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## Saigon to Siem Reap, 8 days (Toum Tiou, Indochine)

### Day 1 Saigon Embarkation – My Tho

15:45 Toum Tiou is open for embarking. Clearance of departure formalities.

16:30 Departure for My Tho, security briefing.

19:00 Welcome drink and info meeting about cruise, crew introduction. Welcome dinner and overnight on the RV Toum Tiou Cruise.

**Meals:** Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Toum Tiou Cruise / Indochine Cruise

### Day 2 My Tho – Cai Be – Vinh Long

07:00 Departure of the Toum Tiou early in the morning. Breakfast during navigation on the marvelous canal of Cho Gao. Arrive at My Tho – Toum Tiou drops anchor on river in the proximity of Thoi Son Island. On the banks of a northern arm of the Mekong, My Tho, which translates as "fragrant herb", where tourists come to discover the beauty of the delta. It's a quiet, prosperous city of about 100,000 inhabitants, famous for its many fruit orchards, gardens and the huge rice fields that surround it. The climate is warm and pleasant year round. The surrounding countryside is home to one of the most luxuriant gardens of Vietnam, with its coconut palms, banana and mango trees. Local boats are coming alongside Toum Tiou to pick up passengers and transfer to the mainland. Departure for Vinh Trang Pagoda by car - Short panoramic tour of My Tho town on the way, stop for a visit of My Tho market. Return at the pier - Passengers cruise on the river to Thoi Son Island by local boat to visit the island, explore local people's daily life and enjoy locally seasonal fruits

10:00 Passengers re-embark Toum Tiou and leaves My Tho for Cai Be. Lunch and leisure on board.

13:30 Toum Tiou drops anchor at Cai Be. Local boats are coming alongside Toum Tiou, picking up the passengers and cruise

around Cai Be Floating Market. Continuing for Vinh Long - a brick and pottery factory, the Binh Hoa Phuoc Islet Nursery of Fruit Trees as well a typical house and a show room of traditional farming tools. Vinh Long, which translates as "Majestic Dragon", is right in the middle of the delta, between two arms of the Mekong. The soil of Vinh Long is enriched by silt deposits, making it ideal for growing mandarins and other citrus fruits. Life is organized around the water. Houses on stilts, hawkers in boats, hundreds of small craft crisscross in all directions. The hospitality of the locals makes it a tourist destination par excellence.

16:30 Return on the Toum Tiou, departure for Sa Dec. Arrive at Sa Dec, Toum Tiou drops anchor on the river. Dinner and overnight on the RV Toum Tiou Cruise.

**Meals:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Toum Tiou Cruise / Indochine Cruise

### Day 3 Sadec – Chau Doc

06:00 Breakfast. Arrive at Sa Dec - Short panoramic tour of Sa Dec and transfer to Trung Vuong primary school. Continuing to Kien An Cung Pagoda. Stroll around Sa Dec Market along Sa Dec River

bank. This small city of 30,000 inhabitants is fascinating in its unspoiled authenticity and undisturbed by tourists. It provides a glimpse of the delta where a few colonial houses still remain, including the "Chinese man's house" (from Duras' novel "The Lover", also made into a movie).

09:00 Passengers re-embark; Toum Tiou leaves Sa Dec for Chau Doc, lunch and leisure on board.

17:00 Arrival after lunch at Victoria Hotel Chau Doc jetty. Departure for fish raising rafts and Cham minority village by local boat. Return to the Victoria. If the timing is allowing it, watch of the sunset on the Sam Mountain which peaks at 237 meters. Its well-known Buddhist sanctuaries offer an unobstructed view over the mosaic of glistening rice paddies below. To the left is Cambodia, the flow of the Mekong on the horizon breaks into an infinity of silver ribbons. Visit on the way of the Lady Chua Xu temple and Tay An Pagoda.

19:30 Return to the boat, Dinner at the Victoria Hotel's restaurant. Overnight onboard at the jetty of the hotel; passengers are free to enjoy the hotel facilities (swimming pool, billiards, bar, Internet) or stroll in Chau Doc.

**Meals:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Toum Tiou Cruise / Indochine Cruise

#### Day 4 Koh Dek Chau – Phnom Penh

Toum Tiou leaves early in the morning for Vinh Xuong (Vietnamese border). Breakfast during navigation.

08:00 Arrival at Vinh Xuong check-point – Formalities clearance for Toum Tiou to cross the border.

10:30 Toum Tiou leaves Vinh Xuong check point for Koh Dek Chau Island. Lunch during the navigation.

