



## Cambodia: Visits on the rise

Published: 21-Mar-13 11:18AM



PHNOM PENH (The Cambodia Herald) -- Cambodia is rapidly attracting more and more visitors from tourists to businessmen.

Visits are continuing to climb as January figures show a 15.4 percent increase, Cambodia's statistics and tourist Information Department reported.

There are museums, markets, streets and buildings that are drawing people in as well as investment opportunities in different sectors of the country.

So far, the country has welcomed 404,106 visitors compared to 350,257 during the same month in 2012.

South Korea was on top in January with 70,770 visits, an increase of 26.7% from 55,871 visits last year.

There are so many attractions for tourists such as French Colonial architecture which are present.

Also Temples are getting facelifts, cultural dances are coming alive, songs never sung are screaming out, and traditions are resurfacing, which also contributes to the rise in visitors.

Other countries that have contributed to the gains in are Vietnam with 54,674, China with 39,961, Laos with 28,808, and

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the United States with 21,040.

Thailand came in eighth place adding 18,693 visits and improving 36.5 percent compared to 13,696 visits last year.

The Asia Pacific region accounted for a 70.9 percent share and posted a growth of 17.3 percent supplying 286,380 visitors. Europe grew 13.1 percent to 84,830.

The Americas saw a growth of 5.9 percent each adding 30,912 visits so far.

The Minister of Tourism, Thong Khon, believes the country will receive 4 mln tourists this year, up 11.73 percent from 3.58 mln visits last year.