



A Travel Guide to  
**CAMBODIA**

THE



ESSENTIAL

THINGS



PLACES CUISINES CULTURE HACKS and MORE!



It's a blessing for us to take people to places and  
make them smile every day.

- CEO David Dao





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**EXPLORE  
ENJOY  
REPEAT**



**UNBEATABLE  
PRICES**



**7-DAY  
MONEY BACK**



**DEPARTURE  
GUARANTEE**



*Greetings from*

## Asia Vacation Group

Inspired by the passion of travelling and exploring the extraordinary, Asia Vacation Group travel agency was born in 2015 with the vision of delivering the ultimate travel experience to group and individuals around the world.

### **Guests Lover**

Our dedicated services are with you all the way. Just sit back and relax.

### **Local Leaders**

With more than 60 itineraries to 7 countries in Asia, we will take you the most beautiful corners of the land.

### **Responsible Travel**

We implement only good ethic practices to protect the environment and historical wonders for mankind.

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The accommodation was exemplary in the four hotels we stayed in and every tour was terrific with the highlight for me being the Saigon River dinner cruise. The food everywhere was fantastic. Thank you for arranging such a great holiday.

- Norm Avent  
Asia Vacation Group Customer







# CAMBODIA

Most people come to Cambodia to explore the famous Angkor Wat Temple, a UNESCO Heritage Site, in Siem Reap. While the temples are indeed magnificent and worth the visit, there are much more things to see and try within the kingdom. From the floating villages in Tonle Sap Lake to the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh, travellers will have chances to learn more about the turbulent history as well as Cambodia's local lives and traditions. The country is truly a hidden gem in Southeast Asia.





# OVERVIEW

## Quick Facts



POPULATION  
16 mils (as of 2018)



LANGUAGE  
Khmer



CURRENCY  
Riel (KHR)



TIME ZONE  
UTC +7 hours



EXCHANGE RATE

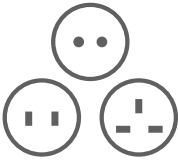
	1 USD	1 AUD	1 Euro
to KHR	4,092	2,815	4,591



ELECTRICITY  
230V/50Hz.  
Plug type A,C & G.

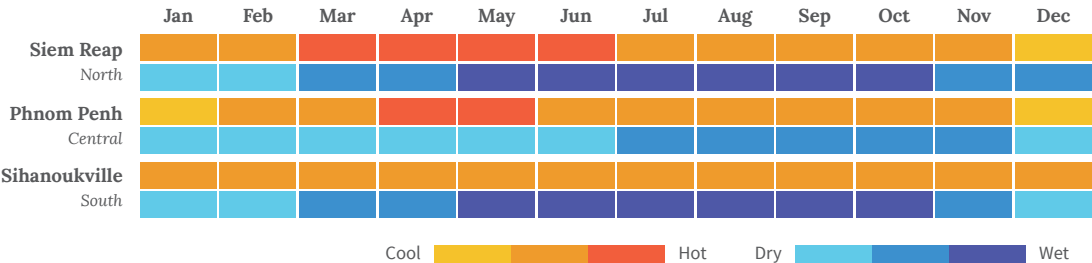


POPULAR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS  
Phnom Penh Airport (PNH)  
Siem Reap Airport (REP)  
Sihanouville Airport (KOS)



## Weather

Cambodia is good for visiting year around while having 2 distinctive seasons. The dry season is from October to April and the wet season is from May to September.

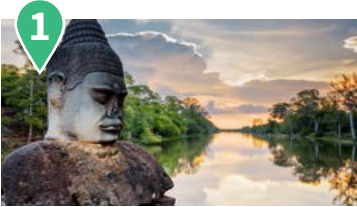


# WHERE

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## TO GO

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### Siem Reap

As the home to the magnificent Angkor Wat Temples, this town is the spiritual and cultural heart of Cambodia. Visitors will be able to witness the mossy stones and tree-rooted walls as the remains of the largest city in the world during the medieval age.



### Tonle Sap Lake

Designated as a UNESCO Biosphere, Tonle Sap Lake is the largest freshwater lake in South East Asia located close to Siem Reap. It is home to extraordinary high biodiversity and a lively community floating on water.



### Battambang

As the second largest city in Cambodia, Battambang is home to a lot of Angkorian ruins and unique French architectures. Also, it is famous for the romantic Sangker River flowing through the city.



