



## AQUA MEKONG EXPLORER CRUISE

Every activity on board the five-star Aqua Mekong brings a fresh perspective of culture and life in Cambodia and Vietnam, so 4-night itinerary is an ideal addition to any existing travel itinerary of the region.

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Cruises, Small Ship Cruising



Asia, Vietnam, Cambodia



5 days Call for a quote pp



Private

## Journey Overview

Every activity on board the five-star Aqua Mekong brings a fresh perspective of culture and life in Cambodia and Vietnam, so 4-night itinerary is an ideal addition to any existing travel itinerary of the region. Included are twice-daily excursions (walk, bike, kayak or ride a tuk-tuk) and expert-guided visits to Mekong River's dynamic riverside markets, villages, and holy sites.



## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Arrive Marina My Tho Port - Ho Chi Minh**

We will collect you at the Ho Chi Minh meeting point and transfer you by air-conditioned coach to Marina My Tho dock where we will welcome you aboard the Aqua Mekong. Settle into your floating retreat, with its window wall unveiling an endlessly captivating panorama. Enjoy these private Mekong moments on your California King bed, terrace or daybed.

### **Day 2: Binh Thanh/sa Dec - My An Hung**

Begin the day at Binh Thanh mat weaving village or opt to visit Sa Dec where we will peruse the vibrant market. In the afternoon, visit a typical Mekong Delta village called My An Hung where we will walk through verdant plantations. We will be invited to a local's home to taste local fruits while hearing traditional folk songs performed by villagers followed by a unique unicorn dance. A 17-kilometer biking option is also available.

### **Day 3: Chau Doc - Vinh Xuong -ka'om Samnor Border**

Travel by skiff along Bassac Canal to Chau Doc floating market then head off by van to Long Son Pagoda atop Sam Mountain. Ask the monks about their age-old Buddhist practices. Return via the bustling morning market. Optional 18-kilometers bike ride on Long Khanh Island or take a rickshaw ride to visit Tan Chau Market with our chef. After lunch, relax by the pool, try a traditional Khmer massage or learn to cook Mekong-inspired dishes while we cross the border.

### **Day 4: Koh Oknha Tey - Preah Prosop**

On this river of time we admire dexterous Khmer artisans dyeing and weaving kroma, the ubiquitous fabric no Khmer lives without. Explore the riverbank on two wheels if you wish, past Buddhist temples and thatch houses perched on spindly wooden stilts while white oxen wade just offshore. After lunch, we board our marine-grade aluminum skiffs and head towards the tamarind trees of Preah Prosop, a remote village little changed over several lifetimes.

**Day 5: Depart Phnom Penh**

We show off the Cambodian capital to our passengers by motorized tuk-tuk, the Royal Palace, Silver Pagoda and the National Museum of Cambodia, home to the world's largest collection of Khmer art. For those who wish, we visit the Tuol Sleng Museum of Genocide or choose to shop at the Russian Market. We bid farewell to 4-night guests who are disembarking in Phnom Penh. Airplane transfers are provided if you would like to continue your Cambodian adventure to Siem Reap and its ancient lost city of Angkor Wat. Guests will be fully escorted by our guides in a private luxury car transfer to Phnom Penh Airport.

## Accommodation

### Aqua Mekong



Described as a "floating five-star hotel", the Aqua Mekong was designed by British architect David Hodkinson of Noor Design and is constructed entirely from locally-sourced sustainable materials. As you drift along the river, observe the changing river landscape through your room's gigantic movie-screen window, not forgetting to look out for the flocks of painted storks and spot-billed pelicans along the way. All 20 luxury suites, 8 of which have sky terraces, display a simple contemporary design. If you desire a little more space, interconnecting suites can be configured to create a private living area and separate master bedroom with his-n-her bathtubs.

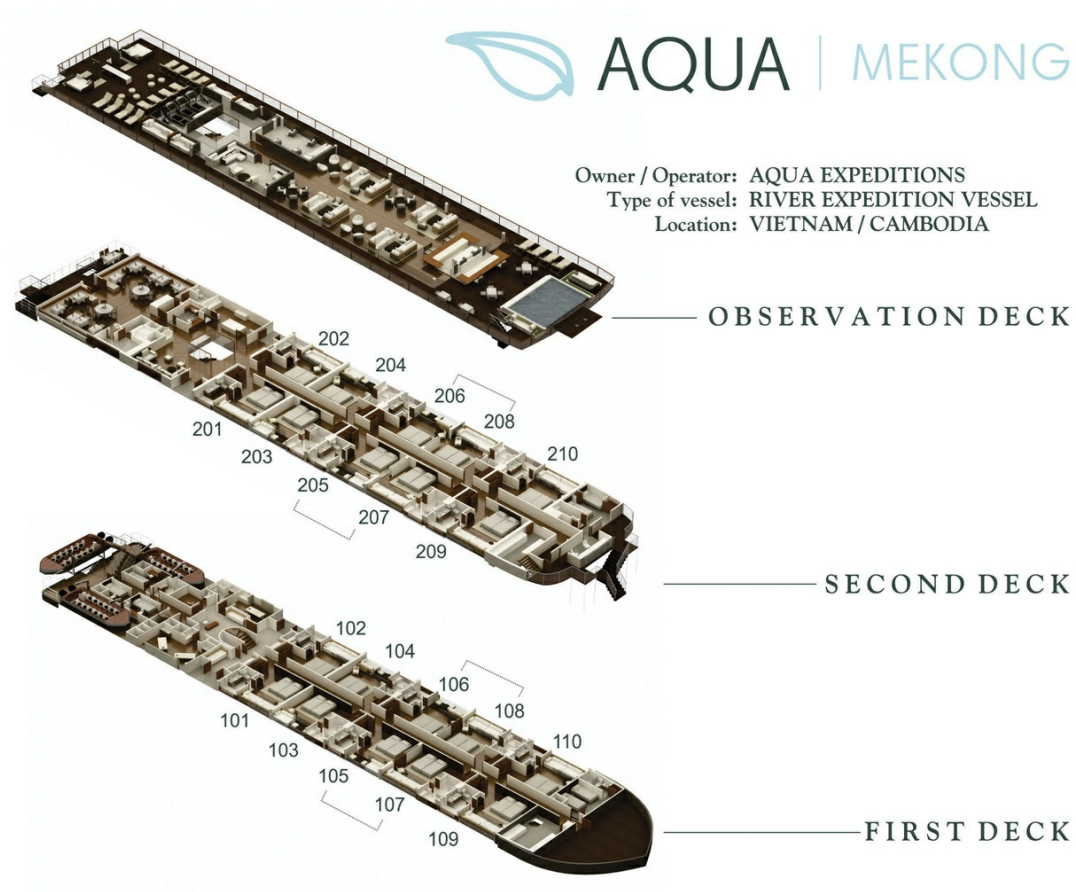
Help the chefs to shop the local riverside markets for the finest local produce, which they will later transform into one of the many tantalising dishes from executive chef, David Thompson's innovative menu of exotic Southeast Asian flavours.

There is an abundance of facilities on board with a screening room showcasing classic films about the region, air-conditioned library, a plunge pool with private cabanas high on the observation deck and spa treatment rooms, where the therapists use traditional healing and massage techniques to perform a range of rejuvenating treatments.

The Aqua Mekong is also available for charter on an exclusive use basis.

## Why we like it

- The first luxury adventure cruise to travel along the Mekong River
- Just 40 passengers in 20 luxury design suites
- Professionally trained river guides lead daily expeditions on skiffs, by bike and on foot
- Inspired Vietnamese Khmer cuisine from David Thompson
- Facilities include a plunge pool, exercise room, library and screening room



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