



Schools, University & Educational Programs to Asia

(CAMBODIA + VIETNAM FOCUS)



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See the World Travel

At STW-Travel we believe that underpinning an education with travel and the opportunity to make a difference through learning and volunteering abroad is an invaluable way to broadening pupils' minds and opening them up to different cultural experiences.

We offer a range of personalised school trips throughout Asia; however, we specialise mainly in educational experiences in Cambodia and Vietnam. Where we can cater for any size of group however large or small. We can also design trips for any interest and length in relation to the preferences of the school from History & Geography trips all the way to Music, Sports as well as Art and Textiles.

So whatever the trip criteria we can tailor a solution for your school and pupils!

Why Asia?

Asia offers an extremely enriching, engaging and developmental experience for students at an affordable price. All of our destinations have a rich biodiversity, cultural heritage and political history which make them fascinating and eye-opening places to visit.



Whether you want your students to learn about European colonialism or endangered wildlife, Buddhism or Royal dynasties, the Vietnam War or how to make a Rendang curry, a tailor made STW-Travel experience makes all of this possible and much, much more.



What makes our trips so great? *It's all about the people!*

From our core office staff to our individual guides everyone that works for STW-Travel; is exactly that a little bit different but all incredibly special.

The majority of our staff and guides have been with us since the beginning of our travel journey 8 years ago and we are all pretty much like family. They love working with us and we love working with them.

All of our staff and guides have been personally selected by us in each of the countries that we work in. And our guides wonderful personalities are what sets us apart from the rest!



Our Incredible Guides **Probably the very best in the world**

We can't mention all our wonderful guides, so we have selected 5 guides to give a general overview. In all our holidays and Educational trips we try and match the personality of the group with the personality of the guide which has been our main strong point over the years.



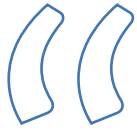
How we work with you

From start to finish you will work with a dedicated tour coordinator who will tailor make your school's trip to your exact specifications. Our tour coordinator will work alongside you to ensure that you and your students get the most out of an educational trip with us. We understand the extra pressure on staff when organising a school expedition and so we will make the process as easy for you as possible.

Your tour coordinator depending on the group size will also personally travel with your group. This creates consistency and reassurance to our clients as well as immediate decision making on the ground, in regards of certain situations or last-minute changes that could occur.



What our Clients Say



Working with STW-Travel was a dream from start to finish. Our students had a fantastic time and returned to school enthused and inspired. We are planning our next trip with them now.

Tim Wainwright Head of History (Harrow International School)

On our volunteer trip, we experienced a week of private tours around Cambodia, and truly had the best time ever!

Nicole Sciberras (Challenges Abroad Student Trip)

We organized our private Cambodia group tour with Kevin. He was great. Easy to work with, easy to communicate with. He gave lots of good advice when we were trying to come up with our itinerary. The hotel choices were all great and our driver, Ra, was the BEST!

Karly O'Neal

We have gone on two Road Scholar trips and both have been exceptional. The planning, organization and variety of the trips made this a great value. Road Scholar seems to attract the most interesting travelers and we really enjoyed their company. MAtt Wilder

(Road Scholar)

Our itinerary was perfect giving us the right balance of time to ourselves and organised experiences. But for us, what made the trip so special was the quality of the guides and our wonderful driver who was great fun. We will definitely travel with STW-Travel again!

Senior Discoverers Group Tour



Travel Essentials



Follow the link above to give you an overview of the travel essentials to each of the countries that we travel to. The information on this page gives you an overview of Hotels, Passports & Visa information, The Weather, Flights and Responsible Travel.



Health & Safety

It is paramount that you, your school, teachers, parents and pupils all feel as comfortable as possible that all the i's have be dotted and t's crossed. At STW-Travel nothing has been left to chance and we methodically and regularly check that our tours are as safe as they can be.

This relates to the hotels that we use; making sure that they have all have the necessary safety documentation and governmental checks. To all of the vehicles and drivers that we use; making sure that all insurance documentation and licences, as well as seat belts are in operation in all vehicles and safety vests are available on all boats.

Food & Drink

The food options available in Asia are now so varied and the freedom of choice is astronomical. Depending on your wishes and the size of your group we usually arrange trips on an all-inclusive package. With most lunches and dinners being buffets, meaning your students have a huge array of different cuisines and dishes to choose from.

