

# Phnom Penh Stopover Tour

### Trip Overview:

Experience the many facets of Cambodia's varied history on this two-day overnight tour of the capital city. Your experienced guide will transport you from ancient Angkorian artwork to landmark architecture and French colonialism, via remnants of some the darkest episodes of Cambodia's history under the Khmer Rouge.

#### Tour highlights include:

- Royal Palace & Silver Pagoda
- National Museum
- Toul Sleng genocide museum
- The killing fields
- Sunset river cruise
- Wat Phnom
- Cyclo ride
- Central Market

**What's Included:** Experienced and licensed English-speaking tour guide, transport by air-con van, meals as mentioned in itinerary, entry fee Royal Palace, National Museum, Toul Sleng Genocide Museum, Killing Fields, cyclo ride, sunset set boat cruise (share cruise), bottle water on tour days.

What's Not Included: Travel insurance, other meals and all drinks, hotel accommodation, personal expenses

**Pick Up Details:** Pick up and drop off at hotel, departure transfer to airport

# **Detailed Itinerary:**

# Day 1: Royal Palace – Silver Pagoda – National Museum – Toul Sleng – the killing fields – river cruise

Your sightseeing tour of the city begins at the heart of Phnom Penh with the Royal Palace. Built by King Norodom in 1866 on the site of the original city, this large compound still houses the residence of the current monarch amid the beautiful examples of classic Khmer architecture. The star attraction is the Silver Pagoda, named for the 5,000 silver tiles which cover its floor. Next, step back in time at the nearby National Museum as you view hundreds of sculptures from both the pre and post-Angkorian era. The beautiful building, with its traditional architecture and central courtyard, is a peaceful location to absorb this excellent display of Cambodian arts. Following a Khmer-style lunch at a local restaurant, the tour will continue to some of the more sobering remnants of the Khmer Rouge era. You will visit Toul Sleng, the former high school that became known as Security Prison 21 (S21) under the Khmer Rouge regime, to discover more about this period of Cambodian history. Later in the afternoon, you will travel a little out of the city to Choeung Ek, commonly referred to as the killing fields. This memorial marks the site of many mass executions by the Khmer Rouge and provides further insight into the country's recent history. At 5pm you will embark on an evening river cruise along the Mekong and the Tonle Sap rivers, offering fabulous views of Phnom Penh from the water at sunset. Return to hotel.

#### Day 2: Cyclo trip – Independence Monument – Wat Phnom – Central Market

The second morning of your tour will begin around 8 am with a cyclo trip, a great way to experience the bustle of the city at a leisurely pace. This takes you to the Independence Monument, where you will learn a little more about French colonial influences on the city. Continue on to Wat Phnom, a traditional pagoda and the city's namesake, to view the impressive naga (snake) staircase and views across the city from the hilltop. The morning will finish at the Central Market, a great example of art-deco architecture as well as an ideal place to soak up the atmosphere as you wander the stalls and pick up a few souvenirs. The afternoon will be left free for you to explore on your own or relax at your hotel before you are transferred to your onward flight.

## Additional Information:

- Dress Code: Cover your shoulders and knees on visit to religiouse and and temple sites
- Comfortable walking shoes are recommended
- No age limit
- This private tour can be customized