



University of Illinois
Alumni Association

 **Duration**
14 days

 **Activity Level**
Active Travel

 **Journey Type**
Land
River
Small Group



Treasures of Southeast Asia

November 10-24, 2027

Thailand, Cambodia & Vietnam | Starting from \$7,545/pp

Discover the splendors of Southeast Asia on this incredible 12-night journey! You'll tap into the pulse of ancient worlds where mythology and grandeur abound. Experience the captivating spirit, rich history and warm culture of three countries: Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. From Bangkok's colorful canals to Angkor's mystifying ruins to Ha Long Bay's emerald waters, explore magnificent landscapes and sites steeped in cultural heritage and fascinating traditions on this deluxe program.



Day-by-Day Itinerary

Treasures of Southeast Asia

Air Program: 15 days/14 nights (includes 3 air nights)

Land Program: 13 days/12 nights

Breakfasts: 12 | Lunches: 9 | Dinners: 4 | Receptions: 1

B | L | D denotes included breakfasts, lunches, receptions and dinners.

- A special note about air: AHI FlexAir passengers may depart on Day 1 or Day 2, depending on their individual flight itinerary. Once your flights are confirmed, your flight schedule will be emailed to you. If you have purchased only the Land Program, please book flights that arrive on Day 3, the first day of the Land Program. The date is listed at the top of your Reservation Confirmation.
- This itinerary is subject to change due to operational conditions.
- Activity Level ratings indicate each excursion's physical expectations. To make the best personal choice, please evaluate each excursion's rating and your ability to meet the tour's physical demands. Excursions on this program require: walking on unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces; and getting on/off motor coaches and boats.

Mild: Walk under 1 mile on mainly flat terrain; navigate under 50 stairs; stand under 1 hour

Moderate: Walk 1-3 miles on flat/uneven terrain; navigate 50-100 stairs; stand 1-2 hours

Active: Walk 2+ miles on flat/uneven terrain, including up and down inclines; navigate 100+ stairs; stand 3+ hours

- Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available.

Day 1 | Depart gateway city

AHI FlexAir passengers depart for Bangkok, Thailand. Please check your luggage from your gateway city to your arrival city. Your claim checks should have the following airport code: BKK.

Day 2 | In Transit

Cross the international date line.

Day 3 | Bangkok, Thailand

Peninsula Bangkok

R

Arrive at Suvarnabhumi Airport. Proceed through immigration to the baggage claim area and retrieve your luggage. After completing customs, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for the group arrival transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer should exit the baggage claim area and proceed to the designated meeting spot, where an AHI Travel representative will meet you. The meeting location will be provided with your final documents.

Transfer to the deluxe Peninsula Hotel Bangkok. Please note, if you arrive before check-in time, your room may not be immediately available.

This evening at a Welcome Reception, meet your fellow travelers and raise a glass to your Southeast Asian adventure! Then make your own plans for dinner. Tonight, and throughout the program, your Travel Director is happy to make dining recommendations and sightseeing suggestions for your free time.

Day 4 | Bangkok

Peninsula Bangkok

B | L | D

This morning, and every morning of the program, enjoy a delicious, included breakfast.

Enrichment: Thailand's History & Culture. Learn about this nation's fascinating history and culture during a discussion with a local expert.

Bangkok Highlights. From the pier at your hotel, board a private boat for a cruise along the Chao Phraya River and Thonburi canals. En route to Bangkok Klong, make a photo stop at the Temple of Dawn. During your cruise, take in the colorful river life, which starkly contrasts the frenzied activity of the modern metropolis of Bangkok. Enjoy views of the riverbanks, full of wooden homes atop stilts, colonial buildings and a vibrant local market. Bangkok merchants still use the canals to travel and transport their merchandise throughout the city.

Conclude your cruise at the Tha Chang pier and continue your exploration of Bangkok during a fun tuk-tuk ride. Glide past family homes, temples and a local market on your way to the Grand Palace, a royal and administrative complex also housing the Emerald Buddha Temple. Dating from the 15th century, this beautifully decorated wat (temple) is one of Thailand's most sacred Buddhist shrines. Next, hop aboard your tuk-tuk to travel to Wat Po to see the reclining Buddha.

