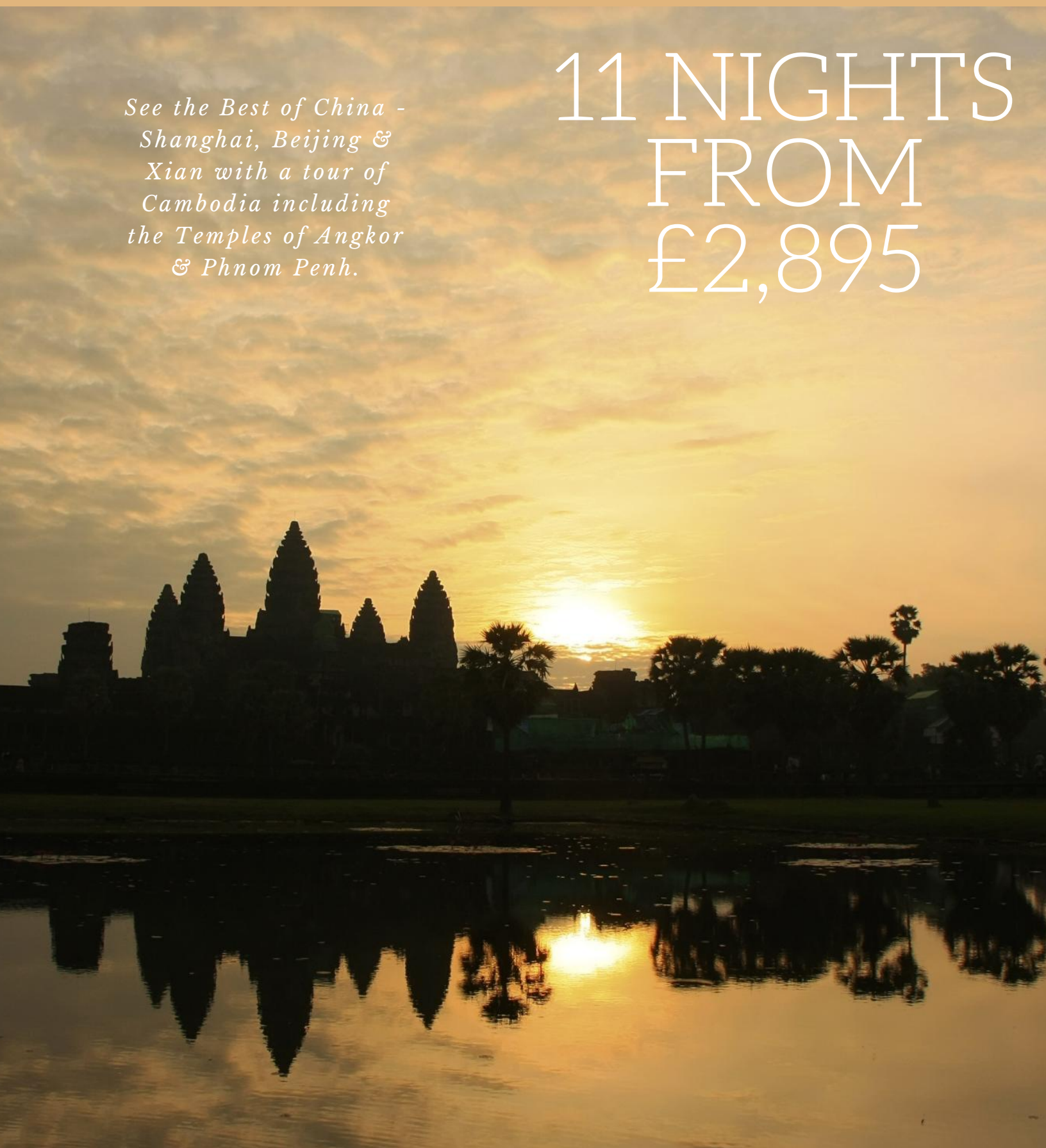


GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

*See the Best of China -
Shanghai, Beijing &
Xian with a tour of
Cambodia including
the Temples of Angkor
& Phnom Penh.*

11 NIGHTS
FROM
£2,895



GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

Day 1: Beijing

Overnight flight from the UK to Beijing.

Day 2: Beijing

On arrival you will be met and transferred to your chosen hotel in Beijing.

