



# ENCHANTING INDOCHINA

A journey through Hanoi, Halong Bay,  
Laos & the Upper Mekong aboard  
the Ylang & the Anouvong

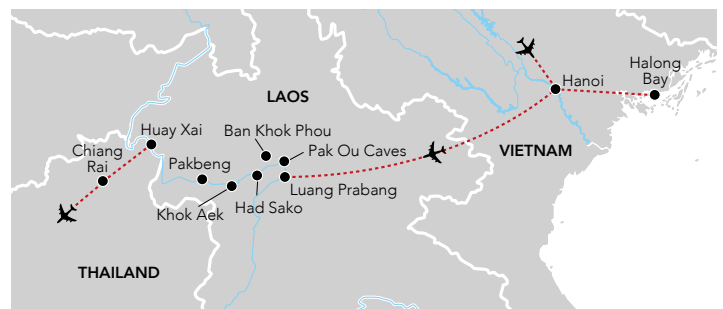
25<sup>th</sup> October to 8<sup>th</sup> November 2025;  
4<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March & 25<sup>th</sup> October to  
8<sup>th</sup> November 2026

NOBLE CALEDONIA





Each day of this exclusive tour offers incredible experiences as we take in the glorious natural beauty and poignant history of Indochina and discover the stunning, unspoiled countryside, fascinating culture, bustling cities, and timeless villages. Our unique tour has been designed to enable a leisurely exploration of the region, combining our two river cruises with time exploring by land from comfortable and centrally located hotels.



During our two night river journey aboard the Ylang we will explore Vietnam's beautiful Halong Bay. Known for its emerald green waters and thousands of towering limestone islands, this charming and tranquil region is a world away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Continuing to Laos, we will discover the lesser-travelled stretch of the Mekong River aboard the Anouvong as we journey from Luang Prabang to Huay Xai sailing past remote villages, quiet riverbanks with grazing buffalo and through lush forests and gently rolling verdant hills. In addition, we will enjoy hotel stays in the vibrant cities of Hanoi, Luang Prabang and Chiang Rai allowing for the opportunity to visit the magnificent sites and explore these rapidly developing metropolises.

This wonderful journey provides an opportunity to soak up the diverse culture of the region and the everyday life of the local people and one of the greatest experiences of our journey will be encountering their great charm and natural warmth. There will be ample time to relax or to explore at leisure and in the company of just 20 fellow guests, we can offer an intimate experience and close-up perspective of the region including some places which are virtually untouched by tourism.







## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Hanoi, Vietnam.** Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

**Day 2 Hanoi.** Arrive this morning and transfer to our hotel for a two night stay. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

**Day 3 Hanoi.** After breakfast enjoy a city tour of Hanoi, often referred to as the 'Paris of the East' with its yellow ochre colonial buildings, tree-lined boulevards and scenic lakes. We will start with a visit to former President Ho Chi Minh's house before continuing to the 6th century Tran Quoc Pagoda, the oldest in Hanoi located on a small island in West Lake. After lunch visit the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first national university built in the late 11th century and an example of well-preserved traditional Vietnamese architecture. We will end our tour with a walk through the old quarter known for its 36 streets of 36 wares' named after the original 36 artisan guilds that date as far back as the 13th century. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for dinner at the hotel. (B, L, D)

**Day 4 Hanoi to Halong Bay.** After breakfast in the hotel we will drive to Halong Bay. Embark the Ylang in the late morning and cruise into Halong Bay over lunch. In the early afternoon we arrive at Cua Van, a former floating fishing village which some fishermen still use as their base. Board bamboo boats and glide through this serene area and enjoy a glimpse into the village and life on the water. Our next stop will be at Tien Ong cave, where we can learn about Halong Bay's geological history and find evidence of human civilisation dating back to 10,000 BC. Return to the ship and sail to our overnight mooring area. There will be the opportunity to join a Vietnamese cooking class or a lecture on the bay's unique features and history. After dinner on board maybe relax on the terrace deck and enjoy the peace under the stars. (B, L, D)

