

## 6 Days North and South

**Tour Code: LPZ06/VATL160601425**

Whether it's for trekking, cycling, kayaking, ziplining or a family homestay, a visit to northern Laos is for many the highlight of their trip. Dotted about are unfettered, dense forests still home to tigers, gibbons and a cornucopia of animals, with a well-established ecotourism infrastructure to take you into their very heart. Southern part is near the Cambodian border, the Mekong awakes from its slumber, slams into Si Phan Don (Four Thousand Islands) and disintegrates into a series of churning rapids. Downstream, a dwindling pod of rare Irrawaddy dolphins seek solace in a peaceful eddy. Upstream, an expanding pod of travellers find their own solace in the hammock-strewn bungalows of Don Det and Don Khon

### Day1. Arrival – Luang Prabang

On arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day free for you to explore or relax at your hotel.  
Overnight in Luang Prabang

### Day2. Luang Prabang – City tour

After breakfast at the hotel we will head off on bicycles to see some of the highlights of Luang Prabang including a visit to the **Royal Palace Museum**, which hosts a range of interesting artifacts from the Royal period in Luang Prabang. Cycling on we are seeing the city's oldest temples, the magnificent **Wat Xiengthong** with its roof sweeping low to the ground, representing classical Lao architecture, the impressive stupa of **Wat Visoun** and the shrine of **Wat Aham**.

After relaxing at your hotel to let you lunch settle we will pay a late afternoon visit to the **Arts and Ethnology Centre** to learn about Laos' many ethnic cultures. You can enjoy a coffee at the centre's café if you chose before our climb to the top of **Mount Phousi** to explore the sacred gilded stupa and to enjoy the panoramic view of the city and the sun setting over the Mekong River.

Descending the mountain you will find yourself in the midst of the famous Luang Prabang **Night Market**, where you can find a unique selection of handmade textiles and handicrafts locally made by both ethnic Lao and hilltribe people surrounding Luang Prabang. Overnight in Luang Prabang (B)

### Day3. Luang Prabang – Khouangsi Waterfall - Pak Ou Caves

This morning we drive to **Khouangsi Waterfall** stopping along the way to visit the morning **Phousi Market**, this where all locals of Luang Prabang come to do their daily shopping. You will see a variety of local foodstuffs and products including dried buffalo skin, local tea and saltpeter among the chickens, fish, vegetables and fruit, everything needed for daily life in Laos.

On arrival at the **Khouangsi Waterfall** you will have the opportunity to cool off with a refreshing swim in the topaz pools below the falls, walk along the forest trails and visit the Bear Sanctuary. You will also enjoy a **picnic lunch** below the falls.

Upon return to Luang Prabang we board our private boat for a pleasant and scenic cruise up on the Mekong River to the mysterious **Pak Ou Caves**. These caves are an ancient pilgrimage site and contain thousands of gold lacquered Buddha images left there over hundreds of years.

Returning to Luang Prabang we disembark our boat and have the option of taking a short drive to **Ban Phanom**, a village famous for its hand weaving or returning to the hotel for free time to relax. Overnight in Luang Prabang. (B, L)

### Day4. Luang Prabang – Pakse – Champasak – Khong Islands (Flight)

You will be transferred to the airport this morning for your flight to Pakse. On arrival in Pakse, we drive south to Champassak and to visit the fascinating pre-Angkorian ruins of **Wat Phu**, one of Southeast Asia's most dramatically situated mountain top temples. We have time to explore these intriguing Khmer ruins, which are perched at the base of Mount Phu Kao.

Following lunch, we continue our journey by **long tail boat to Si Phan Done** where you have the rest of the day to relax or to explore the island. Overnight in Khong Islands (B)

### Day5. Khong Islands - Surrounding

After an early morning breakfast, we explore **Khone Island**. Here we begin by re-tracing the French

colonial-past at Ban Khone, where some old colonial houses still stand and you glimpse the first Lao railway with its own locomotive.

We continue our exploration of the area of the 4000 islands by boat and visit the beautiful **Liphi waterfall**, also known as the Samphamith, which forms a natural border between Lao and Cambodia.

We return to Ban Nakasang and drive to the famous waterfall of **Khonephapheng Waterfall** - the largest waterfall in South East Asia, also known as the 'Niagara of the East'. Overnight in Khong Islands (B)

### Day6. Khong Islands – Pakse – Departure

After breakfast at your hotel you will be transferred back to Pakse to catch your flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia or exit Laos overland from the Chongmek International checkpoint to Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand.

Prices below are quoted in USD per person, valid till September 2020									
Group of:	2-2	3-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	25-29	Single suppl.
3-Star Hotel	1086	891	768	725	656	631	628	607	318
4-Star Hotel	1124	929	806	762	693	670	667	645	355
5-Star Hotel	1254	1057	936	891	822	799	796	775	484

Cities	3-Star Hotel	4-Star Hotel	5-Star Hotel
Luang Prabang	<a href="#">Sada Hotel</a> Deluxe	<a href="#">Vangthong Hotel</a> Deluxe	<a href="#">Luang Prabang View</a> Superior
Khong Islands	<a href="#">Pon Arena</a> Standard	<a href="#">Pon Arena</a> Deluxe	<a href="#">Pon Arena</a> Mekong Riverview

#### **Included in above prices:**

- Accommodation in twin shared basis
- Private, Airconditioned Transport
- Boat trips as stated in the itinerary
- English speaking guide
- Admission fees to sites stated in the itinerary
- Meals: daily breakfast at hotel
- Gov't taxes and service charges
- Luggage handling
- Drinking water

#### **Exclusive of above prices:**

- Visas and Immigration fees on arrival
- Domestic air ticket
- Int'l air tickets to/from Laos
- Travel and/or Medical Insurance
- Lunch or dinner unless stated in the itinerary
- Single room accommodation (quoted separately)
- Child or adult in triple share accommodation
- Foreign language guides other than English
- Peak Season or Special Events Surcharges
- Tip, drinks and other personal expenses

#### **Additional Remarks:**

- Itinerary is subject to change depending on flight availability, road and/or weather conditions and room availability.
- Group of 10 persons and above will use separate vehicle in Luang Prabang due to UNESCO restrictions on large coaches entering downtown Luang Prabang.
- Hotels listed above may not meet international star rating standards, especially in the remote areas where accommodation options are limited.
- Room rates quoted above do not include compulsory fees for special events, peak season such as Christmas and New Year or Gala Dinners etc.
- Prices are subject to change at any time as a result of VAT, Fuel Excise or other tax increases and USD currency fluctuations.

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(LHV - 11/12/2019)