2019
HARVARD ALUMNI TRAVELS
DISCOVER • LEARN • CONNECT • EXPLORE

VIETNAM, CAMBODIA & THE MEKONG RIVER
Aboard the 12-cabin Mekong Princess
January 14–27, 2019
With PROFESSOR SUSAN RUBIN SULEIMAN
Explore the wonders of tropical Indochina on this comprehensive tour of Vietnam, Cambodia, and the Mekong River. Begin with two days in Ho Chi Minh City (still known by many as Saigon), a busy and dynamic metropolis that exudes energy and buzzes with activity. Then embark on a seven-night Mekong River cruise aboard the beautiful Mekong Princess, an exclusive riverboat with only 12 suites, elegant French colonial appointments, an ultra-shallow draft that allows access to the nooks and crannies of the river, and all the modern comforts. As the Mekong Princess cruises from Ho Chi Minh City to Siem Reap, visit magnificent Buddhist and Hindu temples, observe floating markets bursting with colorful produce, delve into the everyday lives of those who call the Mekong River home, and enjoy an enriching series of presentations and discussions by Harvard Professor Susan Suleiman. Conclude with two days at the world-famous Khmer temples and monuments of legendary Angkor, one of Asia’s most exquisite archaeological gems, and a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The Mekong Princess is the perfect way to explore two remarkable Southeast Asian countries and the mighty river that connects them. An optional pre-tour excursion to Hanoi and exquisitely beautiful Ha Long Bay is also available.

**TO BOOK A TRIP, CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL**
Trip Sampling

**LAND & RAIL**

- **Portrait of Italy**  
  SEP 13–28, 2018  
  Lino Pertile

- **Town & Country Life in France’s Languedoc**  
  SEP 22–30, 2018  
  Thomas W. Simons Jr.

- **Mystical India**  
  OCT 11–27, 2018  
  James Salzman

- **Art & Architecture of Berlin: An Insider’s View**  
  OCT 13–19, 2018  
  Sonja Dümpelmann

- **Southern Africa Odyssey**  
  OCT 18–NOV 4, 2018  
  James Hanken

- **Quintessential Japan**  
  OCT 19–30, 2018  
  James Salzman

- **Poland: Jewish History & Culture**  
  MAY 11–21, 2019  
  Jay Harris

**CRUISES**

- **Sicily by Sail on Sea Cloud**  
  OCT 1–9, 2018  
  David Aguilar

- **Expedition to Antarctica on Le Boreal**  
  JAN 5–18, 2019  
  Joyce Chaplin

- **New Zealand by Sea on Caledonian Sky**  
  JAN 13–26, 2019  
  Erez Manela

- **Panama Canal & Costa Rica: San Jose to Colon on Le Champlain**  
  FEB 2–10, 2019  
  Lizabeth Cohen

- **Cuba by Land & Sea on Le Ponant**  
  FEB 3–12, 2019  
  Lizabeth Cohen

- **Japan by Sea: Land of the Rising Sun on Caledonian Sky**  
  MAY 5–19, 2019  
  Werner Sollors

**RIVERS & LAKES**

- **Dutch Waterways on Amadeus Silver II**  
  APR 25–MAY 3, 2019  
  Peter Bol

- **Commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day (Normandy to Paris) on Amalyra**  
  JUN 4–13, 2019  
  James Salzman

- **Waterways of the Tsars aboard Volga Dream**  
  JUN 5–15, 2019  
  James Salzman

**FAMILY ADVENTURES**

- **Tanzania Family Adventure**  
  DEC 26, 2018–JAN 3, 2019  
  Terrence Capellini

- **Greece Family Odyssey: Land of Mighty Conquests & Mythical Heroes on Running on Waves**  
  JUN 20–29, 2019  
  Brian Farrell

- **Galapagos Family Adventure on La Pinta**  
  JUN 23–JUL 2, 2019  
  Brian Farrell
Schedule by Day

MONDAY–TUESDAY, JANUARY 14–15
Home / Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Vietnam

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Ho Chi Minh City. On arrival, transfer to the Park Hyatt Hotel. The evening of January 15 is at leisure. Park Hyatt Saigon

