

# VIETNAM, CAMBODIA & THE RICHES OF MEKONG March 4 – 20, 2013

See the floating markets, rice paper factories and silk weavers; hear the talks about the history and culture of a fascinating region; walk through small villages with local guides and visit pagodas, shrines and French Cathedrals and even spend a night aboard a modern junk boat! Phnom Penh, Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) and The Killing Fields—we've only read about these places or seen them in the movies, but now we will be right there!

#### DAY 1 / Mar 4 DEPART CANADA.

Overnight flight to Hanoi via Hong Kong Transportation: Cathay Pacific Airways

## DAY 2 / Mar 5 ARRIVE IN HANOI, VIETNAM.

Welcome to Hanoi, Vietnam's vibrant capital city, known for its graceful colonial architecture, frenetic streets, verdant parks and ancient temples. After your airport greeting, transfer to the hotel. The remainder of the day is yours to explore the city on your own, or perhaps visit the fabled Old Quarter.

Accommodation: Sofitel Legend Metropole or equivalent (2 nights)

# DAY 3 / Mar 6 HANOI

A morning sightseeing tour will take you to Hanoi's most famous historical and cultural sites: Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Ba Dinh Square, One-pillar Pagoda (Buddhist temple) and The Temple of Literature (Confucius temple). In the afternoon, experience an authentic rickshaw ride (known as "cyclo") in the Old Quarter, followed by a traditional water puppet show.

(B)

# DAY 4 / Mar 7 HANOI – HA LONG BAY OVERNIGHT JUNK

After breakfast, depart Hanoi for a scenic motor coach ride to one of Vietnam's most renowned locations: Ha Long Bay. Board a traditional wooden Junk that combines classic beauty with modern conveniences, plus luxurious overnight accommodations. Set sail to discover the Bay's magnificent scenery set amidst stunning limestone cliffs. That evening, you'll enjoy dinner onboard, and overnight on the Junk.

(B,L,D)

Tel: (905) 855 1700 Fax: (905) 855 1701

Accommodation: Traditional junk (Indochina sails) or equivalent (1 night)



## DAY 5 / Mar 8 HA LONG BAY – HANOI – SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA

This morning, your Ha Long Bay Junk continues its scenic cruising while a delightful breakfast is served in the dining lounge. Late morning, disembark for a motorcoach transfer to Hanoi Airport. After a short flight, arrive in Siem Reap, Cambodia, gateway to Angkor, the former capital of the Khmer empire and one of the most renowned archeological sites in all of South East Asia. (B,L,D) Accommodation: Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf and Spa Resort or equivalent (3 nights)

Transportation: Local Airway

#### DAY 6 / Mar 9 SIEM REAP - ANGKOR

After breakfast, begin a guided sightseeing tour of the Angkor Archaeological Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Highlights include Angkor Thom, the Terrace of the Elephants and Terrace of the Leper King, Bayon. This afternoon, visit the most iconic of all Angkorian temples - Angkor Wat. (B,D)

#### DAY 7 / Mar 10 SIEM REAP - ANGKOR

This morning, travel through rural countryside to the pink sandstone temple of Banteay Srei. Then visit Ta Prohm, the temple famous for its intertwined trees (showcased in the film Tomb Raider). (B)

# DAY 8 / Mar 11 SIEM REAP - TONLE SAP LAKE/EMBARKATION - KAMPONG CHHNANG

Travel to Tonle Sap Lake to embark the luxurious MS La Marguerite. Enjoy your Welcome Dinner onboard as you cruise to Kampong Chhnang. The ship moors overnight.

(B,L,D)

Accommodation: MS La Amalotus (7 nights)

#### DAY 9 / Mar 12 KAMPONG CHHNANG - KAMPONG CHAM

After breakfast, enjoy a motor boat excursion into the lakeside wetlands that form the mouth of the Tonle Sap River. Enjoy a stunning variety of birdlife, and observe numerous great fish traps, some over a half-mile long. After your excursion, return to your vessel and cast off towards Kampong Tralach. An afternoon tour includes an oxcart ride from the river bank through the countryside to the beautiful Wat Kapong Tralach Pleu. Tour the pagodas, and then board a motor coach to Oudong, the former capital of Cambodia, where

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you will tour the Buddhist monastery. After the visit, your motor coach will take you to your vessel, which will cruise towards the village of Chong Koh. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 10 / Mar 13 KAMPONG CHAM- PHNOM PENH

This morning, visit the Chong Koh silk weaving village for a leisurely walk. Your vessel then departs for Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia. An afternoon walking tour provides an orientation to this spectacular city. Return to the vessel for dinner, followed by a special Khmer folk performance on board. The vessel moors overnight in Phnom Penh.

(B,L,D)

#### DAY 11/ Mar 14 PHNOM PENH

A morning tour explores the highlights of Cambodia's capital city, famous for its French colonial architecture, busy cafes, vibrant nightlife and renovated river "corniche." Visit the Royal Palace and the spectacular Silver Pagoda. The National Museum is another highlight, with outstanding displays of Khmer crafts. After lunch onboard, another excursion leads to the infamous Killing Fields and the Khmer Rouge's grim Tuol Sleng or S21 detention center (Genocide Museum) situated in the suburbs of the city. An overnight on the waterfront provides an opportunity to dine in one of many nearby restaurants, and experience Phnom Penh's vibrant nightlife, should passengers so choose. (B,L,D)

# DAY 12 / Mar 15 PHNOM PENH – BORDER CROSSING – TAN CHAU, VIETNAM

Spend the day cruising the Mekong River through the Cambodian/Vietnamese border. The ship moors overnight mid-stream in Tan Chau, Vietnam. (B,L,D)

