



សំ វ៉ាសនា ខនស៊ីវលីស តួរ
SAM VEASNA CONSERVATION
TOURS

KOH KER, BENG MEALEA FOREST TEMPLES



An incredibly special day of viewing the remote and less-visited temples in the countryside around Siem Reap

Spend one day birding amongst the spectacular sites of ancient Khmer empire- Koh Ker and Beng Mealea. This trip offers a rich and diverse range of bird species including: Black-headed and White-bellied Woodpecker, Velvet-fronted and Neglected Nuthatch, Rufous-winged Buzzard, Indochinese Bushlark, the beautiful White-Rumped Pygmy Falcon and the Collared Falconet.

Koh Ker gives you the opportunity to explore ancient Khmer history without the abundance of tourists. Koh Ker is a unique pyramidal temple built in 931AD, strikingly reminiscent of the structures built by the Central American Maya. Not only is the appearance unique but also the history, as this was the location that became the capital of the Khmer Empire. This site also allows explorations in the dry and semi-evergreen forest among seldom-visited outlying temples to discover the birds and incredible butterflies.

Beng Mealea temple, thought to be the blueprint for Angkor Wat, gives the birder a chance to pick up some migrants from the north during December – March, often including the difficult to find White-throated Rock-thrush.

Day 1: Koh Ker and Beng Mealea

DAY 1: KOH KER AND BENG MEALEA TEMPLES

ITINERARY

For full Koh Ker and Beng Mealea bird list: [CLICK HERE](#)

05:30 - Pick Up

Pick up from your Siem Reap hotel in our aircon 4x4 by our English speaking bird guide we head off on the drive to Koh Ker, through fields and villages. We stop for a packed breakfast en route at some excellent birding spots

07:30 – Arrival

Arriving at the Koh Ker temple complex we head out into the outlying temples after dry forest and semi-evergreen forest birds

11:00 – Koh Ker Temple

We head to the main Koh Ker Temple for the opportunity to explore this stunning complex and the birds, butterflies and dragonflies that inhabit the site.

12:30 – Lunch

Lunch will be at a local restaurant outside the temple

13:30 - Beng Mealea Temple

We start the drive to beautiful Beng Mealea temple complex for a couple of hours' exploration around the temple and surrounding forest, before driving back to Siem Reap

14:30 - Visit Beng Mealea

17:00 - Drop Off

Drop off back at your Siem Reap hotel



Drive Time:

4 hours

Walking Distance:

3-5km

Key Species:

Birds: White-bellied Woodpecker, Black-headed Woodpecker, White-throated Rock Thrush, Rufous-winged Buzzard, White-rumped Pygmy Falcon, Brown Prinia, Blossom-headed Parakeet, Burmese Shrike, Collared Falconet, Indochinese Bushlark, Grey-slaty Woodpecker

Habitat:

Deciduous dipterocarp forest with semi-evergreen forest patches.

