

SCENIC°

LUXURY CRUISES & TOURS

YOUR GUIDE TO SOUTH EAST ASIA RIVER CRUISING

Experience Enriching Moments and
Truly All-Inclusive Luxury in a Class of its Own



scenic.co.uk

How to Plan a Memorable
Journey in South East Asia

Your Luxury Small Ship
Experience on the Mekong

The Scenic Difference
& Insider Tips

WELCOME

Travelling through the lifeblood of South East Asia on the mighty Mekong River is one of the best ways to take in the exotic countryside of Vietnam and Cambodia.

Cruise past riverside villages, and alight from your ship, Scenic Spirit, to explore ancient religious temples and historic monuments. Follow the same routes of merchants and traders through Indochina. As you sip your morning coffee, watch locals cycling or taking out their sampans to visit local floating markets and neighbouring villages.

Exploring this region during a river cruise is one of the most relaxing ways to discover the tropical character and heart of its cities, towns and villages. Experience even more when you combine your Mekong river cruise with a luxury land journey through the central and northern regions of Vietnam, or into peaceful Laos.

Scenic has been expertly curating 5-star luxury cruises and tours for more than 37 years. In this guide, we'll help you take your first steps to bring your dreams of exploring South East Asia into reality. You'll find detailed information covering the considerations and questions you need to ask yourself as you begin to plan your unforgettable journey.

*With Scenic, it's more than a 5-star Mekong river cruise.
It's truly all-inclusive luxury in a class of its own.*



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ABOUT US

Founded 37 years ago, Scenic is an innovative, luxury cruise and land journey company that specialises in creating memorable travel experiences for guests around the world.

Today, our global team designs, plans and hosts luxury journeys in more than 60 countries across every continent. Putting our guests at the heart of everything we do and going to the Nth Degree is at the very core of what we stand for at Scenic. As our guest, you can relax and concentrate on enjoying every precious moment of your trip, knowing everything is taken care of, including your safety and wellbeing.

Enjoy a seamless travel experience when you book with Scenic. Here's how it works:



1. CONSULT

Whether it's your first cruise or your tenth, take advantage of an expert Scenic travel agent. Are you a group of ten or more who wish to cruise together? Ask about our group bookings. Visit [scenic.co.uk](https://www.scenic.co.uk) to find your nearest travel agent.



2. PLAN

To help your planning, you may like to follow our social media, and read our latest articles. Once you are connected to an experienced travel advisor, it's also easy to get advice about your booking dates, suites, extensions and more.



3. BOOK

It's easy to book – you can do so in person with your preferred travel agent or by contacting Scenic on **0808 258 4058** or via [scenic.co.uk](https://www.scenic.co.uk).



4. PREPARE

Your Scenic travel advisor will stay in communication with you and ensure you receive all your required documentation and pre-departure tips and information.



5. EXPERIENCE

It's time to depart and you can relax, knowing your plans have been handled by experts. From the minute you step aboard, feel at home and relax, safe in the knowledge that we're here to take care of everything so that your holiday runs smoothly.



6. JOIN THE CLUB

Stay connected through Scenic's social channels and become a member of the Scenic Club for exclusive offers and benefits. The more you travel with us, the greater the rewards. Membership is free, and you'll receive points for each day of travel.

CONNECT WITH US



Connect with us and your fellow travellers. Share your stories and photos via Facebook @ScenicUK, Instagram @scenic.luxurycruisestours and subscribe to YouTube ScenicTours. We regularly post information and updates about our vast choice of destinations and experiences, so it's a great way to keep in touch with the latest news at Scenic.



Scan here to learn more about why it's more than just river cruising with Scenic.



O THE SCENIC DIFFERENCE

It's in the details

We are the experts in creating an intimate, small ship cruise experience. Built to European safety standards, the purpose-built and Scenic-owned Scenic Spirit has capacity for just 68 guests, providing ample room for guests to move about freely and enjoy the luxurious public and private spaces.

This boutique vessel gets you closer to shore, creating a real sense of immersion in the destination you are visiting. It means too that onshore excursions are hosted in small and manageable sized groups – on average, just 20 guests.



“From the energy of Hanoi, the beauty of Halong Bay on the Au Co, the shopping sprees in Hoi An or Saigon, the magic of Scenic Spirit and its staff and finally the beauty of Angkor and the gala farewell. We cannot not say anything else except - Wow! Wow! Wow!”

David H, Scenic Guest, Feefo Review



What does truly all-inclusive river cruising mean for you?

One of the key factors that allows people to switch into holiday mode is removing the mundane aspects of travelling. When there are no trivial details, such as signing for bills, double checking food tabs or worrying about unexpected costs on your final day, you have the ultimate freedom to be more present throughout your trip.

A Mekong river cruise with Scenic is in a class of its own. As our guest, everything is included in the cost of your cruise: return flights, your beverages at the bar; your in-suite minibar; all meals on board; all Scenic Freechoice activities; and Scenic Enrich exclusive experiences. Transfers, butler service, tipping and gratuities (on board and onshore) are also included.

The only exceptions to our 'truly all-inclusive' mantra are a small handful of ultra-premium and rare wines and spirits or spa treatments. For everything else, give yourself the gift of a mindful holiday and let us take care of the details.



During your Land Journey

The transition from ship to your land journey is seamless, with stays in luxurious hotels, accompanied by your Scenic Tour Director and local guides. Scenic Enrich and Scenic Freechoice activities are included, along with selected meals. These are balanced with time for independent exploration.



- A Scenic Spirit
- B Premium Beverages, Scenic Spirit
- C Juice Bar
- D Gala Dinner, Angkor temple, Cambodia

BENEFITS OF RIVER CRUISING WITH SCENIC

It's a 5-star floating hotel

Enjoy all the luxurious comforts of a 5-star hotel, only this one goes with you as you travel. Scenic Spirit is a custom-built sanctuary, designed to offer maximum space and comfort. You'll have all the amenities you'd expect during a luxury journey.

Awaken somewhere new each day

Your precious holiday time is spared lost hours in transit. Scenic Spirit relocates to new ports, meaning you often wake to a fresh view and location to explore.

You'll unpack just once

Unpack just once and settle into your new home away from home.

