There are over a hundred major temple sites to be visited in and around Siem Reap - the religious remains of a series of cities, built by a succession of kings from around the 7th to the 13th centuries.

All civic and domestic buildings were built in timber and have long since disappeared, so not much is known about the lives of the civilians - although some 1,200 inscriptions found throughout the region and the remains of a vast irrigation system indicate the scale and complexity of the civilisation.

Brick was mainly used for the earlier temples, with increasing use then being made of laterite, a rust coloured mudstone, and finally of sandstone, which was quarried mostly from the Kulen hills, 40 kilometres to the north-east of Siem Reap. Many were built as 'temple mountains' or pyramids, symbolic of the cosmic Mount Meru of Hindu mythology. The five tiered mountain at the centre of the universe (the temple), was said to be encircled by seven chains of mountains (the enclosure walls) which were surrounded in turn by the sea (the moat).

The map indicates the major accessible sites, which are listed in chronological order. Dates given are of the consecration of the principal divinities and an asterisk rates importance.

All information is from research by the École Française d'Extrême-Orient.

Nils Tremmel
1994
8th century

1 Ak Yum  

The first ruined temple and one of the earliest known sites in the area. Located near the south west coast, just east of the ancient capital, Kbal Spean.

2 Prah Ko  

(ROLOUS GROUP) 

897 AD, Indravarman I Hindu (Shiva) 

The funerary temple of Jayavarman II and his predecessors, constructed on an artificial mound, with two superimposed sanctuaries over 500 metres. The funerary temple (a stupa-like structure) was probably completed by 897 AD. The brick towers have finely detailed sandstone elements and some remnants of stucco mouldings. The temple is located in a valley about 1.5 km from the town of Banteay Srei.

3 Bakong  

(ROLOUS GROUP) 

881 AD, Indravarman I Hindu (Shiva) 

A temple complex consisting of a main brick tower, surrounded by four smaller brick towers and a large sandstone enclosure. It was constructed in the late 9th century and was dedicated to the god Indra.

4 Lolei  

(ROLOUS GROUP)  

961 AD, Jayavarman V, Suryavarman I 

An imposing five tier temple mountain built predominantly in sandstone and surrounded by a moat. Probably central to the north capital. It is located in an area of wetlands and contains a large pond. The temple is located near the town of Kampong Thom.

5 Phnom Bakheng  

904 AD, Yasovarman I 

The Royal Palace of Angkor Thom was located at the summit of this temple mountain. It was constructed in the late 9th century and was dedicated to the god Shiva.

6 Phnom Krom  

904 AD, Yasovarman I 

A temple mountain established in the late 9th century and dedicated to the god Vishnu.

7 Prasat Thma Bay Kaek  

914 AD, Jayavarman II, Udayadityavarman II 

A temple complex consisting of a main brick tower, surrounded by four smaller brick towers and a large sandstone enclosure. It was constructed in the late 9th century and was dedicated to the god Indra.

8 Baphuon  

1020 AD, Jayavarman V 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Shiva.

9 Ta Keo  

921 AD, Rajendravarman II 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

11th century

10 Ta Som  

961 AD, Rajendravarman II Buddhist  

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

11 Prasat Kravan  

982 AD, Jayavarman V  

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

12 Banteay Kdei  

1006 AD, Jayavarman VII  

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

13 Ta Prohm  

16th century

14 Angkor Wat  

14 AD, Jayavarman VII 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

15 Ta Keo  

961 AD, Rajendravarman II 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

16 Chau Say Tevoda  

929 AD, Indravarman I 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 9th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

17 Phimeanakas  

975 AD, Jayavarman V 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

18 Thommanon  

982 AD, Jayavarman V, Suryavarman I 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

19 Prah Pithu  

1050 AD, Jayavarman VII  

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

20 Angkor Wat  

1060 AD, Jayavarman VII 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

21 Baksei Chamkrong  

11th century

22 Chau Say Tevoda  

929 AD, Indravarman I 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 9th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

23 Ta Prohm  

16th century

24 Ta Prohm  

1186 AD, Jayavarman VII 

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

25 Banteay Kdei  

12th century

26 Ta Nei  

1050 AD, Jayavarman VII Buddhist  

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

27 Prasat Bakong  

11th century

28 Ta Prom  

12th century

29 Ta Prom  

12th century

30 Ta Som  

12th century

31 Bayon  

12th century

32 Ta Prohm  

16th century

33 Preah Khan  

12th century

34 Ta Nei  

1050 AD, Jayavarman VII Buddhist  

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

35 Banteay Kdei  

12th century

36 Preah Khan  

12th century

37 Ta Prohm  

16th century

38 Preah Khan  

12th century

39 Ta Nei  

1050 AD, Jayavarman VII Buddhist  

A temple with a pyramid-shaped plan and a central tower, surrounded by a moat. It was constructed in the late 10th century and was dedicated to the god Vishnu.

40 Ta Prohm  

16th century

41 Preah Khan  

12th century

42 Ta Prohm  

16th century

43 Preah Khan  

12th century

44 Ta Prohm  

16th century

45 Preah Khan  

12th century

46 Ta Prohm  

16th century

47 Preah Khan  

12th century

48 Ta Prohm  

16th century