

TOURISM EVENT CALENDAR: BANTEAY CHHMAR COMMUNITY-BASED TOURISM

There is much more to Banteay Chhmar and Cambodia than just seeing temples. We believe that your trip to Cambodia will be much more memorable because of the connections that you make with the people. Please take the precious opportunity that you have in our country to ask and learn about our cultural heritage, livelihoods, religious ceremonies and festivals.

To diversify our tourism activities in Banteay Chhmar, the CBT with facilitation and support from USAID Cambodia MSME have developed the following tourism event calendar. We want you to have more fun activities to participate in and enable you to interact with the local people more closely in order to better experience the real Khmer life. This, we believe, is the best way to develop a more personal and rewarding travel experience in Cambodia. Enjoy!

Events	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Possible tourism Activities
1. Khmer New Year – A special time for Khmer people to gather with their family and relatives				😊									You can join with the family you stay with to see how Khmer people celebrate their New Year. During the day and night people participate in different activities (traditional games, dancing, etc).
2. Water Festival – This festival is dedicated to the Khmer army and navy and their historic battles										😊	😊		You can go boat racing with the local community and enjoy more activities at night such as the floating of the lamp-boats.

3. Phchum Ben (Religious event) A Buddhist festival dedicated to recently deceased ancestors. Food is offered to them for their journey to nirvana.									😊	😊			You can join with the family you stay with to celebrate Phchum Ben; get up early in the morning, go to the pagoda, offer food to the monks, and be blessed by the monks. You can also play traditional games.
4. Wedding time – the common time when many people get married	😊	😊	😊	😊							😊	😊	If you come on a wedding day you can join in the ceremony and party; you can observe how Khmer people celebrate their wedding. It is very interesting to see and you will enjoy it.
5. Rice transplanting and seeding season						😊	😊	😊	😊				You can observe or help local people transplanting rice seedlings in the traditional way
6. Harvest season (Rice field)	😊										😊	😊	You can take part in or observe the local people during the rice harvest

7. Vegetable season (cucumbers, cabbage, lettuce eggplant, tomatoes, long green beans, cauliflower, etc)	😊	😊	😊	😊						😊	😊	😊	You can learn about and help plant or harvest the local crops.
8. Fruit season (watermelon, mango, sweet apples, etc)			😊 Water melon	😊 Mango	😊 Mango		😊 Sweet apple	😊 Sweet apple		😊 Water melon	😊 Water melon		You can join in harvesting different kinds of fruit.
9. Cassava planting and harvesting					😊	😊	😊						This area is very popular for cassava; you will see big farms of cassava and see how they plant and harvest cassava.
10. Dal Ombok (Rice flattening)										😊	😊	😊	After the rice harvest, the new rice is very good for flattening. This rice is used during the Water Festival to celebrate the Moon Festival.
11. Environmental Days					😊						😊		Our community conducts a 'clean-up day' twice a year with the schoolchildren to clean the village and educate people about protecting their environment. Visitors can chip in.

12. Watching the sunset at Ang Cheung Kros	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊						😊	😊	During the dry season, it is likely that you can see a beautiful sunset at Ang Cheung Kros.
13. Silk Craft Center (Soieries du Mekong "SDM")	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -You can observe or participate with the local villagers in silk-weaving at the center such as making colors, selecting silks, putting the silk into wooden combs... - You can observe or help local weavers as they work in their homes. - You can buy silk products in the Silk Center or in the CBT office.
14. Craftsmen and Handicrafts	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	You can see local families making various handicrafts such as woodworking...
15. Village tour by walking, cycling, ox-cart or kuyon	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	
16. Temple tour (Banteay Chhmar, Banteay Top and satellite temples)	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Learn about Khmer and Angkorian history with a local guide.

17. Pagoda	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Visit the local pagoda and learn about Buddhism from the monks.
18. Homestays to help you learn about and exchange cultures	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	
19. Traditional music & dance performances in the evening with dinner	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Listen to local villagers play authentic Khmer instruments and watch and join women as they dance to traditional songs.
20. Global Heritage Fund (Temple Restoration Project)	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -You can observe the stone conservation and restoration project in Banteay Chhmar Temple including rebuilding of the gallery walls and towers. - You can talk with the workers about the stone conservation methods, materials and approaches.