EXPLORE! Tour Notes

PRICE GUARANTEE 100% NO SURCHARGES

Cambodia by Bike (CCB 2015)

CYCLING

TOURDURAT
13
DAYS

Tour Style: Classic
Tour Comfort: Standard
Tour Type: Small Groups
Cycling Grade: Moderate
tour Code: CCB

Tour Highlights - Cambodia by Bike

- ✓ Phnom Penh - Explore Cambodia's enigmatic capital. Visit the emotive Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and the Killing Fields of Choeung Ek
- ✓ Cycle tropical coastal towns and beautiful countryside - Enjoy the attractions of Kep and Sihanoukville and cycle through the landscapes of the Bokor and Kiriom National Parks
- ✓ Ancient temples and quaint villages - Explore by bike Cambodia's historic and cultural legacy
- ✓ Siem Reap - The fabulous Angkor Temples. See Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom and view the stunning bas-reliefs of the Bayon and Banteay Srei

Tour Essentials

Accommodation:	12 nights Standard Hotel
Included Meals:	12 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 0 dinners
Start Point:	Join tour: Phnom Penh
End Point:	Tour ends: Siem Reap
Included Bike:	18 gear Merida hybrid bikes with front suspension
Transport:	Bus, Boat, Bicycle
Countries:	Cambodia

Cambodia by Bike

Cambodia is a well-kept secret that offers the visitor much more than the world-renowned jungle temples of Angkor. Join us on this cycle holiday that follows the tropical coastline before heading inland through rural backroads and deep into the interior. Along the way we visit the vibrant capital Phnom Penh, national parks, brilliant beaches and the floating villages of Tonle Sap Lake. We end our journey deep in the jungle of Angkor exploring temples of the once mighty Khmer empire.

Why Book this tour

Unlike many other operators, we include the hire of your bike in the overall cost of the holiday: you don't need to bring your own or pay extra to hire one locally. We also provide a support vehicle, spare parts and take care of day to day bike maintenance. All you need bring is your own helmet.

Cycling Information

On this tour we cycle 488 km over nine days (an average of 54 km per day) with further optional rides available. Our route mainly follows quiet and flat back-roads and paths, 40% tarmac, 60% gravel and dirt tracks. A support vehicle accompanies the rides throughout the tour. We have graded this route as moderate.

Suitability

We've given each of our tours a comfort rating and a tour pace, walking or cycling grade to give you a general idea about the level of activity on each tour and the standard of accommodation you will be staying in at the end of your day's adventure.

Often you'll stay in different styles of accommodation during your tour; so we make an average rating across the entire tour. For more information on where you'll stay each night, please refer to the day by day tour itinerary.

Tour Comfort: Standard

Our mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en-suite facilities.

Tour Style: Classic

Packed with adventure, these tours offer inspiring destinations and authentic travel experiences at a reasonable price. Using all kinds of transport and accommodation, we'll take you off the beaten track to discover the true heart of the people and places you visit.

Cycling Grade: Moderate

Medium length rides are suitable for cyclists who are used to undulating routes with occasional energetic climbs. You'll be cycling mainly on trails and quiet roads and you should have a reasonable level of fitness.

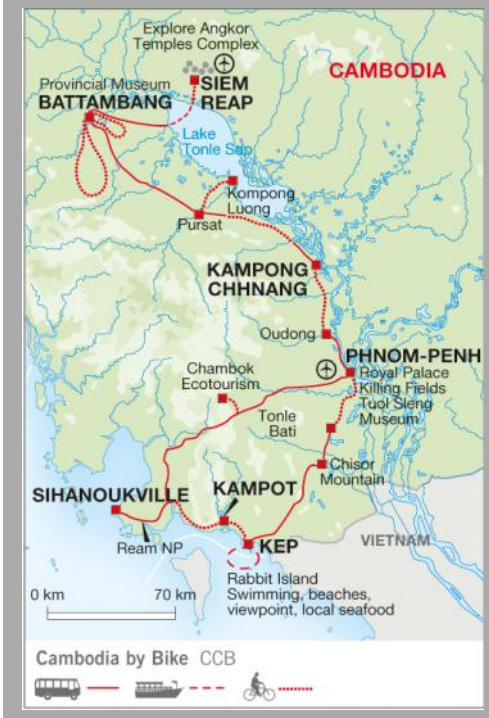
Your tour itinerary

Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested.

