

Discover the Mekong River on Luxury Cruise 13 days

Trip overview

Embarking on a luxurious cruise in Mekong River, travel lovers will have a chance to discover the wonders of two Indochina countries - Vietnam and Cambodia.

This 13-day package tour will take you to experience the vibrant energy of the Mekong Delta, explore the fascinating history of Phnom Penh, and marvel at the ancient temples of Angkor Wat.

With a perfect blend of cultural immersion and luxurious comfort, you are promised an unforgettable journey through two countries with unique and colorful cultures. Join us on an adventure of a lifetime!

- **Durations:** 13 days
- **Trip outline:** Ho Chi Minh City - Cu Chi Tunnels - Mekong Delta - Cai Be - Chau Doc - Phnom Penh - Siem Reap
- **Price from:** US \$4231/person
- **Tour inquiry:** <https://besttratetours.com/vietnam-tours/discover-the-mekong-river-on-luxury-cruise-13-days.html>

Trip outline

day	Activities	Accommodations	Meals
Day 1	Ho Chi Minh City Arrival	Hotel in Ho Chi Minh	NA
Day 2	Cu Chi Tunnels by Luxury Speedboat	Hotel in Saigon	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 3	Ho Chi Minh - My Tho - Cai Be	Luxury Mekong River Cruise	Breakfast, Dinner
Day 4	Cai Be - Sa Dec - Chau Doc	Luxury Mekong River Cruises	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 5	Chau Doc - Phnom Penh	Luxury Mekong River Cruises	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 6	Phnom Penh	Luxury Mekong River Cruise	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 7	Phnom Penh - Kampong Cham / Kampong Chhnang (Tonle)	Luxury Mekong River Cruise	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 8	Kampong Cham (Mekong) - Kampong Chhnang (Tonle)	Luxury Mekong River Cruise	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9	Kampong Chhnang - Tonle Lake / Kampong Cham (Mekong)	Luxury Mekong River Cruise	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 10	Tonle Sap / Kampong Cham (Mekong) - Siem Reap	Hotel in Siem Reap	Breakfast
Day 11	Angkor Wat - Ta Prohm	Hotel in Siem Reap	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 12	Banteay Srei - Angkor Thom	Hotel in Siem Reap	Breakfast, Dinner
Day 13	Siem Reap Departure	NA	Breakfast

Itinerary

Day 1: Ho Chi Minh City Arrival

Your trip will begin with a warm welcome from our tour guide at Tan Son Nhat Airport, then you will be transferred directly to your hotel in Sai Gon.

Upon arrival, check in at your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure - have the opportunity to discover Ho Chi Minh City at your own pace.

Meals: NA

Accommodation: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh

Day 2: Cu Chi Tunnels by Luxury Speedboat

Morning

Witness the surroundings of two banks during a boat ride on the Saigon River.

Visit [Cu Chi Tunnels](#) and watch a short documentary on the history of Vietnam. Tourists can explore the intricate network of underground passageways used during the Vietnam War.

Indulge in a delectable lunch featuring traditional Vietnamese dishes

Afternoon

Take advantage of your leisure time in Ho Chi Minh City to explore the city on your own

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Saigon

Day 3: Ho Chi Minh - My Tho - Cai Be

Morning

After leaving the bustling city of Saigon, you will travel to My Tho to embark on a relaxing cruise trip along the Mekong River.

Once onboard, you'll be treated to a refreshing welcome drink as you make your way toward the river. Enjoy the stunning sunset views from the balcony while enjoying a delicious dinner. You'll then spend the night on the cruise in Cai Be, allowing you to unwind and recharge before the next day's adventures.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Mekong River Cruise

Day 4: Cai Be - Sa Dec - Chau Doc

Morning

Begin your day feeling refreshed and energized as you practice Tai Chi on the sundeck and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea.

The tour will then commence with a visit to an ancient house nestled amidst fruit orchards, followed by lunch served on the cruise.

Afternoon

Join a sampan tour of **Binh Thanh Island**, where you'll explore its artificial canals and gain insight into the local culture. Cap off the day by spending the night on the cruise near Chau Doc, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in the tranquil beauty of the Mekong Delta.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Mekong River Cruises

Day 5: Chau Doc - Phnom Penh

Morning

Make a perfect day with a delicious breakfast either at the Dining Hall or on the serene balcony of your cabin.

