



CRUISE OF 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS - REF. 9SH_ADAIPP

The Mekong in a different way - Between adventure and must- see sites (port-to-port cruise)

SIEM REAP - KOH CHEN - KAMPONG CHHNANG - KAMPONG TRALACH - PHNOM PENH - CHAU DOC - SA DEC - CAI BE - MY THO - HO CHI MINH CITY

We are thrilled to present our latest program, designed to combine exploration, cultural immersion, and light activities for a memorable cruising experience on-board the Toum Tiou 2. Our charming vessel offers personalized service in an intimate environment, perfect for small groups who seek an authentic and dynamic Mekong River journey. Our itinerary includes a range of activities like biking, kayaking, sampan rides and walking tours that provide opportunities to discover the hidden treasures of the Mekong River, including traditional village visits and climbing the stunning Udong Hill. Moreover, we'll take you on a motor & rowing boat tour of the magnificent Tra Su Forest, where you'll witness incredible flora and fauna of this beautiful natural environment. Experience the perfect balance of cultural immersion and light adventure, while enjoying the authentic Mekong River charm. With an emphasis on personalized service, cultural exploration, and a touch of adventure, our program promises to deliver an unforgettable cruising experience and makes a perfect match for the Toum Tiou 2.



HIGHLIGHTS

- An authentic, dynamic trip in small groups
Crossing through the splendid Cho Gao canal
- EXCURSIONS INCLUDED
- THE MUSTS:
 - The hidden treasures of the Mekong by bike, kayak, sampan or on foot
 - Discover historic cities: Phnom Penh and Hô Chi Minh City
 - Meet the locals and discover their way of life in Sa Dec, Cai Be.
 - Take a cooking class to immerse yourself in the local culture
 - Climb the astonishing Oudong hill

DISCOVERY CRUISE PROGRAM

(9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS)



Day 1: SIEM REAP

Please arrive at 1 p.m. at the hotel Lotus Blanc (1) in Siem Reap. Transfer by coach to your cruise boat in Koh Chen (5-6 hours). After comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll introduce our crew at a welcome cocktail and have dinner on board. We'll spend the night on board.



Day 2: KOH CHEN - KAMPONG CHHANG

Sail to **Kampong Chhnang** and lunch on board. Visit Kampong Chhnang, one of the largest fishing ports on the Tonle Sap Lake. Here they also have many fish farms. The region is also known for its traditional pottery combining ancient knowledge with modern techniques - Chhnang itself means "pot." We'll enjoy a tasting of regional products before returning on board and beginning to cruise to Kampong Tralach. Option: For those seeking more activity, there will be an option at Kampong Chhnang to cycle alongside the riverside and then to the pottery village to explore this area. We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.



Day 3: KAMPONG TRALACH - OUDONG - PHNOM PENH

Breakfast on board.

We will set out to **Udong**, Cambodia's former capital. On arrival, first we visit the colorful **Vipassana Dhura Buddhist Meditation Center** where you will hear about the school of Vipassana or Insight Meditation. After that walk up the steps to the various temples and the three large stupas where the ashes of three former kings are preserved. You will be rewarded by wonderful views of the plains below. Lunch on board.

We'll continue to visit the beautiful Vihara at the **Wat Kampong Tralach** Leu pagoda. To get there, we'll cross the village of Kampong Tralach on board a **local tuk-tuk** for even more authenticity. On the way back to the boat, you can choose between a tuk-tuk or a bicycle ride through the countryside, with **breathtaking views of the rice paddies** before returning to the ship.

After returning on board, start cruising towards Phnom Penh.

Enjoy a performance of classical Khmer dancing and music then dinner. Night on board.



