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一分鐘看吳哥窟

位置：柬埔寨（Cambodia）西北部的暹粒省

面積：162.6 公頃

榮譽：全球最大廟宇建築、世界文化遺產之一

簡介：由高棉國王蘇耶跋摩二世（Suryavarman II），於西元十二世紀初，在首都下令興建，歷時近40年，才修築完這座供奉印度教神祇毗濕奴的神殿。然而，隨著高棉帝國衰敗以及印度教式微，吳哥窟在十四世紀時已演變為佛寺。

Angkor Wat: History in Stone

見證千年帝國輝煌—— 吳哥窟巡禮

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

Angkor Wat was built in the early twelfth century as a temple to the Hindu god Vishnu.⁺ It's a masterpiece of **architecture**¹ and **engineering**,² not only for its



隱沒於叢林蔓草間四百多年的吳哥窟，直到十九世紀時才廣為世人所知，歷經政權更替、侵略和內戰而不墜，為吳哥遺址中保存最完整的寺廟。恢弘的石砌廟宇與鬼斧神工的浮雕壁畫，不僅讓其名列世界七大奇景之一，更為千年前的吳哥王朝盛世作了最佳見證。



time but for any time. This place is massive. It **takes up** five hundred acres of land, and it's all surrounded by a giant moat.⁺ The centerpiece is a pyramid with five towers, each more than two hundred feet tall. And the walls of the main temple are adorned with thousands of stone carvings.

Check out these walls. The detail work here is intense. **I bet**, if I can figure out how to **decipher**³ what I'm seeing here, **that** these can be read like a historical guidebook to Angkor's past. Fortunately, I'm on my way to meet Simon Warrack. I've heard that he has the necessary skills to help me **interpret**⁴ exactly what I'm seeing here. Simon!

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓

吳哥窟是於十二世紀初，為了供奉印度神祇毗濕奴而建造的廟宇。吳哥窟是建築和工程上的傑作，無論是以當時還是其他任何時代的標準來看。吳哥窟占地廣大。面積廣達五百英畝，且有巨大的護城

河環繞。中心建築是一座有著五座寶塔的金字塔，每座寶塔皆超過兩百英尺高。主廟牆上以數千幅石雕裝飾。

看看這些牆壁。石雕細節非常精細。我相信，假如我能破解這些壁畫，它們一定會像是一本講述吳哥歷史的導覽書一樣。幸好，我正要去和賽門·華瑞克會面。聽說他能夠協助我，好好理解在此所見的一切。賽門！

Vocabulary

+ 為補充說明

1. architecture [ˈɑrkəˌtɛktʃə] n. 建築學

Franklin was inspired to study architecture after visiting Italy.

2. engineering [ˌɛndʒɪˈnɪrɪŋ] n. 工程

The Panama Canal is an amazing engineering achievement.

3. decipher [dɪˈsɪfə] v. 破解（密碼等）；辨認（潦草字跡等）

I simply can't decipher Lucy's handwriting.

4. interpret [ɪnˈtɜːprɪt] v. 理解

For centuries, historians and linguists were unable to interpret ancient Egyptian writing.

+ Vishnu [ˈvɪʃnu]（毗濕奴）是印度教三大主神之一，為眾生的保護之神。

+ moat [moʊ] 即「護城河」。吳哥窟四周圍繞著寬 190 公尺的護城河。

Language Notes

1. take up 的不同意義

- a. 佔去（空間或時間），如文中用法
 - Charlie is so fat that he takes up two airplane seats. 查理胖到要兩張機艙座椅才容得下他。
- b. 開始花時間從事（某項活動），後接 V-ing
 - Sally took up skiing last winter. 莎莉去年冬天開始滑雪。

2. I bet (that) 我敢肯定

為口語用法，指「自己確信某事肯定為真，或保證會發生」。另外，I bet 在口語中，也有「我明白」之意。

- I bet he does well on his exams. 我肯定他一定考得很好。

補充用法

you bet（口語）當然；一定

A: Would you like to see a movie this weekend?
你這周末想看電影嗎？

B: You bet!
當然想！

高棉帝國大事記

802 年

闍耶跋摩二世 (Jayavarman II) 建立吳哥王朝

1122 年

蘇耶跋摩二世 (Suryavarman II) 攻打越南的占婆人，並開始興建吳哥窟



1181 年

闍耶跋摩七世 (Jayavarman VII) 登

基，高棉帝國在其統治下達到頂峰

1296 年

元朝官吏周達觀出使吳哥城，出版《真臘風土記》，描述吳哥建築與生活

1431 年

暹羅軍隊攻破吳哥城，吳哥王朝遷都金邊 (Phnom Penh)

1864 年

法國博物學家亨利·穆奧出版《暹羅柬埔寨安南遊記》，讓世人重新認識吳哥歷史



SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

Hi.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

Great to meet you.