We can cater for most pallets, vegetarians as well as vegans. However one aspect that we cannot control is the use of nuts in cooking, as many Asian dishes do contain nuts or in most instances a trace of nuts.



Country Information Packs

Check out our country information packs, which give you a good introduction to the country, giving you information such as: A country history, Weather, Visa's, Insurance, Health, Money, What to pack, Language, Food & Drink and Responsible Travel.

CAMBODIA

<https://stw-travel.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/812/2020/02/STW-Cambodia-Information-Pack.pdf>

VIETNAM

<https://stw-travel.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/812/2020/02/STW-Vietnam-Information-Pack.pdf>

MYANMAR

<https://stw-travel.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/812/2020/02/STW-Myanmar-Information-Pack.pdf>

LAOS

<https://stw-travel.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/812/2020/02/STW-Laos-Information-Pack.pdf>

THAILAND

<https://stw-travel.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/812/2020/02/STW-Thailand-Information-Pack.pdf>

INDONESIA

<https://stw-travel.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/812/2020/02/STW-Indonesia-Information-Pack.pdf>



Country Introductions



CAMBODIA

Cambodia is a country of incredible beauty, with famous breath-taking temples, fertile plains dotted with rice fields, and a history unlike any other. The dominant religion is Buddhism, which places value on hospitality and kindness. Each year, Cambodia draws millions of tourists who come to enjoy the country's incredible sights and enter the walls of Cambodia's Angkor Wat - one of the Seven Manmade Wonders of the World.



Country Highlights :

- Toul Sleng Museum (S-21)
- Killing Fields of Choeung Ek
- Phnom Penh Cyclo City Tour (Wat Phnom, Independence Monument)
- Floating Villages (Kampong Pluk)
- Angkor Temples (Angkor Wat, Bayon, Ta Prohm)
- Elephant Sanctuary
- Elephant Walk and Spa (Wash your Elephant)
- Traditional local Phnong tribal BBQ
- Irrawaddy River Dolphins
- Remote Temples (Preah Vihear, Koh Ker, Banteay Chhmar, Beng Mealea, Sambor Pre Kuk)
- Bokor Hill Station (Kep & Kampot)

VIETNAM

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam occupies an area of 329,247sq/km and has a population of almost 90 million people. Unlike other Asian countries, Vietnam stretches for almost 2000 km north to south and this is the reason for the climate variation throughout its regions. Three quarters of Vietnam's territory consists of mountains and hills. The capital is Hanoi and the second largest city Ho Chi Minh City, also known as Saigon, is the cooperative capital of Vietnam. Buddhism is the country's major religion and their main exports are petroleum, rice, coffee, clothing and fish. Vietnam has 54 ethnic groups, each of which has its own traditional culture. The diversity of the ethnic groups is apparent in the many traditional and cultural Vietnamese treasures. These treasures include the various works of art found throughout the country, including sculpture, ceramic, painting, and casting, made from materials such as clay, stone, bronze, steel, wood, and paper.



Country Highlights:

- Chu Chi Tunnels
- War Remnants Museum
- An Phuc Charity Centre (Agent Orange refuge)
- Mekong Delta (Floating Markets, Local Workshops)
- Hoi An
- Ha Long Bay (Junk Boat Cruise)
- Hanoi (City Tour)
- Ninh Binh
- Sapa and the highlands

MYANMAR

Myanmar (Burma) is a country that feels like it has been lost in time, with the country offering the visitor a completely different travelling experience to other South-East Asia countries. Traveling around the country will open your senses to a traditional and gentle land of intrigue and culture. The Burmese men still wear the traditional lungi (sarong) and the women (men as well) decorate their faces with a yellow paste called 'Thanaka' which not only is a natural sunscreen but also used as decoration.



