



## Cruise Details

Name:	Treasures & Temples of Vietnam & Cambodia
Reference:	EMERALDEWHA030525-2
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Harmony
Regions:	Mekong
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Departs On:	03 May 25
Departs From:	Hanoi
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Arrives On:	19 May 25
Arrives At:	Ho Chi Minh City
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Cruise Nights:	16
Total Vacation Days:	17

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Hanoi (Vietnam)

Fly from the UK to Hanoi. Xin Chao and welcome to Hanoi! On arrival, you will be met by your Emerald Cruises representative and transferred to your hotel, situated in downtown Hanoi, for a one-night stay. Relax at the hotel, explore the city, or wander Hanoi's romantic West Lake. This evening, meet your tour director for your welcome briefing.

Arrives On: 03 May 25

### Day 2: Hanoi (Vietnam)

This morning after breakfast, leave Hanoi and travel to Halong Bay where you will board your traditional-style junk boat. Cruise through the bays and islets enjoying the stunning scenery of this magnificent region. Enjoy the tours offered on board, learn more about the main livelihood of the locals in the area or simply choose to relax. Towards the end of the day, the boat anchors for the night in the Trinh Nu area among the karst formations where dinner will be served on

board.

**Included Excursion**  
A two night Halong Bay cruise

Arrives On: 04 May 25

#### Day 2: Ha Long Bay (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 04 May 25

#### Day 3: Ha Long Bay (Vietnam)

Today, continue sailing further into the region's more untouched areas towards Lan Ha Bay. From a smaller boat, enjoy swimming on quiet beaches and kayaking in Ho Ba Ham Lake. Then visit Cua Van fishing village by rowing boat. Return to your traditional junk boat after a full day of exploration. Tonight, try squid fishing after dinner.

Arrives On: 05 May 25

#### Day 4: Ha Long Bay (Vietnam)

Enjoy the sunrise and breakfast before beginning your cruise back through the magnificent rock formations, visiting Sung Sot Cave before arriving back at port. Bid farewell as you transfer to Hanoi. As part of **EmeraldPLUS** back in Hanoi, you will enjoy lunch at KOTO (Know One Teach One), a unique restaurant set up to train and educate disadvantaged children.

After lunch, you'll visit Hanoi's Old Quarter also known as the '36 streets'. This bustling area of narrow streets and alleys is home to literally thousands of small businesses and shopkeepers. It is a great place to explore with plenty of photo opportunities. Visit Hang Be Market, also located in the Old Quarter, before enjoying a walk around Hoàn Kiem Lake located in central Hanoi. Here walk across the red bridge to Ngoc Son Temple located on the Jade Islet within the lake. Later, enjoy a traditional water puppet show, a unique North Vietnamese art form depicting scenes from rural life and episodes of historical significance.

**EmeraldPLUS**  
Lunch at KOTO Restaurant

**Included Excursion**  
Visit Hanoi's Old Quarter

**Included Excursion**  
A traditional water puppet show

Arrives On: 06 May 25

#### Day 4: Hanoi (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 06 May 25

#### Day 5: Hanoi (Vietnam)

Begin your morning tour of Hanoi and learn about 'Uncle Ho', considered the father of modern Vietnam, by seeing his mausoleum from outside. Continue to Ho Chi Minh Quarter to see his humble stilt house and the small but iconic One Pillar Pagoda before moving to the nearby Temple of Literature. The Temple of Literature was Vietnam's first university and it was established to educate Vietnam's royalty, mandarins and members of the elite. The university functioned for an incredible 700 years and its gardens and well-preserved architecture offer a fascinating glimpse into the country's past.

Bid farewell to Hanoi and transfer to Hanoi airport to board your flight to Siem Reap. Sois Sdei and welcome to Cambodia. You will be met at the airport and transferred to the Shinta Mani hotel for your included three-night stay in Siem Reap. In the evening, you'll meet your Cambodian tour director to learn more about the days ahead.

**Included Excursion**  
Hanoi's City Tour, including the Temple of Literature

Arrives On: 07 May 25

#### Day 5: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 07 May 25

#### Day 6: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

Today, start with a visit to Angkor Thom, not a single temple such as the historic sites it neighbours, but rather one of the most remarkable royal cities of the Angkor Period and an architectural wonder. As the last capital of the Khmer Empire, it was a fortified city, home to priests, officials of the palace, military and buildings for administering the kingdom. Afterwards, visit the sacred Temple of Ta Prohm. In an incredible standoff between human creation and nature, the jungle's root systems have reclaimed this spiritual location now enshrouded in wild vegetation. The backdrop to many Hollywood scenes, the incredible Ta Prohm is both a cinematic and contemplative location. This evening as part of your EmeraldPLUS programme, attend Phare, The Cambodian Circus, where a combination of acrobatics, music and dance tell a uniquely Cambodian story.