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16
Ho Chi Minh City

Ho Chi Minh City is Vietnam’s most economically dynamic city, and the streets are always abuzz with activity. During a motorcoach tour, drive through Chinatown and past the city’s best-known monuments—Notre Dame Cathedral, City Hall, the Old Saigon Post Office, and the Presidential Palace. After lunch, take an excursion accompanied by a local expert to the Cu Chi tunnels, a vast underground network that hid thousands of Viet Cong guerrillas and Vietnamese villagers during the Vietnam War. This evening enjoy a festive welcome dinner. Park Hyatt Saigon (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17
Ho Chi Minh City

(Embark)

Visit the Ben Thanh market, where anything and everything is for sale, including handicrafts, traditional clothing and textiles, and local food specialties. Embark the intimate and luxurious Mekong Princess, your home for the next seven days, and begin cruising the Mekong River. Mekong Princess (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18
Ben Tre / Tra On

Today, cruise by sampan through a channel lined with mangroves, our destination a coconut candy maker. After walking through a family-owned orchard, travel aboard horse-drawn carts to a local pier and board small boats to explore narrow creeks lined with Nipah palms. This afternoon enter an area of the Mekong Delta barely touched by tourism to visit Tra On and the Phuoc Hau pagoda. Mekong Princess (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19
Can Tho & Thot Not

Dock in Can Tho and explore by sampan the fascinating Cai Rang market, a feast for the senses and a boon for photographers. Weave in and out among floating watercraft loaded with produce and everything else the residents of the Mekong Delta need in their daily lives. Stop at a home factory to learn how instant noodles are made, and tour a family-owned orchard to see and savor exotic Asian fruits. In Thot Not ride a xe lam (motorized trishaw) to a bird sanctuary, where a special platform offers incredible views over the treetops and down on the nesting area of protected egrets. Mekong Princess (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20
Gieng Island

Board sampans for a visit to a village on Gieng Island where local families make hundreds of sampans. Continue along a canal to a remote riverside area with duck farms, a tropical orchard, and monkey bridges. Then ride on xe lams to visit a Catholic church that was built in the 1870s. Mekong Princess (B,L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 21
Hong Ngu / Phnom Penh, Cambodia

At several family homes in Hong Ngu, a small island hamlet, observe residents weaving and embroidering traditional Khmer scarves. Visit a temple dedicated to a unique form of Buddhism called Hòa Hâo, which focuses on aiding the poor. Cross the border into Cambodia and continue upstream. Mekong Princess (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22
Phnom Penh

Cambodia’s capital, Phnom Penh, retains vestiges of its French charm, including a riverfront corniche and some examples of French Colonial architecture. Ride along the riverfront aboard cyclos to the Silver Pagoda, home to an “Emerald Buddha” made of Baccarat crystal and a life-size Maitreya Buddha encrusted with diamonds. Stop by the National Museum for a comprehensive Marvel at the massive Angkor Wat temple (back cover), the largest religious monument in the world, where Buddhist monks in their bright orange robes (above, left) are daily visitors. Ho Chi Minh City’s French colonial city hall (above right) is brightly lit at nighttime.
look at its spectacular collection of artifacts, excavated in Angkor and brought here for safekeeping. Examine the darker days of Cambodian history at the infamous Choeung Ek killing fields and Tuol Sleng, a Khmer Rouge prison. Back on board the Mekong Princess, enjoy a dance performance by children from a local orphanage. Mekong Princess (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

Angkor Ban

Angkor Ban is a unique little village on the banks of the Mekong, one of the few that survived destruction under the Khmer Rouge regime. Centuries-old villages stand intact on stilts, while the bustle of local agricultural life swirls below. Enjoy a visit with a family in their home, and with schoolchildren in their classroom. Stop at the local monastery before returning to the ship. Mekong Princess (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

Kampong Cham / Siem Reap

Disembark the Mekong Princess in Kampong Cham and transfer to Siem Reap, the gateway to the magnificent complex at Angkor, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the largest religious monument in the world. Enjoy dinner on your own and an evening at leisure. Park Hyatt Hotel (B,L)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