Lunch at the Blue Elephant. You'll feel like you are walking back in time as you enter the famed Blue Elephant restaurant. The building that houses the prestigious restaurant was built in 1903 along historic Sathorn Road. Originally the site of the Bombay Department Store, it was restored in 2002 and became the prestigious Blue Elephant Cooking School and Restaurant. Step inside the colonial-style restaurant and take in the Thai-inspired décor that evokes luxury and cultural heritage. Then, indulge in the culinary pleasures of Thai cuisine during lunch here, with offerings ranging from classic Thai dishes to "forgotten recipes" and innovative creations prepared with fresh, local ingredients by skilled chefs.

Free Time: Spend the afternoon at leisure.

Thai Dinner & Cultural Experience. This evening, experience Thailand's rich culture, history and cuisine at the famous Sala Rim Naam restaurant, located on the scenic banks of the Chao Phraya River. Within an elegant Thai pavilion adorned with wood carvings, silk drapes, golden accents and warm lighting, indulge in traditional Thai cuisine, which has evolved through centuries of Eastern and Western influences. Savor the harmonious balance of sweet, sour, salty and spicy flavors as you are captivated by a Thai dance performance. Witness the artistry of classical dances — each telling stories from Thai mythology, history and folklore — by performers dressed in exquisite costumes, adorned with gold accents and intricate headdresses, gracefully moving to the rhythm of traditional Thai instruments.

Day 5 | Bangkok

Peninsula Bangkok

B | L

Ayutthaya. Depart Bangkok this morning for Ayutthaya, stopping in Bang Pa-In. Visit the stunning European-inspired Bang Pa-In Summer Palace complex, originally built in 1632 by King Prasat Thong, making it almost 400 years old. Although abandoned for a period, it was restored and expanded, with most current structures built between 1870 and 1890 by King Chulalongkorn (Rama V). The complex showcases diverse architectural styles, reflecting Thai, Chinese and European influences. The buildings include traditional Thai pavilions, Chinese-style halls and a Thai Buddhist temple that resembles a Gothic church. On the palace grounds, beautiful gardens and lawns, adorned with ornamental plants, flowers and water features, enhance the aesthetic appeal. Tour the palace and stroll the grounds before continuing to the historic UNESCO World Heritage site of Ayutthaya.

Ayutthaya served as the second capital of the Siamese Kingdom, now Thailand, for more than four centuries. It was founded in 1350 by King U Thong, also known as King Ramathibodi I. Burmese forces laid siege to the city in 1766 and ultimately sacked it. It is in ruins today, but it once was a flourishing city that hosted visitors and delegations from around the world. Strolling among the magnificent ruins, one can easily imagine the glorious island city in its prime. The royal family lived in three palaces here, and residents worshipped at some 400 temples. As you explore, you may see massive brick ruins, lion guardian statues, seated Buddha figures and many other captivating artifacts.

Chao Phraya River Cruise. Embark on an enchanting, leisurely cruise along the Chao Phraya River, which flows through the heart of Bangkok. From this unique perspective, take in the city's breathtaking skyline, featuring a mix of modern skyscrapers, traditional temples and historic landmarks. While cruising toward Bangkok, savor lunch served on board as you watch scenes of Thai river life glide by — from the markets, warehouses and shops to magnificent temples and bustling villages.

Free Time: Return to the hotel late this afternoon, relax and have dinner on your own this evening.

Day 6 | Bangkok

B

Peninsula Bangkok

Free Time: Craft your own path during a full day at leisure! Explore the vibrant streets of Bangkok or simply relax by the hotel pool overlooking the Chao Phraya River.

Day 7 | Bangkok | Siem Reap, Cambodia

Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort

B | L

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia. Upon arrival, transfer to the deluxe Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort for lunch and check-in.

Siem Reap. Discover this quaint provincial capital early this afternoon as you tour Siem Reap by tuk-tuk. The city brims with well-preserved colonial buildings, small cafes, souvenir shops, art galleries and more. After your tour, visit an arts and dance center to see demonstrations by local artisans.

