

Luxury Mekong Cruise Holiday - 12 days

(Siem Reap - Kampong Chhnang - Kampong Cham - Phnom Penh - Tan Chau
Sadec - My Tho - Saigon)

Itinerary Overview

Day	Destination	Meals
Day 1	SIEM REAP ARRIVAL	-
Day 2	SIEM REAP - ANGKOR WITH SUNSET	B
Day 3	SIEM REAP - KAMPONG CHHNANG	B/L/D
Day 4	KAMPONG CHHNANG - KAMPONG CHAM	B/L/D
Day 5	KAMPONG CHAM - WAT HANCHEY	B/L/D
Day 6	PHNOM PENH	B/L/D
Day 7	PHNOM PENH – BORDER CROSSING - TAN CHAU	B/L/D
Day 8	TAN CHAU - SADEC	B/L/D
Day 9	SADEC - CAI BE - MY THO	B/L/D
Day 10	DISEMBARKATION - SAIGON	B
Day 11	SAIGON - CITY & CU CHI TUNNEL	B/L
Day 12	SAIGON DEPARTURE	B

Note*: B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 SIEM REAP ARRIVAL

Arrive Siem Reap airport. You are welcome and transfer to the hotel in Siem Reap. Free to relax.

Meals: n/a

Note*: this is a copy of itinerary on Indochina Treks Travel' Official Website and not the final itinerary.

Accommodation: Hotel in Siem Reap

Day 2 SIEM REAP - ANGKOR WITH SUNSET

Pickup at the hotel at 8:00 and we will take you to visit to the city of Angkor Thom. At first we will start visit Bayon temple it's the highlight temple in the center of Angkor Thom city with 49 towers which every tower has 4 faces so that's mean all towers have 196 faces of Budhhistsatva Avalokitesvara and we walk to the next temple nearby called Baphoun which is Hindu temple built before Angkor Wat in 11st Century but the big Reclining Buddha behind built in 16th Century & continue to Royal Enclosure nearby with visit Elephant & Liper King Terrace as still in complex of Angkor Thom then we continue to outside Angkor Thom complex to visit Ta Prohm temple on small circuit road the one with a lot of gigantic root of trees over the temple and It's the place where Hollywood film company made a Movie "Tom Raider".

After busy couple hours in the morning around 12:30pm we'll have lunch at a local restaurant.

After lunch already around 1:30pm or 2:00pm in the afternoon we'll visit the world famous Angkor Wat temple. It really is amazing! Afterward continue to Phnom Bakheng climb the hill and temple for enjoy watching sunset view. After sunset when getting dark then we climb down the hill and return to your hotel or guesthouse by 6:00pm or 6:30pm.

Note*: Due to the limited number of tourists on Phnom Bakheng so we will require or take you to climb up Phnom Bakheng a bit earlier then you will take a bit more longer waiting for sunset.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Siem Reap

Important note*: Depending on the water level (low or high), the cruise itinerary would change. We will keep you updated a few days before departure.

Day 3 SIEM REAP - KAMPONG CHHNANG

The Tonle Sap (The Great Lake) is the flowing heart of Cambodia, giving love and life to this nation. The Tonle Sap has more fish than any other lake in the world and is home to an incredible variety of birds, including rare and endangered feathered life.

At 12 pm (noon), we gather at the meeting point followed by a quick transfer to the boutique ship. The ever-smiling crew welcomes us with unbridled warmth. A refreshing welcome drink awaits us followed by a sumptuous lunch on the ship.

Then, it is a lazy afternoon as the ship glides along the water. Dinner is at Dining Hall. Enjoy a spectacular experience on the sun-deck as we bathe in the glow of the moon and the radiance of the stars.

The ship then moors overnight on The Great Lake.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Mekong River Cruise

Day 4 KAMPONG CHHNANG - KAMPONG CHAM

The day in fact everyday - starts with an invigorating Tai Chi lesson on the sundeck, just as the sun begins its slow rise. Coffee and tea awaits the early bird. Before dawn, the ship sets sail across the Tonle Sap Lake. As the ship is about to exit the lake, we see spectacular marshlands floating along the river banks of Kampong Chhnang province.

The afternoon cruise continues with a languid meander along the Tonle Sap, which narrows through leafy swaths of the Southeast Asian jungle. Here, the river is very narrow and we are greeted by kids waving enthusiastically at us from the banks.

