

# Cardamom Tented Camp in Cambodia Announces Two New Ecotourism Packages



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Wildlife animal releases near a community based tourism project and overnights in a deep forest tree tent add to the ecotourism activities of Cardamom Tented Camp

The Cardamom Tented Camp in Cambodia has announced two new conservation tourism initiatives: a wildlife release package linking the camp with the Chiphat community tourism project, and a 3D/2N deep forest experience with an overnight in a tentsile tree tent.

Partnering with the Wildlife Alliance's wildlife release station in Chiphat, the Cardamom Tented Camp has created an innovative 5D/4N "Adventurer" package for ecotourists seeking a meaningful conservation experience in Southeast Asia.

The highlights include accommodation in the Chiphat wildlife release station, seeing animals being prepared for release, watching pangolins at feeding time, forest hiking, inspecting animal camera traps for sightings, and finding out about the long-running community tourism initiative at Chiphat.

Guests are then picked up by Cardamom Tented Camp guides. The tourists' luggage goes straight to the camp while they hike to a Wildlife Alliance ranger station for a forest lunch. They then kayak for 90 minutes down river through a serene forest setting to the comfort of the Cardamom Tented Camp. After an introduction to the environmental objectives of the lodge, guests enjoy two more days of hiking, swimming, kayaking, boat rides, learning to cook Khmer food, and relaxing in the camp, which has no road access.

Cardamom Tented Camp has also announced a 3D/2N "Jungle Camp" package using tentsile tree tents.

After one night in the Cardamom Tented Camp, guests trek along abandoned poaching and logging trails to a remote riverside setting. Guests overnight in suspended tentsile tree tents. There are plenty of local hikes, wildlife spotting and swimming options available at the tentsile camp location.

The next morning guests trek to a ranger station for breakfast and enjoy a downstream kayak trip back to the full comfort of the Cardamom Tented Camp.

"Our two new conservation packages add variety to the immersive nature experience of Cardamom Tented Camp," says Allan Michaud, lodge manager of the camp, which is one of three global finalists in the "Changemaker" category of the 2019 Tourism for Tomorrow Awards.

The awards this year recognise leading ecotourism initiatives around the world that are making a stand against illegal wildlife trading and habitat destruction.

To put the Cardamom Tented Camp project in context, the Cambodian government requires that economic activity takes place in the 180km<sup>2</sup> forest concession of Botum Sakor national park.

"The creation of the Cardamom Tented Camp is therefore the lightest, most viable eco-friendly option to satisfy the concession criteria," says Michaud, who notes that neighbouring concessions of native forest have been cleared or turned into ecologically sterile palm oil plantations.

It is for this reason that the Cardamom Tented Camp operates under the slogan, "Your Stay Keeps the Forest Standing."

Full details about the 5D/4N Adventurer package are available at <https://cardamomtentedcamp.com/packages/adventurer/>. Further information about the Jungle Camp package, which is available May to January, is available at <https://cardamomtentedcamp.com/packages/junglecamp/>.

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#### About Cardamom Tented Camp

Cardamom Tented Camp is an ecolodge located in the Cardamom Mountains in Cambodia. Offering nine well-appointed safari-style tents, the lodge aims to minimize the human footprint on the natural world and serve as a role model in promoting sustainable ecotourism practices within both the national park and Cambodia as a whole.

Located on an 18,000-hectare (180 km<sup>2</sup>) concession, the lodge and its surroundings are home to pristine lowland and coastal habitats linking wildlife corridors to the Cardamom Mountains. Eco-friendly trekking and kayaking packages are available for adventure enthusiasts who are keen to be a part of real conservation work.

Cardamom Tented Camp is a three-way initiative between Minor Group, YAANA Ventures and Wildlife Alliance to ensure the land and its biodiversity does not fall into the hands of loggers, poachers and sand dredging operations.

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#### About Cardamom Tented Camp operator YAANA Ventures

YAANA Ventures is an owner, partner and operator of entrepreneurial travel and hospitality ventures in Asia. YAANA distinguishes itself by sharing real experiences that are grounded in the cultural richness of Asia. The company is the champion of the triple bottom-line. It empowers its ventures with the values to nurture the people with whom it works. Visit <https://yaana-ventures.com/>

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