Country Highlights:

- Shwedagon Pagoda
- Bagan Temple Discovery
- Local Artisan Workshops
- U Bien Bridge (Longest teak bridge in the world)
- Inle Lake
- Follow George Orwell's footsteps
- Stone carving, Joss-stick & Paper-fan making
- Chin State Minority Trekking

LAOS

Most people come to Laos just to visit the UNESCO town of Luang Prabang, one of the most charming cities in South-East Asia, and leave without knowing anything else about this fabulous holiday destination. Each part of the country has hidden secrets and offers you different experiences throughout your Laos Holiday. Laos is justly famous for its magnificent French colonial buildings but will soon be renowned for its abundance of natural attractions and beautiful river waterways. The tourist infrastructure in Laos has developed tremendously in recent years, including the opening of quality hotels and restaurants and the upgrading of roads and transport links. Laos is more accessible today than at any time in the past three decades and a journey here is a journey to a land of timeless grace and charm.

Country Highlights:

Vientiane City Tour & Buddha Park

Tad Xay Waterfall

Cacing in Vang Vieng

Morning Monk Alms ritual

Kamu Lodge Traditional Experiences

Pak Ou Caves

Kuang Si Waterfalls & Bear Sanctuary

Bike riding and boat trips



THAILAND

Previously known as Siam, located in the centre of the Indochinese peninsula in Southeast Asia, Thailand, occupies a total surface of approximately 513,000 square kilometres; it is now classified as the world 51st biggest country and is the 20th most populated country. There is a reason Thailand is so popular amongst travellers, as it has something for everyone. To the north, you will find the charming and relaxing cities of Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Pai; at its centre Bangkok, is south-east Asia 3rd most visited city and a central travel hub for the region, the city is a mixed bag of old and new and displays a fascinating clash of cultures. However, the highlight of the country lies to the south. The islands populating the region are filled with pristine beaches, crystal clear water and world class luxurious resorts. It is no wonder why millions of travellers decide to make Thailand their holiday destination of choice every year.



Country Highlights:

- Bangkok City
- Bridge over the River Kwai
- Hellfire Pass Memorial
- Sirila Eco Farm
- Chiang Rai & Mai Temples and scenery
- Lampang Elephant Conservation Centre
- Ayutthaya – Thailand's Ancient capital
- Beaches
- National Parks

INDONESIA

The Indonesian archipelago is the largest in the world, comprising of about 13,466 large and small tropical islands most fringed with white sandy beaches and many still uninhabited. Straddling the equator is situated between the continents of Asia and Australia and in between the Pacific and the Indian Oceans, it is as wide as London and Moscow or San Francisco to New York and with a population of more than 215 million people and over 200 different ethnic groups. Due to the country's location and geography, Indonesia has the most diverse landscape, from fertile lowlands & highlands on Java and Bali and the amazing rainforests of Sumatra, Kalimantan and Sulawesi, to the savannah grasslands of the Nusatenggara Islands and the snow-capped peaks of West Papua.



Country Highlights:

- Mount Bromo
- Mount Ijen (Blue Fire)
- Yogyakarta City Tour
- Silver Smith Artisans
- Borobudur & Prambanan Temple Discovery
- Ramayana Ballet
- Wae Rebo Traditional Homestay (Best in the World!)
- Komodo Dragons and Island hopping
- Rice Fields of Northern Bali
- Ubud

What can we do?

The only limitation is you and the imagination of your students; meaning that pretty much anything is possible!

We are able to arrange tailor-made programs for students of different age group, abilities and interests. Making sure that the core components from the curriculum are followed and embellished to the max. As there is nothing better than getting out of the class room so what can be better than taking a school trip outside of your home country.

We have listed the main areas that we have been asked to arrange previously; but there are no areas or subjects that are off limits.



Academic

History
Geography
Art
Music / Dance
Culture / Architecture
Photography
Biology / Wildlife

Sports

Golf
Football
Marathon Running
Walking / Trekking
Mountain Biking
Volleyball
Martial Arts

Specialist

Yoga & Wellness
Duke of Edinburgh
Company Incentive Trips
Team Building
Social Enterprise
NGO Volunteering
Conferences



Group Sizes

We are able to cater for all size of group and have transport solutions and ways of dividing the groups to make sure that your students get the most out of every single activity that they participate in. We also pay attention to the number of guides that we use in relation to groups sizes so that no student misses out and that all get the specialist attention required on school trips with us.

Academic areas covered

Culture
History
Geography
Social & Environmental

Our school educational programs to Asia cover a broad range of subjects and subject matter. With each school trip being tailored to your school, students and teacher's preferences; giving you the opportunity to run trips related to two or three different areas of the curricula as well as having something in each trip related to different group.

