



CRUISE OF 11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS - REF. 1H3\_PP

# From the Mekong Delta to the Angkor Temples (port-to-port cruise)

HO CHI MINH CITY - MY THO - VINH LONG - CAI BE - SA DEC - CHAU DOC - PHNOM PENH - KOH CHEN - KAMPONG TRALACH - KAMPONG CHHNANG - Siem Reap - Angkor Temples

From the heights of the Himalayas to the southern coasts of the South China Sea, winding over 2,700 miles, the Mekong is much more than just irrigation for Indochina—everywhere it flows, it fascinates men and shapes their lives. Come take an expedition on this grand and plentiful "water snake," from Ho Chi Minh City, still largely influenced by the French colonial days, to Phnom Penh, then Tonle Sap river, following the footsteps of Henri Mouhot. Our meditative trip takes you along the Mekong River on board a ship combining charm and colonial-style comfort.



# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- **EXCURSIONS INCLUDED:** 
  - Discover 3 historical cities: Ho Chi Minh City, Phnom Penh and Siem Reap
  - Crossing through the splendid Cho Gao canal
  - Visit 4 major temples in **Angkor**
  - Meet the locals and learn about their daily lives in Koh Chen, My Tho...



# CRUISE PROGRAM (11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS)



## Day 1: HO CHI MINH CITY

Meet at the Liberty Central Riverside Hotel restaurant between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon, a tour of the city to see the Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, and the Saigon Central Post Office. Next, we'll head to Cholon, the Chinese-influenced section of the city, to tour its hectic market and the Thien Hau temple. You'll then be transferred to our ship. After comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll introduce our crew at a welcome cocktail. We'll have dinner and spend the night on the ship, which will remain moored.



## Day 2: HO CHI MINH CITY

We'll enjoy free time on board or we'll leave by coach for the Cu Chi tunnels(2), an immense network of underground tunnels that were the location of several military campaigns during the Vietnam War. After lunch, join us for a visit to the Museum of Vietnamese History. We'll then begin to cruise to the splendid Cho Gao canal. We'll spend the night on board.



## Day 3: CHAO GAO - MY THO - VINH LONG - CAI BE

During our passage through the Cho Gao Canal, you'll discover the daily life in Vietnam—organized around fishing, farming, and transport. In My Tho, we'll visit a bee farm and enjoy some honey tea and exotic fruit. We'll then take a ride in small sampans along the canal lined with mangrove palms. After having lunch on board, we'll visit Vinh Long, located in the middle of the Delta region between two of the Mekong's distributaries. We'll discover a brick and pottery factory, puffed riced, rice-paper wrappers, and rice alcohol.\* We'll spend the night on board.



#### Day 4: SA DEC

We'll visit the former house of Huynh Thuy Le, the man who Marguerite Duras based her book The Lover on. After our excursion, enjoy some free time in Sa Dec. We'll return on board and cast off as you sit down to lunch. Our ship will begin to cruise to Chau Doc, a town on the border between Cambodia and Vietnam, whose territory became Vietnamese 300 years ago. We'll spend the night on board.



### Day 5: CHAU DOC - PHNOM PENH

Arrival in Chau Doc, we'll visit the Ba Chua Xu Temple and the Tay An Pagoda. We'll enjoy lunch on board and arrive in Phnom Penh in the evening. We'll enjoy dinner on board this evening. Set out on a brief tour of the area by "tuk-tuk," the easiest way to get around the city. We'll remain in port overnight.



#### Day 6: PHNOM PENH

We'll enjoy a tour of the fabulous Royal Palace and the Silver Pagoda, which is inlaid with more than 5,000 silver tiles. After, join us for a visit to the National Museum of Cambodia. We'll have lunch in the city. In the afternoon, you can pay a visit to the Tuol Svay Prey School, a former detention, torture, and execution center run by the Khmer Rouge during the civil war. Afterwards, enjoy some free time at the market. We'll return to the ship and enjoy a performance of classical Khmer dancing and music. We'll have dinner on board and remain in port overnight. The rest of the evening is yours to do as you please.



#### Day 7: KOH CHEN - KAMPONG TRALACH

Once we arrive in Koh Chen, you can explore this small village where craftspeople specialize in silver and copper work. Enjoy lunch on board. We'll head to Kampong Tralach to visit the beautiful Vihara at the Wat Kampong Tralach Leu pagoda. To access the pagoda, we need to cross the village of Kampong Tralach,



moving along a small road that runs perpendicular to the river in the middle of magnificent rice fields. Our ship will remain anchored overnight.



