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A PUBLICATION OF THE INTENTIONAL TRAVELER

APRIL 2020



Cruising And Asian Itineraries

Cruising Asia and the South China Sea

Asia Itineraries

Cruise lines are expanding their itineraries every year to attract more passengers. While in the past the vast majority of cruisers have been North

Americans and Europeans that is rapidly changing. Two rapidly growing demographics

are Latin Americans and Asians. By creating more exotic itineraries they not only

> bring back loyal cruise passengers with new experiences, they begin to attract new customers from those regions.

Asia has exploded with cruise itineraries over the past decade with a focus on a number of popular

destinations. The center of these itineraries is the South China Sea and by far the most popular departure port being Singapore.

Japan and China Itineraries

One of the most popular departure ports on these itineraries is Yokohama, the port servicing Tokyo. Many of these cruises sail around the Japanese Islands with often additional stops in Korea and China.

The Port of Yokohama and

Tokyo – Since this is a popular departure port many cruises add an overnight to allow a visit into Tokyo. If that isn't the case with your cruise be sure and book a few days before your cruise. Tokyo is an

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amazing city and represents the heart of modern Japan.

The Port of Osaka -Another popular port to start or finish Japanese cruises this city is great for shopping, nightlife and sights including a samurai castle. The docks at Tempozan are a ways from the city but on the waterfront is an entertainment district that includes an aquarium and Universal Studios Japan.

Port of Shanghai - Located in East China along the Yangtze River and bordered on the east by the East China Sea, Shanghai is one of the most populated cities in the world and a major cruise destination. It is a vibrant modern day megacity complete with skyscrapers, shopping malls and famous restaurants.



The Cruise Port for Seoul - Inchon South Korea - Seoul is the bustling capital of South Korea, located approximately 90 minutes from the cruise port of Incheon and a fascinating modern metropolitan destination.





The Port of Singapore – It's no wonder Singapore is so popular. This city is actually a sovereign state which boasts one of the highest standards of living in the world. It boasts an incredible international airport and has, at last count, three major cruise terminals. If you book a cruise out of Singapore you absolutely must plan for a few days to explore this city.

Bangkok Royal Palace grounds includes Wat Phra Kaew the home of the emerald Buddha.



Tourist representatives greet a ship in Malaysia



Fishermen in a basket boat in Vietnam.

More To See In Exotic Asia

South China Sea Itineraries

This is by far the most popular Asian itinerary with stops that can include Thailand, Vietnam, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Malaysia and at times Brunei, Taiwan, Cambodia and China. A large number of cruises are 14 days and start from Singapore circling the South China Sea. For a longer trip consider combining two cruises. Many itineraries run back to back with different ports on each cruise.

When looking at these itineraries there are some specific destinations we think you should considered.

Vietnam – This is a country that is rapidly developing and is usually on all South China Sea itineraries but specifically look for cruises that include Da Nang. This is a major metropolis that includes major beaches and resorts, a vibrant city center with a number of



nearby destinations that include Hội An, the historic old trading town and 2 hours away the ancient city of Huế.

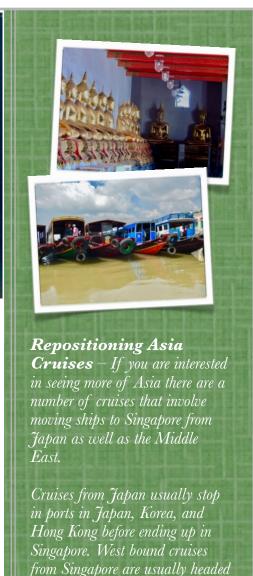
Thailand – A must on most cruises there are a number of ports but look for Bangkok (or its port of Laem Chabang). Bangkok is about an hours drive from the port but should not be missed. Many cruises overnight in Laem Chabang to provide more time in Bangkok.





Hong Kong – Like Singapore this is one of the worlds great cities with much to see and do. It is also a popular departure port for a number of cruises. If you're visiting Hong Kong be sure and study up on their metro system before you get there. It's inexpensive, clean and and an efficient way of seeing this city.







to Dubai and normally will make

port calls in Thailand, Sri

Lanka, and India.

Japan Bridge in Vietnam