## Detail program [12paxs] 4Days3Night Siem reap Tours On 16-19 March 2020

<u>Day 01/16 Mar 20</u> Arrival- Siem Reap [-/-/-]

Upon arrival Siem Reap, you will meet our hotel driver transfer you to hotel check-in (Arranged by hotel).

Overnight in Siem Reap

Day 02/17 Mar 20 Siem Reap [B/-/-]

Breakfast at hotel

Ta Prohm has been abandoned to the elements, a reminder that while empires rise and fall, the riotous power of nature marches on, oblivious to the dramas of human history. Left as it was 'discovered' by French explorer Henri Mouhout in 1860, the tentacle-like tree roots here are slowly strangling the surviving stones, man first conquering nature to create, nature later conquering man to destroy.

After soaking up the unique atmosphere of Ta Prohm, we continue to the giant pyramid of **Takeo**, one of the highest temples in the Angkor area. Built at the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> century, it was never completed. Some scholars contend this was due to an inauspicious lightning strike during construction. Others have suggested the high quality sandstone was simply too hard to carve in detail.

This morning we also visit the remains of an old Angkorian bridge which once spanned the Siem Reap river. Like the Romans before them, the Khmer kings built long, straight roads connecting the outposts of their empire and these included many magnificent bridges. There is also the option to visit the smaller temples of Chau Sey Devada and Thommanon for avid temple enthusiasts.

In the afternoon, we travel through the traditional village of Preah Dak to the 12<sup>th</sup> century temple of Banteay Samre. Built by King Suryavarman II, the genius behind Angkor Wat, this temple has been extensively restored. The temple is unique in that over-quarrying of sandstone led to the use of laterite for the roofed corridors. The pediments above the inner doors here include some of the most accomplished carving from the Angkor period.

We continue further north to **Banteay Srei**, Angkor's ultimate art gallery. This petite pink temple is the jewel in the crown of Angkor-era sculpture. The elaborate carvings here are the finest found in Cambodia and the name translates as 'Fortress of the Women', thanks to the intricate detail here, considered too fine for the hands of a man.

Originally believed to date from the latter part of the Angkor period, inscriptions at the site suggest it was built by a Brahman in 967. However, some architectural historians have suggested that the inscriptions may date from an earlier structure on this site and the temple is in fact later, marking a high-water mark in Khmer sculpture.

We finish by experiencing sunset over the rice fields from the royal crematorium of **Pre Rup**, a classic view of the Cambodian countryside.

In evening we will transfer to The Cambodia Circus.

Overnight at Siem Reap

Day 3/18 March 19 Siem Reap [B/-/-]

Breakfast at hotel

## Vespa tour in Angkor Wat

We journey out to the Mother of all temples, **Angkor Wat**. Believed to be the world's largest religious building, this temple is the perfect fusion of symbolism and symmetry and a source of pride and strength to all Khmers. Built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century by King Suryavarman II, this is most famous temple at Angkor. We stay at Angkor Wat to enjoy a picnic breakfast. As the crowds return to their hotels, we venture into Angkor Wat to enjoy its magnificence in peace and quiet. We begin by unraveling the mysteries of the bas-reliefs that tell of tales

from Hindu mythology and of the glories of the Khmer empire. Stretching for almost one kilometre, these intricate carvings are a candidate for the world's longest unbroken piece of art.

Following in the footsteps of the devout and the destructive before us, we then continue to the upper levels of the inner sanctuary. The final steps to the upper terrace of Angkor are the steepest of all, as pilgrims of old were to stoop on their pilgrimage to encounter the Gods. Finally the pinnacle, the sacred heart of Angkor Wat, a blend of spirituality and symmetry so perfect that few moments will measure up.

In the afternoon, we visit the immense walled city Angkor Thom that was the masterpiece of King Jayavarman VII. Following the occupation of Angkor by the Chams from 1177 to 1181, the new king decided to build an impregnable fortress at the heart of his empire. The scale is simply staggering and we are immediately overwhelmed by the audacity of Jayavarman on arrival at the city's gates. The causeway is lined by an intricate bridge depicting the Churning of the Ocean of Milk from Hindu mythology in which the devas (gods) and asuras (devils) play tug of war with a naga (seven-headed serpent) to obtain the elixir of immortality.

We begin our visit at the Terrace of the Leper King. This intricately carved platform was the royal crematorium and the statue that was originally thought to be the leper king is now believed to be Yama, the god of death. We continue along the Terrace of Elephants, originally used as a viewing gallery for the king to preside over parades, performances and traditional sports. At the southern end lies the Baphuon, once of the most beautiful temples at Angkor, dating from the reign of Uditayavarman 1 in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. It has undergone a massive renovation by the French and is now once again open for viewing.

Our climax is the enigmatic and enchanting temple of the Bayon. At the exact centre of Angkor Thom, this is an eccentric expression of the creative genius and inflated ego of Cambodia's most celebrated king. Its 54 towers are each topped off with the four faces of Avalokiteshvara (Buddha of Compassion), which bear more than a passing resemblance to the king himself. These colossal heads stare down from every side, exuding power and control with a hint of compassion, just the mix required to keep a hold on such a vast empire. Before clambering upwards, we unravel the mysteries of the bas-reliefs, with their intricate scenes of ancient battles against the Chams and their snapshot of daily life during the Angkor period.

Overnight at Siem reap

Day 4/19 Mar 19

Siem Reap-Departure

[B/-/- ]

Breakfast at hotel

We will leisure until hotel driver pick up then you will transfer to airport for your next destination flight (Arranged by hotel).

## **END OF SERVICES!!!**

## The quotation per person in sharing double room:

Hotels	Tour Package
REP: Golden temple retreat	USD 516 per person

Tour price are inclusive of	Tour price are exclusive of
<ul> <li>All land sightseeing and transportation</li> <li>English speaking local guide</li> <li>All entrance fee</li> <li>Vespa tour on day 3</li> <li>Pure drinking water during sightseeing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Service not mentioned in program</li> <li>International flight ticket to Cambodia</li> <li>All Meal</li> <li>Accommodation in sharing room</li> <li>Visa for Cambodia currently USD30 per person</li> <li>Single room (quote separated)</li> <li>Expenditure of a personal nature</li> <li>Travel insurance (cover against all cancellation</li> </ul>

costs, medical expenses, including repatriation, in the event of accident of illness)