



Care for Creation Advocacy Desk
Apostolic Prefecture of Battambang

PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

Joom-riep-suah and welcome to St. John's Parish in Siem Reap!

Please take a moment to consider the carbon footprint of your trip to Cambodia, and more importantly, what you can do to be a more environmentally-responsible tourist.

PARTS OF A VERY BIG PROBLEM

The average tourist uses 2-3 **mineral water bottles** a day. With 4.5M tourists visiting Cambodia every year, that's a lot of plastic bottles to recycle! (and a lot of energy spent in the process.)

Our **flights** to and from Siem Reap contribute to **greenhouse gas emissions** and the problem of climate change. Don't get us wrong - we're very happy you came to Cambodia! But we'll also be happy to help you off-set this carbon footprint by regenerating and protecting our forests here.

And then, there's the **trash**. Surely, you've seen (or will see) parts of the country where the volume of garbage has simply become unmanageable.

In these cases, as in most, when we are not part of the solution, we are a big part of the problem.



3 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP

1. BUY a REUSABLE water BOTTLE

Instead of buying mineral water in those disposable bottles, go for a REUSABLE BOTTLE instead. You can buy one at the Church's gift shop. Feel free to fill it up (for free!) at the Church's water stations.

2. ADOPT a TREE

Help us regenerate Cambodian hardwood forests. Donate to our tree-planting fund. Every US dollar that you give will support the purchase and planting of 1 Cambodian hardwood tree seedling. We promise to plant this for you in the Preah Vihear Province where the Church is establishing an ecology center, with our own plot of protected forest. (For every flight we take, Jesuits in Cambodia donate 5\$ to this carbon-offset fund. You may want to do the same.)

3. PRAY in the GARDEN OF LAUDATO SI

Spend some time around our gardens and marvel at the beauty of nature. Visit the statue of St. Francis of Assisi meditating Cambodian style in the area we've called the Garden of *Laudato Si*. Ask St. Francis to bless and teach us to care more for all of God's creation.

God bless you and your stay in Cambodia!