

Laos Highlights

8 Day Tour to Vientiane, Phonsavan & Luang Prabang



Day 1 Arrival Vientiane

Upon arrival Vientiane, you will be met by our representative and transferred to hotel. Overnight at 4* Ansara Hotel or similar for 2 nights.

Day 2 Vientiane – city tour and Buddha Park

Meal: B/D

In the morning explore the main attractions of the capital, including **Wat Sisaket, Wat Prakeo, Patuxai, That Luang** and the **COPE** exhibition centre. In the afternoon we visit the quirky **Buddha Park**, an enchanting collection of Buddhist and Hindu sculptures on the banks of the Mekong River. Upon returning to Vientiane we have the optional of stopping at the **Lao Disabled Women's Centre**, which provides valuable training and schooling for disabled women in Laos. We continue back to town, where a spectacular view of the Mekong River at sunset is a perfect way to finish the day. Return to hotel and dinner served at hotel.

Day 3 Vientiane - Phonsavan

Meal: B

Free time until in time transferred to the airport for your flight to Phonsavan. On Arrival you will be met by our guide and driver transfer to your hotel. Enjoy the rest of the day is free at leisure. *Overnight in Phonsavan at 3* Vansan Plain of jar (local best) for 2 nights.*

Day 4 Phonsavan – Plain of Jars tour

Meal: B/D

This morning we visit the Mines Action Group (or **MAG**) office to learn about the important work they do in clearing land mines and unexploded ordnance in the area. We then drive out to visit some of the famous **Plain of Jars Sites**, starting at the picturesque **Jar Site 2** and **Jar Site 3**, consisting over around 150 jars located on top of a hill, offering great views. In the afternoon, we visit **Jar Site 1**, the largest site, containing over 300 jars. At 16:00, we will pay a visit to the **Lone Buffalo Foundation** (closed on weeklands & school holidays), a community project where western and Lao teachers are passionate to improve opportunities for the local children through Education and Sport. Afterwards, we transfer to the **PhouXang Viewpoint**, to enjoy the panoramic sceneries and possibly a beautiful sunset! Dinner served at hotel.

Day 5 Phonsavan – Luang Prabang by road**Meal: B/D**

We start early this morning to visit the interesting Central Market, then drive to ancient provincial capital town of Muang Khoun, where you can explore the ruins of a number of ancient pagodas in the Lanna style and Wat Phiawat, a ruined temple containing a huge sitting Buddha. We then begin our scenic drive to Luang Prabang. En route we stop and visit Ban Somboun, a Hmong village. In the afternoon, we stop to visit Ban KiuKharmPom, a friendly Khmu village and Ban Nam Ming, which offers nice views from its bridge and an opportunity to stretch your legs. We arrive in Luang Prabang by early evening. check in at *Luang Prabang 4* Maison Dalabua Hotel or similar for 3 nights*.

Day 6 Luang Prabang – Tak Bat - City tour & Mekong Cruise to the Pak Ou Caves**Meal: B/D**

An early morning start at 5.30am (Option) to witness and partake daily morning ritual of 'Tak Bat' or giving alms to the monks. We can also visit the local fresh market to see how the locals shop, before returning to your hotel for breakfast. After breakfast, we visit the quaint **Royal Palace Museum**, which gives a good overview of the local history; then followed by a visit to the country's most historic and enchanting temple **Wat Xiengthong**. We then take a boat cruise up the Mekong River to the mysterious caves of **Pak Ou**, two caves set in a limestone cliff facing the Mekong River crammed with thousands Buddha statues of various shapes and sizes. Return Luang Prabang by boat, stopping at **weaving and textile villages** on the way back. Late-afternoon, visit **Wat Visoun** and you have the option to climb **Mount Phousi**, which offers a spectacular view over Luang Prabang and the Mekong River. Tonight dinner served at hotel.

Day 7 Luang Prabang – Picnic Lunch at Kuang Si and Buffalo farm**Meal: B/L**

After breakfast, we drive out of the town to the beautiful **Kuang Si Waterfall**. Enjoy a picnic lunch right next the falls. After lunch, we visit the **Laos Buffalo Farm**, a social enterprise. Get up close to the friendly buffalos and help to caretaker to wash and to feed the calves. Finish the tour with a **tasting platter** of different Buffalo-milk cheeses, coffee and delicious homemade ice-cream at the café. Return to Luang Prabang by late afternoon.

Day 8 Luang Prabang departure**Meal: B**

Free time until in time transferred to the airport for your flight exit.

Price: \$2650 per person Single supplement: \$750

Inclusions:

Twin share at 3-4* hotel total 7 nights; fully inclusive tour with English speaking guide, entrance fees and meals as per itinerary, domestic flight Vientiane - Phonsavan.

Exclusions:

Any international air tickets; personal expenses, visa fees, insurance, tipping etc.