

Cambodia and Laos Mekong Adventure

Priced from \$2199.00 per person excluding airfares with various departures throughout the year.

Itinerary

Day 1 Bangkok

Arrive at any time.

There are no activities planned until the evening welcome meeting.

Arrival Day and Welcome Meeting

1h18:00

The adventure begins tonight. Feel free to explore before your welcome meeting, but make sure you're back in time to meet the group. After introductions, your CEO will review the details of your tour. Please note that normal check-in times apply at our start hotels, but you can usually store your luggage for the day if you arrive early.

Accommodation

Prime Hotel Central Station Bangkok (or similar)

Hotel

Day 2 Bangkok/Siem Reap

Travel from Thailand to Siem Reap, Cambodia, the gateway to Angkor Wat. Enjoy a traditional meal of Khmer food either at the G Adventures-supported New Hope project.

Leave Bangkok and head out on the journey to Cambodia. Cross the border, switch vans and continue on to Siem Reap.

The scenery is spectacular and the contrast between Thailand and Cambodia is immediate.

Get your first taste of Khmer food in the evening with an included local meal at the New Hope project.

Private Vehicle

Bangkok – Aranyaprathet 4h-4h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Border Crossing (Thailand - Cambodia)

Aranyaprathet – Paôy Pêt 1h-2h

Get ready to cross into Cambodia. Aranyaprathet is known for being one of the most hectic border crossings but CEOs will help make the process go as smoothly as possible. The border crossing is done on foot and can take up to an hour so be patient and think of all the fun Cambodia has in store.

Private Vehicle

Paôy Pêt – Siem Reap 3h-3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

G Adventures for Good: New Hope Vocational Training Restaurant

Enjoy a traditional meal of Khmer food at the New Hope Vocational Training Restaurant, an initiative kickstarted by G Adventures. Providing skill-building opportunities to marginalized community members, the project also funds the adjacent free community school and health centre. Visit the restaurant run by locals and see how the New Hope project has supported positive change in the community.

Accommodation

Mekong Angkor Palace Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast | Dinner

Day 3 Siem Reap

Take a guided tour of the massive Angkor Wat temple complex. Opt to visit the Tonle Sap floating village or the Angkor Museum.

Angkor Wat Guided Tour

Angkor Wat

Enjoy a tour of impressive ancient ruins with a local professional guide. Wake early to watch the sun rise over the magnificent Angkor Wat temple. Visit the enigmatic faces of Bayon within the walled city of Angkor Thom, and tour Ta Prohm (aka the "Tomb Raider" temple), which is slowly being swallowed by the jungle.

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Optional Activities - Day 3

Tonle Sap Floating Village

Siem Reap

Tour the floating villages of Tonlé Sap. See what life is like living on a lake — rice planting, pig farming, even attending churches and school, are all done on top of water.

Angkor Museum Visit

Siem Reap

Learn about the story of Angkor and the Khmer empire at the interactive Angkor Museum. Explore the museum's inspiring galleries and interactive technology, which bring Angkor's past to life.

Phare - The Cambodian Circus

Siem Reap

Enjoy a stellar performance by Phare, a unique and socially conscious circus that injects Cambodian culture and history into its inspiring shows. See acrobatics, contortion, and aerial arts melded with theatre, modern dance, and more. Take in stories of war, relationships, and discrimination, inspired by the real-life experiences of Phare's creators and performers.

Accommodation

Mekong Angkor Palace Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 4 Siem Reap/Phnom Penh

Travel to the capital city of Phnom Penh. Opt for a cyclo tour through town for a street level view of this busy city.

Travel by public bus to Phnom Penh. Opt for a cyclo tour of the city or a drink in one of the many riverside cafés.

Local bus

Siem Reap – Phnom Penh 6h-7h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Free Time

Phnom Penh Afternoon

Free time to explore. Take an educational stroll through a museum or visit some of the local pagodas and palaces.

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Optional Activities - Day 4

Phnom Penh Cyclo Tour

Phnom Penh 45m-1h

Settle in a traditional cyclo and depart from Wat Phnom. Tour busy streets to soak up the real vibe of the city. Pass the post office and Van's restaurant, both stunning colonial buildings, and make your way to the Royal Palace and National Museum. Go along the riverside road and take in the atmospheric cafes that line the street.

