

# MARVELS OF THE MEKONG RIVER

## FEATURING SAIGON, PHNOM PENH & SIEM REAP

17 October 2020, 15 Days



HOSTED FROM MACKAY



## WELCOME TO HELLOWORLD TRAVEL HOSTED JOURNEYS

Hosted Journeys are experts in offering travellers unique, hand-picked holidays to destinations all over the world. Our itineraries are designed to ensure you have a hassle-free and seamless holiday experience. With over 30 years experience in group travel, rest assured you are in expert hands from start to finish.

A professional Tour Host travels with the group from Australia taking care of all the details. They provide security and peace-of-mind, maintain positive group morale, provide assistance through airports, immigration and crossing borders, assist with flight cancellations or alterations, lost luggage, reconfirm touring and transfers, distribute tipping, all to maximise your holiday experience.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

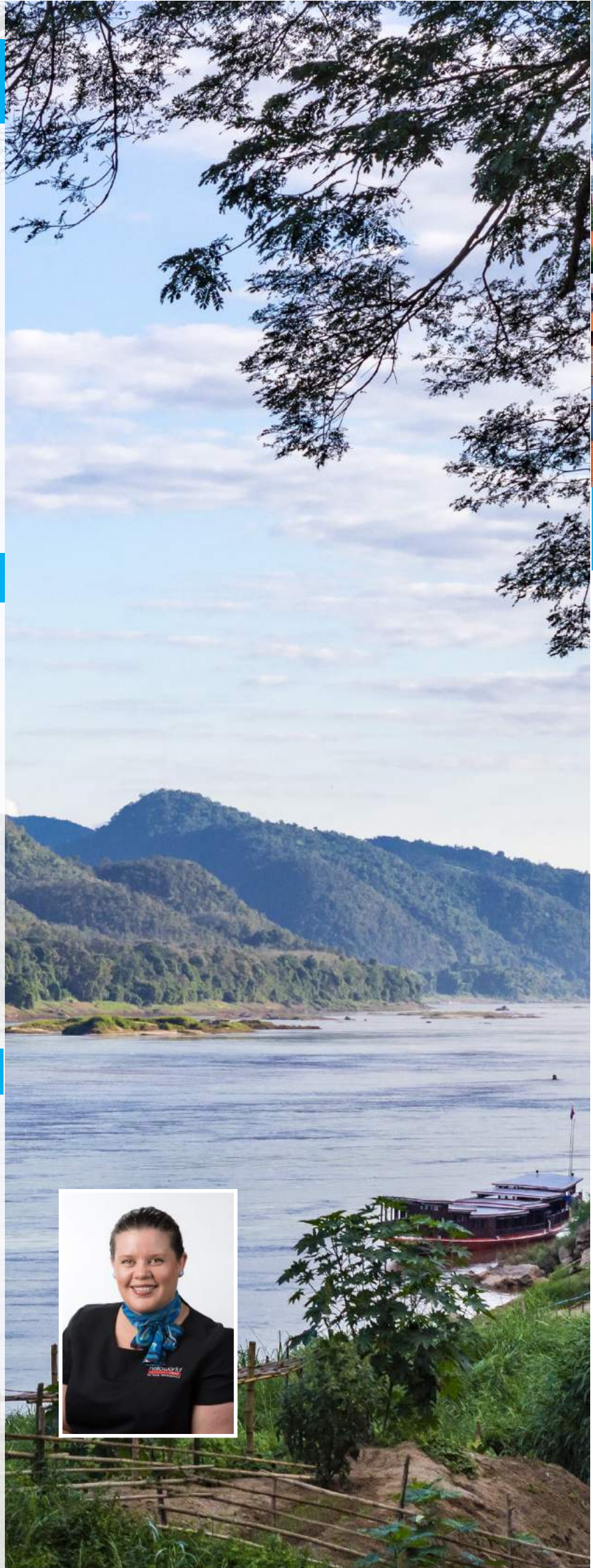
- Visit the historic city of Saigon and discover the major colonial landmarks
- Experience 'Ah Oh' art performance
- Enjoy local food experiences in Saigon
- Relax on board a 4 night luxury cruise on the Mekong River cruising on the brand new Victoria Mekong river ship
- Visit Tiger Island and Tan Chau along the banks of the Mekong River
- See a traditional Apsara Performance on board the river cruise
- Explore the beautiful city of Phnom Penh
- Experience a VIP speedboat transfer before a guided tour of Angkor Wat's temples
- Enjoy a day cruise on the beautiful Tonle Sap Lake from Siem Reap
- Take in a performance of the Phare Cambodian Circus.

