

Enchanting Far East Cruise

The title of this cruise around the Gulf of Thailand perfectly sums up how you'll feel on your adventure – truly enchanted! Set sail for the exotic lands of Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia for a taste of the Orient.

Day 1 – Langkawi, Malaysia

Departs: 16:00

This postcard-worthy tropical island off the coast of Malaysia is a beach-lovers dream, and it's where you begin your adventure! Langkawi Jetty (Cruise Port) is situated 13.6 kilometers from Langkawi Airport, and takes up to 45 minutes by car. Transfers are included with Marella Cruises, so you'll be on board your ship in no time!

Langkawi's main town of Kuah has a very laid-back feel, with plenty of local shops and bars, plus a huge statue of a swooping red eagle. Around the pristine coastline, you'll find sleepy fishing villages which only add to the slow and relaxing pace of life. If time allows and you are good with heights, take the Langkawi Cable Car to the top of the Gunung Machinchang Mountain.

Day 2 – Penang, Malaysia

Time in port: 08:00 – 16:00

Your Enchanting Far East 2 Cruise doesn't stop there as you disembark in Penang, one of the country's most popular destinations. Foodies will feel right at home here, as Macalister Road has a reputation for some of the best street eats around. Visit the UNESCO-accredited Georgetown, where you can wander around and sight-see the majesty of its fusion of Chinese and colonial architecture. If time allows, take the funicular railway up to Penang Hill – the longest track of its kind in Asia.

Day 3 – Port Klang (for Kuala Lumpur) Malaysia

Time in port: 08:00 – 19:00

It's time to visit Malaysia's national capital after docking in Port Klang. Kuala Lumpur is around 29 kilometres from Port Klang, with buses, trains and taxis available

for your journey. Treat yourself to a spot of retail therapy in Kuala Lumpur. Pavilion KL lines up luxury labels, and Berjaya Times Square has 10 floors packed with shops, restaurants and a cinema.

Day 4 – Singapore, Singapore

Time in port: 08:00 – 20:00

Next stop on your Enchanting Far East adventure is Singapore – a melting pot of old and new architecture, different cultures and Eastern and Western culture. Get your shopping fix in the city's huge shopping district, take up a spot on the SkyPark deck at Marina Bay Sands, visit the animals at Singapore Zoo, or visit the Gardens by the Bay, which make for a beautiful oasis in a buzzing metropolis.

Day 5 – At sea

It's time to take advantage of the facilities on board Marella Explorer. She boasts 7 restaurants, 7 bars and 11 decks. The ship's open-air pool comes with the bonus of built-in hot tubs, while the luxury continues at the Oceans Gym and Spa. Kids will love the many clubs on offer, as well as the rock climbing wall and minigolf green.

Day 6 – Koh Samui, Thailand

Time in port: 07:00 – 17:00

Koh Samui is Thailand's second-biggest island, behind Phuket, and easily boasts more beautiful beaches, luxurious five star resorts, lush jungle and historical temples. Take a drink of fresh coconut water on Chaweng Beach – the island's longest and most popular coastline, before devouring a bowl of tasty laksa or having a massage on the beach. If time allows, the island's 12-metre-tall Buddha statue is also worth a visit, located within the hilltop Wat Phra Yai, on the tiny islet of Koh Faan.

Day 7-8 – Laem Chabang (for Bangkok), Thailand

Arrive in port: 06:00 (Day 7)

