

CAMBODIA

Location

South-East Asia.

Area

181,035 sq km (69,900 sq miles).

Population

14.2 million (UN estimate 2008).

Population Density

81.7 per sq km.

Capital

Phnom Penh.

Population: 2 million (2007).

Government

Constitutional monarchy since 1993.

Language

Khmer is the official language and spoken by 95% of the population. Chinese and Vietnamese are also spoken. French was widely spoken until the arrival of the Pol Pot regime and is still taught in schools, but English is now a more popular language to learn among the younger generation.

Religion

95% Buddhist (Theravada), the remainder Muslim and Christian. Buddhism was reinstated as the national religion in 1989 after a ban on religious activity in 1975.

Time

GMT + 7.

Electricity

220 volts AC, 50Hz. Two-pin plugs are in use. Power cuts are frequent.

Head of Government

Prime Minister Hun Sen since 1985.

Head of State

King Norodom Sihamoni since 2004.

Telephone

Country code: 855. Prepaid telephone cards are available in post offices, hotels and shops for public phones around Phnom Penh and Siem Reap.

Mobile Telephone

Roaming agreements exist with many international mobile phone companies. Coverage is good in major towns and cities and patchy elsewhere.

Internet

Available in some areas. Internet cafes are available in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap and other major towns.

Media

Much of Cambodia's media depends on support from political parties. Press freedom is not guaranteed but Prime Minister Hun Sen has declared his public support for press freedom. There are no restrictions on satellite dish ownership and neighboring foreign radio

broadcasts are easily received.

Post

Airmail to Europe takes at least a week, and longer to the USA. The main post office in Phnom Penh is located on the western side of 13 Street between 98 Street and 102 Street, open 0630-2100.

Post office hours: Generally Mon-Fri 0730/0800-1700/1730, sometimes closed for lunch.

Press

- *Cambodia Daily* and the *Phnom Penh Post* (fortnightly) and are printed in English.
- *Reaksmei Kampuchea* and *Kaoh Santepheap* are pro-government dailies.

Radio

- *National Radio of Cambodia* is a state broadcaster.
- *FM 95* (operated by Bayon Radio and TV News Agency), *Radio FM 97* (operated by Aspara Radio and TV Radio) and *Radio FM 103* are all commercial broadcasters.

* Date to be confirmed.

Note

* The religious festivals are determined by the Buddhist lunar calendar and are therefore variable. Public holidays falling on a Saturday or Sunday are carried forward to the following working day.

Below are listed Public Holidays for the January 2011-December 2011 period.

1 Jan *New Year's Day.*

7 Jan *Victory Day.*

30 Jan * *Meak Bochea Day.*

8 Mar *Women's Day.*

14 Apr

16 Apr *Cambodian New Year.*

1 May *Labor Day.*

15 May *King Sihamoni's Birthday.*

28 Apr *Visaka Buja Day (Birth of Buddha).*

3 May *Royal Ploughing Day Ceremony.*

18 Jun *Former Queen's Birthday.*

24 Sep *Constitution Day.*

7 Oct

9 Jan * *Pchum Ben Day.*

29 Oct *Coronation Day.*

31 Oct *Former King Sihanouk's Birthday.*

20 Nov * *Water Festival.*

9 Nov *Independence Day.*

10 Dec *Human Rights Day.*

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