### YOUR TOUR HOST

Carlye has a passion for travel and has been working in the travel industry for five years. With a love for Asia, her travels have included Singapore, China and Malaysia, as well as ocean cruising through the South Pacific Islands. Carlye is looking forward to taking you on this deluxe river cruise experience.

"I invite you to join me as we cruise along the magnificent Mekong River. We will sail on the brand-new river cruise vessel, Victoria Mekong, and experience the heart of local life as we explore the treasures of this delightful region".

*Carlye Hansen*  
Travel Consultant - Helloworld Travel Mackay







Vietnam and Cambodia are dream destinations for many travellers – with captivating scenery, tranquil temples and sensational food, it's easy to see why. Uncover countless cultures, beautiful landscapes and fascinating history in this most enchanting region – all while cruising the amazing Mekong River.

**Day 1. Sat 17 October 2020  
MACKAY - BRISBANE - SINGAPORE-  
SAIGON**

Let's meet at Mackay Airport and begin our journey to Saigon, via Brisbane and Singapore

**Day 2. Sun 18 October 2020      D  
SAIGON**

Upon arrival in Saigon, we will be met by our guide and transferred to our accommodation.

This evening, we will enjoy a special Welcome Dinner at the Noir Restaurant.

**Day 3. Mon 19 October 2020 B L D  
SAIGON**

This morning, after breakfast, we will depart on a sightseeing tour of Saigon. We begin our tour in District 1, on a gentle orientation walk to discover some of the major colonial landmarks that give historical character to this modern metropolis. We will see the Post Office, the Cathedral and have a drink on the terrace of the Continental Hotel. We then transfer to the Chinese district, Cho Lon, and explore by cyclo before we enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

This afternoon, we continue our tour to see the Reunification Palace, the former residence of the President of South Vietnam. Next, we visit the War Remnants Museum, established in September 1975. Previously known as the 'Museum of American War Crimes', it contains countless artefacts and photographs documenting crimes from the past war. We will then travel to Notre Dame Cathedral, a major centre of Catholicism in modern Vietnam, and one of the city's major landmarks.

This evening, we will enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before we see the 'Ah Oh Show'. This bamboo circus tells the stories of Vietnam's culture, incorporating both rural and urban life. This high energy performance is like a contrasting portrait of Vietnamese culture beginning with the beauty of peaceful country life and culminating with the buzz of urban Vietnam.

**Day 4. Tue 20 October 2020    B L  
SAIGON**

Today, we will travel to Cu Chi as a VIP on a modern speedboat arriving hours before the large tour groups. Our English speaking guide will explain the life along the banks of the Saigon River as our boat gracefully slaloms through the water hyacinths. After the scenic one-hour boat trip, our guide will take us through the historic Cu Chi Tunnels, learning the history of this immense network of tunnels used as hiding spots during combat, supply routes and even living quarters during the Vietnam War. A light breakfast will be served on the way to Cu Chi and a traditional Vietnamese lunch will be served after visiting the tunnels.

This afternoon, we will have the chance to enjoy a choice of sightseeing. Experience the culture, food and local way of life in Saigon. You will choose between two included sightseeing options for an afternoon of exploration. These itineraries will be confirmed and we can make our choice prior to departure.

**Day 5. Wed 21 October 2020 B L D  
EMBARK VICTORIA MEKONG**

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before we drive via Can Tho to board the Victoria Mekong and cast off into the waters of the Mekong River. This afternoon, we will settle into our cabins before dining on delicious local cuisine at the Welcome Dinner whilst we

enjoy a traditional music performance as we cruise upstream.

**Day 6. Thu 22 October 2020 B L D  
TIGER ISLAND**

Today brings our first onshore experience on the Mekong River, as we explore Tiger Island and its local industries, by either sampan or electric bike.

This afternoon, we will continue our upstream journey to visit a floating market and local museum.

**Day 7. Fri 23 October 2020 B L D  
TAN CHAU**

We continue our cruise, with shore excursions around Tan Chau including a stop at a Cao Dai Temple, silk village and options to see the Tra Su Forest.

This evening, we will be treated to a thrilling lion dance performance on board.

**Day 8. Sat 24 October 2020 B L D  
CRUISING THE MEKONG RIVER**

As we cross the border into Cambodia, we will be able to enjoy the facilities on board and take in the passing scenery.

