

6 days - Phnom Penh to Siem Reap

Low water period - Itinerary

Day 1 - Phnom Penh

Our staff offers a friendly welcome aboard in the earlier morning hours as you check-in into your luxurious “home” for the next few days.

Welcome to Phnom Penh, a city once renowned as the "Paris of the East." Despite its rapid development, it has retained much of its rustic charm and elegance. Phnom Penh is a remarkable city with a history and culture that spans centuries, still palpable at every street corner. Our full-day sightseeing tour begins right after breakfast, allowing us to explore the city's highlights. We'll start with a cyclo ride, meandering through the town and then visit historic places such as the palace and the silver pagoda. Our journey takes us to the "S21" prison, a poignant and dark chapter in Cambodia's history during the Khmer Rouge regime of the 1970s. Afterward, we'll pause for a delightful lunch in town before continuing to visit one of the country's most famous history museums, "Sosoro," and concluding the tour with a leisurely stroll through the city's French quarter, including the iconic and aptly named monument of Wat Phnom.

In the evening, we invite you to an engaging expert lecture in the lounge. To cap off this eventful day, we'll indulge in a delightful open-air barbecue and gala dinner accompanied by a classic Apsara dance performance. Afterward, feel free to explore the city at night, savouring Phnom Penh's vibrant nightlife or taking in the lively river promenade.

Dining: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 2 - Kampong Tralach – Kampong Laeang

Before the sun peeks over the horizon, the cruiser sets sail, entering the Tonle River. The Tonle River is a natural wonder of Cambodia, and the scenery on both sides of the river is a true gem.

Default Morning Excursion: This morning, we'll enjoy an exciting excursion to discover another part of rural Cambodian, Kampong Tralach countryside. Our ox-pulled cart will transport us along the riverside and down winding back roads, flanked by picturesque rice paddies, until we arrive at a small village. Here, we will have the opportunity to learn about the local NGO school and library project. Alternatively, you can choose to visit the nearby ancient 300-year-old temple and Buddha shrine.

OPTIONAL MORNING EXCURSION:

Cycling: Experience another day in the heartland of Cambodia with our biking tour through the picturesque Tonle Region. Pedal through captivating landscapes, encountering treasures like the former royal palace of 'Lungvek' and the venerable Buddha Jade Temple (1560) and just enjoy the timeless rhythms of local life as you witness skilled fishermen casting their nets in the tranquil waters of the Tonle.

Distance: 14 km / Duration: approx. 120 min / Terrain: flat on concrete path

As we sail upstream, lunch is served, and our crew showcases afterwards various traditional Khmer fashions worn by locals during special occasions.

Default Afternoon Excursion: We arrive at Kampong Laeang, situated just across from the famous pottery town of Kampong Chhnang. Once ashore, we embark on tuk-tuks to travel the heart of rural Cambodian life. During this excursion, we'll explore various locals, discover the art of pottery making, and visit a charming pre-Angkorian temple. From a vantage point, we can enjoy panoramic views of the vast floodplains and lush rice fields (seasonal).

OPTIONAL AFTERNOON EXCURSION:

Culinary: The culinary themed excursion offers in addition to the default cultural excursion the possibility to participate in a cooking demonstration. Get to know how to prepare together the quite famous snack called "Nom Kruak" which is a kind of cake made from white or brown rice. Originally cooked only one side only, the Khmer invented Nom Kruak and cooked it on both sides. This dish is a tasty pre-dinner snack often consumed by locals.

Cycling: Upon disembarking, we hop on our bikes to embark on our local Khmer discovery. Our journey leads us through rice paddy fields and quaint villages where small businesses produce pottery or palm sugar. With flat terrain and mesmerizing rural landscapes, the pedal is easy-going, offering a captivating glimpse into local life unfolding before our eyes.

Distance: 17 km / Duration: approx. 90 min / Terrain: flat on concrete path

Dining: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 3 - Kampong Luang - Prek Bangkong

Default Morning Excursion: Start the day with a walking tour through Kampong Luang (Royalism words), the renowned "Silver Smith Village," where the artistry of copper, silver, and bronze crafting comes to life. Led by an expert guide, you'll witness the delicate transformation of raw materials into stunning handcrafted souvenirs.

As you continue your journey, visit the serene Wat Prang, the Royal Buddhist Temple, where the bones of the "King Father" of Cambodia, are enshrined. This sacred site offers a moment of

reflection on the king's legacy, intertwining both history and spirituality. While there, engage with the monks and laymen, learning about their daily lives, rituals, and personal stories.

Default Afternoon Excursion: At the confluence of the Tonle and Mekong Rivers lies the small village of Prek Bangkong, known for its silk weaving community. This village was also the former residence of the Royal family before they moved to the Royal Palace. However, the real stars in this area today are the silk weavers, artisans who craft silk from the very beginning. We will have the opportunity to closely observe and learn about this intricate silk production process. We conclude this excursion by visiting the heritage house of H.E. Sam-Ei, once a famous architect for the royal family.

