

Via Lingua®

PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA



2010 Course Dates:

- January 11 - February 5, 2010
- February 1 - 26, 2010
- March 8 - April 2, 2010
- April 5 - 30, 2010
- May 3 - 28, 2010
- June 7 - July 2, 2010
- July 5 - 30, 2010
- August 2 - 27, 2010
- August 30 - September 24, 2010
- October 4 - 29, 2010
- November 1 - 26, 2010

TEFL Program Course Fee: US\$ 1750

TEFL Plus Program Course Fee: US\$ 2195

Accommodation: Approximately EUR 400 (shared room) / USD 538

With its history of war now an increasingly distant memory, Cambodia has become one of the must-visit destinations in Southeast Asia. Pristine beaches, ancient temples and exotic jungle, are just some of the compelling attractions of the country.

As the capitol, Phnom Penh is the political and commercial center of the country, and the city is home to over one million people. Once considered the most beautiful of all cities in French Indo-China, much of the city's colonial charm has survived the violent decades the country and its people have experienced since independence. Beautiful (if somewhat dilapidated) public buildings and private villas are a lovely part of the legacy left by the country's French rulers. Phnom Penh also offers travelers the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda and the excellent National Museum, plus a wide selection of hotels, restaurants, cafes and bars.

While many areas of the city are booming, with a beautiful riverfront and lively nightlife, it is hard to escape the poverty and the fact that many Cambodians are still struggling to survive. However, the economy in Cambodia is beginning to flourish, and its residents have a strong need and desire to learn English.

TEFL Training Center:



The training center in Cambodia is located on the main campus of Pannasastra University in the heart of the nation's bustling capital, Phnom Penh. TEFL trainees will be close to all the excitement of downtown, and a short walk from numerous sights including the beautiful riverfront and the Royal Palace. Internet access is available, transportation is inexpensive and easily accessible, and a number of good local restaurants are located nearby.

A unique feature of this TEFL program is that your teaching practice will typically be conducted in local community orphanages, so your teaching time directly benefits the people of Phnom Penh. The program also includes a tour of the city, and trainees will have the option to participate in an excursion to the Angkor Wat temple in northern Cambodia, one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

Teaching English in Cambodia:



Thanks to pristine beaches, ancient temples, and exotic jungles, Cambodia has earned its place as a prime destination on the global tourism map. And with its history of war now an increasingly distant memory, the country is experiencing a new era of political stability and economic growth. The flourishing tourism industry in particular has created a vital need for English language skills. Many Cambodians recognize the importance of learning English to increase job opportunities, and the demand for EFL teachers is on the rise.

Most English teachers will find work in the booming capital of Phnom Penh. Teaching positions are readily available at the local university as well as at other English language training facilities around town. EFL teachers in Cambodia can usually earn a salary that allows them to live comfortably and even save money, thanks to the country's low cost of living.

The Importance of English in Cambodia:

The demand of English is very high in Cambodia and the knowledge of English is related to obtaining good jobs and in the lack of this language, many Cambodians in the industrial and town areas are left jobless. The poor citizens of Cambodia cannot send their children to expensive boarding schools and thus the children are deprived of learning English and their dream for secured future is shattered.

As an English teacher in Cambodia you will have a lot to offer to these children who go to public/community schools. Teachers can also help the university students by offering leadership qualities and build their confidence with good English pronunciation and conversation skills. You can also assist and aid the other teachers in their teaching methods.

Food & Clothing:

Phnom Penh offers the discerning diner plenty of choice at a range of prices to suit any pocket. We recommend that you acquire a taste for the local cuisine, which is varied and can be very inexpensive. Be prepared for rice and seafood, especially shrimp, crab, and freshwater fish dishes.



Cambodian cuisine is related to both Thai and southern Chinese cuisines. Ubiquitous soups include somlar machou banle (sour fish soup), somlar chapek (pork soup with ginger) and num banh choc (a noodle and fish soup often served for breakfast). Rice is often served with sach mon chha khnhei (stir-fried chicken and ginger), choeng chomni chrouc chean (pork spareribs), or the spicy an sam chruk (pork and soybeans marinated with ginger and chilies).

In Phnom Penh, the large number of Chinese immigrants means that excellent Cantonese, Hokkien, Teochou and Hailam restaurants abound. Thai, Vietnamese, and French outlets are also available.

Fresh vegetables and fruits - especially coconut, durian, mango, pineapple, rambutan, starfruit, and watermelon - are in abundant supply, as are vegetarian restaurants.

It's always best to drink bottled water and juices in Cambodia, while the beverage to indulge in is coffee.