14:30 Arrival at Koh Dek Chau island. A short break along the way, it allows to get a fascinating, close-up look at daily life in Cambodia. On the fringes of civilization, the 600 people who live on Koh Dek Chau will receive your visit with some surprise. School children will escort you along your way. You will go through the village that occupies the full length of the island, walking along a trail shaded by date palms. Toum Tiou leaves for Phnom Penh.

20:00 Arrival at Phnom Penh. Dinner and overnight on the RV Toum Tiou Cruise.

**Meals:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Toum Tiou Cruise / Indochine Cruise

#### Day 5 Phnom Penh

08:00 Breakfast, departure for the "KILLING FIELDS" - Tuol Sleng Museum, old center of detention, of torture and execution between 1975 and 1979. The visit of this place is essential to understand what could be the fatal madness perpetrated by the Khmer Rouges.

12.00 Return to Phnom Penh, lunch in a local restaurant.

15:00 Balance of the day free exploration on own. Suggestions can be made up on the interest of passengers. FCC, Russian market, other boutiques (antiques), etc.

19:00 Return to the boat. Local group performs on board traditional "APSARA" show for 45 minutes.

**Meals:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Toum Tiou Cruise / Indochine Cruise

**Day 6** **Phnom Penh – Kompong Tralach**

07:00 Breakfast, half day city sightseeing tour including the Royal Palace and the National Museum.

12:00 The Toum Tiou leaves Phnom Penh for Kompong Tralach. Lunch during navigation.

16:00 Arrival at Kampong Tralach to visit its wonderful Vihara belonging to Wat Kampong Tralach Leu pagoda. To get to it, we cross Kampong Tralach Krom village along a small road perpendicular to the river, crossing some gorgeous stretches of emerald rice paddy as we leave the river behind. The Vihara dates back to early last century. It was probably built on an older site, as indicated by the laterite foundations, and is home to some outstanding mural paintings. These, however, are starting to suffer from weathering. They remain one of the last survivors of cultural destruction that continues unabated due to widespread indifference. Standing by itself in the middle of rice fields, it is a modest pagoda that receives very few visitors. Its isolation may well be its undoing, as was the case for Wat Tani Pagoda in the province of Kampot.

18:00 Passengers re-embark. The Toum Tiou drops anchor few miles away. Diner and overnight on the RV Toum Tiou Cruise.

**Meals:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Toum Tiou Cruise / Indochine Cruise

**Day 7** **Kampong Chnang – Chnok Tru**

07:00 Departure of the Toum Tiou early in the morning. Sail to Kampong Chnang. Breakfast during navigation. Arrive to Kampong Chnang. Located some 56 miles from Phnom Penh, the town of Kampong Chnang is one of the largest fishing ports on the Tonle Sap. Fish farming is also widely practiced in the area. The area is famous for its pottery ware, unchanged in style for centuries, which is produced in sufficient quantities to supply the entire country. And not to be overlooked are the products of the Thnot tree (sugar palm – a real national symbol) that abounds in the area: a mellow tasting, caramel-colored sugar sold in large cakes and palm wine.

10:30 Passengers re-embark the Toum Tiou. Lunch on board on the way to Chnok Tru. Arrive at Chnok Tru. Local boats are coming along the Toum Tiou and picking passengers for the visit of the biggest floating village on the Tonle Sap River. Passengers re-embark. The Toum Tiou stays overnight in the proximity of Chnok Tru.

19:30 Farewell cocktail (1 glass of local liquor or juice) with Master of Ship & Cruise Manager Captain's farewell dinner (Enriched menu + 1 glass of wine). Overnight on the RV Toum Tiou Cruise.

**Meals:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Toum Tiou Cruise / Indochine Cruise

**Day 8** **Chnok Tru – Siem Reap Disembarkation**

07:00 Breakfast, chartered speedboat is coming along the boat and picks up passengers for crossing the Lake.

12:00 Arrival at Phnom Krom pier (~5 miles from Siem Reap).

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** N/A

**Inclusion:**

- Vietnam visa approval letter
- Mekong 8 days package by Toum Tiou Cruise
- Local English speaking guides
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Entrance fees for sightseeing mentioned in the itinerary
- Port tax and services charge

**Exclusion:**

- Vietnam and Cambodia Visa stamping fee
- Meals and services other than those noted in the itinerary
- Laundry, telephone calls, and personal expenditures
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, porters, boat crew, and personal, non-itinerary services