

KOH RONG SANLOEM · 2026

The Stay Picker & Last-Boat Checklist

The ferry doesn't leave from the pier you've read about. Pick your beach, match the boat, beat the last boat. Here are all three, on three pages.

1 · Pick your beach

Saracen Bay, M'Pai Bay or a quiet cove. Decide this first.

2 · Match the boat

Choose the operator that drops at your pier.

3 · Beat the last boat

Reach the port early and keep a buffer day.

PART 1 · THE STAY PICKER

Four questions. One beach.

- 1** Is this your first time on the island, or are you with family?
Yes → **SARACEN BAY**
- 2** Are you on a budget, or after village life and slow travel?
Yes → **M'PAI BAY**
- 3** Do you mainly want to switch off, with sunsets and few people around?
Yes → **LAZY / SUNSET BEACH**
- 4** Do you want parties and more choice of places to eat and drink?
Yes → **KOH RONG (THE OTHER ISLAND)**, which is busier, with nightlife in Koh Touch

RULE OF THUMB

Book your first two or three nights on the bay your ferry serves. Move once you've seen the island. Bring some cash, because card and ATM access on the island is limited.

YOUR RESULT

Where each beach fits

SARACEN BAY

Vibe: long white-sand bay, resorts and bungalows, calm water.
Getting there: most ferries stop here, at several piers.
Good for: first-timers, couples, families.

M'PAI BAY

Vibe: fishing village, cafés, backpacker stays.
Getting there: fewer boats, so check your ticket.
Good for: budget, slow travel, a local feel.

LAZY / SUNSET BEACH

Vibe: remote, a few resorts, sunsets.
Getting there: resort boat or a jungle path.
Good for: switching off, a honeymoon feel.

KOH RONG

Vibe: busier, with nightlife in Koh Touch.
Getting there: separate ferry stops.
Good for: parties, more choice.

PART 2 · MATCH THE BOAT

All main ferries leave from Sihanoukville Port

OPERATOR	DEPARTURES*	CROSSING	DROPS ON SANLOEM*
GTVC	08:00, 11:00, 14:00, 16:00	~30 min	Saracen Bay and M'Pai Bay
Buva Sea	From 08:30, last boat in the afternoon (up to 17:00 on some listings). Boards at Gate 6	~45 min	Several Saracen Bay piers, plus some M'Pai Bay runs
Island Speed Ferry	Around 08:00, 09:00, 12:00, 15:00	~50–60 min out; returns stop at Koh Rong first (~1h15)	Saracen Bay (check your ticket)

*From operator and booking listings, Oct 2026. Timetables change by season and fewer sailings run in the rainy months. Confirm on the day. Listings show one-way fares from about US\$17 and returns around US\$30–34. Confirm at the counter. **Pick by your beach, not the brand:** ask your hotel which company stops closest. Many hotels will book the boat for you.

Found your beach?

Compare stays on Koh Rong Sanloem on Trip.com. (Affiliate link: MoveKH may earn a commission at no extra cost to you.)

Compare stays →

PART 3 · RUN THIS THE EVENING BEFORE

The last-boat checklist

Most missed boats come down to timing, not bad luck.

- ☐ I know which pier my hotel uses, and my ticket matches it.
- ☐ I know the last boat for my operator today (listings show about 15:00–17:00).
- ☐ I'll reach Sihanoukville Port 30–45 minutes before departure.
- ☐ My passport, ticket and phone are in a dry bag.
- ☐ My return boat is booked, with a buffer day before any flight.
- ☐ I have some cash for the island.

Rainy-season reality check (roughly June–October): there may be fewer departures, and ferries can be delayed or cancelled. Take the biggest boat, and if you're flying out of Cambodia, come back to the mainland the day before.

Dec–Jan

PEAK: BOOK AHEAD

30–45'

BE AT THE PORT EARLY

+1 day

BUFFER BEFORE
FLIGHTS

Missed the last boat? Stay close to the port and take the first boat in the morning. Staying overnight in Sihanoukville? [Compare Sihanoukville hotels on Trip.com](#) (affiliate link).

Full guide: movekh.com/guides/koh-rong-sanloem-ferry-where-to-stay-2026