Accommodation

Diamond Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 5 Phnom Penh

Take a guided tour of Tuol Sleng Prison and Choeung Ek (Killing Fields). Opt to visit the Royal Palace, National Museum or Russian Market.

While in Phnom Penh, witness the darker side of Cambodian history with guided visits to Choeung Ek, the site of the infamous Killing Fields and Tuol Sleng, the notorious Khmer Rouge prison where thousands of Cambodians perished.

With a free afternoon, opt to visit the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda or the National Museum. The huge Russian Market is packed with souvenirs and all the necessities of daily life.

Tuol Sleng Museum (S-21 Prison) Guided Tour

Phnom Penh

Learn about the dark history and devastation that occurred at Security Prison 21 (S-21); the prison, used by the Khmer Rouge regime, is now Tuol Sleng Museum. Take a guided tour to hear the stories behind the sombre photos lining the museum walls.

Choeung Ek (Killing Fields) Guided Tour

Phnom Penh

Learn more about the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge visiting the Killing Fields of Choeung Ek; the grounds now stand as a powerful memorial filled with victims' skulls and mass graves. Tour this sombre, yet serene, site with a guide.

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Optional Activities - Day 5

Royal Palace Visit

Phnom Penh

Visit the King's current dwelling place, a magnificent riverside palace with classic Khmer architecture. Dress appropriately please; visitors must wear clothing that covers knees and shoulders, and shirts must reach the elbow.

Silver Pagoda Visit

Phnom Penh

Tour the Royal Palace complex to see the neighboring Silver Pagoda (aka the Temple of the Emerald Buddha). See the many magnificent treasures inside this beautiful vihara (Buddhist monastery), including its floor lined with more 5,000 tiles of silver.

National Museum

Phnom Penh

Visit Cambodia's largest museum of culture, history, and archaeology. Tour its buildings inspired by Khmer architecture – constructed in the early 1900s, they house one of the world's largest collections of Khmer art. Visits here are well worth your time.

Russian Market Visit

Phnom Penh

Shop this must-visit market for souvenirs, handicrafts, antiques, and Western brand-name clothing at (often) greatly discounted prices. Haggle away for the best deals!

Wat Phnom Visit

Phnom Penh

Visit Wat Phnom (Hill Temple) in late afternoon, a historic monument with lots of green space. Keep an eye on your food and belongings; cheeky monkeys like to get a hold of anything they can.

Accommodation

Diamond Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 6 Phnom Penh/Kratié

Travel to Kratie and opt for a boat trip to see Irrawaddy dolphins.

Travel to Kratié. En route, pass through Skuon (a small town famous for its delicious spiders), where it's possible to sample an eight-legged snack. Once in Kratié, opt to head out on the water, trying to spot rare Irrawaddy river dolphins.

Private Vehicle

Phnom Penh – Kratié 6h-7h 285km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Kratié Afternoon

Spend free time on the water looking for Irrawaddy dolphins.

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Optional Activities - Day 6

Kratié Boat Trip

Kratié

Come aboard for a one-of-a-kind wildlife encounter – the feeling you get as you spot an Irrawaddy dolphin breaking through the water's surface is truly inspiring and will lift your heart. Enjoy the boat tour, and let the late-afternoon sun warm your face.

Accommodation

Mekong Dolphine Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 7 Kratié/Don Không

Cross into Laos and travel to Don Khong with options to cycle or walk through the village or choose to relax by the Mekong.

Travel by bus to the Cambodian/Laos border. After completing necessary border formalities, continue the journey to Don Khong Island.

Private Vehicle

Kratié – Dong Kralor 2h30m 141km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Border Crossing (Cambodia - Laos)

Dong Kralor – Veun Kham

Ready for a little more ink in your passport? Grab your bags and get ready to check another country off your bucket list.

Private Vehicle

Veun Kham – Don Không 45m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

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Optional Activities - Day 7

Cycling

Get on your bike and enjoy the ride.

Accommodation

Hotel Don Khong (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 8 Don Không/Don Deng

Enjoy a guided tour of Wat Phu Champasak. Enjoy a traditional homestay and local meal in Don Deng.