Dine on world-class cuisine

Savour fine dining or casual fare with a choice of on board options; or dine in the privacy of your own suite. Our chefs draw flavoursome ingredients from our herb garden, tailoring dishes to include regional cuisine and Western favourites. The curious can try the exotic and unique as well as the flavours of tropical fruits at our juicing station.

Everything is taken care of

Your Scenic-employed Cruise Director, Tour Director, butler and supporting staff will take care of every detail during your journey.

Wellbeing facilities on board

Travelling, while exciting can sometimes be tiring. Scenic Spirit is where you can relax and enjoy quiet time in the Vitality Pool or steam-sauna; or rise to a morning stretching class or laps of the expansive Sun Deck.



- A Dining, Scenic Spirit
- B Deluxe Suite, Scenic Spirit
- C Gym, Scenic Spirit
- D Champagne Breakfast, Angkor Temple
- E Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor, Siem Reap



D



E

Immersive cultural encounters in small groups

Each day will be filled with personalised encounters with local people and their customs. Our group sizes are limited to an average of just 20 guests per onshore excursion for an intimate experience.

Your own pace, your own interests

Your included Scenic Freechoice activities are curated to offer a relaxed, moderate or active pace. Choose excursions themed around the topics that most interest you.

Combine seamlessly with a luxury land journey

Enjoy Scenic Special Stays at historic hotels when you combine your cruise with a land journey, including the legendary Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor in Siem Reap.

SOUTH EAST ASIA & THE MEKONG RIVER AT A GLANCE

Many countries are connected by the Mekong, the longest river in South East Asia and a vital passage for trade that nourishes the lands and crops grown in surrounding villages.

Historic villages, places of worship, markets and town centres have been designed for thousands of years in relation to the aspect of the waterways. As such, a journey along the Mekong River today takes you through the very essence of Asian culture.



Mekong River

The Mekong River is the 12th longest river in the world, flowing an impressive 4,909km through China, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. It serves an important ecological purpose to the region's agriculture and aquaculture, as well as a main transport and trade thoroughfare for locals.

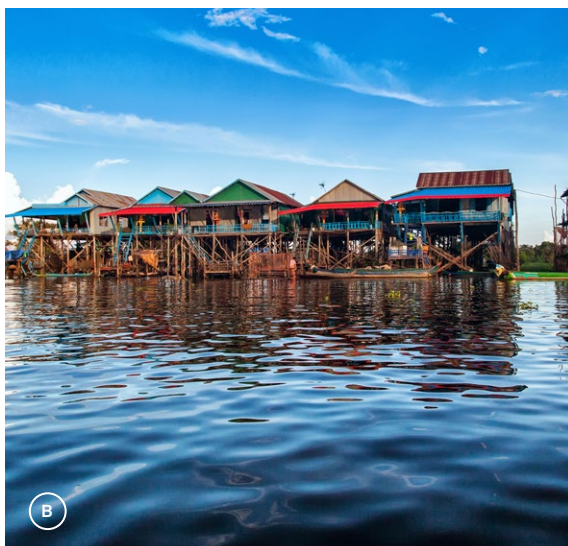
As you cruise through Vietnam, you'll notice life along the river is bustling, with floating markets and lots of activity. Cross the border into Cambodia, and you'll see a more leisurely pace, with the river fringed by farms. It's a fascinating insight into the contrasts of rural life.

Tonlé Sap

From Siem Reap, take a Scenic Freechoice excursion on Tonlé Sap to see this unique rural village and protected, biodiverse reserve. Spanning 250km, it is the largest freshwater lake in South East Asia.



- A Hoi An, Vietnam
- B Tonlé Sap, Cambodia



Why is the Mekong River brown?

The vital Mekong River is an important lifeline to nearly 60 million people throughout South East Asia. This fast-flowing river transports sediment downstream which improves soil fertility for farmers. This sediment in motion creates the river's signature muddy appearance. It is not dirty water, in fact, the brown colour means the surrounding farmlands are being nourished.

OUR FIVE STEPS FOR PLANNING THE PERFECT JOURNEY

In this guide, we'll help you select the river cruise and land journey in South East Asia that will best suit your interests. Here are a few questions that you should start with.

Hint: if you're not quite sure what your answers are yet, keep reading this guide and we'll help you answer them.



“I have now done two trips with Scenic and I will definitely travel with Scenic again. I could not fault anything. Every staff member was wonderful and they go out of their way to accommodate you with your diet and anything else you require. Thanks Scenic for the great holiday.”

Susan D, Scenic Guest, Feefo Review



B

1. Which places in South East Asia do you want to explore?

If you have a wish list of cities or must-see sites that you have your heart set on visiting, that's a great starting point in your planning as this can greatly narrow down the options.

2. Choose truly all-inclusive

Your budget may determine the type of suite that you will book, but Scenic's truly all-inclusive philosophy means managing your budget is easy, because all your drinks, meals, touring and even tipping are included in the cost of your river cruise. With constantly fluctuating foreign currencies, locking in your Scenic river cruise and all its inclusions means you don't need to concern yourself with these changes as you await your trip. During your land journey, most meals are included, with some lunches or dinners at your expense.

During your river cruise, there is no more to pay, unless of course you would like a spa treatment or a premium top-shelf beverage. You can simply leave your wallet in your suite's safe and enjoy every moment.

3. Determine the type of experiences you'd like to have

There is an itinerary to suit all interests – from the World Heritage-listed ancient ruins in Siem Reap; to the natural, limestone rocks emerging from Halong Bay; or the peaceful nostalgia of Hoi An; or serene Buddhist culture of Luang Prabang.

4. Narrow down the time of year you'd like to travel in

Each season in South East Asia offers different landscapes and seasonal delights. You can expect warm temperatures year-round due to the tropical climate in Cambodia and Vietnam. Read on for our guide to the seasonal changes you can expect when cruising along the Mekong River.

5. Decide how long you'd like to travel

Once you choose either a 7- or 9-night river cruise on the Mekong, decide which seamless land journey to do with your cruise. There are varying durations, so whether you have a lot or a little time, there will be something for you.

A Scenic Spirit, Mekong

B Luang Prabang, Laos



A

SEASONAL GUIDE

While special occasions often decide when you might travel, the weather can also be key in decision-making. You can expect consistent warm temperatures in this tropical climate.

