



A Teacher's & Educator's Study tour of Cambodia

Phnom Penh | Koh Rong Samloem | Siem Reap

10th January – 20th January 2025



EDUCATION *at* SEA

We welcome all teachers to an extraordinary journey that combines the essence of ancient wonders, vibrant city life, and the serene beauty of tropical paradise!



ABOUT THE TOUR

We are delighted to present our exclusive study tour for teacher's and educator's in an unforgettable adventure through the captivating landscapes of Cambodia.

With presentations from local teachers, academics, and experts in Khmer culture, and visits to both Khmer and Western schools, this education study tour will provide a real insight into the Khmer education system and pedagogical practices in Cambodia.

You will explore the awe-inspiring temples of Siem Reap, immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of life and culture in Phnom Penh, and unwind on pristine beaches nestled among the enchanting islands, whilst staying at some of Asia's most iconic hotels.

Let us unveil the hidden treasures of Cambodia, where history, diversity, and natural splendor blend harmoniously to create an unforgettable journey of discovery.

During this study tour, you will:

- Renew your passion for teaching in a relaxed environment with fellow teachers
- Compare and contrast education in your own institutional setting with those in Cambodia
- Look at burnout, classroom pressures and stress, and their management strategies from scholarly literature
- Discuss current poor retention rates of teachers in Australia, and explore research on possible solutions
- Connect with Australian, Khmer and international teachers from diverse backgrounds to be reminded of the immense value of teaching in our communities.



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INCLUSIONS:

- An airport meet and greet and private transfer to the Aquarius Hotel and Urban Resort from the airport via a traditional Tuk Tuk ride
- 3 Nights stay at the Aquarius Hotel and Urban Resort including breakfast
- Boutique cocktail tour of Phnom Penh
- Phnom Penh History Half Day Tour (Includes S21 at Tuol Sleng & the 'Killing Field' of Choeung Ek)
- Sunset boat cruise on the Mekong River including canapés
- University visit in Phnom Penh
- Bus transfer to Sihanoukville
- Government school visit in Sihanoukville
- Return Boat transfer to Koh Rong Samloem
- 2 Night stay at the beachside resort 'La Passion' including breakfast
- Boat to M'Pai bay for school visit and snorkeling
- Transfer to airport
- Flight to Siem Reap
- Five nights at FCC Angkor by Avani (5 stars) including breakfast
- Sunrise at Angkor Wat and full day temple exploration
- Tonle Sap floating village experience
- Private school visit in Siem Reap
- Enjoy a once in a lifetime experience at our gala 7 course degustation (including wine) farewell gala dinner held at one of the top 50 restaurants in the world 'Lum Orng' to celebrate new friendships and memories made



PROGRAM INCLUSIONS:

- An extensive program based on current best practice
- Dedicated Space for expert presentations and reflection
- Coffee breaks and lunches on presentation days
- Education content that meets the same exacting standards as anything offered in an Australian program
- Presenters that are excited to be able to share their skill, knowledge, and passion with Attendees

- An online library filled to the brim with educational content that allows you to create your own learning experience
- A Registration Reception including complimentary drinks where you can meet other attendees and network with Convenors and Presenter/s
- A locally sourced handcrafted Cambodian Welcome pack and additional information to support a fantastic study tour experience

- A Transcript reflecting all education sessions, presentations and school visits
- A Certificate of Completion identifying the CPD hours attached to the Program

for you to include in your CPD Evidence Portfolio



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**Dr. Paula Foran PhD RN, FACORN, FACPAN,
MACN**

Dr Paula Foran has worked in education for over 30 years. Rather than learning about how students learn, her focus has been on how adults learn to become teachers and educators.

Paula's qualifications include a Graduate Diploma in Adult Education and Training, Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training, Master (research) in Professional Education and Training and a PhD in Philosophy (Education).

Paula's doctoral research looked at the value of 'guided' verses 'non-guided' workplace learning, namely the importance of guided teaching for students gaining practical experience in the workplace.



Helen Miralles

Helen Miralles has worked as a teacher for over 40 years in various educational settings. Helen's qualifications include a Diploma of Teaching and Bachelor of Education and these have allowed her to work all around Australia including remote Northern Territory, and at an International School in Kuwait.

Helen has been a classroom teacher; Primary and Secondary levels, and worked as a Specialist in both Special Needs Education and English as a Second Language Areas.

Helen is committed to helping teachers keep the joy of learning and teaching alive throughout their careers.



