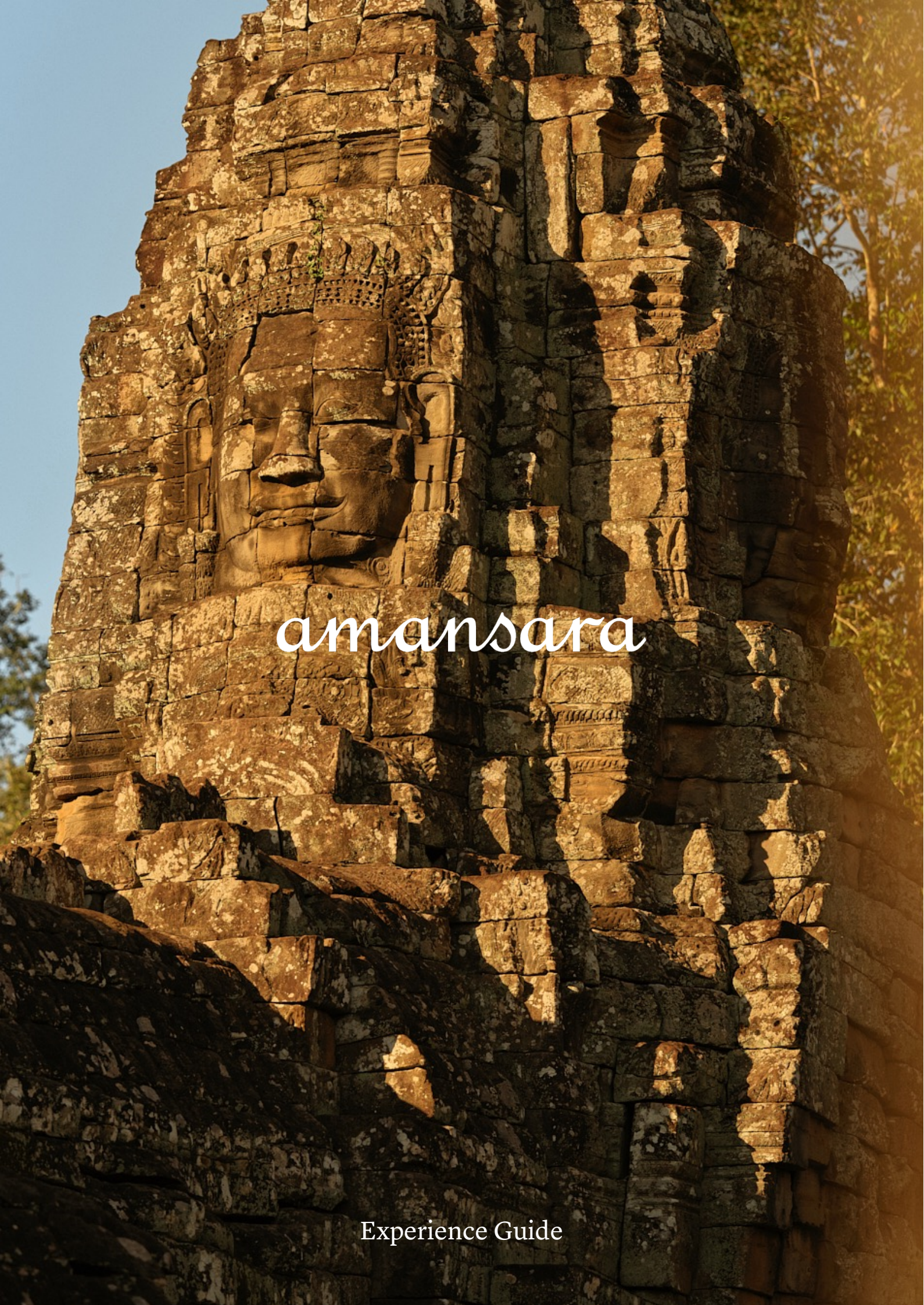


amansara

Experience Guide

Experiences at Amansara

Experiences are personal journeys. At Amansara, our calling is to introduce you to Siem Reap's deeply rooted cultural heritage, its serene landscapes, and its contemporary spirit – and to help you form a meaningful connection with its warm and welcoming people.

Home to Angkor – the vast, UNESCO-protected ruins of the once-mighty Khmer Empire – Siem Reap is Cambodia's cultural capital. Here, natural splendour blends seamlessly with an unparalleled tradition of Khmer history and culture.

Nestled on the threshold of Angkor, Amansara offers a variety of temple tours and bespoke excursions as part of the guest experience. Several tours utilise Amansara's own fleet of remorks (moped-powered trishaws), each accompanied by an Amansara driver and English-speaking guide. Beyond the Angkor temples, off-the-beaten-track experiences can be tailored to suit your individual interests and pace.

Venture into the countryside on a jeep rally, cruise among the time-frozen floating villages of Tonlé Sap Lake, or take part in immersive culinary experiences – including a Khmer cooking class at a traditional village house. Enhance your journey with holistic wellness activities such as movement classes and forest walking meditation.