NOVEMBER TO APRIL

The weather is more mild with lower humidity, although expect average temperatures upwards of 30°C. From December to February, Mekong flowers are in bloom and the locals are busy tending to their farms or trading at the markets.

What's On

Vietnamese New Year, known as Tet Nguyen Dan (or Tet), is on the first day of the Lunar new year each February. Expect to see dragon dancing in the streets, fireworks and friends gathering in celebration. Cambodia has its new year in April.

Average daily temperature range

A daily low of 22°C to a high of 31°C.



B

MAY TO OCTOBER

Known as the 'green season', this is when the lush and verdant fields are nourished with intermittent monsoonal rain. Rains last for short bursts, usually in the late afternoon. The floating markets are a sight to behold as vegetables and fruits are plentiful between June and July.

What's On

Tet-Trung-Thu, or the Mid-Autumn (Harvest) Festival in Vietnam marks an important time for families and children. There is a festive buzz with flowers decorating the streets, twinkling lights and street vendors selling mooncakes.

Average daily temperature range

A daily low of 26°C to a daily high of 34°C.

A Flower Farm, Sa Dec, Vietnam

B Rice farms, Mekong Delta, Vietnam

CHOOSE YOUR RIVER CRUISE

7- AND 9-NIGHT RIVER CRUISES

From sightseeing in vibrant towns to enjoying the surrounds of the 5-star Scenic Spirit with only 68 guests on board, there is much to experience during your Mekong river cruise.

7-night river cruises

- Available October to May
- Scenic Spirit will cruise to the next location late in the evening and arrive at the next location around midnight
- You will wake to a new location each day

TOP TIP:

Book in your wellness or beauty treatments^ when you embark Scenic Spirit as they are very popular and do fill up.

9-night river cruises

- Available July to October, plus periodically in peak season
- Explore the same locations as the 7-night river cruise but at a slower pace with more time to relax and enjoy the on board experience
- Scenic Spirit moves to the next location generally around lunch time. A lazy afternoon of cruising is a highlight of the 9-night itinerary. Just before dusk, Scenic Spirit will generally arrive and you can observe life on the river winding down for the day. Rise early to see the full cycle of river life in one location, having seen dusk the evening before

^Additional cost applies.

- A Scenic Spirit
- B Pool and Bar, Scenic Spirit
- C Massage, Scenic Spirit



A



B



C

WHERE WE JOURNEY

It's more than just cruising. It's an immersive journey through the wonders of South East Asia.

Discover where you can explore with Scenic and decide which itinerary is the one for you.



Cruise the Mekong during these itineraries

Take a 7-night cruise or a relaxed-paced 9-night cruise. Choose from 15 different itineraries, varying in duration so you can explore beyond the Mekong into Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

THE MEKONG RIVER CAMBODIA AND SOUTHERN VIETNAM

The Mekong River basin includes seven regions that are divided into the Upper and Lower Mekong River. Your 7- or 9-night river cruise explores the lower Mekong River between My Tho in Vietnam's Mekong Delta to Kampong Cham, Cambodia.

Must see

The floating markets of the Mekong Delta have a lively, vibrant Vietnamese atmosphere. Board a wooden boat called a sampan to be immersed in the bustling trading up-close.

Secret spot

In Angkor Ban, Scenic will take you to see the historic wooden houses of these riverside villages that survived the destruction of the Khmer Rouge regime. Meet with a school teacher who tutors English to local school children.

Scenic Enrich exclusive moment

- In Wat Hanchey or Angkor Ban, receive a blessing from a monk and learn how to pray in a Buddhist pagoda. Join an alms ceremony, which contributes to the daily meal of the monks.
- Revel in our Phnom Penh by City Lights tour, giving you an insight into the nightlife of the capital before stopping at the city's only rum distillery for an exclusive tour and tasting.

A Rum distillery, Phnom Penh



SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA

Siem Reap is encircled by ancient ruins, including the temples of Angkor, of the once prosperous Khmer empire. Travellers looking for history, rustic beauty and friendly locals will love this city.

With Scenic

Enjoy a 3-night Scenic Special Stay at the Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor.

Must see

Wander through the ancient, 12th century temple city of Angkor Wat in Siem Reap, the largest Buddhist temple in the world.

Secret spot

Marvel at sunrise over Angkor Wat before moving to a nearby temple for an exclusive champagne breakfast. The food is prepared by a local NGO- supported bakery school.

Exclusive Scenic Enrich experience

Under the glow of candlelight at Prasat Kravan, a 10th century temple in the city of Angkor, feast on a three-course meal and free-flow drinks while watching traditional Apsara dancers during a mystical-themed Gala Dinner.



Martin S, Scenic Guest, USA

Explore Siem Reap during these itineraries

All Scenic river cruise and land journeys over 10 days explore Siem Reap.

B Scenic Enrich, Angkor Gala Dinner

HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM

Formerly known as Saigon, this city has a fascinating culture with ornate temples and pagodas, nestled by sparkling skyscrapers. There is a vibrant food scene with cafés, rooftop bars, fine dining and traditional street food.

With Scenic

Stay for two nights at the Caravelle Saigon in District 1.

Must see

Be led by an expert through the moving War Remnants Museum, Cu Chi Tunnels and Reunification Palace to learn about the impacts of the war on the Vietnamese people.

Secret spot

Zip through the streets like a local on the back of a Vespa to learn more about the food culture of Ho Chi Minh City. Stop at local eateries and restaurants and sample a variety of flavourful local street foods.



Explore Ho Chi Minh City
during these itineraries

All Scenic river cruise and land journeys of 14 days
or more explore Ho Chi Minh City.

A Notre Dame Basilica, Ho Chi Minh City
B Vespa city tour, Ho Chi Minh City



HOI AN, VIETNAM

A living museum, Hoi An is home to temples, colourful shophouses and ancient canals. By night, the magical riverside is lit by colourful lanterns.

With Scenic

Stay for three nights at Almanity Hoi An Resort & Spa, which includes a daily spa treatment as part of your stay.

Must see

Be immersed in the cuisine of Vietnam. From Quang's Kitchen Restaurant, styled on an ancient house, to The Field Hoi An Restaurant and Bar in the middle of rice paddies, you will be spoilt for choice.

Secret spot

Make a traditional lantern at the 'Reaching Out to the Community' NGO in town.



HUE, VIETNAM

Hue is the former Imperial capital. It still resonates the glories of the dynastic era at the Imperial Citadel and royal tombs.