Following breakfast, you'll embark on a trip to the dock before returning to the cruise for a satisfying lunch.

Afternoon

In the mid-afternoon, the cruise will make its way toward the border for Phnom Penh, the capital city of Cambodia. Enjoy the picturesque scenery along the river as you make your way to your next destination.

Note: In the high water season (between July and December), you will start your excursion on a local boat (sampan) and discover the border town of Tan Chau. Firstly, the journey takes you to the "evergreen" islands, where you will be thrilled to learn the life of the locals.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Mekong River Cruises

Day 6: Phnom Penh

Morning

- During your visit to Phnom Penh, be sure to explore the magnificent [Royal Palace](#), which offers a glimpse into Cambodia's rich heritage, architecture, and culture. The complex features intricate carvings and lush gardens that are sure to leave you in awe.
- Additionally, don't miss the chance to discover the **Silver Pagoda**, marvel at stunning Buddha statues adorned with gold and priceless jewels. Experience the sacred ambiance firsthand by attending the annual royal ceremonies hosted at the pagoda grounds.
- For an unparalleled collection of Khmer cultural material spanning prehistoric Angkorian periods, head to the **National Museum**, which features a vast array of sculptures, ceramics, and ethnographic objects.

Finally, indulge in a delectable lunch at a local restaurant, where you can savor the flavors of Cambodian cuisine while taking in the local ambiance.

Afternoon

- Visit the [Genocide Museum](#) and detention center memorial site in Phnom Penh, which preserves evidence of the Khmer Rouge regime and encourages visitors to be messengers of peace.
- Head to the **Killing Field** - memorials dedicated to those who lost their lives during the Khmer Rouge regime, serving as reminders of the atrocities committed and paying tribute to those who suffered and died.

Evening

After a day of exploring the wonders of Phnom Penh, unwind on the sundeck of your cruise ship and enjoy some delicious cocktails. Take in the breathtaking views of the Mekong River while sipping your beverage of choice.

Later, enjoy an enchanting Apsara dance performance, which is a traditional Cambodian dance that tells stories through graceful movements and intricate costumes. The performance is sure to be a highlight of your trip, offering a glimpse into Cambodia's vibrant cultural traditions.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Mekong River Cruise

Day 7: Phnom Penh - Kampong Cham / Kampong Chhnang (Tonle)

1) High Water Cruise

Morning

Begin your day with an early morning cruise tour to Kampong Cham, where you can take in the serene beauty of the Mekong River.

Make a stop at the small **Angkor Ban village**, which is known for its traditional houses and untouched community along the river.

On board the cruise, you can also enjoy a variety of traditional Khmer fashion and savor a delicious lunch. This is a great opportunity to immerse yourself in the local culture and cuisine.

Afternoon

After lunch, continue your adventure with a visit to a local school as part of NGO project to gain insight into the education of the young Cambodian generation.

Move to the enchanting pre-Angkorian temple of Wat Hanchey and the colorful monastery of **Wat Nokor**. Have the chance to engage in light banter with some of the monks living in the area and learn more about their way of life.

Take a break from your travels and enjoy dinner onboard the cruise, where you can savor the flavors of Cambodia while taking in the stunning views of the river.

2) Low Water Cruise

Morning

Early in the morning, the cruise will head towards **Kampong Tralach**, navigating the narrow Tonle River.

The cruise will moor at Kampong Chhnang, where you can visit the "Green School" supported partly by the Heritage Line and learn more about the education of local children. An opportunity to explore the daily life of the local people and gain insight into their culture and way of life.

On board the cruise, you can enjoy a variety of traditional Khmer fashion and indulge in a delicious lunch featuring local cuisine and flavors.

Afternoon

As the cruise makes its way towards Kampong Chhnang, dock along the narrow and meandering Tonle River, which is known as Cambodia's "water world".

From there, take a minibus to a nearby rural village and join a walking tour to explore the local culture. Discover the village specialties, such as Khmer-style pottery and the making of palm sugar.