Angkor / Siem Reap

Spend an entire morning exploring the grandest of the temples, fabled Angkor Wat, a miniature universe carved in stone. Its central tower represents mythical Mt. Meru, home of the gods, and intricate carvings of deities and demons, graceful Apsaras (female spirits of the clouds and waters), and scenes of everyday life grace its corridors. In the afternoon, travel about Siem Reap by tuk tuk (auto rickshaw) on an art tour, visiting galleries and artisan workshops to view the arts and crafts of the region. Dinner is again on your own this evening. Park Hyatt Hotel (B,L)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

Angkor

Early this morning visit Bakheng Temple, the perfect vantage point for a panoramic sunrise view over Angkor Wat and the surrounding plain. After a picnic breakfast, travel by elephant to Angkor Thom, once an enormous walled city, to investigate the temple at its heart, the Bayon. Its 55 large and small towers are topped by carved heads, each one wearing a mysterious Mona Lisa smile. In the afternoon, when the light is best, visit Ta Prohm, a silent and mysterious ruin shrouded in jungle vegetation. This evening enjoy a special farewell dinner and a performance of Khmer classical dance, often called Apsara dance. Park Hyatt Hotel (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Siem Reap / Home

This morning transfer to the airport for flights home, crossing the International Date Line and arriving the same day. (B)

Optional Pre-Tour Extension

JANUARY 11–15, 2019
Hanoi and Ha Long Bay

Begin your Southeast Asian experience with two nights in Hanoi, Vietnam’s leafy green, lake-studded capital. A panoramic tour will introduce you to Hanoi’s best-known sights, including the Temple of Literature, the “Hanoi Hilton,” the mausoleum of Ho Chi Minh, and the modest “House on Stilts” in which this key figure in Vietnam’s independence movement lived for many years. Take a cyclo tour through the alleyways of the city’s charming historic quarter, and enjoy a delightful performance by traditional water puppets. Travel to the coast for an overnight cruise on a handcrafted traditional junk on Ha Long Bay (above), a mystical seascape of limestone islets, where you’ll explore caves with fantastic stalactite and stalagmite formations. More detailed information and rates will be sent to confirmed participants.

PHOTO CREDITS

(From Dreamstime.com): Royal Palace © Rafal Cichawa; Ta Prohm © Iralis; Buddhist monk © Rene Drouyer; City Hall © Tatiana Belova; Ha Long Bay © Le Thuy Do; Angkor Wat © Juliengrondin. (From iStock.com): Floating market © hadynyah.
Mekong Princess

Launched in 2015, the Mekong Princess offers 12 luxurious suites combining the elegance of French Colonial style with the peacefulness and comfort of a Southeast Asian spa. All suites have sliding glass doors that open to a French balcony (railing); Angkor Suites also feature a private veranda with seating area. Suites have either twin beds that can be joined as a queen bed, or a king bed; a spacious seating area; en suite facilities with shower (plus separate soaking tub in the Tonle and Angkor Suites), hair dryer, spa robes, and slippers; individual climate control; daily butler service and housekeeping with nightly turndown; premium mattress and bed linens; in-room safe; and flat-screen televisions with satellite service. Breakfast and lunch are served buffet-style, while a single-seating dinner offers sumptuous French Indochine and gourmet Spa Cuisine featuring locally sourced fresh produce. Public spaces include open-air lounges with comfortable chaises, spa, small fitness center, and library with Internet access (subject to availability). The small size and ultra-shallow draft of this elegant riverboat allow for visits to villages and tributaries not accessible to larger vessels, and the one-to-one guest-to-staff ratio ensures an unparalleled river cruise experience.

Program Rates, per person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUITE/DECK</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>SAIGON (Main) Approx. 235 sq. ft., twin beds that can be joined as a queen, French balcony</td>
<td>$8,995</td>
<td>$15,295</td>
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<tr>
<td>APSARA (Upper) Approx. 235 sq. ft., twin beds that can be joined as a queen, French balcony</td>
<td>$9,995</td>
<td>$16,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>TONLE (Upper) Approx. 305 sq. ft., king bed, French balcony</td>
<td>$10,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANGKOR (Upper) Approx. 495 sq. ft., king bed, French balcony, private veranda, complimentary laundry service, evening canapés</td>
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<td>$12,995</td>
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AIR ARRANGEMENTS  Confirm your reservation on this trip before booking flights. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Please note: U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare from New York to Saigon, Vietnam, with return from Siem Reap, Cambodia, is approximately $1,700 per person as of March 2018 and is subject to change without notice.