With Scenic

Stay overnight at Senna Hue Hotel.

Must see

Wander through the grandeur of Hue's Imperial Citadel and the Mausoleum of Emperor Tu Duc.

Exclusive Scenic Enrich experience

In Hue, cuisine is not only an art but also a culture. Sit down to a Royal Dinner held in a traditional private garden house accompanied by Hue Royal Court music.

C Hoi An, Vietnam

D Imperial Palace, Hue, Vietnam

Explore Hoi An & Hue during these itineraries

24 or 26 Day Essence of Vietnam, Cambodia & Luxury Mekong

27 or 29 Day Grand Indochina & Luxury Mekong

HANOI, VIETNAM

Located in the north, the capital of Vietnam, Hanoi is one of the world's most ancient capitals.

With Scenic

Enjoy a 2-night Scenic Special Stay at Sofitel Legend Metropole. Included is a tour of the historic hotel bunker.

Must see

A Vespa street food tour of Hanoi is a must-do for those who want to taste the delights and culture of the city.

Secret spot

The ancient village of Bat Trang is a traditional porcelain and pottery community. Learn about the intricate artform during an interactive workshop, meet an elder and learn to make Bánh Cuon or rice pancakes.

Exclusive Scenic Enrich experience

Learn the secrets of Hanoi's famous Water Puppets performance thanks to your special backstage pass.

HALONG BAY, VIETNAM

Some 1,600 islets make up the 'descending dragon' limestone karsts that rise from the emerald waters.

With Scenic

Scenic has partnered with Au Co to offer a 2-night Scenic Special Stay cruise of Halong Bay.

Must see

The karst islands during Scenic Sunset Drinks are extraordinary.

Secret spot

Explore further into Halong Bay to peaceful areas, Cat Ba Island, and access stalactite-filled caves without the need to change boats.

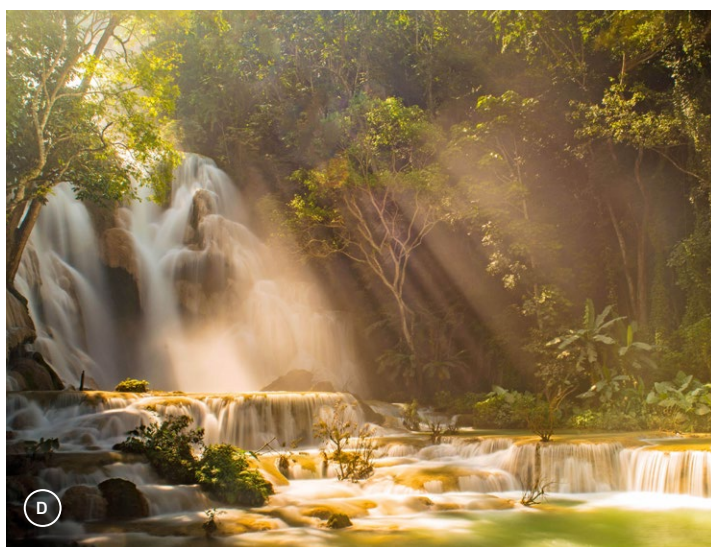


Explore Hanoi & Halong Bay during these itineraries

20 or 22 Day Highlights of Vietnam, Cambodia & Luxury Mekong

24 or 26 Day Essence of Vietnam, Cambodia & Luxury Mekong

27 or 29 Day Grand Indochina & Luxury Mekong



Explore Laos during these itineraries

18 or 20 Day Journey along the Mekong

27 or 29 Day Grand Indochina and Luxury Mekong

LAOS

Laos, the only landlocked country in South East Asia, is bordered by Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, China and Myanmar. While Vientiane is the capital and Vang Vieng the natural beauty, it's the UNESCO World Heritage-listed city of Luang Prabang, the former royal capital, home to a strong Buddhist culture, that draws visitors with its authentic charm. It is more town than city, with French colonial architecture, lush greenery, outstanding restaurants and shopping.

Must see

Rise early to join the morning alms ceremony. This long-standing tradition in Luang Prabang takes place daily as the sun rises. Around 200 Buddhist monks walk from local temples to gather their daily meal.

Secret spot

An included tour is to the magical Kuang Si waterfall, a 29km drive from Luang Prabang. The falls, which drop from a height of 50 metres, cascade into tiered limestone pools at the base which you can also swim in.

Scenic Enrich exclusive moment

Take part in a traditional Baci ceremony - 'calling of the soul'. This ancient ritual calls on what the Laotians believe are the guardian spirits of each of the body's 32 organs – with the aim of promoting balance, peace and harmony.

- A Sofitel Metropole Pool, Hanoi, Vietnam
- B Halong Bay, Vietnam
- C Morning Alms, Luang Prabang, Laos
- D Kuang Si Waterfalls, Laos

THE SCENIC SPIRIT EXPERIENCE

With a maximum of 68 guests, the 5-star Scenic Spirit represents a stylish connection between South East Asian traditions and modern innovation. It will be a luxurious oasis in which to relax in between explorations.



A Small Ship Experience

Scenic Spirit was purpose-built for cruising along the Mekong River, known for its varying tidal patterns. Scenic fully owns and operates Scenic Spirit, unlike some other cruise companies who need to charter their ships in this region. This gives us maximum control, flexibility and an overarching attention to detail to ensure we deliver an unrivalled 5-star, truly all-inclusive river cruise to the exacting standards our guests expect on any of our cruises, anywhere in the world.

On board, you'll find that there's an incredible amount of space not only in your suite, but in the shared public spaces too. There are many zones where you can relax and make yourself at home. Unpack just once and personalise your options in your luxurious suite, including selecting your premium beverages for your mini-bar and choosing the ideal type of pillow from the pillow menu.