In the late afternoon, we will dock at Sisowath Quay for a traditional Apsara performance and a farewell to the Mekong River dinner.

**Day 9. Sun 25 October 2020 B L D  
DISEMBARK VICTORIA MEKONG,  
PHNOM PENH**

This morning, we will enjoy breakfast on board as we dock in Phnom Penh. We will disembark the river cruise vessel and board a cyclo to explore the main sights of the city, such as the Silver Pagoda and Wat Phnom, before ending the day with a





TA PROHM TEMPLE

beverage by the riverfront and dinner at a local restaurant.

**Day 10. Mon 26 October 2020 B L D  
PHNOM PENH - SIEM REAP**

Spend today reflecting on the history of Phnom Penh with a visit to the Tuol Sleng Museum and Killing Fields, locations that provide chilling reminders of the Khmer Rouge regime.

This afternoon, we will transfer to the airport and fly to Siem Reap. Upon arrival, we will be transferred to our hotel. Later this evening, we will enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

**Day 11. Tue 27 October 2020 B L D  
SIEM REAP**

This morning will see us rising early as we journey to the old city of Angkor Thom and pass through the magnificent South Gate flanked by 54 gods and demons. At Angkor Thom's centre is the enigmatic Bayon, a breath-taking temple of innumerable sculptural decorations. Admire the Elephant Terrace and the Terrace of the Leper King.

We will then continue to Ta Prohm, the so-called 'Tomb Raider Temple', before the rest of the day is dedicated to Angkor Wat, the most magnificent, and best preserved of all of Angkor's treasures.

**Day 12. Wed 28 October 2020 B L D  
SIEM REAP**

This morning, we will enjoy a morning cruise on Tonle Sap Lake, visiting the floating village of Kampong Phluk and observing the way of life of these lake communities.

This evening, enjoy a rollicking performance of the Phare Cambodian Circus.

**Day 13. Thu 29 October 2020 B L D  
SIEM REAP**

Today we will have the opportunity to learn some traditional Cambodian cooking. We will travel by tuk tuk to a cooking lesson where we will learn to prepare traditional Khmer dishes.

This afternoon, we have some time at leisure to explore the city before we enjoy a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

**Day 14. Fri 30 October 2020 B  
SIEM REAP - SINGAPORE -  
BRISBANE**

After breakfast, we will be transferred to the airport to begin our journey home.

**Day 15. Sat 31 October 2020  
BRISBANE - MACKAY**

Upon arrival in Brisbane, we collect our luggage and transfer to the domestic airport for our flight home to Mackay.



TRADITIONAL DANCERS

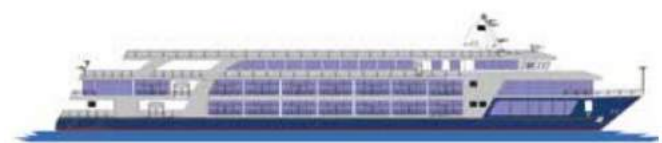




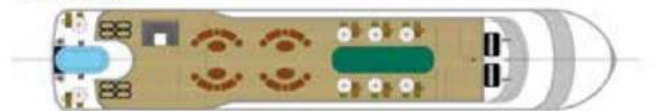
# Introducing...

## VICTORIA MEKONG

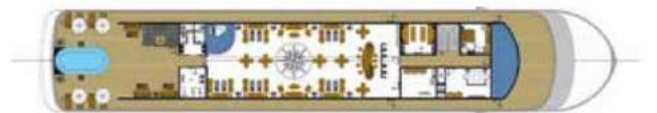
As the newest deluxe experience on the Mekong River, this 4 star, deluxe river cruise vessel, offers the most exciting cruise experience on the Mekong! Across four passenger decks, the Victoria Mekong offers many state-of-the-art features.



