LE BOKOR PALACE
BY
SOKHA HOTELS & RESORTS

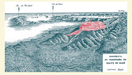
LE BOKOR PALACE HISTORY

1904

► In Circular 503 dated November 15, 1904, Colonial Minister Gatson Doumergue issued guidelines to continue installation of maritime health stations and high-altitude health stations.

1917

► The first exploration mission of the Elephant was completed in April 1917 by Mr. Bornet, Head of the Cadastre Service and Gourgand, Chief of the Forest Service in Cambodia.



► A FORESTRY POST AT POPOKVIL "A permanent forestry post was installed in June 1917 at the Popokvil and was entrusted to Mr. Vincent, a forest ranger, whose observations and studies on the climate and the cultivation and breeding trials have since given the most conclusive results. " [Armand Rousseau].

◆ Rolous arrived at the plateau. The initial plans were made for the Hill station.

1921

► Inauguration of 32 km of the Bokor road.

◆ 1921-1924: The Hill station was constructed.

◆ 1921: Route 39 to the Hill Station was completed.

1922

► The Bokor Palace was inaugurated.

◆ The Bokor Palace Hotel was completed.

1925

► An order of 13 April 1922 of King Sisowath authorizes the foundation of the station, provided "a hotel of twenty-five rooms all having a bathroom and a shower room", the villa of the Resident Superior, a post office, an electric factory, an infirmary, a rest home of the Mission, the Beau-Site hotel (the old bungalow enlarged and arranged) and a farm station. At Km 22, will be installed the Kampot Resident's Cottage and a dairy station.

► The first building appeared on Bokor Mountain. The temporary bungalow has a pavilion, which serves as dining room and five chalets of four rooms.

1936

► Construction of a cottage (the "Black Palace", Damnak Sla Khmao) for King Sisowath Monivong at Km 22.

1940

◆ Late 1940, Hill station evacuated due to fighting between Vietnamese, Khmer Issarak and the French.

1945

► The Bokor Palace using into a hospital and first abandonment of the station during the first Indochina War.

1950s-1960s

◆ 50s - 60s: The hill stations Heyday. The 60s were particularly popular with affluent Khmer.

1962

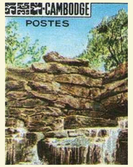
► On January 2, 1962, King Norodom Sihanouk inaugurates the "City of Bokor". That a casino was established in the new hotels near the lake, (Hotels Sangkum and Kiri). Some buildings were built at this time.

1964

► The casino is closed. It was transferred on 1 june 1964 to the seaside resort at Kampot.

1965

► The access road is prohibited due to inclement weather and landslides. The "Bokor Palace", unoccupied for several months, has seen its interior greatly degraded by humidity. A dozen bungalows are nevertheless developed in Popokvil.



1969

► Rose of Bokor film which directed by King Norodom Sihanouk was shot at Bokor
Photo of King Norodom Sihanouk and Queen Norodom Monineath were the actor and actress in the film.

1970

► On 8 March 1972, King Norodom Sihanouk was deposed by Lon Nol. The City of Bokor is closed again.

1972

◆ 1972: Hill station abandoned as Khmer Rouge takes over the area.

1973

► The Khmer Rouge seized the plateau and the Bokor road. Destruction of Popokvil bungalows.

1970s-1990s

◆ Early 70s to early 90s: The plateau became a strategic location occupied by both the Khmer Rouge and the Vietnamese army.

1979

► For three months, Khmer Rouge refugees in the church confronted Vietnamese troops installed in the palace. Despite the Vietnamese victory, the Khmer Rouge occupied the Bokor intermittently during the 1980s.

1992

◆ A French battalion of the Apronuc (United Nations Provisional Authority in Cambodia) occupies the Bokor and hunts the last Khmer Rouge. A telecommunication station is installed.

1993

◆ 1993: Bokor established as a National Park.

1990s

◆ Early – Mid 90s: Logging roads constructed large scale illegal logging is rife in the park.

1997

► RETURN OF TOURISTS
Tourists can access the site by a very bad track.

2001

◆ 2001: WildAid has conducted a wildlife monitoring and park protection.

2002

► City of Ghosts (Crime, Drama, Thriller)
Is Shoot on Bokor Mountain
A con man (Matt Dillon) travels to Cambodia (also on the return from law enforcement in the U.S.) to collect his share in an insurance scam, but discovers more than he bargained for.

Directed by and starring Matt Dillon, Writers: Matt Dillon, Barry Gifford
Stars: Matt Dillon, James Caan, Natascha McElhone

2004

● Government pledge 99-Year lease agreements of Bokor to Sokha Hotel Co., Ltd Company . The US$ 1 billion development project includes the construction of hotels, casino, golf course, commercial buildings, entertainments and villas etc.

2006

● Sokha Hotel Co., Ltd Company in January 19, 2008 held official construction ceremony, Prime Minister Hun Sen presiding over the ceremony, starting with the construction of infrastructure (roads, water, electricity) and building of other buildings one after another. At the same time, Neak Okrha SOK Kong, Chairman of the Sokimex Investment Group often went to the scene to supervise the construction work.

2007

► R-Point is a Korean horror film written and directed by Kong Su-chang. Most of the movie was shot in Cambodia. Bokor Hill Station plays a prominent part of the movie plays there very well.

2008

● Sokha Hotel Co., Ltd Company went to Bokor Mountain to study its potential.

2009

● On 27 February 2010, to honor the respect of Lok Yeay Mao, **Neak Okrha SOK Kong**, Chairman of the Sokimex Investment Group, built the largest outdoor statue measuring 27 meters high on Bokor National Park. The construction of Lok Yeay Mao statue started on 27 February 2010 and completed on 03 May 2012. The whole construction had cost around 210 thousand US dollar. (210,182).

2010

● Sokha Hotel Co., Ltd Company in February 18, 2009, held the groundbreaking ceremony, the construction of the world-class hotel on Bokor Mountain, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Assembly– Senate Relations and Inspection Men Sam An, and on behalf of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, prime minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia presided over the ceremony.

2012

● Soft opening of Thansur Sokha Hotel, April 2012 with 564 rooms, 4 restaurants outlets, large conference facilities, KTV, club and many other entertainments.

Thansur Sokha Hotel was inaugurated on 03 May 2012 and the ceremony was presided over by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, prime minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

2018

● Le Bokor Palace, a luxurious and historical hotel, reopening in quarter one by Sokha Hotel Co., Ltd Company, under Sokimex Investment Group. The Hotel is opened to welcome guests with 36 rooms and 2 restaurants.

SOURCE:
● SOKIMEX www.skmig.com
► BOKOR PALACE HOTEL http://bokor.kamboo.com/timeline/
◆ INDOCHINETRAVELS http://indochinetravels.blogspot.com/2007/12/update-27-dec-bokor-mountain.html