## Day 8: KAMPONG CHHNANG - TONLE SAP RIVER

We'll visit Kampong Chhnang, one of the largest fishing ports on Tonle Sap Lake. Fish farming is abundant here. The region is also known for its traditional pottery combining ancient knowledge with modern techniques —Chhnang itself means "pot." We'll also enjoy a tasting of regional products. Enjoy lunch on board. We'll then continue our cruise. Tonight, we'll have our final cocktail and dinner on the ship. Our ship will remain anchored overnight.



# Day 9: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples

Disembark, road(1) to Siem Reap and discovery of traditional villages

Morning cruise through Tonle Lake and disembark

After, we'll visit the Angkor Wat temple: the epitome of Khmer architectural art and the most famous and imposing of all the monuments in Angkor (visitors must cover their shoulders and wear long pants or a long skirt). Enjoy a stroll through the Angkor Night Market. Dinner and overnight in hotel (Accommodations will be at either a 4-star or 5-star hotel according to the cruise you choose).



# Day 10: Siem Reap

Boat trip on Tonlé Lake to discover the floating villages and the traditional life of its inhabitants. Lunch. Visit of the Senteurs d'Angkor, a local business with a diverse collection of silk and carvings, as well as a superb range of traditional beauty products and spices, all made locally. We'll end the day with Phare, the Cambodian circus, and spend the night at the hotel.



# Day 11: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples

This morning, we'll tour Ta Prohm, a Cambodian temple dedicated to the family of Jayavarman VII. We'll then explore Angkor Thom. Stroll among the enigmatic faces of the Bayon Temple and discover the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper King. Lunch will be served at the hotel.

We'll bid you farewell at approximately 2:00 p.m. Please do not book your flight before 5:00 p.m.

#### This offer includes

Your cruise in the cabin category of your choice - double-occupancy accommodations in a first-class hotel - all meals - onboard drinks included (except for drinks from our special lists) - drinks during the lunches in Hô Chi Minh-city and Phnom Penh and all meals in Siem Reap (water + 1 soft drink or 1 beer\* + 1 tea or coffee per person for each meal) - visits and excursions mentioned in the program - the services of an English-speaking local tour guides and onboard CroisiEurope tour director - 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 - Cambodian and Vietnamese visas - cancellation and baggage insurance - drinks on board from our special lists - drinks other than those mentioned.

#### **Transport**

Port-to-port cruise without transfers

#### **Formalities**

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

#### THE CROISIEUROPE DIFFERENCE

- All meals included DRINKS INCLUDED with meals and at the bar
- Refined local cuisine
- Headsets are included for excursions
- Official welcome from the captain and crew
- Tour leader or cruise director on board
- Onboard activities and/or lectures
- Travel assistance and repatriation insurance
- All port fees included



# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### THE ROYAL CITIES in 7 DAYS

Ref. 1H9\_PP - PRE-CRUISE PROGRAM AVAILABLE starting with 2 participants

The 7-day pre-cruise program lets you discover the essential sites in two Vietnamese provinces formerly known as Annam and Tonkin. Visit the capital, Hanoi, as well as thousand-year-old pagodas, lakes and historical monuments. Set out on an unforgettable cruise on the legendary Halong Bay among the fantastically formed islands, crags, and cliffs.

#### 4 DAYS IN HANOI AND HALONG BAY

Ref. 1H6\_PP - PRE-CRUISE PROGRAM AVAILABLE starting with 2 participants

The 4-day pre-cruise program will let you discover Hanoi, the capital, and many of the unforgettable sites in the country. Set out on an unforgettable cruise on the legendary Halong Bay among the fantastically formed islands, crags, and cliffs.

# **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**

**From May to October**, the Mekong experiences its **lush season**, a time when nature reveals itself. The landscapes, especially the rice fields, are adorned with lush hues. With less crowded sites, it's the perfect time to explore the region in peace. Short showers typically refresh the late afternoons, adding a touch of coolness to the tropical atmosphere.

From November to April, the dry season takes over, with sunny days and low humidity. Ideal for outdoor activities, this period ensures a bright and comfortable visiting experience.

#### **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 dongs 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**

- "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.



# **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.
- Depending on the water level and the tides, the embarkation and disembarkation of passengers on board RV Indochine II may
  take place from the mini terraces of cabins 221 and 224 (located aft of the upper deck).
- (1) Approximately 5/6-hour bus journey to Siem Reap.
- (2) The transfer by coach takes approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes each way.
- \*Alcohol can be harmful to your health. Please drink in moderation.