OPTIONAL AFTERNOON EXCURSION:

Cycling (extra cost): Our cycling tour today takes us to the wonderful former royal palace of "Lavea Em" (1601-1618). Pedal at ease through picturesque landscapes, punctuated by captivating stops at historic pagodas, vibrant silk weaving workshops, and bustling local markets. Indulge in a delightful tea break at the residence of H.E. Sam-Ei, adding a touch of elegance to your cycling adventure.

Distance: 14 km / Duration: approx. 120 min / Terrain: flat on concrete path

The rest of the day is spent sailing up the Mekong to our overnight location. Enjoy a relaxing poolside sundowner cocktail hour with dance tunes before dinner and an evening cinema.

Dining: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4 - Angkor Ban - Kampong Cham

The morning Tai Chi session sets the mood for the day as we begin our tour of Angkor Ban.

Default Morning Excursion: This place includes a monastery with a delightful local village behind it. You'll have the chance to meet monks during their morning class and engage in friendly conversations with the villagers. As we meander through the village, we'll get as close as possible to the local way of life, collecting wonderful memories of Cambodia's rustic lifestyle. This village is truly a gem to explore offering photographic and touching moments whilst interacting with the local community.

OPTIONAL MORNING EXCURSION:

Culinary: Today, the culinary themed excursion is offering a nice highlight. In addition to the visit of the Angkor Ban village (see default excursion) the group is going to visit the house of Mr B. who used to work years ago as a young chef aboard the ship Jayavarman. When he got married, he moved to his wife's home village. Together with his "mom-in-law" and the "chef" in

the household (his wife), we prepare and cook a century old soup recipe called “Samlor Korko”. The soup is kind of a fish soup made with many vegetables, spices, herbs, roasted rice, accompanied with a duck egg omelette.

Distance: 10 km / Duration: approx. 120 min / Terrain: flat on concrete path

We sail to Kampong Cham during lunchtime.

Default Afternoon Excursion: We are in the vast Mekong River at the town of Kampong Cham, which is an important trade and transportation hub but it still maintains scattered small hamlets around the outskirts where the community's rhythm blends with the skilled hands of artisans. For instance, in Cheung Krok, locals craft various handmade items, whether it's food, fashion, or other everyday goods. (The nearby Bamboo bridge, which is erected seasonally, serves as more than just a passageway; it's a gateway to the past)

OPTIONAL AFTERNOON EXCURSION:

Cycling (extra cost): Embark on an appealing cycling adventure from the quaint town of Kampong Cham to the idyllic island of Koh Pen and get a sensation of the enchanting rhythms of Khmer life as you pedal through vibrant vegetable fields and verdant tobacco plantations. Along the road we can see the daily routines of local farmers, artisans or Khmer bee master passionately raising honey bees to make a living. The journey along scenic paved and unpaved roads is another venture to know more about life in the Cambodia's natural countryside.

Distance: 16 km / Duration: approx. 120 min / Terrain: flat on concrete path

Afterward, the ship makes its journey, mooring mid-river near Stueng Trang

Dining: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5 - Stueng Trang

Morning:

Start your day with a leisurely breakfast as the serene river views set the tone for a tranquil day. Afterward, indulge in ultimate relaxation at our onboard spa. Choose from a range of treatments, from traditional Khmer massages to revitalizing facials, designed to refresh both body and mind. Spend your morning unwinding in the wellness area or soaking up the peaceful ambiance on the sundeck.

For those seeking deeper relaxation, our expert therapists are available for personalized massage sessions, using aromatic oils to melt away tension. Alternatively, relax by the pool with a refreshing drink, letting the gentle breeze carry your cares away.

Afternoon:

Pamper yourself further with a signature spa treatment or enjoy quiet moments in the lounge, reading a book or journaling your cruise experiences. For a touch of creativity, join an optional craft or cooking demonstration led by our skilled onboard team.

Evening:

As the sun sets, prepare for an unforgettable evening. Our farewell barbecue dinner, hosted on the sundeck, offers a feast of local and international flavors, perfectly grilled to perfection. Enjoy live music and mingle with fellow guests under the stars.

The evening culminates with a special dinner hosted by the captain. Share stories of your journey, toast to new friendships, and savor the last moments aboard this floating sanctuary as we celebrate a memorable cruise together.

Additional Notes:

Wellness and Spa + Massage is inclusive.

Dining: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6 - Stueng Trang - Siem Reap

Morning:

Enjoy your final breakfast aboard your floating sanctuary. After breakfast and check-out, you will disembark the ship, marking the end of your river journey.

Transfer: Stueng Trang to Siem Reap

Your driver will pick you up for a scenic transfer to Siem Reap, a journey of approximately 3 hours. Along the way, the driver will share interesting insights about Cambodia and the region you pass through, offering a deeper understanding of the local culture and landscapes.

Afternoon:

You will arrive in Siem Reap in the early afternoon, ready to continue your adventure or settle into your next destination.

Dining: Breakfast