Enrichment: The Temples of Angkor. In preparation for your visit tomorrow, join a local expert to learn about Angkor's archaeological sites, including temples and ruins, as well as water features—such as canals, dams, reservoirs and an irrigation system—that demonstrate the engineering prowess of the ancient Khmer Empire. Siem Reap is Cambodia's capital city and the gateway to the culturally significant Angkor. The Angkor period also fostered the rise of Khmer art.

Dinner is at your leisure this evening.

Day 8 | Siem Reap

Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort

B | L

Discover Angkor Wat. Explore the breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage site of Angkor Wat, built in the 12th century. It is the largest temple in the world, and the crown jewel of the temples that sit within the 155-square-mile Angkor Archaeological Park. Built by King Suryavarman II as a Hindu temple dedicated to the god Vishnu, Angkor Wat eventually came to be filled with Buddhist elements as the new religion spread across the empire. The main temple, with its central tower rising to a height of 213 feet, was designed to represent Mount Meru, the home of the gods in Hindu mythology. One of the temple's highlights is the bas-relief murals that depict historical events and various scenes from Hindu mythology. These carvings are considered some of the finest examples of Khmer art.

AHI Connects | Rice Noodles . After exploring Angkor Wat, experience a culinary tradition as a local family welcomes you into their home to show you the secret to making traditional rice noodles, a local specialty.

Free Time. Spend the afternoon at your leisure, exploring Siem Reap on your own.

Cambodian Circus. This evening, hop on another tuk-tuk and head to a thrilling Cambodian Circus. Be mesmerized by the captivating choreography and hypnotic color of a high-energy Phare performance. This hour-long spectacle blends riveting theater with folk music, dance and distinctly Cambodian stories.

Day 9 | Siem Reap | Hanoi, Vietnam

Grand Mercure Hanoi

B

Angkor's Temples. Explore Angkor Thom, a great walled city once home to one million people. Built in the late 12th century, Angkor Thom was the last capital of the Khmer Empire, which ended in the mid-15th century. The Bayon is the imposing temple in the center of the city. Its 54 towers feature carvings of more than 200 smiling faces. Admire the bas-reliefs of epic battles. Then, explore the haunting temples of Ta Prohm, where the roots of massive kapok trees have overtaken the buildings. Built by the same king who directed the construction

of Angkor Thom, this Buddhist monastery was once a powerful religious center serving 80,000 people. After centuries of human neglect, the jungle has claimed the temples, courtyards and paths.

Continue to Thommanon, also situated within Angkor Thom. This small but well-preserved temple reflects the Angkor period's classical Khmer art and architecture. Built during the reign of King Suryavarman II in the early 12th century, around the same time as Angkor Wat, Thommanon was dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva. The temple features exquisite Apsara carvings and bas-reliefs that depict scenes from Hindu mythology. Thommanon is known for its symmetrical layout and design, compact size and elegance of architecture. Its well-proportioned structures include a central sanctuary surrounded by a gallery that resembles the shape of a cross.

Free Time: Return to the hotel for lunch at leisure. Spend the remainder of your final afternoon in Siem Reap in independent exploration.

This evening, fly to Hanoi. Upon arrival, transfer to the deluxe Grand Mercure Hanoi.

Day 10 | Hanoi

Grand Mercure Hanoi

B | L | D

Highlights of Hanoi. This morning, we visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum complex. The tomb is monumental, built of marble, granite and precious wood. Behind the Mausoleum is the simple house where Ho Chi Minh lived and worked. It is made of wood and enjoys a tranquil setting, with a view of a lotus pond. Ho Chi Minh's belongings are on display and visitors can walk up the steps of his house to see his bedroom. Nearby stands the One Pillar Pagoda, a petite, iconic Buddhist monument believed to bring fertility and good fortune, its design inspired by a lotus blossom rising from a pond.

