

# SOUL *of the* MEKONG

12 nights | Fly/Tour/Cruise | April 2027



Fully escorted luxury river cruise through Cambodia & Vietnam

Siem Reap \* Phnom Penh \* Mekong River \* Ho Chi Minh City



# ITINERARY

..... April 2027

## TUESDAY 6 APRIL

Fly from Sydney to Siem Reap via Ho Chi Minh City. On arrival at Siem Reap airport we will transfer to our hotel where we will spend the following 2 nights. This evening is at leisure to explore the local area or perhaps enjoy an early night at your hotel. Overnight: Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort (or similar)



## WEDNESDAY 7 APRIL

Today we discover the ancient walled city of Angkor Thom, the former great capital of the Khmer Empire. Enter via the monumental South Gate before exploring the iconic smiling faces of Bayon Temple and the restored 11th century Baphuon Temple. Continue on to the terraces of the Elephant and Leper King before lunch in town. This afternoon visit the beautiful and atmospheric Ta Prohm, embraced by jungle roots, before enjoying sunset views over the UNESCO World Heritage site of Angkor Wat. Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant. Overnight: Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort (or similar) - **B,L,D**

## THURSDAY 8 APRIL

This morning we farewell Siem Reap and journey by coach to Kampong Cham to board the elegant RV Mekong Princess, our home for the next 7 nights. After lunch onboard, enjoy an engaging introduction to life along the river and explore our beautiful river ship. This evening celebrate the start of our voyage with a Cambodian welcome dinner onboard. Overnight: Mekong Princess - **B,L,D**

## FRIDAY 9 APRIL

Today we step ashore to visit the charming village of Angkor Ban, where traditional wooden homes and warm local encounters offer insight into rural Cambodian life. Receive a monk's blessing at the pagoda and visit a local school before sailing to Phnom Penh. This afternoon explore the capital by rickshaw, visiting the Royal Palace and the Silver Pagoda, home to Cambodia's Emerald and Maitreya Buddha, encrusted with more than 9,000 diamonds. Our day will finish with a visit to the National Museum, home to remarkable Khmer treasures. Overnight: Mekong Princess - **B,L,D**



## SATURDAY 10 APRIL

Today we gain a deeper understanding of the darkest days of Cambodia's history with a visit to Choeung Ek Killing Fields. Walk the fields, visit the small museum and learn more about the atrocities committed during the Khmer Rouge regime. We will also visit Tuol Sleng museum, the former prison and torture headquarters. Your afternoon is at leisure to explore Phnom Penh. This evening, enjoy a captivating expression of Cambodian culture with the traditional Apsara dance and folk performances as the ship prepares to sail toward the Vietnam border overnight. Overnight: Mekong Princess - **B,L,D**



## SUNDAY 11 APRIL

After crossing into Vietnam, we visit the welcoming riverside community of Hong Ngum renowned for traditional Khmer scarf weaving and local craftsmanship. We will also visit the local temple dedicated to a unique religion founded in this area of Vietnam, Hoa Hao. This afternoon, we board sampans and visit Gieng Island, explore the mango gardens along the riverbanks and board a 'xe loi' (motor trishaw) to visit a Phanxico monastery. The ship sails to Hoa An to anchor overnight. Overnight: Mekong Princess - **B,L,D**



## MONDAY 12 APRIL

This morning we will experience the serene rhythms of Hoa An Village, travelling via xe loi through quiet country roads. Meander through rice fields and fruit orchards before boarding a sampan to venture out onto a major branch of the Mekong where rice milling and trade illustrate daily life along the river. Visit with a local family and enjoy a hands on experience as they demonstrate how to create the famous conical hats. This afternoon, cruise deeper into the Mekong Delta to vibrant Can Tho for an orientation tour featuring the historic Zihuang Pagoda and enjoy the welcoming Unicorn Dance. Explore this charming city at your leisure before dinner onboard. Overnight: Mekong Princess - **B,L,D**

