



Loyal to Langdale...

Over and over again, Langdale owners talk about their love of the Estate and the Langdale Valleys ... this is also true of many members of staff who feel a great passion for the place and demonstrate this commitment with long-term service; some returning to work here after having left for a period of time. The following are two examples:

Adam Sharrock, Sales Manager, started at Langdale in the Housekeeping Department when

he was only 13 years old! In 1995, after having worked his way up to Supervisor level, Adam was hired two days a week by the Marketing Department, which meant he now had full-time employment at Langdale. Less than a year later, Adam's considerable sales skills had been identified and in February of 1996 he became a full-time office junior in the Timeshare Department, and is still there today! When asked why he had stayed so long with the Company, Adam said: 'One of the main reasons I have stayed so long is the staff and many of the owners. They are almost like family ... I know if I ever need them, they would be there for me ... and me for them. I love the way we all look out for each other. The other reason is that my role has changed over the years and I

have worked at one time in most departments. Each day seems to bring something new.'

'I started at the Pillar Hotel in 1983, aged 16, when 70% of the lodges were still to be built. The Chapel Stile apartments building was the Langdales Hotel, complete with petrol pumps on the carpark; Elterwater Hall was staff accommodation, and The Barn was used for storing the bedrooms and bathrooms for the lodges, which arrived every fortnight from Germany' reminisces Andy Dawson, Grounds Manager. 'The reason I am still here after 23 years? – the people, the characters (both guests and staff), plus every day is different – just like the weather!'

Kurt Schwitters' Elterwater Merz Barn ... launch of the Save the Barn Appeal

Kurt Schwitters who? A very familiar question, sadly often asked about one of the most influential and important artists of the 20th century, whose work continues to affect our everyday lives. Schwitters was the founder of installation art, master of collage and typography, and creator of his own unique art called Merz ... that represented the idea that art wasn't just about paper, canvas and paint, but rather that art could be made from anything and everything, could last a few moments or forever. As Schwitters himself predicted, his fame continues to grow from year to year.

Russell Mills, MA (CA), an artist,

lecturer and writer on art, recently wrote the following:

'Schwitters believed that art is 'a

spiritual function of man which aims at freeing him from the chaos of life'. In these times of political uncertainty and dogmatic



Merz Barn in Cylinders Wood

fundamentalism, we need art to remind us of the ethical and moral values which are necessary for securing a future worth living. Schwitters, the forgotten man, deserves our attention more than ever.'

So what does he have to do with Langdale? During his lifetime, Schwitters was an innovator in many art forms, but his architectural scale installations (called the Merzbauten) had the greatest influence on modern art and architecture. The first one, built in his parents' home in Hanover, was destroyed in the bombings of 1943. While in asylum from the Nazis in Norway, Schwitters created his second Merzbau, which was destroyed in a fire in 1951. It is only his last work, built during the final years of his life and unfinished at the time of his death, that remains as one of the greatest pioneering works of modern art. It was created in a small barn located in Cylinders Wood (originally used as a gun powder store and part of the Elterwater Gunpowder Works) ... just across the road from Langdale's main entrance!

Although he only managed to complete a part of one wall before

dying in the Kendal Public Hospital, this sole surviving Merzbarn work still has a powerful presence. It remained in Elterwater for years until it began to deteriorate, and was moved to the Hatton Gallery at the University of Newcastle for restoration and safe-keeping. It stands there today as the pride of the gallery's permanent collection.

The barn itself remains here, and serves as a poignant memorial to the spirit and tenacity of the artist who worked in this remote woodland. Several groups have been working since 1999 to raise awareness of Schwitters' life and work in England, but in particular to raise the funds to secure and restore the building and site, not only for the nation, but for the world as well.

How can you help? On 28th March 2006, the Save the Merz Barn International Fund-Raising Campaign was launched at the Tate Britain in London by Littoral Arts Trust and the Kurt Schwitters in England Committee. Donations can be made by cheque payable to the Save the Merz Barn Campaign and handed to Hotel Reception or sent direct to Littoral Arts, 42 Lodge Mill Lane, Turn Village, Ramsbottom, Lancashire BL0 0RW.

