Rotarian Journey into Cambodia

2027: Sat. November 6 to Mon. November 15
2028: Sat. January 15 to Mon. January 24

(*There is a separate PDF for the Rotary E-Club of Global Travelers' 12-day 2028 trip*).

Participate from only USD $995/pp

Join fellow Rotarians on a trip into ancient Cambodia…
Rotarians from various clubs around the world are joining together with Sustainable Cambodia on a journey into the heart of Cambodia.

This 10-day excursion is a truly unique experience of traveling into Cambodia. Located in Southeast Asia, this beautiful country is rich with history and culture, and this trip will be much richer and more meaningful than a mere tourist trip. We will travel to the must-visit places in Cambodia including the heart of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, and we will walk amongst the ancient temples of Siem Reap. But tourism is not the sole purpose of this trip. We will go far off the "tourist routes" to visit village families and experience the impact of Rotary projects in the remote villages of Pursat Province. For those who haven't gone before, **you will have the adventure of a lifetime while helping rural families and children in ways you may have never dreamed possible.**

Phnom Penh

The adventure will begin with a visit to Phnom Penh, the capital city situated at the confluence of four great rivers. Phnom Penh is Cambodia's commercial and political hub, and offers several cultural and historical attractions, including the **Royal Palace, Silver Pagoda, National Museum, Wat Phnom and Toul Sleng Genocide Museum**, some of which will be included in the itinerary for the trip, and others available as optional visits. Together, we will **explore** these cultural sites and museums to gain an understanding of the challenges Cambodia has faced as it rebuilds from the tragedy of the Khmer Rouge genocide.

Villages in Pursat Province

As we travel through the country, we will visit Pursat in central Cambodia, the home of Sustainable Cambodia. Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Pursat will be your guides as you **meet the village families and the school children and teachers in the SC school projects**. You will have the opportunity to **visit and/or participate in various Rotary projects**. We will travel to the schools and Rotary project sites of Sustainable Cambodia in central Cambodia, and while there each Rotarian can choose from various Rotary-supported projects, such as working with school children, visiting water filter construction sites, water well installations and community ponds. You

will have the opportunity to meet first-hand the wonderful families and children in these rural villages, and options to engage in hands-on projects and explore Cambodian culture with the children and families.

Ancient Temples in Siem Reap

The trip will include an excursion to Angkor Wat. Angkor is a temple complex built by Suryavarman II and Jayavarman VII from the 11th to the 12th century and is one of the seven wonders of the world. In Angkor Wat, you will be **led by experienced tour guides** who will share the rich history of these temple ruins and will have an unparalleled opportunity to **explore Cambodia's incredible heritage**, including a sunrise visit. The Siem Reap part of the trip will include a tour of the markets, with optional visits to the national museum, a landmine removal NGO using trained African rats, a silk farm and lotus farm.

The sunrise over Angkor Wat is a unique experience. The dawn light gives this World Heritage site a unique silhouette against the morning sky. Yes, it is an amazing experience, and yes, it means an early start (5am) to the one day. Is it worth it? “Absolutely!”, exclaimed a Rotarian from a prior year’s journey. (And you beat the heat of the day as well!)

NON-ROTARIANS? Don’t be shy! Come along! Although these trips are organized by volunteer Rotarians, we follow the Rotary 4-Way Test, an ethical guide for Rotarians in which we ask ourselves four questions of everything we think, say or do… The 4th question is: “Will it build goodwill and better friendships?”. This trip certainly passes that test! So come along! Hopefully by the end of the trip you’ll be interested in joining your nearest Rotary Club or Rotary E-Club. (…and you may be curious what the other 3 test questions in the 4-Way Test are…).

About Sustainable Cambodia
Sustainable Cambodia (SC) is a Rotarian-led nonprofit organization working to help families in rural Cambodian villages create a sustainable quality of life through wells, sanitation, schools, training and empowerment. SC is supported by Rotarian volunteers and their clubs from around the world, and employs only Cambodians. All international officers, directors and consultants are unpaid volunteers. While SC is an independent nonprofit organization and is not formally affiliated with RI or TRF, active Rotarians are volunteers and founders, and the SC Board of Directors is majority Rotarian. Sustainable Cambodia follows the 4-Way Test, and aligns its values with those of RI, including empowerment, peace through understanding, and world and community service.

Trip Cost (does NOT include flight to/from Cambodia):

- Nonrefundable reservation deposit required of $250 per person/$350 per couple
- We have a limited number of travelers for each trip, so please don't delay too long
- **Trip Cost**:
  - If reserved by **Reservation Date - $995/pp dbls - $1,090 Singles**
  - Reserved **AFTER Reservation Date- $1,070/pp dbls - $1,165 Singles**
- **Reservation Dates**:
  - **Sept 1, 2027:** for the November 2027 Trip
  - **Nov 1, 2027:** for the January 2028 Trip
- ***Balance of full payment due by 75 days prior to starting date of trip…***

Doubles = 2 people per room / Singles = 1 person per room

Questions: Email rallen@synogen.com
Sign up for info: https://www.sustainablecambodia.org/visit-sc-in-cambodia

Flights In/Out

Each Rotarian will pre-arrange their own travel by air into Phnom Penh airport (PNH). Flights out of the country can be booked to depart from either Phnom Penh or Siem Reap.