**Day 5 Halong Bay.** Early risers may wish to join a Tai Chi session on the terrace deck before we embark on a day boat to reach the impressive Sung Sot Cave, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. First discovered by the French in 1901 and spanning 10,000 square metres, Sung Sot features two enormous chambers replete with myriad mythical rock monoliths and adorned with stalactite chandeliers. Following our visit, return to the ship to relax on board, or take the opportunity to explore the marine landscape further by kayak. This afternoon our journey continues to a floating pearl farm where we will discover the intricate process of cultivating, harvesting and processing various pearls. The remainder of the afternoon is free to relax on board. Enjoy a drink on the open deck and witness the captivating "blue hour" at sunset before dinner. (B, L, D)

**Day 6 Halong Bay to Luang Prabang, Laos.** This morning we will reach a secluded area of Halong Bay called Ti Top Island, where there will be an opportunity for a swim from the sandy beach, or to climb to the island's peak

to admire the panoramic views over the bay. After lunch, disembark the Ylang and return to Hanoi where we will have an early dinner before transferring to the airport for an evening flight to Luang Prabang. On arrival, transfer to our hotel and check in for our three night stay. (B, L, D)

**Day 7 Luang Prabang.** The morning alms round, referred to as "Tak Bat" in Lao, is a living Buddhist tradition for the people of Luang Prabang and dates back generations. Today, those wishing to rise early can wake up before dawn to witness a procession of hundreds of saffron-robed monks in the early morning light, a truly spiritual experience. After the almsgiving, walk along the morning market and watch as the town comes to life before returning to the hotel in time for breakfast. Later we explore the UNESCO protected city centre to appreciate its unspoiled Laotian-colonial fusion architecture including Wat Xieng Thong, with its traditional roofs sweeping low to the ground, the impressive stupa of Wat Visoun and Wat Sene, the city's oldest temple, and Wat Mai. The rest of the day is free for independent exploration or to relax at the hotel before meeting this evening for dinner. (B, D)

**Day 8 Luang Prabang.** Drive south of the city this morning to the beautiful waterfalls of Tat Kuang Si. Below the 90 metre drop of the main cascade are a series of pools, connected by smaller falls and cascades. At low water levels the water is an unbelievable turquoise, and swimming in the lower pools is a great way to cool off. On the walk through the forest to the falls, you will also pass the Free the Bears project – home to a group of rescued Asiatic Black (Moon) Bears and one Malayan Sun Bear. Return to the hotel for some free time before we have an evening of Laotian culture. After a game of pétanque we will continue to the riverbanks where we will enjoy a traditional Laotian dinner. (B, D)