Owners' Website

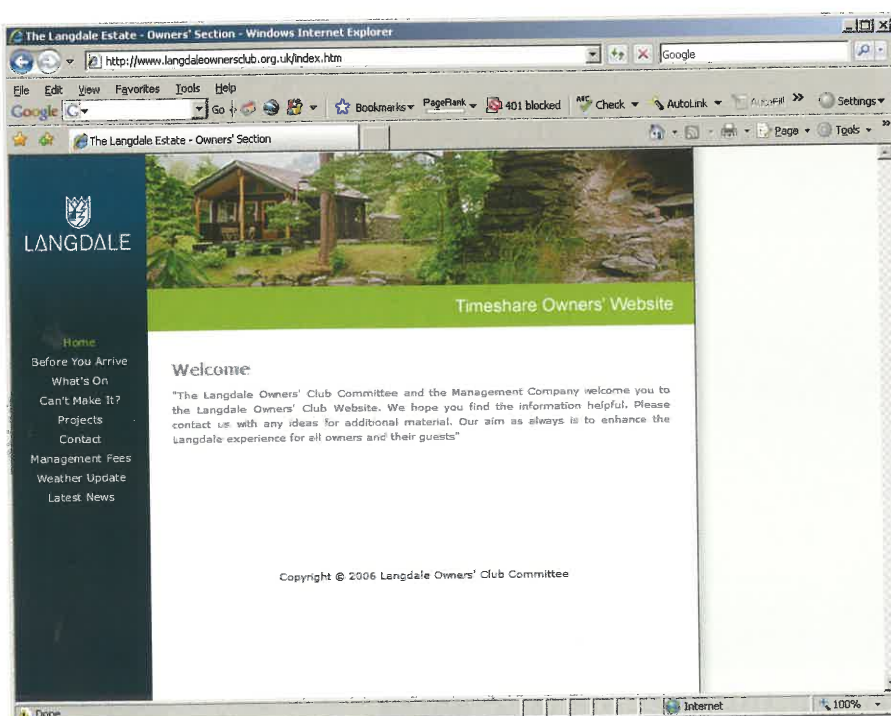
The new Owners' Website is up and running and can be visited via:

www.langdaleownersclub.org.uk

A user name and password are required and can be obtained by clicking on "log-in details" and following the instructions. Content includes pre-arrival information on the calendar of dates, how to order optional extras and the latest "What's On" leaflet; details of rentals and exchanges for those who cannot make it; the latest information on refurbishment projects; contacts; management fees, Langdale weather; and the latest news.

"MiniViews" is an email newsletter published up to four times a year to supplement the twice-yearly printed editions of "Views". You can subscribe to MiniViews via the website, or by emailing your name, address, lodge and week numbers to owners@langdale.co.uk. Your Committee hope that as many owners as possible will subscribe to this means of communication which is quick and much less costly than printing and postage. However, for the foreseeable future, "Views" will continue to be published and sent by post twice a year.

Any comments and suggestions for improving the website or MiniViews will be most welcome and can be sent to owners@langdale.co.uk.



Corporate Social Responsibility

The Committee are pleased to support the Management Company in the development of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategies. As issues such as global warming, high fuel prices and globalisation have become more publicised (and urgent) their importance to all individuals and businesses has increased.

Langdale Owners PLC, which operates the Langdale Estate and the Management Company, has recognised that it has to develop strategies for these and other issues in order to ensure that it can properly respond to the challenges posed by them.

CSR covers a wide range of areas and can to some extent be defined in a number of ways. David Stanning (CEO of the Langdale Estate) has long been committed to the principle of Responsible Tourism. He has attended a Government conference, participated in local

debates and is a strong supporter (as many of you are) of the Tourism and Conservation Partnership. He is developing strategies covering the following areas:

1. Environment
 - a. Energy conservation
 - b. Waste management
 - c. Local ecology
2. People – respect, honesty and fun!
 - a. Guests and other visitors
 - b. Colleagues at the Estate
 - c. Suppliers and local residents
3. Local Community
 - a. Schools
 - b. Community groups
 - c. Charities

Around the Estate you will already be able to see the results of these strategies. Over the next twelve months the Committee will continue to work with the Management Company and in due course develop CSR strategies for the Owners' Club.

Fredericka Johns

We have recently been mourning the loss of Fredericka Johns, Langdale's Sales & Marketing Director until her retirement in 2005, who sadly passed away in November 2006.