Next, we enjoy an orientation tour of the tree-lined streets of Hanoi, resplendent with French colonial architecture, including the Temple of Literature and the recently restored Opera House. Lunch is included at a local restaurant.

Hanoi Hilton. Take an exclusive guided tour of Hoa Lò Prison, an important historic site in Hanoi. Known to American prisoners of war during the Vietnam War as the "Hanoi Hilton," the former prison now operates as a museum.

Enrichment: Origins of the Second Indochina War. Explore the underlying causes of the Vietnam War, tracing its roots to the collapse of French colonial rule in Indochina, the geopolitical tensions of the Cold War, regional dynamics involving Laos and Cambodia, the rise of Ho Chi Minh, and U.S. military intervention. One of the first Americans to return to Vietnam after the war, Chuck Searcy has dedicated his life to healing its lingering wounds. During this insightful session, he will share personal stories from over three decades of living and working in the country. Through his eyes, you'll gain a deeper understanding of the Vietnamese character, the nation's post-war recovery, and the enduring friendship that has blossomed between former adversaries.

Imperial Citadel of Thang Long. Board a motor coach to travel to Hanoi's ancient seat of power, the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long. Walk through moss-covered gates and among royal relics in this UNESCO World Heritage site. Weave through the tangled lanes of the Old Quarter, where traditional guild streets still bear the names of their wares.

This evening, join the group for an included dinner in one of Hanoi's many superb Vietnamese restaurants.

Day 11 | Hanoi

Grand Mercure Hanoi

B | L

Vietnamese Countryside. Journey through Vietnam's serene landscapes to visit an authentic ancient village, Duong Lam. In this agricultural village of the northern Red River Delta, traditional houses built over one hundred years ago are preserved. A short walk brings you to the village communal house, a fine example of northern Vietnamese architecture where locals worship.

Take an electric buggy ride through winding village lanes and verdant rice fields, appreciating the natural beauty and simplicity of farm life. Then, bicycle to Mia Pagoda to discover the legend of a 17th-century Vietnamese Queen. Inside, you'll find 287 Buddhist statues—more than any other pagoda in Vietnam! Conclude your visit with a tour of a 300-year-old traditional house, where you will enjoy an authentic lunch.

Free Time: Spend the evening at leisure and choose one of Hanoi's culinary gems for dinner.

Elective Activity: Hanoi Cultural Exploration: Dinner & Jazz. Tonight, enjoy an unhurried evening centered on fine dining and live music, offering a unique perspective on Hanoi's culinary and cultural scene. The evening begins with a transfer from the hotel to a restored French colonial villa, where the four-course dinner features traditional Vietnamese recipes, presented with a refined, modern touch. Afterward, a cyclo ride passes through softly lit streets and past key landmarks, offering a close view of the city's architectural contrasts, followed by a short walk to a tucked-away venue in the Old Quarter. The evening concludes with a live jazz performance in an intimate setting, where local and international influences come together. Available at an additional cost.

Day 12 | Hanoi | Cruising Ha Long Bay

Bhaya Soul

B | L | D

This morning, check out of the hotel and enjoy a three-hour panoramic drive through Vietnam's tranquil countryside to the iconic Ha Long Bay, where you will embark your ship.

Ha Long Bay. Sail through breathtaking Ha Long Bay, often regarded as Vietnam's Eighth Wonder of the World. Admire stunning limestone islands, many covered with lush greenery, rising from emerald waters. About 3,000 striking limestone formations, including outcroppings, cliffs, arches and coves, create a uniquely beautiful natural landscape. On our cruise, we drift through waters whose name means "Where the Dragon Descends into the Sea." We will stop at an islet, disembark, and explore a series of stunning caves and grottoes, admiring some of the most remarkable stalactite and stalagmite formations anywhere in the world.

Enjoy a tasty lunch aboard while the ship glides past islets, rocks, caves, floating villages and beaches. Afterward, we cruise to a series of islands that can be explored by kayak or small motorboat. Our journey then takes us to a quiet lagoon or cove for an overnight anchorage. Dinner is served on board.

