



A LUXURY JOURNEY EXPLORING VIETNAM, CAMBODIA & THE MEKONG RIVER

14 Days- 13 Nights

Our new luxury journey features an impressive Aqua Mekong Cruise on the magnificent Mekong River. Explore the diverse cultures and history of Cambodia and Vietnam as you venture into remote villages, verdant plantations, local markets, and experience recent discoveries and sites of intrigue. Along the way, commune with gracious locals and wise monks, learning about traditional ways of life and bring home the secrets you learn by preparing authentic Vietnamese cuisine. Explore the off-the-beaten-track, pristine bays of ancient karst formations that will leave you breathless with wonder.

One captivating experience after another will impart rich cultural perspectives, incredible life experiences, and indelible memories.

Land & Cruise Tour

2 nights Siem Reap, 1 night Phnom Penh, 3 nights downstream Mekong Cruise, 2 nights Saigon, 2 nights Hoi An 2 nights Hanoi , 1 night Halong

Features

- Airport meet and greet with private transfer
- All private transportation with air-conditioned vehicles
- Private local English speaking guide in each city
- Luxury hotel accommodations based on Twin/Double sharing
- Daily buffet breakfasts, selected lunches as specified
- Boat & Admission fees as specified
- Complimentary bottled drinking water on day tour

On Aqua Mekong Cruise:

- Designer suites with or without balcony, featuring a panoramic river view with floor to ceiling windows and interior daybed
- All meals while onboard
- Beverages (non-alcoholic, premium wines and beer)
- All shore excursions limited 10 guest per guide
- Kayaking and biking excursions
- Private elegant aluminum launch boats
- Complimentary Internet with intermittent connection





ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1 Arrive Siem Reap, Cambodia

Luxury accommodation: Raffles Grand'Angkor – 2 nights

Day 2 Siem Reap – Explore the wondrous Temples of Angkor – The “Great City” of the Khmer Empire- Hike up Phnom Bakheng for spectacular sunset view.

Day 3 Siem Reap – Visit the impressive, beautiful pink sandstone Banteay Srei & the magical Temple of Ta Phrom – Flight to Phnom Penh

Luxury accommodation: Raffles Le Royal Phnom Penh – 1 night

Day 4 Phnom Penh –The Capital of Cambodia - Visit the Royal Palace, Silver Pagoda and National Museum by TukTuk – Embarkations for Aqua Mekong - Cruise the Mekong River – Evening Khmer Apsara dance performance

Luxury accommodation: Aqua Mekong/Designed Suite – 3 nights

Day 5 Cruising the Mekong River – Cross into Vietnam – Rickshaw ride to Chau Doc market - Experience the Mekong Delta river life in My An Hung village followed by a unique Unicorn dance

Day 6 Cruising the Mekong River – Witness the colorful local market of Sa Dec or Tour a mat making village – Visit the 19th century house of Marguerite Duras’ legendary lover Mr. Huynh Huy Le – Bike along the peaceful rural town or explore floating market of by sampan

Day 7 Cruising the Mekong River – Disembarkation at My Tho – Visit the largest Mahayana Buddhist Temple in the region – Overland to Saigon

Luxury accommodation: Intercontinental Asiana - 2 nights

Day 8 Saigon – Pearl of Southeast Asia – Discover the French-influence in this vibrant city. – Demystify Vietnamese cuisine with a hands-on cooking class (4-course meal).

Day 9 - Saigon flight to Danang - Hoi An – Walking tour the charming old town Hoi An.

Luxury accommodation: La Siesta Hoi An - 2 nights

Day 10 Hoi An - Witness the full cycle of silk making from silkworms to finished product and learn the difference between natural silk and synthetic silk.

Day 11 Danang – Flight to Hanoi – History tour to “the Lost Bomb Shelter”, an honorable mention in the 2013 UNESCO Heritage Awards

Luxury accommodation: Sofitel Legend Metropole – 2 nights

Day 12 Hanoi - Explore the city’s cultural heart that bears centuries-old traces of changing dynasties - Sample some of the renowned local street food.

Day 13 Hanoi – Overland to Halong – Cruising Halong Bay – Admire the stunning limestone karst scenery of Lan Ha Bay while enjoying the luxurious hospitality on-board.