This means:

That you could run one trip with one group of students with each member of the group following the same program.

Or

You could have one trip with for example 3 groups of students that are interested in a different subject matter. In this case we would be follow the same general travel itinerary, by visiting the same locations and staying at the same hotels. But the tour would compromise of different workshops related to relevant subject matter of each student.



Question & Answer Sessions

Asia is a wash of so many different stories of success, strength, struggle and life! We are able to source and find various educational speakers that will fit in with the nature of your student trip and your school's subject matter.

Not all of our speakers are seasoned professionals, but they are all have one thing in common, which is the passion to tell their story. We have also found that the more connected the students are with the subject matter the more rewarding the sessions are and we have had some wonderful questions and responses over the years.



Past Q&A sessions and presentations have included

- The Post-Vietnam war impact on Communities and Tourism
with Mrs Ngoc Van (Former Director of the war museum)

- Daughters of Cambodia
(Changing lives for victims of human trafficking)
with Ruth Elliot (Organisation Founder)

- Cambodia's Turbulent History (past and present)
with Tina Ollier (Khmer / American national)
who left Cambodia in 1970 and returned in the 1990's)

- Angkor Temples De-Coded
- 150 years of Photography in Cambodia
- Bambu Shadow Puppets
Angkor Roo
(Story about modern plastic use and environmental destruction)
in association with the Bambu Stage

See example video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=64&v=xwgSHLuKIXI

Sports Tours

We have connections with many Asian schools and National Sports affiliations throughout the whole of Asia. Meaning that we can arrange a variety of exciting sports programs and matches for your students from introductory level and the way through to competitive encounters. Whatever your students age and ability and the schools sporting goals, we are able to put together complete tailor-made sports tours for everyone!

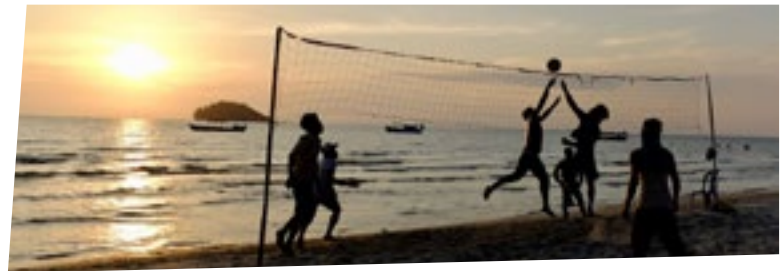


Football

Football has really taken off in Asia over the last few years and in certain countries like Cambodia there are now more AstroTurf football pitches than coffee shops. There are many clubs and schools of varying ability and age groups that we are able to arrange tournaments, training and matches with. We can offer your students the complete tour package from management to personalised kit with names and numbers; which gives your students that professional feeling.

Golf

Golf in Asia is progressing fast and there are many quality championship courses just waiting to be discovered. We are able to offer your students and array of different options from a standard golfing holiday and off-season preparation; to professional golf lessons and training with PGA professionals to tailor-made golf tournaments. There are also a variety of competitions throughout the year offering a variety of different formats that could be used to home in your student's game play.



Volleyball

Volleyball is pretty much the national sport of many Asia countries and is the equivalent to football in the rest of the world. We are able to offer students the opportunity to as the locals do, with games taking place all over the country in hidden spots with no specific timing. The day will consist of observation, practice and some competition. This activity is not a sports tour but more of a fun down day to learn more about the local people and players and giving something else a try in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.





Rugby

This sport is relatively new in Asia however the sport has quickly attracted a wide fan base. Rugby is now played at a variety of schools and there are clubs that play anything from touch (tag) rugby all the way through to full contact for your senior students. Similar to our football tours we can tailor a rugby tour where your students can train and then play matches against teams of similar abilities.



Martial Arts

From Karate, Aikido, Kung Fu, to traditional Bokator which is the oldest form of fighting system in Cambodia. We can arrange training sessions, new martial art introductory sessions as well as visual demonstrations and performances by martial art professionals. Asia is the true home to many martial art disciplines; students can either learn about the history, get hands on or alternatively we could look at creating a self defence program for your students.