Your Tour Leader

A Tour Leader is an integral part of any Explore tour and your tour will be led by one of our experienced tour leaders who have been handpicked and expertly trained. We believe that our Tour Leaders are the key to the success of our tours; they are passionate travellers who are bursting with first-hand local knowledge which they love to share. Your tour Leader will also take care of all the planning and organisation throughout your journey. Their passionate approach will make this tour fun and inspiring, bringing the destination to life whether you're travelling alone or with others.



DAY 1 Join tour Phnom Penh. Afternoon city tour

Our journey begins in Phnom Penh, an engaging mix of tree lined boulevards, colonial villas and vibrant city streets that is a fascinating testament to Cambodia's ancient and colonial past. This afternoon we enjoy a tour of the city, visiting its National Museum with its impressive collection of Angkor statues, as well as the impressive French built Royal Palace, whose spectacular pagoda-style structure is without doubt one of Phnom Penh's most impressive sights. We also take in the hilltop sanctuary of Wat Phnom, from which the city gets its name. No cycling planned for today.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: None

DAY 2 Exploring Phnom Penh and the Killing Fields. Cycle and drive to the coastal city of Kep

After breakfast this morning we take a short journey by bus to the emotive Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and then cycle to the nearby Killing Fields of Choeung Ek, chilling testaments to life under the Khmer Rouge. Continuing by bike on the village tracks through rice fields, past pagodas, streams and canal to Tonle Bati, we have a chance to take lunch by the river and pay a visit to the temples of Ta Phrohm and Yeay Peou. Later we drive to the little developed coastal town of Kep, located on the south-west coast. A coastal city that is a launching pad to the surrounding hills, evergreen tropical forests, unspoilt islands, coral reefs, sandy beaches and fresh seafood. Founded during the French colonial time, the city was renovated into a beautiful seaside resort in 1960s during then-Prince Norodom Sihanouk's reign. The name Kep is derived from the French words le cap, or cape in English. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 40 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 3 Morning visit to Rabbit Island and cycle to Kampot

Founded by the colonial French during the 1960s, Kep suffered badly at the hands of the Khmer Rouge. However its colonial heritage still offers us a short but interesting morning's ride as we make our way to the Rabbit Island boat dock after breakfast. Boarding a boat, we then cruise (20 minutes) out to this tranquil little island to relax, swim or explore on foot before returning to the mainland to resume our journey. We cycle along the relatively quiet main coastal road to Kampot, passing salt farms and beautiful countryside along the way. Upon arrival in Kampot we have a chance to view the colonial architecture, villages and tree lined roads that skirt the banks of the Prek Kampong River. Rest of the afternoon is free to explore Kampot town. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 47 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4 Cycle through countryside and drive to Sihanoukville

Today is a straightforward and relatively flat ride as we continue along the main coastal road passing the Bokor National Park. Created by the French as an elegant hill station, the mountain and its surrounding countryside provides a stunning backdrop for today's ride, its densely forested hills providing us with the perfect setting as we make our way to the town of Veal Rinh. Stopping here for lunch, we then complete the rest of the day's journey by bus, driving on to the resort town of Sihanoukville later this afternoon. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 59 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 5 Free day in Sihanoukville; optional Ream National Park

Sihanoukville town sits in a bay that was listed as one of the most beautiful bays in the world but has since undergone much development. Nevertheless it still provides us with a great setting for some rest and relaxation after yesterday's endeavours. One option available is to pay a visit to the nearby Ream National Park, which is home to the country's only protected marine reserve. A haven of beaches, mangrove forests and offshore coral reefs, the park provides sanctuary to rhesus monkeys, over 150 species of birds and a diverse array of marine life and affords us the chance to enjoy some quiet virgin beaches or perhaps a boat trip out to the outlying islands. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 32 kilometres (optional)

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 6 Bus to Phnom Pehn. Explore Kiriom National Park by bike en route

After an early breakfast we start our drive back to Phnom Pehn, stopping after a couple of hours to cycle 18 km on a dirt road with some ascents and descents alongside Kiriom National Park to pay a visit to Chambok Ecotourism site. Located in Kampong Speu Province, this area provides an ideal insight into Cambodia's natural and cultural attractions and includes dense forest, a 40 metre high waterfall, a bat cave and a number of local villages. Time permitting we may trek through dense forest to a beautiful 40-meter high waterfall (flow dependent on time of year). During harvest time it is possible to see local farmers busy ploughing the land or harvesting. We return the same route by bike to the bus to resume our journey back to the capital, a journey of about 2 to 3 hours. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 36 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 7 Drive to Oudong, then cycle on to Kampong Chhnang

