

LAOS VACATION: 7 DAYS OF LAOS EXPLORER TOUR
WITH ENGLISH SPEAKING PRIVATE GUIDE
(Vientiane, Xieng Khouang, Luang Prabang / 7 days 6 nights)

Day 1: Arrival into Vientiane

On arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. Overnight in Vientiane

Day 2: Vientiane – full day tour

After breakfast, we explore Vientiane capital by visiting the major sights of the capital; including the oldest Wat Sisaket with thousands of miniature Buddha statues and the former royal temple of Wat Prakeo, which previously housed the famous Emerald Buddha Image. . En route to Lao's national precious heritage, the famous and sacred structure of That Luang Stupa, you will have the opportunity to take some pictures of the imposing Patuxay Monument, which is well known as Vientiane's own Arc de Triumph. In the afternoon, we transfer out to see the Buddha Park, an enchanting collection of Buddhist and Hindu sculptures on the Mekong Riverside meadow, near the Friendship Bridge. There are approximately 200 religious images, which were created by a mysterious monk spreading his philosophy on life and to reveal his ideas about the universe. A spectacular view of over the Mekong River at sunset is a perfect way to finish the day.

Overnight in Vientiane (Breakfast)

Day 3: Vientiane – Xiengkhouang (flight)

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your short flight to Xiengkhouang. Upon arrival, we transfer out to visit the Plain of Jars, an impressive archaeological site where hundreds of large stone jars are littered all over the plateau. We also have time, this afternoon seeing the old capital of Muang Khoun Province and the nearby villages, home to the Hmong hill tribe and Tai Dam people. They have an interesting local culture and a colourful history.

Overnight in Phonsavanh (B)

Day 4: Xiengkhouang – Luang Prabang (Road)

Early morning, we visit the Central Market of Phonsavanh to watch the different hilltribe people barter and exchange merchandises. We then head out towards Luang Prabang. Enroute we stop off to see the Buddha images in Thampra, a site more than 200 years old, and various Hmong and hilltribe minority villages along the way. After a photo stop, we continue driving uphill, enjoying the splendid natural scenery of the mountains, the forest and landscape. The journey will take us over mountainous regions until we approach Luang Prabang, one of the most beautiful traditional towns in Asia. Overnight in Luang Prabang (Breakfast)

Day 5: Luang Prabang – City tour, and Pak Ou Caves

Today, we enjoy a short-guided tour seeing the city's oldest temples of Wat Sene and the magnificent Wat Xiengthong with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, which represents classical Laotian architecture. We then embark on a cruise upstream on the Mekong River, which also gives us a breathtaking view of the tranquil countryside as well as exploring the mysterious Pak Ou Caves, two linked caves crammed with thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues of various shapes and sizes left by devoted pilgrims. Along the way, we will stop at the village of Ban Xanghai, where the local rice wine is produced. On return, we take a short drive to another small village Ban Phanom, which is famous for its hand weaving.

Overnight in Luang Prabang (Breakfast)

Day 6: Luang Prabang – City tour, and Khouangsi falls

An optional early start gives you the fantastic opportunity to participate in the daily morning rituals of saffron-clad monks collecting offerings of Alms (often in the form of sticky rice) from the faithful residents. This tradition is very unique in Laos, being the only Buddhist nation still preserving the ritual.

After breakfast, we visit the National Museum (closed Tuesdays) at the former Royal Palace. It displays a collection of artifacts reflecting the richness of Lao culture dating from the days of the early kings right through to the last sovereign. There will also be time for us to look around the Central Market. We then continue towards Khouangsi Waterfall, en route, we visit the local villages of Lao ethnic minority groups at Ban Ouay, Ban Ou, Laoloum and Ban Thapene, and then drive to the beautiful Khouangsi Waterfall. Here you can take a dip in the inviting pools or walk along the forest trails surrounding the waterfall. We return to Luang Prabang by late afternoon and continue to Ban Xangkhong, a village well known for silk hand weaving and for traditional Saa Paper making. Overnight in Luang Prabang (Breakfast)

Day 7: Luang Prabang – Departure

After breakfast, free and easy at own leisure until time to transfer to the airport for your outbound flight to the next destination.

End tour in Laos!

Including services

-  Hotel accommodation by twin share basis with daily breakfast
-  Ground transportation by private, air-cond vehicle
-  **Regional ENGLISH speaking guide**
-  Sightseeing with admission fees
-  Private boat trips as programmed
-  Mineral water and cold tissues on tours

EXCLUDING services

-  International air tickets arrival to and departure from Laos
-  Visa stamping on arrival to Laos (US\$ 30 per person)
-  All other meals & beverages are NOT mentioned in the program

 Personal expenses and Tips

Please remember that the exact route and program may vary according to weather conditions or operational considerations. Accommodations are subject to change and may be substituted for similar properties.

All payments for custom-designed itineraries are non-refundable in the event of the cancelation. We highly suggest TRIP INSURANCE. All rates are subject to change without notice until payment is received. Various cancellation penalties, payment requirements and holiday/weekend/special event surcharges may apply.

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