The Angkor Empire — A Sacred Legacy in Stone



At the height of its glory, from the 9th to the 15th century, the Angkor Empire rose like a dream etched into the Cambodian plain—one of the most refined and far-reaching civilisations in Southeast Asia. At its heart stood Angkor, a vast, breathing city of temple-mountains and celestial geometry, where kings reigned as gods and stone spoke the language of the divine.

Crowning this sacred realm is Angkor Wat—not merely a monument, but a cosmic mandala rendered in sandstone. Commissioned by King Suryavarman II in the 12th century, its soaring towers, endless galleries, and exquisite bas-reliefs mirror the Hindu universe itself. Every detail whispers of order, eternity, and the sacred rhythm of creation.

To the north rises Angkor Thom, the empire's final royal capital, encircled by a broad moat like an earthly paradise. Within its formidable gates stands Bayon, the temple of faces—serene, enigmatic, and introspective. Here, the gaze of Jayavarman VII lingers still, carved into stone with the calm intensity of meditation, watching over the world he shaped with vision and compassion.

Entwined with jungle and time, Ta Prohm offers a striking counterpoint. Left largely unrestored, its crumbling walls and root-bound towers evoke the moment of Angkor's rediscovery—where nature and empire meet in haunting, poetic embrace.

Scattered across this ancient cityscape lie further treasures: the tiered sanctuary of Baphuon, the elevated temple of Phimeanakas, and the Terrace of the Elephants, where echoes of royal processions still seem to stir the air. Together, these sacred sites form a living chronicle of Angkor's grandeur—inviting quiet reflection amid the enduring presence of stone, spirit, and time.



Angkor Wat, The Great Wonder

Capturing the atmosphere of the temple at sunrise is our preferred way to present this magnificent monument.

A 4:30am wake-up call and prompt 5:00am departure from Amansara will allow you to arrive by remork with the first light of morning, as we head for the East Causeway. Your guide will escort you through the entrance gate, along a forested path, and into Angkor Wat—ascending to the first and then the second level of the temple—while allowing time for personal exploration. With favourable conditions, you should witness dawn with very few others present.

Following this, and a brief introduction to temple life and King Suryavarman II, you will return to the first level, which contains the bas-reliefs of the Ramayana, Mahabharata, and the 'Churning of the Sea of Milk'—a Hindu creation myth in which gods and demons cooperate to produce the nectar of immortality. These extensive and dramatic relief panels are the main highlight of this morning's outing.

You will depart Angkor Wat via the cruciform terrace, passing the libraries and the grand entrance pavilion before crossing the West Causeway.

Ta Prohm, The Jungle Temple

This excursion begins at Prasat Kravan, one of our favourite small Angkorian brick temples. It is especially notable for its dramatic carvings of Vishnu reclaiming the earth, sea, and heavens from the demon.

Continue onward to the little-understood Banteay Kdei. During the dry season, access is via the East Gate along a jungle path rarely used by visitors. This leads to a rare statue of the Buddha that is still actively worshipped today. Further along lies a sizeable rectangular terrace known as the Hall of the Dancers, thought to represent female tantric attendants or yoginis. From the West Gate of Banteay Kdei, we continue by remork to our next destination.

You will recognise this temple at first sight. Ta Prohm, its ancient stones enveloped by the roots of silk-cotton and strangler fig trees, is one of the most iconic and photogenic sites in the archaeological park. Once home to 615 apsara dancers—according to inscriptions meticulously carved onto a stele—Ta Prohm offers a rare glimpse of man and nature locked in timeless embrace, particularly striking in the golden light of the sun.

Take time to admire the intricate carvings within the Hall of the Dancers, part of the shrine King Jayavarman VII built in honour of his mother.

Daily excursions to the temples of Angkor with an English-speaking guide are included in the room rates (temple pass not included).





Angkor Thom, The Great City

Angkor Thom, the final great capital of the Khmer Empire, was founded in the late 12th century by Jayavarman VII. Enclosed by towering walls and a vast moat, this "Great City" remained the spiritual and political heart of the kingdom until the 15th century, when the empire's power began to wane.

Our journey begins at the secluded temple of Ta Nei, hidden deep within the forest. Though modest in scale, its quiet, moss-covered ruins and forested approach offer a rare sense of discovery.

From here, we continue to Ta Keo, a bold five-tiered pyramid and one of Angkor's earliest temple-mountains. Its construction mysteriously ceased—perhaps due to the king's death, or, as legend suggests, a lightning strike seen as a divine warning.
We enter Angkor Thom through the Victory Gate, walking a peaceful stretch of the eastern wall to the rarely visited East Gate, where our remork awaits. A brief stop at Vihar Bram Pi Loveng reveals a finely carved Buddha seated on a naga, relocated from Bayon in 1933.

Our exploration concludes at the South Gate, where the serene stone faces—guardians of the city—greet us with their timeless, knowing smiles.