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

Good to see you too.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

Thank you so much for showing me this place.

Historic stonework⁴ is Simon Warrack's specialty.⁵ He's worked at Angkor Wat for fifteen years, and I'm hoping he can tell me more about who built it and how.

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

First time here?

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

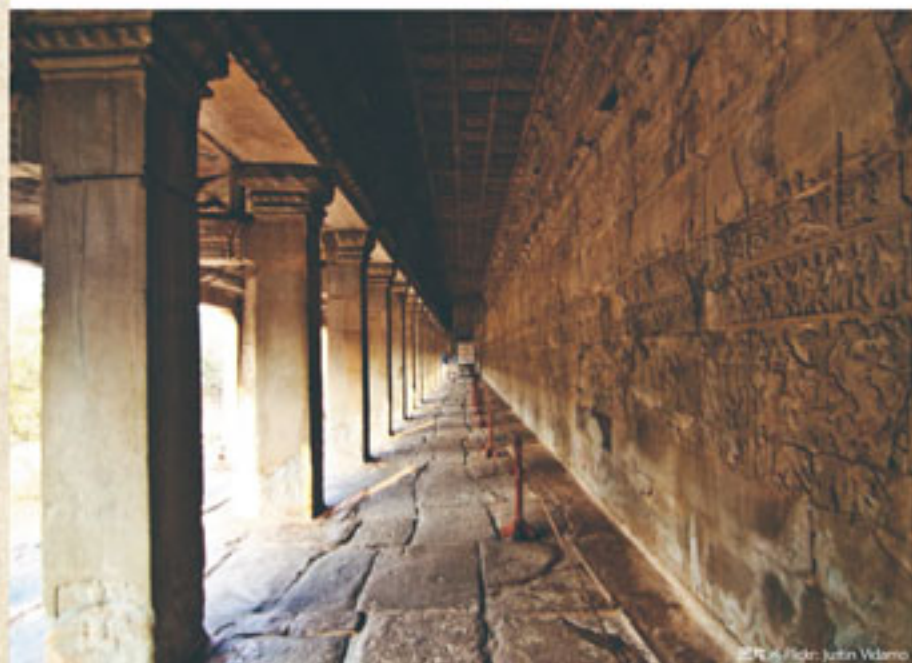
Yes, it is.

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

Well, come and have a look at it. It's the most beautiful place in the world.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

Simon explains that the Angkor temples were built by one of the most unique civilizations⁶ in human history, the Khmer Empire. They ruled Southeast Asia from the ninth to the fifteenth centuries, including parts of modern-day Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and Cambodia. Looking around Angkor Wat, it's clear that the Khmer were a deeply spiritual⁷ people with a rich culture, but they must have also had some major engineering skills. How else could they have built all of this in the thick⁸ of the tropical rain forest?



Around here is all jungle. Where did they get the stone?

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

There's a [There are] some hills about thirty or forty miles to the north, and there's a lot of sandstone in those hills.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

And they would quarry* it there, and they'd have to transport it over here somehow.

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

Yes, and they are massive blocks, maybe eight tons.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

This guy's incredible* up here. Look at this stuff.

Simon tells me that building Angkor Wat took fifty thousand stonemasons* and stone carvers nearly forty years.

石叢文物管理員 賽門·華瑞克
嗨！

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓
很高興見到你。

石叢文物管理員 賽門·華瑞克
我也很高興見到你。

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓
非常感謝你為我導覽這個地方。

歷史石造建築是賽門·華瑞克的專業所在。他在吳哥窟工作了十五年，希望他能告訴我更多關於吳哥窟建造者及其建築工法的資訊。

建築小辭典

- stonework [ˈstɒn.wɜːk] (建築物的) 石造部分
- quarry [ˈkwɒəri] v. 採石; n. 採石場
- stonemason [ˈstɒn.mesən] 石匠

石叢文物管理員 賽門·華瑞克
這是你第一次造訪嗎？

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓
是的。

石叢文物管理員 賽門·華瑞克
過來看看。這是全世界最美麗的地方。

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓
賽門解釋道，吳哥的廟宇是由人類歷史上最獨特的文明——高棉帝國所建造的。在九至十五世紀之間，高棉帝國統治著東南亞，範圍包括現今越南、寮國、泰國和柬埔寨的部分地區。從吳哥窟就能明顯看出，高棉帝國的人民有著高度虔誠的信仰及豐富的文化內涵，但他們肯定也具備相當水準的工程技術。否則他們如何能在熱帶雨林深處，建造出整個吳哥窟呢？

這附近全是叢林。他們是在哪裡取得石材的呢？

石叢文物管理員 賽門·華瑞克
往北三、四十英里處，有一些山丘，那裡有不少砂岩。

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓
他們會在那裡採石，然後想辦法運回這裡。

石叢文物管理員 賽門·華瑞克
是的，而且是巨大的石塊，說不定有八噸重。

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓
上面這個人太厲害了。看看這些。

賽門告訴我，吳哥窟的建築是由五萬名石匠和石叢家，花費近四十年的時間才完成的。

Vocabulary

+ 為補充說明

5. specialty [ˈspeʃəlti] n. 專業

The chef here can cook anything, but his specialty is seafood.