Tennis

Tennis is a relatively new sport to Asia but already there is a lot of excitement and the sort is gaining momentum. There are options to play on a variety of surfaces from indoor, hard courts and also new red clay courts in Siem Reap. So if your students are looking for professional tennis coaching, a fun addition to an existing tour or even some competitive matches against some pretty useful local talent; we can arrange a tennis program that meets your student's needs.



Other Sports

There are also a number of other options that we can arrange for visiting students from learning how to play petanque (boules), horse riding, basketball, swimming and cricket.



Music / Art / Textiles

Music – Collaborations

Location: Various

We are in constant contact with various visiting, resident and local musicians. Meaning we are able to set up many different musical collaborations for visiting students. We are able to arrange collaborations for many different music types as well as the different age groups of the students. Most groups like to build up to a final performance / recital which we are also able to organise in a private or public location.

Bloco Malagasy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3rpXM-Y6fE>

Mango Dream Project

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=160&v=xT9ipCFD3X8



Ca Tru Singing & Music Class

Location: Hanoi (Vietnam)

Recognized by UNESCO in 2009 as an Intangible Cultural Heritage, Ca tru is a unique traditional art form with the significant meaning in the Vietnam folk music treasure, evolving festivals, customs, beliefs, music, and morality. If you are curious about Ca tru and would like an interactive vocal experience for your students. Then we can arrange workshops with passionate Ca tru experienced artisans, where you will learn some tunes as well as getting the opportunity to play a Dan day (which is a long-necked lute with three silk strings and 10 frets), a Trong chau (Drum) which both accompany the Ca tru style with alien rhythms.

Samatoa Lotus stem silk production

Location: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

This unique textiles tour aims to present in detail the exceptional production of the most ecological fabric created from lotus fibres. Starting off with an introduction about the sacred lotus flower and its symbolic meaning in Asian culture; students get the opportunity to experience each stage in the creation of this most luxurious and rarest of fabrics. From the way the lotus stems are harvested as to maintain the best quality of material; to the spinning, which consists of transforming the Lotus fibres in to a high-quality thread. This process is extremely complex and is realized exclusively by hand. The next step is the preparation of the loom and starting to weave in to and end product such as a dress or a scarf. After this you will then observe all the many ways that the lotus waste is used to create unique medicinal, nutritional and cosmetic properties. The tour then ends with a short presentation film and an opportunity to sample the lotus flower products.



Art & Textile Tour

Location: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

This fascinating Art tour of Siem Reap run by the curator of the John McDermott gallery is a fascinating insight in to the world of all things art and textiles. On this Art introduction you will get a behind the scenes look and as well as direct access to the resident artists, sculptors, designers and photographers that have made Cambodia their home.

The tour includes:

Access to fashion designer Eric Raisna couture house and a behind the scenes look at his commercial working space. A walk through local artist and collector Theam's House hoted by Maddy Lim, Theams's sister who speaks passionately and tells the story of her brother's artistic journey from Takeo to Paris to Siem Reap. A tour taking you through the steps of how local silk is made, from meeting the silk worms, learning how looms work and seeing how silk is woven. McDermott Gallery - A brief history on John McDermott's photography and how Angkor has changed since his first image was captured. For Art's Sake - a tour by Curator Marina Pok who exhibits and supports young emerging Khmer Artists. One Eleven Gallery - A glimpse and some international art that has made its way to Cambodia.



Calligraphy Class

Location: Hanoi (Vietnam)

Calligraphy was introduced to Vietnam by the Chinese as one of the many exchanges that shaped the Vietnamese culture. Much has changed over history to adapt the art to better express the richness of the Vietnamese language, but today, the art has taken root in both modern Vietnamese calligraphy of the Chinese characters and its national language, Quoc ngu that originated from the French rule. This workshop starts with an overview of the art of calligraphy, before getting introduced to the necessary writing tools as paper, brush, ink, ink box, brush scroll. Your students then get to learn how to hold and control the brush, as well as learn to paint basic strokes. Take time to practice, be creative, then make your own calligraphy scrolls to take home.



