

# local knowledge news from siem reap airways' destinations



Siem Reap Airways International

Wings of Cambodia



## BEST WISHES FOR 2008

Siem Reap Airways International would like to wish all our passengers a Happy New Year. 2007 was a year of growth with ever-increasing visitor numbers to the ancient temples of Angkor Wat. It was also marked by the addition of flights to Pakse, the gateway to southern Laos and home to the stunning Wat Phu ruins, another of Asia's World Heritage sites. Arrivals at our other destinations of Phnom Penh, Bangkok and Hong Kong continue to flourish. We thank you for your ongoing support and hope that 2008 is filled with interesting journeys and fascinating travels.

## សូមប្រសិទ្ធពរឆ្នាំថ្មីរបស់យើងស្រឡាញ់ក្នុងឱកាសបុណ្យចូលឆ្នាំថ្មី ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ !

ក្រុមហ៊ុនអាកាសចរណ៍ស្រឡាញ់របស់យើង សូមប្រសិទ្ធពរឆ្នាំថ្មីរបស់យើង កើតមានដល់អ្នកធ្វើដំណើរទាំងអស់ ! ឆ្នាំ២០០៧ គឺជាឆ្នាំនៃការរីកចម្រើនជាមួយនឹងការកើនឡើងនូវចំនួនភ្ញៀវទេសចរមកទស្សនាប្រាសាទបុរាណអង្គរវត្ត ព្រមទាំងជាឆ្នាំនៃការបន្ថែមជើងហោះហើរទៅកាន់ប៉ាកសេ ដែលជាប្រទេសដ៏សំខាន់មួយទៅកាន់ប្រទេសឡាវភាគខាងត្បូង និងជាទីកន្លែងឆ្ពោះទៅកាន់វត្តភូ ដែលមានលក្ខណៈទ្រុឌទ្រោមយ៉ាងខ្លាំងគួរអោយទាក់ទាញ ដែលជាមណីយដ្ឋានបេតិកភណ្ឌពិភពលោកមួយទៀត ។ អ្នកធ្វើដំណើររវាងគោលដៅផ្សេងទៀតនៃទីក្រុងភ្នំពេញ បាងកក និងហុងកុង បន្តកើនឡើងឥតឈប់ឈរ ។ យើងខ្ញុំសូមថ្លែងអំណរគុណចំពោះការគាំទ្រជាបន្តបន្ទាប់លោកអ្នក ហើយសង្ឃឹមយ៉ាងមុតមាំថា ឆ្នាំ២០០៨ គឺជាឆ្នាំដែលពោរពេញទៅដោយការធ្វើដំណើរដ៏គួរអោយចាប់អារម្មណ៍ និងដំណើរកំសាន្តដ៏ទាក់ទាញ ។

## LEBANESE FEAST

One of Cambodia's first Lebanese restaurants, the recently opened **Le Cedre** (1 Street 360, tel +855 (0)23 997965, [www.lecedrerestaurant.com](http://www.lecedrerestaurant.com)) in Phnom Penh, serves up grilled meats, flat breads and perfect-for-sharing *mezze* dishes.

Try the chicken wings in gravy, the spring roll-like cheese *rakkakat* (fetta in baked pastry) and *felafel* (below). Enjoy the restaurant's shady courtyard and warm, friendly service.

PICTURE: ANDREW BURKE (TOP LEFT); LESTER LEDESMA (BOTTOM LEFT)



## NOW OPEN

See Siem Reap's much anticipated world-class showcase of Khmer history at the **Angkor National Museum** (Charles de Gaulle Boulevard, [www.angkornationalmuseum.com](http://www.angkornationalmuseum.com)), which finally opened to the public in November. The building houses eight galleries of painstakingly restored Cambodian artefacts.

Highlights include 1,000 Buddhas in various incarnations – everything from a life-size wooden statue to fist-sized stone versions. Tour guides and audio tours are available in several languages. Entry is US\$12, US\$6 for children under 1.2m tall.

## SUPER FOODS

Yes, you can eat healthily on holiday – especially if you stay at the **Westin Hotels and Resorts**. All of the properties under the group's umbrella are adding 14 Superfoods – power ingredients such as blueberries and salmon known to be rich in antioxidants and phytonutrients – to their menu.