6. civilization [ˌsɪvəlaɪzəʃən] n. 文明

Ancient Greece is, in large part, the foundation of Western civilization.

7. spiritual [ˈspɪrɪtʃuəl] adj. 宗教的；心靈的

Archeologists concluded that the ruins were some sort of temple or spiritual center.

8. incredible [ɪnˈkredəbəl] adj. 極好的；不可思議的

That movie was incredible; I saw it five times.

+ thick 在此作名詞，表示「最刺激或最危險的部份」。

Wow. So . . . This is incredible. Look at all these different things going on here. You've got guys on elephants, you've got guys on horseback, then you've got the foot soldiers. It's unbelievable.

These stone carvings are so vivid, I feel like the Khmer Empire is coming back to life. Hey, did I say stone carvings? Simon tells me the proper term is bas-relief. • This one depicts⁹ the Hindu creation¹⁰ story.



I read somewhere that this is one of the longest bas-reliefs ever. Is that correct?

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

If you add them all up, there's nearly a kilometer of them. It's really, really long.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

That's like ten football fields.

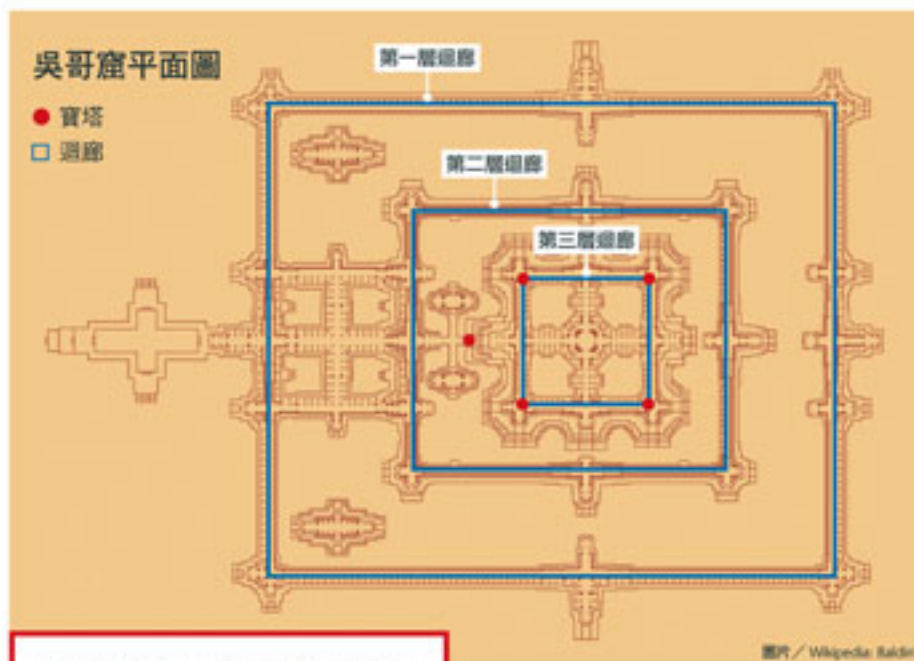
For Khmer peasants¹¹ who couldn't read or write, this was like having the book of Genesis⁺ written in stone, covering four thousand feet.

They had, like, one sculptor, or thousands of guys, all carving this kind of thing?

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

There must have been a lot, must have been a lot. But they were really good.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"



Simon explains the vast size is no accident. Angkor Wat symbolizes¹² the entire universe. The towers represent Mount Meru,⁺ a mythical¹³ mountain over six hundred thousand miles high, and the steep steps represent the difficult climb to the heavens. We head up for a better view of the whole complex. • A spot once reserved for someone a lot more powerful than me: the king.

