# Aqua Mekong Cruise 31 Mar/04 April 2017



The Aqua Mekong is small ship cruising at its best....

This 5 star luxury experience is one to delight. The exceptional friendly and knowledgeable staff, the wonderful food and on board facilities would be hard to surpass. With only room for 40 guests this is a wonderful personable experience.

I had the privilege to be a guest on board a 4 night Mekong Delta/ Sap river cruise. From the moment of getting on board in Phnom Phen I experienced helpful welcoming service where absolutely nothing was a problem or too much to ask for. The unstated elegance of the ships decor, the staffs uniforms and the generous comfortable public areas were at once inviting and home like right down to the no room keys are issued as we want it to fell like home. (Note keys were available for the nervous).

# Rooms

A French style balcony gives you more actual room space. The bedroom and bathroom were spacious the furnishings top quality and sophisticated. Small touches such as daily laundering, free water, 3 room services, shoe cleaning after expeditions were appreciated. A family interconnecting suite is available.



## Dining/Bar

Staff were personable and well trained even remembering guests names and personal likes. The menus were divine lots of fresh local food served as they described family way – ie dishes on table for say 3 or 4 to help themselves. Recipes were available for all dishes to anyone. There was an alternative menu for those requiring western food. Full bar facilities were available and offered a great range of wines beers and cocktails.



## **Excursions**

The onboard skiffs were fabulous. They were fast and modern, compared to the other cruise lines on the Mekong that use local ferry type boats. As they were small and agile the skiffs could get right up onto the banks to pick up and drop off guests. The guides were amazing such passion and local knowledge delivered with real life stories and humour. The daily availability of Bicycling and Kayaking really made this cruise feel like an expedition rather than a luxury cruise for the elderly, with the guides always on hand to explain and point out relevant highlights. Two excursions were offered daily one in the morning and another at 3ish in the afternoon to allow guests to enjoy a leisurely lunch and some down time.

In the evening before dinner in the bar there was an informative presentation led by one of the guides on something relevant to the country, or the area we had been on that day's activities, followed by a quick update on what to expect the next day.



## **On Board Facilities**

Spa – offering a wonderful massage! Media room for DVDS Swimming pool Sun deck Library Lots of small private areas using the space around the central spiral staircase to get away if needed Dining room Gift shop Gym Bar/ spacious lounge on the top deck



Overall a fabulous experience in a wonderful country.

Jan Arthurs Schoppe