Another challenging yet rewarding day on the bike lies ahead but first we head north out of the city by bus on national road 5 towards the ancient Cambodian capital of Oudong. The route takes us past a number of Cham villages for about 1 hour before we reach the foot of the hills that lay claim to a city that ruled over Cambodia for nearly 250 years. We'll have a chance to explore the abandoned city on foot, taking in its ruined temples and stupas, before driving on a short distance and then getting on our bikes for todays ride to Kampong Chhnang. We ride on a quiet tarmac roads and dirt tracks past cultivated fields, the occasional temple and locals going about their daily work in the fields. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 58 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 8 Countryside cycle. Explore the floating villages of Tonle Sap. Drive to Battambang

A short drive to Pursat Province after breakfast brings us to the start of our cycling route for the day. We start cycling on dirt roads through sleepy villages and farmland before reaching the hustle and bustle of Kampong Luong. Set against the backdrop of Tonle Sap, Kampong Luong is one of the largest floating villages in the region, playing host to some 1,200 families. On arrival we explore the village by boat observing how the buildings on stilts rise and fall according to the lake's water level, and how life has adapted to living on the water. Kompong Luong is inhabited by about 7,000 people and is equipped with petrol stations, schools, shops, markets, hospitals, garages and restaurants. We continue by bus for a couple of hours to the city of Battambang - Cambodia's second-largest city, founded in the 11th century. Until the war years, when most of the infrastructure was destroyed, this province was the leading rice-producer of the country. Free time to explore French colonial houses in the downtown area and a suggested stroll along the beautiful Sangker River. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 70 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 9 Battambang and surrounding countryside and sites by bike

Today we explore the attractions of Battambang by bike with no need for our bus. We continue by bike for about 21 km to Phnom Banon which is noticeable for its five sandstone towers standing on the top of a hill. Later we have a visit to Banon Grape Farm for an explanation of grape cultivation and perhaps even a tasting of wine grown in these hot climes. We cycle lastly to the Provincial Museum and Wat Ek Phom 11th century temple. We make our way by bike to the hotel. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 70 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 10 Tonle Sap boat trip to Mechrey. Cycle to Siem Reap

We leave early this morning heading straight to the port for our 7.30 am boat on Tonle Sap Lake cruising along with other travellers. The boat should arrive at Mechrey eco-tourism site early afternoon. From here we will hop on the bike and cycle past rice paddies, villages and pagodas for about 3 hours. We complete the journey to Siem Reap by bike later today. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 38 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available **Swimming Pool Available**

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 11 Exploring the Angkor temples around Siem Reap. Optional cycling

Our cycling today is optional, but the plan is to spend the day exploring the UNESCO World Heritage sites of the Angkor Archaeological Park, probably one of the most important ancient sites anywhere in South East Asia. We plan to visit the fortified city of Angkor Thom (home to the Bayon, whose exquisite bas-reliefs are one of Angkor's true gems) and the wonderfully atmospheric Ta Phrom Temple, which remains in the clutches of the enveloping jungle. This afternoon we then head for the magnificent complex of Angkor Wat itself, without doubt one of the most breathtaking of all the jungle sites. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 25 kilometres (optional)

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available **Swimming Pool Available**

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 12 Explore Beng Mealea and Banteay Srei by bike

Our final day's cycling sees us heading though the remote countryside around Siem Reap. Riding through a landscape of rice paddies and forest, we head first for the 11th century temple of Beng Mealea, a setting that almost rivals Angkor Wat in size. Shrouded in jungle and surrounded by a 45 metre wide moat, it dates from the same period of the Angkor temples, although its artwork and friezes differ markedly from their neighbours. Heading back to Siem Reap, we then stop at the wonderfully preserved and graceful 11th century Temple of Shiva - Banteay Srei, built in 967 A.D. and dedicated to Brahma. While some of the temples are impressive because of their sheer size, Banteay Srei stands alone in the quality of its construction and decoration. Its pink sandstone walls are decorated with what some consider the best carving of all that is still an excellent state of preservation. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 70 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available **Swimming Pool Available**

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 13 Tour ends Siem Reap

The tour ends in Siem Reap this morning after breakfast.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation and Meals

Accommodation Rating

Standard - Our mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en-suite facilities.

Food & Drink

Included meals: 12 breakfasts, 1 lunch,0 dinners included in the price of this tour. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals. Please note that costs for drinks and meals can vary depending on location.

