

Mekong Song Xanh Sampan – 2 days 1 night

Itinerary Overview

Day	Destination	Meals
Option 1: Cai Be – Sa Dec – Can Tho		
Day 1	CAI BE – SA DEC – CAN THO	L/D
Day 2	CAN THO FLOATING MARKET	B
Option 2: Can Tho – Sa Dec – Cai Be		
Day 1	CAN THO – SA DEC	L/D
Day 2	SA DEC – CAI BE	B

Note*: B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner

Detailed Itinerary

Option 1: Saigon – Cai Be – Sa Dec – Can Tho

Day 1 CAI BE – SA DEC – CAN THO

Begin cruising from Phu An Jetty at 11:00 am. From the Song Xanh sampan, observe life as it plays out on shore – people going about their daily activities against picturesque landscapes – while your attentive crew serves tea and seasonal fruit. Before arriving at Sa Dec, stop at various points along the river for a look into some of the cottage industries of the region including a brick factory where everything is made by hand, pass monkey bridges and tiny villages to visit a Cao Dai temple.

Arrive in Sa Dec and stroll to the outdoor market. Visit one of the highlights of the charming town, the ancient house of Huynh Thuy Le, a real-life character in the celebrated novel and film “The Lover” by Marguerite Duras.

Lunch is served on board while cruising towards Can Tho along a narrow canal teeming with life. Explore the countryside surroundings by local rowboat.

Note*: this is a copy of the itinerary on Indochina Treks Travel Official Website and not the final itinerary.

After returning onboard, Song Xanh Sampan continues its cruise towards the Hau River. Dinner and overnight on board.

Meals: Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Song Xanh Sampan

Day 2

CAN THO FLOATING MARKET

Wake up early at 6:00 am for a visit to the famous Cai Rang Floating Market which operates daily starting from 5:00 am. Breakfast is served on board while the Song Xanh navigates towards the market among local barges loaded down with fruits and vegetables from the Delta, making for some stunning photos.

Continue cruising towards Victoria Can Tho. Checkout and disembark at the hotel's private jetty at about 9am. Trip ends.

Note*: The floating markets in the Mekong Delta are no tourist markets but wholesale markets where produce of the Mekong Delta like fruits and vegetables are traded. For this reason the number of boats on the market fluctuates depending on harvesting seasons and market demand. Furthermore, modern wholesale markets are becoming more popular in Vietnam. This can result in decreasing numbers of boats being present on the markets.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: n/a

Option 2: Saigon – Can Tho – Sa Dec – Cai Be

Day 1

CAN THO – SA DEC

Meet at the Victoria Can Tho Resort jetty at 10:00 am.

Our crew welcomes you on board with cold towels and a refreshing drink while your private Song Xanh sampan sets off for its leisurely cruise on the river.

Cruise the waterways of the Mekong Delta, observing villagers going about their daily activities against picturesque landscapes while your attentive crew serves tea and seasonal fruit.

Sail past local barges laden with produce from the Delta as you enjoy lunch on board, with the mighty Hau River as a backdrop, one of the two largest arms of the Mekong.

Transfer to a small rowboat to better explore the beautiful waterways and peaceful villages.

Visit the historic house of "The Lover", a real-life character in the acclaimed novel and film by Marguerite Duras.

Enjoy your dinner on the Song Xanh board, on the Tien River.

Meals: Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Song Xanh Sampan

Day 2

SA DEC – CAI BE

Begin cruising in the early morning hours at about 6:30 am, just as the villages begin to stir and children get ready for school.

After a leisurely breakfast on board, our first shore excursion visits a colorful Cao Dai temple and a small brick factory.

Arriving at Cai Be, step ashore to visit local cottage industries that utilize products from the Delta like rice and coconuts to make tasty snacks including puffed rice and chewy coconut candy.

Our cruise ends at Le Longanier Restaurant. Lunch is served in this exquisite riverside colonial-style villa set in lush tropical gardens and surrounded by fruit plantations, a throwback to the elegant lifestyle enjoyed by a privileged few in Indochinese times.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: n/a

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions

- All meals included in selected program by Mekong Authentic Sampan
- Accommodation on board based on twin share
- English speaking guide during the cruise
- Sight-seeing of Mekong Delta
- Biking and sampan boat rides.