### Phnom Penh

Described as the “Pearl of the Orient”, Phnom Penh capital was built on the confluence of the 3 major rivers including Tonle Sap Lake, Bassac Lake and Mekong River. One of the famous attractions in this city is the Cheung Ek Killing Field, where the remains of the war are being kept in place.



### Kep

Kep is a gorgeous beach town located in the south-west of Cambodia, near the Kep National Park. Visitors will find many pristine beaches, amazing seafood and recreational activities in this place.



### Sihanoukville

Referred to as the “Maldives” of Cambodia and surrounded by the Gulf of Thailand, this town would never disappoint its visitors coming to relax or enjoy the sea. The white sands, crystal water and the fresh ocean breeze will leave you wonderful beach vacation.





VIETNAM

LAOS

MYANMAR

SIEM REAP

1

BATTAMBANG

3

TONLE SAP LAKE

2

PHNOM PENH

4

CAMBODIA

SIHANOUKVILLE

6

KEP

5

## WANT MORE?

There are much more beautiful destinations not being mentioned here. Visit our website to explore the bigger Cambodia.





# WHAT

## TO DO

01

### See sunrise at Angkor Wat

Watching the sun rising up behind the ancient towers and mossy buildings is truly a stunning view that no one should miss. The photo is simply amazing and worth the time and effort to wake up early.



02

### Eat tarantulas (spiders)

Walking around the streets in Cambodia, travellers will often see the black snack made from tarantulas or spiders. The food is crunchy, well-marinated, safe and adventurous, especially for first-timers. In some restaurants, tarantulas can even come in as a dedicated dish with decent decoration and cooking efforts.

03

### Watch Phare Circus shows

Hosted in Siem Reap, the shows feature a blend of traditional and modern theatre, music, dance, acrobatics and more. The performances focus on telling the stories of Cambodia's local lives and values in typically 1 hour, rather than just dangerous or bizarre moves. There are many famous artists in the country performing. The show is good for both adults and children.



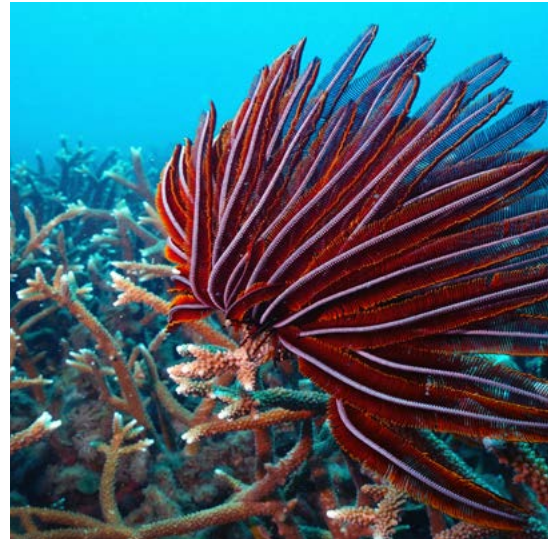




04

### Dive in Sihanoukville

Well-known as Snookyville or Snooky among tourists, this seaside town has one of the best areas in Cambodia for diving. Divers would be able to witness numerous rocky reefs and an abundance of species under the waves. Some operators even offer to film and photographing services underwater. The best time for diving or snorkelling in the area is between December and April.



05

### Enjoy an Apsara Dance dinner

Apsara dance is one of Cambodia's traditional assets that tell stories of Cambodians from the past to the current. There are restaurants in Siem Reap and Phnom Penh that offer the performances along with a dinner serving traditional food. In fact, lots of carving on the walls in temples also feature this dance.

06

### Visit Tonle Sap Lake

Located not too far from Siem Reap, the Great Lake is home to vast biodiversity of an aquatic ecosystem. The residents establish the community on water, with floating or stilt houses, gardens, schools and more.



07

### Sunset on a river cruise in Phnom Penh

Coming to Phnom Penh, visitors will encounter 3 big rivers, making this city a perfect place for boat cruising and sightseeing around the city. Watching the sun descending behind the buildings while sipping a cup of tea is truly a relaxing moment at the end of the day.





