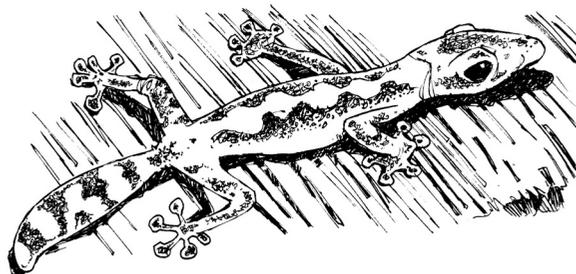


Come with us to Cambodia



It is the end of Christmas day. I curl up in bed under a mosquito net, making sure the white netting is securely tucked under the mattress on all sides. This is our first day of a two-week visit to Cambodia, and I want to record it in my journal before drifting off to a well-earned sleep.

All is quiet except for the gentle thrum of the ceiling fan and the chuck-chuck of geckoes which live in the thatched roof of our beach cottage. Suddenly the air throbs with amplified sound. What on earth can it be? We hear music and loud wailing noises which might be singing. Eventually we figure out that a mammoth karaoke has been set up on the beach just outside our guest house. I'd hoped for a peaceful night, but no chance! Karaoke is popular in Cambodia and this is obviously going to be the biggest event of the season in the local village. Oh well, at least I'll be able to stay awake to write in my journal.

Cambodia, tucked between Thailand and Vietnam, is slightly smaller than the UK in area but with only about 14 million people. Along with Laos and Myanmar, these five countries southeast of China are known as Southeast Asia.

Come with us to Cambodia

We have come to visit Dave and Laura, our son and his wife, who are Christian workers in Cambodia. Many of the stories and facts in this book are taken from their Cambodian letters and blog. As you read, you will travel to real places in this fascinating country. You will meet a few wild creatures, some which they saw and others which they were glad not to encounter! You will be introduced to unique Cambodian people and learn about the challenge of being a Christian in this mostly Buddhist country.

You'll find out what fried spiders taste like, and why many Cambodians look so young. Your tour will include one of the largest inland lakes in the world and the remains of an ancient civilisation. You'll learn why it's dangerous to step off the beaten path in some parts of the country, and why some children don't know when their birthdays are. You may even get to see some dolphins!

Even though many people in Cambodia know very little about the one true God, you will discover that God has not forgotten Cambodia. He is at work here in surprising ways. So come along, and don't forget your insect repellent!

