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NEW PUBLIC RELATION COORDINATOR IN OUR OFFICE IN SIEM REAP !

Asian Trails is glad to announce the arrival of André Seiler, our new Public Relation Coordinator who will join us in Siem Reap office on October 15, 2003. André was formerly working in Switzerland for Wettstein. He will take over Ken (Wolf Kennel) who left us since April 03. We are pleased to welcome André in our team.

IT&CMA - Next month in Bangkok - 4-6 November 2003

Mrs Line BOUVET, Incentive and Marketing Manager of Asian Trails Cambodia, as well as the Managing Directors of Asian Trails Thailand, Myanmar and Vietnam will attend the IT&CMA in Bangkok at booth No. 540 from 4 to 6 November 2003. We wish to meet with partners and friends at our stand.

CAMBODIA NEWS

Illumination of Angkor Wat : 10-11 November 2003

The 50th Anniversary of the cooperation between Japan and Cambodia will be celebrated in Siem Reap on 10 and 11 November 2003. Angkor Wat will be illuminated on this occasion and a traditional Japanese music show will be played.

Beng Melea : New entrance fee

Located at 60 km from Siem Reap, the access to Beng Melea temple is now subject to US\$ 10,- per person for entrance fee. Beng Melea temple is under the management of Apsara Authority since June 2003.

New Cambodian Cultural Village in Siem Reap:

Under construction since last year, the Cultural Village has just opened its doors. A museum with different scenes of lifestyle in Cambodia, a reproduction on a small scale of temples and monuments of Cambodia, and different shows will be performed like traditional dances and Khmer wedding ceremony performance.

AIRLINES / BOAT NEWS

Renovation of the airport in Ratanakiri and Stung Treng

The Asian Development Bank has signed an agreement to provide about \$12 million to renovate the Ratanakiri and Stung Treng airport. Previously expected to be built on a new site, the new airport of Banlung (Ratanakiri) will finally stay at its actual location. As a result, the 2 companies which operate between Phnom Penh and Banlung/Stung Treng have cancelled and /or modify their schedule.

For now President Airlines cancel all its flights to Banlung until further notice. Royal Phnom Penh Airways is changing the schedule with 2 flights per week (Wednesday and Friday) so long as the number of passengers is enough.

RV Mekong operates its first cruise from Saigon to Siem Reap on Oct. 6, 2003

The boat left on October 6 from Saigon with 32 passengers on board. The cruise will last 8 days from Saigon to Siem Reap via Phnom Penh .The RV Mekong will arrive in Siem Reap on October 13, 2003.

Mekong Express Boat operates regularly since October 1, 2003

As announced in our Newsletter No 10, the Mekong Express boat operates the Phnom Penh - Siem Reap every Odd Day and the Siem Reap - Phnom Penh every Even day at 8:00 am.

HOTELS & RESTAURANTS NEWS

Hotel in Phnom Penh

* **Bougainvillier Hotel** is a nice small hotel overlooking the Mekong and Tonle rivers on the quay. The furnitures in the rooms and the lobby are in wood and give a colonial-style to the hotel.

The hotel opened its doors in September 2003 with 7 rooms.

* **Phnom Penh Hotel** will open on October 18, 2003 with 182 rooms. The rest (202 rooms) will be opened later on .

Hotel in Siem Reap

* **Shinta Mani** the establishment initiated by Hotel de La Paix together with Sanctuary Resorts will welcome guests with 18 bedrooms starting from November 1, 2003.

In the heart of the Old French Quarter, just off the banks of the Siem Reap River, walking distance from the King's Residence, this new establishment will be amongst the 5 stars hotel of Siem Reap.

* **Auberge Mont Royal:** After few months of renovation the hotel has turned some of its standard rooms into deluxe Rooms. The Hotel offers now 10 standard and 17 Deluxe rooms versus 19 standard and 9 deluxe before renovation.

* **Salina hotel** will complete the swimming pool by the end of the month.

* **Ta Prom Hotel** is refurbishing all the rooms with wooden floor.

Hotel in Sihanoukville

* **Sokha Beach Hotel & Resort postpone its opening to March 2004**

The hotel which was expected to open its door in October 2003 postpone its opening for the second time to next year. The date current date announced is now March 2004.

We will keep you informed.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN OCTOBER:

October 23, 2003: Paris Peace Treaty

October 30-31 & November 1, 2003: King's Birthday

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