Day 4: PHNOM PENH

Breakfast on board. We'll enjoy a tour of the fabulous **Royal Palace**, one of the most impressive examples of Cambodian architecture, and its **Silver Pagoda**. Onward to visit the **National Museum**. Enjoy an afternoon tour of the area by "tuk-tuk," for an authentic and immersive experience like no other. Visit the beautifully renovated Art Deco Central Market and experience the local shopping scene firsthand. Known as "**Phsar Thmei**" locally the market is a bustling hub for clothing, food and souvenir shopping. After exploring the market, we will stroll through the city's off-the-beaten-path alleyways, where you'll have a chance to engage with the locals and see how they live their daily lives in the city. Observe and experience the locals enjoying their coffee while playing Cambodian-style chess and see the local food in its most authentic form, learning about the way of life in this vibrant city. Continue your visit to the city's namesake, **Wat Phnom**. Founded in 1373, the pagoda was built to house Buddhist relics washed ashore by the river. From there, we will enjoy a short walk to the **French Quarter**, where you'll get a glimpse of the city's colonial era while admiring the beautiful architecture. The area boasts a number of Belle Époque and Art Deco houses and public buildings dating from the French Protectorate (1863-1953). We'll return on board for dinner in the evening and start sailing towards Vietnam. Night on board.



Day 5: CHAU DOC

Breakfast on board.

Located on the border between Cambodia and Vietnam, the prosperous town of **Chau Doc** has developed around fishing and fish farming.

We will board a cable car and embark on an unforgettable journey to **Sam Mountain** with our exclusive addition to the excursion program in Chau Doc – the **Nui Sam Cable Car**. Passengers will enjoy breathtaking panoramic views as the ride unfolds. Upon the summit of Sam Mountain, we will embrace spectacular views towards the border of Cambodia and Vietnam. After soaking in the views, we will pay a visit to the **Ba Chua Xu Temple** on the way back down the mountain before heading back to the ship. Lunch on board.

We'll transfer to **Tra Su Forest**. We'll experience this beautiful forest with small local boats, where you can witness this incredible and diverse flora and fauna.

Set sail for Sa Dec. Dinner on board, overnight at anchor.



Day 6: SA DEC - CAI BE

Breakfast on board. Local boat picks up for a short panoramic tour of **Sa Dec** and stroll around the local market along the River bank. This small city of 30,000 inhabitants is fascinating in its unspoiled authenticity and undisturbed by tourists. It provides a glimpse of the delta where a few colonial houses still remain, including the "**Chinaman's house**" (from Duras' novel "The Lover", also made into a movie). This is a perfect opportunity to immerse yourself in the local culture and enjoy the charming river surroundings.

Ship leaves Sa Dec for Cai Be. **Cai Be** offers many exciting attractions, activities, and excursions. Nature lovers will enjoy the lush natural landscape and those interested in local culture will love meeting the very hospitable local people and discovering the way of the life in this region. Arrive Cai Be, take a local boat trip to cruise along the Mekong River. Disembark to visit the craft village where you can witness how the local products are made. Continue cruising on the boat. Get off at the fruit orchards comprising of many kinds of fruits such as: jack-fruit, durian, guava, rambutan, longan etc... Drink hot tea, eat fresh fruits and enjoy a live local music performance. Head to the local restaurant by boat, attend a cooking class with local chef, and then enjoy your lunch. After lunch, take a rest, then enjoy a kayaking adventure. Don't worry if you are a first-time paddler, it is not difficult. This is a unique experience in the Mekong Delta providing a unique aquatic perspective of the surrounding natural beauty. Then there is the opportunity to explore the countryside by mountain bike providing another view of the local scenery. Whichever of the activities you do, you will get a distinctive glimpse into the beauty and authenticity of the Mekong River. Ship leaves Cai Be for My Tho. Dinner during cruising and night on board.



Day 7: MY THO - HO CHI MINH CITY (formerly Saigon)

Breakfast on board.

In **My Tho** we will kick off our day with a local boat pick-up that will take us on a boat cruise to Thoi Son Island where we will have the opportunity to explore the daily lives of the local people and enjoy seasonal fruits. We will also take a Sampan ride along the scenic canals for a closer look at the Mekong Delta and its unique features. Later we'll go biking on our own and explore the village to see firsthand how the local people live and to admire the magnificent fruit orchards in the area. This is the perfect chance to connect with the locals and witness their way of life.

