

## The Ancient Capital of Khmer Empire, Nor Kor Kouk Thlork, the new interest of tourists

### Phnom Da Temple of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Century



Port at Takeo Province

Phnom Da is the oldest historical site in Cambodia. It is the former ancient capital of Nor Kor Kouk Thlork located at Kouk Thlork commune, Angkor Borey District, Takeo province in the distance of 102 Kilometers from Phnom Penh via Districts of Sam Rong, Prey Kak Bas and Ang Kor Borey in around three-hour drive from Phnom Penh city. Phnom Da has around 24 km distance from Takeo town; it can be reached

by taking around one-hour boat.

The temple of Phnom Da was built on a small mountain in 6th century by the King named Rut Trak Varman reigned lastly of Nor Kor Phnom time. According to Mr. Mi Bri No, the French historian explained that the temple made of late rite stone. It has no wall surrounded; it faces to the North; most peaks of the temple are damaged; the sculpture of stirring of sea of milk is broken into two parts; a fronton in-scripted with figure of Vishnu sleeping on Treum.



Wat Ankor Borey



Phnom Da

At the mountain's valley, there are five-man-made statues expressing the style of Phnom Da, and five caves which one of them was used as the cremation place during the period 1975-1979.

At 500-Meter distance, Southwest of Phnom Da temple, there is another temple made of sandstone, the temple faces to the North, has one door and five windows, and adapts to the style of India, named “Asrom Moha Ey Sey”.



It is difficult to travel to Phnom Da because the area floods; the road is damaged caused by civil war during the past two decades.

Anyway, Phnom Da has considerable local and international tourists who go there for visiting and researching the famous masterpiece of Cambodian ancestors during the ancient time of Koh Kok Thlork.

After 1979, the provincial authority of Takeo has constructed a canal called “canal No 15” linking from the provincial town of Takeo to Ang Kor Bo Rey District with 19,544 meters long. This making easier to be accessible, but the road segment from Ang Kor Bo Rey to Phnom Da is still difficult for traveling.