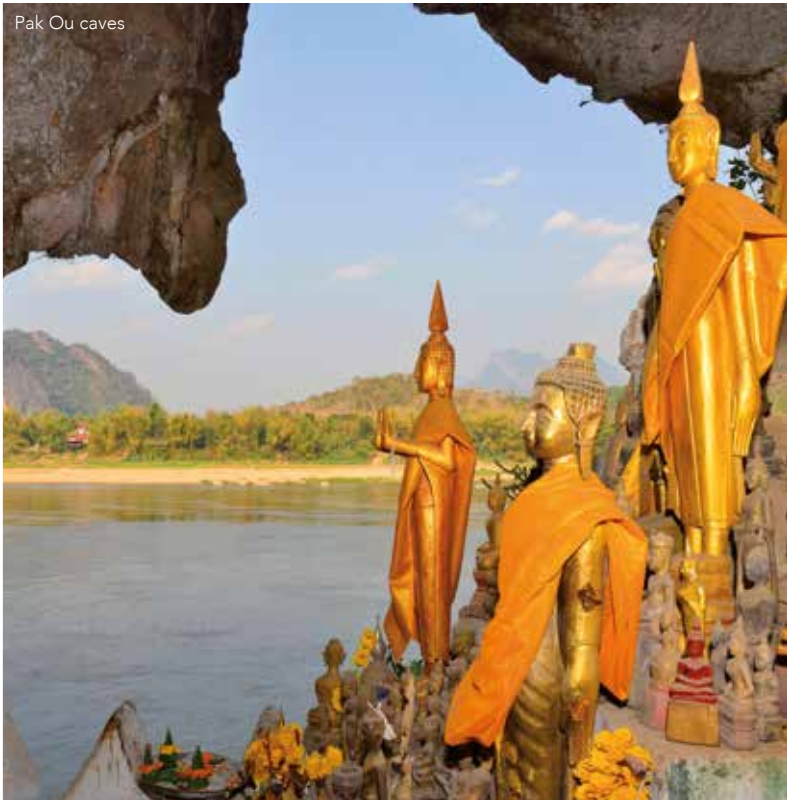
**Day 9 Luang Prabang, Pak Ou Caves & Ban Khok Phou.** After breakfast in the hotel we transfer to the Anouvong moored in the city. Settle into your cabin and enjoy a relaxing morning as we sail through lush vegetation and gently rolling verdant hills. Maybe join our onboard hosts for their lecture about Laotian culture and the diverse tribes that live along the Mekong. After lunch we reach the famous Pak Ou Caves, located directly on the Mekong's rocky shore and opposite the mouth of the Ou River. We will have the opportunity to explore the two spacious limestone grottoes which house approximately 4,000 sacred Buddhist statues and images ranging from mere centimetres up to two metres in height. There will also be the chance to kayak along the Nam Ou River or visit a nearby village to learn about traditional silk weaving and Lao whisky distillation. Later this afternoon, reach the village of Ban Khok Phou where a traditional Laotian Baci ceremony will be performed by local elders. Return to the ship for welcome drinks and a barbecue dinner served on the sandbank as we moor overnight. (B, L, D)

Wat Rong Khun, Chiang Rai



Novice monks receiving alms

Pak Ou caves



**Day 10 Had Sako & Khok Aek.** Enjoy the stunning Mekong scenery as we set sail this morning. Arrive at the enchanting village of Had Sako where residents will welcome us with traditional costumes and music and we can witness the unique farming methods of the ethnic Hmong community. Sail over lunch and in the early afternoon we arrive at the village of Khok Aek. Here the ethnic Lao, Khmu and Hmong tribes live a sustainable life growing organic fruit and vegetables. We will learn about their day-to-day lives, traditions and growing techniques and hopefully try some local produce. Back on board, a traditional music and dance performance will take place before dinner. (B, L, D)

**Day 11 Pakbeng.** Relax on board as the Anouvong continues to navigate upstream. After lunch we arrive at the small town of Pakbeng. This riverside settlement is halfway between Huay Xai and Luang Prabang and many locals stop here when they travel or transport goods between these two “hubs” on the river. Opposite the town, we visit a professionally managed elephant sanctuary; the elephants here used to work as logging elephants but can now live in peace and safety. From here we will take a drive to a hilltop temple with wonderful panoramic views of the meandering Mekong River below. (B, L, D)

**Day 12 Huay Xai to Chiang Rai, Thailand.** Spend the morning cruising as we pass the confluence with the Nam Tha River. Maybe join our onboard hosts for their presentation on the intricate history of the Golden Triangle or engage in a culinary Lao cooking class. As we continue to the Thai border the scenery becomes more mountainous and the river narrower. After lunch on board we arrive at Huay Xai in the early afternoon and disembark. After crossing the border into Thailand we continue by road to Chiang Rai. Check in to our hotel and enjoy some free time before meeting for dinner tonight. (B, L, D)

**Day 13 Chiang Rai.** Founded in 1262 AD, Thailand's most northern city boasts a fascinating architectural history in a mix of Thai and Burmese styles. After breakfast we begin our morning tour with a visit to the ancient temple of Wat Phra Kaew, the original home of the Emerald Buddha which is now housed in Bangkok. A replica was made and placed in the same spot where it was found. We continue to Wat Phra That Doi Chom Thong with its large gold stupa. Our final stop brings us to Wat Rong Khun, better known as the White Temple, which is different from any other temple in Thailand. In contrast to the ancient temples, this temple was built in 1997 and was designed using white glass. While travelling through the city, observe the influence of the city's Chinese ethnic minorities. Return to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure and this evening join your fellow travellers for dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

