

## THE LOST CIVILIZATION - DOWNSTREAM (THE JAHAN)

This is the classic Mekong river cruise, The Lost Civilization combines places rarely visited with opulent world heritage sites. 7 nights Saigon - Siem Reap (or vice versa). Vietnam and Cambodia play the role of muse to any artist. There is so much to inspire. Whether it's the steam and aroma wafting from a street stall in Vietnam, being tenderly stirred by an elderly woman in a conical hat, who has done so for decades on the same corner. Or, the breathtaking, slightly intimidating presence of Angkor Wat and the unbelievable feats of men and incredible stories of an ancient time; this region is rich in interest. The food, scenery, architecture and culture of this region inspire at every turn, and looks back at you through the smiles of its people. Upstream and Downstream itineraries available - this indicates the direction the ship will travel. Downstream means from Siem Reap to Saigon. Upstream is the opposite direction from Saigon to Siem Reap. A \$120 surcharge applies for New Year's Eve & Christmas departures.



#### **ITINERARY**

### Day 1: Siem Reap/ Cambodia - Tonle Sap - Kampong Chhnang

The Tonle Sap (The Great Lake) is the flowing heart of Cambodia, giving love and life to this nation. The Tonle Sap has more fish than any other lakes in the world and is a home to an incredible variety of birds, including rare – and endangered – feathered life. At noon, we gather at the meeting point followed by a transfer to the boutique Ship. The ever-smiling crew welcomes us with unbridled warmth. A refreshing welcome drink



awaits us followed by a buffet lunch on the Ship. Then, it is a relaxing afternoon as the Ship glides along the water. Dinner is served at Dining Hall. Enjoy a spectacular experience on the Sundeck as we bathe in the glow of the moon and the radiance of the stars. Lunch and dinner are included. The Ship will anchor midstream on the Tonle Sap river.

### Day 2: Kampong Chhnang – Kampong Tralach – Kampong Cham

Everyday, our journey will start with an invigorating Tai Chi lesson at the Sundeck just as the sun begins its slow rise. Coffee and tea awaits the early bird. Before dawn, the Ship sets sail across the Tonle River, we see spectacular marshlands floating along the river banks of the Kampong Chhnang province. The afternoon cruise continues with a languid meander along the Tonle Sap River. Here, the river is so narrow that we can be greeted by kids waving enthusiastically at us from the banks. Follow a short bus trip to the see the Khmer-styled pottery. We then embark to see the wetlands, floating houses and fish farms in the region before reaching Kampong Cham in the evening. Further down the river we take part in an ox cart rally in the afternoon before being introduced to the Heritage Line pro bono "literacy project". Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. Overnight in Kampong Cham.

#### Day 3: Kampong Cham - Wat Hanchey

We will wake up in the early morning after an overnight cruising, truly energized to embark on a land journey to the pre-Angkorian temple of Wat Hanchey. Travelers can either take a motor-taxi or climb 303 steps to the top. Located at the top of a hill overlooking the river, the temple offers one of the most breath-taking views in Cambodia. Built in the 8th century, this ancient structure, together with a bigger and newer addition underscores the superb architecture of the Chenla Empire which

predates the mighty Angkor temple complex. We even get to engage in light banter with some of the monks in the area. We will return to the Ship to witness a blessing ceremony performed by orange-clad local monks. We will then cruise towards Kampong Cham to visit Wat Nokor, a Wat built within the ruins of an ancient temple which holds a timeless story. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. Overnight midstream near Phnom Penh.

#### Day 4: Phnom Penh

Phnom Penh was once the Paris of the East. Despite its rapid development, it has retained a lot of its rustic charm and elegance. Sightseeing in the morning will include the Killing Field. Be prepared to be heart wrenched by this stark reminder of the genocide that transpired during Cambodia's Khmer Rouge regime, then visit S21 Genocide Museum. After lunch at a local restaurant, we will visit the dazzling white and gold edifice of the Royal Palace and the Silver Pagoda, and witnessing exceptionally beautiful Khmer craft at the National Museum. We go back to the Ship by "cyclo" - traditional vehicles after our museum visit. Take a rest on your cabin balcony or the lounge and get prepared for an exciting evening event. The evening starts with a variety of cocktails served on the sun deck, BBQ dinner is serving right after that. Take a seat and enjoy the following Apsara dance performance. Experience the brilliance and richness of this culture, the soothing sounds of traditional music, the calming scent of incense sticks and a barbeque on the Sundeck. It is indeed a truly marvelous experience, dining in the open air. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

Day 5: Phnom Penh - Border crossing - Tan Chau





Start new day with Tai Chi at the Sundeck with fresh tea and coffee, be ready to serve. After breakfast, we will be captivated by a comprehensive lecture on Cambodia's modern history. The cruise liner then sets sail for a lazy day of cruising along the main Mekong Channel. As this is an international shipping route, you will witness large commercial ships plying this route. Later, in the afternoon, we set off to the Vietnamese border for the requisite cross border paperwork. As the process tends to take some time, we bask in the glow of the afternoon sun on the Sundeck, pamper ourselves silly at the Spa, or sharpen our culinary skills with the Heritage Line's Cambodian and Vietnamese cuisine cooking class. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. The Ship anchors midstream overnight in Tan Chau.

#### Day 6: Tan Chau - My An Hung - Sa Dec

Welcome to the fish sanctuary of Vietnam. We begin our day with a hearty breakfast at the Dining Hall or at your private balcony. We will brace ourselves for a short excursion in Tan Chau, a pleasant town near the Cambodian border with sizeable Chinese, Kinh and Khmer communities. We will start the trip by a traditional vehicle called "xeloi" to local market and get to a local boat to visit fish farm and back to the Ship (or opposite). Here you will see the daily life of Vietnamese people in Mekong. Lunch on board. In the afternoon, we will set off for My An Hung Village. Passengers walk to the family house through the vegetable garden. We will cross a monkey bridge and see seasonal vegetable fields. Then gather at the family's house to taste tea with honey with local delicacies and fruits before back to the Ship to set off for Sa Dec in the late afternoon. Breakfast, lunch & dinner are included. Overnight in Sa Dec.

Day 7: Sa Dec - Cai Be - My Tho

In the morning, we embark a traditional sampan (a flat bottomed traditional Vietnamese wooden boat) to tour Binh Thanh Island and its man-made canals. Here, every villager is involved in the process of growing and processing water hyacinths into natural fiber floor mats and rattan baskets. After lunch on board, the Ship arrives in Cai Be. The tour starts with a visit to Cai Be's boisterous and colorful floating market where traders gather in a cacophonous congregation. During the languid ride, we discover breathtaking landscapes along the river and quaff the rustic life on the Mekong Delta. The evergreen islands along the Mekong River remain unknown to many people. The cruise will halt intermittently to allow us to observe how rice paste, rice cookies and coconut candies are made, along with the Longan fruit drying process. We then board the Ship for a tranquil evening cruise towards My Tho. A wonderful farewell party awaits us on the terrace deck. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. Overnight in My Tho.

## Day 8: My Tho - Ho Chi Minh City - Vietnam

Our magnificent cruiser winds its way to My Tho, approximately 70km south of Saigon on the upper Mekong River in Vietnam. We bid farewell to the cruise as our journey comes to an end. But the memories and the friendships made on board linger on for a lot longer. We disembark at around 08:30am and we join the transfer to the busy crowd of Saigon. Drop off will be at the meeting point in Saigon. Breakfast is included.

#### \*High water season

The Ship could cruise along in Tonle Sap and dock near Siem Reap pier. It just takes 45 minutes for our coaches to transfer to the meeting point (Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa). The embarkation and disembarkation of the Ship will take place near Siem Reap pier. For downstream (REP-SGN) we will meet





at noon (12:00pm) at the meeting point for check in formality. For upstream (SGN-REP) the coaches will drop you off around 10:00am at Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa. High water season is approximate from middle of September to the end of December. High water and low water season just make itinerary timing schedule changeable in Siem Reap, there will be no changes at other destinations.

#### \*Low water season

The water level goes down and very low in Tonle Sap, so the Ships have to dock in Kampong Cham, where the embarkation and disembarkation will take place. It takes 4.5 hours for our coaches to transfer to the meeting point in Siem Reap (Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa). For downstream (REP-SGN) we will meet at 08:00am for the check-in formality. For upstream (SGN-REP) the coaches will drop you off around 13:30pm at Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa. Low water season is approximate from January to middle of September.

## Please Note:

This itinerary is based on High Water Season. Although it is our intention to operate the itinerary as detailed proposal, we cannot be held responsible for any last minute changes that might occur. It may be necessary to make some changes as a result of climatic conditions, alterations to cruise schedules or other operational factors.



## **YOUR SHIP: JAHAN**

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**VESSEL TYPE:** 

LENGTH:

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:** 

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:** 

The Jahan offers some of the finest accommodations on the Mekong River. Little else can begin to compare with her for outstanding staterooms, decor, service and food. Public Areas: The ship is fully air-conditioned. Outdoor areas include the Pool Deck, with both covered and open-air spaces, a Jacuzzi and a bar. The Lounge, located on the Upper Deck, has a library, full service bar and facilities for films, slide shows and presentations. Guests are welcome on the "Open Bridge" to meet the Captain and Officers and learn about navigation. Meals: Served in single seatings with unassigned tables, for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. The menu is international, with a focus on the outstanding Vietnamese and Cambodian cuisines. Cabins: All face outside, and all have glass doors and private balconies for enjoying the scenery along the Mekong River and its tributaries. There is a mix of twin-bedded and queen-size bedded cabins. Each has private facilities and hair dryer, individual climate control, music entertainment system and a mini bar. A choice of pillows is provided on request. Special Features: There is a Spa, offering a choice of massage treatments, and a gymnasium with exercise equipment. The Boutique has a fine selection of local artwork

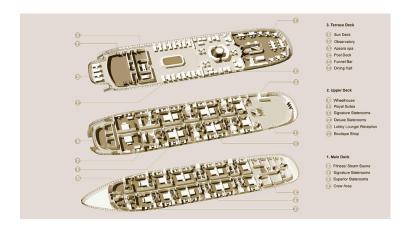
and textiles. Morning Tai Chi classes are offered on the Terrace Deck. DVD and iPod players are available on request. The deck plan for the Vietnam and Cambodia-Mekong River cruise varies from



what you see.



# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**





# **PRICING**

ADDITIONAL CHARGES: Port Taxes. From 65 USD pp