Rotarians will be picked up at the airport. Departures to the airport will be coordinated from the Siem Reap hotel. **Australian Rotarians** often coordinate flights into Phnom Penh (PNH) and out of Siem Reap (REP). **US/Canadian Rotarians** often fly into AND return from Phnom Penh, taking a 50-minute regional flight from Siem Reap to Phnom Penh on the day before departure. An FAQ document will provide more specific details.

To Reserve your Trip...

Wiring or Electronic Transfer:
Contact usoffice@sustainablecambodia.org

Paying by Cheque:
Payable to: Sustainable Cambodia (in USD)
Address: Sustainable Cambodia
1110 NE 3rd Street
Gainesville, FL 32601 USA

Paying Online:
- Visit https://sustainablecambodia.org/trip-registration/
- OR visit SC's website, click on Get Involved/Visit SC in Cambodia …
  … and scroll to the <Reserve Your Trip> button near the bottom of the page.

* **A Note on Trip Pricing:** The organizing Rotarians have priced this trip based on the hard costs of bus, drivers, fuel, hotels, meals and guides. **It is a non-profit trip**, organized by unpaid volunteer Rotarians. Roughly 25% has been added to the expected trip costs to cover contingencies and project costs, and **100% of funds not used for trip costs will be used for SC Rotary-funded project work** onsite in the villages and schools we will be visiting. Cost includes all hotel stays, transportation, all breakfasts & lunches, and dinners where marked in itinerary (a few dinners are optional & ala carte). Price does NOT include flights into or out of Cambodia.

Example of Daily Itinerary – Nov 2027 & Jan 2028 Trips

Friday: Early arrival, if possible, gives a chance to relax and to gather with and meet fellow travelers.

Saturday: Breakfast at the Phnom Penh hotel for those already here, followed by a morning to unwind from the long trip. After lunch we will respectfully tour the Killing Fields museum. This will be followed by a quiet evening where we can reflect on what we've seen and felt. Dinner will be optional, as some may wish to catch up on sleep after the long travel to Cambodia.

Sunday: Breakfast at the hotel, followed by a morning tour of the Royal Palace and afternoon at the Toul Sleng Genocide site. Optional visits to the Central Market, Russian Market or other sites. Dinner at an outside building-top location where you will meet and dine with SC scholarship students attending University in Phnom Penh.

Monday: Breakfast at the hotel, followed by travel (by air-conditioned bus- 4+ hours travel time) to Pursat Town in central Cambodia. Late lunch at the hotel in Pursat followed by an afternoon to relax and explore the town market and the "Golden Ship Island" where locals go for relaxation. Dinner that evening with Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Pursat.

Tuesday: Breakfast in Pursat, followed by a visit to one of the main Sustainable Cambodia schools, which is also SC headquarters, to meet many of the children. *This afternoon will be the first of three days of optional interactive fun at SC: Reading with the children in the library, playing games with them, joining the computer lab, Cambodian dancing classes, and various work projects such as repairs, water filters, gardening, teaching & campus help.*

Wednesday: After breakfast we will begin several side trips to the villages. First, a visit to a "before" village, where the families are preparing to start on the Rotary projects. Then a visit to a village that has been in the process of the Rotary projects for a year or two, and a visit to a "Graduate Village". Prepare yourself for a moving and fun experience, with food (corn, coconut) and dancing. At dinner in the evening we will share stories and photos.

Thursday: After an early breakfast at the hotel, we will visit a village preschool on the way to a floating village (weather permitting), and an afternoon visit to another SC school (KBFC). You will meet the Youth Clubs who will give presentations, and participate in a Sewing Program event. And many more fun, optional afternoon activities. For dinner we'll be joined by the SC Youth Clubs, Rotary of Pursat members and university students studying in Pursat. Lots of dancing and smiling!

Friday: The morning will be at the SC Pursat school, where we'll conclude our work projects and fun activities, followed by a tearful goodbye to the school children and the SC team members who have been guiding our side trips. Then we travel (again by air-conditioned bus) to Siem Reap, the location of Angkor Wat. Early dinner that evening in Siem Reap, followed by a free night to explore the Night Market.

Saturday: Breakfast in the hotel in Siem Reap, followed by the sunrise guided tour of Angkor Wat, followed by the Bayon temple. Afternoon at the Ta Prohm temple, famous from Tomb Raider. Dinner in the evening will include traditional Khmer dance performances.

Sunday: Sunday will include many options: A visit to an NGO training African rats to help with landmine removal, to a lotus fabric NGO, and an option for the Angkor National Museum or a Michelin restaurant. We'll conclude the day with a Cambodian Feast, celebrating our friendship and the good works being done.

Monday: Leisurely breakfast at the hotel as we prepare for departure flights back to our homes. We will arrange travel from the hotel to the airport.

- ***Note for all trips****: Some Rotarians may wish to stay longer in Siem Reap. As the trip coalesces and the participants commit, we will happily connect anyone who wants to stay longer with others who wish to. Also note that for those who haven't experienced Bangkok or other SE Asia destinations, this is an excellent opportunity to do so.*

On the various side trips into the villages and schools, you can expect to experience: Global Grants in-progress, Water Wells, Community Ponds, Latrine Projects, Home Gardening, Livestock and Animal Pass-on, Alternative Agriculture, Crop Loans & Income Generation, Village Self Help Groups, Village Preschools, Meeting with Village Development Committees, Meeting children, teachers and families, Visits to Classrooms and School Libraries, Experiencing the Computer Labs, Meetings with Youth Club members, Visits with Sewing Club, Community Schools.