TO BOOK A TRIP, CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL
General Information

WHAT TO EXPECT
This is a moderately active program. Participants should be able to walk unassisted for up to three hours over uneven surfaces and up and down narrow stairs, and to climb, with assistance, in and out of small boats and other local vehicles. In January, the average temperature in Cambodia and Vietnam is in the high 70s to mid-80s F, and the average humidity is 80 percent with little rain. Although the riverboat, hotels, and motorcoaches are air-conditioned, temples and traditional conveyances are not, nor are some restaurants and museums. Participants with medical issues, dietary restrictions, and/or impairments regarding mobility must make them known to us well before departure. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, please call us at 800-422-1636.

TOUR COST INCLUSIONS
All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary; Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations; Group airport transfers for all participants on arrival (into HAN or SGN airports) and departure (out of REP airport); Baggage handling; Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel; Entrance fees and port charges; Local beer, coffee, tea, and soft drinks at lunch and dinner on land; Local beer, liquor, coffee, tea, and soft drinks at all times on board Mekong Princess; Wine during all dinners; One complimentary spa treatment per person during the cruise; Bottled water on motorcoaches; Professional tour manager; $200,000 Emergency Medical Evacuation Insurance.

TOUR COST EXCLUSIONS
U.S. domestic and international airfare; Passport and visa expenses; Medical expenses and treatment found in thucnitc.vn; Travel and trip cancellation insurance; Deviations from the scheduled tour; Excess baggage charges; Meals not specified in the itinerary; Dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; Liquor; Personal items such as e-mail, telephone and fax calls, laundry, room service, and gratuities for nongroup services.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, & FINAL PAYMENT
To reserve a space on this program, a $1,000 deposit is required per person. Please either call us at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806 or fill out and mail or fax the registration form found in this brochure. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Final payment deadline is September 16, 2018, 120 days prior to departure.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS
Notification of cancellation must be received in writing by HAA from the participant. Cancellations within 14 days of booking: full refund; cancellations received up to 120 days prior to departure will be assessed a cancellation fee of $1,000 per person. Cancellations received within 120 days prior to departure are subject to 100% penalty of all deposits and payments.

ITINERARY CHANGES
The itinerary contained in this brochure is accurate at the time of printing. We reserve the right to change the program or accommodations as conditions warrant.

INSURANCE
We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for insurance will be provided by HAA upon confirmation.

AIRFARE
Neither Harvard Alumni Travels nor the tour operator accepts the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned.

RESPONSIBILITY
Other provisions apply regarding limitations of liability and rights of HAA and the tour operator. The statement of responsibility is available at alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/vietnam-cambodia-2019. If you are not able to access the internet, please call us at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806.

DISCLAIMER
Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information presented in this publication. Neither HAA nor the tour operator is responsible for errors in or damages resulting from use of the information contained herein, which is subject to change.

Registration form

To register, fill out this form and return to Harvard Alumni Travels with your deposit of $1,000 per person.

Please return this form by mail to: Harvard Alumni Travels 124 Mount Auburn Street, 6th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02138 Or by FAX: 617-496-4011

Please call or email with any questions:
800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806; haatravels@harvard.edu

How did you hear about this trip?

How did you hear about this trip?

PROGRAM NAME

FIRST PERSON NAME ON PASSPORT

EMAIL ADDRESS

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP OR POSTAL CODE

HOME TELEPHONE

WORK TELEPHONE

SECOND PERSON NAME ON PASSPORT

EMAIL ADDRESS

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP OR POSTAL CODE

HOME TELEPHONE

WORK TELEPHONE

METHOD OF DEPOSIT

☐ CHECK (please enclose check)

☐ MASTER CARD

☐ VISA

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

3-DIGIT SECURITY CODE

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD

☐ I’VE CONFIRMED THAT I’VE READ AND ACCEPT THE GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THIS TOUR, INCLUDING REFUNDS AND CANCELLATIONS AND THE RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE AT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL.

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

ACCOMMODATIONS

☐ DOUBLE ROOM

☐ SINGLE ROOM

☐ SHARE A ROOM WITH

ROOMMATE