Light, comfortable, easy to launder clothing in natural fabrics such as cotton, suits Cambodia well. Good walking shoes and sandals that can be easily slipped off are recommended, as shoes are removed when entering temples and homes. No need to over pack, as high-quality clothes are strikingly cheap, while inexpensive laundry service is generally available wherever you go.

Teachers should adhere to the local culture and ideas of professionalism. "Casually smart" attire means that women should cover their shoulders (sleeveless shirts are acceptable, but very thin straps or tank tops are not). No low-cut necklines or very short skirts. Bare midriffs must not be visible, even when lifting arms up. Open-toed shoes are acceptable. Men should wear long pants (not jeans), short- or long-sleeved shirt with a collar (possibly with a tie), and loafers or dress shoes. Sandals and tennis shoes are not acceptable when teaching. Long hair should be neatly tied into a ponytail.

Climate:

Cambodia has a tropical monsoon climate. The monsoon season runs from May to November. The most pleasant season is the dry season, from November/December to April. In the north, winters can be colder, while throughout most of the country temperatures remain fairly constant. There is often seasonal flooding in Phnom Penh and the rest of Cambodia in late July and early August, and travel may be disrupted at these times. Lightweight clothing is worn all year. Rainwear is essential during the monsoon season.

Accommodation:

During the four-week training program, housing will be provided to participants at the school villa (a six bedroom, six bath home about ten minutes from the training center), or a local hotel. All accommodations have air-conditioning and western style bathrooms.

If necessary, housing will be provided for an additional week following training, after which time you should have secured a job, and you will be responsible for paying for your housing. If you have not secured a job in the primary focus area by this time, and are seriously pursuing all job leads, housing may be continued at the school's discretion.

Once your job assignment is secured, the hiring school will assist you in locating an apartment nearby the hiring school. Typically, apartments are small, but most are comfortable, stylish, and have air conditioning and Western appliances. Often, a one month security deposit and the first month's rent are required at the time of rental.

Housing is sometimes provided by the hiring school, though generally Teachers prefer to find their own housing. School accommodations are typically Cambodian, and rarely meet the standard Westerners are used to.

Communication, Telephone and Internet:

An international cell phone will be available to all program participants (a \$75 fee for lost phones). Participants are provided with a cell phone for the duration of their time in Cambodia, including a SIM chip for local and international calling, and initial pre-paid phone minutes.

You will be given access to the Internet during training at the training center. Most of our hiring Schools have internet access available to teachers during school hours. Public internet cafes are also available at a very reasonable rate.

Excursions and Cultural Highlights:

For Via Lingua, excursions are not just a leisure activity - they are an integral part of developing a true understanding of the character and beauty of your host country and its surrounding area. We balance the intensive classroom work and practice teaching with a series of excursions that occur throughout your training and time in Cambodia.

Most Via Lingua programs offered in Cambodia include an initial welcome tour of Phnom Penh during your arrival weekend. All programs include a 3-day excursion to Angkor Wat following the first week of the program. This has been our most popular excursion by far and includes three glorious days wandering through ruins of the largest religious building area in the world, and one of the seven wonders of the Ancient World. Temples range in condition from moderately restored to jungle encrusted. The excursion includes time for a visit to a near-by waterfall to cool off, relax and enjoy. This trip creates memories that will be treasured forever!

In addition, approximately once a month, excursions in Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia are arranged for Via Linguateachers who wish to participate. Some of the trips currently offered include:

- Scuba diving in Ranong, Thailand
- Rocket festival and kayak trip in Laos
- Hanoi, Hai Long Bay, and the mountain village of Sapa, in Vietnam
- Sihanoukville Beach in Cambodia
- Flower festival in Chiang Mai, Thailand
- Nha Trang beach and boat trip in Vietnam

Costs vary by excursion. This is a great way to travel and spend time with people you either met during the training, or other Via Lingua participants working in different Asian countries. 2-3 excursions (depending upon the trips chosen) are included for Flagship Program participants.



Special Offers:

Via Lingua has announced the first annual "**Ernestine Moore**" **Scholarship Award** to be offered to a deserving candidate in 2009 to any of the Via Lingua locations for a one-month intensive TEFL Course, including Free Job Placement! Ernestine Moore was a lifelong advocate of education and worked tirelessly to promote educational opportunities for children and young adults. Through her personal and professional advocacy in the field of Social Work and Children's Rights she had a lasting contribution to her field and all those around her. She lived and practiced Service Learning. The author of the widely adopted college textbook "Child Welfare and Family Services: Policies and Practice", Ernestine was a staunch supporter of Via Lingua and its dedication to global learning and multicultural understanding for all ages.

Double-up discount

Book together with a friend for the same course and you can both claim a 100 EUR discount on the advertised price. Offer applies to all course dates and locations. We can also arrange for you to share the same accommodation if required.