

DESTINATION INFORMATION CAMBODIA, THAILAND AND VIETNAM

What You Need to Know Before You Go

PASSPORT AND VISAS INFORMATION

In order to enter Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam as a citizen of the United States, you will need:

A signed, valid passport. Your passport must remain valid for at least 6 months beyond the completion of your trip. It is also imperative that your passport has at least 1 blank visa page available for entry and exit stamps for each country visited on your specific tour. Additional blank pages are always a prudent precaution.

Please contact our partner, VisaCentral for easy, efficient passport and visa processing. Call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001 or visit our Travel Store at www.abercrombiekent.com/travel_store.

If you are not a citizen of the United States, your entry requirements may vary. Please consult your nearest diplomatic or consular office of the country or countries you will be visiting.

You will also need a tourist visa to enter **Cambodia** and **Vietnam**. (Holders of US passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into **Thailand** for stays of up to 30 days.)

Tourist visas for **Cambodia** are available in advance or on arrival. We request that all guests obtain their Cambodian visa on arrival. The current cost for obtaining a single-entry Cambodian visa on arrival is USD \$30 (subject to change without notice) and 1 passport sized photo is required.

Tourist visas for **Vietnam** must be obtained prior to arrival in country. When filling out your visa application form, please refer to the personalized, dated itinerary provided to you by A&K to make certain that the dates you list on your visa application match your entry/exit dates for Vietnam.

Please be aware that Cambodia and Vietnam both require a valid visa for each entry into the country. Therefore, if your itinerary has you entering/leaving/re-entering either country, you will need to obtain multiple entry visas.

CONSULAR INFORMATION

The U.S. State Department provides Country Specific Information sheets for every country in the world, as well as Travel Alerts and Warnings. Find this information by calling 888 407 4747 or 202 501 4444 or online at travel.state.gov.

CURRENCY

Cambodia's unit of currency is the Riel. U.S. dollars are widely accepted. Major credit cards can be used at some hotels and shops and service fee of about 3.5% may be charged.

Thailand's unit of currency is the Baht. U.S. dollars are a widely accepted payment option throughout the country. Major credit cards are generally accepted in urban areas, though a surcharge of about 3.5% is usually added.

Vietnam's unit of currency is the New Dong. U.S. dollars are widely accepted for payment. Major credit cards can be used for most transactions in hotels with an international affiliation, though a

service charge of up to 3% may be imposed. There are ATMs in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, but international access is limited and undependable.

In all of these countries exchange money only at authorized outlets such as currency exchange kiosks, banks and hotels. Only exchange what you feel you will need while visiting. Save all receipts from any currency transaction. You may be asked to produce them when you exit the country, and they are required if you intend to reconvert local currency.

We suggest travelling with some U.S. dollars to be exchanged for local currency and at least two major credit cards. Notify your credit card company of your travel plans prior to your departure to avoid any fraud concerns.

We do not recommend traveller's checks as they are not as widely accepted as in previous years.

HEALTH

It is important to familiarize yourself with any potential health issues or concerns related to your destination, and so we strongly recommend consulting the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for up-to-date information on required and recommended vaccines and medications. Visit them online at wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel or call 800 232 4636. Plan to visit your doctor or local travel clinic at least 4-6 weeks before departure to allow time for any vaccinations to take effect or to fill any prescriptions.

Required Vaccination

A yellow fever vaccination is required to enter Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam only if you are arriving from or have transited through a yellow fever endemic area in South America or Africa. The CDC provides a current list of all affected countries. If vaccination for yellow fever is necessary, you must carry an International Certificate of Vaccination provided by your physician; without it, you may be denied entry. If your physician advises against receiving the vaccination because of your personal medical history, he or she can provide you with the necessary documentation for the country(ies) that you are visiting.

WEATHER

Southeast Asia is tropical: the weather is generally very warm throughout the year, humidity is high and it rains often. The seasons can be broken down into hot, wet and dry, with the relatively cool dry season from November to February. Southeast Asia is also home to many mountains, and conditions are generally cooler in the highlands.

