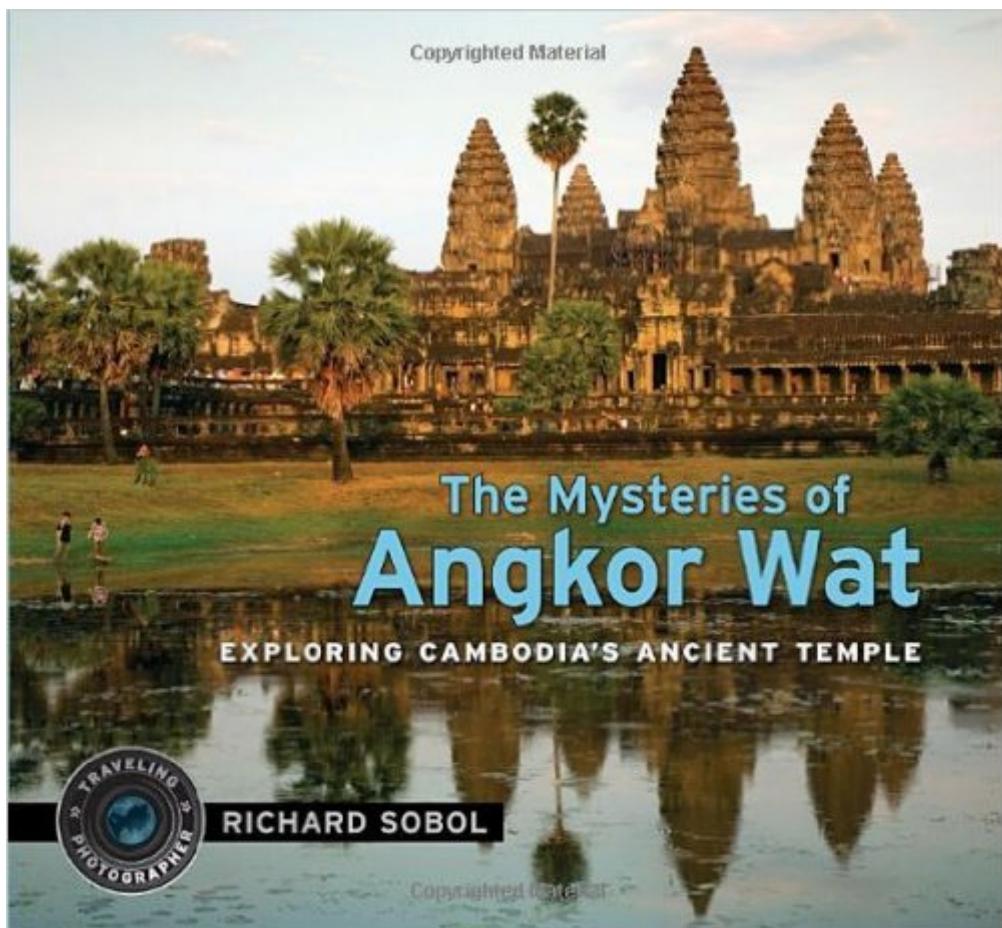


The book was found

The Mysteries Of Angkor Wat (Traveling Photographer)



Synopsis

What mysteries hide inside this ancient Cambodian temple? When local children lead the author through the ruins, he discovers a little-known secret. In 1100 CE, the mighty Khmer people of Cambodia built the world's largest religious monument: the sprawling stone temple of Angkor Wat. Now, thousands visit the crumbling ruins each year to see the last remains of the ancient and mysterious Khmer civilization. Photographer Richard Sobol explored these fascinating ruins, searching among the fallen, moss-covered stone slabs and wall carvings for clues that might link the ancient Khmer people to present-day Cambodian culture. A personal narrative and illustrative photography document his pilgrimage, capturing the historical legacy and mystery contained within the walls of Angkor Wat. A glossary, maps, and key facts are included.

