

Getting around in Phnom Penh

Wednesday, 15 August 2007

Phnom Penh is one of the few capitals in the world that doesn't have public transport. Despite this fact, getting around in Phnom Penh is easy and pleasant. Motodops

These are the fastest and most practical form of transportation in Phnom Penh. For one trip, you can expect to pay between 1000 and 2000 riel during the day time and double this at night time. Most motodop drivers speak some english and will not hesitate to tell you that they know exactly where you are asking to go. However this usually simply means that they will aimlessly drive you around until you realize they have no idea where you want them to take you. This is one of Cambodia's amusing quirks.Cyclos

Getting around in a cyclo is very enjoyable and relaxing. They are extremely useful for transporting large furniture and their "hood" gives very welcome protection during the rainy season.Tuk-tuks

For Tuk-tuks expect to pay between one or two dollars depending on the distance and number of passengers.Taxis

There are now a handful of official taxis in Phnom Penh, but the majority of taxi drivers are independant operators. They are usually found near the central market (psar thmey). It's a good alternative to the bus for getting around in Cambodia (Sihanouk ville, Kampot, Kep) when you are a travelling in a small group.Pedestrians ?

Like most asian cities, streets in Phnom Penh have been invaded by shops, restaurants, parked motos and so on. This does not always create an enjoyable experience for the pedestrian and it can even be difficult just to walk down some streets. In Phnom Penh, there is always a moto at hand to bring you home, and locals themselves don't usually walk, even over short distances.