**EmeraldPLUS**  
Phare Cambodian Circus performance

**Included Excursion**  
Visit to Angkor Thom

**Included Excursion**  
Visit to Ta Prohm Temple

**DiscoverMORE**  
Evening – Sunset Drinks Gondola Boat at Bayon (extra expense)

**DiscoverMORE**  
Evening - Cambodian Street Food Discovery Tour (extra expense)

**DiscoverMORE**  
Dinner at Phare Circus (extra expense)

Arrives On: 08 May 25

#### Day 7: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

<p><p>Rise early and witness the sunrise over Angkor Wat. Afterwards walk through this UNESCO World Heritage-listed site known for its elaborate decorations and intricate carvings throughout. This afternoon is free time to visit the town and markets or try a DiscoverMORE tour, before enjoying dinner accompanied, as part of EmeraldPLUS programme, by an Apsara dance performance.</p></p><p><strong>EmeraldPLUS</strong><br /><span>Apsara dance and dinner show</span></p><p><strong>Included Excursion</strong><br /><span>Sunrise visit to Angkor Wat</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>Vespa tour of Siem Reap (extra expense)</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>A visit to Banteay Srei & Apopo Visitor Centre (extra expense)</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>A visit to Tonlé Sap (extra expense)</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>Khmer Cooking Class (extra expense)</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>Senteurs d'Angkor Workshop (extra expense)</span></p>

Arrives On: 09 May 25

#### Day 8: Siem Reap (Cambodia)

<p><p>Today, leave Siem Reap and venture to Prek K'Dam to embark your Emerald Cruises award-winning Star-Ship. En route, stop in Kampong Kdei and see the impressive Angkor Bridge, before having lunch at a local restaurant. On arrival, you'll be welcomed by your captain and crew. Later, set sail to Kampong Tralach whilst you enjoy your first dinner on board with your fellow guests.</p></p>

Arrives On: 10 May 25

#### Day 8: Prek Kdam (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 10 May 25

#### Day 8: Port information not found

Arrives On: 10 May 25

#### Day 9: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 11 May 25

#### Day 9: Oudong (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 11 May 25

### Day 9: Kampong Tralach (Cambodia)

Begin the day with an Ox Cart ride in Kampong Tralach to a local temple before driving to Oudong. Oudong was Cambodia's former royal capital until it relocated to Phnom Penh in 1866. In Oudong Monastery's main temple, receive a traditional Buddhist blessing from the resident monks, as part of your **EmeraldPLUS** experience.

Return to Emerald Harmony and sail to Phnom Penh. Spend the afternoon at leisure, either experiencing one of our **DiscoverMORE** excursions, visiting the Central Market, or relaxing on board. After dinner, as part of your **EmeraldPLUS** experience, enjoy Phnom Penh by night on a remork (local Tuk-Tuk) tour.

**EmeraldPLUS**   
A traditional Buddhist Monk blessing

**EmeraldPLUS**   
Phnom Penh by night on a remork (Tuk-Tuk) tour

**DiscoverMORE**   
A silk farm tour at Koh Oknha Tei (extra expense)

**DiscoverMORE**   
Craft Beer Adventure by remork (extra expense)

Arrives On: 11 May 25

### Day 10: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

This morning, you will learn more about the Khmer Rouge and the darkest days of the country's history. A short drive will take you to the Killing Fields at Choeung Ek. Here you will have the opportunity to walk through the fields, visit the memorial and learn about this sad historic chapter. Afterwards visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (also known as S-21). This is a former school that was converted to the main prison and torture headquarters of the Khmer Rouge.

Back on-board Emerald Harmony, enjoy a Cambodian Street Fair lunch, before visiting the majestic Royal Palace with its French-inspired gardens, followed by a shopping trip at the Central Market located in the heart of the city. This evening, as part of your **EmeraldPLUS** programme, enjoy a cultural performance by the Cambodian Student and Children's Organisation, before setting sail to the border.

**EmeraldPLUS**   
Cultural Performance by the Cambodian Student and Children's Organisation

**Included Excursion**   
Killing Fields at Choeung Ek and Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

**Included Excursion**   
A visit to the Royal Palace and Central Market

Arrives On: 12 May 25

### Day 11: Port information not found

Cross the border then sail to Tan Chau. Relax on board this morning or join our **DiscoverMORE** tour of Tra Su Bird Sanctuary.

This afternoon, embark on a sampan to Evergreen Island for a walk through a local village to get a glimpse into the

lives of the local farming community. Reboard your sampan to travel back to Tan Chau and as part of our **EmeraldPLUS**, programme, visit the recently renovated Cao Dai temple. The religion of Cao Dai is a syncretic, monotheistic religion established in southern Vietnam in the city of Tây Ninh in 1926. Here, you will learn more about the mix of ideas that form the basis of this fascinating religion. Afterwards ride in a Xe Loi (local form of cyclo) from the temple back to your sampan before returning to Emerald Harmony.