An interesting way to spend the evening is to take a stroll down Wangfujing Street, one of the most famous shopping streets in China where international brand outlets stand close to traditional exotic street food stalls.

Overnight: Beijing

Meals: Breakfast included





With iconic sights such as the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace and the Temple of Heaven, it is no wonder that Beijing tops most people's lists on a tour of China...

GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR



Day 3: Beijing

Enjoy a full day privately guided tour of Beijing.

Visit Tiananmen Square and prepare to be overwhelmed by the sheer size of one of the world's largest public squares. Pass several monuments, including Chairman Mao's mausoleum on the way to the entrance the Forbidden City.

The Forbidden City was completed in 1420, and was home to 24 emperors, the last of which left Beijing in 1924. Stroll through what is arguably the best-preserved example of classical Chinese architecture in the world.

Enjoy an easy walk up Jingshan Hill, for a birds-eye view of the Forbidden City.

Finally, recapture the feeling of Beijing's past from the wooden seat of a traditional rickshaw, and visit a local family's courtyard home along the way during a tour of Beijing's traditional Hutong district.

Overnight: Beijing

Meals: Breakfast included



GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

Day 4: The Great Wall

The Great Wall of China is the longest man-made structure in the world.

Explore the much quieter Mutianyu section of the Great Wall, which was first begun in the Northern Qi Dynasty (550-557) and finished in the 17th century.

The 2.5-kilometer stretch of the Wall allows you to walk along its storied length for over an hour and visit twenty-two watchtowers, should you so choose.

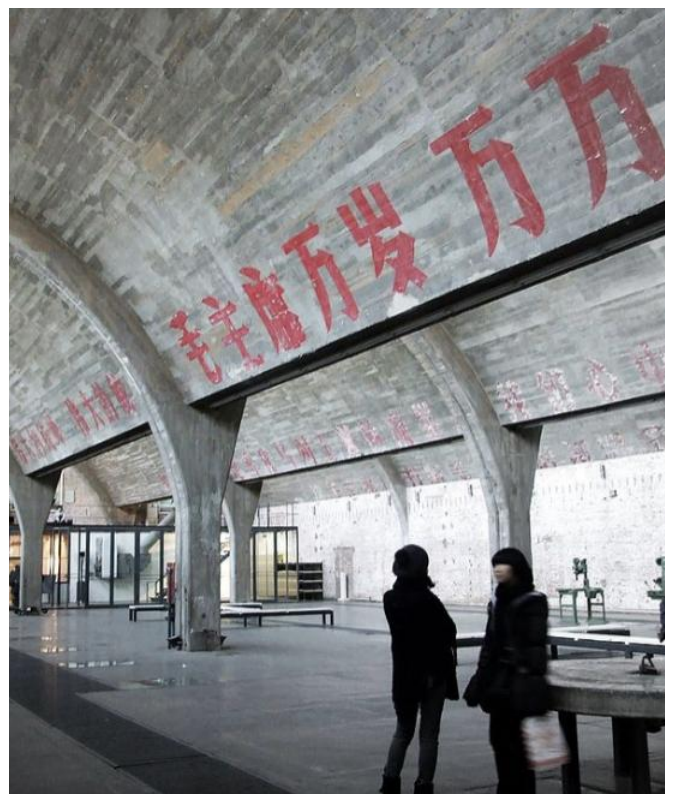
Also enjoy a cable car ride to the top.

Once a complex that manufactured electronics, Factory Number 798 was divided, rented out, and converted into galleries, artist studios, design companies, restaurants and bars at the turn of the 20th century.

Pay a visit to this art district of Beijing where Maoist slogans still adorn the walls, to experience a different side of Beijing.

Overnight: Beijing

Meals: Breakfast included



GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR



Day 5: Beijing - Xian

Enjoy the morning for some independent explorations of Beijing before transferring to the airport for your afternoon flight to Xian where you will be met and transferred to your chosen hotel.

(Alternatively travel from Beijing to Xian by high-speed rail (4.5 - 6 hours).

Central Xian is fairly compact and we recommend a visit to the old Muslim Quarter in the centre of town.

Enjoy a stroll around the busy streets, great for people watching, photography and for getting a taste of this great city at the start of the famous Silk Road.

Sample some of the many exotic dishes on offer in the various food stalls lining Huimin Street.