Travel through the beautiful province of Champasak, once the capital of the Lao kingdom. Head to Pakse and cross the Mekong River to visit Wat Phu with a local guide.

Overnight in a rustic homestay on Don Deng Island. A typical Laotian village environment doesn't have all the creature comforts of home but it allows for insight into the local culture and connection to the people of the village.

Private Vehicle

Don Không – Pakse 2h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Private Vehicle

Pakse – Vat Phou 30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Wat Phu Guided Tour

Vat Phou

Head to the base of Mt Phu Kao for a guided tour of Wat Phu, a temple complex associated with the Khmer Empire. Learn about one of the most important and impressive archaeological sites in Laos dating from the Angkorian period.

Ferry

Champasak – Don Deng30m

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Local Living: Don Deng Homestay

Learn about local culture and life on Don Deng on this memorable homestay. Experience typical Laos cuisine in a community setting; eating and sleeping arrangements are shared as a group (usually between two houses). Bring warm clothes; evenings can get cold.

Accommodation

Homestay Dong Deng (or similar)

Homestay

Meals included:

Dinner

Day 9 Don Deng/Luang Prabang

Arrive at charming Luang Prabang. With dozens of activities to choose from, spend your time exploring all this town has to offer.

Fly from Pakse to Luang Prabang and discover Laotian Buddhism and architecture. Opt to visit some of Luang Prabang's most impressive temples and climb Mt Phousi to watch the sun set over the Mekong River and mountains beyond.

Be sure to visit one of the best night markets in all of Southeast Asia. Stroll through the nightly market, bargaining with vendors, sampling local food and picking up some souvenirs.

Free Time

Don Deng Morning

Say goodbye to the homestay hosts and get ready for the flight later today.

Boat

Don Deng – Champasak30m

Climb aboard and get your float on.

Private Vehicle

Champasak – Pakse International Airport 30m40km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Plane

Pakse International Airport – Luang Prabang 1h45m

Drive 20 mins from the airport to the hotel in Luang Prabang.

Note that during low season (Apr-Oct) the itinerary may vary slightly. Often there are no direct flights from Pakse to Luang Prabang. Flights will be routed via Vientiane and may require an overnight stay. This may also occur at other times of the year as flights can regularly be cancelled or rescheduled. On some occasions we may have to fly from Savannakhet to Luang Prabang, a 4 hr drive north of Pakse.

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Optional Activities - Day 9

Night Market Visit

Luang Prabang

Shop until your heart's content at the night market in Luang Prabang – one of the best in Southeast Asia. Head to the market around dusk. Tour the vendor stalls lining the streets offering food, wooden statues, clothes, trinkets and souvenirs to dozens of people wandering up and down the market. Don't miss the opportunity to interact with the sellers and gently negotiate a good price.

Phousi Temple Visit

Luang Prabang

Climb more than 300 steps to the top of Mount Phou Si for a panoramic view of the sunset over Luang Prabang. Ornate Buddhist shrines dot the pathway up and the glistening seven-tiered golden pagoda of Wat Chom Si awaits at the summit.

Accommodation

Treasure Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 10 Luang Prabang

Opt to rise before dawn and watch the monks walk through town in saffron robes receiving alms from local residents. Visit the Ethnology Museum and Kuang Si waterfalls. With free time, opt to take a cooking class, go hiking or biking or test out the local Laotian-style massages.

Ethnology Museum Guided Tour

Luang Prabang

Take a guided tour of the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre (TAEC) to learn about the traditional arts and cultures of Laos's many diverse ethnic groups. Shop in the TAEC Boutique for authentic village-made handicrafts and relax with a drink at the museum café.

Kuang Si Waterfalls Excursion

Kuang Si Falls

Journey to this magnificent multi-level waterfall, where relaxing is highly recommended. Explore the multiple picture-perfect pools as well as the nearby Asiatic black bear rescue centre (located between the park entrance and waterfall).

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Optional Activities - Day 10

Sunrise Alms-giving

Luang Prabang

Rise early and watch the daily dawn ceremony of saffron-robed monks walking through town to receive alms from local residents. Residents prepare food for the monks to subsist on. Seeing this custom is a beautiful way to gain some insight into the local culture and Buddhist religion. Please be respectful and quietly observe.

