

# CHARMING MEKONG

## HO CHI MINH CITY to SIEM REAP



Cruise along the mighty Mekong, discovering a glimpse into another era; one where people still happily honor the timeless traditions passed down through the centuries from their ancestors. Throughout your trip, immerse yourself into the culture and heritage with visits to rural villages, historic pagodas, Angkor Wat and colorful markets. Be treated to a special blessing by monks in Buddhist monastery, and witness skilled artisans who create exquisite handicrafts and delicacies. Experience all this and more on this life-enriching cruise along the Mekong.



### CRUISE-TOUR START DATES:

**2024:** Aug 3, 17, 31 | Sep 14, 28 | Oct 12, 26 | Nov 9, 23 | Dec 7, 21

**2025:** Jan 4, 18 | Feb 1, 15 | Mar 1, 15, 29 | Apr 12  
Aug 9, 23 | Sep 6, 20 | Oct 4, 18 | Nov 1, 15, 29 |  
Dec 13, 27

**DURATION:** 12 DAYS/11 NIGHTS

**EMBARK:** HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM

**DISEMBARK:** SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA

**SHIP:** AmaDara

**CRUISE-TOUR FROM:** \$3,498 + Port Charges

**CRUISE-ONLY FROM \$2,399\* + Port Charge**

**\$1,000 PER PERSON SAVINGS**

**OR 2-FOR-1 LAND TOURS on SELECT DATES**

**BOOK BY JUNE 30, 2024**



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 - ARRIVE IN HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM

Ho Chi Minh City, still affectionately referred to by locals as Saigon, is Vietnam's former capital. Once known as the "Paris of the Orient," it is now an industrial, cultural and educational hub.

### DAY 2 - HO CHI MINH CITY

Always bustling, Ho Chi Minh City is a city of contrasts blending old and new, and east and west. In the morning, explore some of the city's most famous landmarks, including the former Presidential Palace, the Central Post Office, Notre Dame Cathedral and the War Remnants Museum. In the afternoon, visit Cu Chi, an immense underground network built during the Vietnam War. (B,L)



### DAY 3 - HO CHI MINH CITY – MY THO – EMBARKATION

In the morning, visit Ben Thanh Market—one of the oldest and most iconic structures in Ho Chi Minh City. Transfer via motorcoach from Ho Chi Minh City to AmaDara at My Tho Port for your river cruise and meet your fellow travelers at a Welcome Dinner as the ship cruises to Cai Be. (B,L,D)

### DAY 4 - CAI BE - SA DEC, VIETNAM

Take a local boat to Cai Be. You will have an opportunity to visit candy and rice paper making workshops, as well as the historic Kiet Old House. Later in the day, journey to Sa Dec, a sprawling town on the Mekong Delta, where French writer Marguerite Duras spent part of her youth. You will visit the colorful market, Cao Dai Temple and the house of Mr. Huynh Thuy Le, Duras' Chinese paramour, which her prize-winning novel, "The Lover," is said to be based on. (B,L,D)

### DAY 5 - TAN CHAU BORDER CROSSING FROM VIETNAM TO CAMBODIA

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, followed by a boat ride through the narrow channels of the Mekong River to "Evergreen Island." Alternatively, take a boat ride to Evergreen Island and return to Tan Chau, where you will visit a rattan mat workshop. Later in the day, cruise from Vietnam to the Cambodian border en route to Phnom Penh. (B,L,D)



### DAY 6 - PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

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). Alternatively, you may wish to shop for unique treasures at the bustling yellow-colored Central Market. After lunch on board, you will 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. After returning to the ship, enjoy Khmer folk dancing performed by local children in the Saigon Lounge. (B,L,D)

### DAY 7 - OUDONG, KAMPONG-TRALACH, PHNOM PENH

Visit 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 also take a walking tour of Oudong. In Kampong





Tralach, you will have a truly authentic excursion – an ox-cart ride through a local village. Later in the day, experience Phnom Penh via a tuk tuk ride and be enchanted by the city's French Colonial architecture and tree-lined boulevards set amidst monumental Angkorian architecture. (B,L,D)



#### **DAY 8 - OKNHATEY VILLAGE**

In the morning, set sail for Oknhatey Village. Oknhatey is the “Silk Island,” located on the lush banks of the Mekong River and known for its rich tradition of silk weaving. While here, you will visit a local elementary school and observe the traditional silk weaving, an art that has been preserved for centuries. Your cruise continues to sail to Angkor Ban. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 9 - ANGKOR BAN - KAMPONG CHAM - PHNOM PROS & PHNOM SREI “TWIN MOUNTAIN”**

Go on a walking tour of 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 sets sail for Kampong Cham, where you will go on an afternoon excursion via motor-coach 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. Cap the day off with a festive Farewell Dinner on board. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 10 - DISEMBARKATION – KAMPONG CHAM – SIEM REAP**