Enigmatic Bayon

Crowned with the enigmatic smiles of over 200 stone faces, the Bayon rises as a majestic centrepiece of Angkor Thom—a triumph of sacred architecture and royal ambition.

At its base, detailed bas-reliefs weave narratives of conquest and ceremony; above, an ascent leads to the upper terraces where the stillness is profound, and the play of morning light animates each carved gaze. Time stands suspended here, in a temple where the earthly and the divine converge in timeless harmony.

Phnom Bakheng

A climb up the sacred hill of Phnom Bakheng rewards with sweeping views over the forests of Angkor Thom, the expanse of the West Baray, and the iconic towers of Angkor Wat.

Built as the state temple of Angkor's first capital, Phnom Bakheng holds particular significance as the site chosen by King Yasovarman I when he moved his court from Roluos, 13 kilometres southeast of Siem Reap. After taking in this panoramic setting, your guide will lead you down the eastern slope to Prasat Bei, an intimate brick temple of three towers set beside the moat of Angkor Thom. From there, a short walk brings you to Baksei Chamkrong, meaning "the bird with sheltering wings." This graceful pyramid shrine, dedicated to the parents of King Harshavarman I, is a refined architectural gem often overlooked by visitors.

Daily excursions to the temples of Angkor with an English-speaking guide are included in the room rates
(temple pass not included).



Banteay Srei — The Citadel of Women

Located approximately 45 minutes by car from Amansara, Banteay Srei, or the Citadel of Women, is one of Angkor's most exquisite architectural jewels. Built from rose-hued sandstone, this small yet perfectly proportioned temple is renowned for its remarkably intricate carvings—mythological scenes from the Ramayana and Mahabharata etched with a delicacy unmatched elsewhere in the Khmer world.

On the return journey, we may pause at the Cambodian Landmine Museum, founded by 'CNN Hero' Aki Ra, or visit the Butterfly Centre, where vibrant wings flutter in a peaceful garden sanctuary.

Turning off the main road, we travel eastward across the ancient embankment of the Eastern Baray, once part of Angkor's vast hydraulic network. The route meanders through picturesque, palm-fringed villages before arriving at Banteay Samre, approached via a charming country track. This beautifully preserved temple is noted for its blend of Hindu and Buddhist iconography, with carvings that remain impressively intact.

A recommended complement to this journey is a stop at the Golden Silk Farm, where the finest Cambodian silks are produced using traditional, entirely natural methods—offering insight into one of the region's most treasured crafts.

Preah Khan — The Sacred Sword

Built in 1191 by Jayavarman VII to honour his father, Preah Khan stands as a sprawling monument of devotion and resilience following Angkor's liberation from Cham invaders. Unlike the symmetry of Angkor Wat, Preah Khan's open layout reveals a softer grandeur—its corridors and towers partly reclaimed by the forest.

Throughout the temple, Garuda—the mythical bird of flight—is seen grasping the tails of naga serpents, symbolising the cosmic balance of power. Toward the northern edge lies a quiet chapel housing one of Angkor's most refined devata, a sacred female figure carved with extraordinary grace.

A short journey brings us to Banteay Prei, once forest-shrouded, now overlooking vibrant rice fields. Though smaller in scale, its classic form offers an intimate counterpoint to Preah Khan's vastness.
We continue to Neak Pean, an island temple at the centre of the Jayatataka Baray, whose pools once served ritual healing. Thoughtfully designed for both spiritual and physical restoration, it reflects Jayavarman VII's deep compassion.

The route home passes Ta Som, with its smiling stone faces; East Mebon, guarded by stone elephants and detailed lintels; and Pre Rup, where legend tells of a king who emerged renewed—giving rise to its name, meaning to turn or change the body.

Daily excursions to the temples of Angkor with an English-speaking guide are included in the room rates
(temple pass not included).





Beng Mealea & Koh Ker
Full-day excursion

The climb up the sacred hill of Phnom Bakheng which Originally enclosed by a moat nearly the size of Angkor Wat's, Beng Mealea is a 12th century temple now disappearing as the jungle encroaches. This tucked away temple lies 40 kilometres east of Angkor and was once the starting point of a canal used to float massive local stone blocks down from the surrounding mountains to build the Angkorian temples.

Elevated wooden walkways allow you to walk above the ruins of Beng Mealea's collapsed galleries and towers whilst shaded by the jungle canopy. Even fewer tourists visit Koh Ker, another 50 kilometres northeast of Angkor along the same road.

Briefly the Khmer Empire's capital in the 10th century, Koh Ker is today a place of quiet grandeur. At its heart stands Prasat Thom, a 30-metre-high temple pyramid rising dramatically above the forest. Stone garuda, the mythical mount of Vishnu, still guard its pinnacles, while the surrounding sanctuaries house impressive linga, the phallic symbols honouring Shiva, some of extraordinary scale. These remarkable carvings continue to intrigue scholars and inspire awe among visitors.

