



## Cruise Details

Name:	8-Day Majestic Mekong Cruise
Reference:	EMERALDEWVC211224-2
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Harmony
Regions:	Mekong
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Departs On:	21 Dec 24
Departs From:	Phnom Penh
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Arrives On:	28 Dec 24
Arrives At:	Ho Chi Minh City
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Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Upon arrival you will be transferred to the Hyatt Regency Phnom Penh. Later you will be transferred to Prek K'Dam to embark your Emerald Cruises award-winning Star-Ship. On arrival, you'll be welcomed by your captain and crew. Later, set sail for Kampong Tralach whilst you enjoy 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: 21 Dec 24

### Day 1: Prek Kdam (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 21 Dec 24

### 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 remark (local Tuk-Tuk) tour.

**EmeraldPLUS** A traditional Buddhist Monk blessing

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

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

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

Arrives On: 22 Dec 24

#### Day 2: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 22 Dec 24

#### Day 2: Oudong (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 22 Dec 24

#### Day 3: 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: 23 Dec 24

#### Day 4: 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: 24 Dec 24

#### Day 4: Long An (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 24 Dec 24

#### Day 4: Tân Châu (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 24 Dec 24

#### Day 5: Giêng Island (Vietnam)

On Giêng 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: 25 Dec 24

#### Day 5: My An Hung (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 25 Dec 24

#### Day 6: Sa Déc (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: 26 Dec 24

#### Day 6: Cái Bè (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 26 Dec 24

#### Day 7: 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: 27 Dec 24

#### Day 7: Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 27 Dec 24

## 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.

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.

Arrives On: 28 Dec 24

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

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