

PMC 10th

International Workshop

4th-11th October 2014

Borei Angkor Resort and Spa, Siem Reap, Cambodia

Postcard Album





PMC 10th International Workshop Siem Reap, Cambodia

Oct. 6th, 2014

Hello to All,

We arrived at our location in Cambodia, Siem Reap near Angkor Wat. Angkor Wat was first a Hindu, then subsequently a Buddhist, temple complex in Cambodia and the largest religious monument in the world and one of the 7 wonders of the ancient world.

Saturday being a rest day, some members decided they needed to get some retail therapy.

Sunday we got to do our own Amazing Race through Siem Reap. We found many clues were found in markets, temples, baskets, at local homes. We ended the Race at a local school with lots of cool drinks and local nibbles.

With some energies left the afternoon allowed some members to go off road with some quad biking and mud baths.

The evening allowed us all to enjoy some local food dishes and relax ready for the start of the workshop.

Cheers,
Wendy

From:
Wendy Priestly
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Angkor Wat Temple



PMC 10th International Workshop

Oct. 9th, 2014

Workshop #1

Hi All,

Time has moved on very quickly while over here in Cambodia. We were over here for a week's workshop at Siem Reap, the town of the Angkor Wat city and temples. A most lovely place and a great learning environment with many great facilities and food delicacies.

We had many Club members over here learning how to manage their properties more effectively with support from group members as well as us as leaders. Phil Byrnes, Branch Manager from Melbourne, was the MC and did a great job coordinating all the many requirements to make the workshop a successful for our members.

A highlight for me was a visit to the Angkor Wat temple for a tourist pose. That morning I was joined by Virginia Bergman PA to Kevin and Phil Hill, Nicole Hill one of our YIC members and Judy Hill stood for photo of the sunrise over the Temple of Angkor Wat.

As we have done during other International workshops, participants bring over some items for those less fortunate. This year we supported a woman's centre and brought nearly just on 100 toilet bag for the girls. The organisers were overwhelmed at these gifts.

All of the members here learnt a lot and took home with them a lot of home work that will keep them busy for some months to come. The food was great, the rain kept away from our time out and the location was just a full on learning experience. Even the locals were sad go see us go.

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PMC 10th International Workshop Water Villages

Oct. 11th, 2014

Hi All,

As the conference concluded there was some time for taking in the sights of the local areas.

Some members were able to take a water boat out to visit some of the water villages. There we saw how villagers lived and bought their veggies all off the same type of water boat. Some members tried their hand at the wheel of the boat. We learnt that people are very resourceful living in the villages. One example, was how they used a piece of rope for connecting the steering wheel to the drive motor in our boat.

Kids from the village were everywhere we looked and they were always waving back to us with a smile. On the road, there was always small stalls with the local quick take away foods - "sticky rice". On the trip back, it was a must to stop to try this local tasty treat.

Some members wanted to see the sights of the outer villages and took to some motor bike driving on vespers. During our country tour we came across a lady weaving baskets. Her son came out to say hello to us all and then sat down to listen to his ipod. Technology is everywhere!

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PMC 10th International Workshop Phnom Penh

Oct. 13th, 2014

Hi All,

We finished our International Workshop and had to say goodbye to some who were travelling home. A few of us gathered our belonging and travelled to Phnom Penh Capital of Cambodia for a few days of further tours around the capital. On our first night a few of us went to see some traditional dancing at the National Dance Academy. This was such a great experience as it showed many regional areas with their various costumes and movements.

There was such a lot of history in Phnom Penh with the traditional Palace as Cambodia is still a Kingdom, the French influence of their occupation and building styles and of course the terrible history of the Khmer Rouge and their senseless murder of over 2 million of their own people.

We did visit the Headquarters of the Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh and see the photos of the many innocent people that were killed for little reason. Certainly a time of reflection of a brutal regime. However as the years have passed and the Khmer people have regain their vitality they all are riding about on scooters and it is scooter city - be ware of the killer scooter.

Cheers,
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PMC 10th International Workshop Sailing the Mekong

Oct. 15th, 2014

Hi to all PMC members

Time for us to make some tracks, but not on land. Our next port of call was the Mekong. We prepared ourselves for a few days sailing down the Mekong river to its delta area and looking at the changing scenery as we sailed by.

Our vessel was a very traditional wooden and comfortable boat with ensuite, air con and bug zapper included - all necessary for a good night sleep in the heat and humidity.

Our group enjoyed breakfast on the top deck with our own personal cook who prepared meals so fresh we saw the ingredients being purchased. We visited villages on land and water to obtain our next meal. It was the most gastronomical experience since the last meal we had.

However we were all kitted up for safety first on the water to visit and collect our gifts for those at home, made on location.

The small crew did multiple jobs and were so accommodating with our requests. A joy to be with down the Mekong.

Cheers,
Wendy

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PMC 10th International Workshop

Oct. 17th, 2014

Hi all PMC Members

Saigon

The days of touring are coming to an end and Saigon is our last port of call. Still hot and humid as the weather is more like Darwin in the build up - but it is the end of the wet season in Saigon and supposed to be cooling down???

This is the city of the scooter. People were buying from China, but with poor performance have now gone to buying the 125 Hondas from Japan. There are around 8 million people in Saigon and 6 million scooters. Makes Sydney traffic fantastic. Our visit to Saigon allowed us to see the famous Cu Chi tunnels. Built in French colonial times but expanded during the Vietnam War (as we call it but in Vietnam it is called the American War as they were the invaders) There is the opportunity to crawl through a small section of the tunnel (if you can walk like a duck at 2 ft) and come out dripping with sweat - so hot - so hot as Robin Williams would say. They do love Robin Williams in Saigon and love to watch Good Morning Vietnam!!

Many war relics are around the city and the display of war atrocities in the American War museum from news footage and camera shots by news photographers is very moving and you are stunned at how the war was conducted. However on a lighter side are the procedures for wedding photos by a marrying couple - have them the week before in front of the French built Notre Dame Cathedral even if you are Buddhist. And of course at the Old Train Station (that never was) now Post Office you can make withdrawals from any bank - Which Bank??

Then of course there is always a reason to visit the last market before heading home.

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Benefits of Club Travel for PMC Members

Hello PMC Members and Friends,

Through Club Travel, PMC members can share travel with like-minded friends as there are no strangers, with everyone travelling as one family.

Travellers have the confidence, security, safety of travelling in a group and with an experienced tour director to look after everyone's needs throughout the tour.

Club Travel is able to pass on great discounted rates, protect bookings and tailor make every tour to the group's requirement.

PMC members can have the confidence that their tour is being organised by an extremely well-travelled and experienced tour director.

PMC members are all invited to experience first hand, the relaxed and friendly groups tours.

Dare to Dream.

Sharyn Bojczenko
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