Those of you who had the pleasure of meeting and knowing Fredericka, or Fred as she preferred to be known, will remember how passionate she was about the Lake District and how devoted she was to her work at Langdale over many years.

Although she retired last year Fred kept a close connection with Langdale, its staff and a large number of the Timeshare

Owners, and most weeks could be found giving a talk and presentation on local artist Kurt Schwitters, another passion of Fred's

She will be greatly missed.

Langdale will be contributing the first £500 to The Owners' Cairn as a tribute to Fred.

For details on The Owners' Cairn visit the Owners' Website.

www.landgaleownersclub.org.uk

Housekeeping

The Management Company remains committed to (and in fact the Committee demand) the highest standards, and overall we remain satisfied that they achieve this. However, in recent years it has become increasingly difficult to recruit adequate numbers of people.

To illustrate this, please see below a table showing average attendance on changeover days over the last six months:

	Required	Attended	%
Fri	28	25	89
Sat	54	44	81
Sun	39	31	79

David Stanning (Langdale Estate CEO) and Fiona Childs (Lodge Housekeeper) have been trying various recruitment initiatives and incentive schemes to boost numbers, which have yielded some success. Other schemes are planned.

Kelly Hodkinson (Housekeeping Quality & Training Manager) has been working to improve standards, again with some success. However, it is very difficult to make progress when they are consistently under-staffed.

Whilst The Committee and the Management Company will never compromise on quality, we thought it would be beneficial to all if we shared some of the issues surrounding the operation of the Housekeeping department. If upon arrival you find any problems (which of course we hope there aren't) please ring the Housekeeping department who will endeavour to rectify these as speedily as possible.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the Housekeeping department for their hard work and commitment, especially during the World Cup when attendance went down to 50%!

The Constitution

The Constitution of the Owners' Club and the Management Agreement are hardly bedtime reading, but your Committee and the Management Company ("ManCo") have been looking at the provisions concerning charges for services provided by ManCo. The Management Agreement gives an entitlement to ManCo to charge their costs plus 15%. In practice, no-one can remember the full 15% ever being charged, and all the Management Companies have levied a lower sum; generally speaking, about half the amount allowed.

If a 15% mark-up is inappropriate, then what should be the financial relationship between the Owners' Club Committee (on behalf of all owners) and ManCo? Discussions are currently taking place with ManCo to see if a simple and objective system of charges can be developed to mutual advantage, with an overall aim of achieving even better value for money. For some matters a simple handling charge may be appropriate; for example, dealing with rates, water and collecting management fees. For others, such as cleaning or refurbishment projects, payment might include an element based on performance. These and other ideas are being explored before proposals are developed for the Committee and the Board of Langdale Owners PLC to consider, hopefully in the first half of 2007.

The Constitution and Management Agreement contain important safeguards of the interests of all Langdale timeshare owners. The basic framework should stand the test of time but in some respects current practice has departed from the original Management Agreement – perhaps not surprisingly after 25 years of operation. When the current discussions about the relationship with ManCo are brought to a conclusion, your Committee will consider whether or not they should make any proposals to vary the formal arrangements to bring them fully into line with current practice. Owners will of course be kept fully informed of developments.

Disability

Your Committee regularly review their policy for facilities for people with disabilities, particularly in relation to timeshare lodges and apartments. From time to time, requests for help are received from timeshare owners and these are responded to as positively as possible. Some lodges have relatively easy access, and one (Lodge 43) has facilities for the disabled. But many lodges have steps for access, and of course many are two-storey with stairs. Where possible, the needs of people with disabilities are taken into account, but it is not considered a practical possibility, either structurally or financially, to create wheelchair access in all lodges and apartments. It follows that people who bought timeshare units with difficult access or with internal stairs, and who subsequently face mobility problems may have to consider renting or selling their original unit and renting or buying a more suitable alternative. The Timeshare Office can help with that. At the Langdale Owners PLC Annual General Meeting in November 2006 it was reported that the Company

was exploring the possibility of creating some timeshare units on the Estate with facilities for the disabled, but this idea is at an early stage, and some formidable hurdles (not least planning permission) have to be overcome before the idea becomes a reality. The Committee always welcomes practical ideas for improving facilities for timeshare owners on this and any other subject.