Lunch on board and cruise the magnificent **Chao Gao canal**, the entrance to Saigon where you will experience the lively and vibrant canal full of ships and activity, yet still feel close to the life on shore. A must-see part of the cruise and that we're the only cruise line offering this unique passage.

Arrive in Saigon, dinner on board. Night on board.

"**Saigon After Dark**" is a part night excursion, part street/local food adventure from 6pm to 10pm. Guests experience the nightlife of Saigon the way locals do. An evening excursion with a culinary adventure. On the back of a vintage Vespa scooter, you'll enter the heart of Saigon's nightlife. From stop to stop, you'll sample local flavors, including cocktails, seafood tastings, cold drinks and Vietnamese creperies. After this, the tour will bring you to a live music venue to enjoy the drinks with live music.



Day 8: HO CHI MINH CITY

Enjoy a tasty breakfast on board before our **Ho Chin Minh city tour**. Take a short downtown drive to the city. Walking tour commences and stop for some photographs at notable sites like **Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, Municipal Post Office, City Square** and the **Opera house** all of which were heavily influenced by French colonialism in the 19th century. Enjoy the vibrancy of this city by foot and explore the city's green space enjoying the beauty of nature in the middle of this dynamic city. Experience the local coffee scene - Vietnam is famous for producing high-quality coffee and coffee shops are a common sight in the downtown. Transfer back to ship for lunch.

After lunch, we'll explore the local Chinatown and experience the daily life of the people. We'll also visit the Giac Lam Pagoda, which is over 300 years old and is the oldest pagoda in Ho Chi Minh City. Lastly, we'll visit the **Flower Market** and **Binh Tay market** for a 15-minute walking tour to explore how locals buy and sell local food and products. Transfer to the ship to enjoy our farewell cocktail and dinner onboard.

We'll remain in port overnight.



Day 9: HO CHI MINH CITY

Enjoy a tasty breakfast onboard before disembarking. After breakfast, we'll then proceed to the **War Museum** to learn more about the history of Vietnam.

Then, we'll transfer to **Liberty Central Saigon Riverside Hotel** (hotel address: 17 Ton Duc Thang Street, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City. Phone: +84 28 3827 1717) for lunch at this hotel restaurant or at a local restaurant before bidding you farewell at approximately 2:00 pm.

Please note that you should not book your flight before 5:00 pm.

This offer includes:

Your cruise in the cabin category of your choice - transfer of the boat from downtown Siem Reap - all meals - onboard drinks included (except for drinks from our special lists) - visits and excursions mentioned in the program - the services of an English-speaking local tour guides - travel assistance and repatriation insurance - tips.

Tips: To ensure our customers more pleasant stay, we've included 35\$ per passenger for tips which will be entirely paid to the personnel from the countries to be visited and 45\$ per passenger for crew members. This amount was determined while taking into consideration the local customs and etiquette.

This offer does not include

International flights and their taxes - transfers not mentioned in the program - Cambodian and Vietnamese visas - cancellation and baggage insurance – drinks on board from our special lists - drinks other than those mentioned.

Formalities

Non-EU nationals are requested to consult their embassy or consulate.

THE CROISIEUROPE DIFFERENCE

- All meals included
- Refined local cuisine
- Headsets are included for excursions
- Official welcome from the captain and crew
- Tour Guide
- Onboard activities and/or lectures
- Travel assistance and repatriation insurance
- All port fees included

USEFUL INFORMATION

HEALTH FORMALITIES

Vaccines are not mandatory for this trip. However, it is advisable to be up to date with all vaccinations (tetanus, polio, hepatitis A and B, diphtheria, and typhoid fever). Your doctor will prescribe an antimalarial drug if necessary. Mosquito repellent is strongly recommended.