Follow a short bus trip to see the Khmer-styled pottery at the Aundaung Russey village. We then embark on a truly marvelous motorboat excursion from Kampong Chhnang to see the wetlands, floating houses and fish farms in the region before reaching Kampong Cham in the evening. Further down the river we take part in an ox cart rally before being introduced to the Heritage Line pro bono literacy projec. (www.cambodialiteracyproject.com).

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Jahan Cruise / Jayavarman Cruise

Day 5 KAMGPONG CHAM - WAT HANCHEY

We will wake up in the small hours of the morning, truly energized to embark on a land journey to the pre-Angkorian temple of Wat Hanchey. Travelers either take a motor-taxi or climb the 291 steps to the top. Located at the top of a hill overlooking the river, it offers one of the most breath-taking views in Cambodia. Built in the 8th century, this ancient structure, together with a bigger and newer addition underscores the superb architecture of the Chenla Empire which predates the mighty Angkor temple complex. We even get to engage in light banter with some of the monks in the area. We will return to the ship to witness a blessing ceremony performed by orange-clad local monks.

When the tide allows, we will enjoy a surprise sojourn in our zodiacs (inflatable boats) to the nearby bank to swim in the tea-coloured Mekong river, an experience that will, no doubt, dominate dinner conversations in the weeks to come.

We will then cruise towards Kampong Cham to visit Wat Nokor, a wat built within the ruins of an ancient temple which holds a timeless story. On the way back to the ship, we will visit an orphanage. Along the way, we will have to maneuver a 2-kilometer rickety bamboo bridge. Our sense of balance lies in the balance!

Overnight midstream near Phnom Penh.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Jahan Cruise / Jayavarman Cruise

Day 6 Phnom Penh

Phnom Penh was once the Paris of the East. Despite its rapid development, it has retained a lot of its rustic charm and elegance. After breakfast, we will be captivated by a comprehensive lecture on Cambodia's modern history. This will be followed by a city tour of this dynamic, historical capital city of Cambodia which has managed to preserve huge slices of its French colonial allure. Sightseeing in the morning will include visiting the dazzling white and gold edifice of the Royal Palace and the Silver Pagoda, and witnessing exceptionally beautiful Khmer craft at the National Museum.

After lunch at a local restaurant, we will visit the Genocide museum and the Killing Field in town. Be prepared to be heart wrenched by this stark reminder of the genocide that transpired during Cambodia's Khmer Rouge regime.

We go back to the ship after our museum visit. Take a rest on your cabin balcony or the lounge and get prepared for any exciting evening event. The evening starts with a variety of cocktail served on the sun deck. Take a seat and enjoy the following Apsara dance performance. Experience the brilliance and richness of this culture, the soothing sounds of traditional music, the calming scent of incense sticks and a barbeque on the sundeck. It is indeed a truly marvelous experience, dining in the open with the stars and the moon as our companions.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Jahan Cruise / Jayavarman Cruise

Day 7 PHNOM PENH – BORDER CROSSING - TAN CHAU

Start new day with Tai Chi at the sun deck with fresh tea and coffee be ready to served

Breakfast

At 9am, we will be captivated by a comprehensive lecture on Camdodia's morden history

The cruise liner then sets sail for a lazy day of cruising along the main Mekong Channel. As this is an international shipping route, you will witness large commercial ships plying this route. Lunch will be served on boat. Later, in the afternoon, we set off to the Vietnamese border for the requisite cross border paperwork. As the process tends to take some time, we bask in the glow of the afternoon sun on the sun deck, pamper ourselves silly at the Spa, or sharpen our culinary skills with the Heritage Line's Cambodian and Vietnamese cuisine cooking class.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. The ship moors midstream overnight in Tan Chau.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Jahan Cruise / Jayavarman Cruise

Day 8 TAN CHAU - SADEC

Welcome to the fish sanctuary of Vietnam. Begin your day with a hearty breakfast at the Dining Hall or in the quiet sanctuary of your balcony. Brace yourself on local vehicles called "xeloi" to explore Tan Chau, a pleasant town near the Cambodian border. We will also visit the colorful local market near an ancient temple. This is followed by a trip to the quay, where we will be feted to a boat excursion to the floating villages and rustic catfish farms trip to the quay, where we will be feted to a boat excursion to the floating fish farm. Then, we will be back to the ship for a lunch.

