

# EXCLUSIVE SCIENCE TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY FOR SUPPORTERS OF WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION and WOODS HOLE RESEARCH CENTER



## Mekong River Science Expedition

Vientiane, Laos to Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand – March 15-23, 2016

Scientists of the Global Rivers Observatory ([globalrivers.org](http://globalrivers.org)) invite you to join them on their 2<sup>nd</sup> river expedition – this time to "the mother of waters," the Mekong River in Southeast Asia. This unique expedition allows guests a first-hand experience of this amazing ecosystem. You will see how scientists study the ecology and chemistry of rivers and participate in discussions that lead to the inclusion of the Mekong River in the Global Rivers Observatory.

Our international team of experts and guests will explore the middle reaches of the Mekong River from Vientiane, Laos, to Nakhon Phanom, Thailand on the 32-passenger cruise ship *Mekong Explorer* during the 8-day, 7-night expedition. As part of this team, you will see amazing wildlife and fascinating landscapes, visit communities along the river, and learn from the experts about the Mekong and the severe threats it now faces.

**SPACE IS VERY LIMITED**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Kelly Westerhouse 508 289 3313, [kwesterhouse@whoi.edu](mailto:kwesterhouse@whoi.edu)**





## EXPEDITION DETAILS:

\$8000 per person (\$5000 tax deductible deposit at reservation), based on double occupancy in Superior Cabins (see photo).

- + 8 days / 7 nights aboard the *Mekong Explorer* cruise ship
- + All meals and off-ship excursions
- + Access to all science activities
- + Accompanying expedition guides from WHOI/WHRC, professional photographer/videographer Chris Linder
- + Airport transfer to and from ship, including hotel night in Kangchiam.

### NOT INCLUDED:

- Tips, drinks except during meals, visa, personal expenditures, flights.

We offer assistance with travel arrangements upon request.

## EXPEDITION LEADERS

**Bernhard Peucker-Ehrenbrink**  
Woods Hole  
Oceanographic



**Max Holmes**  
Woods Hole  
Research Center



### March 15

Arrive in Vientiane, overnight stay on board the *Mekong Explorer*.

### March 16

Visit to Vientiane. That Luang temple. Sampling the Mekong. A relaxed day with light program.

### March 17

Thai-Laos border (immigration). Cruise upstream to Sri Chiang Mai. Science talks and discussions, planning future research.

### March 18

Mekong River Panorama. Cruise to Nong Khai, visit Indochina market. Sampling demonstrations, scientific lectures, discussions.

### March 19

Visit local fresh market and Sala Kaew Ku Buddha park. Cruise downriver to Ban Pa Pong. Lectures on impending changes to the Mekong River basin.

### March 20

Cruise downriver to Ban Phan Dam. Sampling demonstrations, presentations on Mekong River ecosystem, discussions.

### March 21

Cruise to Pak Khading. Slow boat trip on the Khading River to a Laotian village. Learn about future research projects on the Mekong.

### March 22

Cruise to Ban Na Khae, disembarkation with luggage, bus transfer to Nakhon Phanom (visit Ho Chi Minh House). Overnight stay at Mekong Panorama Hotel in Kangchiam. Farewell dinner.

### March 23

Breakfast at hotel, bus transfer to Ubon Ratchathani airport. From here connections to Bangkok, Vientiane and connecting flights to the U.S., unless you have made arrangements to extend your stay in Thailand.