Overnight: Xian

Meals: Breakfast included



*Explore the magnificent
city walls of Xian.*



Visit the city of Xian, see the famous Terracotta Warriors and explore this famous city at the start of the great Silk Road, famous for its colourful Old Quarter & grand pagodas...

GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

Day 6: Xian

One of the world's greatest archaeological finds, the Terracotta Warriors were discovered by chance in 1974 by a group of peasants digging a well outside of Xian.

These sculptures of soldiers, chariots and horses were funerary statues made to accompany China's first emperor to the afterlife over 2100 years ago.

Legend has it that it took 100,000 men 38 years to create the soldiers, which all vary in rank, posture, height, uniform and facial features.

Spend the morning on a visit to the Terracotta Warriors and after lunch transfer back to Xian.

In the afternoon there will be the chance to explore Xian's City Walls which are easily done independently. A great way to experience the City Walls is to rent bicycles and cycle the circuit.

Transfer to the airport in the evening for your flight to Shanghai where you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Overnight: Shanghai

Meals: Breakfast included



Shanghai is China's most dynamic and commercial city with some of the world's tallest buildings.



Shanghai is China's economic power house – where China is most blatantly heading full tilt into the new millennium. Monumental new skyscrapers, glittering department stores, buzzing nightlife – it's all happening in Shanghai, making it China's most exciting city by far...

GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

Day 7: Shanghai

Enjoy a full day tour of Shanghai, visiting some of the most important landmarks and locations in Shanghai, including the Jade Buddha Temple, the Bund, Yu Yuan Gardens, Shanghai Old Street, the French Concession and Xintiandi.

The Jade Buddha Temple is an active temple, with 70 resident monks, and the centerpiece is a sitting Buddha carved out of white jade and encrusted with jewels, measuring over two meters tall and rumored to weigh over 1000 kilograms.

From the Jade Buddha, head over to the Yu Yuan Gardens, a classic creation of the Ming Dynasty. Nearby is Shanghai Old Street which had its origins in the Qing Dynasty.

After a Shanghainese lunch at a local restaurant, visit the Bund, Shanghai's waterfront, known for its grand display of colonial-era architecture and the wonderful views of both sides of the Huangpu River.



GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

Day 7 cont: Shanghai

Visit Xintiandi, a stylish nightlife district with many boutiques, pubs, and restaurants and on to Shanghai's Art District. Xintiandi is a good place to return to for dinner this evening.

Finally visit the Shikumen Open House Museum, a well-preserved Shikumen house from the 1920's that displays furniture and articles for daily use during that time.

Overnight: Shanghai

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included



GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR



Day 8: Shanghai - Suzhou

Today enjoy a full day in Suzhou. You will be collected from your hotel by your driver and guide for a private excursion to Suzhou, one of China's famous water towns.

Visit the Garden of the Master of the Nets, the smallest of the Suzhou residential gardens, yet the most impressive because of its use of space and the feeling of tranquility and harmony that it instills on visitors.

After lunch visit the Suzhou Institute of Embroidery and see some of the most valuable pieces of embroidery ever made, including several priceless court gowns.

Finally visit the superb Suzhou Museum, itself an architectural masterpiece, containing over 15,000 ancient pieces in its collection, including paintings, ceramics & calligraphy.

Go directly to the airport for your early evening flight to Siem Reap where you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Overnight: Siem Reap

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included



GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

Day 9: Siem Reap

Today enjoy a full day tour of the temples at Angkor. Visit Angkor Wat, the crowning jewel of Khmer architecture. The largest, best preserved and most significant of the Angkor temples.

The fortified city of Angkor Thom covers an area of 10 sq. km. Enclosed by a wall and wide moats, Angkor Thom includes many of Angkor's most popular sights.

Continue to the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper Kings, former spaces for public ceremonies, both adorned with dramatic bas-reliefs.