Day 13 | Cruising Bai Tu Long Bay

Bhaya Soul

B | L | D

Explore the outer reaches of Bai Tu Long Bay, where you can navigate its maze of shimmering channels and hidden caves. Situated northeast of Ha Long Bay, Bai Tu Long offers a more tranquil experience of the same stunning limestone karst scenery, with striking landscapes and emerald waters, but with noticeably fewer tourists and boats.

Travel by kayak or traditional rowboat to Cua Van Floating Village, a historic community in Ha Long Bay that's been home to generations of families living on the water for centuries. Explore the Cua Van Floating Cultural Center, which features the traditions of the bay's fishing communities. Return to the ship for lunch.

In the afternoon, take a trip to Cat Ba Island and explore its picturesque Viet Hai Village. Begin your journey by biking or riding an electric cart through the coastal village, soaking in local life and community initiatives. At Bhaya Cafe, unwind with views of fields and water buffalo while sipping a refreshing herb-and-lime "mojitea" or try making Bánh Cuốn, a classic Northern Vietnamese dish featuring thin steamed rice sheets filled with savory minced pork and wood ear mushrooms.

Bid farewell to an unforgettable journey with a special Farewell Dinner on board.

Day 14 | Ha Long Bay | Hanoi

Grand Mercure Hanoi

B | L

Disembark the ship and stop to visit a rural community on your journey back to Hanoi.

Yen Duc Village. On the way to Hanoi, stop by Yen Duc Village for a peaceful break, where the slow pace of rural life and lush rice paddies create a calming atmosphere. Explore the village on foot to learn about local farming traditions and interact with residents while watching everyday activities. Savor lunch with regional specialties—delicious dishes prepared with fresh, local ingredients. The visit also features a traditional water puppet show at the village pond, a natural stage surrounded by greenery and traditional Vietnamese architecture. Set to

folk music, the performance depicts Vietnamese legends and rural stories, offering an authentic experience that reflects the essence of the stories.

Arrive at the hotel in Hanoi late in the afternoon, and spend the evening at leisure.

Days 15 & 16 | Depart for gateway city | Arrive home

B

After breakfast, bid farewell to Cambodia. AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for a group transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer depart for Angkor International Airport for your return flights home. Your Travel Director will provide the details.

Depending on individual flight itineraries, some passengers will arrive in North America today, and others will arrive tomorrow, on Day 16.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.



What's Included

Program Overview

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- 4 nights in Bangkok, Thailand, at the deluxe Peninsula Bangkok.
- 2 nights in Siem Reap, Cambodia, at the deluxe Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf and Spa Resort.
- 4 nights in Hanoi, Vietnam, at the deluxe Grand Mercure Hanoi.
- 2 nights aboard the deluxe Bhaya Soul.
- AHI Connects: Local immersion.
- AHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact in the communities we visit.
- Visit 3 countries during this program.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Meal Program

- 12 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 4 dinners.
- Welcome Reception to meet and mingle with fellow travelers.
- Tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

On-site Features

- Flights to Bangkok and Hanoi and deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land Program.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.



FlexAir Travel Program

Need assistance booking your travel arrangements? Our experts are here to help. Our air program offers the following benefits.

Trip Transportation

- Assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays
- Arrival and departure transfers on group dates

Flexibility

- Flexibility to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights

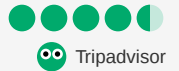
Price Guarantee

- Price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase

Travel and Hotel Accommodations

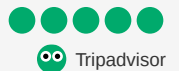
Peninsula Bangkok

The legendary Peninsula Bangkok is an elegant oasis amid the bustle of one of Asia's liveliest cities. Located on the west bank of Chao Phraya River, it affords a spectacular view of Thailand's capital and easy access to major districts and shopping areas. Savor delicious cuisine at a variety of restaurants, and relish the Peninsula's famous afternoon tea in The Lobby. When you're ready to unwind, head to the outdoor pool, fitness center and spa. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort

Surrounded by tropical gardens and lakes and only a few minutes from the remarkable Angkor archaeological complex, the Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra combines Asian and French elements to create a serene, welcoming experience. Enjoy afternoon tea or piano tunes at Explorer's Tales bar. Savor local specialties, French cuisine and international dishes at one of three restaurants. Reenergize at the outdoor pool and bar or in the full-service spa and fitness center. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



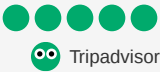
Bhaya Soul

Cruise the tranquil waters of Ha Long Bay aboard the intimate Bhaya Soul. Launched in 2025, this deluxe ship places wellness and relaxation at the forefront, offering attentive service and graceful travel amid the bay's breathtaking scenery. Unwind on the sun deck or retreat to the elegant lounges. Sip a cocktail, take a dip in the pool or indulge in a soothing spa treatment. Enjoy sophisticated dining that celebrates authentic Vietnamese flavors with a contemporary twist. Each evening, return to the comfort of your luxurious suite for a truly rejuvenating journey.



Grand Mercure Hanoi

The Grand Mercure Hanoi blends contemporary luxury with authentic Vietnamese heritage. Inspired by local culture and rice motifs, its elegant design features handcrafted details and refined architecture. The hotel offers premium amenities including distinctive dining venues, a spa, and a rooftop bar with a glass-walled pool. This exceptional property has earned international awards for architecture, heritage design and locally inspired cuisine, all delivered with sincere and gracious service.



Pricing

\$500 Full Payment Discount expires June 13, 2027

\$250 Special Savings expires November 24, 2026

Category/Deck	Base Price	Special Savings*	Full Payment Discount*	Special Price
S1-Upper Bow	\$8,745	-\$250	-\$500	\$7,995
S2-Upper	\$8,245	-\$250	-\$500	\$7,495
A-Main Deck	\$7,545	-\$250	-\$500	\$6,795

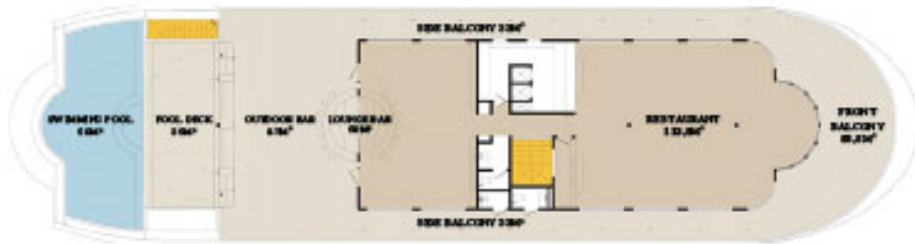
Package rates are per person based on Double occupancy from Land Only. Prices include all service charges; port charges when applicable; US government taxes and fees. The minimum deposit is \$1000.00 per person. Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies. To view Program Terms and Conditions, close this window and scroll to the bottom of the page.

** Full Payment Discounts are only available at the time of booking with initial payment 150+ days prior to departure. This offer only applies to full payment at the time of reservation. Details on how to qualify for this savings will be included when your reservation request is confirmed.

Sun Deck



Terrace Deck

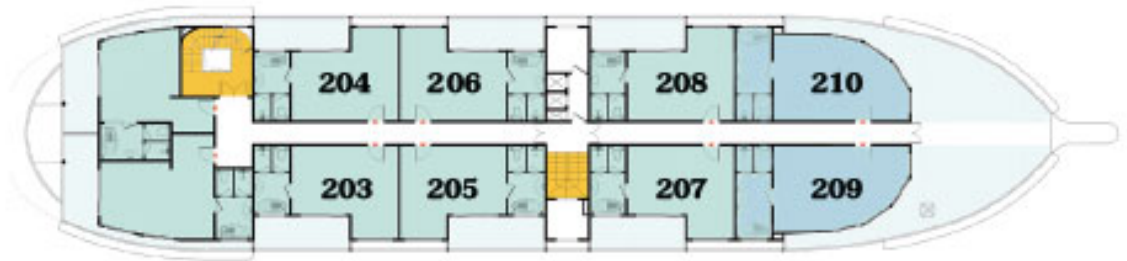


S1

S2

A

Upper Deck



Main Deck