Water Puppet Creation

Location: Hanoi (Vietnam)

Water Puppet, a unique traditional folk art formed in rice culture dates back from 11th century in the villages of the Red River Delta, is a special creation of the Vietnamese. The art of water puppetry is an indigenous cultural characteristic of Vietnamese, developed in most of the villages in the northern delta provinces, that usually takes place on holidays, festivities, happy days, and Tet holidays. Students will visit a countryside village that has practiced in water puppetry for over 300 years ago. Once here you will see the puppet showroom and get an overview of water puppet history, before getting a hands-on experience of a puppet creating workshop. Watch the skilful artisans at work and observe the puppet making process, chat with the artisans about the puppets and then use your imagination to paint your own puppet. The experience ends with a water puppet show, where you can challenge your skill by practicing controlling puppet under the water.



Activities / Workshops



Day in a Life

Location: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

Our Day in a Life Cambodia tour allows students to visit a real Cambodian village and to follow the footsteps of local family and spend a few hours in their shoes. Help with a rice harvest, planting, weaving thatch or driving an ox cart. These activities depend on the season and the family's routine on any given day. This project directly helps the villagers in providing an all year sustainable income. With it is also being the perfect opportunity for students to give a helping hand and experience how Cambodian people live.



Naga Earth Bio-Diesel

Location: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

This organization offers a half-day workshop at their bio-diesel factory where students can learn about the environmental impact of the hospitality industry on the local community and get involved in their environmental projects. This workshop includes a short presentation of Siem Reap's environmental conditions, highlighting the importance of switching and using bio-diesel. From here students get a tour of the factory before enjoying a hands-on experience on how to make recycled paper.



Kumae Banana paper making Eco workshop

Location: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

This eco banana paper making project located 25km from Siem Reap operates from the village of Onloug Pi village. This workshop explores alternatives to paper making in Asia. During the two-hour workshop, students get a hands on opportunity to engage in making paper out of banana trunks and walk around the village to interact with the local people.

Rehash Trash Textile

Location: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

The Rehash Trash workshop is all about finding alternative uses and repurposing throw away plastic bags which is a huge problem in Cambodia. During the workshop, the Rehash Trash ladies will take your students through the whole process of collecting and washing the plastic bags all the way to preparing them and crocheting some amazing and sellable products. Students participating in this workshop will learn how to create bags and jewellery from through away plastic bags, as well as getting an understanding of the importance of recycling and separating household waste.



Jewellery repurposing workshop

Location: Hoi An (Vietnam)

This fascinating workshop is run by a family that has a deep passion for bamboo that goes back three generations. Tan a local Vietnamese bamboo artisan starts off by explaining the importance of this very durable and adaptive material. Your students will be amazed and fascinated by the many different household facilities and things that can be created out of bamboo. Such as; as bamboo car, bamboo bike, bamboo speakers, and children's bamboo toys (train, tray, slug, crab). After picking up some of the basis techniques your students will then get an opportunity to make & create something for themselves or work towards a particular group project.



Wheelchair DisAbility Workshop

Location: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

In relation with our charitable partner the 'Soulcial Trust' we have put together a fantastic XLability wheelchair program which is aimed to improve accessibility and services for people with disabilities in Asia but more importantly to remove the inequality and exclusion that wheelchair users face every day. The workshop program has been split in two with both a education section where students can learn more about certain disabilities, such as the types and causes as well as how we should behave towards people with a disability. Our sessions are all about interaction, with the second part of the program giving students the opportunity to try wheelchair basketball. They will first get fitted with a wheelchair and join in with various exercises before playing a proper game.



Other Activity Ideas

Asia has a range of additional activities that can be added to any educational school's trip; with the bellow list giving you a few more options of what can be included.



- Amazing Race
(Team Building Game)
- Archery
- City Cyclo Tour
- Climbing & Caving
- Climbing Mount Rinjani
- Food Tours
- Full & Half Marathons
- Hero Mining Rats
- Home Stays
- Hot Air Balloon Ride
- Jungle Walking / Trekking
- Kayaking River Adventures
- Marathon Running
- Market Tours
- Mountain Biking Tours
- Museum Visits
- National Park Visits
- Paddle Boarding
- Phare Circus
(Music, Dance, Acrobatics
and a Cambodian Story)
- Photography Classes
- Pottery
- Private Cooking Classes
- Quad Biking Adventures
- Rock Climbing
- Rural Experiences
- Scuba Diving
- Snorkeling & Island Hopping
- Temple Tours
- White water rafting
- Wildlife Adventures
- Zip Wire Rides

