Asia Concierge

THE ART OF TRAVEL DESIGN



THE CULTURAL COMPANION

CAMBODIA

BOOKS, FILMS AND SERIES TO ENJOY BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

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Cambodia is a country of extraordinary grace and resilience, and the best way to understand it is through the stories of those who lived it. These memoirs, novels and films, some joyful and some deeply moving, will add real meaning to your time among the temples of Angkor and the riverside streets of Phnom Penh.

TO READ

FICTION



In the Shadow of the Banyan · Vaddey Ratner · 2012

A lyrical novel, drawn from the author's own childhood, of a young girl from a royal family living through the Khmer Rouge years.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS



The Sea Wall · Marguerite Duras · 1950

Duras's semi-autobiographical novel of a French family struggling on a coastal plot in colonial Cambodia.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON



The Disappeared · Kim Echlin · 2009

A love story that takes a Canadian woman to Phnom Penh in search of the Cambodian musician she lost.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS



The Royal Way · André Malraux · 1930

An adventure among the jungle temples of Cambodia, by one of France's great 20th-century writers.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON

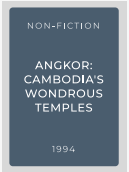
NON-FICTION



First They Killed My Father · Loung Ung · 2000

A powerful memoir of surviving the Khmer Rouge regime as a child.

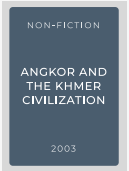
UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS



Angkor: Cambodia's Wondrous Temples · Dawn Rooney · 1994

The classic companion to the temples of Angkor, covering history, architecture and the stories in the carvings.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON



Angkor and the Khmer Civilization · Michael D. Coe · 2003

An accessible, illustrated history of the Khmer empire and the city that built Angkor Wat.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS



The Gate · François Bizot · 2003

A French scholar of Angkor recalls his imprisonment by the Khmer Rouge and his later return to Cambodia.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS



Cambodia's Curse · Joel Brinkley · 2011

A Pulitzer-winning journalist examines Cambodia's recovery and modern challenges.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS



When the War Was Over · Elizabeth Becker · 1986

A respected journalist's account of Cambodia's 20th-century history and its recovery.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS

TO WATCH

FILMS & SERIES



The Killing Fields · Roland Joffé · 1984

The Oscar-winning film about a New York Times journalist and his Cambodian colleague during the fall of Phnom Penh.

UK CHANNEL 4
USA PRIME VIDEO · APPLE TV



First They Killed My Father · Angelina Jolie · 2017

Loung Ung's memoir brought to the screen in the Khmer language, filmed in Cambodia with a Cambodian cast.

UK NETFLIX
USA NETFLIX



The Gate · Régis Wargnier · 2014

A drama based on François Bizot's memoir of his capture by the Khmer Rouge.

UK APPLE TV · AMAZON
USA APPLE TV · AMAZON



In the Mood for Love · Wong Kar-wai · 2000

Wong Kar-wai's exquisite romance, whose haunting final scenes were filmed at Angkor Wat.

UK APPLE TV · AMAZON
USA HBO MAX · APPLE TV

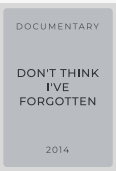


Lara Croft: Tomb Raider · Simon West · 2001

The action adventure that made Ta Prohm's tree-wrapped ruins famous around the world.

UK BBC IPLAYER · APPLE TV
USA APPLE TV · AMAZON

DOCUMENTARIES & TRAVEL SERIES



Don't Think I've Forgotten · John Pirozzi · 2014

The vibrant story of Cambodia's 1960s rock and roll scene and the musicians who created it.

UK *Not currently available*
USA APPLE TV · AMAZON



The Missing Picture · Rithy Panh · 2013

An Oscar-nominated personal memoir of the Khmer Rouge years, told through hand-carved clay figures.

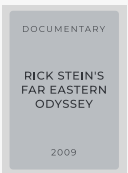
UK APPLE TV · AMAZON
USA APPLE TV · AMAZON



A River Changes Course · Kalyanee Mam · 2013

A Sundance-winning portrait of three Cambodian families as their traditional way of life changes.

UK *Not currently available*
USA APPLE TV · AMAZON



Rick Stein's Far Eastern Odyssey · BBC · 2009

Rick Stein explores the cooking of Southeast Asia, including a memorable visit to Cambodia.

UK SKY GO · U (UKTV)
USA PRIME VIDEO



A Cook's Tour · Anthony Bourdain · 2002

Bourdain's first food and travel series, with memorable episodes in Cambodia and Vietnam.

UK PRIME VIDEO · AMAZON
USA PRIME VIDEO · AMAZON

YOUTUBE CHANNELS TO FOLLOW



Paddy Doyle · @PaddyDoyleYT

British travel vlogger exploring Southeast Asia, with honest, upbeat travel guides.

WATCH YOUTUBE



Mark Wiens · @MarkWiens

Bangkok-based food vlogger, famous for his joyful street-food videos across Asia.

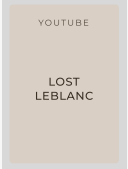
WATCH YOUTUBE



Best Ever Food Review Show · @BestEverFoodReviewShow

Sonny Side's adventurous food series, exploring local dishes across Southeast Asia.

WATCH YOUTUBE



Lost LeBlanc · @LostLeBlanc

Christian LeBlanc's cinematic travel films from across Asia.

WATCH YOUTUBE

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WE KNOW ASIA INTIMATELY.

ASIA KNOWS US.

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