**Day 14 Chiang Rai to London.** After breakfast in the hotel, spend the day at leisure before we check out and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London via Bangkok. (B)

**Day 15 London.** Arrive this morning.

Traditional Hmong costumes



**PRICES PER PERSON**  
Based on double occupancy

Cabin Description	2025	2026
Ylang Signature Suite/Anouvong Deluxe Stateroom	£7395	£7695
Ylang Signature Suite/Anouvong Executive Stateroom	£7695	£7995
Ylang Regency Suite/Anouvong Executive Stateroom	£7995	£8295
Ylang Regency Suite/Anouvong Signature Suite	£8395	£8695
Ylang Signature Suite/Anouvong Deluxe Stateroom for sole use	£9395	£9695

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • Two nights hotel accommodation in Hanoi • Two nights aboard the Ylang • Three nights hotel accommodation in Luang Prabang • Three nights aboard the Anouvong • Two nights hotel accommodation in Chiang Rai • House wine, local beer and soft drinks with included lunches and dinners • Meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner) • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Shore excursions with local English-speaking guides • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance, visa for Laos.





Signature Suite



Restaurant



Bar & Lounge

# THE YLANG

This intimate, 20 passenger vessel was launched in 2019 and features just ten spacious suites on two decks, all with floor-to-ceiling windows which open onto a private balcony. The decor is a blend of Asian-Vietnamese with some French-colonial accents and local artisans have contributed with hard-crafted paintings and artworks.

## Your Cabin/Suite

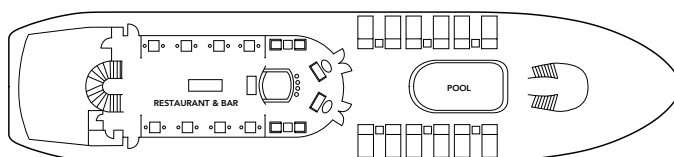
The six Signature Suites on the Main Deck measure 40 square metres and benefit from a 5.5 square metre balcony with table and sun chairs. The room's separate lounge area comes with a sofa and table, while the beds face a large sliding glass door which opens onto the private balcony. The bathrooms are fitted with a walk-in shower and a bathtub. The four Regency Suites are situated on the Upper Deck. The Grace Orchid and Pure Lotus suites measure 54 square metres with an eight square metre balcony and comfortable sofa lounge area. The luxurious bathroom is equipped with a walk-in shower and Jacuzzi. At the bow of the ship, the suites Royal Bamboo and Glory Daisy measure 51 square metres and feature a separate bedroom with double bed, a lounge with a sofa and the lavish bathroom offers both a shower and a free-standing bathtub. The setting of the 10 square metre private balcony at the very front of the ship, inclusive of a Jacuzzi, makes these suites truly special.

## Your Space & Dining

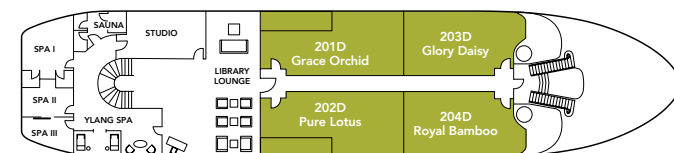
The Ylang is both elegantly furnished and spacious throughout the public areas. The Library Lounge offers comfortable seating in an Indochinese-themed setting and is the perfect place to relax after a day of exploration. The bar is also a cosy place to end an eventful day and is surrounded by large, full-sized windows offering guests spectacular views. The spacious Terrace Deck features an inviting pool, comfortable sun loungers as well as shaded seating areas and makes for the ideal place to relax and marvel at the breathtaking views. For the ultimate in relaxation, head to the Ylang Spa which offers a sauna, steam bath and range of pampering treatments as well as a wellness studio. In the Restaurant, guests can enjoy the many culinary pleasures Vietnamese cuisine has to offer. The wood-panelled ceiling, the ornate carvings on the walls and the dark wood and rattan furniture evoke the bygone days of Indochina and set the mood for a gourmet dining experience.