金字塔式的廟山 (temple mountain) 建築，象徵印度教中位於世界中心的須彌山。建築頂端聳立的五座寶塔，則代表須彌山的五座頂峰。

三道矩形迴廊 (gallery)，象徵了環繞須彌山的山脈。

哇！這實在是太不可思議了。看看這裡所描繪的各式活動，有人騎著大象，有人騎馬，還有步兵。實在令人難以置信。

這些石雕栩栩如生，彷彿高棉帝國在我眼前重生一般。嘿，我剛剛是不是說石雕啊？賽門告訴我正確的說法應該是浮雕。這幅是在描繪印度教的創世故事。



我在某處曾讀到，說這是有史以來最長的浮雕。是嗎？

石雕文物管理員 賽門·華瑞克

如果把全部的浮雕加總起來，將近有一公里長。真是超級長。

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓

差不多是十個美式足球場那麼長了。

對不識字或不會寫字的高棉農民來說，這些浮雕就像是刻在石頭上的《創世紀》一樣，其長度達四千英尺。

是只有一位雕刻家，還是上千名雕刻家全部一起雕刻出這些呢？

石雕文物管理員 賽門·華瑞克

肯定有許多雕刻家，一定很多人。不過他們技術也都非常精湛。

《生活在古代》布里·伊頓

賽門解釋道，會建造成這樣巨大的規模並非偶然。吳哥窟

象徵著整個宇宙。高塔代表須彌山——一座超過六十萬英里高、出現在神話中的山嶽，而陡峭的台階則代表通往天堂的路有多崎嶇。再往上爬，視野更好，我們可以看見整個吳哥窟建築群。這裡原本是保留給我更有權勢的人——國王。

建築小辭典

- **bas-relief** [ˈbɑːr.liːf] 浮雕
- **complex** [ˈkɒm.pleks] 建築群

Vocabulary

+ 為補充說明

9. depict [dɪˈpɪkt] v. 描繪

The walls were covered with paintings depicting scenes from Bulgarian history.

10. creation [kriˈeɪʃən] n. 創世；產生

The volcanic eruption led to the creation of a new island.

11. peasant [ˈpiːzənt] n. 農民

During the Industrial Revolution, many peasants moved to cities to work in factories.

12. symbolize [ˈsɪmbəlaɪz] v. 象徵

In Japan, cherry blossoms often symbolize mortality.

13. mythical [ˈmɪθɪkəl] adj. 神話的

This mythical creature is half man and half horse.

+ **Genesis** [ˈdʒenəsɪs] 即舊約聖經的首卷《創世紀》，內容描述上帝如何創造世界。

+ **Mount Meru** [ˈmeru] (須彌山) 在印度教中，被視為世界的中心、神祇的居所。

Language Notes

3. ... be no accident ……的發生絕非偶然

accident 在此指「偶然因素」，... be no accident 表示「……的發生是策劃好的」。句型 It is no accident that S. + V. 亦表達相同意思。

• The train crash was no accident; there was a bomb on board.
這起火車事故是預謀好的；列車上被放置了一枚炸彈。

• It is no accident that Marcy made the highest score on the exam; she's always studying.
瑪西在考試中得到最高分絕非偶然；她總是在念書。

So, what was going on out here? Why would this just go like this and then be done? What's happening here?

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

It's said that this is where the king got off his elephant.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

We're up over twenty feet in the air, and what we're standing on is all masonry*—no bricks, no mortar.* I want to know how they built it.

So, Simon, can you give me a little insight¹⁴ into exactly how this place was built?

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

They would bring the stones from the quarries; they would square them up, one on top of the other, until they created a mass. And then they would carve it.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

Whoa, I'm floored.* This temple is one giant sculpture. Then Simon tells me that's just the beginning. Angkor Wat, which means "city temple,"* sat at the center of a sprawling capital city the size of modern-day Los Angeles. At the time, it was one of the biggest cities in the world.

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

It was between six hundred thousand and a million people, and at the same time in Europe, Paris was thirty thousand.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

Really? So this was six hundred thousand, and Paris was only thirty thousand.

SIMON WARRACK, STONE CONSERVATOR

Yeah. London was twenty thousand.

BRIT EATON, "THE ANCIENT LIFE"

That's a lot of people. 🇬🇧

吳哥窟必賞景點



Gallery of Bas-Reliefs 浮雕迴廊

八幅精緻繁複的巨型浮雕壁畫，分別位於第一層迴廊四面的左右兩翼，總面積達1,200平方公尺，內容描繪印度神話史詩或吳哥王朝的歷史場景，堪稱吳哥窟石雕工藝的極致代表。



Carved Goddesses 仙女像

近兩千尊身姿婀娜、模樣衣飾不盡相同的仙女雕像，可見於吳哥窟的牆角及門廊等處。最常見的仙女浮雕為印度神話中的飛天仙女（Apsara），常見其手持蓮花苞，翩然起舞之態。



Sunrise at the Lotus Pond 荷花池畔日出

吳哥窟是吳哥遺跡群中唯一「坐東朝西」的廟宇，為觀賞日出的絕妙景點。寺前的荷花池畔是欣賞日出的最佳位置——太陽自寶塔後方緩緩升起，整座寺廟與荷花池面的金色倒影連成一片。