

SCENIC°

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Scenic Appoints Mr. Oka Wibawa as Executive Chef for Mekong's Scenic Spirit

Boston & Vancouver, June 2019 – Scenic has announced the appointment of Mr. Oka Wibawa as Executive Chef on board *Scenic Spirit*, the company's luxury river ship that sails the Mekong River in Vietnam and Cambodia.

Phil Jordan, General Manager Asia for Scenic, pointed out that Oka has been a member of the SE Asia Scenic team for several years and this new appointment is a reflection of both his skill and his commitment to the delivery of excellence on board *Scenic Spirit*.

“Oka began his journey with Scenic in 2014 on *Scenic Jasper* in Europe as a Chef De Partie,” said Mr Jordan. “There he displayed strong skills and a passion for food and cooking combined with a personality that saw him quickly become both a staff and guest favorite.



In 2016 with the launch of *Scenic Spirit* on the Mekong River, Oka earned an immediate appointment as Junior Sous Chef and since then has consistently performed across all aspects of his work and has now risen to his new Executive Chef role. He is well liked and respected by his kitchen team.

Mr. Jordan continued, “Oka’s passion lies in creating new recipes and combining the abundance of fresh regional produce with aged old techniques and creative plating. His mantra is reflective of his youth and revolves around passion, simplicity, being proud of your work and never stopping the journey of culinary knowledge. We are delighted to welcome Oka as our new Executive Chef.”

[Southeast Asia](#) is fast becoming one of the most sought-after regions to explore, offering travelers a look at ancient cultures, historic treasures, exotic locales and enticing foods. Scenic’s itineraries, ranging from 11 to 31 days, include the usual sites of floating canal villages, verdant paddy fields, ancient temples and bustling markets, but also step away into some of the more unique and immersive opportunities. On the Mekong itineraries, guests can choose to try multiple forms of transport including bicycles, ox carts, Tuk Tuks, long tail boats, speed boats and sampans; learn the art of Vietnamese and Cambodian cooking; visit a family-operated fish farm; meet with survivors of the Khmer Rouge; and enjoy lunch at a local NGO restaurant that teaches local street kids hospitality skills.

Scenic's truly all-inclusive fares means everything except massages and the hair dresser is included: private butler service, unlimited complimentary beverages, gratuities, transfers, cultural entertainment, regional cuisine as well as Western dining in customized settings: poolside to cabin, al fresco to fine dining. And Scenic Freechoice activities help create remarkable memories from the regions' kaleidoscope of customs and cuisine.

Scenic is the only river cruise line to design and build their SE Asia luxury river ships to meet European safety standards. The 68-guest *Scenic Spirit* include key features such as marine paneling so noises do not penetrate to adjoining suites, compartmentalized fire zones, and custom built-in sprinkler systems throughout all public and private spaces. Accommodations onboard are all suites with walk out balconies (no porthole cabins) and are the most spacious and luxurious in SE Asia, offering sizes of up to 861 ft². Guests enjoy pillow menus, scenic slumber beds, separate living and bedroom and bathrooms, and walk in wardrobes. Public areas include a pool, open air cinema, sun decks, spa, fitness room, sauna and steam room, elevator and multiple dining options. Guests are also able to take in a stunning visual display of some of the most popular local artists of recent times, with a gallery of original artworks adorning the walls and hallways of both ships.

Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours has grown over its 33-year history to include award-winning, all-inclusive escorted tours that take participants to many of the world's most fascinating destinations and since 2008, its 15 Space-Ships offer truly all-inclusive, five-star river cruises in Europe, SE Asia, Russia and Egypt. In 2019, Scenic is introducing the world's first Discovery Yacht, the 228-guest *Scenic Eclipse*. Sister brand Emerald Waterways has eight Star-Ships offering European river sailings with an eighth (*Emerald Harmony*) launching in 2019 for SE Asia's Mekong River. Exclusive charters are offered on SE Asia's Irrawaddy River; the Volga River in Russia; yacht cruises out of Croatia; and Egypt's Nile River.

Additional information on these and other cruises, brochures and reservations can be obtained via travel agents; or in the US: www.scenicusa.com; phone 844-788-7985; or email: info@scenicusa.com; and in Canada: www.scenic.ca; phone (866) 689-8611; or email: info@scenic.ca. Brochures can also be downloaded directly from the website.

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Notes to editors: Photos are available for download at [Photo Library](#).

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