



RICHES OF THE MEKONG

7-NIGHT CRUISE

SIEM REAP TO HO CHI MINH CITY



CRUISE FROM: SIEM REAP TO HO CHI MINH CITY

Cruise along the Mekong through Cambodia and Vietnam as you are transported back in time to another era, where the rhythms of the countryside move at a slower pace and allow for a fascinating glimpse into a traditional way of life. Visit rural villages, colorful markets and a monastery, where you will receive a special Buddhist blessing by monks. Delve into the peaks and valleys of Cambodia's history in the Royal Palace and National Museums of its beautiful capital, Phnom Penh. Witness skilled artisans who create exquisite handicrafts and delicacies, and be treated to authentic experiences, including rides via oxcart, tut tut and trishaw. On this transformative journey, the Mekong truly reveals a vibrant world along its shores.

Note: Itinerary is subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the itinerary schedule you receive with your final documents.

COUNTRIES: CAMBODIA, VIETNAM

RIVERS: MEKONG

Detailed Itinerary RICHES OF THE MEKONG

DAY 1

SIEM REAP – KAMPONG CHAM, CAMBODIA – EMBARKATION

Transfer via motorcoach from Siem Reap to the AmaDara in Kampong Cham for your seven-night cruise. Your afternoon excursion takes you to the Twin Mountains, known as Phnom Pros and Phnom Srei (male and female mountains). In the annals of Khmer legend, the Twin Mountains were formed as the result of a competition between the men and women of an ancient Cambodian kingdom to resolve which gender would be responsible for wedding proposals. As the story goes, the women lit a fire at night, which made the men believe the sun was rising. As a result, the men stopped working and the women won the competition. Thus, men still need to ask the women's parents for permission and Phnom Srei is higher than Phnom Pros. Later, join fellow guests for an evening Welcome Dinner. (L, D)

*All cruise only guests should meet us at Sofitel Angkor hotel in Siem Reap at 8:00 am on Embarkation day to join the transfer to the ship in Kampong Cham. We recommend that you fly into Siem Reap at least one day prior to embarkation; please inquire about important arrival arrangements prior to your cruise.

DAY 2

ANGKOR BAN - OKNHATEY

During the morning, go on a walking tour to Angkor Ban, one of the few villages in Cambodia that was not destroyed under the Khmer Rouge regime in the 1970s. Here people still live in their traditional wooden abodes and keep their old cultural traditions alive. Hundreds of wooden houses stand intact on stilts, shaded with banana trees, among the hustle and bustle of the daily agricultural on-going of the local villagers. After visiting here, the ship sails to Oknhatey or "Silk Island," located on the lush banks of the Mekong River. This island is known for its rich tradition of silk weaving. While here, you'll visit a local elementary school and observe traditional silk weaving an art that has been preserved for centuries. Your ship moors in Oknhatey village. (B, L, D)

*Based on seasonality, the port of Angkor Ban may be inaccessible from August - September. During this time, Wat Hanchey will replace Angkor Ban as the port of call.



DAY 3

LOUDONG - KAMPONG TRALACH - PHNOM PENH

Your cruise continues to sail to Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia. The morning excursion takes you to Oudong, Cambodia's former royal capital from the early 17th century until 1866. Today, Oudong is a place of pilgrimage for Cambodians. While here, be treated to a memorable Buddhist Blessing Ceremony at a monastery. You may walk around Oudong's monastery or take an active walking tour to see panoramic views of the Oudong plain. After visiting Oudong, be treated to a truly authentic excursion, an oxcart ride through a local village Kampong Tralach. Later in the day, experience Phnom Penh via a tuk ride and be enchanted by the city's French Colonial architecture and tree-lined boulevards set amidst monumental Angkorian architecture. After returning to the ship, enjoy Khmer folk dancing performed by local children in the Saigon Lounge. (B, L, D)

DAY 4

PHNOM PENH

This morning's excursion takes you to Cambodia's infamous Killing Fields and the Khmer Rouge's grim Tuol Sleng S21 detention center (Genocide Museum). After lunch on board, you'll explore the highlights of the city, followed by a visit to the Royal Palace, the spectacular Silver Pagoda and the National Museum, which has an outstanding collection of Khmer crafts. Alternatively, you may wish to shop for unique treasures at the bustling, yellow-colored Central Market after your visit to the Royal Palace. (B, L, D)

DAY 5

PHNOM PENH – BORDER CROSSING – TAN CHAU, VIETNAM

Spend the day cruising the Mekong River as your ship crosses the border into Vietnam. (B, L, D)

DAY 6

TAN CHAU

Enjoy a visit to Tan Chau, a small Mekong River town unspoiled by tourism. Be treated to an authentic experience on a traditional "xe-loi" (trishaw) ride around the town, with stops at silk-making and rattan mat workshops. You may also choose the trishaw ride with visits to craftsmen's workshops, followed by an active walking tour to "Evergreen Island." As a third alternative, visit Tram Chim National Park, which protects the Plain of Reeds, a seasonal wetland area, in the Mekong Delta. Explore this area by tender boat, gliding along the inland waterway that forms this unique ecosystem. This biodiversity conservation site is home to several rare species of birds, including the highly vulnerable sarus crane. Later in the day, cruise to Sa Dec. (B, L, D)