# INSIGHTS

## Getting a Visa

Type	Visa On Arrival	Visa Before Arrival	e-Visa
<b>What</b>	Apply at the airport.	Apply at nearest Cambodian embassy.	Apply online.
<b>Pros</b>	No preparation needed prior to leaving.	Save time at the airport. Valid for entry from 6 months to 1 year.	100% online application Save time at the airport.
<b>Cons</b>	Queue up at the airport.	Must apply in person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valid for entry for 90 days only.</li> <li>Not applicable for these countries: Afghanistan, Algeria, Arab Saudi, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Nigeria.</li> </ul>

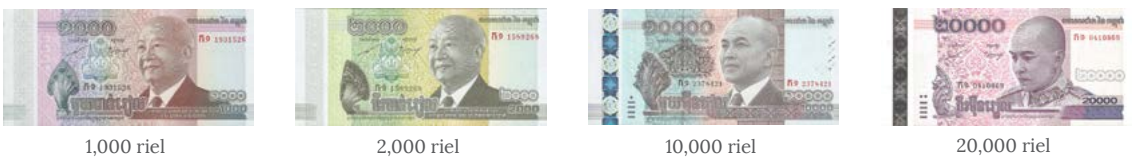
## Local Money

Local currency can be exchanged at the banks or authorized agencies.

Popular banks are Canadia Bank, Foreign Trade Bank of Cambodia, ANZ Royal and ACLEDA Bank.

*\*Do not make any transaction at unauthorized shops. There's a fine and the difference is not worth it.*

*\*\*US dollars are accepted mostly anywhere.*



## MOVING AROUND

### AIRLINES

Popular airlines are Cambodia Angkor Air, Cambodia Bayon Airlines, and Lanmei Airlines. The number of flights is quite limited and the prices are generally high.



### FERRY

Ferries and boats are only available in Tonle Sap Lake and the area of islands in the south. Even with the Mekong River running across the country, boats or ferries are not the most efficient ways to travel around.



### TAXI

There is not a lot of taxi operators and most of them do not rely on the meter. Phnom Penh seems to see more taxis than Siem Reap. Tip: passengers must confirm the prices prior to using their services.



### BUS

Public city bus routes are not designed for tourists and only operate in Phnom Penh. However, the long-haul bus is a good option for routes like between Siem Reap and Phnom Penh or Phnom Penh and Sihanoukville. You can ask a hotel's staff to book the bus ticket or go directly to the bus stations to purchase. The price is reasonable, usually from USD10-25 per one-way trip.



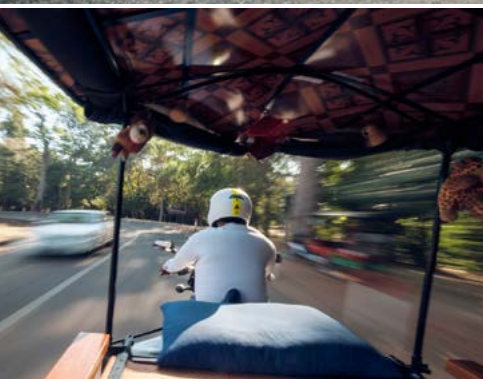
### TUK-TUK

Tuk-tuks are cheaper than taxis and still faster than buses with the capacity of up to 4 people on a vehicle. The drivers are friendly, but it is recommended to confirm the prices prior to using services.



### TRAIN

Like airways, railways are limited in this country. As of current, there is only one route from Sihanoukville to Phnom Penh and then Poipet (close to Thailand border). This is obviously not the best options for tourists.





# HUNGRY?

## 01 Fish Amok

*Best place to get: Siem Reap, Battambang, Phnom Penh*

This fish-based curry dish features fish, lemongrass, chilli, turmeric and coconut milk. It is usually served in banana leaf with rice and sometimes fried egg.



## 02 Khmer Curry

*Best place to get: Siem Reap, Phnom Penh*

The curry is milder, less spicy, sweeter, and used more herbs than the curry in Thailand. Typical ingredients include chicken, sweet potatoes, coconut milk, fish sauce, herbs, turmeric and ginger.



## 03 Green Mango Salad

*Best place to get: Anywhere*

The crunchy green mango is mixed with fresh chilli, fish sauce, sliced tomatoes and shallots along with pickles, peppers, basils or mint.



## 04 Crab & Pepper

*Best place to get: Kep, Kampot*

Fresh crab is stir-fried with peppercorns. The sweetness of the crab meat along with the spicy kick of the peppercorns is perfect harmony.

## 05 Chive Cake (num kachay)

*Best place to get: Anywhere*

The small cakes are made of glutinous rice flour and fried in shallow pans. The cake is served with sweet and spicy fish sauce.