We recommend an early start, departing around 6.00am for a direct two-and-a-half-hour journey to Koh Ker, the furthest point. On the return, there will be ample time to explore Beng Mealea in the afternoon, followed by a one-hour drive back. A breakfast basket and lunch pack are included.

Your journey may also include Banteay Srei, the Citadel of Women, one of Angkor's best-preserved temples and famed for its intricate carvings in pink sandstone, as a first stop en route to Koh Ker.



Museum Tour with Private Curator
At Angkor National Museum

Embark on a journey to the ancient city of Angkor between downtown Siem Reap and the northern road to explore the magnificent Angkor National Museum on a private tour with our museum curator.

A short walk for Amansara, this state-of-the-art museum offers a glimpse into the magnificent history of the ancient city of Angkor. Learn about the Golden Era of the Khmer Kingdom, discover the origins of Khmer art, culture, and architecture, and view the eight art galleries that showcase the customs, traditions, and beliefs of the ancient empire.

Two-hour advance reservation is essential.

Nature & Immersive Experiences



Monk-Led Forest Walking Meditation

In a tranquil forest still inhabited by monks and novices, this hidden spiritual sanctuary invites you to experience a walking meditation guided by a revered Master Monk.

The first thirty minutes are devoted to gentle preparation—an introduction to the principles of mindfulness, presence, and breath—allowing the mind to settle into stillness. What follows is a meditative walk-through shaded woodland paths, where each step becomes a practice in awareness.

Spiritual Water Blessing

On the still-rustic outskirts of Siem Reap, we invite our guests to a remote Buddhist pagoda to engage with Cambodian Buddhism in a deeply personal way—through the experience of an authentic water blessing.

A small changing room is available, where you will find an Amansara sarong to wear for the 15-minute private ceremony. As a monk gently pours flower-infused water over you, he chants sacred verses to cleanse the spirit, leaving you with a profound sense of peace and renewal.

Sound Bathing

Held within the serene setting of a pagoda, this holistic session combines gentle meditation, breathwork, and a deeply restorative sound bath. Using therapeutic vibrations from traditional instruments, the experience guides you into a profound state of relaxation—gently re-tuning body, mind, spirit, and inner harmony.

For a layered journey of cleansing and renewal, we recommend experiencing this after the Spiritual Water Blessing.



Countryside Picnic

Embark in one of our vintage jeeps heading to the off-road countryside and experience rice fields and villages with breath taking views of the harvesting season, crowds of water buffalos or school of birds. Depending on the season you will catch the ritual of daily sugar palm sap collection, rice planting or harvesting, fishing for a tiny catch from the roadside canals and the fascinating cottage industries of sugar palm production, basket weaving & fresh rice noodles as prepared in simple village homes. Wonderful photo opportunities with candid moments along the sandy dirt roads of the nearby countryside. An exciting and immersive moment with a simple yet charming picnic is completing the journey.

Countryside Jeep Rally

A slice of local rural life in the outskirts of Siem Reap and Angkor Park. Our well-chosen route will have you passing children riding their bikes whilst their mothers will be on their way to market for fresh food supplies or heading off to work in the rice fields. Depending on the season you will catch the ritual of sugar palm sap collection, rice planting or harvesting, fishing for a tiny catch from the roadside canals and the fascinating cottage industries of sugar palm production, basket weaving & fresh rice noodles as prepared in simple village homes.

Wonderful photo opportunities with candid moments along the sandy dirt roads. We can also arrange additionally to integrate an adventure by bicycle as part of this trip, taking you through buffalo, hidden pagodas or along the Angkorian walls.

Jungle Temples Cycling

In the centuries since the enigmatic fall of Angkorian civilisation, the lush Siem Reap countryside has become crisscrossed by sandy tracks best explored on a mountain bike. Cycle rides along leafy paths shaded by tall trees to the ruins of Angkor deep in the forest. Sustained by ice-cold coconuts along the way, a bike ride through the Angkor park is a thrilling way to get your bearings around the world's largest religious monument. Venture a little further along what were once Angkorian highways and are now sandy tracks, to catch a glimpse of a rural life. The ruins of 10th century temples are reminders of Southeast Asia's greatest empire and provide the perfect setting for deserved.



Angkor Jungle Hike and Sunset Boating

Cambodia is a land of wonders of many kinds. When the first explorers in the late 19th century rediscovered the magnificent remains of the capitals of the Khmer Empire, the nature had long reclaimed its rights over the Temples and yet had acted as a protective forest buffer to the magnificent temples stones, against the harsh impact of tropical sunshine and monsoon rains preserving over 300 Temples and Shrines among the dense tropical jungle.

Designed for those who wish to experience an easy hike into the forest, our Angkor walks in the rugged, convoluted jungle offer a sense of adventure and achievement in cool beautiful surroundings. Our experienced guides will guide you through the lost city of Angkor on hidden trails with their sky-high trees those crones hide the sun to Preah Khan temple.

