

# ASIA

## A BLEND OF TRADITION AND MODERNITY HAIPHONG TO OSAKA



Set off to encounter age-old civilisations during a 15-day cruise in Asia aboard Le Lapérouse. A wonderful itinerary taking you from Vietnam to Japan via China. We will call at Hiroshima, the gateway to Miyajima, home to the majestic Shinto Shrine, whose entrance is guarded by a magnificent vermilion “Floating Torii”.



**DATE: 2021 - MAR 13-26**

**DURATION: 14 DAYS/13 NIGHTS**

**EMBARK: HAIPHONG, VIETNAM**

**DISEMBARK: OSAKA, JAPAN**

**SHIP: LE PAPEROUSE**

**Cruise Only FROM: \$7,970**

*Pre- and Post-Cruise tours are available.*

## HIGHLIGHTS

- A cruise with great cultural value, discovering four Asian countries: Vietnam, Hong Kong, China and Japan.
- UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Ha Long Bay, the Itsukushima Shrine and its vermilion torii on Miyajima (from Hiroshima), the Peace Memorial Museum in Hiroshima.
- A spectacular sail around Ha Long Bay, amidst scenery of stunning beauty.
- Hong Kong, city of lights: with its unforgettable bay, modern buildings reaching towards the sky, typical markets and lively shops.
- Shanghai, a modern and cosmopolitan city, blending skyscrapers, gardens and night life.
- From Hong Kong, Xi'an and Guilin overland: visit of the mausoleum of Qin Emperor with its famous terracotta army, visit of the Shaanxi Historical Museum, and cruise on the Li River, one of the most beautiful panoramas in China.
- Before your cruise: possibility of visiting Hanoi and the imperial city of Angkor, in Cambodia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- After your cruise: possibility of discovering Osaka, one of the biggest Japanese metropolises, and its famous castle, and the ancient imperial capitals of Kyoto and Nara.

## ITINERARY

*We can arrange pre- and post-cruise tour programs for you – see more while you are here! It is always advisable to arrive at least one day early.*

### DAY 1 – HAIPHONG, VIETNAM

Embark 16H00 to 17H00; Departure at 18H00

On the banks of the Red River Delta, Haiphong is one of Vietnam's three major ports. Contemporary and outward-looking, the city also has a rich past. One stunning example of its old colonial town is the Du Hang pagoda, the gateway to Hanoi, the county's capital and a symbol of its anti-colonial struggle. Ho Chi Minh declared Vietnam's independence here in 1945, where his body rests in the middle of the Ba Dinh square in his mausoleum. A few hundred meters away is the wrought-iron fence that surrounds the Presidential Palace and the delicate One Pillar Pagoda. Further south kick back in the peace and quiet of the Confucian Temple of Literature.

### DAY 2 – HA LONG BAY, VIETNAM

Located 170 kilometers east of Hanoi, in the gulf of Tonkin, Ha Long bay is a marvel of marvels. A must for all who wish to soak up the spirit of Vietnam, at once peaceful



and mysterious. You'll sail into the heart of this legendary natural beauty, not surprisingly listed as UNESCO World Heritage. Over approximately 1,500 square kilometers, the famous bay offers an infinite quasi supernatural and ghostly spectacle of limestone pillars rising from the sea in all shapes and sizes, sculpted by nature for centuries. This exceptional scenic beauty of this site includes myriad creeks, caves and other interior lakes to feast your eyes on.

### DAY 3 – DAY AT SEA

### DAYS 4-5 – HONG KONG

Hong Kong, known as the "Fragrant harbour", bordered by the South China Sea, is a heady place attracting tourists from the world over. This former British colony today combines ultramodern shopping malls and authentic markets like the Ladie's Market or the night market on Temple Street. At first sight, you'll be overwhelmed by the city's architecture which, because of lack of ground space, reaches skywards, with its 1,250 skyscrapers and other towers. Believing is seeing, so if you go up to Victoria Peak, the highest point on the island, you'll see a dizzying and unforgettable view of the bay.



### DAYS 6-7 – AT SEA

## DAYS 8-9 – SHANGHAI, CHINA

Set in the most amazing geographic location, Shanghai has fast become the largest economic and commercial hub in China. Although this futuristic megalopolis is the capital of excess, it still has soul. See for yourself as you stroll around the Bund district, emblematic of old Shanghai. From here, you can reach People's Square, a must-see vast and luminous space bordered by historical monuments. In the former French concession, you'll be able to appreciate the charm of the most Westernised of Chinese cities: a haven of peace in the heart of an urban jungle!