Use a website such as weather.com to find average temperatures and rainfall during your travel times.

ELECTRICITY

The Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam supply electricity at 220 volts / 50 hertz. To protect your electronic devices, we recommend that you carry an electrical adapter set.

Please refer to the "Electrical Adapter Guide For Global Travel" included in your pre-tour materials.

WHAT TO PACK

Comfortable, casual clothing in natural, "breathable" fabrics. Choose versatile styles that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. In most areas, long, loose Bermuda-style shorts are becoming increasingly acceptable for both sexes, but women may feel more comfortable in a skirt or long trousers.

Conservative dress is suggested when visiting temples and other religious sites. We suggest that you pack clothing that covers knees, shoulders and upper arms. You may also be asked to remove your shoes and/or socks when entering certain religious buildings.

Somewhat smarter, but still casual, clothing is appropriate for evening dining in big-city or resort restaurants. Formal clothing is not necessary.

A lightweight (preferably non-plastic) raincoat or poncho. A sweater or lightweight jacket for evenings and fiercely air-conditioned interiors.

Comfortable, soft-soled walking shoes with low or no heels. Sandals may not be comfortable for some sightseeing activities.

Sunglasses, sun block and a sunhat. Some hotels have pools, so you may wish to pack your swimming suit.

A small, powerful flashlight in case of a local power failure.

Lightweight binoculars, useful for sightseeing.

If you wear eyeglasses or contact lenses, be sure to pack an extra pair(s).

Simple first-aid kit. Prescriptions and medications (We recommend you carry these in their original bottles and/or packaging.)

Charging cables for electronics.

Note: Laundry service is available at most hotels; dry cleaning is available in larger cities.

Baggage Restrictions

Domestic flights within Southeast Asia limit Economy Class luggage to approximately 44 pounds of checked baggage per passenger, and Business Class luggage to approximately 66 pounds per passenger.

Domestic flights within Cambodia and international flights on Bangkok Airways allow approximately 11 pounds for carry-on bags. All other flights allow approximately 15 pounds for carry-on bags.

As a preventative measure, it is recommended that all luggage be secured with a TSA approved lock.

What You Need to Know When You Arrive

TIME ZONES

Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam operate on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) + 7 hours.

At 9:00 a.m. in these countries, it is:

EST	9:00 p.m. the previous day
CST	8:00 p.m. the previous day
MST	7:00 p.m. the previous day
PST	6:00 p.m. the previous day

Note that these countries do not observe daylight savings time, so adjust the above times accordingly.

LANGUAGE

The national language of **Cambodia** is Khmer. Though simple in construction, Khmer sentences achieve high levels of specificity through an extensive and very precise vocabulary. Among educated citizens of more than 40 years of age, French is often a second language, while younger people in urban areas tend to learn English. In rural areas, foreign language speakers are rare.

Thailand's official language is Thai (also known as Siamese). Standard Thai is based on the dialect of the educated elite of Bangkok and the Central Plain. About half of the population of the country speaks Standard Thai, with the remaining half speaking a regional Thai dialect or a non-Thai language such as Hmong or Khmer. Some English is spoken, especially in larger cities and resort areas popular with overseas visitors. You may also recognize English words in everyday Thai conversation—imports from many foreign languages enliven Thai speech.

In **Vietnam**, the national language is Vietnamese, with northern (Hanoi), southern (Ho Chi Minh City) and central (Hue) dialects. Vietnamese is a tonal language, in which words derive meaning from one of six tones in which they are spoken. Among educated citizens of more than forty years of age, French is often a second language, while younger people in urban areas tend to learn English. In rural areas, foreign language speakers are rare.

AIRPORT INFORMATION

At international airports in Southeast Asia, passengers cannot be met inside secured areas. This includes Immigration, Customs halls and Baggage Claim. Your A&K representative will greet you as you exit these restricted areas; look for the person holding the distinctive A&K signboard.