C

Scenic Spirit Fast Facts

Built: 2016
 Length: 85 metres
 Guests: 68
 Crew: 56

Royal Panorama Suites with private terrace:
 Two on Diamond Deck (80m²)

Grand Deluxe Suites with Scenic Sun Lounge:
 Eight on Diamond Deck (40m²)

Deluxe Suites with Scenic Sun Lounge:
 24 across three decks (32m²)

Truly all-inclusive luxury on the Mekong

- 5-star boutique Scenic Spirit with only 68 guests
- All one-bedroom balcony suites with separate living room, walk-in wardrobe and Scenic Sun Lounge
- An almost 1:1 staff-to-guest ratio and butler service for all guests
- All meals on board with up to four dining options, from casual to fine dining
- Complimentary international beverages all day, every day^ during your river cruise
- Wellness Centre and fitness area
- Self-service laundry facilities
- Scenic trained expert on board team
- Outstanding standards of service, health and hygiene
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- All tipping is included in the price you pay upfront for on board crew and also onshore guides

A Scenic Spirit Lounge

B Royal Panorama Suite

C Dressing Room, Royal Panorama Suite

D Captain's Table, Scenic Spirit

^ All beverages are included except for a very small number of fine and vintage wines, champagnes and spirits.



D

MEET THE TEAM

At your service

From the moment you step on board Scenic Spirit, consider yourself at home. You will receive exemplary service: from your Cruise Director through to the housekeeping staff.



Cruise Director

Acting as one of your main points of contact during your cruise, there is no detail too small that your Cruise Director can't handle. This expert position takes care of all arrangements for your excursions plus your suite and public spaces such as dining venues.

Tour Director

Your Tour Director is with you from arrival to departure including on your river cruise. They are your travel guide, storyteller, art expert and historian rolled into one.

Culinary team and bar staff

Our friendly bar staff will soon come to know your beverage preferences, even before you've asked for your morning double-shot espresso or late-night single malt whisky. An expert team of chefs prepare all meals with the freshest ingredients across a choice of four on board dining venues.

Wellness and fitness staff

While a cruise is a time to have fun, relax and indulge a little, the Wellness Coach is your go-to friend to support you in maintaining your wellbeing and fitness goals.

Butlers

Guests in all suites enjoy butler service. These friendly, discreet and attentive professionals take pride in remembering your preferences and tastes, stocking your mini-bar with your favourite beverages. They also help you unpack, book a beauty treatment* or arrange in-suite dining. *Different suite-types have access to different services from their butler so please check the back of our most recent brochure for details.*

Housekeeping

Scenic's thorough housekeeping team have a high attention to detail for every corner of your luxury suite.

A Scenic Spirit

B Cruise Director, Scenic Spirit

C Butler

D Crystal Dining

*Additional cost applies.



CHOOSING YOUR SUITE

When it comes to selecting a suite, your home-away-from-home on the water, it's not only your budget you'll want to consider.

Some travellers like to choose a particular deck, style of suite or location on the ship, depending on their needs.

Here we look more closely at the differences in our suite categories to help you decide the best fit for you. Keep in mind that no matter which suite you choose, you will receive butler service, a mini-bar restocked daily with your favourite beverages, a Scenic Slumber Bed and luxurious bathroom amenities.



WATCH
NOW





If you'd like a suite close to or further from public spaces

On Jewel Deck, you will be closer to Crystal Dining and the library. On Sapphire Deck, you will have easy access to the Spirit Lounge for a relaxing drink, and the River Café. A suite positioned on the Diamond Deck means you will be close to the pool and bar.

Royal Panorama Suites benefit from a quieter location at the front of the ship. They provide stunning panoramic views of the unfolding landscape and are furthest from the bar, lounge and restaurants. If you have mobility needs, you may prefer a suite located close to the ship's elevator.



If you want extra benefits

Stay in the Royal Panorama Suites or Grand Deluxe Suites to receive extra benefits such as unlimited complimentary laundry service, a complimentary welcome bottle of champagne (750ml), beverage and meal service in your private suite, packing and unpacking your luggage, US\$100 per suite on board credit for use in the wellness centre and private transfers. You will also stay in the Club Floor rooms in Ho Chi Minh City and Landmark rooms in Raffles Grand D'Angkor in Siem Reap.



If you want maximum space and luxury

If you are celebrating a special occasion or just want to experience the ultimate in luxury, our Royal Panorama Suites will ensure your Mekong river cruise will be as luxurious as it is memorable. With an outdoor Jacuzzi on your private terrace, and the best 180° views from the bow of the ship, they are the ultimate sanctuary.

Please refer to the deckplans for Scenic Spirit to select the preferred suite location for you.

- A Royal Panorama Suite, Scenic Spirit
- B Panorama Suite Bathroom, Scenic Spirit
- C Royal Panorama Suite Outdoor Terrace, Scenic Spirit
- D Deluxe Suite, Scenic Spirit

CULINARY HIGHLIGHTS

Awaken your gourmet senses

A journey through South East Asia is almost certainly guaranteed to pique the interest and curiosity of epicureans.



Scan the QR code to learn more about the Scenic Spirit dining experiences





Onshore Delights

- Discover Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi's street food during a night tour on a vintage Vespa
- Learn to make Bánh Cuon (rice pancakes), a specialty dish of northern Vietnam
- Travel by remork to Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh for afternoon High Tea
- Join an interactive Khmer cooking demonstration at a local food market
- In Phnom Penh, visit a rum distillery after-hours for an exclusive tasting
- Indulge in a French-style morning tea at the historic Le Longanier in Cai Be

Tastes to tempt on board

Enjoy variety in your dining options with fine or casual dining available. You may feel like a three-course meal at Crystal Dining, a casual snack at the River Café or a private meal in your suite.

The spacious Spirit Lounge & Bar is the heart of the ship where guests relax by the floor-to-ceiling windows. Tea, coffee, mocktails, cocktails, wines, champagne, beers and spirits are included – all day, every day^.

The dedicated culinary team creates dishes inspired by the regional cuisine. The team sources tropical fruit that can be blended into a refreshing tonic at the juicing station. Chefs draw flavours from the on board herb garden.

For those with a curious streak and a sense of adventure, there are exotic local delicacies expertly prepared by the chefs to try, or you can stick to Western-style favourites prepared with care and finesse.

^All beverages are included except for a very small number of fine and vintage wines, champagnes and spirits.

INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Mini-bar fully restocked daily
- Scenic Sunset Drinks in iconic locations
- Scenic Freechoice Dining during your land journey

- A Culinary Team, Scenic Spirit
- B Scenic Spirit dining
- C Crystal Dining, Scenic Spirit
- D Captain's Table, Scenic Spirit

IMMERSIVE SIGHTSEEING AT YOUR OWN PACE

During a South East Asia river cruise and land journey with Scenic, enjoy immersive and enriching experiences. Best of all, you can tailor and personalise many activities to a pace that suits you and focus on your areas of interest. All onshore Scenic Freechoice activities and Scenic Enrich exclusive events are included.