Otherwise known as the Temple of the Royal Sword, Preah Khan is one of the most beautiful and underrated temples, a hidden jewel in the crown of the Angkor Archaeological Park. Wandering down its narrow corridors and exploring its inner chambers and courtyards evokes the feeling of being one of the first explorers to set eyes on the raw beauty of this jungle temple.

A few steps further along the forest path will reveal our private dock where our local boatman will take you through the crystal clear water of the Preah Khan Baray until you reach the secretly submerged smaller temple of Neak Pean. An absolute moment of bliss and serenity awaits you! With plenty of photograph opportunities along the way, you will witness water birds, water grass, and with some luck, a fisherman catching fish. If weather permits, the sunset is a resplendence of colours to enjoy.



Bird Watching Excursion

Discover the tranquil charm of Beong Pearaing, a protected wetland sanctuary just outside Siem Reap, home to diverse fish species, lush mangroves, and hundreds of wetland birds. Guided by local experts, embark on a peaceful boat excursion through this biodiverse haven to observe rare and migratory species, such as the spot-billed pelican and Bengal florican. Visit at sunrise to witness the birds taking flight against golden reflections or at sunset as they return to roost, while learning about the Chreav community's dedicated conservation efforts.

Tonle Sap Lake Private Cruises by Amanbala Boat

Aboard our renovated local motorboat, passive approach to Cambodia's captivating landscape. As you recline on our cushy daybeds, we cruise the nearby lake of Tonle Sap, visiting the floating village of Chong Kneas.

Skillful drivers motor their boats quickly past us with just inches to spare. It is fascinating to witness the adaptation of village life on water through the changing seasons. If you return to Amansara after the green season, be sure to re-board Amanbala to see the transformation and relocation of these traditional villages. The rich and varied plant, fish and bird life here makes this, the largest freshwater lake in Southeast Asia, vital to Cambodia and the region.

Chong Kneas Village (for one to two persons)
Kampong Pluk Village (for one to two persons)
Two Villages (for one to two persons)



Dining & Culinary Experiences



Traditional Khmer Cooking Class
At Khmer Village House

Delicate and deeply rooted in tradition, Khmer cuisine offers a unique window into Cambodia's cultural soul. For an immersive culinary experience, we invite you to spend a morning at Amansara's Khmer Village House—nestled within the serene Angkor Archaeological Park and overlooking the ancient royal bathing pool of Srah Srang.

Surrounded by rice paddies and timeless history, our journey begins in the garden, where you'll gather fresh herbs, chillies, and seasonal greens. Under the guidance of our resident Khmer cooks, you'll then step into the open-air kitchen to prepare a traditional meal using time-honoured techniques.

A highlight of this experience is making hand-pressed rice noodles the traditional way—over a wood-fired charcoal stove. As the fire crackles gently beneath, you'll press and steam the rice dough, transforming it into soft, delicate strands with a subtle smoky aroma. It's a slow, mindful process that connects you to generations of Khmer home cooks.

As you chop, slice, and pound your way through the morning, our chefs will share stories, culinary tips, and local secrets passed down through the ages.

Whether you're a passionate foodie or simply seeking a deeper cultural experience, cooking your own Khmer meal in this tranquil village setting offers a delicious and memorable perspective on Cambodia's rich heritage.



Khmer Village House Experience



Khmer Breakfast

Discover Cambodia's culinary heritage with breakfast in the countryside. Enjoy a steaming bowl of nom ben chok noodles at our village house after a morning of temple exploration, surrounded by serene rural scenery.

Twilight Private Dinner

Embrace cool evenings and starry skies with an al fresco dinner at our traditional wooden house beside Srah Srang reservoir. Begin with cocktails on the balcony, followed by a family-style Khmer feast cooked over charcoal.

Candlelight and live local music set the scene for a memorable reflection on Cambodian culture after a day among the temples.

Evening at the Village House

Dine by candlelight beneath a starlit sky in a traditional Khmer village house. A four-course Khmer menu is served as the evening unfolds, accompanied by the graceful movements of an Apsara dance — an enchanting celebration of Cambodia's living heritage.

Including one bottle of Aman Champagne, unlimited non-alcoholic beverages and Apsara dance performance.

From Waterside to Village Table Experience

Enjoy a serene Tonlé Sap lake cruise accompanied by elegant canapés during sunset, followed by a four-course authentic Khmer dinner in a charming village house, paired with a bottle of Aman Champagne and the gentle backdrop of live Khmer music.

Inclusions

- Amanbala Sunset Cruise with canapes
- Four-course Khmer dinner menu
- One bottle of Aman Champagne
- Unlimited non-alcoholic beverages



A Culinary and Cultural Journey
Suggested Full-day Experience (7am to 6pm)

Begin your day with a traditional Khmer breakfast in a peaceful village house, before setting out on a guided exploration of the ancient temples of Bayon and Angkor Thom. Return to the village for an interactive cooking class, where you'll discover the rich heritage of Khmer cuisine through hands-on preparation of time-honoured recipes.