Accommodation

Treasure Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 11 Luang Prabang

Enjoy a free day to continue exploring.

Carte Blanche

Luang Prabang Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Luang Prabang, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like learning about Laotian cuisine with a cooking class, getting a massage, and cycling around town. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

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Optional Activities - Day 11

Cooking Class

Refine your culinary skills with an optional cooking class. Discover the secrets of the delicious local cuisine.

Cycling

Get on your bike and enjoy the ride.

Massage (Southeast Asia)

Lay back and soothe aching muscles with a famous local massage. Affordable and amazing, don't miss out.

Accommodation

Treasure Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 12 Luang Prabang/Vang Vieng

Travel to Vang Vieng, a town full of adventure opportunities. Get active outdoors or relax in a café.

Take a winding drive through scenic mountains to picturesque Vang Vieng, a town resting on the Nam Song river surrounded by limestone karsts. Watch the sunset over the river and explore some of the many caves in the area.

Private Vehicle

Luang Prabang – Vang Vieng 7h 190km

The drive is spectacular but full of curvy mountain roads. If prone to motion-sickness, prepare accordingly.

Free Time

Vang Vieng Afternoon

Free time to enjoy Vang Vieng however you'd like.

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Optional Activities - Day 12

Cycling

Get on your bike and enjoy the ride.

Caving

Vang Vieng

Explore some of the many caves in the area. Some have lagoons for tubing in the dark or smooth terrain perfect for walking through. Ask your CEO for recommendations on which cave to visit for the best time.

Accommodation

Vilayvong Guesthouse (or similar)

Guesthouse

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 13 Vang Vieng/Vientiane

Spend the morning in Vang Vieng before travelling to Laos' capital city. Opt to visit temples, shop in the markets or check out city highlights. This is a great place to get a massage and try some local restaurants.

Depart in early afternoon and drive to one of Asia's sleepest capital cities, Vientiane. Enjoy the highlights of Vientiane, including Wat Sisaket (one of the city's oldest and most fascinating temples), Pha That Luang (Laos' national symbol and one of its most sacred sites), and the Morning Market (an all-day affair selling virtually everything).

Free Time

Vang Vieng Morning

Get in some last minute activities before the drive to Vientiane.

Private Vehicle

Vang Vieng – Vientiane 5h-6h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Vientiane Evening

Unwind with a massage or start exploring the capital.

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Optional Activities - Day 13

Wat Sisaket Visit

Vientiane

Visit one of Vientiane's oldest and most fascinating temples featuring a cloister wall filled with thousands of Buddha images.

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 14 Vientiane/Bangkok

Spend a day in Vientiane before an overnight train to Bangkok.

Spend the morning visiting the sights, getting a massage or enjoying the local food scene. In the late afternoon, cross the Friendship Bridge back into Thailand to board the overnight train to Bangkok.

Free Time

Vientiane

Check out the Morning Market and visit some of the sights of the city.

Private Vehicle

Vientiane30m

From the city centre, it is approximately 20 kms to reach the Friendship Bridge that crosses into Thailand.

Border Crossing (Laos - Thailand)

Vientiane – Nong Khai

Ready for a little more ink in your passport? Grab your bags and get ready to check another country off your bucket list.

Tuk-tuk

Nong Khai30m-45m

Travel from the border to the train station.

Basic overnight train (beds)

Nong Khai – Bangkok12h-13h

Experience overnight travel like a local. Sit back and get some well-earned (and likely much-needed) rest en route to your next stop.

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Optional Activities - Day 14

Wat Pha That Luang Visit

Vientiane

See Laos's national symbol and most important sacred monument, Pha That Luang (Great Stupa), completely covered in gold leaf. Every November, devoted Buddhists come here to celebrate Vientiane's most important festival, Bun That Luang, with parades, music and religious ceremonies.

Morning Market Visit

Vientiane

Visit Vientiane's vibrant, colourful morning market (which incidentally is open all day!) to find plenty of local treasures.

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 15 Bangkok

Arrive in Bangkok in the morning. Trip ends on arrival at the Bangkok train station.