10th to
20th
January
2025



DETAILED INTINERARY

DAY 1:

Fri 10th January 25
Arriving at Aquarius
Hotel and Urban Resort
Phnom Penh,
Cambodia

Unpack your bags and order a cocktail in their open air sky bar or relax in their infinity glass walled swimming pool.

Evening: 6pm to 7pm

Enjoy this opportunity to mingle with the other attendees at the complimentary drinks and registration function.

Morning: 9am to 1pm

Jean-Michel Filippi:

Jean-Michel Filippi is a professor of Khmer studies at the Royal University of Phnom Penh. He holds a Ph.D. in linguistics and master's degrees in anthropology and mathematics.

He specialises in the description of the Khmer language and various minority languages of Cambodia and Southeast Asia. He is currently in charge of a UNESCO program about minority languages and cultures in Cambodia's Cardamom Mountains.

Jean-Michel has published several articles and books about these topics, mainly in French and Khmer, but also in English, including "Everyday Khmer" and the soon to be published "Preliminary Researches About Cambodian Minority Languages". Apart from linguistics, he has always had a great interest in Cambodian history and art.

His wealth of knowledge on Cambodia makes him a fascinating speaker on a diverse range of topics.



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Following the introduction by Jean-Michel Filippi, you will meet with a local Khmer PhD holder with over a decade of experience working in government schools. With years of experience in both primary and secondary education, as well as university level teaching, our guest speaker will provide valuable insight into the Khmer education system.

Paula and Helen will then take over to compare and contrast the changing roles of primary, secondary or tertiary teachers; student educator, workplace student teacher trainer, psychologist, family counselor, and maybe even school nurse. Let us unpack and explore the current 'teacher'.

Lunch: 1pm to 2pm

Afternoon: 2pm to 5pm

Visit a local university and meet with educators and students on the path to becoming teachers. Learn about the differences in required criteria for private and government teachers in Cambodia.

Evening: 6pm to 10pm

'BOUTIQUE COCKTAIL TOUR'

Journey around the city by tuk tuk experiencing the energy that makes up Cambodia's capital whilst enjoying artful mixology.

Morning: 10am

PHNOM PENH HISTORY HALF DAY TOUR

Your half day tour this afternoon is designed to give you an insight into the horrors of Cambodia's past, but also a sense of the optimism of its people. You will begin with the emotive settings of the detention centre S21 at Tuol Sleng and the 'Killing Field' of Choeung Ek.

Please be aware that the exhibits are, by their very nature, both graphic and disturbing, highlighting the atrocities committed against an entire population during one of the most terrifying periods in Cambodia's history.

Day 3:

Sun 12th January 25
Aquarius Hotel and
Urban Resort



Evening: 4.45pm

**SUNSET BOAT CRUISE ON THE MEKONG RIVER
INCLUDING DRINKS AND CANAPES**

This evening as the sun descends head out on your own private boat into the Mekong River and enjoy the skyline of Phnom Penh as darkness falls.

Day 4:

Mon 13th January 25
La Passion
Saracen Bay, Koh Rong
Samloem

Morning: 7am

At 7am we board our bus for the journey to Sihanoukville, this will take approximately 3 hours. On the way we will visit a local NGO 'Let us Create Futures' – children's care and outreach program to hear about the importance of childhood education to the Khmer people.

On arrival to Sihanoukville, delegates will visit a local Khmer government school, meet the principals and staff, and tour the campus grounds and classrooms.

During lunch compare and contrast childhood education in Cambodia to Australia. Following this we will board the speed boat for a short journey to Saracen Bay, Koh Rong Samloem to the 4* La Passion Resort

Day 5:

Tue 14th January 25
La Passion
Saracen Bay, Koh Rong
Samloem

Morning: 11am to 4pm

After breakfast we will take a traditional Khmer long tail boat to the village of M'Pai Bei.

Here you will visit to local primary school. With few teachers and small buildings, you will see what education is like for the children of this small fishing community.

You will enjoy lunch at a nearby restaurant and enjoy snorkeling on the way back to Saracen bay.

Afternoon sessions:

-Teacher Education over time. Let us look at the educational changes to the teacher training.

-Anaphylaxis's for teachers – Food allergies are among the worst types of allergic reactions. It is now uncommon NOT to have a student in your school/ tertiary institution with a food and/or bite (bee tick) allergy. Update your knowledge and skills about this frightening occurrence!

