 02: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples
- Day 03: Siem Reap - Awareness session at ConCERT office - Briefing at the project site.
- Day 04: Siem Reap – Volunteering work.
- Day 05: Siem Reap - Volunteering work.
- Day 06: Siem Reap - Volunteering work and farewell.
- Day 07: Siem Reap - Phnom Penh- Educational Tour.
- Day 08: Phnom Penh – Departure

*\*This itinerary is presented to give an example of what kinds of tours are possible. We can design custom tours from luxury, first-class tours to low-cost budget tours. Just let us know what kind of tour we can design for you!*

## The difficult task of helping

There are many charities in Cambodia. There are also many orphanages. There are many children asking for money on the streets, or for food or baby milk. Many tourists believe that visiting an NGO or an orphanage and making donations is helping. Many think giving street-kids a dollar or buying milk powder for a baby they carry around is helping. Many times this turns out to be far from the truth thanks to corruption.

Many orphanages are businesses where children are bought from one or both parents (70% of children in orphanages have at least 1 parent). The number of orphanages in Cambodia has grown almost exactly in sync with the booming tourist numbers. The milk you buy for the hungry baby gets returned with the shop splitting the cost with the child and themselves. The milk goes back on the shelf. Take advice from ConCERT before you visit anywhere. Children are not tourist attractions.



# OUR Join-in / Open group Tours

Travel Loops has put together some very exciting, off-the-shelf tours designed for you, using our experience and knowledge. These small group tours will be promoted on our web site and each month will offer a different tour based around seasonality and weather etc.

These tours have been costed to give the maximum quality for the best price, and can be booked online by both individual customers and agent partners alike. An agency booking will attract a commission payment, which can be discussed at your convenience.

These tours require a minimum number of confirmed bookings to run. Changes to the itinerary and date of operating are unable to be changed, as are the hotel and transportation choices.

## 2014

### JANUARY

**Tour Name:** Landscape, Portrait, Street Photography and Beach.

**Ref. code:** CTHPH0001

**Group size:** 6-10 pax

**Start date:** 20th of January.

**Finish date:** 28th of January.

**Duration Trip:** 09 days

**Difficulty:** Easy

### FEBRUARY

**Tour Name:** Cycle The Central Axis.

**Ref. code:** CCYZZ0001

**Group size:** 8-20 pax

**Start date:** 10th of February.

**Finish date:** 22th of February.

**Duration Trip:** 13 days

**Difficulty:** Moderate

### MARCH

### APRIL

### MAY

### JUNE

### JULY

**Tour Name:** Landscape, Portrait, Street Photography and Beach.

**Ref. code:** CTHPH0001

**Group size:** 6-10 pax

**Start date:** 21th of July.

**Finish date:** 29th of July.

**Duration Trip:** 09 days

**Difficulty:** Easy

### AUGUST

### SEPTEMBER

**Tour Name:** Cycle The Central Axis.

**Ref. code:** CCYZZ0001

**Group size:** 8-20 pax

**Start date:** 15th of September.

**Finish date:** 27th of September.

**Duration Trip:** 13 days

**Difficulty:** Moderate

### OCTOBER

### NOVEMBER

### DECEMBER

# JANUARY / JULY

## Landscape, portrait, street photography and beach.

### FACT FILE:

**Start date:** 20th of January / 21th of July

**Finish date:** 28th of January / 29th of July

**Duration:** 09 days

**Group size:** 6-10 pax

**Language:** English

**Hotel category:** 3\* & 4\*

**Difficulty:** Easy



### BRIEF ITINERARY:

#### Day 01: Arrival – Siem Reap (D)

Upon arrival you will be welcomed by our guide then transferred to your hotel. Tonight you will enjoy a welcome dinner and meet the professional photographer to go over the details of the following day's photography tour.

#### Day 02: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples (B)

After an early breakfast we set off for Angkor Thom entering by the Southern Gate. Bayon Temple is a well-known and richly decorated Khmer temple at Angkor in Cambodia. The Bayon Temple's most distinctive feature are the many serene faces of the massive stone heads on many of the towers which jut out from the upper terrace and cluster around its central peak. Then we head into Baphuon, built in the mid-11th century, it is a three-tiered mountain temple built as the state temple of Udayadityavarman II and dedicated to the Hindu God Shiva. We continue on to another 12th century temple of Preah Palilay, which, over the years has been reclaimed by the trees.

In the afternoon you will proceed to Ta Keo, or as it is otherwise known, the Pyramid Temple, and then on to the unrestored Banteay Kdei Temple. At the end of the day you will enjoy a photo shoot at the main temple of Angkor Wat.