Lodge 43 Bathroom

Procurement

The Owners' Club Committee and Management Company between them spend a lot of money on the owners' behalf. Value for money is always a priority, but it is some time since our purchasing arrangements were reviewed. We are looking for a volunteer, or a small group, with purchasing/procurement

expertise who would be willing to help review the way we make large purchases and to give advice on how we might do even better. If you have experience of securing rock-bottom prices from top quality suppliers we need your help! If you think you might be able to help, please contact David Stanning at:

david.stanning@langdale.co.uk

AGM

The AGMs for the Langdale Owners' Club (afternoon) and Langdale Owners PLC (morning) were held on 5th November 2006. About 100 shareholders, timeshare owners and guests attended what were both very enjoyable and informative meetings.

The minutes of the meetings accompany this Views but we thought you might be interested in a short summary now [LOC only].

The Committee comprises of: Fred Crouch (Chairman), Ian Hamilton (Timeshare Owner), Andrew Collier (Timeshare Owner), Colin Lister (Management Company) and David Stanning (Management Company).

Fred Crouch opened the meeting with a summary of the year's results and activities, concentrating mainly upon the refurbishment plans. Ian Hamilton explained the methodology being adopted by the Committee, ie Project Management, whereby plans are being developed for each of the areas of refurbishment. This will allow efficient project and financial planning. The four 'live' projects are gas boilers, replacement of lounge suites, home entertainment systems and bathrooms. The meeting was brought up to date in more detail with the bathroom project (see other article).

Andrew Collier spoke about the attempts to improve communication between the Committee and the membership; these being an improved Views, MiniViews (issued via email four times a year) and the Owners' Website.

All the Resolutions were passed unanimously, on a show of hands, including the re-election of Ian Hamilton to the Committee.

Fred Crouch indicated that the date of the next AGM will be 18th November 2007.

Utilities

We are sure that you will all be aware of the incredible increases in utility prices over the past couple of years. We do not intend to discuss here the causes of these price rises but to concentrate upon the effects upon us as owners.

Firstly, what are the price rises?

The gas we use at Langdale is LPG, as opposed to natural gas that most of us use at home, and as such is always more expensive. Langdale has a very good pricing mechanism linked to the market price, but as the oil price has risen so has the price for LPG. In the last two years this has increased by 63% (from £80k to £130k for the whole Estate).

As with gas, we have a good system for obtaining the best prices for electricity, and this has to some extent shielded us from the full excesses of the price rises. However, electricity prices rose by 51% in the two years to April 2006. We have now received a further increase of 50%. This means that in three years prices have risen by 126% (total cost for the Estate being £183k).

As you will know, we pay for our own weekly usage of gas and electricity, and inevitably these prices have had to rise. Therefore, please find below the current utility prices that will be levied.

Electricity:

Regulations state that we have to charge the actual rate per unit of electricity plus a flat charge, rather than a combined rate for usage and standing charges.

The current rates for 2006/07 are:

Location	Rate per unit (pence)	Flat Charge (£)
Main site	6.53p	£8.69
Chapel Stile	4.52p	£8.64
Elterwater	4.52p	£9.34
Lodge 81	4.63p	£9.15
Lodge 82	4.63p	£9.15
Brackens	5.58p	£9.94

Please note that we have, as above, six electricity supplies. This means that the charges vary depending on your property. The main site is on a 12-month contract, whereas the other smaller supplies are on 24-month contracts, and as such will not change until October 2007.

Gas:

Gas is charged at £1.10 per cubic metre. Please note the gas supplied to your lodge is LPG not mains natural gas and as such is more expensive than ordinary domestic gas.

The other inevitable effect upon us is the rising cost of running the Estate. We contribute to the central costs of the Estate, eg Grounds, Maintenance and Administration. The cost of running these operations has risen due to the increase in utility prices, and therefore the level of our contribution has also risen.

The Management Company and the Committee are working very hard to improve both the effectiveness and economy of the services provided but are also discussing the contractual relationship (see other article). It is therefore hoped that the effects of these cost rises can be mitigated.

Wainwrights' Ills

As you may know, in mid September we had quite a serious fire at Wainwrights' which started in the kitchen, caused by a faulty fryer. The result was that the kitchen was completely gutted, the cellar was damaged, there was severe smoke damage to the bar and, to a lesser degree, to some of the apartments. Luckily nobody was injured.