## DAY 10 – NAGASAKI, JAPAN

Located on the north-west coast of Kyushu, Nagasaki will impress you by its rich heritage. Despite the destruction in 1945, you can visit several ancient sites, including the beautiful 19th-century Catholic Church of Oura and its garden, the sanctuary of Suwa Shrine or several Buddhist temples. A visit to the Atomic Bomb Museum gives you insight into the extent of the damage caused by the nuclear attack. Close by, a walk in the Memorial Peace Park leads you to a collection of objets d'art offered as a gift from Japan to the world.

## DAY 11 – KARATSU, JAPAN

Karatsu Bay is edged with long sandy beaches and a huge pine forest that was planted over 350 years ago to protect the coast from the winds and tides of the Genkai Sea. From the top of the donjon of Karatsu Castle or Mount Kagami, you will be able to admire magnificent panoramas. In the north of the Higashi-Matsuura Peninsula, the waves have eroded the lava plateau and carved a magnificent natural site, the seven Nanatsugama Caves, out of the basalt. The city of Karatsu is famous for the quality of its pottery, which is influenced by the craftsmanship of nearby Korea. Very fine pieces are displayed in the city's galleries and at Karatsu Castle, alongside magnificent samurai armor.

## DAY 12 – HIROSHIMA & MIYAJIMA ISLAND

Visiting Hiroshima is a moving experience. The town spreads along Honshu Island, along the inside coasts of Seto. While firmly focused on the future, Hiroshima doesn't forget its past, and a visit to the Peace Memorial Park and Genbaku Dome is a must. You'll enjoy the city's modern, cosmopolitan atmosphere and effervescent nightlife just as much as the peaceful stillness of its natural parkland areas such as splendid Shukkei-en, the town's historic garden.

At the heart of the Inland Sea, Miyajima, the "island sanctuary" will reveal its treasures. In the background you will see the Shinto Grand Sanctuary, whose entrance is guarded by a magnificent vermilion "Torii". Considered to be one of the most beautiful sites in the Japanese islands, you will be transported by the unique character and the serenity of this sacred site.



## DAY 13 – TAKAMATSU, JAPAN

A former fortified city, ruled over by the Matsudaira clan from the Tamamo castle with its seawater moats, the city is home to one of the most beautiful classic gardens in Japan, the Ritsurin. It was created by the barons of the city at the start of the Edo period, during which time gardening became a profession in its own right. Its landscape incorporates Mount Shiun in the background, an example of what is known as the shakkei technique, which uses the surrounding landscapes to increase the beauty of the gardens.

## DAY 14 – OSAKA, JAPAN – DISEMBARK

Like its big sister Tokyo, Osaka is the product of ancestral traditions and amazing technological innovations. And despite its size, its location on the Pacific Ocean give it a sense of serenity. The main historic landmark is the 16th-century Osaka Castle, which stands proud in the midst of majestic skyscrapers. The lively streets of Dotomburi and the bizarre Shinsekai district attract thousands of locals and visitors. A multitude of restaurants offer menus full of regional specialties: takoyaki, made with octopus, and other succulent dishes such as kushikatsu kebabs.



**ALL SUITES HAVE PRIVATE BALCONIES**

Rates are per person, Double Occupancy  
**Pre- and Post-Cruise tours are available to suit your interests.**

**Included features:**

- All accommodations, meals, and excursions described above
- Gratuities to crew, guides and drivers on included excursions
- Comprehensive 13-night cruise aboard the deluxe *Le La Paperouse*, with all the amenities for which Ponant ships are famous.

**Not included:**

- Meals and beverages other than those specified above
- Optional excursions
- Personal expenses (such as laundry, Internet, etc.)
- Travel Insurance
- Air fare

2021 Rates	March 13
SUITE –	
Deluxe – Deck 3	\$7,970
Prestige – Dk 4	\$8,880
Prestige – Dk 5	\$9,290
Presitige – Dk 6	\$9,740
Deluxe Ste – Dk 3, 4, 5, 6	\$13,440
Prestige Ste – Dk 5	\$18,120
Prestige Ste – Dk 6	\$19,010
Privilege Ste – Dk 5 & 6	\$19,940
Grand Deluxe – Dk 5 & 6	\$21,890
OWNER SUITE	\$30,250

**DECK 7**



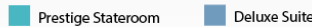
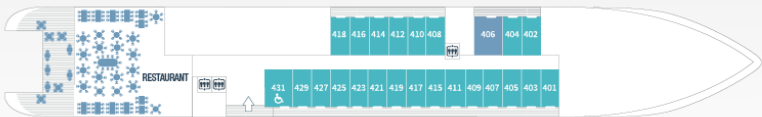
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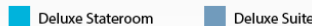
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**DECK 4**



**DECK 3**



**Reservations & Information**

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