**End of the day activity:** Introduction to the post-production and editing session.

#### Day 03: Siem Reap – Angkor Temples (B)

Get up early (packed breakfast provided) and head off in time to catch the sunrise at Angkor Wat or Srah Srang and enjoy a photo shoot while the sun comes up, casting its beautiful golden glow on to the temple and making it an even more memorable sight. We continue to Preah Khan, a ruin built after the success of Jayavarman VII's victory over the invading Chams in 1191.

In the afternoon we will be shooting at the jungle temple of Ta Prohm, where the trees and vines growing out of the ruins are perhaps the most distinctive feature. We drive on to Pre Rup, known as the mountain temple and constructed of pieces of clay bricks, laterite and sandstone. Known as the Royal Bath, we stop for a sunset shoot at Srah Srang Temple.

**End of the day activity:** Post-production and editing session.

#### Day 04 – Siem Reap – Angkor – Floating Village (B)

After an early breakfast at the hotel we drive to Banteay Srei, passing through the stunning Cambodian countryside, through paddy fields with cattle and water buffalo and locals working in the fields. This temple was only discovered in 1914, memorable for the deep carvings in the beautiful pink sandstone.

In the afternoon we enjoy exploring and shooting in and around the floating village of Kompong Phluk, a cluster of three villages of stilted houses built within the floodplain of the Tonle Sap Lake. From August to January the water level is still high enough to flood the forest surrounding the Tonle Sap Lake. For the remainder of the year you will not see a flooded forest but the houses of the village will appear to be standing on gigantic stilts for no reason, all of which makes a visit to this village worthwhile all year round.

**End of the day activity:** Post-production and editing session.

#### Day 05: Siem Reap – Phnom Penh (B)

After breakfast we transfer to the airport to take a short flight to the capital city of Phnom Penh. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel for check in.

In the afternoon we head for our first shoot at the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda. Walls divide the palace into three main compounds. On the north side is the Silver Pagoda, to the south side is the Khemarin Palace and the central compound contains the Throne Hall.

After the visit to the Royal Palace we move to the Olympic Stadium. At one of the magnificent courtyards of the building, we will watch people taking part in massive aerobics classes, play football, power walk and a whole array of different exercises. This is a perfect spot to capture some stunning images of a typical Cambodian slice of life by the light of the setting sun.

**End of the day activity:** Free time to explore or relax at the hotel.

#### Day 06: Phnom Penh (B)

After breakfast we will proceed to the Toul Sleng Museum and the Russian market. Toul Sleng Museum was a former high school, which was used as the notorious Security Prison 21 (S-21) by the Khmer Rouge regime from its rise to power in 1975 to its fall in 1979. After this, we will visit the infamous Russian Market with its huge selection of souvenirs, curios and silks, several jewelers and gold-sellers, for sure one of the best markets in town to buy fabric – and of course take some memorable images.

Later in the afternoon we will have a chance to shoot at the Orrusey Market & the Central Market, the perfect environments to practice street photography and get a chance to see how the locals really live.

**End of the day activity:** Final post-production and editing session on your work from the previous 6 days.

#### Day 07: Phnom Penh – Kampot (B)

After breakfast we make our way to the little French colonial city of Kampot. The transfer will take about 2 hours. Cambodia's finest pepper is produced only in Kampot. Pepper fields surround downtown Kampot. The pepper, which is almost all exported, is considered the finest pepper across the globe.

The salt fields (which can be visited only from December till May) are close to the ocean so that the salt water can feed the fields. The fields are then blocked from the ocean, and the water is allowed to evaporate slowly, leaving salt crystals behind. We can also get some good shots of the sunset over the sea.

**End of the day activity:** Post-production and editing session.

#### Day 08: Kampot – Kep (B,D)

After breakfast we will transfer to Kep. On our way to the coast, we will stop to visit the caves of Phnom Ta Aun. These caves form part of a limestone formation, some of which are revered as shrines and adorned with pagodas. After this we will head to Kep to shoot at the local crab market where dozens of women buy, sell, and cook the crabs.

**End of the day activity:** Final post-production and editing session of your work from the whole tour.

#### Day 09: Kep – Phnom Penh – Departure (B)

Today is departure day. After breakfast you will be free to relax until your departure transfer to Phnom Penh airport for your flight.



# FEBRUARY / SEPTEMBER

## Cycle The Central Axis

### FACT FILE:

**Start date:** 10th of February / 15th of September

**Finish date:** 22nd of February / 27th of September

**Duration:** 13 days

**Group Size:** 8-20 pax

**Tour Guide:** English Speaking

**Hotel category:** 3\* & 4\*

**Difficulty:** Moderate.



### BRIEF ITINERARY:

#### Day 01: Siem Reap Arrival

Upon your arrival you will be welcomed by your guide and driver, and transferred to your hotel for check-in. After getting settled in to the hotel, your guide will present a briefing about your coming trip. You will also have time to rest and relax.