Experience the region's local floating villages and wetlands, which are an essential part of the local way of life. Immerse yourself in the local culture and gain insight into the daily lives of the people in this region.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Mekong River Cruise

Day 8: Kampong Cham (Mekong) - Kampong Chhnang (Tonle)

1) High Water Cruise: Kampong Cham (Mekong) - Kampong Chhnang (Tonle)

Morning

Experience the magic of the Mekong River and [Tonle Sap](#) with our exciting cruise itinerary.

Discover the Island of **Koh Oknha Tey** and learn the art of silk-making while visiting local workshops by tuk-tuk.

Gain insight into the local geography and history with our "Geography of the Mekong and Tonle Sap" program, and participate in a Monks' blessing ceremony onboard.

Visit the "Green School," supported by the Heritage Line, and learn about the daily life of the local people on the Tonle River shore near Kampong Chhnang.

2) Low Water Cruise: Tonle River - Kampong Cham (Mekong)

Morning

Embark on a journey of discovery as the cruise takes you from the lower **Tonle River** towards the Mekong while you indulge in a scrumptious breakfast.

Arrive at the island of **Koh Oknha Tey**, renowned for its high-quality silk products, and explore the island by tuk-tuk.

Learn about the intricate process of Cambodian silk-making and gain insight into the local geography and history with our "Geography of the Mekong and Tonle Sap" program.

Experience the rich culture and traditions of Cambodia while cruising along the Mekong River.

Afternoon

Join a Monks' blessing ceremony onboard the cruise and experience the spiritual side of Cambodia.

As the ship moors towards the small **Angkor Ban village**, known for its untouched communities and traditional houses up in the Mekong River, you'll have the chance to explore the local culture and way of life.

Enjoy a delightful cocktail party on a flat riverbank, and take in the stunning views of the Mekong River.

End your day by staying overnight at the riverbank of Kampong Cham, where you can relax and unwind in the serene beauty of the Cambodian countryside.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Mekong River Cruise

Day 9: Kampong Chhnang - Tonle Lake / Kampong Cham (Mekong)

1) High Water Cruise: Kampong Chhnang - Tonle Lake

Morning

A new day will come with a peaceful Tai Chi class onboard the cruise, followed by a delicious breakfast in the dining hall.

Take a local boat to the shore and embark on a walking tour of the nearby village, where you can learn about the local culture and way of life.

Listen to an introduction about the village specialties, including Khmer-style pottery and the palm sugar industry, and discover the region's local floating villages and wetlands.

As the ship sails along the narrow and meandering **Tonle River** during lunch, you'll make your way toward the Great Tonle Lake, the biggest freshwater lake in Asia.

Afternoon

Celebrate your journey with a farewell event onboard the cruise, where you can enjoy dancing and music with the staff. As the ship sails mid-lake near Siem Reap, take in the stunning views and reflect on the unforgettable experiences of your Mekong River adventure.

2) Low Water Cruise: Kampong Cham (Mekong)

Morning

Start your day with a delicious breakfast onboard the cruise.

Then, pay a visit to the enchanting pre-Angkorian temple of **Wat Hanchey**, situated on a hilltop right on the shore with vivid views of the Mekong River. Chance to immerse in the local culture and learn about the region's rich history.

After your visit, return to the ship for lunch and relax, taking in the stunning views of the Mekong River as you sail toward your next destination. This is a perfect way to unwind and enjoy the natural beauty of Cambodia.

Afternoon

As the cruise reaches its final destinations, visit the tiny and colorful monastery of Wat Nokor, where you can engage in light banter with some monks living in the area.

Pass a local school to understand more about the education of the young Cambodian generation and gain insight into the challenges facing the local community.

As your journey comes to a close, enjoy some dancing and music together with the staff during a farewell event onboard the cruise.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Mekong River Cruise

Day 10: Tonle Sap / Kampong Cham (Mekong) - Siem Reap

1) High Water Cruise: Tonle Sap - Siem Reap

Embark on a Heritage Line cruise trip and journey along the Mekong River, taking in the stunning views of the surrounding landscapes.

As you approach the shore, you'll cross a vast floating community, offering a unique glimpse into the local way of life.

At around **09:00**, the cruise will arrive at the Siem Reap pier, and you'll transfer to the city center. Have time to explore the local area and experience the vibrant culture of Cambodia.

