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One of the main pastimes for visitors, that choose to stay in Phnom Penh city centre hotels, is shopping. Visitors have many different options when choosing gifts they want to take home. However, the market places in Cambodia offer a wide range of locally made goods that are available at very low prices.

Traditional Markets

Phnom Penh is well known for its traditional markets. Stalls that sell silks, handicrafts and artwork are available in several parts of the city. The markets include the Central Market and the Russian Market. The Russian Market is one of the largest in the country and anything and everything can be bought there. The Central Market is worth a visit even if only to take in the architecture, although jewellery stalls, clothes and handcrafted souvenirs are readily available. Souvenirs available include Buddha carvings, silverwork, jewellery and hand-made baskets.

Must-buy Items in Phnom Penh

Cambodian Silk is something that is an essential buy. The vast majority of the silk available has been made by hand and traditional methods of dying the silk are used. It is possible to buy the material in bolts or as ready-made items such as sarongs. These are available at the markets and in several speciality shops throughout the city.

Statues and carvings of various gods or animals are available and make a nice souvenir. These are done by hand using different materials including wood, stone and metals. Silverwork is popular and the areca nut containers make a good souvenir. These are made using traditional methods.

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