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## An Insight into Laos

9 days / 8 nights

### Highlights

- Explore the highlights of Luang Prabang including: Wat Xieng Thong, Wat Visoun, Wat Mai, National Museum
- Have an excursion on Mekong River by boat
- Visit the Pak Ou Cave, a mystical cave crammed with Buddha Statues
- Visit the Plain of Jars in Xieng Khouang
- Enjoy the picturesque riverside village of Vang Vieng, Tham Jang Caves and Ban Huai Ngai
- Visit the best destinations of Vientiane: the former royal temple of the Lao monarchy, Wat Haw Phra Kaew, and Pha That Luang (the Great Sacred Stupa).

### Detailed itinerary

#### Day 1: Arrive in Luang Prabang (D)

Welcome to Luang Prabang! Upon arrival, you will be picked up by our tour guide and transferred to your hotel for check in. You are free at your leisure at hotel before having a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Luang Prabang.

*Overnight: Luang Prabang*

#### Day 2: Luang Prabang visit (B)

Early in the morning, you should get up to view the morning rituals of saffron- robed monks on their daily outing collecting Alms (often in the form of sticky rice or fresh fruits) from the faithful residents. It is a unique tradition in Laos that dates back centuries. After breakfast at hotel, you will have a chance to visit the most famous pagodas in Laos such as: Wat Visoun with the site of impressive Thad Makmo stupa, Wat Mai which was built in 1796 by King Anourout, is one of the largest, most picturesque and most photographed of the wats of Luang Prabang, Wat Xieng Thong, the most enchanting of Laos' monasteries. You will continue to visit the National Museum - the former King's palace. You'll climb the 328 zig-zag steps up to the sacred gilded stupa and big drum of the Phu Si Temple for a panoramic view of Luang Prabang and the Mekong at sunset. Back to hotel and you are free at your leisure. Overnight at your hotel

### *Overnight: Luang Prabang*

#### **Day 3: Luang Prabang - Pak Ou - Luang Prabang (B, L)**

Today, you will have an excursion on Mekong River by boat. You will visit the famous and sacred Pak Ou Buddha Caves, home to many thousands of Buddha images of all styles and sizes that have been placed by local people since the 16th century. Return to Luang Prabang by boat, stopping at Ban Xang Hai to try some "Lau Lao" Laos Whisky and Ban Phanom, a brocade weaving village. We'll arrive back at Luang Prabang in time for dinner (in your expense). Overnight in Luang Prabang.

### *Overnight: Luang Prabang*

#### **Day 4: Luang Prabang - Kuang Si - Luang Prabang (B)**

We will have a short time to visit the Phousi vegetable market where you can observe the bustling daily life of local people and buy textile products of surrounding tribes. We will continue to visit the beautiful Kuang Si fall, the biggest waterfall in Laos, 32 kilometres south of town. Along the way we stop to visit the villages of Ban Tha Pane and Ban Na Oune of Khmu and Hmong minorities. Arrive in Kuang Si Waterfall, you can soak up in cool water or walk along the forest trails. You also visit a Bear Rescue Centre near the falls where the rare Asiatic Black Bear is being protected and restored. Overnight in Luang Prabang

### *Overnight: Luang Prabang*

#### **Day 5: Luang Prabang - Xieng Khouang - Phonsavan (B)**

Today we will depart to Xieng Khouang. Along the way, we'll stop in the old capital "Muang Khoun" and the villages belonging to ethnic minorities. We'll arrive in Phonsavan, the capital of the province of Xieng Khouang. Here we'll stop at the colorful Central Market Phonsavan and then head back to the hotel for the night. Overnight in Phonsavan.

### *Overnight: Phonsavan*

#### **Day 6: Xieng Khouang - Vang Vieng (B)**

Today we will have a chance to visit the Plain of Jars, the most distinctive and enigmatic of all Laos attractions. The mysterious jars were carved from both sandstone and granite in various sizes from very small to about 3.5 metres high and are thought to be more than 2,000 years old. Of all the many jar sites, the three most popular ones to visit are known as Site 1, 2 and 3. Site 1 is where the biggest jar is located. While Site 2 and 3 offer picturesque views of farmlands and villages as they sit on top of small hills. We will continue to visit the tribes of the ethnic minorities of the H'mong and Thai peoples. Later, we'll transfer to Vang Vieng to spend the night in our hotel.

### *Overnight: Vang Vieng*

#### **Day 7: Vang Vieng - Vientiane (B)**

After a short visit to the central market, we will pass a bridge over the Nam Song River to reach Tham Jang Cave, a natural refuge of the local people during the Chinese invasion. Later, we will cross the river to reach the village of Ban Huai Ngai. We'll continue our journey southwards to the capital of Vientiane to visit the "Sandalwood City", which is located on the bank of Mekong. Overnight in Vientiane.

### *Overnight: Vientiane*

#### **Day 8: Vientiane visit (B)**

Breakfast at hotel. You will begin a guided city tour with the highlights of Vientiane. Start with the oldest

pagoda of Wat Sisaket, home to almost 7,000 Buddha images. You'll also stop by the former royal temple of the Lao monarchy, Wat Haw Phra Kaew, and Pha That Luang (the Great Sacred Stupa), which is the most important national monument in Laos, a symbol of both the Buddhist religion and Lao sovereignty. We will continue to visit Lanexang Avenue where you can take some photos of imposing Patuxai Monument. In the afternoon we will visit the Buddha Park, a collection of Buddhist and Hinduist sculptures located on the banks of the Mekong River, 25km southeast from Vientiane. The day ends with a beautiful sunset on Mekong river. We'll spend the night in Vientiane.

*Overnight: Vientiane*

## Day 9: Vientiane Departure (B)

You are free to go shopping of souvenir or relax at hotel. It's time for you to wrap up your memories of Laos tour package before transferring to the airport for departure flight. End the services

End of the journey!

## *Included*

### Included

- All private transportations
- Accommodation based on sharing twin/double room
- Meals as stated in the itinerary (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner)
- Entrance fee and sightseeing ticket
- Local English speaking guide
- Two bottles of drinking water

### Not Included

- International and domestic flights
- Individual travel expenses such as: laundry, telephone, tip
- Drinks in meals
- Others not mentioned in the program
- Laos visa
- Travel insurance
- Single supplement surcharge