**Please Note: Tram Chim National Park visit is capacity controlled.*



DAY 7

SA DEC –CAI BE

Once ashore in Sa Dec, tour the town where French writer Marguerite Duras spent many years in her youth. Visit a colorful local market and Cao Dai Temple, home to the unique religion of Caodaism in Southern Vietnam. It is a fusion of Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Confucianism. You will have an opportunity to visit candy and rice paper making workshops, or you may also choose to add an active walking tour to the historic Kiet Old House and cap the day off with a festive Farewell Dinner on board. (B, L, D)

DAY 8

DISEMBARKATION – MY THO – HO CHI MINH CITY

Your cruise concludes in My Tho Port, where you'll disembark and transfer via motorcoach from My Tho Port to Ho Chi Minh City. (B)

**Guests booking cruise only will be transferred from the ship to Sofitel Saigon Plaza in Ho Chi Minh City. We recommend that you schedule your onward flight to depart Ho Chi Minh after 2:30 pm today to avoid potential missed connections.*



OPTIONAL: BANGKOK EXTENSION



The capital and most populous city in Thailand, Bangkok is a fascinating center of commerce and culture. During your unforgettable Bangkok land program, you'll discover architectural riches from the Grand Palace to the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, cruise along the city's famed canals and enjoy leisure time to explore incredible museums or shop for distinctive souvenirs in its colorful markets.

PRE HANOI

POST SAIGON

DAY 1	Bangkok	Hotel Check-in
DAY 2	Bangkok	Visit Grand Palace and Reclining Buddha
DAY 3	Bangkok	Khlong Tour and Temple of the Dawn
DAY 4	Bangkok	Depart Bangkok

DAY 1**BANGKOK, THAILAND**

Arrive in Bangkok and check into your hotel.

DAY 2**BANGKOK**

Discover the spectacular and centuries-old Grand Palace with its glittering Temple of the Emerald Buddha. The infamous Buddha was chiseled from one block of emerald and is believed to have supernatural powers. Stop at Wat Pho, known as the Temple of the Reclining Buddha. It houses a school of Thai medicine and is the birthplace of traditional Thai massage. Enjoy rest of day at your leisure to discover more of Bangkok's incredible sights. (B)

DAY 3**BANGKOK**

This morning, cruise along the small canals ("khlongs") of Thonburi, gaining a better understanding of why Bangkok is known as "the Venice of the East." Conclude your morning sightseeing tour with a visit to the imposing Temple of the Dawn, which stands beside the Chao Phraya River and dazzles with a structure composed of millions of fragments of Chinese porcelain. Spend your afternoon at leisure exploring more Bangkok, from its fascinating three-dimensional art museum, Art in Paradise, to its world-famous shopping centers and colorful markets, such as the Night Train, an eye-catching local gathering of tents illuminated by electric lights as the sun sets (B)

DAY 4**DEPART BANGKOK**

Check out of your hotel and bid farewell to Bangkok as you prepare for your flight that brings you to your next destination. (B)

OPTIONALS

2 Nights Hanoi, 1 Night Ha Long Bay, 3 Nights Siem Reap Pre-Cruise and 2 Nights Ho Chi Minh City Post-Cruise

7- Night Cruise with 3 Nights Siem Reap Pre-Cruise

7- Night Cruise with 2 Nights Ho Chi Minh Post-Cruise

Included Features

7- Night Cruise

SPACIOUS STATEROOMS

- 7 nights luxury accommodation in a twin-balcony stateroom
- Flat-panel screen that features in-house movies
- Mini-fridge, desk and sitting area
- Bottled water replenished daily

AN ARRAY OF AMENITIES

PERSONALIZED SERVICE FROM A HIGHLY TRAINED CRUISE MANAGER DURING BOTH CRUISE AND LAND PROGRAMS

- Sun deck with pool
- Fitness room and three spas
- Saigon Lounge with panoramic views and bar
- Bottled water in every stateroom replenished daily
- Daily entertainment including cultural performances

AWARD-WINNING DINING

- All onboard dining in a variety of venues
- Regionally inspired cuisine made with locally sourced ingredients
- The Chef's Table specialty restaurant
- Welcome Cocktail and Dinner
- Unlimited wine with lunch and dinner
- Complimentary local beer, house-brand spirits and soft drinks during cruise
- Snacks and refreshments served daily in the Main Lounge

A WORLD OF EXPLORATION

- Immersive tours in every destination
- Gentle, regular, active and late-riser tour options
- Knowledgeable guides
- Personal headset for easy exploration
- Airport transfers with purchase of air from AmaWaterways

AmaDara OVERVIEW



This distinctive ship is in a class of her own! AmaWaterways' sole cruise ship on the Mekong River, the AmaDara features French Colonial décor and richly carved wood furniture inspired by the history of the region, as well as local artifacts made by native craftsmen. Air-conditioned interior corridors lead to spacious staterooms and suites, most featuring twin balconies that invite the ever-changing scenery of Southeast Asia inside. On board, the AmaDara caters to your every whim, with massage rooms, fitness room, gift shop, hair salon and sun-deck pool. Her stunning Saigon Lounge provides respite by day and unites guests over intriguing local entertainment by night. Savor authentic regional delicacies and Western cuisine in the Main Restaurant or dine at The Chef's Table specialty restaurant; and throughout your cruise, be treated to unlimited complimentary wine with lunch and dinner, as well as house brand spirits, local beer and soft drinks throughout your cruise