2) Low Water Cruise: Kampong Cham (Mekong) - Siem Reap

Enjoy a delicious breakfast onboard the cruise as you take in the stunning views of the Mekong River. Disembark the ship and transfer to Siem Reap, which takes about 4.5 hours.

During the journey, you can relax and unwind, taking in the scenic beauty of the surrounding landscapes.

It's time to end your Mekong River adventure and reflect on the unforgettable experiences you have had during your journey.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Siem Reap

Day 11: Angkor Wat - Ta Prohm

Morning

After arriving in Siem Reap, head to the famous "jungle temple" [Ta Prohm](#), where you can witness the intricate interplay between nature and architecture, as the temple is embraced by the roots of enormous fig trees and gigantic creepers.

Experience more of the [Grand Circuit](#), including Pre Rup, East Mebon, Ta Som, Neak Pean, and Preah Khan, and discover the rich history and architecture of the region.

Have a delicious lunch at a local restaurant and savor the flavors of Cambodian cuisine.

Afternoon

No trip to Siem Reap would be complete without visiting the iconic [Angkor Wat](#), the most famous of all the temples in the region.

Discover the intricate details and rich history of this breathtaking temple, which is considered one of the world's wonders.

After your visit, head to the temple mountain **Phnom Bakheng** and climb to the top to catch a glimpse of a beautiful sunset.

The stunning views of the surrounding landscapes will never let you down. Don't forget to bring your camera and capture some unforgettable memories of your time in Siem Reap.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Siem Reap

Day 12: Banteay Srei - Angkor Thom

Morning

Sightsee the enchanting temple of [Banteay Srei](#), known for its intricate carvings and unique construction from sandstone instead of the volcanic laterite used in many other temples in the region.

Afterward, travel through the village and paddies to **Banteay Samre**, a temple constructed in the late 9th century, explore the rich history and architecture of the temple, and gain insight into the local culture and way of life.

Have a delicious lunch at a local restaurant and savor the wonderful taste of Cambodian cuisine.

Afternoon

See the antique capital of [Angkor Thom](#), the last capital of the Khmer Empire, and explore the famous **Bayon Temple**, known for its iconic stone faces and impressive architecture.

After your visit, return to the hotel to relax and unwind and enjoy a dinner show at Art Shadow Angkor Restaurant, where you can savor delicious Cambodian cuisine and experience traditional dance performances.

Stay overnight at a hotel in Siem Reap, where you can rest and recharge before continuing your Cambodian adventure.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Hotel in Siem Reap

Day 13: Siem Reap Departure

You will have free time until transferring to the airport for your departure flight.

Best Rate Tours is happy to serve you in this trip. See you in the future!

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: NA

Booking Policy

Inclusion

- All land transportation by AC car/ van.
- Accommodations share in twin/double with daily breakfast.
- All cruises include group shore-excursions
- Entrance fees
- Tour guide services (English speaking)
- Taxes, fuel, river pilots, transfers in Saigon and Siem Reap from/to the meeting point to/from embarkation/disembarkation point or vice versa.
- Food includes full board (Breakfast, lunch, dinner - buffet or set menu style). Mineral water and coffee/tea (from jug) is included all day.
- A selection of fresh fruit juices are included during breakfast and afternoon tea.

Exclusion

- **Phnom Penh port tax per passenger of 65 USD.**
- Crew gratuities (5 USD per passenger/day are recommended).
- Cambodian Visa (available on Upstream cruise only/37 USD).
- Fuel surcharges if any (see terms and conditions).
- Peak season surcharge at 150 USD per person for all cruises falling on New Year's Eve and/or Christmas

Cancellation Policy

- For cancellations of bookings, the following charges will apply:
- 90 days or more: 30% of the cruise price
- 60 to 89 days: 50% of the cruise price
- 30 to 59 days: 75% of the cruise price

- Less than 30 days : 100% of the cruise price

Children Policy

- The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults.
- For infants (<04 years old): FOC except for domestic flight tickets.
- 04 - under 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate.
- 04 - under 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate.
- 04 - under 11 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate.
- From 11 years old: count as an adult.

WHY BOOK WITH US?

Best Rate Guaranteed

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