



Learning for life, Nature and Future

Cambodia Projects

Poveal Pagoda

Poveal Pagoda is a temple school that was setup so that poor monks would be able to receive a good education. The school is situated on the banks of the Sangker River in the heart of Battambang. The students are comprised mainly of young monks, but the school also allows young kids from around the community that can't afford private English lessons to attend the classes as well. The teachers are also mainly monks, but there are a few teachers that have left the life of the monk, but still continue their teachings.



As a volunteer, you will work 3-4 hours a day at the school,



always with a Khmer teacher. The students here rely on the volunteer mainly for conversation skills and also help with pronunciation. They rarely have the chance to speak to a foreigner, so they love to practice their conversation skills with the volunteer. At this placement you will stay at the Openmind House in Battambang.

Size of village: The school is in Battambang

Students: Around 400 students in the different English classes

Teachers: 15

Computers: No

Internet: No

Volunteer work: Teaching English

Home stay: Yes, at the Openmind House in Battambang

Meals: Yes, at the Openmind House

Location: Center of Battambang Town

Center: 5 minutes by bicycle

Restaurants in town: Many in Battambang

Shopping Center: Local markets in Battambang

Internet shops: Many

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Ptea Teuk Dong (Street Families Center)

Ptea Teuk Dong (PTD) is a small Cambodian NGO located in the rice fields outside of Battambang. The center takes in families that are living on the street along with abused young women, and aims to improve their quality of life by teaching them a trade or skill, and providing them with the tools they need to start a business. The women mostly work on sewing and weaving handicrafts, while the men learn how to make furniture and work in agriculture. Meanwhile, the children get a chance to attend school, maybe for the first time, giving them the building blocks for an education. The families usually stay at the center for about one year, after which they are given a small plot of land, a house, and some starting materials to begin their new life. The center will then keep contact with the families for 3-5 years to oversee their transition back into society.



As a volunteer at PTD, you will get to experience every aspect of Khmer culture. Your main duty will be as an English teacher, teaching both the primary students (ages 6-13), and also the young women and staff. (Ages 18+). Yet what makes this placement special is that in some ways the volunteer becomes a part of the family. You will get to know the children very well, and also get to experience with them the art of traditional Khmer dance. The women, while learning how to cook, prepare all the meals at the center, giving the volunteer a chance to enjoy true Khmer cooking. The volunteer will also be working closely with the Khmer staff exchanging ideas and helping each other. It will be an experience that the volunteer will never forget.



Size of Village: The center consists of about 170 residents and 25 staff.

Students: Around 40 kids and 10-15 women

Teachers: 6

Computers: 0

Internet: No

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Volunteer Work: Teach English and take care of children

Home Stay: Yes, in a volunteer bungalow

Meals: Yes, at the center

Location: Rural area outside of Battambang

Center: 10 minute bike ride from center of Battambang

Restaurants: None, all meals cooked at PTD

Shopping Center: Local markets in Battambang.

Internet Café: Many



Hope of Children Orphanage



The orphanage was founded in 1992 by a monk, Venerable Munny Vansaveth, as a response to the growing number of children that were losing their parents to AIDS. In the 90s, a minimum of 30 000 children under the age of 15 had lost their parents due to AIDS, and many of these new orphans were being sold into prostitution. The monk, orphaned himself as a young boy, started out taking in seven of these orphans, and begging for their food himself. In the following years, the orphanage would grow and since it has begun it has taken in several hundred orphans. In 2005, the AIDS Trust of Australia got involved and raised enough money to build new facilities, including new dorms and a school facility around

5km outside of Battambang. Today the orphanage has around 120 kids, ranging from infants to 20 year olds.

As a volunteer, your primary duty will be in assisting with the English class which runs every day in the afternoon. The school is also supposed to be getting computers by the end of 2007, and volunteers will be needed to go over some basic computer training. Yet maybe one of your most important roles at the school will be just hanging out at the orphanage and giving the kids some attention. All these kids have lost their parents and see the volunteer both as a parent figure and as a friend. Although the volunteer will live in the Openmind House in Battambang, the volunteer can elect to spend extra hours at the orphanage, and really get to know some of these amazing kids.



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Size of village: The orphanage is the home to about 120 kids

Students: Around 70 students in the English classes

Teachers: 2

Computers: Coming soon

Internet: No

Volunteer work: Teaching English, play with younger kids

Home stay: Yes, at the Openmind House in Battambang

Meals: Yes, at the Openmind House

Location: 5 km outside of Battambang

Center: 20 minutes by bicycle

Restaurants in town: Many in Battambang

Shopping Center: Local markets in Battambang

Internet shops: Many



Cambodia Health info

Cholera

A serious risk in this country and precautions are essential. Up-to-date advice should be sought before deciding whether these precautions should include vaccination as medical opinion is divided over its effectiveness.

Malaria

The risk exists all year throughout the country. The malignant falciparum strain predominates and is reported to be highly resistant to chloroquine and resistant to sulfadoxine/pyrimethamine. Resistance to mefloquine has been reported from the western provinces.

All water should be regarded as being potentially contaminated.

Water for drinking, brushing teeth or making ice should be boiled or otherwise sterilised. Milk is unpasteurised and should be boiled. Powdered or tinned milk is available and is advised, but make sure that it is reconstituted with pure water. Avoid dairy products which are likely to have been made from unboiled milk.

Bilharzia

Present. Avoid swimming and paddling in fresh water. Swimming pools which are well-chlorinated and maintained are safe.

Hepatitis

A occurs. Hepatitis B is hyperendemic.

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Japanese encephalitis

Occurs in rural areas May to October and is relatively common.

Dengue fever

Widespread.

Rabies

Present.