ROOF DECK



SUN DECK



UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK



BASE DECK



### On board Facilities

- Sun deck
- Bar and restaurant with outdoor seating area
- Cocktail pool and pool bar
- Spa with massage service
- Lounge area with bar
- Games room

### Accommodation

- Spacious, deluxe cabin on Main Deck complete with modern furnishings
- Private bathroom with shower
- Private balcony
- Twin or double share bedding configuration available





TEMPLES OF ANGKOR WAT





## TOUR INCLUSIONS

### Included Services

- Return economy class flights from Mackay
- Domestic flight in economy class from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap
- Private airport transfers throughout the itinerary
- Twin or double, 3-star accommodation
- All tipping for tour guide, driver, local guides and porters
- Services of a professional English speaking Tour Leader throughout Vietnam and Cambodia
- Special Welcome Dinner in Saigon
- Local expert guides throughout the itinerary
- Sightseeing experiences as outlined throughout the itinerary
- Orientation Tour in Saigon highlighting colonial landmarks and the Chinese District
- Evening show of 'Ah Oh', a circus art performance in Saigon highlighting Vietnamese culture
- Scenic speedboat ride and guided tour of Cu Chi Tunnels
- Choice of sightseeing in Saigon
- 4 nights on board the brand new Victoria Mekong in a Deluxe Main Deck Cabin
- All meals on board the 4 night cruise
- Shore excursion of Tiger Island by traditional sampan boat or electric bike
- Visit a floating market and local museum along the river
- Shore excursion of Tan Chau including Cao Dai Temple and silk village
- Traditional Apsara performance in Sisowath Quay
- Cyclo Tour of Phnom Penh including the Silver Pagoda
- Visit Tuol Sleng Museum and Killing Fields in Phnom Penh
- Full day visit to the temples of Angkor Wat including Angkor Tom & Ta Prohm
- Morning Cruise on Tonle Sap Lake
- Evening performance of the Phare Cambodian Circus
- Cambodian Cooking Lesson in Siem Reap
- Special Farewell Dinner in Siem Reap
- Single Entry Vietnam and Cambodia Travel Visas
- Services of an experienced Helloworld Travel Tour Host

### Important Cultural Information

- When travelling in Vietnam and Cambodia, it is important to understand local customs and respect the local laws and requirements.
- Vietnam and Cambodian authorities enforce modesty laws at prominent sites of religious significance, such as the Angkor Wat temple complex. Dress modestly, including covering your knees and shoulders. Entry may be denied if you are not dressed appropriately
- Photography laws can also be strict. Don't take photos of people without their permission, especially monks and other religious figures. It is culturally inappropriate.
- It is important to avoid taking photographs near sensitive sites such as military zones, assets or personnel, transportation facilities and government buildings.

### Included Meals

12 Breakfasts (B)

11 Lunches (L)

11 Dinners (D)

## HOLIDAY PRICING

15 Day Tour, departing Mackay

**\$7,495 per person twin share**

# TERMS & CONDITIONS

## Deposit & Payment:

A non-refundable deposit of \$1,500 per person is due within 7 days of making a booking along with a copy of your passport, Booking Form and the Helloworld Travel Hosted Journeys ("Hosted Journeys") Medical and Fitness Form. Bookings are subject to auto cancel after 7 days if the deposit is not received.

Final payment is due no later than Friday 26 June 2020. If your reservation is made after this date, full payment is required at time of booking.

## Tour Price:

The package price is per person based on twin share accommodation and subject to a minimum amount of 11 passengers booked. Should minimum numbers not be met, we reserve the right to withdraw the departure and a refund of your paid deposit will be offered. Alternatively the tour will proceed as planned however the Tour Host may not travel with the group. Your holiday cost may increase if minimum numbers are not met. Deposits merely hold the reservations and, due to ongoing currency fluctuations, prices cannot be guaranteed until final payment has been made. Hosted Journeys reserves the right to modify program itineraries, included sightseeing and substitute accommodations and transportation at any time due to unforeseen circumstances. In such circumstances, we will do our best to supply comparable services, accommodations and itineraries, and there shall be no refund in this situation.

## Special Requests:

Specific requests such as bedding, adjacent rooms, seat requests on flights and special meal requirements can be made on your Booking Form. Please note, Hosted Journeys will do everything they can to accommodate your requests, however, they can not be guaranteed.

## Single Accommodation:

Single Accommodation may be available upon request and a single supplement of \$1,800 will apply. If you are a single traveller and willing to share with another single traveller, let your travel consultant know. When possible, Hosted Journeys will liaise with your consultant to advise if a traveller of the same gender is also willing to share. Your consultant will facilitate contact between the single travellers prior to confirmation to ensure you are agreed compatible travellers. This cannot be guaranteed. If another single traveller is not available, the single supplement must be paid.

## Travel Insurance:

Travel Insurance is compulsory when travelling with Hosted Journeys. We recommend Covermore (offered by Helloworld Travel) as, whilst you are away, our Tour Host can communicate directly with our Covermore representative and provide assistance when making claims or enquiries. If you choose an alternative insurance provider, our Tour Host cannot guarantee assistance.