## STAY HEALTHY

Cambodia's health system is not very advanced. The best medical treatment is available in Siem Reap and Phnom Penh. Therefore, before making a trip to rural areas, travellers should always bring first-aid supplies as well as common medicines such as pain killers or diarrhea remedy. In an emergency, you must quickly get transferred to the nearest medical centres for treatment and advice. We highly recommend that all travellers should purchase travel insurance for peace of mind.

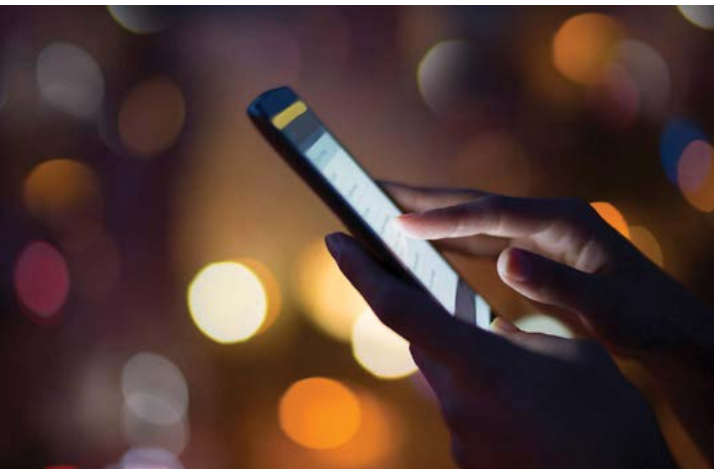


## EMERGENCY DIAL

**117**  
POLICE

**118**  
FIRE

**119**  
MEDIC



## STAY CONNECTED

For data only, a 4G sim card costs about USD5 for 2GB of data, valid to use in 30 days (Metfone).

For voice/data, it may cost USD5 for 10 minutes calling and 1.5GB of data (Smart).

Popular Network Providers are Metfone, Smart, Cellcard, qb, and Seatel.

## STAY SAFE

Cambodia is considered to be a safe place for tourists. Violent crimes against foreigners are very uncommon. However, pickpocketing and petty theft are the threats that tourists should be aware of. Tip: Do not carry valuable assets and documents while travelling and always stay cautious when entering crowded areas.





CULTURE

# FESTIVAL

## › Khmer New Year

*April - Nationwide*

The festival lasts for 3 days and everyone comes back home for reunion and celebration of a new year. This time is also the end of the harvest season and a good chance for farmers to reward themselves with a few days off. Local residents usually perform many purification ceremonies, visiting their temples and having fun playing traditional games.

## › Water Festival

*November - Phnom Penh*

Water Festival or Bom Om Touk is held to mark the reversal of the flow of the Tonle Sap River, which takes place in Phnom Penh capital city. The most expected event during this 3-day festival is the boat race, attracting competitors across the country. Also, there are parades, concerts, and firework going on during the festival.



## › Buddha Birthday (Vesaka Bochea)

*May - Nationwide*

Vesaka Bochea commemorates the birth and enlightenment of Buddha and his passing into Nirvana. On this day, Buddhists visit temples and make donations of clothes and food to the monks. Flowers and lanterns are decorated everywhere. Many ceremonies are held day and night as well, for the blessing of Buddha.



# ETIQUETTES



## Stay local. Stay right

### #1

Greet with *som pas*, putting your hands together like praying and bow your head slightly. This is similar to the *wai* in Thailand.

### #2

Dress properly when entering temples and shrines. Shoulders and knees should be covered.

### #3

Do not touch anyone's head, even children.

### #4

Use your right hand when handing something to others. The right hand is considered to be more respectful.

### #5

When eating, do not leave the chopstick sitting vertically in your food. That is believed to bring bad luck.

### #6

Take off the shoes when entering houses unless being told otherwise.

### #7

Bring small gifts when being invited to someone's house.

### #8

If you are a woman, do not touch the monks. It is religious.

### #9

Try not to show your anger or disappointment in public. Saving others' faces is important.

### #10

Respecting the elders is a big thing in Cambodian society. Hence, if an elder is present, give them all the priorities to sit first, eat first and talk first.





# TRAVEL AGENCY

Employed by Asia travel experts, Asia Vacation Group understands deeply WHERE to go, WHAT to do, and HOW to take your holiday to the fullest



Best Prices



7-day Money Back



100% Departure Guarantee

## Our tours typically include



Flights



Accommodation



Selective Meals



Transportation



Sightseeing



Tour Guides

\*Prices are on per person twin share basis and subject to change without notice.



