

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£300
PER PERSON

PASSAGE ALONG THE MEKONG

A journey through Vietnam & Cambodia
aboard the RV La Marguerite

16th to 31st January 2028

NOBLE CALEDONIA

The Mekong River has long served as the lifeblood of mainland Southeast Asia, sustaining ancient civilisations and shaping the cultures that continue to flourish along its banks. During this journey along the river which focuses on the section which flows through Vietnam and Cambodia, we can take in the glorious natural beauty and poignant history of the region.

Our exploration begins in Ho Chi Minh City with time to discover the colonial architecture and vibrant atmosphere of the city before we join the charming RV La Marguerite for a seven night journey along the Mekong. Cruising along the Mekong at a leisurely pace offers the most beautifully relaxing way to discover the ever-changing landscapes of the delta and the stunning, unspoiled countryside. Along the way, encounters with local communities, visits to colourful temples, bustling riverside towns and traditional villages will provide a captivating insight into daily life on the Mekong. The river plays such an important role in the lives of the local people and one of the greatest experiences of our journey will be encountering their great charm and natural warmth.

Our journey concludes with two days exploring the incomparable monuments of Angkor; one of the greatest archaeological sites in the world. From the enigmatic faces of Bayon and the jungle-clad ruins of Ta Prohm to the breathtaking grandeur of Angkor Wat, these extraordinary temples provide a fitting finale to our itinerary that combines magnificent cultural treasures and spectacular landscapes in two of Southeast Asia's most rewarding destinations.



Angkor Wat



Silver Pagoda, Phnom Penh



Independence Palace, Ho Chi Minh City

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Fly by scheduled indirect flight to Ho Chi Minh City.

Day 2 Ho Chi Minh City. Arrive and transfer to our hotel for a three night stay. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure before we meet this evening for dinner at the hotel. (D)

Day 3 Ho Chi Minh City. After breakfast we will depart for a tour of the city's main avenues and landmarks, discovering the colonial heritage of Vietnam's former southern capital. See the Reunification Palace (exterior view) and the former presidential palace, a symbol of the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975. We will continue to the majestic Notre-Dame Cathedral and the famous Central Post Office, designed by Gustave Eiffel. After lunch in a local restaurant, we will visit the History Museum which is home to significant collections spanning from prehistoric times to the Nguyen Dynasty. Return to the hotel later this afternoon for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 4 Ho Chi Minh City. Enjoy a leisurely day to explore further independently or relax at the hotel. (B)

Day 5 Ho Chi Minh City to My Tho & Vinh Long. After breakfast, in the mid-morning we transfer to My Tho to embark the RV La Marguerite. Enjoy lunch on board as we set sail towards Vinh Long. This afternoon you may choose to relax on board or visit the Van Thanh Mieu Temple (Temple of Literature) built in 1864 in honour of Phan Thanh Gian who signed the treaty ceding the three eastern provinces of Cochinchina to France. This is followed by a Hat Boi performance, a Vietnamese classical opera using symbolic face paint and gestures. Return to the ship for the welcome cocktail and dinner on board. (B, L, D)

Day 6 Vinh Long & Ben Tre. This morning we embark on small boats for a cruise along a canal lined with impressive brick kilns in the Mang Thit district, where we visit a local brick factory. After lunch on board, we will once again board small boats to discover the floating coconut market in the Ben Tre district before we continue to the Vinh Buu pagoda. (B, L, D)

Day 7 Cai Be & Sa Dec. After breakfast, we will depart on small boats for the island of Tan Phong where we take a walk to discover the traditional craft of weaving decorative objects from water hyacinths. We continue our tour with a ride on small vehicles through the fruit fields, stopping in a garden for an introduction to the region's exotic fruits. Before returning to the ship, we will take a short boat ride past the Gothic cathedral of Cai Be and visit a local family who make rice paper and coconut candy. Return to the ship for lunch and sail to Sa Dec, where the French writer Marguerite Duras spent part of

her childhood. Here we enjoy a guided tour to soak up the atmosphere of this lively town, where a few colonial houses remain. Visit the 'House of the Chinese', described in *The Lover*, which has been transformed into a small museum. We will continue to a Cao Dai Temple, representing the syncretic religion that is widespread in southern Vietnam, and will also explore the colourful local market. (B, L, D)