In the mid afternoon, we will set off for My An Hung Village. Passengers walk to the family house through the vegetable garden to see the boat building yard and canals. We will cross a monkey bridge and see seasonal vegetable fields. Then gather at the family's house to taste tea with honey with local delicacies and fruits before back to the Ship to set off for Sa Dec in the late afternoon.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Jahan Cruise / Jayavarman Cruise

Day 9 SADEC - CAI BE - MY THO

In the morning we embark a traditional sampan* to tour Binh Thanh Island and its man-made canals. Here, every villager is involved in the process of growing and processing water hyacinths into natural fibre floor mats and rattan baskets.

After lunch onboard, the ship arrives in Cai Be. The tour starts with a visit to Cai Be's boisterous and colorful floating market where traders gather in a cacophonous congregation. During the languid ride, we discover breathtaking landscapes along the river and quaff the rustic life on the Mekong Delta.

The evergreen islands along the Mekong River remains unknown to many people. The cruise will halt intermittently to allow us to observe how rice paste, rice cookies and coconut candies are made, along with the Longan fruit drying process. After touring the canals, we head to an ancient house surrounded by fruit orchards before heading to the ship for dinner.

We then board the Ship for a tranquil evening cruise towards My Tho. A wonderful farewell party awaits us on the cruise.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Jahan Cruise / Jayavarman Cruise

Day 10 DISEMBARKATION - SAIGON

Our cruise on the magnificent cruiser comes to an end as the ship winds its way to My Tho, approximately 70km south of Saigon on the upper Mekong river in Vietnam. We bid farewell to the cruise as our journey comes to a close. But the memories - and the friendships made on board - linger on for a lot longer.

We disembark at around 8:30 am and we join the transfer to madding crowd of Saigon. Drop off at the meeting point in Saigon. Transfer to your hotel for checkin. Free to relax.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Saigon

Day 11 SAIGON - CITY & CU CHI TUNNEL

Pickup at the hotel at 8:00, we head out of town to visit the Cu Chi Tunnels, which is an extensive underground network of approximately 200 kilometers of tunnels dug initially by the Viet Minh and then expanded by the Viet Cong. Here contains hospitals, plus accommodation and schools, and were used extensively for refuge and storage and also utilized as a military base for the Viet Cong close to Saigon. In late afternoon, transfer to Saigon for half day city tour. Our city tour will help you to see the best of Saigon. We visit the historic Reunification palace and War Remnants Museum, followed by the architectural treats of French colonial Notre Dame Cathedral and the post Office. Free time at leisure or shopping at Ben Thanh Market nearby.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Siem Reap

Day 12 SAIGON DEPARTURE

Free and easy till airport transfer for departure flight. Trip ends.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: n/a

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions

- o Overnights at luxury 5* hotels as follow:

Majestic Saigon Hotel

- Victoria Resort in Siem Reap
- o Vietnam visa approval letter
- o **Mekong 8 day full board package by Jayavarman/Jahan Cruise**
- o Private Pre/post cruise excursions
- o Local English speaking guides
- o Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- o Port tax
- o Entrance fees for sightseeing mentioned in the itinerary
- o Tours and transfers as mentioned, by air-conditioned vehicles

Exclusions

- o Meals and services other than those noted in the itinerary
- o Vietnam and Cambodia Visa stamping fees
- o Laundry, telephone calls, and personal expenditures
- o Gratuities for guides, drivers, porters, boat crew, and personal, non-itinerary services

Important Information

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the travel consultant whom you deal with and then our hot line contacts. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please send us a detailed message and contact information by email to the agent and to info@indochinatreks.com, we may check and return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

Our all travel consultants use WhatApps. Please ensure that you have the contact number. It's best to buy a local sim-card upon arrival. Most hotels offer free wifi. So it's very easy to contact in urgent case.

Emergency contact numbers

Mr. Kelvin Do: +84 986759655

Ms. Thuy Pham: +84 984654964

Combo Trip

If you book small group tour option, please note that the tour combines with our other tours. As such, some travel companions on your tour may have previously been travelling together with us. Likewise, some travel companions may be continuing together on another tour after your trip concludes.

You can start the tour on any date (please contact our consultant in advance to avoid peak dates or holidays) and customize itinerary with extra days/activities at any destination.

Internal Flights

For all internal flights, we would use Vietnamairlines, Vietjesair, Jestar, Cambodia Angkorair or Laos Airlines. Most domestic flights in Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, airlines would use small 70 seat ATR72 for short distances. Most airlines in Vietnam use the Airbus A321. 20kg for checkin luggage and 7kg for hand-bag is included in the price.