Luxury accommodation: Orchid Cruise – 1 night

Day 14 Cruising Halong Bay – Explore the most beautiful cave by kayak– Disembarkation at Halong - Overland to Hanoi and departure.



Reservation: 760-324-0798
E-mail: kevin@starstravel.com

Land & Cruise : \$4403.00* pp
Domestic air : \$360.00 pp**

*Price is per person based on double occupancy, includes private land program (minimum 2 passengers). Guaranteed departures with minimum of 2 passengers. Cruise itinerary may change depending on water levels. Offers are subject to availability at the time of booking. Price does include international and domestic air tickets, fuel charges, taxes, and airline baggage fees.

**Above airfares are current estimates. Actual airfares will be advised at the time of the booking. Taxes & fuel surcharges are additional; determined at the time of ticketing.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM: LUXURY CRUISING ALONG THE MEKONG WITH AN EXPLORATION OF LOCAL CUISINES

ITINERARY INFORMATION

Duration 14 days / 13 nights

Highlights Siem Reap – Phnom Penh – Aqua Mekong Cruise – Saigon – Hanoi – Halong

Day 1/ SATURDAY/May 04,2019 - Arrive in Siem Reap

You will be greeted at Siem Reap airport and receive a private transfer to your hotel.

Overnight at Raffles Grand D'Angkor Siem Reap / State Room / 2 nights

Day 2/ SUNDAY/May 05,2019 - Siem Reap – Angkor Wat – Angkor Thom (B,L,D)

In the morning, we will visit the National Angkor Museum for an overview of the Angkor history before heading to the famous Angkor Wat, the world's largest temple with the longest intricately carved bas-relief panels. Explore this 3-tier pyramidal structure with massive galleries of thousand Buddha, interior walls and niches decorated with stone aspires (celestial dancers) and devatas (goddesses). Take a walk around the top terrace for a great view of Angkor. After lunch, visit Angkor Thom, or the "Great City" in Khmer. The 12th-century royal Buddhist city is especially famed for its grand Bayon temple. We will also visit the South Gate, Bapoun, the Terrace of the Elephant, and the Terrace of the Leper King. The tour concludes with a hike up Phnom Bakheng for spectacular sunset views of Angkor Wat.

Lunch at Cafe Indochine Siem Reap.

Dinner at Malis Restaurant Siem Reap (Khmer Menu)

Day 3/ MONDAY/May 06, 2019 - Siem Reap –Banteay Srei– Ta Phrom - Flight to Phnom Penh (B,L)

We will spend the morning exploring BanteaySrei, the Citadel of Women with its very attractive carvings. Our next visit is Ta Prohm – the 12th century temple that has been left largely unrestored and is in its natural state surrounded by jungle with massive Banyan roots and limbs enveloping the stone-like tentacles. Following lunch, we will visit Les Artisan D'Angkor and Siem Reap Market before our transfer to the airport for the flight to Phnom Penh. Upon arrival, we will meet our tour guide and will privately transfer to our hotel.

Lunch at Sokkha River (Fusion French Menu)

Overnight at Raffles Le Royal Hotel / State Pool Room /1 night

Day 4/ TUESDAY/May 07,2019 – Phnom Penh – Cruise Embarkation (B,D)

In the morning, we visit Wat Phnom, the capital of Cambodia which was named after Lady Penh, who founded a sanctuary on the hill in 1917 where the grand stupa still stand today. We will also visit the Royal Palace, one of the capital's premier tourist attractions, constructed between 1866-1870 during the reign of king Norodom. The Silver Pagoda, well known for its 5000 silver tiled floor & National Museum for an appreciation of the splendor of Khmer history. Transfer to the pier where you will be welcomed aboard on the Aqua Mekong Cruise. Settle into your floating retreat, with its window wall providing an endlessly captivating panorama. Enjoy these private Mekong moments on your California king bed, terrace or daybed.

Together we celebrate the onward journey to the heart of this mighty river with a Khmer Apsara performance, an indigenous tradition memorialized on the temple walls at Angkor Wat.

