



Cruise Details

Name:	8-Day Majestic Mekong Cruise
Reference:	EMERALDEWVC281224-1
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Harmony
Regions:	Mekong
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Departs On:	28 Dec 24
Departs From:	Ho Chi Minh City
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Arrives On:	04 Jan 25
Arrives At:	Phnom Penh
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Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

Itinerary

Day 1: Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

Fly from the UK to Ho Chi Minh City. Xin Chao and welcome to Ho Chi Minh City. On arrival, you will be met by your Emerald Cruises representative and transferred to Sheraton Saigon before transferring to Saigon Port where you will board your Emerald Cruises Star-Ship, Emerald Harmony. You'll be welcomed on board by your captain and crew before after lunch setting sail down the Saigon River on your journey towards My Tho in the Mekong Delta. This evening, enjoy your first dinner on board with your fellow travellers. Your Cruise Director will conduct a port talk to review the activities and itinerary for the days ahead.

Flight to arrive into Ho Chi Minh City prior to 08:30 AM.

Arrives On: 28 Dec 24

Day 2: Ben Tre (Vietnam)

This morning travel through the bustling Cho Gao. The Cho Gao canal is one of the major arterial canals of Vietnam connecting Tien Giang Province in the Mekong Delta with Ho Chi Minh City. Today is a fascinating morning watching the heavy commercial traffic navigate this important waterway which can see upwards of 1,800 vessels transit each day. This afternoon once on the Mekong River, you'll visit the Tan My Floating community followed by a ride through the local plantations to visit a mushroom farm, a fruit farm with samplings and a honey farm with local sweets before returning to Emerald Harmony to sail onwards to Sa Đéc, a hidden gem on the Mekong Delta.

Included Excursion
Visit the Thoi Binh hamlet and its farming and fishing communities, untouched by tourism

Arrives On: 29 Dec 24

Day 3: Sa Đéc (Vietnam)

After a short ride on a sampan to Sa Dec enjoy a walking tour around town with stops at 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 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** programme, enjoy some local folk singing during the visit.

EmeraldPLUS
Listen to some local folk singing in My An Hung

Included Excursion
A visit to the bustling Sa Dec Markets

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

Arrives On: 30 Dec 24

Day 3: My An Hung (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 30 Dec 24

Day 4: 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.

The afternoon is yours to enjoy your free time on board or, if you prefer, partake in a DiscoverMORE optional excursion to the Tam Nong Ramsar Bird Sanctuary in An Long.

Included Excursion
See the local industries in Gieng Island

DiscoverMORE
A visit to Tam Nong Ramsar Bird Sanctuary in Tram Chim National Park (extra expense)

Arrives On: 31 Dec 24

Day 4: Long An (Vietnam)

Arrives On: 31 Dec 24

Day 5: Tân Châu (Vietnam)

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.

Back on board your luxury Star-Ship, cruise to the border between Vietnam and Cambodia. Whilst at the border, as part of our **EmeraldPLUS** programme, you'll be delighted by a traditional Lion Dance performance on board. Tonight, celebrate crossing the border with a Cambodian-style family dinner.

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

Arrives On: 01 Jan 25

Day 5: Port information not found

Arrives On: 01 Jan 25

Day 6: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Wake up in Cambodia's capital, Phnom Penh. The city, known as the "Pearl of Asia", was almost entirely evacuated by the Khmer Rouge in 1975. 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. Spend the afternoon as you please exploring our DiscoverMORE excursions or simply relaxing on board Emerald Harmony. In the evening, as part of your **EmeraldPLUS** programme you will have a chance to experience an evening remork (local Tuk-Tuk) ride through Phnom Penh to enjoy the city lights.

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

Included Excursion Killing Fields at

Choeung Ek and Tuol Sleng Genocide

Museum

DiscoverMORE

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

DiscoverMORE

Craft Beer Adventure by remark (extra expense)

Arrives On: 02 Jan 25

Day 7: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Located north of Phnom Penh, Oudong was the former royal capital of Cambodia up until it moved to Phnom Penh in 1866. Important remnants on the temple site include the burial sites of Khmer kings as well as religious artefacts dating back more than a hundred years. In the main temple of the Oudong Monastery, receive a traditional Buddhist blessing from the temple's resident monks as part of your EmeraldPLUS programme. In the afternoon, you will visit the majestic Royal Palace with its gardens, followed by the Central Market located in the heart of the city. Back on board, as part of your EmeraldPLUS programme, enjoy a cultural performance by the Cambodian Student and Children's Organisation. Afterwards set sail, gliding past the illuminated Phnom Penh at night for a short sail to Koh Khsach Krao.

EmeraldPLUS

A traditional Buddhist Monk blessing

EmeraldPLUS

Cultural Performance by the Cambodian Student and Children's Organisation

Included Excursion

A visit to the Royal Palace and Central Market

Arrives On: 03 Jan 25

Day 7: Oudong (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 03 Jan 25

Day 7: Koh Khsach Krao (Cambodia)

Arrives On: 03 Jan 25

Day 8: Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Disembark Emerald Harmony in the morning and transfer to Phnom Penh airport for your flight to the UK

Flight to depart out of Phnom Penh after 11:00 AM.

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: 04 Jan 25

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

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