

ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE TO THE TEMPLES OF ANGKOR – SO SOPHEA

Revised March 2010



As a fluent English speaking licensed guide – I, So Sophea, would be pleased to introduce you to the unique and unforgettable Temples of Angkor.

1–2–3 day tours or longer; email me and I will suggest an itinerary and arrange transport by air-conditioned car, van or motorcycle chariot. We can also pick you up in the airport if need be.

The recommendation from Andy and Nicky Gibb-UK

“Sophea is an excellent Guide, who is knowledgeable, quietly competent and very flexible, so we could design a tour that suited us, with Sophea suggesting wonderful itineraries. His English is fluent – his knowledge of Angkor Temples and their history is very good, and he has a nice sense of humour which brings the temples and the villages on the lake to life. We were very pleased” Andy and Nicky Gibb – UK.

So Sophea’s Introduction

Born close to Angkor, I know the whole area well (I was even a motorcycle guide for a while) and have passed the English tests and Guide exams to qualify as a Guide.

The main sites of Angkor are Angkor Wat, the incredible walled city of Angkor Thom, including the Bayon with its myriad enigmatic faces of Buddha, and the romantic Ta Prohm still enveloped in the jungle. These should be on everyone’s lists.

Angkor Wat is probably the largest religious site in the world and is a “Must See” for everyone. Seeing the structure like the temples of Angkor which have been partly destroyed and covered in the dense jungle since the 1500’s required a good knowledge of the architecture and religions and military conquests – otherwise they can seem like a pile of stones.

The exception is Angkor Wat which, having been build as a funerary temple for Suryavarman II to honour Vishnu, the Hindu deity with whom the king identified, has been restored as the Buddhist shrine in the 16th century by the Khmer Kings. Other temples have also been adapted from one religion to another. This makes it even harder to follow the political and the religious significance of the temples. The trained guide will make the temples come alive, and guide you to good spots away from the crowds for that special photo angle, and itinerary to avoid the crowds, which is so important when learning about the stories behind each structure.

Pricing

For a price of US\$25/day in total I can guide small parties of 2 – 4 people, so that you will have a very special tour personally designed for you at the time and changed as you wish during the course the day. So this would amount to US\$12.50/person for 2 people or as low as US\$6.25/person/day for 4 people.

The only additions would be the cost of transportation as below:

- Car – US\$25/day for most temples in the region of Angkor), but some extra charges for the remote places as US\$35 for Banteay Srei Temple which is 40km from Siem Reap City, US\$45 for Kbal Spean the river with thousand Lingas carved in the riverbed and US\$60 for an un-cleared jungle temple called Beang Mealea.
- Van – US\$35/day in Angkor region, US\$45 for Banteay Srei, US\$55 for Kbal Spean and US\$70 for Beang Mealea.
- Motorcycle chariot (Tuk Tuk) – a lovely, funny and natural atmosphere – very comfortable for 2 people with fresh air and unobstructed view for US\$12/day for Angkor, US\$17 for Banteay Srei, US\$22 for Kbal Spean, US\$30 for Beng Mealea.

Note:

- The price of the distant places is included visit to the Angkor site Temples in case of available time.
- The temple passes and food are additional.
- The entry fee will cost you US\$20/person/day or US\$40/person for three days.
- Your lunch, you can take at some temples for about \$4 each, or back at your hotel.
- I will have some free soft drinks in the cool box for you.
- **We can also help you to avoid some of the more burdensome sellers of souvenirs, should they become bothersome.**

Contact and a bit of personal info

Please email me at sosophea@ymail.com or call to mobile: +855 89898669 and +855 976609366

If you have any questions about the visits or any other arrangements or even transport to Siem Reap or accommodation in the city, we would be pleased to help. I am looking forward to hear from you and to serve you.

I am 34 years old, my wife Bora and we have two young children. If you have time; we would love to welcome you to our small house for a typical Cambodian dinner during your stay in Siem Reap.

Itineraries for Tours

[One day tour](#) - [Two days tour](#) - [Three days tour](#)

For the itineraries of the remote places out of Angkor which are untouched by many tourists such as Beng Mealea Temple, Kor Ker Temple Groups and some parts of Tonle Sab Lake please contact me by email.

I am pleased to serve and make you the itineraries according to your request and the duration of your stay in Siem Reap. I will give you the pricing by email.

One day tour

We start at 7 or 8AM in the morning to visit **Angkor Thom** the great city of Angkor empire built in late 12th century and lasted until 15th century which we can see several temples in its area such as **Bayon** located in the exact centre of Angkor Thom and it is a favourite monument among the visitors. **Baphoun**; a single temple mountain sanctuary situated on a high base symbolizing Mount Meru, homage of the god Siva in Hindu, **Royal enclosure**, **Terrace of Elephants**, **Terrace of leper King**.

Visit to **Ta Pruhm**; a jungle temple before or after lunch time depending on the tour.

Visit to **Angkor Wat**; the masterpiece of architecture at the end of the day.

Two days tours

Day 1:

In the morning, visit to **Angkor Thom**, **Bayon Baphoun**, **Terrace of Elephants**, and **Terrace of Leper king**.

In the afternoon, visit to **Angkor Wat**.

Day 2:

In the morning visit to **Banteay Srei**, the red pink and yellow sandstone temple, see the style of living and take pictures of the villagers and their houses on the way back.

In the afternoon visit to the **Grand Lake of Tonle Sab** and the **floating villages**.

Three days tour

Day 1:

In the morning visit to **Angkor Thom** (see **Bayon**, **Terrace of Elephants**, **Terrace of Leper King**, **Phimeanakas** and **Royal enclosure**). Having lunch at the restaurant in front of Angkor Wat or return to town for a short break.

In the afternoon visit to **Angkor Wat**.

Day 2:

In the morning visit to **The Grand Circuit (Preah Khan Temple, Neak Pean Temple Pre Rup Temple** and other small temples if time is available before lunch time). Return to the hotel or have lunch in the restaurant in front of Angkor Wat.

In the afternoon visit to **The Small Circuit (Ta Pruhm**; a jungle temple, **Takeo Temple**, **Thommanon Temple**) and see the sunset on the top of **Bakheng Mountain Temple** if the visibility is good.

Day 3:

In the morning visit to **Banteay Srei**, the red pink and yellow sandstone temple, see the style of living and take pictures of the villagers and their houses on the way back.

In the afternoon visit the **Grand lake of Tonle Sab** and the **floating village**.

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All these itineraries are changeable depending on the tours.

I will be happy to make your stay in Cambodia a memorable, fun and different experience!

Best regards,

So Sophea