Day 8 Tan Chau – Border Crossing. We arrive in Tan Chau this morning, a small town on the Mekong, and begin our day exploring aboard small local boats. With its agricultural surroundings and its mat and silk-weaving factories, Tan Chau is representative of life in this part of the Mekong, where a traditional rural way of life coexists with a lively local economy. Return to the ship for lunch as we continue sailing towards the Cambodian border in the afternoon. The RV La Marguerite will stop at the border to complete the formalities for entering Cambodia. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Today we arrive in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia. Formerly nicknamed "the Pearl of Asia", the city was renowned for its wide, shaded boulevards and harmonious colonial architecture. Today, Phnom Penh is drawing on its past to develop a new ambition as a major Asian capital. This morning we visit the Royal Palace, residence of the King of Cambodia. This complex of pavilions and pagodas forms a vast architectural ensemble. We continue to the Silver Pagoda which houses a number of national treasures. We then visit the National Museum, the main historical and archaeological museum in the country, housing one of the most important collections of Khmer art. This afternoon, after lunch on board, we will visit the Tuol Sleng Museum. This former detention centre, known as S-21 during the Khmer Rouge regime between 1975 and 1979, was originally a high school before being converted into a prison. Here, in a quiet atmosphere, visitors gain an insight into the suffering endured by the Cambodian people under the regime. On the way back to the ship, we will stop at Wat Phnom, a picturesque sanctuary dedicated to Lady Penh who gave her name to the city. This evening we can enjoy a traditional Khmer dance performance on board. (B, L, D)

Day 10 Phnom Penh & Silk Island. Early this morning, the RV La Marguerite sails to Silk Island where we will enjoy a walk and tuk-tuk ride in a small weavers' village including a visit to a local school. Return to the ship as we resume our navigation back to Phnom Penh. After lunch on board, the remainder of the afternoon will be at leisure to discover Cambodia's capital. This evening there will be a talk about Cambodia in the lounge. (B, L, D)

Day 11 Angkor Ban. Enjoy a leisurely morning on board as we sail through the winding channels of the Upper Mekong, a region that remains largely



untouched. Over lunch we will arrive in Angkor Ban which is one of the very few villages not to have been burned or destroyed during the Khmer Rouge period. It offers a glimpse into traditional Cambodian life, lived at the pace of its inhabitants. Visit the village on stilts and discover the traditional houses, some of which are more than 100 years old. (B, L, D)

Day 12 Kampong Cham to Siem Reap. Disembark this morning and transfer to Siem Reap (approximately five hours). En-route we stop at the Kampong Kdei Bridge which dates from the Angkorian period and was built during the reign of Jayavarman VII. On arrival in Siem Reap we will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before we check in to our hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure before we meet for dinner at the hotel this evening. (B, L, D)

Day 13 Siem Reap. This morning we set out to explore Angkor and Angkor Thom, one of the ancient capitals of the Khmer Empire. At the heart of this fortified complex, entered through monumental gates, we can visit the remarkable Bayon temple, built by the great builder-king Jayavarman VII. Surrounded by towers carved with smiling faces, the temple complex extends to the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper King, which overlook the central square of this ancient royal city. Angkor Thom also features two significant pyramidal temples, the Phimeanakas and the Baphuon, the latter of which was restored by the Ecole Francaise d'Extreme-Orient (French School of Asian Studies) with work completed in 2011. This afternoon we will visit the spectacular Ta Prohm which is immersed in tropical vegetation and has been deliberately left much as it appeared when rediscovered in the early 20th century. (B)

Day 14 Siem Reap. This morning we start our day with a visit to the Banteay Srei Temple. Known as the 'Citadel of Women', this 10th century temple, surrounded by a moat, has retained a remarkably pristine appearance. Its pink sandstone, set against a laterite base, has been carved with exquisite intricacy. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant. This afternoon we continue to Angkor Wat, the largest temple in the Angkor Archaeological Park, where its majesty and harmony represent the pinnacle of Khmer art. The outer galleries, adorned with sculptures and narrative bas-reliefs, support a central sanctuary, the realm of the gods. We will meet this evening for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 15 Siem Reap to London. After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport for the scheduled indirect flight to London. (B)

Day 16 London. Arrive today.



PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat Cabin Description	Deck	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
E Deluxe with two portholes	Main	£5295	£4995
D Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper	£5595	£5295
C Deluxe with French Balcony	Panorama	£5995	£5695
B Junior Suite with French Balcony	Sun	£6495	£6195
A Deluxe Suite with French Balcony	Sun	£7295	£6995
E Deluxe with two portholes for sole use	Main	£7295	£6995
D Deluxe with French Balcony for sole use	Upper	£7595	£7295

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Three nights hotel accommodation in Ho Chi Minh City • Seven nights aboard the RV La Marguerite • Meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner) • All-inclusive drinks on board (please note that premium brands & sparkling wines are not included) • Three nights hotel accommodation in Siem Reap • Cruise Director and Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Shore excursions with local English speaking guides • Entrance fees • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, Cambodian visa.

Important Visa Information: A visa is required for Cambodia for British passport holders. Noble Caledonia will provide further information on the visa application process to booked passengers. Visa information is subject to change.



RV LA MARGUERITE

For our journey along the Mekong we are delighted to have chartered the RV La Marguerite. Built in 2009, with a traditional teak interior, the vessel offers spacious suites and cabins reflecting the charm of a bygone age while offering every modern comfort. Accommodating a maximum of just 90 passengers and with 38 crew members, the RV La Marguerite provides a friendly and welcoming atmosphere on board. The expansive Sun Deck offers the perfect place to relax as the ever-changing landscapes of the Mekong drift gently by.