### 11 Day Southern Vietnam & Cambodia Tour

Tour Code ASVC1-11

Saigon, Siem Reap, and Phnom Penh



### 14 Days Vietnam and Cambodia Discovery

Tour Code WCV14

Hanoi, Halong Bay, Hoi An, Saigon, Siem Reap, and Phnom Penh



### 13 Day Vietnam & Cambodia with Luxury Mekong River Cruise

Tour Code WMK13

Saigon, Mekong River Cruise, Phnom Penh, Tonle Sap Lake, and Siem Reap



### 18 Day Southeast Asia Tour

Tour Code ASEAI-18

Bangkok, Kanchanaburi, Hanoi, Halong Bay, Hoi An, Saigon, Siem Reap, and Phnom Penh

## TRAVEL HACKS

# the CHECKLIST for PACKING

You don't need to pack your whole apartment into your luggage...

### Documents

- Passport with at least 6 months expiry date.
- Visa documents.
- E-tickets or printed ticket.
- Hotel list.
- Tour itinerary.

### Clothes

- Tshirts, shorts.
- Swimsuit.
- Jackets.
- Hat or cap.

### Electronics

- Chargers.
- Electrical adapter and converter.
- Camera kit, including batteries and memory cards.
- Phone, earphones.

### Medicines

- Cold/Flu, Diarrhea, Pain Relief,
- Allergy.
- Prescription drug with label and doses description.
- Sunscreen and insect spray.



### Money

- Foreign currency in cash.
- Credit card (Mastercard or Visa are more widely accepted).

### Packing Gears

- 1 check-in luggage (up to 20/30kg).
- 1 carry-on luggage (up to 7kg).
- 1 small travel bag/backpack.

### Shoes

- Comfortable walking shoes.
- Sandals.

### Accessories

- Sunglasses.
- Umbrella.
- Hat or cap.

### Toiletries

- Toothbrush and toothpaste.
- Soap/shower gel.
- Feminine product.
- Hand sanitizer or wet wipe.



## TRAVEL HACKS

# ON THE GO

## SURVIVAL TIPS



### SOUVENIRS

For those who do not want to get home empty handed.

- Natural soaps and candles (Siem Reap).
- Silks (Phnom Penh).
- Peppers (Kampot).
- Silverware (Phnom Penh & Siem Reap).

### TALK LOCAL

Some common Burmese phrases that may come in handy.

#### English

#### Burmese

Hello

soos-a-day

Thank you

ar-koon

Sorry

som-toe

Yes

bah

No

ot-tei



### BARGAIN

Prices are generally fair in Cambodia. You should only haggle with street vendors and taxi.

Rule#1: Study the prices with different vendors.

Rule#2: Do not use this move if the price is too low already.

Rule#3: Start bidding at 50% of the offer received and work your way up.

Rule#4: If 50% works, walk away immediately. It can be much lower.

Rule#5: Just walk away...



# BOOKING FORM

Please fill in the form below and kindly send them to our office. Our address is on the last page of this guide.

## SECTION 1: TRIP DETAILS

1. Which tour do you want to book?

.....

2. Preferred room type

Twin     Double     Triple

3. Where will you depart from?

Sydney     Melbourne     Brisbane  
 Adelaide     Canberra     Perth  
 Auckland     Other (Please specify below)

.....

4. Would you like to purchase travel insurance

Yes     No

5. Preferred Flight Class

Economy     Premium Economy  
 Business     First Class

6. When do you want to travel

..... (dd/mm/yyyy)

7. Number of passengers

.....

8. Add-on Tours (Please name all of them)

.....

.....

.....

9. Special Request (transport, accommodation, etc)

.....

.....

.....

\* Final price will vary based on your selections. But don't worry, you are still having the best rates possible

## SECTION 2: LEAD PASSENGER

10. First Name

11. Middle Name

12. Last Name

13. Street Address 1

14. City

15. State

16. Postal Code

17. Street Address 2

18. Country

19. Nationality

20. Email Address

21. Phone Number

## SECTION 3: OTHER INFORMATION

22. Would you like to hear about our latest offers and promotions?  Yes  No

Terms & Agreement (Please read carefully)

If submitted by one party only, I confirm that I am authorized to sign on behalf of all passengers listed on this booking form. All parties have read, understood and agree to abide by the terms, booking conditions and responsibilities.

Your signature

Today's Date:...../...../.....





## BOOKING CONDITIONS

### Reservation & Deposit

Tour prices are subject to availability of tour, airlines, special economy class fare and specific airfare class availability. All services are subject to availability.