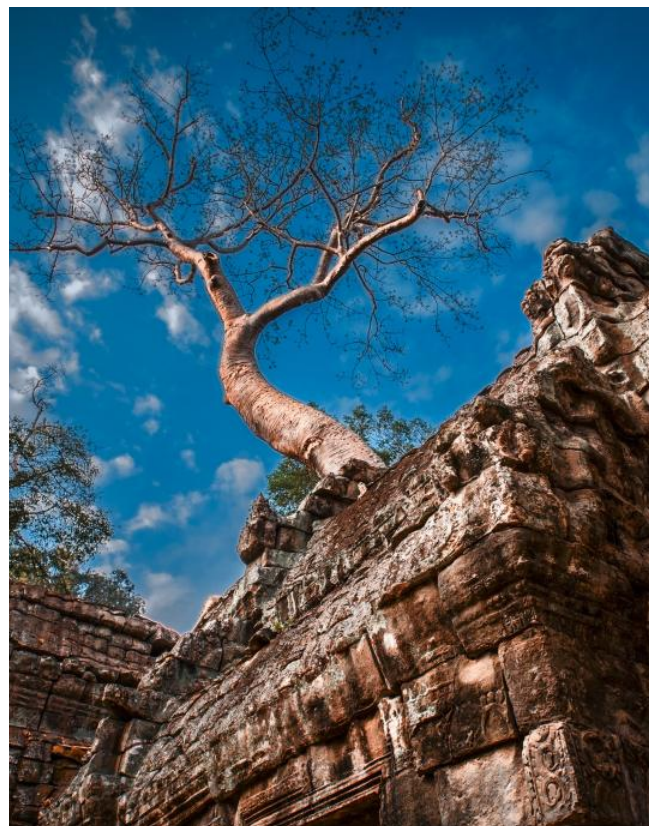
Visit the ruined Baphuon, Royal Enclosure and Phimeanakas before continuing to the mysterious Bayon Temple, one of the most popular and compelling in Angkor.

See Banteay Kdei Temple, a massive Buddhist temple and finally, visit jungle-clad Ta Prohm, one of the most popular attractions of Angkor.

Watch the sun set over the Cambodian countryside from an ancient Temple.

Overnight: Siem Reap

Meals: Breakfast included.





The giant carved stone heads of the Bayon at Angkor.

No visit to Cambodia would be complete without a visit to the Temples of Angkor. Over 100 temples lie within Siem Reap province dating from the 9th-14th century...

GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR



Day 10: Tonle Sap

Enjoy a Full Day Tour offering an authentic look at the lifestyles of the residents of Tonle Sap, Cambodia's largest freshwater lake, just a short distance from Siem Reap and one of Cambodia's most beautiful sights.

Visit a remote village where few tourists venture and embark on a boat ride through the village of Kampong Phluck where the fisherman and their families live in stilted houses among the petrified mangrove forests and waterways.

Enjoy a lunch of local dishes in a family's house and enjoy the fascinating scenery of Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake.

Return to Siem Reap by boat and private vehicle in the afternoon.

NOTE: Due to low water levels during the dry season, the boat trip is only possible from June to March. However a visit to an alternative floating village at Chong Kneas can be arranged instead.

Overnight: Siem Reap

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included



GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

Day 11: Phnom Penh

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Phnom Penh where you will be met and transferred to your chosen hotel.

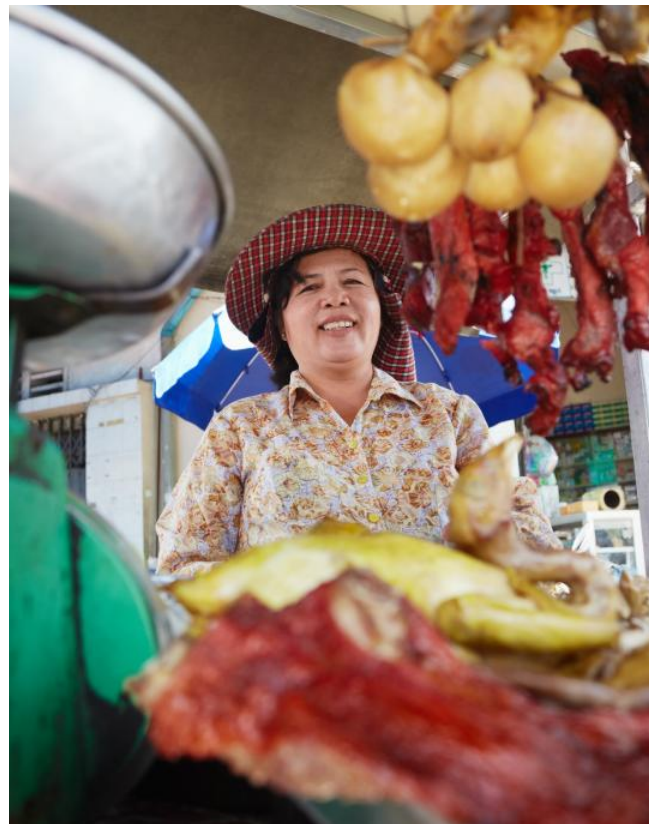
Enjoy an afternoon discovering the highlights and must-see landmarks of Phnom Penh on a half-day walking tour.