As evening falls, board a serene cruise on Tonlé Sap Lake and enjoy sunset drinks surrounded by tranquil views.

Inclusions

- Khmer breakfast at Khmer Village House
- Cooking class at Khmer Village House
- Amanbala Sunset Cruise
- One bottle of Aman Champagne
- Unlimited non-alcoholic beverages

Excluding the temple tour and temple pass.

Dawn to Dusk Experience

Begin your day with a tranquil morning cruise on Tonlé Sap Lake, accompanied by a light Khmer breakfast. In the evening, enjoy a four-course authentic Khmer dinner paired with a bottle of Champagne, set in the intimate surroundings of a traditional village house.

Inclusions

- Khmer breakfast on Amanbala Sunrise boat
- Four-course Khmer dinner menu
- One bottle of Aman Champagne
- Unlimited non-alcoholic beverages

Aman Champagne Private Dinner
At the Private Dining Room

An intimate private dining experience, curated with a refined four-course menu and a bottle of Aman's Champagne. Surrounded by candlelight and delicate floral accents, the setting evokes quiet romance, perfect for a personal celebration, accompanied by the gentle melodies of live Khmer music.

Including one bottle of Aman Champagne and unlimited non-alcoholic beverages.

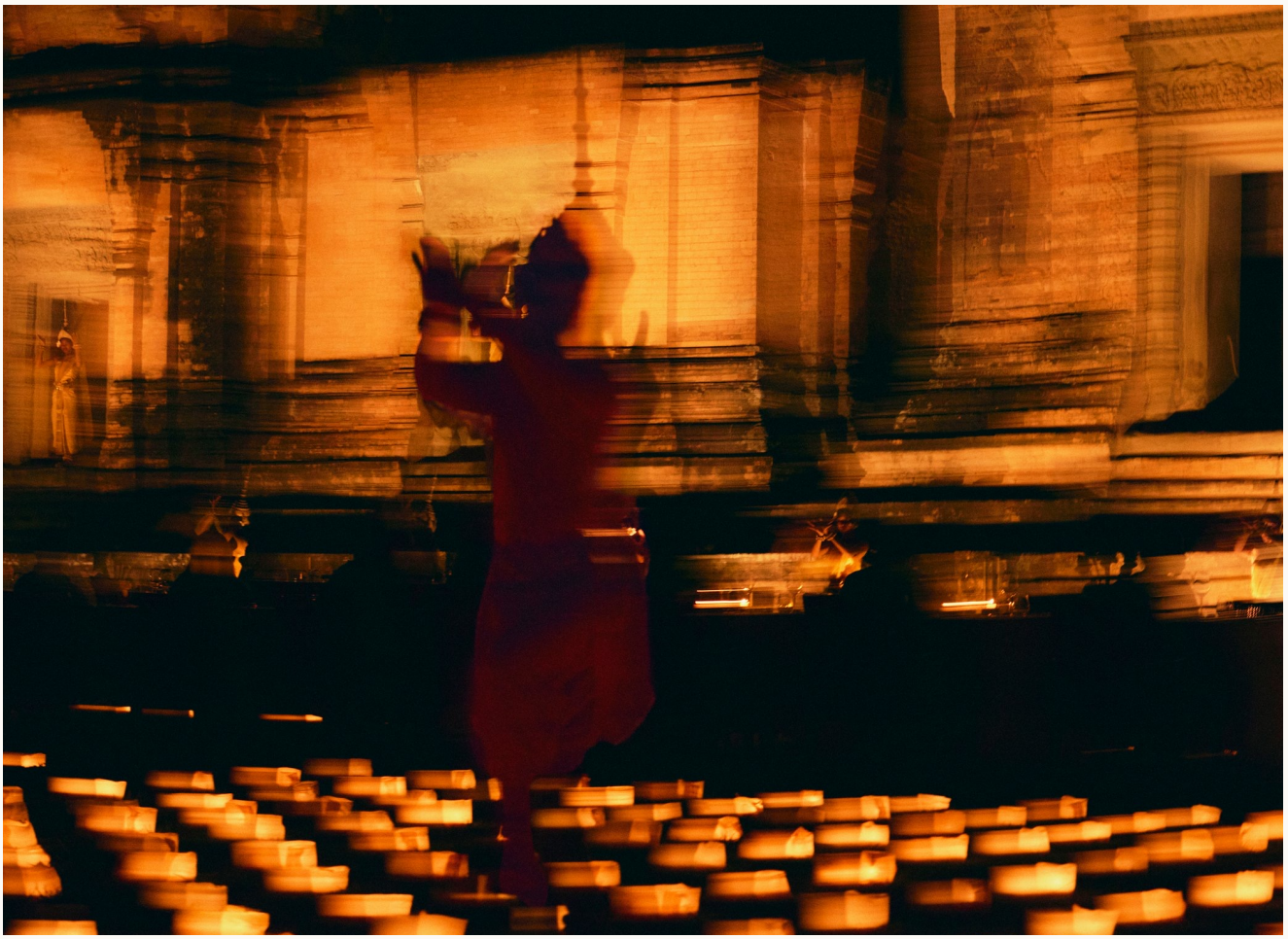


Angkor Temple Dinner
At Prasat Kravan Temple

An immersive evening in a unique setting for inspiring memories. Amansara's Temple dinner is an exclusive experience which takes you on a journey through Cambodian performing arts from traditional to contemporary, amidst the 10th century temple Prasat Kravan, aglow with 1,000 candles. Enjoy an evening of traditional Cambodian arts including the Sacred Dancers of Angkor from the renowned Conservatoire of Banteay Srei.