#### Day 02: Siem Reap - Angkor Temple Complex (cycling 25 Km RT)

After breakfast, we are off on the first part of our cycling day. We pass Prasat Kravan and Sra Srang before we get to the jungle temple of Ta Prohm where we will spend an hour exploring this fascinating temple overgrown with trees. We then pass Ta Keo and pass through the Victory gate to the Angkor Thom complex. In Angkor Thom we see the fabulous Bayon Temple, Baphuon, the Royal enclosure, and the Terraces of the Elephants and the Leper King. That afternoon we visit the famous Angkor Wat and wonder at the bas relief carvings, and the reflection of main towers in the moat. We return to town by an alternate route and visit the contemporary temple of Wat Thmei.

#### Day 03: Siem Reap - Kbal Spean - Banteay Srei (cycling 90 Km RT)

After breakfast in the hotel, we cycle to Kbal Spean, passing villages, schools, and through rice fields along the way. To get to the river of a thousand lingas, we then walk about 30 minutes uphill. We can see the carvings in the riverbed, and also the nearby waterfall. Then we cycle back to Banteay Srei Temple, the 'Citadel of Women', which is known for its pink sandstone and deep, intricate carvings.

#### Day 04: Siem Reap - Kulen - Biking & Trekking (cycling 60 Km)

Today we leave Siem Reap after breakfast and ride the 36 Km to Kulen Mountain. We will enjoy riding on the quiet red-dirt roads via Kravan temple, Banteay Kdei, Sras Srang and Phnom Bok. We drop our bikes at Rattanak Tey Pagoda; from here we will conquer Kulen Mountain by foot. After 88 steps we reach Pres Ang Chup and stop for a short break. After a well-earned rest, we ascend a further 100 steps and, from the top, trek around 4 Km to big Nevena (Pres Ang Thom) passing the river of 1000 Linga. We enjoy a picnic lunch box near the waterfall.

In the evening it's time to erect the tents for our overnight camping.

#### Day 05: Kulen Mountain - Bang Mealea temple (40 Km)

In the morning, after relaxing and swimming, we cycle to visit The Elephant Temple and The Vat Cave. Then we continue to cycle through Anlung Tom Village on the very top of the mountain. The last 3 km will take us down the hill on a rocky road to Svey Lor district, and then continue to Bang Mealea Temple.

Overnight camping.

#### Day 06: Bang Mealea Temple - Siem Reap (68 Km)

After breakfast, we cycle back to Siem Reap by the road along the foot of Kulen Mountain until we hit the second checkpoint where we turn onto the red sand roads into the local farming community.

After a few hours of biking, we will stop at a local family's house to rest. The house owner will prepare lunch. If anyone wants to join in cooking with the owner, they are welcome to do so. After lunch, we will continue biking another 18km to Siem Reap.

#### Day 07: Siem Reap- Phnom Penh

In the morning we transfer to the pier at Tonle Sap and embark a boat to take us to Phnom Penh. Upon arrival at Phnom Penh we check in to the hotel.

#### Day 08: Phnom Penh City Cycling Tour (25 Km)

After breakfast at the hotel, will drive through the bustling city, cross the Mekong River by ferry then enjoy a cycle to explore life on the Island known as "Koh Dach", the home of Silk. The inhabitants of this island are mainly rice and vegetable farmers while most of the women stay at home to do silk weaving as well as the usual family chores. In the afternoon we take a trip by vehicle to the Memorial Monument and to the Toul Sleng Museum (S-21).

#### Day 09: Phnom Penh - Kep (40 Km)

After breakfast, our guide and driver will take us to visit the Killing Fields museum of Cheung Ek, then we transfer to Kep, a 2-hour drive, and after stopping at Kompong Trach, we get back on our bikes and cycle to the coastal town of Kep. We cycle through Phnom Wur Mountain, passing by some of the best pepper farming areas in the world. We then continue along the foot of mountain until we reach our hotel in Kep.

#### Day 10: Kep - Bokor Mountain (40 Km)

After breakfast we cycle from the hotel to Kampot to see this lovely old French Colonial town, stopping off at the market to buy some seafood for this evenings dinner, after which we continue our cycle to the foot of Bokor Mountain. We then trek up to the forest for about an hour, finally transferring to the top of the mountain. After a picnic lunch, we cycle back, downhill all the way to the Kampot River.

#### Day 11: Kampot - Sihanoukville (45 Km)

In the morning we drive to Sihanoukville airport then cycle to the beach, passing the coconut plantations and forests along the mountain trail until we reach the main road. A few kilometres further and it's back down to the sea again, looking for a restaurant along the beach with time to relax.

#### Day 12: Sihanoukville - free day

#### Day 13: Sihanoukville free at leisure - Departure.