WEATHER

The dry season lasts from December to April, but the air remains humid (temperature: 77° to 95°F). The rainy season, from May to November, can present very strong but brief storms that generally take place at the end of the afternoon.

METHODS OF PAYMENT - CURRENCY EXCHANGE

- The currency accepted on board is the US dollar. You can pay in dollars or using an international credit/debit card (Visa and MasterCard) at the end of the cruise. In Cambodia, it is recommended to have some US dollars in cash with you. In Vietnam, if you wish to buy souvenirs, we recommend that you change about £20 or \$20 into dong on arrival.
- For the current exchange rates for the Vietnamese dong and the Cambodian riel, please consult websites such as www.xe.com or www.oanda.com/currency/converter/.

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

- Tet (Vietnamese Lunar New Year) holidays in February
- Khmer Traditional New Year in April
- "Pchum Ben" in September
- "Water and Moon Festival" in November

During these days, some sites can be closed without warning.

TIME DIFFERENCE

You can consult www.worldtimezone.com to see the time difference between your home and your destination.

CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM VISA

Cambodia E-VISA and ordinary Tourist VISA

VISA UPON ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT IN CAMBODIA

Immigration formalities are quicker when travelers already possess their **ordinary Cambodia Tourist visa**. Cambodia's visa regulations are quite liberal. However, **all travelers must complete the E-arrival card within 7 days prior to arrival, and present the QR code to the immigration officer upon arrival at the airport.**

For a fee of \$30 USD, travelers can obtain a 30-day single-entry tourist visa upon arrival at the airport. Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months beyond your planned departure date, and bring one passport photo.

VISA UPON ARRIVAL AT RIVER/WATERWAY BORDER

Passengers embarking on the Mekong Cruise from Vietnam to Cambodia (Saigon to Siem Reap) are reminded that the **Cambodia E-VISA is only accepted at airports and some land borders, but not at the river/waterway borders.**

The accepted visa at the waterway/river border is the **ordinary Cambodia Tourist visa**, which is valid for one (1) month with a single entry. Passengers can apply and obtain this visa at the border or upon arrival in Phnom Penh. Alternatively, it can be applied for in advance at the nearest Cambodian embassy in your home country. Please note that two passport-sized photos (2x2) are required for the visa application. The visa fee is \$35 USD per person (subject to change).

Passengers are not required to complete the E-arrival card in advance; this can be done upon arrival at Phnom Penh Autonomous Port.

VIETNAM VISA

Passengers joining the Mekong Cruise from Cambodia to Vietnam (Siem Reap to Saigon), please be reminded to put the right date when the ship crosses the border as well as the right border gate name or port of entry in Vietnam when applying for Vietnam visa, the new official border name is **Vinh Xuong international land and border gate** - An Giang Province (formerly called *Song Tien Landport Checkpoint*). We would like to suggest that passengers put the entry date on their Vietnam visa one (1) day before the ship crosses the border. Please thoroughly review the program that is sent to you once you've made your bookings with us. Furthermore, please do not hesitate to contact us if you are unsure of the day the ship crosses the border.

Passengers joining the Mekong Cruise from Vietnam to Cambodia (Saigon to Siem Reap), please apply for your Vietnam visa in advance at the Vietnam embassy in their own country or get an e-visa online. Some countries do not need a visa for short stays in Vietnam as they have a Visa Exemption, the list of countries and maximum duration of stay can be found online.

MENTIONS

These cruises and tours are not recommended for persons with reduced mobility as there are no lifts on board the ships.

- Low waters can happen at any time during the year. The time frames are given as examples, but are dependent on the quality of rainfall.
- The banks of the river we will cruise on can be steep and slippery depending on the water level.
- The itinerary, stopovers, and excursions can be modified by the cruise company and our on-site representatives if needed. The captain of the ship is the sole authority who can modify the ship itinerary for safety or navigational reasons.

(1) Or similar, meeting points will be confirmed in your travel document.

*Alcohol can be harmful to your health. Please drink in moderation.