

PHOKEETHRA COUNTRY CLUB



## General Information

### Phokeethra Country Club Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia



Phokeethra Country Club, the first world class international golf course in Seam Reap that can give you the unique golfing experience nearby one of the world heritage site, historical Angkor Wat.

Phokeethra Country Club is also ranked amongst the top five of the Best New Courses in Asia by Asian Golf Monthly Magazine and also is ranked as the Top Investment by TTG Magazine.

There is the story of the name "**Phokeethra**" that derives from the Sanskrit words called as "**Bhogi**" (phokee) means to the powerful Phya Naga serpent spirit and "**Dhara**" (thra) means to a large city so full word of Phokeethra means to The City of the Mythical Naga.

The belief in the Naga dates back to ancient times when the mythical creature was revered for its semi-god and semi-human qualities and portrayed as a giant snake with its long torso covered with shiny, luminous, scales the color of radiant emeralds. As a deity, the Naga could grant abundant blessings, peacefulness and prosperity. At the summit of Underworld, famed for its riches, a most serene and prosperous place was where the **Phya Naga Phokee** resided.

The grounds which have been designated as the golf course of Phokeethra Country Club abound with myths and legends told by local folks who have inherited a belief in and reverence for the Naga from their ancestors. The spectacular history of the Phya Naga and the ancient beliefs from days of yonder so closely connected with Siem Reap's splendid past as well as the unique setting of the golf course conspire in the Phokeethra Golf Course and Country Club. It is hoped that here our guests will fell that they have experienced the joy and ambiance comparable to that of Phokee Naga's sublime and wondrous abode.

Phokeethra Country Club is steeped in Cambodia's rich cultural heritage that is **Roluh Bridge**. On the premises of this exclusive golf course next to the club house and the 1st Tee is an ancient



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bridge, 20 meters in width that dates back to a Khmer empire in the 11th century AD. It was built at the behest of King Jayavarman VII who brought the Khmer empire to its zenith as attested by the construction of Angkor Thom. The bridge served as a passage way from Siem Reap to Phimai District in Nakhon Ratchasima Province, Thailand and has now been declared as archaeological site for preservation.

The bridge represents the link between the past and the present day, serving as a reminder of the strong cultural heritage within Cambodia.

According to this memorable story, it leads to have the slogan for Phokeethra Country Club that **"Tee-Off from the 11th Century and finish your round in the 21st Century."**



### **What lies beneath the Design?**

The course was designed to accommodate golfers of all levels. The beginner golfers will enjoy the generous greens and wide fairways from the front tees and the more skilled golfers will appreciate the true challenge that Phokeethra offers from the back and more difficult tee.

As we hold an international Asian Tour Event the course must be at a certain difficulty to accommodate these highly skilled professionals.

With most of the holes tree lined with palm trees and a generous amount of water and bunkers to avoid, Phokeethra Country Club is renowned as the most challenging course in Cambodia.

As well as a fair share of challenging holes there is also a selection of relatively easy holes for the average golfer. Having this variety of difficulty on our golf course creates a sense of interest and most of all enjoyment!



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### Sophisticated Facilities and Services throughout the Clubhouse and the Course.

- **Trained caddies** offer expertise on each hole as they accompany players on the course in the top-of-the-range buggies. They are trained to assist the golfer for the duration of their stay and provide the local knowledge on the course to help in improving the score!
- **Exclusive pro-shop** has a range of clothing and equipment on offer: golf balls, tees, caps, T-shirts, gloves, as well as shoes and sets of clubs for rent.
- **Refined cuisine** that ranges from innovative Khmer dishes to western favorites can be enjoyed on the open air terrace or the private dining room of our exclusive Clubhouse.
- **Spa solutions**, including specialized golf massages, are available at the Sofitel Phokeethra Royal Angkor Golf & Spa Resort to revive tired muscles after a full day on the course.



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## Detail of each hole

- **Hole 10**

**Pro's tip**

Play the tee shot towards the right side of the fairways to open up the green. For the second shot, use a mid long iron to avoid the bunkers guarding the right front side.