International flights before/after the tour must be booked by yourself before travelling date.

Accommodation

We would use different hotel categories and you can select any basing on your budget. So your travel companions would not stay at your hotel. A Hotel Voucher will be provided once your tour is confirmed with all hotel details.

Packing List

Conservative Dress

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Note*: Please pack clothing for the season in which you will be travelling. From Dec-Feb weather can be cold, so please pack warm clothing. From May-Nov it is the wet season, so please bring waterproof clothing.

Documents

- All tickets (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Required visas
- Hotel & Tour Vouchers
- Meeting sign (with your names and flight details that we will use for transfers)

Train Travel

Train travel in Vietnam is very basic and train cleanliness is often not a priority for train staff. Sleeper trains normally have 4 seats per compartment, which convert into sleeping bunks (two upper and two lower). A sheet, pillow and blanket are provided, although many people prefer to bring their own sleeping sheet. At times, passengers of different genders may be required to share a sleeper train berth and/or share a compartment with people not travelling in your group. For short distance - 3 hours (as Hue to Danang or vv), you will do the trip on soft/hard seat carriage.

Simple food is available on the train but many people like to stock up on freshly baked bread, cheese and fruit prior to departure. Water should also be bought before the journey.

Train journeys in Vietnam are an experience and allow you to get a real taste of Vietnam.

Airport transfers

All airport transfers are included in the tour price. You should provide us your arrival/departure flight details and we will arrange things basing on the information. A meeting sign with your name and all flight details will be sent to you. Please be ready at the lobby at pointed time for pickup.

Driver/guide should always be present at the airport before your arrival time. If you could not find the driver, please contact your travel consultant who you deal with. For any reason that airport transfer could not be arranged, please take the taxi to the hotel. We will refund the money then.

Travel insurance

Travel insurance is not included in our tour price. When travelling with us, you are suggested to buy insurance that covers all medical coverage, cancellation, personal liability, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects.

Trip Specific Safety

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Be aware that petty theft can be an issue in some towns and cities especially late at night. A common tactic is opportunists on motorbikes that drive by and snatch bags. Please always leave valuables and passports etc in your hotel in safety boxes if available and only carry with you enough cash to spend for the day. Bags should always be carried over the neck and not left to sit on your shoulder.

Warming

Please do not buy gems unless you know what you are doing. Even if genuine you should not expect to be able to sell them at home. If you fall victim to a gem scam, we are unable to assist you.

Visas and Entry Requirements

Please note that visas for Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are the responsibility of the individual traveller. The visa requirements for your trip vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. For the most up to date information please check your Governments Foreign Ministry website or with you travel agent as rules do change.

CAMBODIA - Visas can be obtained at the Cambodian border or Siem Reap Airport for approx. \$35 USD very easily. Please have **at least** 2 passport photos with you as well.

VIETNAM - As of March 2017, a select 80 nationalities are now eligible to enter Vietnam with an E-Visa. Please contact your Foreign Ministry or Vietnamese consulate to see if your nationality is eligible. Please note that you should **ONLY** apply for a Vietnam E-Visa if you are entering Vietnam by international airport - either Noi Bai International Airport (Hanoi) or Tan Son Nhat International Airport (Ho Chi Minh City).

If you are entering Vietnam by land border, please apply for a regular visa for Vietnam. Many of the land borders we travel through do not accept the Vietnam E-Visa. Please view this link to apply E-Visa: <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn/web/guest/trang-chu-ttdt>

We will help you apply an approval letter for visa on arrival if you enter Vietnam through international airports. You will have to pay for stamping fees to the custom at the airport. View how visa on arrival works through this link:

https://www.indochinatreks.com/Vietnam_Visa_On_Arrival

LAOS - Visas are issued upon arrival in Laos. You will need two passport size photographs and approx \$35. Tourists are generally admitted to Laos for 15 days with a visa on arrival or for 30 days with a visa issued at a Lao embassy. Please bring visa photos with you.

Please be aware that you will require four clean pages (minimum) in your passport and at least six months validity.

Tipping

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$3-\$5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service.

Electricity

Indochina Countries use 220V, and a mixture of flat 2-pin, round 2-pin or 3 pin plugs. It is recommended to bring a universal plug adapter.