Overnight Aqua Mekong Cruise/ Decorator Suite/ 3 nights

Day 5/ WEDNESDAY/May 08, 2019 - Mekong River –Ka’OmSamnor-VinhXuong Border Crossing –Chau Doc – My An Hung – Vietnam (B,L,D)

Say ‘Good Morning, Vietnam’ while we cross the border and sail towards Tan Chau, a vibrant border town where we take the local rickshaw called “*xeloi*” for a trip around town or pedal 18 kilometers on the peaceful island of Long Khanh. In the afternoon, we visit a typical Mekong Delta village, My An Hung, where we will walk through verdant plantations. We will be invited to a local home to taste local fruits while listening to traditional folk songs performed by villagers, followed by a unique Unicorn dance. A biking option is also available for those who wish to explore on wheels.

Day 6/ THURSDAY/May 09,2019 - Mekong River – BinhThanh/Sa Dec – Cai Be – Vietnam (B,L,D)

Begin the day at BinhThanh mat weaving village or opt to visit Sa Dec where we will peruse the vibrant market and see the famous house of Marguerite Duras' legendary lover, Mr. Huynh Thuy Le. We continue downstream for Cai Be, zigzagging in our sampan past lone fishermen on their long tail boats. Later, our skiffs moor at a wooden pier. Here in Cai Be, walk or bike ride among high-roofed open courtyard houses, some dating back more than 100 years, and currently inhabited by gracious locals who will invite us to glimpse their property.

Day 7/ FRIDAY/May 10, 2019 - Mekong River - My Tho – Saigon – Vietnam (B)

Disembarkation. On the way to Saigon, we stop at VinhTrang Pagoda, one of the largest Mahayana Buddhist temples in the region. You will notice the mixed architectural style and see three large Buddha statues plus an impressive collection of bonsai trees. Arrive in Saigon and transfer to our hotel. The rest of evening is free at your leisure.

Overnight at Intercontinental Asiana Hotel / Deluxe Room / 2 nights

Day 8/ SATURDAY/May 11, 2019 – Saigon Cooking Class – Saigon City Tour (B,L,D)

Today, we will join “Grain by Luke Nguyen cooking class”. Grain studio has its own fresh market on site. You will have a “hands on” cooking class which will demystify Vietnamese cuisine so you will gain new-found confidence that will inspire you to prepare this wonderful cuisine at home. Enjoy the lunch you have prepared! It will be a great Vietnamese cultural and culinary experience.

After lunch, take a city tour to visit Reunification Palace, Central Post office, passing by the Hotel de Ville (City Hall), the colonial quarter Opera House. Then stop at Ben Thanh Market before your hotel. Tonight we will enjoy dinner at a famous local restaurant.

Dinner at Chateau Restaurant.

Day 9/ SUNDAY/May 12, 2019 – Saigon – Flight to Danang – Hoi An (B,D)

Transfer to the airport for a morning flight to Danang. Once in Danang, we will transfer to HoiAn for our hotel check in. In the afternoon, take a walking tour along Hoi An’s waterfront from the Japanese Covered Bridge to the main market, stop at the Ancient house Tan Ky, the ornate Fu Kien Chinese temple and continue down to the colorful Hoi An local market. Dinner is at a fabulous restaurant set in a lovely

landscape located right by Thu Bon River in Hoi An.

Overnight at Lasiesta Hoi An Resort / Deluxe Balcony / 2 nights

Day 10/ MONDAY/ May 13, 2019 Hoi An – Silk Village (B,L)

In the morning, transfer to the silk village. We will discover the art of ancient silk weaving techniques perfected by the Cham ethnic people in Quang Nam province. Witness the full cycle of silk making from silkworms to finished product and learn the difference between natural silk and synthetic silk. Lunch will be served in this charming village with an authentic Hoian cuisine menu. After lunch, we will take a silk lantern class and you can bring home your own creation. The rest of the day is at your leisure.

Day 11/ TUESDAY/ May 14, 2019 Hoi An – Hanoi (B,D)

Transfer to the airport for our morning flight to Hanoi. On arrival, we meet our local tour guide and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is free for your own activities. Feel free to take complimentary history tour to “the Lost Bomb Shelter” in your hotel, an honorable mentioned in 2013 UNESCO Heritage Awards (*please make reservation in advanced*).