## TUESDAY 13 APRIL

An early start before breakfast this morning as we board our sampans to discover the fascinating Cai Rang floating market near Can Tho where colourful boats trade fresh produce at sunrise. Sample fresh fruit and the Vietnamese 'anti-aging drink', fresh coconut water, before visiting a noodle factory. Back onboard, enjoy a sumptuous breakfast and spend the day cruising the scenic canals and rivulets of the Mekong River. This afternoon our executive chef will showcase a fruit carving demonstration. Overnight: Mekong Princess - **B,L,D**

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**WEDNESDAY 14 APRIL**

This morning we will board sampans to glide through a mangrove lined channel before travelling by traditional 'xe lam' (three wheelers) to visit a local coconut candy maker and see how this delicious confectionery is made. Walk through the village and sample fresh orchard fruit before boarding small local boats for a trip down the palm lined creeks. Back on board the ship, enjoy a Vietnamese cooking demonstration by our talented chef.

Overnight: Mekong Princess - **B,L,D**



**THURSDAY 15 APRIL**

After a sumptuous breakfast onboard we will farewell the RV Mekong Princess and board our comfortable coach to explore vibrant Ho Chi Minh City where French colonial elegance meets modern energy. Visit Dong Khoi Street and admire landmarks including the Opera House, Notre Dame Cathedral and Central Post Office. Continue to the former Presidential Palace and the elegant City Hall before lunch at a local restaurant. This afternoon visit the War Remnants Museum and Chinatown before checking into your hotel for the next 2 nights. Tonight we will enjoy dinner at our hotel.

Overnight: Caravelle Hotel (or similar) - **B,L,D**



**FRIDAY 16 APRIL**

Today we will travel beyond the city to the remarkable Cu Chi Tunnels, an intricate underground network used during the Vietnam War. Explore sections of the tunnels and gain insight into the resilience and ingenuity of those who lived here. Return to Ho Chi Minh City for lunch and an afternoon at leisure before gathering this evening for a memorable farewell dinner celebrating our journey.

Overnight: Caravelle Hotel (or similar) - **B,L,D**

**SATURDAY 17 APRIL**

After breakfast, enjoy a final morning at leisure for shopping or independent exploration. Late this afternoon, we will transfer to the airport for our flight back to Sydney, marking the conclusion of your Mekong Journey

Overnight: In light - **B**

**SUNDAY 18 APRIL**

Arrive home following our overnight flight, enriched by the cultures, landscapes and unforgettable experiences of Cambodia and Vietnam.

**PACKAGE FARES**

Cabin	Twin/Double	Solo
Junior Suite	\$8,990	\$14,990
Saigon Suite	\$9,990	\$16,990
Apsara Suite	\$10,990	\$17,990
Tonle Suite	\$11,990	\$19,990
Angkor Suite	\$12,990	\$21,990

**INCLUSIONS**

..... 12 Nights

- Economy class flights Sydney to Siem Reap and Ho Chi Minh City back to Sydney
- 2 nights accommodation at the Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa resort, Siem Reap (or similar)
- 7 night luxury Mekong River cruise aboard RV Mekong Princess including entertainment, local beer and spirits, free flow select wines with dinner, coffee, tea, mineral water and soft drinks. Complimentary wireless internet in all public areas onboard RV Mekong Princess
- 2 nights accommodation at the Caravelle Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City (or similar)
- Port charges & taxes
- Shipboard and shoreside gratuities
- Transfers and touring throughout
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (meals whilst cruising on RV Mekong Princess will be onboard)
- Cruise Express Tour Manager



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Fares and inclusions are per person either twin-share or single in AUD. Fares are subject to availability and may change at any time. This tour is subject to minimum group numbers being achieved. Ask your Travel Specialist for details. Cruise Express reserves the right to make changes to any details outlined in this brochure, without notice. Full Terms & Conditions are available on our website and on request. B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner.