



MEKONG
RIVER CRUISES

MAJESTIC MEKONG

Boutique Ship Cruises in Lovely Laos







BOUTIQUE SHIP CRUISES ON THE MAJESTIC MEKONG

Our three small boutique ships, **MEKONG PEARL**, **MEKONG SUN**, and the upscale premium boutique ship **MEKONG STAR**, make the impossible happen: The furthest reaches of the mighty Mekong River, previously inaccessible to travelers, finally are ready to be discovered. On our unique cruises between Laos and Thailand, experienced captains guide our ships and guests through awe-inspiring gorges and labyrinths of pristine sandbanks, confidently navigating turbulent waters.

Our boutique ships offer friendly service in a relaxed, old-world atmosphere. 29 guests at most enjoy local specialties in the onboard restaurant and drinks from our bar on the sundeck. The exclusive feel-good ships travel several different routes between Luang Prabang, the Golden Triangle, and Vientiane. Cruises can be as long as 11 days and as short as 4 days, offering a maximum of flexibility.





BOUTIQUE SHIP CRUISES ON THE MEKONG: A SNEAK PEEK

Enter a world of absolute serenity and outstanding natural beauty—pristine, remote, and captivating. The truly unique **MEKONG RIVER** cruises on board our three boutique ships immerse travelers in the

tropical landscape and rich culture of Laos. Explore the beauty of the Mekong's tranquil waters, marvel at unspoiled vistas of tropical jungles, and get to know everyday life in secluded villages.





The gigantic Golden Buddha on top of a boat marks the Tri-State area where Laos, Myanmar, and Thailand meet: the **GOLDEN TRIANGLE**. The area was once notorious for cross-border drug deals—today, the Opium Museum gives visitors a vivid impression of those wild days.



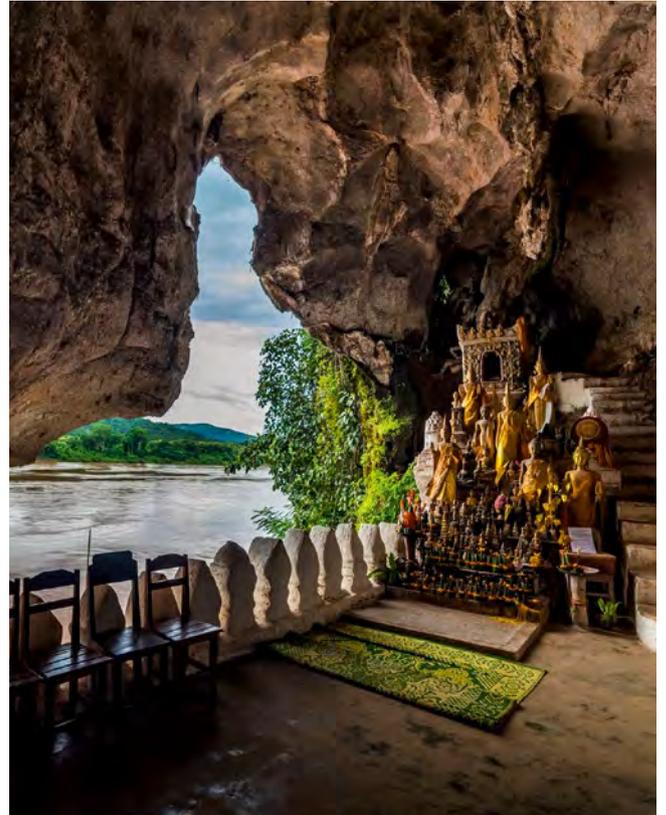
GREEN TEA may be associated with China and Japan, but some say that plantations in Thailand and Laos deliver the best quality.



Even though Laos is a landlocked country, Laotians get most of their proteins from fish—courtesy of the **MEKONG RIVER**.



Beautiful clothes, hair, and make-up are very important in Thai culture. Looking dapper is a sign of respect for your fellow humans.



PAK OU in Laos is famous for its curious Buddha caves filled with thousands of Buddha statues in all shapes and sizes.



EVERY BOY IN LAOS between the age of eight and twenty is expected to serve as a novice monk to work, pray, and study at a monastery for at least three months. For some families from the more rural areas, the monasteries provide the only form of education available.



Enjoy visits to the Wat Xieng Thong temple, a striking example of Buddhist architecture, Mount Pho Si, a hill with panoramic views, and the lively Hmong night market in **LUANG PRABANG**, the former capital of Laos.



Profound insights into the **EVERYDAY LIFE IN THE VILLAGES** along the riverbanks create some of the most memorable experiences of a Mekong cruise.



Said to possess Buddha-like wisdom and patience, every **ELEPHANT IS SACRED** for Buddhists and has to be treated with respect. It could be a reincarnation of Buddha himself.



LUANG PRABANG, once the royal capital of the Kingdom of Laos that lasted from 1953 to 1975, is said to be the most beautiful city in Laos, some even say in Southeast Asia. Most parts of the little town of only 66,000 inhabitants were declared UNESCO World Heritage in 1995.



The unique multilevel **KUANG SI FALLS** near Luang Prabang are a favorite of travelers because of the gorgeous natural pools.



A delicious **SPECIALTY DISH** from Thailand: two-colored sticky rice wrapped in banana leaves and then steamed.



STREET MARKETS in Laos are one of the few ways for mountain tribes to exchange their handicrafts for money.



The **SINH** is a traditional Laotian costume still worn today. The colorful patterns on the garment often serve as a cultural code, revealing the region or community the wearer comes from.



The **PATUXAI** in Vientiane, a monument erected to commemorate Laos's independence from France in 1949, is ironically nicknamed the Laotian *Arc de Triomphe* today.



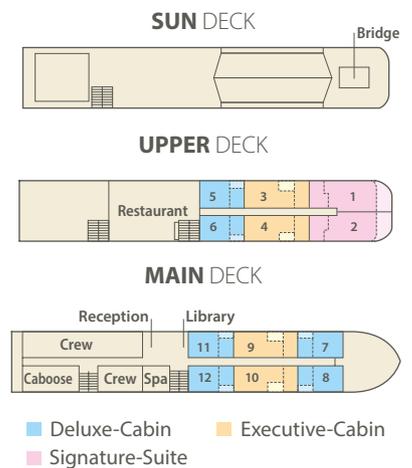
The modern-day capital of Laos, **VIENTIANE**, is home to the Pha That Luang temple, a symbol of the nation. Legend has it that the breastbone of Buddha was kept here over 2,000 years ago.





THE MEKONG STAR: OUR NEW PREMIUM BOUTIQUE SHIP

- ◆ 12 elegantly appointed cabins for a maximum of 24 guests, creating a private and exclusive atmosphere
- ◆ A variety of spacious cabins and suites, ranging from Deluxe Cabins with 225 sq ft (21 m²) to Signature Suites with 420 sq ft (39 m²)
- ◆ All cabins feature a private balcony and floor-to-ceiling windows, minibar, safe, and air-conditioning
- ◆ All bathrooms are equipped with rain shower, WC, hair-dryer, and premium bathroom amenities
- ◆ Daily gourmet meals with delights of international and local cuisine freshly prepared on board plus coffee, tea, water, snacks, and fresh fruit
- ◆ Free house wine, beer, and soft drinks during meals, a sundowner in the evening, one spa treatment per guest
- ◆ Comfy library area, relaxing spa room, a restaurant with indoor and covered outdoor seating, two elegant bars with first-rate service offering cocktails and spirits as well as beer and a selection of wines





THE MEKONG SUN: YOUR HOME ON AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY

CLASSIC CABINS

- ◆ 11 Classic cabins on the main deck
- ◆ Size: 129 sq ft/12 m²
- ◆ 2 twin beds per cabin
- ◆ French balcony with sliding glass door and floor-to-ceiling window for wonderful views of the Mekong and the lush landscapes along its banks
- ◆ Private bathroom, shower, and air-conditioning

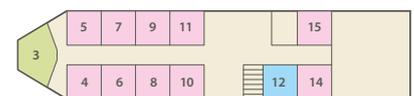
SUPERIOR CABINS

- ◆ 3 Superior cabins, 1 in the bow of the main deck and 2 on the upper deck
- ◆ Sizes: 194 sq ft/18 m² (upper deck) and 172 sq ft/16 m² (main deck)
- ◆ 2 twin beds per cabin (exception: 1 double bed in cabin #3)
- ◆ Small private balcony (upper deck)
- ◆ Panoramic view from bow (main deck)
- ◆ Private bathroom, shower, and air-conditioning

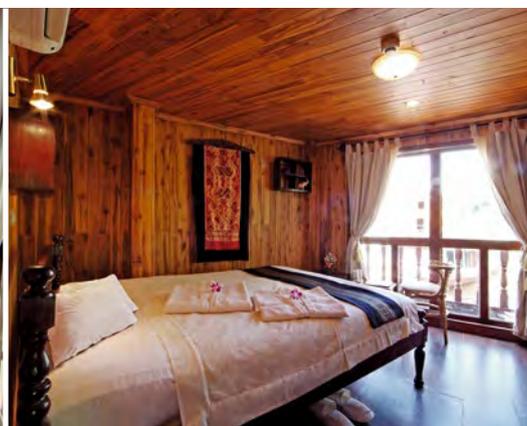
UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK



- Superior-Cabin with private balcony
- Superior-Cabin with panoramic view
- Classic-Cabin
- Economy-Cabin





THE MEKONG PEARL: THE BIG LITTLE SISTER OF THE MEKONG SUN

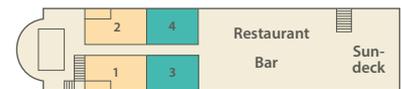
CLASSIC CABINS

- ◆ 6 Classic cabins and 1 Single Classic cabin on the main deck
- ◆ Size: 129 sq ft/12 m²
- ◆ 2 twin beds per cabin (excluding Single Classic)
- ◆ French balcony with sliding glass door and floor-to-ceiling window for wonderful views of the Mekong and the lush landscapes along its banks
- ◆ Private bathroom, shower, and air-conditioning

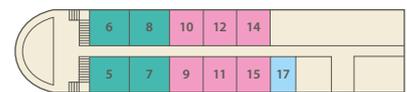
SUPERIOR/DELUXE CABINS

- ◆ 4 Superior cabins on the main deck; 2 Superior cabins and 2 Deluxe cabins on the upper deck
- ◆ Sizes: 172 sq ft/16 m² (Superior) and 237 sq ft/22 m² (Deluxe)
- ◆ 2 twin beds per cabin
- ◆ French balcony (Superior) with sliding glass door and floor-to-ceiling window for wonderful views of the Mekong and the lush landscapes along its banks
- ◆ Small private balcony (Deluxe)
- ◆ Private bathroom, shower, and air-conditioning

UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK



- ◆ Deluxe-Cabin
- ◆ Superior-Cabin
- ◆ Classic-Cabin
- ◆ Classic-Single-Cabin







THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

11-day Mekong River cruise in Laos and Thailand

Savor the magnificent scenery on our longest and most beautiful section of the Mekong River from the Golden Triangle into the heart of Laos—a journey from Chiang Rai in Thailand to Vientiane in Laos. Discover the Laotian capital city of Vientiane, the UNESCO World Heritage city of Luang Prabang and experience the Laotian people’s traditional way of life. This journey is also available as a premium cruise on board our new boutique ship Mekong Star.

FROM THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE TO VIENTIANE

- DAY 1** Welcome to the Golden Triangle (D)
- DAY 2** The Golden Triangle—Huay Xay and Pak Tha (BLD)
- DAY 3** Amazing landscapes and remote villages (BLD)
- DAY 4** Thousands of Buddha statues in the Pak Ou Caves (BLD)
- DAY 5** The UNESCO World Heritage city of Luang Prabang (BL)
- DAY 6** Luang Prabang (BD)
- DAY 7** Fabulous Kuang Si Falls (BLD)
- DAY 8** Ban Don Saingam, a charming farming village (BLD)
- DAY 9** Powerful rapids and the town of Salakham (BLD)
- DAY 10** Vientiane, the capital of Laos (BLD)
- DAY 11** Farewell to Laos in Vientiane (B)

FROM VIENTIANE TO THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

- DAY 1** Welcome on board in Vientiane (D)
- DAY 2** Wild nature along the mighty Mekong (BLD)
- DAY 3** Powerful rapids and the town of Salakham (BLD)
- DAY 4** The farming village of Ban Don Saingam (BLD)
- DAY 5** Xayabouri Dam (BLD)
- DAY 6** Kuang Si Falls and Luang Prabang (BL)
- DAY 7** The former royal capital, Luang Prabang (BLD)
- DAY 8** Pak Ou Caves (BLD)
- DAY 9** Authentic village life (BLD)
- DAY 10** Huay Xay (BLD)
- DAY 11** Farewell, Mekong River! (B)

BLD: breakfast, lunch, dinner



- ◆ Explore historic Luang Prabang (UNESCO World Heritage) and the infamous Golden Triangle with the Opium Museum
- ◆ Visit remote riverside villages and witness authentic life along the Mother of all Waters
- ◆ Marvel at the collection of golden Buddha statues in the Pak Ou Caves
- ◆ Meet local villagers and experience a traditional Laotian ceremony
- ◆ This route is also available as a premium cruise on board our new upscale boutique ship Mekong Star



THE ESSENCE OF THE MEKONG

4-day micro cruise from the Golden Triangle to the city of Luang Prabang

- ◆ The perfect trip for travelers who don't have much time but would love to enjoy the magic of a Mekong cruise
- ◆ Relax on board our comfy boutique ships and savor pristine landscapes gliding by
- ◆ Northern Laos and the authentic everyday life along the Mother of all Waters
- ◆ Marvel at the collection of golden Buddha statues in the Pak Ou Caves

We want to give everyone the opportunity to take a cruise on the Mother of all Waters, even those whose time is very limited or who are uncertain if boutique ship cruises are right for them. That's why we designed the perfect 4-day micro cruise, offering travelers the chance to get a lasting impression of the authentic life and landscapes along the great river in the course of just a few days: tropical lush green mountains, impressive rock formations and secluded villages along the riverbanks.

DAY 1 Sabaidee in Laos! Crossing the border in Chiang Khong, visit to the border town of Huai Xay and welcome dinner on board (D)

DAY 2 Relaxation on board and village life (BLD)

DAY 3 The mighty Mekong (BLD)

DAY 4 Buddha Caves and visit to a Lao Liquor distillery, disembarkation in Luang Prabang (BL)

Reverse direction cruise also available.
BLD: breakfast, lunch, dinner



HIGHLIGHTS OF NORTHERN LAOS

6-day round-trip Mekong River cruise to and from Luang Prabang

- ◆ Explore the most romantic city in all of Southeast Asia: Luang Prabang (UNESCO World Heritage site)
- ◆ Fall in love with the fabulous Kuang Si Waterfalls
- ◆ Encounter hidden treasures on jungle treks to remote locations like the Buddha caves in Pak Ou
- ◆ Let yourself be mesmerized by the lush landscapes along the riverbanks

Enjoy a 6-day journey through once inaccessible regions of Southeast Asia's majestic Mekong River on a wonderfully charming boutique ship. Glide by the dense jungle wilderness with ease, and marvel at the unspoiled nature of the region. This cruise is perfect for guests who would like to combine a visit to Luang Prabang with a unique cruise experience on the Mekong River: a spectacular round-trip to and from Luang Prabang, once Laos's royal capital, now a UNESCO World Heritage site.

DAY 1 Welcome on board in Luang Prabang (D)

DAY 2 Beautiful scenery along the Mekong River (BLD)

DAY 3 Visit to a traditional Hmong village and a local school (BLD)

DAY 4 The fabulous Kuang Si Waterfalls (BLD)

DAY 5 Thousands of Buddha statues in the Pak Ou Caves (BLD)

DAY 6 Luang Prabang (B)



LAOS REVEALED

6-day Mekong River cruise between the Golden Triangle and Luang Prabang

Not only is Upper Mekong considered one of the world's most spectacular rivers, it is also one of the most challenging to navigate. Our charming boutique ship masters tight gorges, negotiates labyrinths of sandbanks, floats elegantly over changing water levels, and clears churning rapids. Along this part of the Mother of all Waters, tranquil stretches of the river offer views of striking shore scenery of lush green mountains, impressive rock formations, and secluded villages.

DAY 1 Chiang Rai in Thailand, the Golden Triangle, and embarkation (D)

DAY 2 Visits to Huay Xai and Pak Tha, a local school, and ethnic minorities (BLD)

DAY 3 Amazing landscapes and remote villages along the untamed Mekong (BLD)

DAY 4 The surreal Pak Ou Caves and their thousands of Buddha statues (BLD)

DAY 5 UNESCO World Heritage town of Luang Prabang (BL)

DAY 6 Disembarkation in Luang Prabang (B)

Reverse direction cruise also available.



- ◆ Take advantage of our expertise and focus on enjoying the Mekong's beauty
- ◆ Gaze in wonder at the collection of Buddha statues in the Pak Ou Caves
- ◆ Let yourself be mesmerized by the lush landscapes along the riverbanks
- ◆ Meet the locals on visits to remote villages and towns
- ◆ Indulge your senses with freshly prepared Asian and European dishes, complemented by refreshing drinks like the delicious Beerlao



IMPRESSIONS OF THE MEKONG

6-day cruise on the Mekong River's loveliest stretch between Vientiane and Luang Prabang

Enjoy the magnificent scenery of the Mekong River on this unique cruise from the Laotian capital of Vientiane to the UNESCO World Heritage town of Luang Prabang, secretly said to be Asia's most beautiful city. Travel along formerly inaccessible stretches of Southeast Asia's most exciting river. Stroll through colorful markets and experience the Laotian people's traditional way of life. Relax aboard your exclusive boutique ship and enjoy unspoiled nature along the mighty Mekong River.

DAY 1 Welcome on board in Vientiane (D)

DAY 2 Wild nature along the mighty Mekong (BLD)

DAY 3 Powerful rapids and the dreamy town of Salakham (BLD)

DAY 4 Ban Don Saingam, a charming farming village (BLD)

DAY 5 The gigantic Xayabourai Dam (BLD)

DAY 6 Fabulous Kuang Si Falls and Luang Prabang (BL)

Reverse direction cruise also available.



- ◆ Relax and enjoy the comfort of our old-world style boutique ships
- ◆ Fall in love with the fabulous Kuang Si Waterfalls
- ◆ Admire the gigantic Xayabourai Dam, the biggest hydroelectric power plant in Laos
- ◆ Savor the rich flavors of Mekong cuisine on board and taste Lao-Lao, a traditional Laotian rice whiskey



BENEFITS OF MEKONG RIVER CRUISES

We've been providing travelers with unique opportunities to explore the beauty of the Mekong River since 2005. But we're more than just a tour operator. Our journeys are tailor-made to provide unforgettable adventures and a lifetime of memories. And for our 20-year anniversary, we've focused all our knowhow of two decades to create a premium boutique ship experience on board the Mekong Star, the new crown jewel of our collection.

- **CHOOSE** from a wide selection of cabins
- **DON'T WAIT** in long lines or travel on bumpy buses
- **ENJOY** our detailed service, including delicious local cuisine
- **RELAX** and let our experts guide you on the tour of a lifetime
- **CUSTOMIZE** your experience with us and feel right at home on the adventure of your dreams!



LEAN BACK, RELAX, AND ENJOY

A FIRST-CLASS EXPERIENCE

- ◆ Well-appointed cabins, each with large windows and French or private balcony
- ◆ Laid-back atmosphere on board—casual clothing welcome
- ◆ Entrance fees, sights and excursions according to itinerary
- ◆ Tours and transfers from/to hotel/airport in air-conditioned vehicles
- ◆ Meaningful interaction with locals for an authentic experience of Lao culture
- ◆ Welcome drink and gift for each guest, towelettes and drinks after excursions
- ◆ Bathrobe and slippers for each guest

EXPERT STAFF

- ◆ Friendly, attentive, and professional 16-person crew for a maximum of 29 travelers
- ◆ Experienced, multilingual cruise director providing insider experience
- ◆ Local English-speaking guides (French-speaking on select departures)
- ◆ Entertaining talks by your knowledgeable cruise director about lands, culture and history
- ◆ Professional restaurant and bar staff, serving your meals with a smile
- ◆ Option to book treatments from experienced masseurs on board



FRESH FLAVORS

- ◆ Daily meals according to route description, including coffee, tea, water, snacks, and fresh fruit
- ◆ Delights of regional cuisine freshly prepared on board (vegetarian and other dietary options available upon request)
- ◆ Bar service on board, with cocktails and local drinks like Beerlao and lao-lao (rice whiskey)
- ◆ Our most unique and memorable highlight: a delicious barbecue with live music on a sandbank

THE MEKONG STAR EXPERIENCE

- ◆ Spacious, elegant cabins and suites from 225 sq ft (21 m²) to 420 sq ft (39 m²), all with private balcony
- ◆ Premium service with wine, beer, and soft drinks included at meals
- ◆ Sundowner in the evenings and 1 massage per guest included
- ◆ Smaller groups with a maximum of 24 guests on board
- ◆ Beautiful wellness area offering professional treatments



THE BEST WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE MEKONG

1

TRAVEL WITH THE PIONEERS

EXPLORE

formerly inaccessible stretches of the Northern Mekong with our exclusive boutique ships.

2

UNIQUE EXPEDITION TOURS

BE SURPRISED

by the mighty Mekong's caprices. The river decides where your ship docks, so every journey is different.

3

WELL-APPOINTED CABINS

CHOOSE

between Classic, Superior, and Deluxe or Deluxe, Executive, and Signature Suites (Mekong Star).

OUR BOUTIQUE SHIPS

The **MEKONG PEARL** and the **MEKONG SUN** are sister ships, owned and operated by Mekong River Cruises (Laos)/Lernidee Trains & Cruises (Germany), offering the most enjoyable way to navigate the mighty Mekong. It's old-world charm and contemporary conveniences combined!

The new **MEKONG STAR** offers a premium boutique ship experience on a whole new level.

Well-appointed cabins, each with large windows, private bathroom and French balcony or even a private balcony with sitting area. Cabins and suites of the **MEKONG STAR** are considerably larger and more elegant, all of them come with a private balcony.

Every journey on our boutique ships is made unforgettable thanks to the laid-back atmosphere on board, our friendly staff, and of course—dazzling views of the Mekong!



COMPONENTS OF A PERFECT CRUISE

- ◆ Experienced, multilingual cruise director plus English-speaking (French-speaking on select departures) local guides
- ◆ Laid-back atmosphere with a maximum of 29 travelers on board—casual clothing welcome
- ◆ Daily meals with delights of regional cuisine freshly prepared on board plus coffee, tea, water, snacks, and fresh fruit
- ◆ Bar service available on board, featuring wine, cocktails and local drinks like Beerlao
- ◆ Friendly restaurant and bar staff, serving your meals and drinks with a smile
- ◆ Bathrobe and slippers for each guest
- ◆ Entrance fees for excursions and sightseeing tours included
- ◆ Entertaining talks on board about lands, culture, and history
- ◆ Air-conditioned shuttle service between hotel and airport on first and last days



MEKONG
RIVER CRUISES