Dinner at Grandma Restaurant.

Overnight at Sofitel Metropole Hanoi / Premium Room/ 2 nights

Day 12/ WEDNESDAY/ May 15, 2019 - Hanoi City Tour (B,L)

Today we spend a full day exploring Hanoi, the city’s cultural heart that bears trace of centuries of changing dynasties. We visit Tran Quoc Pagoda, the oldest pagoda in the city. Driving through the Hanoi French Quarter passing by Opera house, Hoan Kiem Lake, and political center Ba Dinh Square. We visit Van Mieu, a famous historical and cultural relic consisting of the Temple of Literature and Vietnam’s first university. Take a traditional cyclo ride through Hanoi Old Quarter. We continue walking along the narrow streets of the old quarter to Hang Be market. There are many varieties of flowers arranged and ready to sell. Delicious confectionary is displayed along the street. Lunch will be served at local authentic Vietnamese restaurant. After lunch visit “Hanoi Hilton”, where American prisoners of war were once confined. We continue to explore the habits of local, stop at the popular Highland Coffee Shop; you will have the best view of the Hanoi city while enjoy sips of coffee dripping from the filter. Enjoy the water puppet show, a traditional and unique Vietnamese art form. Return to hotel and the remainder of evening is free.

Lunch at Le Tonkin Restaurant.

Day 13 THURSDAY/ May 16, 2019 - Hanoi – Halong Bay – Lan Ha Bay (B,L,D)

We leave your hotel and drive to Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Natural Site. Upon arrival, transfer by tender to the Orchid Cruise. On the way, you will have a chance to see Cai Trap Canal. Onboard the Orchid Cruise, we will cruise and explore the less touristed spots of the magnificent Halong Bay.

The Orchid Cruise proceeds to Da Chong Islet, where you can see a lighthouse built by the French over 100 years ago. We have lunch before continuing our journey via the islets of Con Vit and Gia Luan. These amazing limestone karst formations rise up out of the sea in an impressive manner. This area is untouched, as not many cruise ships use the route via the Cat Ba Island – Thoi Quyt area – Coc Ngoi islet - through Cua Van to Ba Trai Dao area. We progress to the Ba Trai Dao beach area of Lan Ha Bay- a separate part of Halong Bay. The region is known for its pristine beaches, spectacular beauty, and approximately 400 fascinating islands. Unlike the main Ha Long Bay, the islands of Lan Ha Bay are forested, and most are small in stature.

You can kayaking or simply just enjoy swimming. This is a great experience, immersed in the crystal clear waters of the bay, in the Ba Trai Dao area.

Returning to the Orchid Cruise you can watch the spectacular sunset view over the Gulf of Tonkin or join a traditional cooking class. Dinner is served at 19:30. After dinner, enjoy the landscape of the bay up on the top deck. Join squid fishing at night.

Overnight Orchid Cruise / Suite Balcony/ 1 Night

Day 14/ FRIDAY/May 17, 2019 - Halong Bay – Hanoi– Departure (B)

There is a Tai Chi demonstration on the sundeck at the break of dawn. After breakfast we continue our journey by canoe to explore the Sang Toi Cave.

We return by 9:30 return for a delightful buffet breakfast while sailing across its thousands of islets and visiting some of its major highlights. Disembark at 11:35 at Dinh Vu port. Meet our guide and drive back to Hanoi airport for departure. Have a safe trip to your final destination and savor all of the unforgettable moments of these 14 days in Cambodia and Vietman.

We have intentionally not included all lunches and dinners so that you can truly experience truly local cuisine. Recommendations will be gladly provided by your local guides. Your trip includes:

13 Breakfasts L: 8 Lunches D: 8 Dinners

FEATURES

Included

- Airport meet and greet with private transfer
- All private transportation with an air-conditioned vehicle
- Private local English speaking guide in each city
- Luxury accommodations based on Twin/Double sharing
- Daily buffet breakfasts, selected lunches and dinners, as specified
- Boat & Admission fees, as specified

On Aqua Mekong Cruise:

- Decorator Suite with panoramic river facing floor to ceiling windows and interior daybed
- All meals while onboard
- Beverages (non-alcoholic, premium wines and beer)
- All shore excursions
- Aqua Cruise's private skiff
- Complimentary laundry
- Complimentary bicycle use
- Complimentary Internet with connection, when available

PRICING

The is an extremely small group with no more than 14 participants!! Our pricing is truly phenominal given our unique relationship with a Vietnamese travel company.

Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Land & Cruise package: \$4,403

Domestic Air: \$ 360
(subject to slight changes)

International airfare is not included

ACCOMMODATION

2 nights Siem Reap: Raffles Grand D'Angkor Siem Reap / State Room
1 night Phnom Penh: Raffles Le Royal Phnom Penh / State Pool View
3 nights Aqua Mekong Cruise/ Designed Suite
2 nights Saigon: Intercontinental Asiana/Deluxe room
2 nights Hoi An: La Siesta Hoi An/ Deluxe Balcony
2 nights Hanoi: Sofitel Metropole Hanoi/ Premium Room
1 night Halong: Orchid Cruise/ Suite Balcony cabin

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Deposit & Final Payment:

Deposit \$400 (Land & Cruise) per person x 11 = \$4400 is required at time of group booking is confirmed. Prices will not be confirmed until payment is received. These additions may be for Holiday times, airfare, and other special occasions or supplier requirements.

Final payment will be due no later than 90 days prior to travel.

If deposit is not received by the due date, we reserve the right to cancel the booking and keep the non-refundable deposit. Bookings made within 90 days of travel, will require payment in full to secure reservation. In the case of computer or human billing or invoice error, we reserve the right to amend and send the corrected invoice.

Payments may be made with Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or agency check. The name on the card must match the name of the passengers traveling. Our acceptance of this credit card or payment indicates the passenger's acceptance of all terms and conditions and their compliance.

Payments and authorization forms should be sent to:

Stars Travel

kevin@starstravel.com

2. Cancellation fees:

- More than 120 days prior to departure: a non-refundable \$200 deposit
- 120 – 90 days prior to departure: \$400 deposit
- Within 90 days prior to departure: 100% of total price

No refund or reduced fees will be made to passengers who deviate from the original itinerary regardless of the portions of the itinerary unused and/or failed to secure valid travel documents such as passport or visas.

Airline tickets once ticketed may be non-refundable. Any changes will incur the revision fee plus any airline imposed penalty. This penalty may be up to 100% of the ticket and the new ticket will be issued at current rate at the time of revision.

3. Price Guarantee:

Prices are subject to increase without notice. However, once Stars Travel has received your deposit, the land price is guaranteed. Airfares are included as part of the booking price and become guaranteed when we receive the full air payment.

All prices based on double occupancy. Single room supplements and triple room reductions are listed where applicable. Not all accommodation types are available on all vacations.

4. Passports and Visas:

You are responsible for obtaining and for the payment of all visas and entry documents prior to travel. All passengers traveling internationally are required to have a passport that must be valid for at least six (6) months beyond the conclusion of your trip. In addition to a valid passport, passengers are required to possess a valid visa where required. You will need to check with your consulate to verify all requirements.

5. Travel Documents:

Travel documents are sent by priority mail approximately 21 days prior to departure, provided full payment has been received.

Bookings made within 60 days of travel may require an addition of expedited handling fees. You will be advised of any at time of booking.

It is your responsibility to ensure the accuracy of all documents, including names and dates. This information should be confirmed at time of reservation. By confirming the payment, this indicates that all information is accurate and agreed on by all parties.

We highly recommend purchasing of insurance to protect you and your travel investment.

RECOMMENDED TRIP PROTECTION

- ✓ Reimbursement of cancelled trip costs due to injury, illness, or other covered reasons
 - ✓ 150% trip interruption coverage of ticket costs
 - ✓ Travel delay coverages
 - ✓ Coverage for existing medical conditions
 - ✓ Medical expenses/ Emergency assistance
 - ✓ Baggage delay & personal effects
- * More benefits can be reviewed in a separate attachment.

- Yes, I'd like to purchase trip insurance.
- No thanks, I decline trip insurance.

Thank you for your business with Stars Travel!