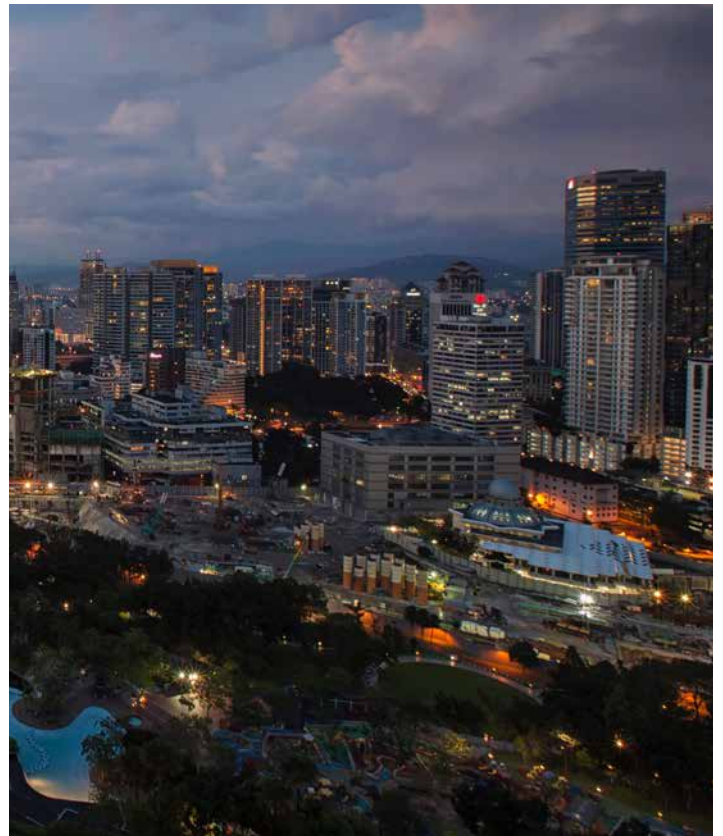
Depart from port: 16:00 (Day 8)

Laem Chabang is the gateway to the Chonburi Province, with party destination Pattaya close by, and Bangkok a 90 minute taxi ride away. Visit Wat Arun temple and the Grand Palace, before stopping off for lunch at a local street food stall. Shopaholics will love the the Harbour Mall just a ten minute drive from the port – it's seven storeys high, and features plenty of shops, restaurants, an ice rink and an adventure zone all under one roof.

Day 9 – Sihanoukville, Cambodia

Time in port: 07:00 –21:00

Sihanoukville is a perfect destination for laid-back days and lively nights on your Enchanting Far East 2 Cruise. Foodies will feel at home with a great street food scenes, while sightseers will love the five Buddhist temples in the area and impressive views from their hilltop positions. Catch a few rays on one of unspoiled beaches, or try your hand at a new watersport. Ream National Park's is only a 30-minute drive from the port, too. Bring your camera for some perfect snaps of mouse-deer and rhesus monkeys.



Day 10 – At sea

Relax on board Marella Explorer, with a wealth of restaurants serving everything from tapas, sushi, surf and turf and oriental fare. Additional facilities include a spa, indoor and outdoor pools, a Broadway Show Lounge and casino.

Day 11 – Phu My (for Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam)

Time in port: 07:00 – 18:00

A 90 minute drive north of the port lands you in the bustle of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's former capital (Saigon). Visit the War Remnants Museum, pick up souvenirs in Ban Thanh Market, or take a tour of the red-brick Notre Dame Cathedral and the French-style Post Office.

Day 12 – At sea

Kick back and relax on board Marella Explorer, with highlights like an outdoor cinema, a rock climbing wall, a mini-golf course, five-storey atrium and an indoor pool.

Day 13 – Malacca, Malaysia

Time in port: 07:00 – 14:00

This town has earned UNESCO recognition, and is a great place to explore on foot. Thanks to its colonial past, you'll find a mixture of Chinese, British, Dutch and Portuguese cultures. Take a ride to the top of the Taming Sari Tower, tour the A'Famosa Fort, which was originally built by the Portuguese in the 16th century, or visit the Baba Nyonya Heritage Museum.

Day 14-15 – Langkawi, Malaysia

Arrive in port: 16:00 (Day 14)

Following your Enchanting Far East 2 Cruise, you'll arrive back on the paradise island of Langkawi with a heap of memories to treasure for a lifetime. Inspired to book another Asia Cruise for your next holiday? Of course you are!