Budgeting for your Tour

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the tour price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

Food

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide.Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Cambodia

Lunch £: 6.00

Dinner £: 9.00

Drink

The prices for drinks can vary greatly depending upon location and the prices detailed below are an average guide. In general you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or local bar to be less expensive, whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive.

Cambodia

Bottle of Beer £: 1.30

Water £: 0.60

International Departure Taxes

N/A

Other Sightseeing & Activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Optional Excursions

Ream National Park excursion, full day visit from Sihanoukville - approx 30 USD per person depending on numbers participating.

Tipping - Tour Leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

Tipping - Local Crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognised part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour. Accordingly you should allow approximately US$40 for tipping.

Foreign Exchange

Cambodia

ATM Availability: There are ATMs in most towns and cities.

Credit Card Acceptance: Credit cards are accepted in some large shops and restaurants in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap.

Travellers Cheques: They can be hard to change outside of Siem Reap and Phnom Penh; we recommend them for emergencies only.

Local Currency: Riel.

Recommended Currency for Exchange: In Cambodia, US$ is the most commonly used currency (small denomination notes are easier to use).

Where to Exchange: Large towns.

Joining your Tour

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a ‘flight inclusive’ package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the ‘Land Only’ arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific ‘Joining Instructions’ prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found on our website at www.explore.co.uk, in the tour specific dates and prices section.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer. For more information please refer to https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the ‘Land Only’ arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer please refer to https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Important Information

Travel Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

EXPLORE!
The Adventure Travel Experts

CAMPBELL IRVINE
DIRECT TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is essential. If you have not already arranged cover, please contact our recommended Travel Insurance providers www.campbellirvinedirect.com/Explore who offer Travel Insurance specifically designed to cover travel with Explore or call **Campbell Irvine Direct** on Tel: 020 7938 1734

Explore Worldwide is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Visa Information

Cambodia: A single entry visa is required by UK, New Zealand, Australian, US & Canadian citizens and can normally be obtained upon arrival at Siem Reap and Phnom Penh airports at a cost of USD 30, please bring a passport sized photo with you for the visa. Alternatively you can now obtain an e-visa prior to departure for USD 30, applications should be made through the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs website. Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

All visa information is subject to change. You should confirm all visa related questions with the relevant Embassy prior to departure.

Vaccinations & Protection

Cambodia

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against malaria, infectious hepatitis, tetanus, typhoid, diphtheria and polio. Consult your GP regarding tablets advised for malaria. Though not compulsory, travellers may wish to immunise themselves against japanese encephalitis. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at http://www.explore.co.uk/ Travelhealth/ and from your local healthcare provider.

Preparing for your Tour

Altitude Description

N/A

Bike Details

Your included bike is an 18 gear Merida hybrid and will be the correct frame size for your height. A handlebar bag or pannier and water bottle holder are included as well as the facility to fit your own pedals or saddle if you wish to bring them. A support vehicle accompanies the rides throughout the tour. We provide spare parts and take care of the day to day maintenance. All you need to bring is your own helmet.

Climate

Cambodia

Cambodia is a hot and tropical country, being hottest in April and coolest in January (still high 20s). Although rainfall is at its maximum in October, Phnom Penh and Siem Reap receive very little rain compared to the coastal areas, and when it does rain it tends to be in the form of sporadic mid afternoon downpours. There is normally very little rain between December and March.

Clothing

Bear in mind that the area is tropical with high humidity. Lightweight clothing are needed all year round. Other additions that you may find useful are swimming costumes, cycle gloves, cycling shorts/trousers and quick drying cycle tops. Please note shorts are not permitted in certain temples.

Equipment

Take a cycle helmet, cycle water bottle, torch, sunglasses, sunhat, sunscreen, insect repellent. You may wish to bring a gel seat cover for your saddle and ear plugs may come in handy in general. Please consider carrying all or some of your cycling equipment, e.g. helmet, as part of your hand luggage.

Footwear

Comfortable walking shoes/sandals for sightseeing, trainers for cycling.

Luggage: On Tour

One main piece of baggage and daypack. Total allowance: 44lb/20kg. Remember you are expected to carry your own luggage so don't overload yourself.

