

Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st January, 2025.

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Temple Day: Banteay Thom

This temple is some what off the beaten track. You turn off the Korean Ring Road and head along a few sandy tracks (all visible on Google maps) and then you find it.



This is the East gopura.

Banteay Thom was built by Jayavarman VII but is quite different in layout to the usual Angkor format. It has quite interesting carvings. The covered walkways around the main temple towers (three of them) are still standing. It is well worth a look if you have some time and transport (a Tuk-tuk won't get you there!)







The covered walkway (north side).



The north tower and some of the scaffolding on the central tower.



We haven't ever seen a face carved in the medallion like this.



The outside wall of the covered walkway... in danger of collapse (I won't go inside them here!)



Perhaps the trees help hold the walls up!

There were no (obvious) insects or plants here (although we did have to wait for the cows to move off the paths).

Tuesday 20th January, 2025.

Temple Day : Chan Ta Oun

This is another of Jayavarman VII's hospitals. It is smaller than Banteay Thom. Once again, there are nice carvings.



Ta Oun is north of Nagkor Thom. It lies just north of the linear village of Nokor Krau.



Ta Oun consists of one tower and what was once quite an impressive East gopura.



This is looking from inside the temple wall, into the East gopura.

The trees have been growing around the stone blocks.





Once again, no insect life, but some interesting bird feathers left from some sort of conflict... not enough for a bird death.



We stopped in the town of Siem Reap on the way home. David's lesson this week was "prepositions" and the title was "In our city".

So we took some photos.



Elephants by the river.



A fierce tiger!

And a crocodile.



Wednesday January 22nd, 2025.

Anjali day and cleaning day.

David is getting used to the earlier start (it means he is home for lunch earlier... the students have an hour of Chinese... morning group and the afternoon group).

We have new neighbours downstairs, more Aussies (and they seem good).

