deluxe cruises

Cruise Details

Name:	8-Day Majestic Mekong Cruise
Reference:	EMERALDEWVC150428-2
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Harmony
Regions:	Mekong
Departs On:	15 Apr 28
Departs From:	Phnom Penh
Arrives On:	22 Apr 28
Arrives At:	Ho Chi Minh City
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

Itinerary

Day 1: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Welcome to Cambodia (Please arrive at hotel before 2:00PM). Upon arrival, you'll be transferred to the Hyatt Regency Phnom Penh, before travelling to Rokar Koang to embark your Emerald Cruises award-winning Star-Ship. You'll be welcomed aboard Emerald Harmony by your captain and crew. Later, set sail up the Tonle River, past Phnom Penh at night to Kampong Tralach whilst enjoying your first dinner on board with your fellow guests. Please book your flight to arrive into Phnom Penh prior to 01:00 PM.

Arrives On: 15 Apr 28

Day 1: Rokar Koang (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 15 Apr 28

Day 2: 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) DiscoverMORE
Samai Distillery (extra expense)

Arrives On: 16 Apr 28

Day 2: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 16 Apr 28

Day 2: Oudong (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 16 Apr 28

Day 3: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

This morning, learn more about the Khmer Rouge and the darkest days of Cambodia’s history. A short drive will take you to the Killing Fields at Choeung Ek, where you’ll be able to stroll through the fields, visit the memorial and understand more about the country’s sombre chapter. Afterwards, visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (known as ‘S-21’), a former school converted to the Khmer Rouge’s main prison and torture headquarters. Back on board, savour a Cambodian Street Fair lunch, before visiting the majestic Royal Palace, with its French-inspired gardens. This evening, for your EmeraldPLUS experience, enjoy a cultural performance by the Cambodian Student and Children’s Organisation, before sailing for 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

Arrives On: 17 Apr 28

Day 4: Port information not found

Today, you'll cross the border into Vietnam and sail on to Tan Chau. Relax on board, or join our DiscoverMORE excursion to Tra Su Bird Sanctuary, before returning for a late lunch on board. This afternoon, embark on a sampan to Evergreen Island for a stroll through a local village, revealing 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 where, later 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 and Xe Loi ride EmeraldPLUS
A Lion Dance performance on board Included Excursion
A visit to Evergreen Island DiscoverMORE
A visit to Tra Su Bird Sanctuary (extra expense)

Arrives On: 18 Apr 28

Day 4: Tân Châu (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 18 Apr 28

Day 5: Giêng Island (Vietnam)

Known as 'Mango Island,' Cu Lao Gieng is a small, scenic island untouched by tourism located along the upper Mekong River. Travel by local motorcycle rickshaw through the island's villages to visit families who work in a variety of local industries, including mango farming, boat construction and temple incense sticks. Return to Emerald Harmony by sampan and sail to My An Hung Island. Recognised as a cultural and historical destination, this small rural village specialises in cultivating red-hot chilli and peppers. As part of your EmeraldPLUS experience, listen to local folk singing, wander through coconut farms and immerse yourself in traditional village life. 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

Arrives On: 19 Apr 28

Day 5: My An Hung (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 19 Apr 28

Day 6: Sa Déc (Vietnam)

Take a short ride on a sampan to Sa Đéc, a Mekong Delta hidden gem. Enjoy a walking tour around town with a stop at the home of Mr. Huynh Thuy Le, who inspired Marguerite Duras' celebrated novel, L'Amant, and a stroll through Sa Đéc's bustling central market. Return to Emerald Harmony by sampan for lunch, while cruising to Cái Bè. Upon arrival, travel via sampan to Tan Phong, a small island located nearby, rich in alluvial soil suitable for cultivating tropical fruit orchards year-round. At this established ecotourism destination, try a hands-on experience at a workshop specialising in weaving water hyacinth into artistic crafts. Board a motorised buggy for a ride through fruit orchards, stopping to sample tropical fruits. Reboard the sampan and cruise back to Cái Bè, discovering local cottage industries where families produce rice-paper and sweets from pop-corn, pop-rice and coconuts. Return to Emerald Harmony. Included Excursion
A visit to the bustling Sa Dec Markets and the home of Mr. Huynh Thuy Le Included Excursion
An excursion to the local industries of Cai Be

Arrives On: 20 Apr 28

Day 6: Cái Bè (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 20 Apr 28

Day 7: My Tho (Vietnam)

After sailing from My Tho, you'll leave the Mekong Delta and enter the Cho Gao canal, considered one of Vietnam's major arterial canals that connects Tien Giang Province with Ho Chi Minh City. Today, you'll be fascinated watching the heavy commercial traffic navigating this important waterway, where upwards of 1,800 vessels transit each day. Relax on board, taking in the everchanging vistas of mangroves, cargo barges and local fishing boats. Tonight, you'll dock in the heart of Ho Chi Minh City, where you can admire the city lights; due to Vietnamese customs regulations, you'll not be permitted to venture ashore.

Arrives On: 21 Apr 28

Day 7: Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 21 Apr 28

Day 8: Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

After breakfast this morning, you will be transferred to Ho Chi Minh City airport to catch your onward or homebound flight. While every effort is made to adhere to the planned itinerary, changes in river conditions, ad hoc local government regulations or local festivities may require journey modifications. These will be made based on the advice of local authorities or for safety reasons. Hotels are indicative and are subject to change. Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change.

Arrives On: 22 Apr 28

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

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