### DAY 13 / Mar 16 TAN CHAU - SA DEC

After breakfast, transfer to small boats, which will navigate through narrow channels to visit an evergreen island. You will also visit a catfish farm and a rattan mat and slipper-making workshop. Back ashore, a traditional "xe-loi" (trishaw) waits to transport you around Tan Chau. In the afternoon, the vessel cruises downstream to Sa Dec, where it will moor overnight. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 14 / Mar 17 SA DEC - XEO QUYT - CAI BE

After breakfast, board small local boats for the village of Sa Dec, where you will enjoy a morning stroll. Noteworthy as the town where the French writer (and

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our ship's namesake) Marguerite Duras spent some of her childhood, Sa Dec is a sprawling town on the Mekong Delta. Visit the house of Mr. Huynh Thuy Le, Duras' Chinese paramour, which is now a small museum. Afterwards, board a motor coach for the 1 – hour ride to Xeo Quyt, used as a base during the French and U.S. wars and now an important ecological site, with its jungle overgrowth. After lunch onboard, a local boat will take you to Cai Be's spectacular floating market; then you will go ashore to see candy and rice paper workshops. In the evening, enjoy a gourmet Farewell Dinner onboard. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 15 / Mar 18 HO CHI MINH CITY - DISEMBARK

Your cruise comes to an end as the ship docks at My Tho Port, followed by a transfer to Ho Chi Minh City. As the capital of the French colony of Cochinchina, Saigon was known as "Paris of the Orient." Today, Vietnam's largest city is an industrial, cultural and educational hub, but still retains vestiges of its colonial past. Upon arriving in Ho Chi Minh City, you will enjoy a city tour that explores famous landmarks, such as the former Presidential Palace, Central Post Office and Notre Dame Cathedral; Cho Lon (China Town) and its famous Binh Tay market and Thien Hau pagoda. Overnight at a luxurious hotel in Ho Chi Minh City.

Accommodation: Sofitel Saigon Plaza or similar (2 nights)

# DAY 16/Mar 19 HO CHI MINH CITY

Today is free to explore Ho Chi Minh City on your own, perhaps venturing to nearby shops and markets for mementos of your Southeast Asian odyssey. (B)

# DAY 17 / Mar 20 DEPART HO CHI MINH CITY

Transfer to the airport for your homebound flight. (B) Transportation: Cathay Pacific Airways

\*\*\*\* END OF TOUR \*\*\*\*\*

B – breakfast L – Lunch D - dinner

The exact order and days of sightseeing are subject to change without notice.

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# INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR PROGRAMME

- Scheduled transatlantic flights and airport transfers
- 2 Nights Hotel Accommodation in Hanoi with daily Buffet Breakfast
- Overnight stay onboard Traditional Wooden Junk in Ha Long Bay
- Intra-Asia flight from Hanoi to Siem Reap
- 3 Nights Hotel Accommodation in Siem Reap with daily Buffet Breakfast
- 7-night Deluxe Cruise Accommodation in an Outside Stateroom -82% of the Staterooms with Balconies
- 2 Nights Hotel Accommodation in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) with Buffet Breakfast
- Superb Dining with all Meals included during your Cruise
- Bottled Water in every cabin replenished daily
- Free-flowing Wine, beer and soft drinks with every dinner on board the ship
- Daily Sightseeing Program as outlined in the Itinerary
- Onboard Special Highlights including Folklore Dances and Music Performances, Culture Discussion Forums, Theme Dinners and Piano Entertainment
- Non-smoking Environment (smoking permitted only on the Sun Deck)
- Port charges.
- Air Taxes
- Vietnam visa fee (Cambodia Landing Visa is obtained on arrival for approximately 25 USD per person)

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Escorted with minimum of 15 passengers



# PACKAGE PRICE IN CANADIAN DOLLARS PER PERSON

CATEGORY	DOUBLE	SINGLE
	OCCUPANCY	OCCUPANCY
С	8,078	11,967
В	8,478	12,567
А	8,778	N/A
JR. S.	9,078	N/A

## AIR CREDIT

• \$1,400 PP

• Business Class Air Upgrade: \$4,700 pp

# **PAYMENTS**

• Deposit: \$1,200 pp

• Final Payment: November 26, 2012

# **CANCELLATION FEES**

• From time of booking to November 25, 2012: \$400 pp

• From November 26, 2012 to January 15, 2013: 50 % of tour cost

• From January 16, 2013 to departure date: 100 % of tour cost

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#### GROUP TOUR BOOKING TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Travelers must report any disability that would require special attention while on tour at the time the reservation is made. CH Clarkson is not responsible for any denial of services by air carriers, hotels, restaurants, or other suppliers as a result to such disability. A qualified and physically able companion must accompany travelers who need such assistance and must assume full responsibility for their well being. Travelers accept by virtue of this booking, that Cruise Holidays of Clarkson has the right and authority to accept or reject any tour participant and to remove such participant if in the judgment of CH Clarkson the participant's behaviour interferes with the well-being and enjoyment by the other participants. Cruise Holidays of Clarkson will not refund or cover any cost or expenses incurred for such termination of vacation arrangements.

The tour participant agrees that Cruise Holidays of Clarkson shall not be liable for any damage, loss (including personal injury, death, and property loss), or expenses occasioned by any act or omission of any supplier providing services. Cruise Holidays of Clarkson shall not be responsible for any changes to the itinerary as outlined in the brochure by the tour suppliers.

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