Typically, a deposit (from \$199 per passenger) is required within three (3) days of receiving confirmation that the company is holding space for you. Actual amount of deposit may vary depending on tours.

*Note that Private Tours and Tailor-Made Tours require a 30% deposit.* Passenger names must be provided exactly as per passport, including middle names, at the time of deposit/booking. Any spelling corrections made after a deposit is paid must be sent in writing and will incur additional fees, including any ticket reissue fees. Asia Vacation Group reserves the right to correct any errors in rates quoted or calculated, or any commissions made at any time during your booking. Any verbal quote given is an indication only of the final price and is subject to confirmation in writing.

### Amenments & Extra Fees

The following fees will apply:

- Amendments to confirmed and deposited itineraries outside of 30 days prior to departure where the value of the booking is decreased: \$50 per change for admin fee.
- Transferring between tours (within 75 days): See "Cancellation by Customer" for applicable fees and details.
- Reissue of airline tickets: From \$100 per person.
- Once a booking is confirmed, name transfers may incur additional charges.

### Cancellation by Customers

All cancellations must be made in writing to Asia Vacation Group and will be subject to the following cancellation charges from the date the written cancellation is received:

- If airline and rail tickets are issued, up to 100% of the airfare and rail fare surcharged.
- If your booking is made with the Budget airlines, up to 100% of package tour.
- If customer wants to change the travel dates and visa issued,

up to 100% of visa fee.

- More than 75 days prior to departure: loss of deposit plus any administration fees
- Between 74 and 59 days prior to departure: 25% of total cost
- Between 58 and 46 days prior to departure: 50% of total cost
- 45 days or less prior to departure: 100% of total cost
- Any "No Show": 100% of total cost

In the event of a cancellation any refunds will be less administration fees and any applicable amendment fees. Asia Vacation Group will endeavour to recover as much as possible from suppliers to pass on to the customer. Regrettably cancellation charges and fees cannot be waived. There can be no exceptions. No refund will be made for any unused portions of the holiday after the departure date. Please note that employees of any overseas company or staff of Asia Vacation Group outside Australia are not authorised to give any guarantees or agreements to customers in respect of refunds or any other matters.

### Cancellation by the Company

Asia Vacation Group reserves the right to cancel or vary a tour prior to departure due to insufficient numbers. In such an event, alternative guaranteed travel dates will be offered. Should these options not be acceptable Asia Vacation Group will refund the full price paid, less visa cost. If a tour is cancelled or varied prior to departure due to unforeseeable circumstances such as, but not restricted to, severe weather conditions or force majeure, Asia Vacation Group will refund all monies prior to departure less visa cost, fuel surcharge and any other cancellation fees levied by airlines and other third parties. Unforeseeable circumstances such as force majeure, adverse weather, flight rescheduling, hotel overbooking and faults with transportation or road conditions may also have an effect on the tour itinerary after the commencement date. Any decision made in respect of tour services by independent operators to re-route or amend the itinerary due to any of the above or similar circumstances

is at the discretion of the tour service provider and Asia Vacation Group will not be liable for any claim whatsoever arising from such events.

### Responsibilities

Asia Vacation Group acts as a coordinator for all persons taking these tours in the making of all arrangements for transportation, sightseeing and hotel accommodation. The Company does not own, manage, control or operate any transportation vehicle, any hotel or restaurant or any other supplier of services. All receipts and tickets are issued subject to the terms and conditions specified by the supplier and all services are subject to the laws of the country where the services are provided. The Company acts only as an agent for the owners, contractors and suppliers of transportation and/or other related travel services provided and assumes no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage to baggage or property or for any injury, illness or death or for any damages or claims whatsoever caused arising directly or indirectly from accidents, loss, theft or damage to person or property, delays, transport failure, strikes, wars and uprisings or acts of God etc. over which the Company has no control. We strongly urge all customers to undertake a high level of personal responsibility in order to ensure that possessions, equipment and personal documents are closely monitored and protected at all times.

### Privacy

We are collecting your personal information so that we can process your booking. We will also keep you up to date with other Asia Vacation Group's offers and product information that may be of interest to you if you have consented to this. You can opt out of receiving information at any time if you choose to do so. Any personal information you provide will be managed in accordance with Asia Vacation Group's privacy policy.



We are living in a connected world.



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Outside New Zealand: +64 212 49 1987

sales@asiavacationgroup.co.nz

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You  
**NEVER**  
have to travel  
**ALONE**