This evening as part of our **EmeraldPLUS**, programme, you'll be delighted by a traditional Lion Dance performance on board.

**EmeraldPLUS**   
A visit to a local Cao Dai Temple

**EmeraldPLUS**   
A Lion Dance performance on board

**Included Excursion**   
A visit to Evergreen Island

**Included Excursion**   
Experience a Xe Loi ride, unique to the Mekong Delta

**DiscoverMORE**   
A visit to Tra Su Bird Sanctuary (extra expense)

Arrives On: 13 May 25

#### Day 11: Long An (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 13 May 25

#### Day 11: Tân Châu (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 13 May 25

#### Day 12: Giêng Island (Vietnam)

On Gieng Island you can travel through the island's villages to visit families who work in a variety of local industries including boat building of different types and creating incense sticks for temples. Also visit Vietnam's oldest church.

Return to Emerald Harmony by sampan and sail to My An Hung Island. Recognised as a cultural and historical destination, this small village in rural Vietnam specialises in red-hot chilli and peppers. As part of our **EmeraldPLUS** excursion enjoy some local folk singing during the visit, wander through coconut farms, meet the locals and learn about life in the village.

**EmeraldPLUS**   
Listen to some local folk singing in My An Hung

**Included Excursion**   
See the local industries in Gieng Island

**Included Excursion**   
A visit to My An Hung village and its Monkey Bridge

Arrives On: 14 May 25

#### Day 12: My An Hung (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 14 May 25

#### Day 13: Sa D c (Vietnam)

After a short ride on a sampan to Sa Dec, enjoy a walking tour around town. Stops include the home of Mr. Huynh Thuy Le, who inspired Marguerite Duras' novel L'Amant, and enjoy a walk through the central market to peruse its varied produce.

Return to Emerald Harmony by sampan and, after lunch on board, you'll arrive in Cai Be. Travelling via sampan, visit a coconut candy workshop to learn how coconut candy and other local sweets are made, then then tour Tan Phong islet by electric buggy, visiting a fruit garden to try the diverse fruits of the Mekong and a water hyacinth weaving workshop.

Arrives On: 15 May 25

#### Day 13: C i B  (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 15 May 25

#### Day 14: My Tho (Vietnam)

After sailing from My Tho leave the Mekong Delta and enter the Cho Gao Canal. This canal is considered one of Vietnam's major arterial canals that connects Tien Giang Province in the Mekong Delta with Ho Chi Minh City. Today is a fascinating day watching the heavy commercial traffic navigate this important waterway which can see upwards of 1,800 vessels transit each day. This is the perfect opportunity to enjoy the ever-changing vistas from the pool, to enjoy a treatment in the Wellness Area (additional expense), or to read a book and chat with new friends. Cruise past mangroves, narrow canals, fish farms, busy cargo barges and local fishing boats alike. Tonight, dock in the heart of Ho Chi Minh City with views of the city lights. (Due to customs regulations, you will not be able to go ashore this evening)

Arrives On: 16 May 25

#### Day 14: Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 16 May 25

#### Day 15: Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

Drive away from Ho Chi Minh City port to Cu Chi Tunnels, watching the city skyline fade into the distance as the road winds through rice paddies, villages and scenes typical to southern Vietnam. Spend a couple of hours walking around Cu Chi's rugged grounds with a local guide. Upon your return to Ho Chi Minh City, check into the Sheraton Saigon Hotel and Towers for a two-night stay with the afternoon and evening yours to enjoy at leisure or venture out on one of our

<strong>DiscoverMORE</strong> excursions.</p></p><p><strong>Included Excursion</strong><br /><span>Cu Chi Tunnels</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>An evening Saigon Street Food walking tour (extra expense)</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>One Night in Saigon (extra expense)</span></p>

Arrives On: 17 May 25

#### Day 16: Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

<p><p>Enjoy a guided tour of Ho Chi Minh City, starting with a visit to the city's most iconic building, the Reunification, or Independence Palace. Formerly the South Vietnamese Presidential Palace, images of the building were seen around the world on 30 April 1975 when tanks stormed the gates as Saigon fell to the North Vietnamese. Then, stroll through Ho Chi Minh City's colonial quarter, walking past scenes of everyday life on the way. Admire the beautiful architecture of the Opera House, Notre Dame Cathedral, City Hall and the old Saigon Post Office and listen to the stories about the glory days of French Indochina and how that era continues to influence aspects of modern Vietnamese culture. Tonight, enjoy your farewell dinner with your fellow guests.</p></p><p><strong>Included Excursion</strong><br /><span>An orientation tour of Ho Chi Minh City</span></p>

Arrives On: 18 May 25

#### Day 17: Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

<p><p>After breakfast this morning, you will be transferred to the Ho Chi Minh City airport for your flight to the UK.</p></p><p><p>This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above.</p></p>

Arrives On: 19 May 25

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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