Begin with a visit to the Royal Palace, built in 1866 by King Norodom. See the different structures of this pagoda-style compound and stroll around its beautiful garden. Visit the Silver Pagoda, so named because of the 5,000 silver tiles lining its floor.

Afterwards, visit the Champey Academy of Arts (CAA), a local non-profit school focused on training in the traditional Cambodian arts.

Continue to the nearby National Museum an exceptional example of traditional architecture and exclusively devoted to preserving and exhibiting Khmer art and sculptures.

Overnight: Phnom Penh
Meals: Breakfast included.



GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR



Day 12: Phnom Penh

Just outside Phnom Penh, in a peaceful rural setting, the Killing Fields of Choeung Ek provide a stark reminder of the atrocities inflicted on Cambodia under the Pol Pot regime.

Thousands of people were killed here between the years of 1975 and 1978 and buried in mass graves.

Learn more about this chapter from Cambodia's recent past at Tuol Sleng (Museum of Genocide). Formerly a High School, in 1975, this became the interrogation and torture facility for the Khmer Rouge regime.



Although this Half Day excursion seems quite a 'morbid' trip, it is for most visitors a quite moving experience and an important step in understanding modern day Cambodia where almost every family was in some way affected by the Pol Pot regime.

The afternoon is free for you to explore independently.

Overnight: Phnom Penh

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included

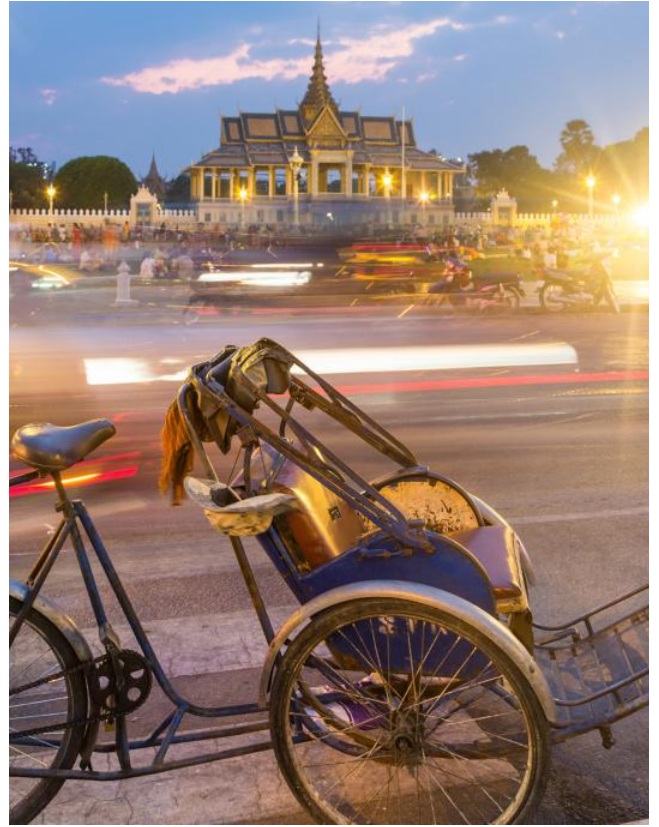
GREAT WALL TO ANGKOR

Day 13: Phnom Penh - UK

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK.

Day 14: UK

Arrive back in the UK (or on day 1 depending on flight schedule).



Heritage Journey

Travelling to China & Cambodia

This private China & Cambodia Tour covers Beijing, Xian & Shanghai as well as Siem Reap and Phnom Penh in Cambodia and can be tailored to suit your interests, budget and choice of accommodation.

Begin your China Journey in Beijing with Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, a cyclo tour of the Hutong District and a spectacular visit to a quieter section of the Great Wall.

Fly to Xian, at the start of the Silk Road and see the Terracotta Warriors and explore the magnificent City Walls and the Old Muslim Quarter.