It took the fire brigade over an hour before they had the fire sufficiently under control to risk entering the building. One of the fire-fighters said that it was the most intense fire he had ever been called out to -

with temperatures reaching 1000°C.

Following the fire, the Wainwrights' team has worked non-stop to produce an exciting new food menu; and Ben Clarke, one half of the team that runs Wainwrights', has pulled out all the stops to introduce more new real ales in an effort to get the pub entered into the Good Beer Guide listings.

The result is that we now have a country pub which, though similar in many ways to the old pub, is newer and better-equipped to meet its customers' needs. To quote a

recent guest, "It's still Wainwrights' at heart, but with more character and better services." Soon after reopening, the pub received a "Highly Commended" award from CAMRA.

Since the refurbishment, the pub has also gone entirely non-smoking in early expectation of the nationwide smoking ban laws due to come into effect later this year.

So, come and have a look, and try our great food and real ale. You won't be disappointed.



Wainwrights' Inn ablaze



The newly refurbished Wainwrights' Inn



We Need Your Keys Back!

Lodge Key Amnesty

The keys that are issued to owners to gain access to the lodges were supplied by the Trioving company of Norway. These are the original keys issued to Langdale on the completion of the build.

Unfortunately, this suite of keys is now "extinct" and blank keys for use as spares are no longer available.

Our supply of spare keys, due to loss or wear, is rapidly running low. We would therefore ask any owners who hold any Langdale keys to please return them by post, or to hand them in at the Hotel Reception on their next visit.

Langdale Owners' Swaps

If you are unable to use your lodge or apartment and would like to try to exchange for a different week, or even a change of scene, the following options are available as of 8th December 2006.

Langdale - weeks available for internal swapping

(CS) = Chapel Stile
(EH) = Elterwater Hall
(EB) = Elterwater Barn
(WA) = Wheelchair Access

Week Offered 2007	Week Requested
1 Bed - sleeps 4	
7	6
7	6
16 (CS)	13, 14
30	Sept, - Oct
34	25
36	March
38	13 (2008)
40	24 - 27
2 Bed - sleeps 6	
1	Sept, Oct
1 (CS)	32, 33
2	Sch Hols
5	6, 13, 14, 21, 30, - 34
6	May - Oct
7	6
7	6
7	6
7	Sch Hols
7	6 (1 bed?)
8	6
8	26 - 28
11	6, Sch Hols
12	Any Later
13	12 (3 Beds)
13 (CS)	11, 12
14	29, 32 - 34
15 (EH)	13, 14, 41
16 (EH)	13, 14, Sch Hols
16	Any
16	Sept, Oct
18	22 - 24, 27, 35 - 37, 40
18	Any except winter
18	Sch Hols
18	42
18 (EH)	Sept, Oct
19	29 - 39
19	13, 14, Sch Hols
19	Sept - Oct
19	
20 (CS)	Sept - Oct, 21
210	21
21	30 - 34
22	35 - 42
22 (EH)	2 - 5, 7 - 9
23	28 - 34
25	Sch Hols
25	29, 34 (1 bed?)
26	24 - 28
26	24 - 28 (WA)
27	14, 21, 33, 34 (WA)
29	14, 21, 33, 34 (WA)
32	21, 35, 38
33 (CS)	Sch Hols
34	27
35	27 - 34, 12 - 14, 21
35	34
36	Sch Hols

Week Offered 2007	Week Requested
2 Bed - sleeps 6 - continued	
36	13, 17, 19, 29
37	July
37	29
37 (EB)	18, 39 in EH
38	14, 37
42	32
43	29
43	42, 13, 14, 21
45	Ealier
48	Sch Hols

Week Offered	Week Requested
3 Bed - sleeps 8	
7	6
9	6, 14, 21, 42, (2 beds?)
10	Any (2 beds?)
16	10, 11, 23, 36, 45, (2 beds?)
31	Late Sept
37	29
38	14 - 19
39	7, 14, 15, 31 - 34
43	21, 42, 52, 1, 6 (2008) (2 beds?)
46	47, 48, (2 beds?)