- **Hole 11**

**Pro's tip**

The shortest par 4 on the front nine gives a chance for rare birdie. The well struck tee shot should leave a simple chip to a raised large green. Straight, accurate shots will reward the golfer on this inviting hole.

- **Hole 12**

**Pro's tip**

Water runs along the length of the fairway. From the elevated tee, one needs to favour the right. Go too far right however, and you will find bunkers. The approach to the green will be more open and visible, but keep in mind the lake to the left.

- **Hole 13**

**Pro's tip**

Drive to favour the right side of the fairway. For your second shot, you can follow the line of fairway or take a longer club to reach the upper level, which provides a short shot to the green.

- **Hole 14**

**Pro's tip**

The safest shot is to favour the left side of the green. Be sure to take enough club to this green, especially if the pin is at the back. Your par here is well deserved.

- **Hole 15**

**Pro's tip**

The tee shot should finish left of fairway center, which will give you the best angle of approach for your second shot. Take enough club to this raised green.

- **Hole 16**

**Pro's tip**

No prizes for being short. The sensible shot is for the middle of the green, and the pin at the back. Be sure to take enough clubs.

- **Hole 17**

**Pro's tip**

The drive should be to the right-hand side of the fairway. Only the longest hitters can go for this green in two, so layup and have a full pitch shot to the raised green.

- **Hole 18**

**Pro's tip**

The tee shot should finish left of center to avoid bunker on the right. Take special care in selecting clubs for the second shot. No prizes for being short.





- **Hole 1**

**Pro's tip**

A straightforward par 4 as long as you can avoid the sand. The second shot plays slightly uphill, so you may need to adjust your club selection accordingly.

- **Hole 2**

**Pro's tip**

After finding the right half of the fairway, play to the left for the easiest approach to this well-guarded green.

- **Hole 3**

**Pro's tip**

Pay attention to where the pin is on green as it's very important for club selection. Remember the wind too.

- **Hole 4**

**Pro's tip**

The tee shot should be kept as close as you dare to the left-hand bunker for the best approach to this raised green. Take enough club for your second shot, especially if the pin is back right.

- **Hole 5**

**Pro's tip**

Driving towards to the front bunker will give you the best angle of approach for your second shot. Take enough club to this raised green.

**Phokeethra Corner**

**"Think Smart" & "Play Smart"**

- **Hole 6**

**Pro's tip**

No margin for error here. If you are going to miss the green, best be long left or right.

- **Hole 7**

**Pro's tip**

Drive to the fairway left. The second also favour the left for the easiest approach to a green that slopes to help stop the ball. Take enough club to elevated green.

- **Hole 8**

**Pro's tip**

Keep to the fairway on this narrow hole. Forfeiting length for accuracy and taking a longer club for your second shot will deliver the best reward.

- **Hole 9**

**Pro's tip**

Bunkers to the left and the lake on the right mean the initial drive should aim straight down the middle. Be careful of the creek on your second shot, and you can attack the pin with a short iron on your third.



## PHOKEETHRA COUNTRY CLUB



### Host of the Annual Johnnie Walker Cambodian Open

Since 2007, The Phokeethra Country Club has been home to the world's first annual Cambodian Open, a week-long tournament that brings top Asian and international golfers to Cambodia. This prestigious golfing event highlights the Club's undisputed position as Cambodia's premier golf course and one of the region's top golfing facilities.

Through its participation as the host of the annual Cambodian Open, Phokeethra Country Club has brought unprecedented spotlight on Cambodia from the world of professional golf, in the process furthering the cause of developing golf tourism in Cambodia and helping Siem Reap to become world-class golfing destination.

Since its historic inauguration in 2007, several of Cambodia's leading amateur golfers have enjoyed the opportunity of competing alongside Asia's greatest players and the vision is for them to eventually contend and win their national Championship.

American Bryan Saltus claimed a memorable triumph in the first edition in 2007 before Thai legend Thongchai Jaidee produced a popular victory in 2008. In 2009, Australian Marcus Both prevailed at Phokeethra. Three-time Asian Tour Order of Merit winner Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand became a second time champion of the Johnnie Walker Cambodian Open winning his unprecedented 13th Asian Tour title in December 2010.



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