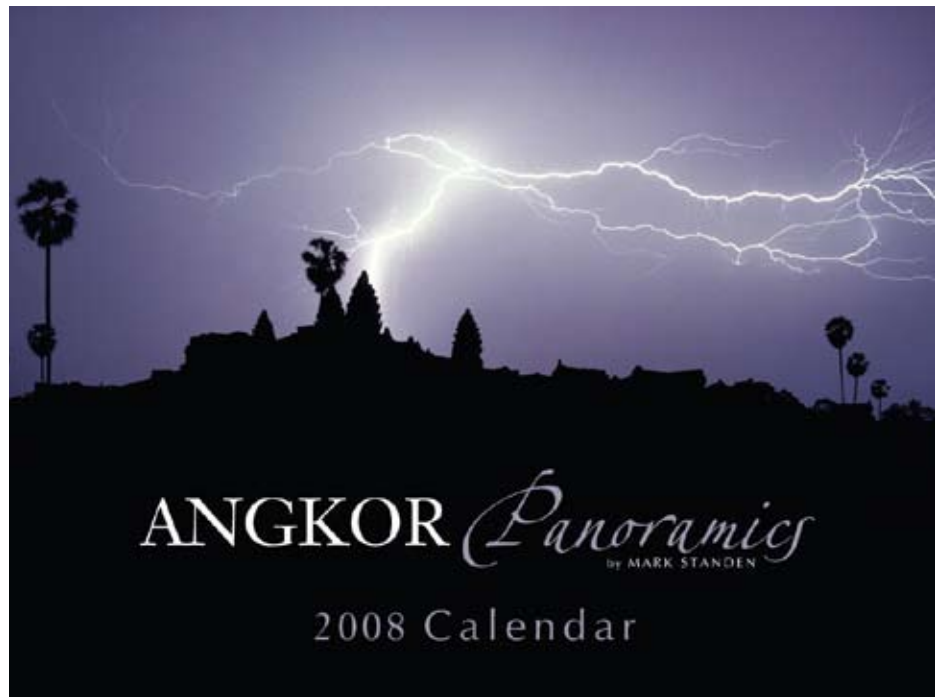
Dishes include Banana Oatmeal Brulé and Toasted Pine Nut Granola, Berries and Yoghurt (right). Who says food can't be tasty and good for you? Try it at The Westin Grande Sukhumvit Hotel, Bangkok (tel +66 (0)2 207-8000, [www.starwoodhotels.com](http://www.starwoodhotels.com)).



## local knowledge

### ANGKOR DAZE

“It was pouring with rain and myself and my assistant stood in the rain and pitch-darkness for two hours taking turns to hold an umbrella over the camera,” says photographer **Mark Standen**, describing how he captured this shot of lightning over Angkor (*right*). This image and others by Standen have been turned into calendars, postcards and frameable prints, offering a daily dose of the mystical temples. Standen’s dramatic image of lightning graces the cover of the **Angkor Panoramics 2008 calendar**, available at Monument Books in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap Airports for US\$12, in leading bookstores in Thailand for THB495 and online at [www.markstandenpublishing.com](http://www.markstandenpublishing.com)

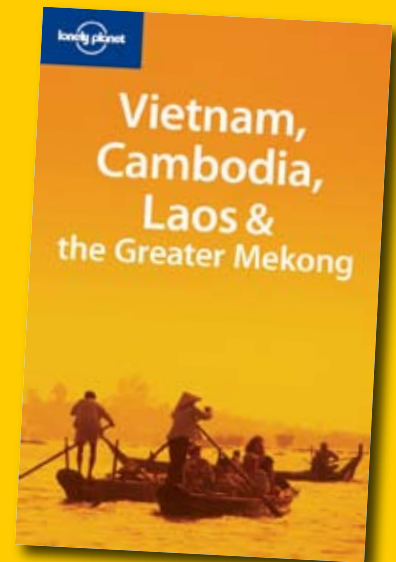


### MAKE IT MEGU

Classical Japanese dishes with a modern twist – that’s what you’ll find at **MEGU** (tel +852 3743-1421, Kowloon Station, 1 Austin Road West), the latest restaurant to open in Hong Kong’s Tsim Sha Tsui area. The restaurant chain (the other two sites are in New York) takes traditional Japanese fine-dining to ultra-chic levels, serving signature dishes like Premium Wagyu Steak “Kagerou Yaki” and boasting a premium list of wine and sake in its split-level 6,200-square-foot premises. The circular sushi bar and stunning walkup alone are worth the visit.

### GOOD NIGHT’S SLEEP

The newest boutique hotel to open in Siem Reap is just as concerned with good service and beautiful decor as it is with helping the local community. **The Soria Moria** (tel +855 (0)63 964768, [www.thesoriamoria.com](http://www.thesoriamoria.com)) commits itself to employing and empowering Cambodians by always buying locally made products – everything from the furniture to the staff uniforms – to provide income and education to at-risk Khmer people. Stay here for a good night’s sleep, knowing your room rate also goes to a good cause.



### A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

Ever dream of taking a slow boat through Indochina? Lonely Planet’s latest guidebook, **Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos & the Greater Mekong**, follows the path of the Mekong River from its source in Yunnan (southern China) to the delta where it meets the sea in Vietnam. Local tidbits include this Cambodian creation myth: Indian Prince Kaundinya married the daughter of a dragon king and received Cambodia as a dowry. The land, which was underwater until the dragon king swallowed the sea, was then named Kambuja. US\$24.99 [www.lonelyplanet.com](http://www.lonelyplanet.com)