Luggage allowance on tour: 20kg

General Information

Country details

Cambodia

Population: 14.805,358

Size of Country: 181,035 sq km

Major Language: Khmer

Religion: Buddhism

Time Difference to GMT: +7

Electric Supply & Plugs

Cambodia

2 Pin Round

Why Choose Explore

We've been creating award-winning pioneering adventure holidays for over 30 years, earning the trust of thousands of delighted customers, who feel safe in our hands. Our tour leaders have expert local knowledge and our tours are designed to take you off the beaten track to see the most exotic, inspiring and dramatic places in the world.

- With over 30 years' experience, we are passionate about what we do.
- Pioneering small group adventures, self-guided, private journeys & tailormade holidays.
- Award winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one the driving principles of Explore.

Our adventure holidays are full of exciting things to see and do, exploring in small groups travelling by bus, boat, plane, rickshaw, camel, elephant, or any number of unusual forms of transport . Often you will stay in family run hotels and village houses and enjoy authentic local cuisine. In this way, it's easy to discover the true heart of the people and the place you travel to – and make some new friends along the way. Each tour is uniquely different, so please feel free to browse through our tours to see what may whet your appetite.

Our commitment to the environment

We are passionate about sustainable travel and work hard to create tours where your holiday delivers real benefits to the local communities. We minimise our impact by travelling in small groups, respecting local cultures and traditional, reducing waste and offsetting 100% of the CO2 from our flights.

When you travel with Explore, you are directly contributing to local economies and helping empower the people you meet. We currently support a range of charities and good causes, including: Toilet Twinning (helping to flush away poverty), Lone Buffalo Foundation (a community project based in Laos providing creative skills for young people), Dekamer (a turtle rescue centre in Turkey) and Kids Saving the Rainforest (a wildlife rescue centre in Costa Rica supported through the LATA foundation). We also care passionately about the world's wildlife. We are patrons of the Born Free Organisation and Friends of Conservation.

Cool Earth

Explore are proud to support Cool Earth in their effort to reduce global carbon dioxide levels through the prevention of deforestation in the South America rainforest. Cool Earth focus on areas in immediate danger of deforestation, supporting local communities to be forest guardians. To date 350,000 acres of rainforest has been protected. Saving rainforest also protects rare animals and plants, allows local forest communities to maintain their way of life, and protects a major source of oxygen and fresh water. When you travel on an Explore holiday we make a donation to Cool Earth that exceeds the impact of our customers flights each year.

Earth Matters

- The Travel Foundation

  Explore are active members and supporters of the Travel Foundation which has established a variety of sustainable tourism projects in destinations and works with industry to improve practice. Visit their website www.thetravelfoundation.org.uk
- Tourism Concern

  Explore support the work of Tourism Concern who campaign for fairly and ethically traded tourism, and are part of its Ethical Tour Operator Group www.tourismconcern.org.uk
- For further information on responsible travel go to www.explore.co.uk/ResponsibleTourism/

Know before you go

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice follow the link at www.explore.co.uk/travel-safety

Booking Your Holiday

Peace of mind - book with confidence

You can book your Explore holiday with confidence, as all monies paid to us for your trip are fully protected. Explore is a fully bonded tour operator licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and by ABTOT.

The air holiday packages (Tours including flights) that we advertise are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's LicenceÂ granted by the Civil Aviation Authority.Â Our ATOL number is ATOL 2595. In addition, As a member of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), Explore has provided a bond to meet the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note that packages booked outside the UK are only protected when purchased directly with Explore.

Reserving your place

To reserve your place on this tour you will need to check availability on the Explore website or through our dedicated call centre based in the UK where you can. Our tours can fill up quickly so you are advised to book as early as possible. If your chosen date is ‘Available’ or ‘Guaranteed’ we will be able to provisionally hold you a space for up to 48 hours.

For Self-Guided holidays and Private Journeys simply choose your date of travel and let us know so we can confirm all ground services.

The easiest way to confirm your booking is through our website. When you are ready to book, we normally require a 10% non-refundable deposit, but for some holidays this may be more to cover such items as permit fees, internal flights or other non-refundable services. If your travel starts within 60 days of booking, full payment will be required at the time of booking

100% No Surcharge Guarantee

The price paid for our holidays is no longer subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges unlike the vast majority of other adventure tour operators. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings departing between 1st January 2014 and 31st December 2015.

Tour Itinerary Versions

Itinerary details may vary depending on departure date and alternative itineraries for this tour may exist. Please refer to the dates and prices page on our website to check which itinerary operates on each departure date.

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes.

Please note: 2015 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 2015. 2016/17 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 2016.

These tour notes were printed on 09/10/2015 16:05:55