Your Cabin/Suite

The spacious cabins and suites are located over four decks. Their décor combines the elegance of French colonial style with the tranquility, comfort and modern conveniences. All of the suites and cabins are air-conditioned and equipped with a wardrobe, desk, mini-bar, safe, hairdryer, and telephone. The Deluxe cabins measure 20m². The eight Deluxe cabins on the Main Deck feature two portholes, while the 16 Deluxe cabins on the Upper Deck and the 14 Deluxe cabins on the Panorama Deck benefit from a window and a large bay window opening onto a small balcony. Cabins on the Main, Upper and Panorama Decks are equipped with twin beds that can be configured as doubles and feature an en-suite bathroom with shower and toilet. The six Junior Suites on the Sun Deck measure 26m² and feature a window and a large bay window opening onto a balcony. Also located on the Sun Deck are two spacious Terrace Suites which measure 41m², each with a window and a private balcony. The Terrace Suites feature a fixed king-size bed, a sofa and a spacious bathroom with a separate shower and whirlpool bath.



Junior Suite Balcony – Sun Deck.



Deluxe Suite Balcony – Sun Deck



Deluxe Cabin with portholes – Main Deck



Restaurant



Sun Deck



Deluxe Balcony Cabin



Sun Deck



Pool

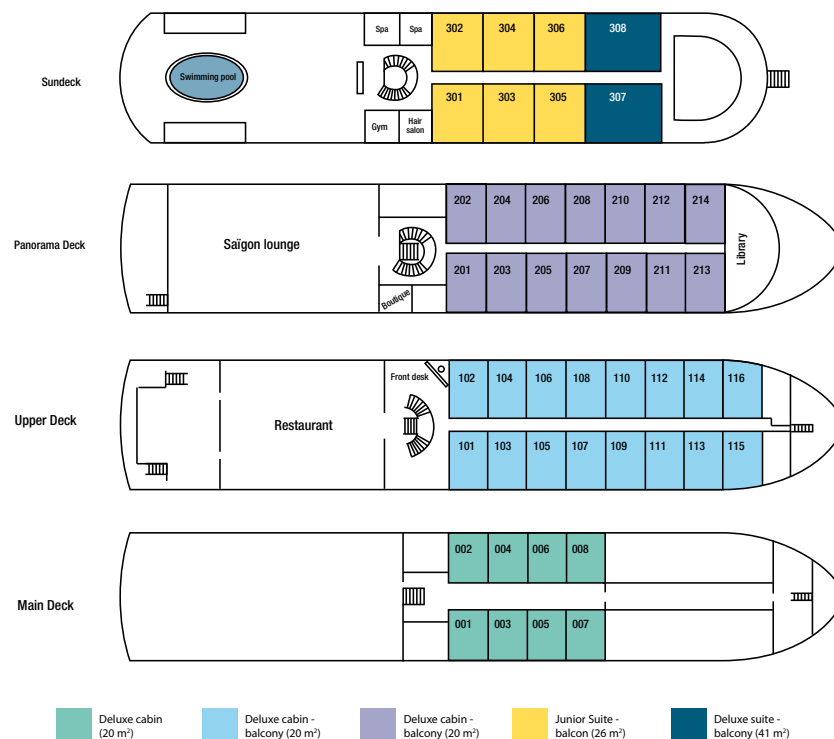
Your Dining

The Panoramic Restaurant is located on the Upper Deck and seats all passengers in a single sitting with an open seating policy. The menu features a combination of European and local cuisine, freshly prepared by the Chef and culinary team using the finest locally sourced herbs, fruits and vegetables, including many regional varieties unique to the Mekong. Buffet-style breakfasts and lunches offer a variety of Asian and Western dishes, whilst dinner is served as a four-course set menu with a vegetarian option. House wine, beer and soft drinks are included with lunch and dinner.

Your Space

The public areas of the RV La Marguerite are elegantly furnished, creating a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere on board. The Panoramic Restaurant and Lounge Bar, with their floor-to-ceiling windows, provide comfortable spaces in which to relax with a drink, attend one of the onboard talks or socialise with fellow travellers whilst watching life unfold along the banks of the Mekong. The spacious Sun Deck, with its comfortable loungers and small splash pool, is the perfect place to unwind and enjoy the ever-changing scenery. Additional facilities include a fitness area, two massage rooms, a hair salon, a boutique and a small library with a selection of books and games. Throughout your cruise, the friendly and attentive crew will ensure a warm welcome and attentive service.

DECK PLAN



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request. Itinerary and accommodation subject to change.
Cover image: Three monks walking through the Buddhist temple of Ta Prohm, Angkor Wat.