

Dolphin Discovery Trail



The Trail

One of the highlights of the Mekong Discovery Trail is the chance to view the endangered Irrawaddy dolphin. These freshwater dolphins are one of the most threatened in the world. The dolphins can live for up to 30 years, grow up to 2.75m in length, and can weigh 150kg.

Distance: 16km one way

Transport Options:



Local bike Motorbike Horse cart Car

Tour Brief:

A half day tour from Kratie town to Kampi Dolphin Pool. Start early morning, whether by car, bicycle, motorbike or horse cart, and head north towards Kampi.

Highlights

- Spectacular river scenery
- Buy sticky rice at Thmor Kreae Village
- Panoramic views atop Sambok Mountain
- Boat tours to the dolphins at Kampi





DO NOT DISTURB. Make sure your river guide turns off the motor when you get within 100m of the dolphins.

Itinerary

Heading north to Kampi Dolphin Pool from Kratie at about half way you will pass the famous sticky rice (*Krolan*) and pickled raw fish (*Nhem*) producing villages. Thma Kreae village is particularly famous for *Krolan*. This tasty snack is famous all over Cambodia and locals would never leave Kratie Province without buying a stock for relatives and friends back home. A must to try - at least once.

About 1km from Thma Kreae Village is Phnom Sambok. Look for the sign on the main road leading inland (on the right) to the base of the mountain. It is a great place to enjoy the views of the Mekong River running off into the distance. The pagoda itself has many interesting paintings.

Continuing 5.5km further north from Phnom Sambok is Kampi Dolphin Pool. This is the largest dolphin pool on the Mekong River. Late afternoon or early morning are the most comfortable times to view the rare Irrawaddy dolphins in their natural habitat. There are handicraft sellers at the site who produce wooden carvings for sale. Stop to watch a local artisan carving his next masterpiece!

A further 1km north is Kampi Rapids where you can relax, swim and enjoy the rapids.

Return to Kratie at your leisure, taking in the rural scenery.

Contacts

Hire local bicycle/motorbike

Ke Sokheang Bike Shop
Tel: 011 326 381 (*Khmer speaking*)

Horse Cart services (2 hour trip around Kratie Town)

Horse Cart Operators Association
Tel: 017 371 844 (*Khmer Speaking*)

Car from Kratie Town to Kampi Dolphin Pool

Contact your local hotels or guesthouses.

Tours and bicycle rent

Xplore-Asia
Tel: 023 218 810 (Phnom Penh)
074 973 991 (Stung Treng)
017 982 644 (Kratie)
(*English speaking*)