Your China journey culminates in Shanghai, China's most commercial city, with echoes of the British colonial era

alongside some of the world's tallest buildings.

Finally visit Suzhou, one of China's famous old water towns, with its willow-lined canals and superb gardens and museum.

From Shanghai fly to Siem Reap in the north of Cambodia and explore the Temples of Angkor as well as beautiful Tonle Sap Lake.

In Phnom Penh learn something of the more recent history of Cambodia and experience a lively youthful city on the up.

This journey is a great mix of new and old and offers an inspiring mix of sights and destinations.

China is the fourth largest country in the world and covers an enormous area. China's aviation industry has grown enormously over the last 2 decades and flying is an excellent way of travelling around China. The advent of Low Cost airlines and fares has made flying even better value in recent years.

China also has an increasingly comprehensive high-quality high-speed rail network making rail travel an attractive option, particularly between Shanghai, Beijing and Xian. The fastest train in the world is the Maglev service from Shanghai Airport into the city, travelling at 460 km-h.



Spring and Autumn can be excellent times of year to visit China with temperatures more reasonable in Beijing, Shanghai and Xian. Winters can be very cold in Beijing and July and August can be hot, humid and rainy in Shanghai. High season in Cambodia is between November and March but the low season

sees fewer visitors, lower prices and the ponds surrounding Angkor full of water. A visa is required for all UK passport holders travelling to China. These can be obtained easily and in a few days from the Chinese Visa Service Centre in London via post. Cambodian visas are available on arrival.



Accommodation in China ranges from uber-luxurious to far more simple local style hotels. Although China is dominated by larger hotels catering to big groups, we try to suggest more boutique style hotels in most of our itineraries but the choice of accommodation for your trip can be totally guided by you.

Beijing in particular has a good selection of traditional courtyard style hotels which can be a great way to experience something of the ambience of old-style China. Cambodia has a superb selection of boutique hotels in both Siem Reap and Phnom Penh ranging from budget option to very luxurious.

The Duge Boutique Hotel in Beijing adds a bit of luxury and modernity to the traditional Courtyard Hotel style in Beijing.



After a traumatic late 20th century period, travel to Cambodia is now very much back on the agenda. The magnificent temple complex of Angkor of course is the highlight of any tour of Cambodia, but many visitors also fall in love with Phnom Penh with its youthful atmosphere and wide boulevards.

The sleepy coastal stretch from Kampot to Kep and the off shore islands offer peaceful beach escapes, with Sihanoukville a livelier option.

Off the beaten track Cambodia offers wildlife, little-explored mountain ranges and unique tribal cultures.



EXTEND YOUR TRIP



BOUTIQUE BEACH EXTENSION

ADD ON KEP

3 nights from
£260 pp

Knai Bang Chatt (meaning the halo around the Buddha's head) is the only 'luxury' hotel in the Cambodian seaside resort of Kep and offers the chance to enjoy a few days of relaxation after your China & Cambodia tour.

Knai Bang Chatt offers understated luxury in a fabulous setting. Rooms are spacious but minimalist, decorated in earthy tones and accented with Khmer art and artefacts. The seafront setting is idyllic, with lawns surrounding a swimming pool and over-looked by two magnificent trees.

Just 18 uniquely designed rooms are set in three renovated villas, designed with large terraces open to views of the lawns, sea and islands.

EXTEND YOUR TRIP



DISCOVER THE FRAGRANT
HARBOUR

ADD ON HONG KONG

3 nights from
£345 pp

Hong Kong is one of Asia's most exciting and vibrant cities with bustling street markets, towering skyscrapers and shopping and restaurants galore.

Built around one of the world's great harbours (Hong Kong means 'fragrant harbour'), Hong Kong is compact enough to allow visitors to get around quickly, from the shopping malls of Hong Kong Island to the soaring heights of Victoria Peak or the markets of Kowloon.

Surprisingly Hong Kong offers plenty of opportunity to get active, including hiking on some of the outer islands.

Hong Kong is easily added on to this itinerary.

DATES & PRICES


Travel Dates Guide Price

Jun, Sep - Oct:	from £2,895 pp
Jul - Aug:	from £3,095 pp
Jan - May:	from £2,985 pp

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Please contact us for confirmed prices as prices are all subject to change, dates and availability. Remember that all of our China & Cambodia Holidays can be tailored to suit your interests and dates.

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