



HALONG BAY | VIETNAM

# THE DRAGON PASSAGE

2 DAYS | 1 NIGHT

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This classic two-day and one night cruise along the "ancient playground of the dragons" offers memorable sights and sounds captured in an unforgettable journey through thousands of limestone formations.

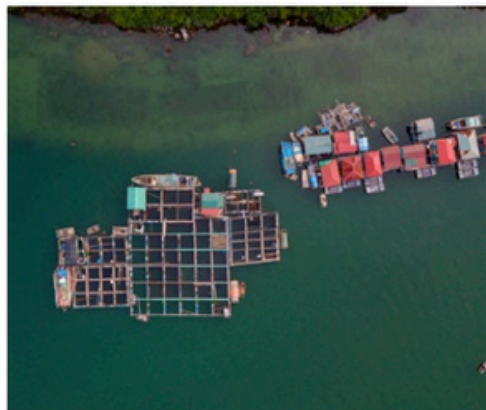


## DAY 1

## MARINA - FISHING VILLAGE - CAVE



Embark on an enchanting Halong Bay journey as you acquaint yourself with the amenities on board our vessel. Witness the breath-taking scenery from the sun deck during our initial hours of cruising. Start our journey with a pass by Cua Van Relic, a former floating fishing village in Halong Bay, where fishermen once used it as a base for their fishing and aquacultural activities. Glide through this serene area in a small bamboo boat rowed by locals, offering a glimpse into the village and understand how once whole families used to live on water here. For the more active ones, take a kayak and paddle around the floating hamlet for a very personal exploration (complimentary only for 2-night stays).



Next, we transfer by tender to Tien Ong cave, providing evidence of human civilization dating back to 10,000 – 8,000 BC. This small cave provides some fascinating understandings of Halong Bay's geological history.

Returning to the ship, we sail to the overnight mooring area, where the "blue hour" unveils Halong Bay's magical beauty. Relax on the sun deck with your favourite drink, absorbing the tranquil moment. Engage in a cooking class with our chef, practicing classic Vietnamese recipes to impress your loved ones at home later.

As evening descends, a multi-course à la carte dinner is served. If you like, join in later for an on-board presentation about the bay's unique features and secrets. Alternatively, try your hand at squid fishing with our staff for a delightful and entertaining experience. Spend the rest of the evening embracing the magical landscapes in the heart of Halong

Bay, where once upon a time, sparkling jewels cascaded from heavenly dragons. **DINING: L, D**

**DAILY INSIGHT:** As film director, Jordan Vogt-Roberts, states, "When I first came here, I immediately fell in love and told myself that it was my purpose to shoot the film here in Halong Bay. The place is really special and marvelous." The unique beauty of the bay has drawn many foreign filmmakers to Halong. Some of the more notable movies include French film Indochine (1992), James Bond: Tomorrow Never Dies (1997), Pan (2015), and the latest box office hit from Vogt-Roberts, Kong: Skull Island (2017), which has brought a recent influx of visitors to the splendour of Halong Bay.

## DAY 2

## TI TOP ISLAND - MARINA



For early risers, tea, coffee and pastries are available in the dining room and a Tai Chi class is offered on the sun deck to awaken your mind and muscles.


We set sail to the small "Ti Top Island". Formerly named Cat Nang, the island received a name change after former president Ho Chi Minh and the second man to orbit the Earth, Russian astronaut 'Gherman Titov', toured Halong Bay together in 1962. Since the cosmonaut was so fascinated with this picturesque islet, Uncle Ho would rename the island to honour Mr. Titov and as a gesture of friendship between their two countries.



Once arriving at Ti Top, you can go for a refreshing morning swim on a sandy beach or - if you prefer to be more active - climb 400 steps (20 min.) to the island's top with stunning, panoramic views over the bay. Back on board, you can take a shower and freshen up. Enjoy the final moments of sailing as we head back to the harbour while breakfast is served. Relax on the sun deck or while savouring the last views of this iconic site. **DINING: B**

**DAILY INSIGHT:** One of the Vietnam's most prominent victories against an invading foreign power was in 1287 when Kublai Khan and over 300,000 of his Mongol forces assaulted the northern part of the country. After driving iron-tipped stakes into the water, a small Vietnamese flotilla lured the entire Mongol fleet across Halong Bay as the tide was ebbing, causing all 400 invading marine vessels to sink or burn as the Vietnamese defenders showered them with arrows of fire. Now lacking a navy and the ability to supply their land forces by sea, the Mongol invaders were forced to retreat.



A man wearing a teal long-sleeved shirt and a traditional conical hat stands on a wooden pier. He is holding a net that contains three large oysters. The background shows the iconic limestone karsts of Halong Bay under a clear sky. The man's shirt has a logo and the text "MA LONG PEARL JEWEL" on the left chest.

HALONG BAY

# JEWELS OF HALONG BAY

3 DAYS | 2 NIGHTS

On this three-day and two-night cruise through some rather quieter areas of Halong Bay, guests discover some classic highlights that Halong Bay has to offer.



## DAY 1

## MARINA - CUA CAN VILLAGE - TIEN ONG CAVE



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fishing with our staff for a delightful and entertaining experience. Spend the rest of the evening embracing the magical landscapes in the heart of Halong Bay, where once upon a time, sparkling jewels cascaded from heavenly dragons. **DINING: B, L, D**

**DAILY INSIGHT:** The Cua Van Village also hosts the Cua Van Cultural Center, managed by locals who engage on preserving and sharing the village's history to visitors. The center showcases archaeological artifacts and photographs depicting the former life of the residents here.

## DAY 2

## SUNG SOT CAVE - KAYAKING - PEARL FARM



Awaken to the gentle waves and the aroma of freshly brewed coffee, complemented by pastries in the dining room. Engage in the morning Tai Chi class on the sun deck for a harmonious start amid the scenic surroundings. Embark on the day boat outing to explore the some truly unique sights of Halong Bay. During the sailing to our first stop, the impressive Sung Sot Cave, breakfast is served on our day boat. Spanning 10,000 square meters, Sung Sot features two



chambers with the outer one adorned with stalactite chandeliers and the inner chamber known as the grand "opera house." Marvel at the pond, plant life, and stunning rock formations crafted over millions of years. We had back to the boat for some relaxing time before you have the chance to explore the marine landscape by kayak. The cliffs stretch vertically out of the water and you feel a sense of freedom while meandering through this green medley of water and tree-topped

islets. Continue the journey to a floating pearl farm, where you'll discover the intricate process of cultivating, harvesting, and processing various pearls. Witness a skilled technician delicately implanting seeds into oysters. Although the odds are low, successful outcomes yield beautiful gemstones after several years. Sail back to the mothership to return to your suite offering time for sunbathing, spa, or embracing the captivating "blue hour" on the open deck.

After dinner you have another chance to join the crew for a funny squid fishing activity or you just recline on a lounge, absorbing the serenity of Halong Bay before retiring for the night. **DINING: B, L, D**

**DAILY INSIGHT:** Sung Sot received its moniker after French explorers discovered the cavern in 1901. After entering the second of the cave's two chambers, they were so astonished by its size and beauty they named it "Grotto des Surprises", or "Cave of Surprises".

## DAY 3

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