

November 15th to Wednesday 20th November 2024

Friday November 15th, 2024.

I was still not up to going out walking. I spent the day sorting my clothes. (Comparatively, I don't even have many clothes! You'd be surprised how disorganised they can get... I have half a cupboard hanging space and one deep drawer.)

It is important to get out of the house, where ever you live, and to keep up a bit of exercise. I did my at home exercises but did not swim, and we walked into town for tea.



The moon rising over the Siem Reap river.

Saturday 16th November, 2024.

This morning's walk was to the Supermarket. The toaster we bought 23 months ago has died. Not much choice at the supermarket so in the afternoon we rode out to Makro to have a look. Not much choice there either, but we bought a toaster and an electric shaver.

Sunday 17th November, 2024.

Sunday is a day we always spend at home. At the very least, we do not drive out to the temples because the roads are filled with locals in big 4 wheel drive vehicles and they think they can overtake as they please, often forcing the motorbikes into the gravel at the side of the road. Certainly not safe (or legal!). Note, car drivers have licences and should know the rules.

Monday 18th November, 2024.

Temple Day : Ta Som

We rode out to Ta Som. Ta Som is the furthest temple from our house (of the temples on the Grand Circuit). I like it because of the stream at the back and the lovely reflections you can get. There are always dragon flies out by the water reservoirs at the east entrance (the entrance the people would have used in the day... now we enter from the west).



Carvings on the west gopura of Ta Som.



Devata carved in the sandstone (and the laterite of the second wall).



I saw this moth fly. I would not have noticed it otherwise. (Perhaps *Saturnia povonia*... *small Emperor Moth*).



East gopura, Ta Som.



Again, the East gopura, Ta Som.



Smaller dragonfly.



Central tower, looking from the east, Ta Som.



Carved naga, worn over time.



A very pretty gecko.



Watering the grass at the west entrance.

Today we also went back to swimming. There is a lot of chlorine in the pool. It looks beautifully clear and clean (I'm sure there are no micro-organisms living there!)

Tuesday 19th November, 2024.

Temple Day : West Gate to Prasat Chrung NW

We walked from the West Gate, north to the corner. There were lots of monkeys and the path. They can be quite intimidating, showing their teeth at us. And they follow you (silently). I don't trust them... other monkeys have jumped onto me and tried to get into my back pack.

...they only have to grab my phone and run off and I would never see it again.

We don't carry food for them. Some people do (locals, feeding them to have the monkeys gather so they can take pictures).



Dogs and the moon at the West Gate.



The path on the top of the wall, and a stalker.



These flowers have just come into bloom. The flower buds are interesting too. (Like a black eyed Susan.)



We think this must be deer “foot” prints. There are deer in the forest in Angkor Thom but we have never seen them (or know of anyone who has...).

We spoiled ourselves with Indian for lunch (and then had no tea, because we were too full!)

Wednesday 20th November, 2024.

Anjali day for David and the usual cleaning and language work and sewing for me.