"Covermore Insurance is issued by Great Lakes Australia (ARBN 127 740 532, ABN 18 964 580 576, FSL 318603). Any advice provided is general advice only. Please consider your needs, financial situation and the Combined FSG/PDS available from us before deciding to buy this insurance.

## Tour Hosts:

Our group trips are facilitated by a Helloworld Travel Professional Tour Host. The decision of the Tour Host is final on all matters likely to affect the safety or well-being of any traveller or staff member participating in the trip. If you fail to comply with a decision made by a Tour Host, or interfere with the well-being or mobility of the group, the Tour Host may direct you to leave the trip immediately, with no right of refund. We may also elect not to carry you on any future trips booked. You must, at all times, comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited.

## What's not included:

Items such as (and not limited to) passports, items of a personal nature, beverages, meals and sightseeing not detailed on the itinerary, excess baggage, portage and travel insurance.

## Airfare Conditions:

Airfares included in this package are based on Singapore Airlines, and are subject to change without notice. Airfares are in economy class, and subject to availability at time of booking and the group airfare conditions. Taxes and fuel surcharges included are subject to change and additional charges may apply for alternate routes and airlines. If you wish to upgrade to Premium Economy or Business Class please ask your travel consultant for availability and upgrade costs. Air travel is arranged with independent airlines. Hosted Journeys will arrange air travel as advertised in connection with your holiday package or otherwise arranged with Hosted Journeys. All airfares are subject to flight and booking class availability. Airport taxes vary for each departure point and routing of airline. Airline schedules are subject to change without notice. Once air tickets are issued, airline amendment and/or cancellation fees apply and, in some cases, are non-refundable. Name changes and voluntary date and schedule changes will incur fees. Hosted Journeys is not liable for delays or disruptions of air travel. Once tickets are issued, Hosted Journeys will have no other liability and will not be responsible for refunding the cost of any services booked in conjunction with the flights.

## Passport & Visas:

Well before travelling, please ensure you have a current passport that is valid for at least six months after your scheduled return home to Australia. It is the guest's sole responsibility to obtain, and have available when necessary, the appropriate valid travel documents. Your reservations must be made in exactly the same name as your passport. Should any amendments to names be made from those advised on the Booking Form, or if a change needs to be made as a Booking Form was not supplied, fees will apply.

The issuance of visas is not the responsibility of your travel consultant and we cannot be held responsible should you be unable to obtain the correct visas to undertake your journey. A visa is required to travel to Vietnam and Cambodia if you are travelling on an Australian Passport. The cost of these visas is included in your tour cost. For all other passport holders please discuss your individual requirements with your consultant.

## Changes & Amendment Fees:

If you extend or alter your holiday, a minimum fee of \$100 per person per change is payable to Hosted Journeys to cover administrative and communication costs. This is in addition to any fees charged by airlines and applicable suppliers.

## Refunds & Cancellation:

Cancellation must be in writing and such notice is not effective until received by Hosted Journeys. Any part payments received by Hosted Journeys over and above your deposit, including payment for airfares, will be subject to cancellation fees at the discretion of Hosted Journeys plus any third party suppliers. A 100% cancellation fee will apply if your reservation is cancelled on or after the final payment deadline.

In the event that an act of terrorism occurs or natural disaster at your chosen travel destination after your final payment has been made, but before your departure date, Hosted Journeys will perform all possible efforts to minimise your travel disruptions. However in extreme cases, your tour may be altered or cancelled for your safety. Hosted Journeys can not be held responsible should any third party suppliers be unable to offer any refunds due to such causes.

## Documentation:

Your documentation will be available approximately two weeks prior to your departure. Approximately one month before departure, you will be sent an invitation to attend your pre departure event where you can meet your fellow travellers and collect your travel documents. If you are not located in Mackay, your travel documents will be couriered to your travel consultant.

## Liability & Privacy:

Hosted Journeys acts as a travel agent only. We sell various travel related products on behalf of numerous transports, accommodation and other wholesale service providers, such as airlines, coach, rail and cruise line operators. Hosted Journeys' obligation is to make travel bookings on your behalf and to arrange relevant contracts between you and the travel service providers. We have no responsibility for these services nor do we make or give any warranty or representation regarding their standard. All bookings are made subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by these service providers. Your legal recourse is against the specific provider and not Helloworld. If, for any reason, any travel service provider is unable to provide the services for which you have contracted your remedy lies against the provider and not with Hosted Journeys.