## DECK PLAN

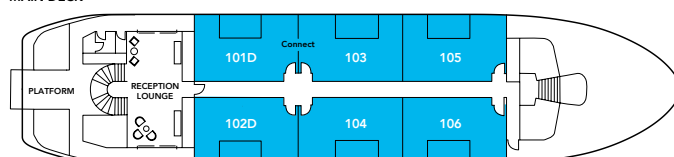
### TERRACE DECK



### UPPER DECK

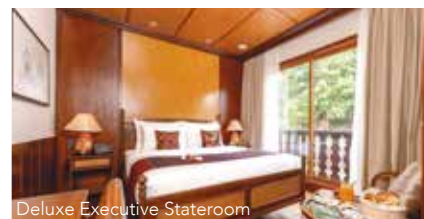


### MAIN DECK



Please note: D = suites with a fixed double bed

REGENCY SUITE SIGNATURE SUITE



# THE ANOUVONG

Launched in 2023, this luxurious vessel accommodates just 20 passengers across eight spacious staterooms and two luxurious suites. The atmosphere on board is intimate and the public areas include a spa, restaurant, and a lounge with an expansive terrace deck where there is ample opportunity to watch the world gently pass by as you relax on board your floating hotel.

## Your Cabin/Suite

The eight staterooms and two suites are attractively furnished with a décor that combines the elegance of French colonial style with gentle tones, Laotian patterns and handpicked local artwork. The staterooms offer up to 21 square metres of space and have a panoramic sliding door with a French balcony. The en-suite bathroom features a walk-in shower. The two luxurious Signature Suites are located at the front of the Main Deck and offer 30 square metres of space as well as a three square metre private balcony at the front of the vessel. A large floor-to ceiling window allows the sun to bathe the living areas in natural daylight and the luxurious French colonial beds face the window for spectacular views. The suites bathrooms are complete with a double basin vanity unit, a large walk-in shower and a Jacuzzi.

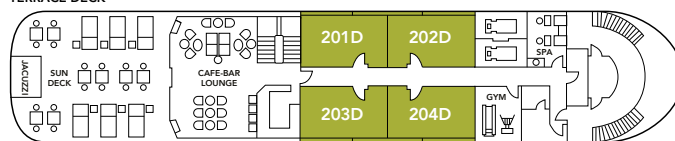
## Your Space & Dining

The Anouvong is both elegantly furnished and spacious throughout the public areas. The indoor cafe-bar and lounge on the Terrace Deck with its floor-to-ceiling windows, sofas and cushioned rattan chairs is a relaxing air-conditioned environment from which to watch the passing scenery, read a book or enjoy a drink from the bar. The lounge is also used for onboard activities such as lectures, demonstrations and film screenings. The spacious Terrace Deck features a Jacuzzi, comfortable sun loungers as well as shaded seating areas and makes for the ideal place to relax and marvel at the breathtaking views. There is also a small gym with treadmill and exercise bike. The Bodhi Spa is located on the Terrace Deck and offers a selection of treatments. The Delaporte Dining Lounge evokes the beauty of the temples of Luang Prabang and the dark brown colonial furniture together with the gold tones creates

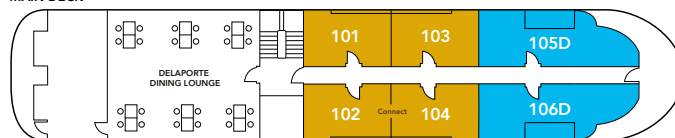
a timeless elegance, while the large full-sized windows on both sides of the vessel flood the dining hall with sunlight. The Chef and his culinary team will serve flavourful dishes from Laos and Southeast Asia as well as international cuisine, all using the freshest of ingredients and guests can also enjoy open-air barbecues, al-fresco breakfasts, aperitifs and in-suite afternoon teas.

## DECK PLAN

### TERRACE DECK



### MAIN DECK



Please note: D = staterooms/suites with a fixed double bed

DELUXE STATEROOM DELUXE EXECUTIVE STATEROOM SIGNATURE SUITE



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Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.  
Cover image: Buddhist Monk, Luang Prabang.