Scan the QR code
to watch a
timelapse of
our Gala
Temple Dinner



Explore your way

The guided sightseeing program is known as Scenic Freechoice – so named because it gives you the ultimate freedom to choose activities that interest you and are at the right pace for you – active, moderate or relaxed.

You might be drawn to a local village tour one day, and cooking class the next. After an active day exploring a village by bicycle, you may opt for a relaxed-paced cultural experience the next.

Take your front row seat

At specially curated events, you'll take a front row seat at a Scenic Enrich exclusive experience. Available only to guests of Scenic, these once-in-a-lifetime moments will become the highlight of your journey.

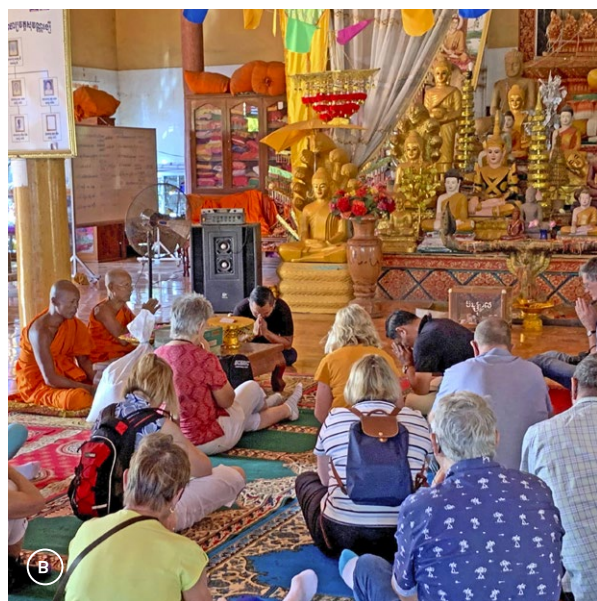
In various settings throughout Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos, including ancient temples and traditional performances, you'll enjoy after-hours access, away from the crowds, and be treated to culturally enriching moments that display local traditions and folklore.

Bring your camera, as you'll want to capture memories to last a lifetime.

A Gala Dinner, Angkor temple, Cambodia

B Monk Blessing, Angkor Ban

C Phare, The Cambodian Circus



Top Scenic Enrich moments:

- A mystical-themed Gala Dinner in front of candlelit temple ruins in Siem Reap
- Sunrise champagne breakfast at a temple near Angkor Wat
- Premium VIP seats at Phare, The Cambodian Circus, founded to help young people develop careers in the arts
- Receive a blessing from a Buddhist monk and contribute to the alms of the resident monks
- Phnom Penh by City Lights tour with an exclusive tasting at the city's only rum distillery
- A backstage pass to Hanoi's Water Puppets to learn the secrets of this traditional performance
- A Royal Dinner in Hue, held in a traditional garden house
- A traditional Baci ceremony in Luang Prabang, part of an ancient Laotian tradition



HISTORIC HIGHLIGHTS

The allure of a journey through South East Asia lies in its rich tapestry of history and eastern traditions that stretches back millennia.

It's everywhere: in the ancient, hand-carved bas-reliefs adorning the walls of Angkor Wat; in Buddhist shrines, pagodas and temples providing solace to locals for centuries; in the narrow laneways coloured with hanging paper lanterns and perfumed by the heady aroma of burning incense; in the music composed centuries ago that is still lovingly performed today; and in the movement of traditional dancers dressed in historic and colourful national costumes.

At Scenic, we are experts at connecting you with authorities in these fields. We have a solid network of local storytellers, historians, archaeologists and well-versed local guides who are subject-matter virtuosos, able to bring to life in vivid detail the mysteries of the past.

Whether it's military history, art, food, culture, religion or architecture that piques your interest, during our broad range of Scenic Freechoice activities and Scenic Enrich events, you will be hosted by knowledgeable guides as you take footsteps into the past. They will help you to understand and more fully appreciate South East Asian sites and events of deep historic significance.





B



Kathleen D, Scenic Guest, USA

C

- A Angkor Wat, Cambodia
- B My Son, Hoi An, Vietnam
- C Old Town, Hoi An, Vietnam
- D Killing Fields, Cambodia

Historic moments with Scenic

- Tour the sacred and ancient temple complex of Angkor Wat – enjoying a vibrant sunrise or perhaps taking a tethered balloon ride to view its remaining network of structures from the sky
- Explore Vietnam’s capital of Hanoi and be guided on tours through its historic Presidential Palace, History Museum and its first university, the Temple of Literature
- Tour the Cambodian Killing Fields and take a guided and emotional visit to Tuol Sleng in Phnom Penh – a former school that was overtaken by the Khmer Rouge and used as a prisoner camp
- Visit the War Museum and Reunification Palace in Ho Chi Minh City to learn more about the Vietnam/America war
- Visit the network of tunnels in Cu Chi in which the Viet Cong moved through during the height of the conflict
- Take a guided tour of the ancient temple ruins of My Son, outside of UNESCO town, Hoi An
- Meander through the ruins of the Imperial Citadel in Hue, Vietnam



D

CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS

Explore tradition and religion

With kingdoms and empires that date back thousands of years, as well as the influence of foreign occupation, the people of Cambodia and Vietnam take extraordinary pride in their layered heritage, tradition and culture.

As you tour the villages and cities, there may well appear to be similarities from place to place, but by looking more closely through the trained lens of expert local guides, you'll soon come to understand what makes each destination unique where locals hold onto their own customs.

Observe it in the flavours of the foods you'll eat; the architectural details of its buildings that span various periods; the traditional dress of locals; the varying religions and houses of worship; and the history of a region that underpins the attitudes and personality of its people.

