
IN THIS ISSUE

CAMBODIA NEWS

- ✓ Les Nuits d' Angkor :
19-20-21 December 2003
- ✓ Asian Trails and Osmose
settle a training program for
the guides.
- ✓ "Visit Cambodia Year
2003": Food & Music Festival
in August

AIRLINES / BOAT NEWS

- ✓ Vietnam Airlines : Direct
flight Hanoi/Siem Reap
- ✓ Mekong Express boat will
operate in September 2003

HOTELS & RESTAURANTS

- ✓ Hotels in Siem Reap :
 - * Victoria Angkor
 - * Goldiana Angkor Hotel
 - * Hotel de la Paix will open next
year in Siem Reap
- ✓ World Cafe in Battambang close

Please take note of our New email address: asiantrails@online.com.kh

NEW DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR IN ASIAN TRAILS CAMBODIA !

With our team since August 2001, Ms. Beatrice Baconnais -Deputy Managing Director - has decided to not renew her contract with us.

Mr. Samuel Desmier, formerly working with AsiaJet in Bangkok will take over her position as our new Deputy Managing Director in Phnom Penh on September 1, 2003.

Our Asian Trails team is glad to welcome Samuel and wishes all the best to Béatrice for a brilliant future.

CCAMBODIA NEWS

Asian Trails and Osmose settle a training program for the guides

Osmose is a non-profit organisation working for sustainable development in Prek Toal village, Tonle Sap through an approach linking conservation, education and ecotourism.

The seasonally flooded freshwater swamp forest of Prek Toal shelters the last breeding refuge in Southeast Asia for endangered large waterbirds such as Pelicans, Storks and Ibises. Since the start of the project in 1999, Osmose has developed educative, small-scale ecotourism visits to the site (one hour by boat from Siem Reap harbour) in close interaction with the local communities.

In the aim of protecting the biosphere and the environment, Asian Trails is working in partnership with Osmose and we have set up a training program for our guides (17 in total) in order to improve the quality and efficiency of the visits to Prek Toal and to share a better approach of the wildlife.

This program has start this week and this partnership scheme aims to train the guide from now on until July 2004 at different period and stage of the seasons.

We will also produce a booklet on the Tonle Sap and wildlife in the area. This publication will be in English, Khmer and French.

Les Nuits d' Angkor : 19-20-21 December 2003

The French Culture Center is pleased to inform you that the 4th " Nuits d' Angkor " will take place in Siem Reap within the Angkor Wat temple site, which will be especially illuminated for the event on December 19th, 20th, and 21st , 2003

As last year Asian Trails Cambodia will have ticket for the event and will be able to include this event to your program.

"Visit Cambodia Year 2003": Food & Music Festival in August

As part of the "Visit Cambodia Year 2003" event organized by the Ministry of Tourism and the Municipality of Phnom Penh, the Food & Music Festival will be held in Phnom Penh (15-17 August), Siem Reap (22-24 August) and Sihanoukville (29-31 August) .

AIRLINES / BOAT NEWS

Vietnam Airlines: Direct flight Hanoi/Siem Reap

Since 23rd July 03, Vietnam Airlines operates a new direct international flight from Hanoi to Siem Reap.

* HAN/REP by VN845 - 1400:1605. It operates on every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by airbus 320

* REP/HAN by VN844 - 1700:1905. It operates on every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by airbus 320

Mekong Express Boat will operate in September 2003

The boat will operate again after 6 month break for renovation the Phnom Penh-Siem Reap rotation and v-v beginning of September 2003. The boat is the same and the engine has been totally changed. It will take 4 to 5 hours to cross the lake.

HOTELS & RESTAURANTS NEWS

*** The Victoria Angkor Hotel will open its doors on December 15, 2003**

The hotel announces its opening on December 15, 2003 slightly later than the date initially announced.

It will come with 120 rooms and 10 suites, services and recreational activities (pools, Spa, Jacuzzi, meeting room, boutique), 3 restaurants and 1 bar.

*** The Goldiana Angkor Hotel will do the grand opening on October 1, 2003**

Expected in August the hotel has delay its opening and will welcome the guests only in October.

*** Hotel De La Paix in Siem Reap : opening September 2004**

The owners of **Hotel de la Paix** have appointed *Sanctuary Resorts* to provide the pre-opening services, consult on the construction and provide ongoing resort management after the opening.

The resort is scheduled to open in September 2004.

For now Hotel de La Paix together with Sanctuary Resorts, initiated the establishment of **Shinta Mani** which is an hotel and Institute of Hospitality with 18 bedrooms and will be located in the heart of the Old French Quarter, just off the banks of the Siem Reap River, walking distance from the King's Residence.

Shinta Mani, which is derived from Sanskrit, meaning "The gem that provides everything one can imagine" is under construction and will be open in September 2003.

The owners of Hotel de la Paix have also signed with *Sanctuary Resorts* to provide the same services for a resort in **Sihanoukville**, which is currently under design and development.

*** The World Café in Battambang close its doors**

The World Cafe has closed its doors in July 2003 due to the departure of the owner.

We wish you a nice summer for those who are going on holidays and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support!

Please do not hesitate to contact us should further assistance be needed.

<http://www.asiantrails.com> and <http://www.asiantrails.com/cambodia/index.htm>

With kindest regards,
Asian Trails Ltd., Cambodia
Line for Jacques Guichandut