Book Information

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Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Reason for Reading: I am fascinated with architecture and this looked like it would be a beautiful book. The author, a photo-journalist, takes a short trip to Cambodia to visit and take pictures of Angkor Wat. While there he meets up with an excited group of local children who agree to be his guides and show him around the vast temple ruins which the children have literally grown up using as their backyard playground. The author is quite confident that he is getting a much lessor known tour than one a paid tour guide would have given. In fact, he's sure tour guides probably don't even

know about some of the places the children took him. Written in the author's voice, as a travelogue to children but never down to them, the book has a very interesting and fun narrative. But more engaging than the text is the photography. Just stunning, with some unique views and a book that makes one linger on each page looking closely before wanting to turn to the next page. A must have book for libraries and now I'm eager to take a look at Sobol's other books (some he's just the photographer), but especially the other books in this Traveling Photographer series.

I just returned from a trip to Cambodia to see Angkor Wat and the other temples. Although I took hundreds of pictures, I still was looking for a nice book of pictures of Angkor Wat. The cover and dustjacket have a stunningly beautiful picture of Angkor Wat so I was expecting a book full of pictures of the temples. Also, the "Traveling Photographer" part of the title made me think it would be a photo book. Yes, there are lots of color pictures of the temples but almost every picture shows children frolicking among the temple ruins. Other pictures sure children doing traditional dances or at school so they do not directly relate to the temple complex. There is some history given on the temples but it's more a short travelogue from the author about his travels. I knew the book was geared toward children but after seeing the cover, I was thinking this book would be full of pictures. I wasn't expecting almost every picture to include children.

Did you know that Cambodia's Angkor Wat is the largest religious monument in the entire world? It was built in 1100 C.E. during the Khmer Empire. The architects of this grand structure designed it around the sun's movement, planning out where each and every shadow would fall. These and many other fascinating facts can be found in *The Mysteries of Angkor Wat: Exploring Cambodia's Ancient Temple* by author Richard Sobol. Back in January I reviewed Richard Sobol's wonderful book, *The Life of Rice*. This author and award-winning photographer must be commended for his continuing efforts to increase geography awareness through his children's books. In *Angkor Wat*, Sobol takes readers through the history of the ancient structure and also writes about his most interesting personal travel experiences while in Cambodia. The building of this Buddhist temple remains a mystery, as it is unclear how the sheer number of massive stones used to build it were moved into place thousands of years ago. What I love about this book is that there is a perfect blend of Cambodian history, modern life and culture, and the photographs are spectacular. The author describes his experience touring the structure with local children, who lead him to a very special place to share a secret about Angkor Wat. He writes in a way that really makes readers feel like they are right there with him touring Cambodia. I highly recommend this book as a way to teach

children about the world. Please note that the story is a bit long and sophisticated for most six-year-olds to read on their own. However the book is ideal for reading together with your young child.

I visited Angkor, twice. It is an incredible place. This book takes me back there. I like the pictures, and the way they are organized. Eleanor Mannika's 1982 article in the National Geographic magazine details her study of it, and showed that sacred geometry, and number, were in every measurement, if you took the king's arm as a cubit. Fascinating stuff.

I guess I was looking for a bit more on the history and background on the Angkor wat temple complex. Great pictures, interesting story of the photographers visit, but a very thin picture book.

This book was about a photographer who went to Cambodia and explored Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world. While he was exploring the temple, he found many ancient carvings, saw many ruins, and learned about the ancient dances and customs. He wanted to share what he learned through photographs of the temple, the people, and all the other amazing things he saw. I think kids who like learning about other countries and its traditions would like this book because of its wonderful pictures, and its content is easy to understand. My favorite part of this book was when the author compared Cambodian life 1000 years ago to Cambodian life today. Another one of my favorite parts was when he followed some Cambodian kids down a road that he'd gone down many times before and they showed him one carving of a dinosaur which could only be described as a stegosaurus, and then they pulled a toy Stegosaurus out of their pocket and matched it up with the carving. This is important because it proves they knew about dinosaurs more than 1000 years ago. Both boys and girls ages eight and up would like this book. Review by Young Mensan Aaron M., age 9

I am going to Angkor Wat in a few months. I got this book as part of my research on the area. It is absolutely beautifully photographed and written. I decided to give it to my 8-year-old granddaughter who is an avid reader because it is a wonderful story about the author's delightful interaction with a group of children on the other side of the world. It's just marvelous, and it's all real.

When I tried to peek inside the book online I wasn't able to. It wasn't as complete as the ones I had seen in Vietnam and was let down.

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