Disembark in Kampong Cham and transfer by motorcoach to Siem Reap, gateway to the Angkor Archaeological Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the former capital of the Khmer empire. You'll visit nearby Ta Prohm, known as the “Kingdom of the Trees,” for the way in which the temple stones have become intertwined with thick forest vegetation. (B,D)

#### **DAY 11 - SIEM REAP – ANGKOR**

Begin your morning exploration of the temple complex at Angkor Wat, the most iconic of all Angkorian temples, built by King Suryavarman II in the early 12th century to honor the Hindu god, Vishnu. An afternoon excursion takes you to see the fascinating jewel in the crown of Angkorian art, Banteay Srei, which means “Citadel of Women,” as it has been said that the carving is too fine to have been done by the hand of man. During the evening, be treated to a special “Apsara Dancing Show” at your hotel, featuring local Cambodian/Khmer folk dancers. (B,D)



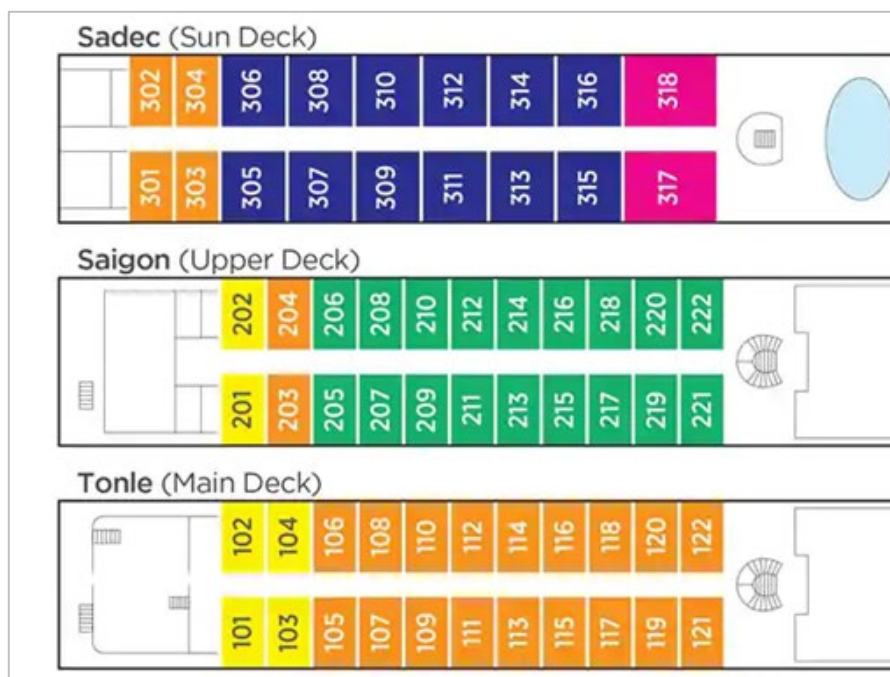
#### **DAY 12 - DEPART SIEM REAP**

After breakfast, you will have a guided sightseeing tour of Angkor Thom meaning “the great city” and the last capital of the Khmer Empire. This is home to Bayon Temple, best known for its gigantic smiling stone faces, as well as the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper King. Later in the day, bid farewell to Siem Reap as you prepare for your return flight home. (B)

\*We recommend that you schedule your onward flight to depart Siem Reap after 3:00pm today to avoid potential missed connections if you wish to join sightseeing tour to visit Angkor Thom in the morning.



2024 RATES	Jan 6 – Mar 2	Mar 16; Sep 28	Mar 30; Sep 14	Apr 13; Aug 31	Aug 3, 17	Oct 12 - Dec 21
CRUISE ONLY - CAT C	\$3,199	\$2,999	\$2,799	\$2,599	\$2,399	\$3,099
CRUISE- TOUR	\$4,298	\$4,098	\$3,898	\$3,698	\$3,498	\$4,198
PLUS - Port Charges - \$224						
2025 RATES	Jan 4 – Mar 1 Oct 4-Nov 15	Mar 15; Sep 20	Mar 29; Sep 6	Apr 12; Aug 9	Aug 23	Nov 29-Dec 27
CRUISE ONLY – CAT C	\$3,199	\$2,999	\$2,799	\$2,599	\$2,699	\$3,299
CRUISE-TOUR	\$4,298	\$4,098	\$3,898	\$3,698	\$3,798	\$4,398
PLUS - Port Charges - \$231						
CATEGORY UPGRADE		B	A	SUITE		LUXURY SUITE
Supplement - 2024 ADD		\$699	\$999	\$1,499		\$2,899
Supplement - 2025 ADD		\$699	\$999	\$1,699		\$2,999



**Reservations & Information**  
**1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)**

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