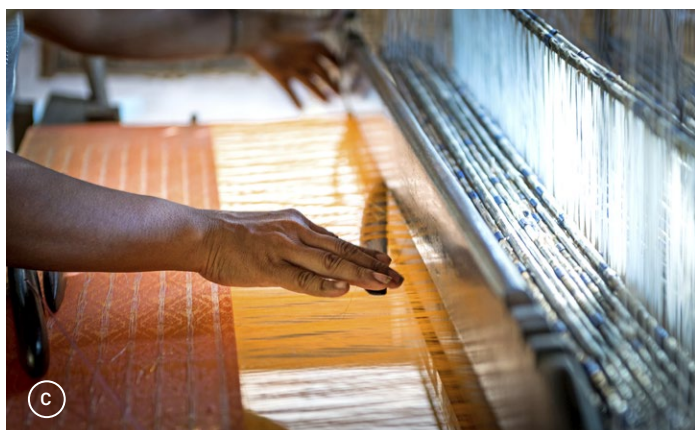
Only by exploring with an expert, with a deep understanding of each of destination, can you experience a heightened sense of place and appreciation of provenance.

Scenic Freechoice excursions and exclusive Scenic Enrich experiences are curated to showcase culturally significant and interesting venues, practices, traditions, and art forms.



Cultural moments with Scenic

- Learn about the art of silk weaving at Kon Dach Island
- From the seat of a remark, explore the colonial buildings in Phnom Penh and visit its bustling Central Market
- Visit community enterprise operations in various locations, including an NGO bakery in Siem Reap and an NGO restaurant in Phnom Penh teaching local youth hospitality skills
- Visit the riverside village of Kho Chen, known for their silver and copper smithing arts, a craft which has been passed down through generations
- Visit Senteurs d'Angkor workshop to try your hand at producing your own local souvenir including natural cosmetics, scented balms, aromatic candles and local spices
- Meet with monks at an ancient hilltop monastery in Wat Hanchey
- Meet with the team at Reaching Out, an NGO established to provide opportunities for people with disabilities. Join a lantern making class at their workshop located in an old merchant house



- A Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- B Wat Hanchey, Cambodia
- C Silk weaving at Kon Dach Island
- D Wat Hanchey Monks, Cambodia



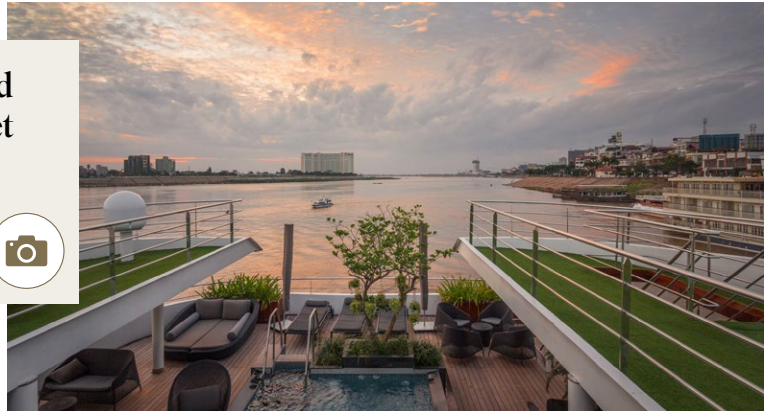
MY MEKONG RIVER CRUISE WITH SCENIC

At Scenic, we strive to make every moment of your journey truly spectacular.

We would love to see your own moments of Scenic Wonder. Share your journey images on Facebook @ScenicUK and Instagram @scenic.luxurycruisestours and tag #ScenicWonder.

“Cruising the Mekong aboard a luxury Scenic ship at sunset is a serene, not to be missed, experience.”

Francis B, Scenic Guest, UK



“We had the most wonderful trip of a lifetime on board the 5-star Scenic Spirit, everything was perfect.”

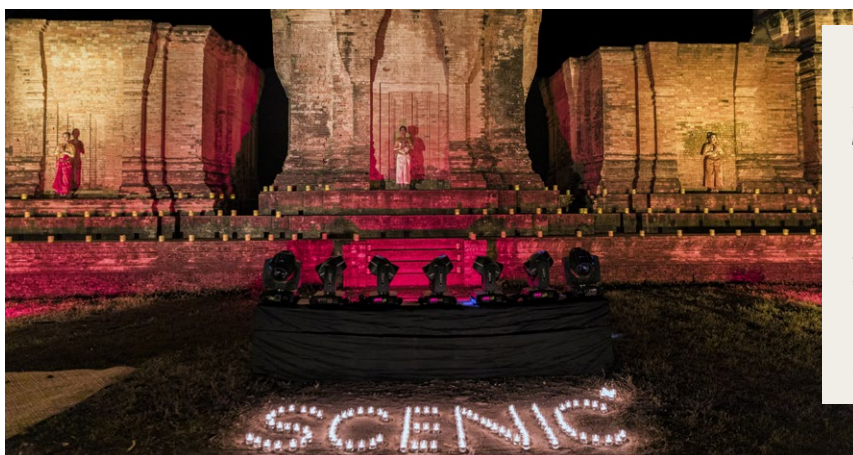
David G, Scenic Guest, UK



“The beautiful crew on Scenic Spirit going beyond, as always.”

Jeannette W, Scenic Guest, Australia





“Truly spectacular night at Kravan Temple in Siem Reap . . . only for guests of Scenic. Memory of a lifetime.”

Robert L,
Scenic Guest, USA



“Our blessing ceremony at Hanchey Temple, Cambodia, on Feb. 21, 2018, was a moving, life-changing experience. Two young monks-in-training graciously posed for this memorable picture.”

Dianne M, Scenic Guest, USA



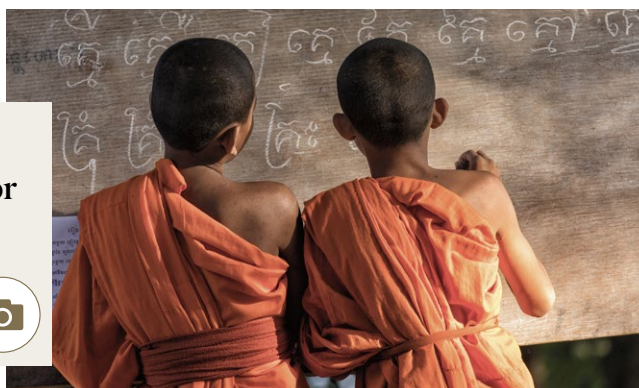
“While visiting one of many beautiful temples in Siem Reap, a shy boy peeked out to watch us.”

Robert L, Scenic Guest, USA



“Visiting another amazing temple in Cambodia, we came across an outdoor class for young monks. Truly heartwarming.”