Exclusions

- Transfers from/to Saigon to/from port of embarkation
- Drinks
- Tour guide gratuities
- Any visa fees

Important note*:

- PROGRAMS & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASING ON ACTUAL SITUATION.
- For overnight registration, we will need passport information (Full name, sex, Nationality, passport number, date of birth) of passengers at least four weeks prior to cruise date.
- The price would vary depending on your selected itineraries, date of departures, number of passengers. Please book the tour or contact us for best rate of your itinerary.

Important Information

Clothes

We recommend wearing loose and comfortable clothing made of cotton or modern material that can readily cool off sweat and body heat. The type of shoes will depend on the excursion types so best to have both light, open toed shoes as well as good walking/hiking shoes with you. A sun hat is always a good idea to bring along.

Southern Vietnam and Cambodia are warm all year-round, but our other cruise destinations can get chilly during the winter months (Laos, Myanmar or northern Vietnam). Therefore, it is always recommended to bring a pullover or a warm jacket with you during this period.

Many of our cruises include visits to local temples or pagodas. When visiting these holy sites, make sure to wear appropriate clothing which covers your shoulders and knees.

Sea sickness

Generally speaking, the rivers we are cruising on in Southeast Asia are very calm and there is hardly any motion on any of our ships. A bit of motion can occur during monsoon rains with stormy winds, but the amount of motion is much less than one would feel during bad weather on the open ocean.

Sea cruises as we offer in Halong Bay or Lan Ha Bay can sometimes encounter heavier waters and ship motion, although this happens very rarely and port authorities will most likely not allow sailing under any such circumstances anyway.

If you are new to cruising or prone to motion sickness, it does not hurt to bring along some motion sickness medication. Drinking a nice hot fresh ginger tea is a natural remedy and tasty alternative our staff is always happy to make for you.

Food and Beverage

All food and beverage on board is completely safe to eat and enjoy, including the ice cubes you enjoy in your chilled drinks. We do not recommend drinking water straight from the tap anywhere, including onboard. We provide you with complimentary clean drinking water throughout your cruise.

You may want to be bit careful with local dishes as they can be spicier than you are used to from home. Approach new dishes slowly and carefully. If you have a sensitive stomach, then you may like to double check with our chef or onboard managers about specific dishes or meals.

On excursions, it may be a good idea to avoid local foods and snacks unless offered by our tour guides. Besides the above, in general we recommend the following motto for your pre- and post-cruise travelling in the Southeast Asian tropics: boil it, peel it, cook it, wash it or forget it!

Health risks

The most effective protection from personal contamination is ensuring strict attention to personal hygiene and in particular, frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and water and refraining from hand-to-mouth contact. Colds and other viruses can spread quickly in an enclosed area such as a ship. Continue to practice common-sense hygiene and respiratory courtesy. Wash your hands often and cover your coughs and sneeze. It is recommended that passengers carry anti-bacterial hand sanitizer, which does not require rinsing with water. Use sanitizer frequently and throughout the day, particularly after shore excursions and prior to meals. If you have any questions regarding your health or safety, please do not hesitate to ask your cruise director.

Motion sickness can be a problem for some people when cruising, flying or travelling on coaches and trains and it is a good idea to take precautionary measures. Over-the-counter drugs for treating motion sickness can be purchased at pharmacies in most countries, though a side effect can be drowsiness. Alternatives such as ginger tablets and acupuncture wristbands are also available and work well for some people.

Insurance

We recommend at least purchasing travel health insurance which covers both in- & outpatient visits and medical repatriation. Buying additional trip cancellation and interruption coverage may also be beneficial in case you have to cancel your travel plans due to unforeseen circumstances.

Electrical adapters

We always recommend bringing a travel adapter as a standard item in your travel kit. You can borrow an adapter on board, but these may be limited.

Electricity

Indochina Countries use 220V, and a mixture of flat 2-pin, round 2-pin or 3 pin plugs. It is recommended to bring a universal plug adapter.

Tipping

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with

the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$3-\$5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service.