



## Treeline Urban Resort, Siem Reap

[treelinehotels.com](http://treelinehotels.com)

Overlooking the sleepy, leafy Siem Reap river, this new design-driven hotel shines a spotlight on contemporary Cambodian artists

**An artful ode to the past**  
The Angkor temple complex – located on the fringes of Siem Reap – is one of the world's biggest tourist attractions, and plenty of new hotels have opened to accommodate these visitors: from mega properties through to swish boutique resorts filled with Angkor-inspired stone statues and lush gardens. Treeline Urban Resort takes the latter concept to another, more design-driven level: guests are greeted at the entrance by a replica of one of the Bayon's carved faces, the stone sculpture wrapped up in a twisted tree trunk; foliage tumbles over the building's clean, minimalist lines; and its ponds and courtyards mimic those of Angkor Wat.

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### Handcrafted furnishings

The resort's 48 rooms are an elegant blend of Japanese minimalism, Scandinavian sensibilities and Cambodian artistry. Slate floors and white walls are juxtaposed with handcrafted Mid-Century Modern-style furniture and exquisitely woven Khmer textiles. In a whimsical nod to its environs, the hotel has also placed copies of *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben in some of the rooms.

### A platform for modern Khmer art

The resort is built as an open-air gallery. In the foyer sits a striking seedpod crafted from bamboo and wire, the work of Cambodia's most internationally recognised artist Sopheap Pich. Self- »



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taught artist Thang Sothea's sculptures and installations are hung in rooms; conceptual elephant sculptures by Asasax are scattered through the gardens; and a huge "cosmic wheel" water feature by the design firm of Hok Kang – the hotel's owner and chief architect – takes pride of place next to Seed restaurant.

**Enticing natural surrounds**  
Treeline Urban Resort's pièce de résistance is its second-floor saltwater infinity pool. Designed to blend into the thick canopy below it, it's the perfect spot to take in Cambodia's dreamy sunsets, the trees suffused in soft, golden light.

#### Top-notch cuisine

Breakfasts are served at Seed, and include both a la carte options such as pork belly hash, *num pang* (Cambodia's version of a banh mi) and a velvety lemon soufflé pancake, as well as a buffet of pastries and tropical fruits. There's also Hok – a noodle bar dishing up moreish dumplings; succulent and smoky grilled skewers of beef, eggplant or crispy chicken skin; and Cambodian curry noodles – and a Brown café next door for anyone in need of a caffeine fix.



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## Pullman Tamachi, Tokyo

[pullmantokyotamachi.com](http://pullmantokyotamachi.com)

#### Traditional rebellion

The hotel takes its design cues from the classical dance-drama *kabuki*. Using a palette based on the colours of kabuki makeup – white, red, blue and purple – the hotel's décor blends a modern style with Japanese accents, such as the calligraphy-inspired painting on the ceiling of the lobby bar.

#### Penchant for paper

The hotel's modern-meets-traditional design aesthetic continues on the guest floors. Halls are lined with muted *ginpaku* (silver leaf) alongside



custom *washi* (Japanese craft paper) panels. Rooms feature black Spanish marble counters, custom-made Shigaraki (a type of stoneware) sinks and traditional *fusuma* (thick paper panels that divide rooms).

#### Mediterranean with an Asian streak

Signature restaurant KASA plays with two homonyms – the Japanese word *kasa* for umbrella and the Spanish *casa* for house. Inventive dishes include grilled sirloin with hacho miso and whiskey sauce and kombu-cured king fish.

## Chambers Hotel, New York

[chambershotel.com](http://chambershotel.com)

#### Art at every turn

The hotel features over 500 pieces of original art, and its permanent collection is a blend of up-and-coming and international artists, ranging from Amy Sillman's whimsical pastel paintings to Spanish artist Pedro Barbeito's 3D pieces. Each of the 12 floors was designated to a certain artist who created a site-specific piece – such as John Newsom's hummingbird mural that enlivens the eighth floor.

**Calm, contemporary rooms**  
Rooms and suites are finished



in a monochromatic palette with playful pops of colour – bright purple; electric orange – with welcoming details such as Tibetan carpets juxtaposed against exposed pipes and concrete ceilings.

#### Amenities on the rise

This summer will see the addition of New York favourite, Sant Ambroeus restaurant, which serves upscale Italian dishes like *chitarra all'abruzzese* (pasta with lamb ragù, veal meatballs and tomato sauce) and whole grilled *branzino* (sea bass).