Cindy L, Scenic Guest, USA



HOW TO BOOK YOUR SOUTH EAST ASIA JOURNEY

Are you feeling enthused and ready to set sail? At Scenic, we strive to make the booking process as seamless as possible for our valued guests. Here is some useful information for booking your journey to South East Asia.

When is the best time to book?

Certain river cruise itineraries are universally popular and can sell out quickly, as can suite categories. Offers are subject to availability, so booking early ensures you receive the best offer.

It's often best to book as soon as availability allows – which can be 12-18 months prior to travel. If you wish to travel in just a few weeks' time, it's no problem – we will work with you or your travel agent to find an itinerary, date and suite.





Visit the Scenic website to:

- Peruse detailed information about Scenic Spirit and our South East Asia itineraries
- Download or order your free brochure
- Read our latest articles for travel inspiration
- Watch our videos to learn more about the Scenic Difference and our destinations
- View our special offers, available to suit all travel styles. There are options for solo travellers, groups of ten or more, and for those wishing to book two or more river cruises together

Find a Specialist Travel Agent

Many in our network of Scenic Specialist agents have experienced a Mekong river cruise with Scenic personally, so they know exactly why a Scenic river cruise is in a class of its own.

Visit scenic.co.uk, enter your postcode and you will be directed to the agent nearest you. Whether you book directly with Scenic or through a travel agent, pricing is the same.



Join Scenic Club - It's Complimentary

Take your place among like-minded travellers by joining the Scenic Club loyalty program. Once you have travelled on any Scenic ocean, river or land journey, you automatically become a member of Scenic Club. The more travel you complete with Scenic, the greater your member rewards.

Visit scenic.co.uk/scenicclub



WHAT TO PACK

A guide to what to wear and take to South East Asia

Whichever time of year you choose for your journey through South East Asia, this preparation guide will help ensure that you have a comfortable and relaxing journey.

One of the best things about taking a river cruise is that you only need to unpack once. There are no dress codes or formal black tie nights. Cool, casual and comfortable by day and in the evening if you wish, smart casual is a good guideline as some guests like to get changed and a little dressed up for dinner or Scenic Enrich events.

Scenic Spirit has a self-service laundry so you can pack light. **Here are some of the essentials:**



Comfortable walking shoes

You'll need a sturdy and comfortable pair of walking shoes. Be sure to 'break in' new shoes prior to your travel to avoid blisters.

Casual clothes that can be layered

The weather year-round is warm and tropical. Breathable, natural and lighter fabrics such as cotton, linen or moisture-wicking are advisable. Most guests opt for casual pants and a top. Dress respectfully when visiting temples – cover the knees and shoulders with longer skirts, shorts or dresses. Sometimes head coverings are required so also pack a scarf or sarong.

Lightweight waterproof parka or raincoat

Pack a hooded, light, waterproof jacket for your onshore adventures. Tropical, monsoon rains can descend at any time – although they don't tend to last too long.

A secure day-bag

Have a secure, small day bag. It's handy for all your smaller items including wallet, hat, sunscreen, camera and water bottle.

We supply each guest with a Scenic drink bottle

Receive your insulated Scenic water bottle when you embark Scenic Spirit and refill it during your journey at one of our filtered water stations.



Mosquito repellent

Tropical weather attracts mosquitoes, especially in the evenings. Be sure to pack mosquito repellent with Deet to protect you or wear long sleeved cotton shirts.

Smart casual evening wear

In the evening, some dress in smarter attire. Male guests may pack lightweight, collared shirts; and women smart dresses or slacks – especially for Scenic Enrich events or if dining at the Chef's Table for Diamond Deck guests. While it's not expected, if you like to dress up a little to dine, then please do.

Workout gear

You may choose to start your day may start with gentle stretching, or a session in the fitness centre – so be sure to pack suitable workout gear.

Swimwear

You may be enticed to take a dip in the refreshing Vitality Pool on warm afternoons floating along the Mekong, so be sure to pack your swimwear.

Hat and sunscreen

Pack a wide-brimmed hat (preferably one that is foldable); or at the very least, a baseball cap. It will come in handy during your excursions when in the outdoor spaces of Scenic Spirit. Also pack a high SPF sunscreen.

Camera

Consider a good quality camera, including all equipment such as spare batteries, charger, protective case and memory cards. Even if you're using a smartphone, it's wise to have a back-up camera just in case.

Adaptors

As the plug sockets are different in South East Asia, a universal adaptor plug will be required. Your suite has USB ports for charging. Don't forget to pack your charging cables for all devices as well.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Scan the QR codes below and learn more from our latest articles and videos.



A small ship experience on the Mekong River

You can expect impeccable service, enriching moments, world-class dining and a personalised river cruise.

Read Now



Selecting your suite on Scenic Spirit

Let us guide you through the options available to you from suite types, locations and perks.

Read Now



Five reasons to choose Scenic

Learn why an unrivalled Mekong experience awaits when you explore this magical region with Scenic.

Read Now



Visit our video gallery and discover the Scenic View

Learn more about Scenic Spirit, Scenic Enrich events, Scenic Freechoice activities, destinations and more.

Watch Now



EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

Scenic takes guests to more than 60 countries across every continent.



Venture into the world's vast oceans on board the 6-star, ultra-luxury Scenic Eclipse, The World's First Discovery Yachts™. Explore all seven continents, from Antarctica to the Arctic, Americas, Japan, Europe and the Mediterranean, Australia and the Pacific. Scenic Eclipse sets the benchmark in ultra-luxury ocean cruising, taking guests further by soaring above the horizon in our on board helicopters for aerial flightseeing, or below the waters in our submarine, Scenic Neptune.

Enjoy a 5-star truly all-inclusive river cruise along the historic waterways of Europe on board a Scenic Space-Ship. From the castles of the Rhine to the rivers of France and Portugal – there is a river cruise to suit everyone. You can seamlessly pair most cruises with a city stay, extension or land journey.

Scenic's handcrafted escorted land journeys represent how it all began for the company over 37 years ago. Explore destinations such as Australia, New Zealand, Europe, Egypt, Japan, Africa and Canada.

So, where can we take you next?





SCENIC°

Call 0808 239 6623

Visit scenic.co.uk

Contact your local Travel Agent

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