Before departing, remember to tag your checked luggage with the A&K luggage tags provided. These brightly colored markers help identify you and your luggage quickly.

PROTECTION AND PRECAUTIONS

Use the safes where available in your accommodations to secure your valuables, especially passports, medications, jewelry, money and electronics. If you must carry valuables, keep them on your person at all times. Be mindful of your surroundings and take extra caution in crowds.

Photocopy the personal information pages of your passport; leave one copy with a family member or friend and pack another separately from the passport itself. You may want to scan and email a

copy to yourself for easy, online access. This will help you to quickly secure a replacement should the need arise.

ETIQUETTE AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Unless you are shooting a crowded public scene, it is considered courteous to ask permission before taking pictures of local people, especially small children. Please be respectful of local people who do not care to be photographed.

Photography is not permitted at some locations, which may include government buildings, museums, art galleries, private houses, etc. These areas are usually clearly marked. If in doubt, please ask; this will avoid having your camera confiscated.

Be sure to pack ample amounts of batteries and memory cards or film for your camera and video equipment, along with the appropriate charging cables. A dustproof case or sealable plastic bags and lens brush are also recommended.

FOOD AND DRINK

Do not use tap water for drinking or brushing your teeth. Even "purified" water in open containers should be avoided. It is always preferable and safer to use only bottled water.

Regardless of precautions, changes in water and diet can result in mild abdominal upsets and nausea. To prevent serious illness, avoid suspect foods such as uncooked vegetables, peeled fruit, unpasteurized milk and milk products. Beware of any food or drink sold by street vendors.

SHOPPING

Many A&K guests enjoy the chance to purchase items that reflect their destination, and so as a courtesy, your guide may recommend a particular shop or arrange a shopping visit. Please note, however, that these recommendations should not be taken as A&K's endorsement of the shop, merchandise and/or pricing. You assume all responsibility for any transactions that take place, including shipping arrangements that are made.

The decision to shop while travelling is a personal choice and shopping is never compulsory. If at any point during your journey you feel pressured to shop or make purchases, please immediately discuss the matter with your Abercrombie & Kent representative.

In Southeast Asia, many stores offer fixed prices; in the free markets, bargaining is accepted and expected.

To avoid disappointment, we suggest the following guidelines:

- Compute the exchange rate and thoroughly review credit card receipts before signing.
- Take your purchases home with you whenever possible. Airfreight can take many months and actual shipping charges can be excessive. Customs delays, fees and regulations can further complicate the issue. If you choose to ship purchases, we suggest taking a picture of the item(s) and/or marking them in some way to ensure you receive what was purchased. For example, you could write your name on the backside of a rug. Determine if your shipment will be delivered door-to-door or to the nearest customs facility, as is often the case. Most goods shipped from other countries to the United States are subject to Customs duty.
- Duty taxes, if applicable, are paid as you re-enter the United States. Regardless of assurances by merchants, these cannot be prepaid on your behalf.

- Currently, each person is entitled to an \$800 duty-free exemption, however, may only bring one liter of alcoholic beverages, 200 cigarettes and 100 cigars.
- Keep all sales receipts for items purchased throughout your trip and try to pack all items that you will need to declare together. This will ease the Customs process upon re-entry into the U.S.

Consult the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website for more details. <http://www.cbp.gov/>

COMMUNICATIONS

Contact your cellular telephone provider to determine if your phone operates on the Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) and what, if any, activation may be required. If your phone is not GSM-enabled, you may find that renting a phone specifically designed for use overseas is the most practical option.

TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey:

	All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions	Tailor Made and Signature Journeys
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$15 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guides	Included	\$20 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$10 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Cruise Vessel or Rail Staff (if applicable)	Included	\$15 per person, per day – Gratuities are accepted on board and shared among the staff.
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	10-15% unless already added
Restaurants or Room Service on own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a small group journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journey guidelines for these days only.