Commence the evening with a spiritual offering of Buong Suong. Relive the epic tale of the Ramayana through one of Cambodia's oldest performance art forms, Sbaek Thom, also known as giant shadow puppets. Also joining in the art show is the young artists of Phare, The Cambodian Circus who will astonish you with their emotion, enthusiasm and talent and ensure the evening ends with a festive energy.

Four-week advance reservation is essential



Traditional Temple Dinner Experience

Inclusions:

- A four-course Cambodian dinner featuring authentic local flavours
- Performances by Apsara dancers
- Live Khmer music
- Non-alcoholic beverages
- Dining area illuminated by 1,000 candles

Enhanced Temple Dinner Experience

Inclusions:

- A five-course Cambodian dinner highlighting regional specialties
- Performances by Sacred Apsara dancers
- Sbaek Thom – giant shadow puppets
- Live Khmer music
- Non-alcoholic beverages
- Dining area illuminated by 1,000 candles

Royal Temple Dinner Experience

Inclusions:

- Exquisite six-course Cambodian dinner crafted from the finest ingredients
- Performances by Sacred Apsara dancers
- Sbaek Thom – giant shadow puppets
- Phare – The Cambodian Circus
- Live Khmer music
- Non-alcoholic beverages
- Dining area illuminated by 1,000 candles

Four-week advance reservation is essential



House Talks & Cultural Performances



Thousand Years of Beauty
House Talk by Mr. Seng Kompheak

Graduating from the Royal University of Fine Arts in 2002, Mr. Seng Kompheak, an archaeologist with over 19 years of experience, actively contributed to the Lower Mekong Archaeological Project in Angkor Borei from 2003 to 2004, assuming responsibility for GPS work in 2004. With training in stone restoration, he dedicated four years to the Sambor Prei Kuk Conservation Project with Waseda University, Japan.

Since November 2007, Mr. Seng Kompheak has served as the Curator of Collections at the Angkor National Museum, playing a vital role in preserving cultural heritage. Notably, he was the sole Khmer archaeologist chosen by the U.S Embassy in Phnom Penh to accompany former First Lady Michelle Obama and Nancy Pelosi during their visit to the Angkor complex in March 2015. Additionally, in October 2019, he led a tour for the President of Hungary, Mr. Janos Ader.

The experience is available upon request and subject to quotation.

The Sacred Dancers of Angkor

Born in the sacred land of Angkor largest religious complex, the humble background and unique spiritual dimension with prayers and daily meditation of the Sacred dancers of Angkor reflect the Apsaras as out of the stones, emphasizing the beauty of the gestural without distracting the eyes of the audience on lavish costumes and ornaments.

Their costumes are toned down but with the respect of the colours and shapes of each role. Their fresh beauty is not enhanced with make-up, their ornaments are hand made by each artist woven in palm leaves, their masks in paper mache and hand painted.

They have recently had the honor to perform in Tokyo accompanied by HRH Princess Buppha Devi and with the Support of UNESCO, where the major performance was at the Sumida Hall with the incredible privilege of the presence of the Imperial Couple.

As part of Amansara's commitment to preserve cultural heritage, we are proud to regularly invite the young Sacred dancers of Angkor.

The experience is available upon request and subject to quotation.

The New Spirit of Cambodia: PHARE, The Circus

The Cambodian Circus, a Khmer music, dance and acrobatics spectacle established by the Phare Ponleu Selpak ("Brightness of the Arts") Association. Phare was formed over 20 years ago in Battambang with nine Cambodian artists who grew up together in a Thai refugee camp and their drawing teacher to help other children express the trauma of war. More than just acrobatics, each Phare high energy performance makes a sharp but entertaining commentary on present day Cambodia through the eyes of a new generation of artists.

Phare, The Cambodian Circus

We are privileged here in Siem Reap to have Phare, The Cambodian Circus, a Khmer music, dance and acrobatics spectacle established by the Phare Ponleu Selpak ("Brightness of the Arts") Association which provides free schooling and vocational arts programmes for young Cambodians. The circus troop is one of the most popular attractions in our town. They will enthral, excite and amaze the whole family with high energy performances, whilst giving you a little insight into Cambodian, beliefs, lives and culture through their dazzling story-telling.