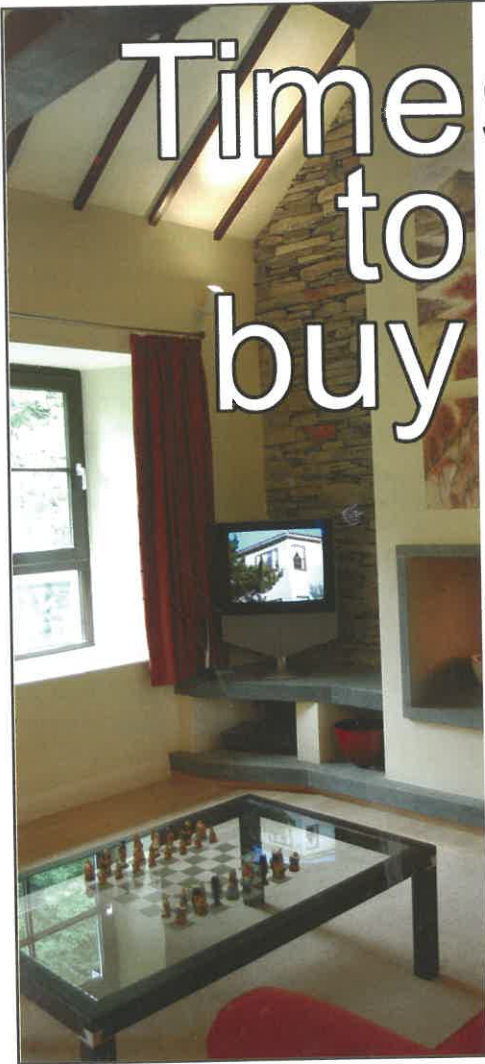
Craigendarroh - Scotland

13 miles from Balmoral

Week Offered 2007	Week Requested at Langdale
16 (2 beds)	19 - 22
19 (2 beds)	Sept
24 (2 beds)	Sept
25 (1 bed)	June - Sept (not Sat)
39 (2 beds)	Sch Hols

PLEASE NOTE:

Administration Charges:
Internal £25, other £50
Please Contact:
Shelia Crouch
Tel/Fax 01661 823 548



Time to buy

Thinking about buying another week of timeshare at Langdale?

Property	Week	List Price	Asking Price
Brackens (2 bed)	2	£10,000	£5,000
Grasmere 59 (1 bed)	14	£10,505	£6,500
Grasmere 52 (1 bed)	37	£10,022	£7,000
Lodge 81 (2 bed)	38	£12,558	£8,000
Windermere 68 (2 bed)	15	£15,335	£9,000
Windermere 39 (2 bed)	44	£13,041	£7,000
Elterwater Hall Apt 1 (2 bed)	25	£13,041	£8,000
Elterwater Cottage (1 bed)	33	£11,787	£6,000
Chapel Stile Apt 5 (2 bed)	14	£9,660	£5,000
Chapel Stile Apt 6 (1 bed)	27	£6,670	£4,000
Beckside West (2 bed)	14	£20,900	£15,500
Beckside West (2 bed)	2	£11,000	£8,500
Beckside East (3 bed)	11	£18,700	£13,500

Please Note: This is only a selection of weeks available to purchase at Langdale. For more information on the properties above and full availability, please contact the Sales Office on 015394 37391 or visit www.langdale.co.uk.

Around half our clients are members of the Langdale Owners' Club, and we are delighted to be offered this opportunity to mention our holidays to you. We are a small fully-bonded tour operator offering a very personal level of service with holidays to some of the most attractive parts of the world. The emphasis is always on style, comfort and quality - just like Langdale!

Please give us a call or send an e-mail if you would like to receive information about any of our holidays. Please also look up our website.

David Fairs

Langdale Walking & Adventure Holidays
 Helsington Laithe's Cottage
 Kendal
 LA9 5RJ
 Tel: 01539 735108
 E-mail: info@langdaleholidays.co.uk

Advertisement for Langdale Walking & Adventure Holidays



www.langdaleholidays.co.uk

2007

- Mar - Mallorca
- Apr - Tresco
- May - Gower
- Jun - Ireland
- Tuscany
- Pyrenees
- July - Tuscany
- Aug - Edinburgh
- Sep - Langdale
- Corsica
- Rockies
- Tuscany
- Oct - Crete
- Canada
- Nov - Seychelles
- Australia
- Dec - Florence

2008

- Jan - New Zealand
- Feb - Patagonia
- Oman
- Mar - Vietnam/
Cambodia