

# Settlement in Cambodia

The opportunity to settle in Cambodia is now available to you. The first flight from Nauru to Cambodia for refugees will be as soon as 20 April 2015. Moving to Cambodia provides an opportunity for you and your family to start a new life in a safe country, free from persecution and violence, and build your future.

Once you arrive in Cambodia, you will receive a range of services that will help you to build a life for yourself and your family. If you settle in Cambodia, your family will be able to join you.

## Life in Cambodia

### What is Cambodia like as a country? What about the region?

Cambodia is a medium-sized country in Southeast Asia. It is bordered by Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and the sea. It has a population of 15 million people. The capital city, Phnom Penh, has a population of 1.5 million. The official language is Khmer. Cambodia has a King and a parliament with a Prime Minister and Ministers.

Cambodia is a diverse country with multiple nationalities, cultures and religions. They enjoy all the freedoms of a democratic society including freedom of religion and freedom of speech. There are many mosques, churches and temples for people to worship and religious festivals to participate in. There is a significant Muslim population in Cambodia and more than six mosques in Phnom Penh.

### Is it safe?

Cambodia is a safe country, where police maintain law and order. It does not have problems with violent crime or stray dogs.

When you live in Cambodia you will enjoy the freedoms and benefits of a resident of Cambodia – you will be able to work, study, and build a family. You will also receive training and support that is suited to your needs. You will be provided financial and other support to start a business in Cambodia if you wish, or you will be provided with equipment or training to find a job.

### Is the economy strong? Are there jobs?

Cambodia is rapidly developing and has a growing economy based on tourism, manufacturing, and agriculture. In Cambodia, there are jobs for migrants, and strong support networks for newly settled refugees, including opportunities to buy businesses. In the last ten years, there has been significant foreign interest in Cambodia in terms of foreign assistance and business. It is also a very popular tourist destination, particularly for Australians – in 2014, 4.5 million people visited it.

### What can I do to relax there?

Football and martial arts are very popular in Cambodia and there are regular football matches at the Phnom Penh National Olympic Stadium and several local football teams.

## Cost of living

### Is it expensive to live in Cambodia?

The cost of living in Cambodia is much less than in Nauru. Below is a table with the cost of some common items in Phnom Penh. In addition to supermarkets, Phnom Penh has local markets where good quality, local, fresh food is sold at low prices. The average income in Phnom Penh is \$130 AUD a month and residents have a good quality of living. As part of your establishment package, accommodation, utilities, education, health, phone and internet costs will all be free for you for at least 12 months, longer for some specific items.

Milk (1L)	\$2.65 AUD
Loaf of bread	\$2.27 AUD

Rice (1kg)	
Eggs (12)	\$1.43 AUD
Basket of fresh fruit and vegetables	\$2.08 AUD
Cigarettes (1 packet)	\$20.00 AUD
Domestic Beer	\$1.59 AUD
Meal at inexpensive restaurant	\$1.51 AUD
One way ticket on local transport	\$4.53 AUD
Petrol (1L)	\$2.59 AUD
	\$1.65 AUD

## Settling and support

### What help will I receive to settle and live?

Support packages will be designed to meet your needs, and will include financial and other assistance to establish yourself and your family in Cambodia.

You will not have to pay for any essential services when you arrive in Cambodia. This includes education for children and adults, healthcare, accommodation, and employment assistance. Each of these services will initially be provided for up to four years.

If you are in the first group of refugees to settle in Cambodia, when you arrive in Cambodia, your settlement case manager will meet you and help you settle in. You will be provided with support including:

- cash in hand and in a bank account to start your life
- somewhere to live
- help finding work
- access to education
- income support
- language training
- comprehensive health insurance
- an orientation to life in Cambodia
- help to bring your family to Cambodia
- help finding permanent accommodation

*If you are not in the first group of refugees to settle in Cambodia, your assistance package will be different.*

### Will I pay to move to Cambodia?

No. If you settle in Cambodia, your relocation costs will be paid for you. You will also receive a package of support on arrival including establishment assistance and cash. You will also receive financial assistance for living costs, education, health, and rent for a period of time.

### How will I get to Cambodia?

You will travel from Nauru by plane at no cost to you.

### Where will I live in Cambodia?

When you arrive in Cambodia, you will be provided initial accommodation in Phnom Penh – the capital city of Cambodia. You will live in villa style accommodation for up to 3 months. Your case manager will then help you to find affordable long-term accommodation.

Your long-term accommodation will be suitable for you and your family, for example near shops, schools, and religious institutions. You will be supported to pay for your accommodation for up to 12 months, and longer if you need it.

## Accommodation

Accommodation in Cambodia is of a good standard and is a reasonable price. You will not initially pay for your accommodation. The main focus for living in Cambodia is for you to be self-sufficient – your case manager will work with you to create a plan for you to find employment so that you can pay for your accommodation in the long-term.

### Where will I live when I first arrive?

When you first arrive in Cambodia, you will move into temporary accommodation in Phnom Penh. This temporary accommodation is in the style of a serviced apartment, guest house or villa. This accommodation and all utilities will be paid for.

### Where will I live long-term?

After 6-8 weeks, your settlement case manager will work with you to find appropriate long-term accommodation for you and your family. The case manager will ensure that the accommodation is close to facilities such as a mosque/church/temple, shops, transport, employment, and health services.

### Can I move if I want to?

Yes, as stated above you will have freedom of movement in Cambodia.

## Health

Healthcare in Cambodia is of a good quality for the region, with many doctors and hospitals that treat both Cambodians and foreigners.