–Compare and contrast education from the Koh Rong Samloem school



DAY 6:

Wed 15th January 25
FCC Angkor, Siem
Reap

Today we make the short trip to Siem Reap, gateway to Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious monument and the heart and soul of Cambodia.

Following a short 40 minute flight, we will arrive at the iconic FCC Hotel, where you will have time to enjoy a casual swim in the tranquil surrounds before our evening cocktail party.

Evening: 5pm to 6pm

Enjoy tantalising cocktails and canapé's as we watch sunset over the river at our welcome to Siem Reap reception. Here you will learn about all this enchanting city has to offer.

Day 7:

Thu 16th January 25
FCC Angkor, Siem
Reap

Morning: 9am

This morning we will meet Dr. Stephen Louw, who has been a teacher in Southeast Asia since 1992. He has taught in Malaysia, Singapore, and Japan, and trained pre-service teachers in Thailand and Vietnam. He is now based in Siem Reap. Stephen will share some insights about life for expatriate living and working in the region

Afternoon: Private school visit

Following lunch we will visit a private school and meet with the staff. Here you will witness firsthand the major differences between Khmer government schools and private education facilities

Day 8:

Fri 17th January 25
FCC Angkor, Siem
Reap

ANGKOR SUNRISE & FULL DAY TEMPLE EXPLORATION

Wake up early this morning to depart at 4:45 AM, to see the amazing sunrise at Angkor Wat, a bucket list item on any trip to Siem Reap, the pre-dawn view provides a different and tranquil feeling in the cool of the morning. We will return to your hotel in time for Breakfast.

We start today with a visit to Angkor Thom, the ancient royal city of the Khmer Empire with its centrepiece; the Bayon temple. Although it may look like a shapeless mass of stone, further scrutiny reveals towers with enigmatic faces of former King Jayavarman VII. Continue to the Terrace of the Elephants, which served as a platform from where the King could welcome back his victorious army and the Terrace of the Leper King, which holds perfect carvings winding along a narrow passageway that leads to the Baphuon complex.



Next head to the picturesque Ta Prohm. This temple is considered to be Angkor's most beautiful structure and is overgrown with fig trees, giving a haunting yet exotic atmosphere. The magnificent roots of the trees have merged over the centuries with the temple's huge stone blocks, emphasizing a 'forgotten city' feeling.

Enjoy Lunch at a local restaurant nearby Srah Srang lake before continuing to Angkor wat. In the afternoon, visit the most famous of all the temples on the Angkor plain: Angkor Wat. The temple complex covers 81 hectares and is comparable in size to the Imperial Palace in Beijing. Its distinctive five towers are emblazoned on the Cambodian flag and the 12th century masterpiece is considered by art historians to be the prime example of classical Khmer art and architecture.

Angkor Wat's five towers symbolize Meru's five peaks, the enclosed wall represents the mountains at the edge of the world and the surrounding moat symbolizes the ocean beyond.

Day 9:

Sat 18th January 25
FCC Angkor, Siem
Reap

This morning is yours to do with as you'd like. Explore Siem Reap, go shopping, or simply relax in the hotel pool!

Afternoon: Tonle Sap Floating village

This afternoon we'll take a drive to the Tonle Sap lake. Once we arrive,, we'll boat to one of the lake's floating village communities and gain an insight into how the villagers live and what local life is like.

We'll then continue the journey out onto the lake with a cold drink to watch as the sun descends before heading back to the hotel.

Day 10:

Sun 19th January 25
FCC Angkor, Siem
Reap

Morning session: 9am to 1pm - Paula & Helen

Morning session: Paula & Helen

- Compassion Fatigue in Education; how to detect and manage this problem
- How to re-energise your passion for teaching
- Review your experiences over the course of the conference.



EVENING: 6pm

Farewell Gala Dinner:

7 COURSE DEGUSTATION GALA DINNER AT THE FAMOUS 'LUM ORNG' RESTAURANT.

Here, owner-chef Sothea Seng cooks New Mekong Cuisine from Cambodia and beyond, based on seasonal produce from his farms, local markets, and growers across the region.

We say our final goodbyes – Safe Travels!

DAY 11

Mon 20th January 25

EXCLUSIONS:

- Flights to and from Cambodia
- Meals & Drinks not mentioned
- Departure transfer to airport
- Travel insurance - please contact us at travel@traveldirectaustralia.com.au for a quote Visa

COST

Delegate (Twin Share) \$3560 per person

Single Supplement (Own room for one) \$840 per person

Non Delegate (Twin Share) \$3060 per person



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