It is important that you, and all members of the travelling party are aware of the following terms and conditions as they may relate all or in part to the bookings held by Hosted Journeys on your behalf. If you are making bookings on behalf of more than one person, we will be happy to provide you with more than one copy of these terms and conditions if requested.

All reservations have been booked under the terms and conditions laid down by the airlines and tour wholesalers. Please pay particular attention to the clauses covering amendments and cancellations as detailed in their brochure.

We do not accept any liability of whatever nature, whether in contract, tort or otherwise, for the acts, omissions or default, whether negligent or otherwise, of third party providers over whom we have no direct control. Under circumstances where liability cannot be excluded, such liability is limited to the value of the purchased travel arrangements. We do not accept any liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss (including consequential loss), delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused directly or indirectly by force majeure or any other event which is beyond our control which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part. Third party excursions such as Scenic Flights, Boat Cruises, Helicopter Flights, Cable Car Rides, some 4WD Tours, White Water Rafting, Camel Rides, Hot Air Ballooning, Rail, Rural Homestay Options are not operated by Hosted Journeys, nor by persons or companies associated with Hosted Journeys. These activities may involve inherent risk of injury, death, accident, delay and loss, and clients assume all such risk with regard to any misadventure, death, injury, delay or loss which occurs during, or as a result of, any such activity.

Hosted Journeys collects information about you (including health information where necessary) and may disclose your personal information to organisations which provide services to Hosted Journeys to enable us to provide products and services to you, process your travel arrangements and facilitate your participation in loyalty programs. If the information is not provided, we may not be able to fulfil the service requested. As a Hosted Journeys customer, you may, at any time, request further information about the way we manage your personal information. You may also request removal from our contact lists or correct your personal information by contacting us in writing.

## Social Media & Imagery:

By signing your Booking Form you consent to Hosted Journeys using images of you taken during the trip for advertising and promotional purposes in any medium we choose. You grant us a perpetual, royalty-free, worldwide, irrevocable licence to use such images for publicity and promotional purposes.

## Medical & Travel Health:

Hosted Journeys seeks to provide a safe, memorable and enjoyable travel experience for all guests and welcomes guests with special needs or disabilities provided they are accompanied by an able-bodied companion and do not require special assistance from Hosted Journeys personnel or other travellers. You must complete a Hosted Journeys Self Assessed Medical Form at the time of booking and advise of any physical, medical, or other particular needs that may affect your enjoyment of the tour or its enjoyment by others; and you must ensure that you are medically and physically able to travel. Failure to do so may result in the termination of your travel arrangements without any liability on the part of Hosted Journeys. Hosted Journeys reserves the right at its discretion to exclude from a tour, or to terminate the travel arrangements during the course of the tour without refund, of anyone who:

- is unable to cope with the requirements of coach travel – this includes embarking and disembarking 4-6 steps that are approximately 30 centimetres high, at each stop of the coach, which, on some tours, is at least 8 times per day
- may need services or facilities that are not available
- fails to comply with the reasonable instructions of Hosted Journeys personnel
- engages in illegal or undesirable behaviour or interferes with the enjoyment of or jeopardises the safety of other participants

Anyone so excluded will be required to disembark at a safe public location, transport from which will be wholly their responsibility. You agree that Hosted Journeys is released from all liability for, and you agree not to hold Hosted Journeys responsible for, termination of your travel arrangements in accordance with the previous condition, or any decision made by Hosted Journeys or by any service provider who refuses to provide you with special accommodation facilities or services that are not available or who refuses to carry you by reason of any disability or medical condition. Any changes to health, mobility and fitness must also be reported to Hosted Journeys as soon as possible and prior to departure.

## Claims & Complaints:

If you have a complaint about your tour please inform your Tour Host or our local representative at the time so they can attempt to rectify the matter. If satisfaction is not reached through these means then any further complaint should be put in writing to us within 30 days of the end of the tour in order to expediate your claim or complaint.



ISSUE DATE: 18DEC19

Let us make your  
dream holiday a  
reality today!

helloworld  
TRAVEL  
HOSTED JOURNEYS

Helloworld Travel Mackay  
☎ 4969 3600 ☑ 58 Wood Street

Helloworld Travel Mt Pleasant  
☎ 4942 1444 ☑ Mt Pleasant Shopping Centre

www.hostedjourneys.com.au