When you arrive in Cambodia, your healthcare needs will be covered by health insurance for up to four years. This will cover all services that you will need, including a general practitioner, dental, optical, and pharmaceuticals. We will also provide you with mental healthcare.

During your first four years in Cambodia, your settlement case manager will assess whether you need further health support after four years. This will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

### What if I get sick while in Cambodia?

You will be provided with comprehensive health insurance for 4 years, which will cover all your medical costs, including mental health. Cambodia has a high standard of health care, with multiple hospitals and General Practitioners.

## Family

### If I settle in Cambodia will my family be able to join me?

If you settle in Cambodia, your family will be able to join you in Cambodia. Your case worker in Cambodia can discuss the process with you.

### Will I pay to bring my family to Cambodia?

Support will be provided with travel arrangements and costs to help you bring your family to Cambodia. Your Cambodia settlement case manager will assist you in this process.

### I have family in Nauru, can some of us go to Cambodia and some of us stay in Nauru?

Yes. However, if you leave Nauru, it is the Nauru government's decision if you will be able to return. Children cannot travel to Cambodia alone, and they cannot remain in Nauru without a parent.

## Permanent residence, citizenship, travel

### Will I get a visa, permanent residence, travel documents, and citizenship?

On arrival in Cambodia, you will be issued with formal documents given to refugees. This will include a refugee identification card, which will allow you to open a bank account, gain a driver's license and submit a business registration. You will be issued a travel document soon after arrival. You will be able to apply for citizenship after living in Cambodia for seven years. If a baby is born to foreign parents living legally in Cambodia they will obtain Cambodian nationality, as per Cambodian law.

### Can I travel when I settle in Cambodia?

You will be able to travel inside Cambodia and live where you want to. Travel to other countries will depend on those countries' laws – some countries will require you to have a visa.

### Can I return to my home country from Cambodia?

You may travel from Cambodia to any country that you have rights to visit or reside in. If you arrive in Cambodia and you want to leave, you will be able to do so.

### Can I go to Australia?

No. Refugees who have been settled in Nauru or Cambodia will not be settled in Australia.

## Language support

### What language do they speak in Cambodia?

The native language of Cambodia is Khmer, which is widely spoken across the country.

### Can I learn the Khmer language in Nauru?

Before you settle in Cambodia, you should consider taking basic Khmer language classes that will be held in Nauru. The classes will give you an opportunity to prepare yourself for living in Cambodia.

If you are interested in attending the classes please speak to your Nauru settlement case manager.

### Will I receive language classes when I arrive in Cambodia?

Yes, your settlement case manager will arrange Khmer classes for you soon after arrival. This will help you to integrate into the Cambodian community.

### Can I learn English in Cambodia?

Yes, your settlement case manager will arrange English classes for you, if you wish. If you have children, they will also have the option to learn English at school.

## Education

### Can my children go to school?

Cambodia has two types of education for children – public schools and private schools. Public school classes are mostly taught in Khmer, whereas private school classes are mostly taught in English (with some Khmer).

If you have children, they will be able to enrol in school in Cambodia. In Cambodia, your children will have their education paid for up to four years. If, after four years, you cannot afford your child's tuition fees, your case manager will make an assessment of your circumstances.

We will assist you by identifying appropriate schools for your children, and will ensure that the school is ready to take your children. We have identified a number of private schools that will be appropriate for you to send your children to in Cambodia – these are of a good quality and will assist your children to build a new life in their new country.

However, you will ultimately be able to choose which school your children attend. If you identify other schools that you prefer, we will support your children to move. Over time, you may prefer to enrol your children in a public school, and you will be able to do that too.

If your children are older, for example 16 years old, we will assist you with enrolling in private or public secondary education, we will also assist you with planning for their possible tertiary education (see below).

### **Can I go to university or college as an adult?**

Cambodia has a number of tertiary education institutions that span universities, vocational training centres, and local community education facilities.

If you or a member of your family wants to enrol in adult education, you will be able to do so and will be funded for up to four years. For example, you might choose to enrol in classes at night that help you train to be an accountant, or to learn a trade for you to be a mechanic.

## **Process**

### **How can I apply to settle in Cambodia?**

To apply to settle in Cambodia, you must complete and submit the form *Application for Permanent Settlement in the Kingdom of Cambodia*. Your Nauru settlement case manager will help you complete the form.

One form is required for each family unit. This form asks about you and the members of your family, and asks you and your family to declare that you are applying voluntarily.

### **Who can apply – families, single adults, or unaccompanied minors?**

Families and single adults can apply to settle in Cambodia. If you are under 18 years old, you will need to wait until you turn 18 to apply to settle in Cambodia.

### **Will I need to undergo medical test before I travel?**

Before you get on the plane in Nauru you will undergo a simple medical examination to determine you are fit to fly.

## **Settlement planning**

### **How many refugees will settle in Cambodia in total? How many initially?**

No limit has been set, and the number is expected to grow over time.

### **Can refugees travel to Cambodia before settling there?**

The government of Cambodia is providing you with information about living in Cambodia before settling there. Connections will be established for you before you arrive. You can ask questions about settling in Cambodia at planned information sessions, and you can research it online.

### **Can refugees return to Nauru after settling in Cambodia?**

That is a matter for the government of Nauru.

### **What if I am a refugee and do not want to go to Cambodia?**

It is your decision to settle permanently in Cambodia, to remain in Nauru temporarily, or to return home.

### **Can I settle in another country aside from Cambodia or Nauru?**

Plans currently only exist to settle refugees temporarily in Nauru or permanently in Cambodia.