Young Explorers & Family Adventures



Vintage Countryside Jeep Adventure

A slice of authentic rural family life in the outskirts of Siem Reap and Angkor Park. Our well-chosen route will have you passing children riding their bikes to early morning school whilst their mothers will be on their way to market for daily fresh food supplies or heading off to work in the nearby rice fields. Depending on the season you will catch the ritual of daily sugar palm sap collection, rice planting or harvesting, fishing for a tiny catch from the roadside canals, basket weaving & fresh rice noodles as prepared in simple village homes. Wonderful photo opportunities with candid moments along the sandy dirt roads of the nearby countryside.

The Lost Temples of Angkor

Amansara ‘s lost temples discovery has been thoughtfully designed so as to be away from the crowds and enjoy the smaller jungle temples in solitary splendour, giving the children plenty of space to run away with their imaginations, become explorers and expend all their excitable energies.

Our guides are all parents themselves, so they know best how to keep the whole family engaged and enthralled throughout this Indiana Jones style adventure before enjoying well deserved light refreshments among Angkor mysterious lost treasures.

Cycling Through Temples

A bike ride through the Angkor is a thrilling way to get your bearings around the world’s largest religious monument. Venture a little further along what were once Angkorian highways and are now sandy tracks, to catch a glimpse of a rural life that has changed little despite Cambodia’s tumultuous past. Cycle rides along leafy paths shaded by tall trees to the ruins of Angkor deep in the forest. Sustained by ice-cold coconuts along the way we finish the ride with a hearty breakfast at our village house or sunset over Sra Srang



Cart Riding

For many centuries, the ox and cart has been a very common form of transport for Cambodian people. It serves many purposes, from family transportation to farming activities, and by partaking in this adventure you are also helping to safeguard its use for the future as well as provide a much-needed source of income in these rural outskirts of Siem Reap. The adventure takes you on a bumpy ride through the countryside with a local guide who will open your eyes into these local fishing and farming communities. A fabulous adventure of learning and excitement for the whole family.

Monk Chanting

Traveling along typical Cambodian villages in one of our vintage jeeps, we reach the gigantic rectangular West Baray in the Angkor archeological complex. An awe-inspiring moment lies ahead with the sound of the gong ringing out, calling young giggling novices from the local pagoda to gather round for their daily chanting - an opportunity for the younger guests to discover their pears and their intriguing life style while witnessing sacred incantations chanted by novices and young monks, led by a Master.

Spiritual Water Blessing

We'd like to bring our younger guests here to engage with Cambodian Buddhism in a more personal way by receiving an authentic water blessing. In the neighbouring monastery, there is a small changing room where you will find Amansara sarongs for all the family to wear for the 15-minute private ceremony. As the monk gently pours water over you, he chants to cleanse your spirit. Full disclosure: everyone will get very wet. Our sincere hope is that this humble Khmer Buddhist ritual will leave you feeling remarkably at peace.

Khmer Kick Boxing

For those looking for a more active session, Amansara's resident martial ats instructor, Makara Phok, who has boxed competitively for Cambodia, will introduce our guests to the most ancient Khmer martial arts, Pradal Serey which is part of Cambodian's culture. Pradal Serey is most well-known for its kicking practice and consists of four types of striking techniques: pinches, kicks, elbows and knee strikes.

One session includes warm-up, gentle cardio, fight techniques and meditation. This practice will help your child to focus, strengthen the body and relax.



Khmer Kitchen – Cooking Class

The delicate flavours of Khmer cuisine are only now being discovered. To introduce you to local culture through your taste buds, we leave Amansara around 7.30am when it is cooler and make the chef's favourite market, Psah Leu our first stop. Follow one of our kitchen team along lanes teeming with fresh produce as you weave through one lively area of the open-air market to the next. Baskets full, we take the short drive to Amansara's Khmer Village House within the Angkor Archaeological Park overlooking the 10-12th century royal bathing pool of Srah Srang. Our resident Khmer cooks are on hand to share some local tricks as you chop, slice and pound away.

The children will be fascinated by array of fresh products on offer at the market and when they tire of cooking, there's plenty of space to play in the garden of our traditional Khmer house in between learning to prepare traditional Cambodian delights such as fresh spring rolls, lemon grass skewers, Khmer doughnuts.

Lotus Folding

Lotus flowers are a part of daily life in Cambodia. Growing up from muddy waters and emerging into such beauty, the flower symbolises purity of body, speech and mind for Buddhists, and are an integral part of offerings at every local pagoda. Test your dexterity and join our nimble-fingered staff who will teach you to fold the petals into beautiful designs.

Community Assistance

Amansara is deeply committed to supporting Cambodia's ongoing recovery. Many of our guests, moved by their experiences here, also wish to contribute. Opportunities include supporting local charitable organisations, joining food drops for families, or visiting schools that provide education for children who might otherwise be working in the fields. These moments often prove to be inspiring and transformative, especially for our younger guests.

For further details, please contact our Guest Assistant.



AMANSARA

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