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Welcome to  
**Cambodia**

**Cambodia is a small country with a big history! A blend of warm friendly people, delicious cuisine, a captivating history, mystical treasures and ancient temples.**

Much of the country remains refreshingly 'un-touristed' and, in many places, largely undiscovered - Cambodia is sure to steal the heart and enrich the spirit.

#### ▪ CLIMATE

The climate is hot and dry from December to April/May. The wet season runs from May to October/November but unless you're visiting a beach resort or really heading off the beaten track, there are actually advantages to travelling during the monsoon months. The dust has settled and the lush greenery of the countryside returns. Angkor Wat, in particular, is spectacular in the wet season, with moats bursting with water.....not to mention, a severe drop in visitor numbers.

#### ▪ LANGUAGE

The official language is Khmer; however English is widely spoken and understood.

#### ▪ WHAT TO WEAR

Loose, natural fabrics all year, but a light jacket or cardigan will come in handy during the months of December and January. Rainwear is essential during the wet season. When visiting outdoor temples, including those of Angkor Wat, shorts and T-shirts are acceptable, shoes and hats are generally removed at the entrance to pagodas. For visits to the Silver Pagoda, which is within the Royal Palace grounds, visitors are asked to dress more formally. Gentlemen are required to wear long trousers and ladies should wear long trousers or long skirts and keep their shoulders covered.

#### ▪ COMMON COURTESIES

When visiting temples and religious sites, including those of Angkor Wat, long shorts and T-shirts are acceptable (your knees and shoulders must be covered) but revealing clothing is not acceptable. Cambodians are reserved people and may

find public displays of affection offensive. Do not touch or give anything directly to a Buddhist monk if you are a woman. The Cambodian willingness to avoid unpleasantness can sometimes lead to great misunderstandings so try and remain calm when feeling frustrated.

#### ▪ ELECTRICITY

Voltage in most places is 220 volts 50 cycles alternating current AC with either two round prongs or two flat blades so it's best to take an adapter.





#### ▪ HEALTH

Visitors do not require vaccinations unless coming from or passing through a designated contaminated area. Drink only bottled water and avoid ice unless you know is made from bottled or boiled water. The sun is strong throughout the year so proper care against sunburn and dehydration must be constantly taken. Cambodia is a tropical country so insect repellent is essential. Food from street vendors should be treated with care.

#### ▪ PASSPORT & VISA INFORMATION

Visitors to Cambodia require a valid passport (which must be valid for at least six months after one has RETURNED to South Africa and feature a minimum of four blank pages). South African passport holders require a visa, which can be applied for online <https://www.evisa.gov.kh/> prior to departure from South Africa. It is advisable to check for updated visa details with the relevant Embassy before departure.

#### ▪ CURRENCY

The currency is the Riel which is better for bargaining and shopping in markets but US Dollars, Pounds and Euros are accepted at hotels.

#### ▪ TIPPING

Tipping is not customary in Cambodia, but any amount, no matter how small, is enormously appreciated.

#### ▪ TIME DIFFERENCE

Cambodia is 5 hours ahead of South Africa.

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