

6 Days Miracle of the North

Validity Till Sept 2018

Tour Code: VVL06/VATL160601442

Vientiane capital is unlike any other capital city in Southeast Asia, it exerts a sleepy vibe and there is always only a light flow of traffic, even during rush hour! You will fall in love with the colonial architecture and the traditional temple structures of charming Luang Prabang. The people here have an interesting culture, they are naturally friendly and sociable wanting to know as much about your life as much as you do about theirs.

Day1. Arrival – Vientiane

On arrival at Wattay International Airport you will be met and transferred to your centrally located hotel. Vientiane is a charming and fascinating capital, with an interesting mix of Lao, Thai, Chinese, Vietnamese, French, and American influences.

After check in and time to freshen up we head out on our afternoon city tour. You are seeing the major temples of Vientiane including the oldest, **Wat Sisaket**, with its thousands of miniature Buddha statues, and the former royal temple of **Wat Phakeo**, which housed the famous Emerald Buddha Image. We also visit the national icon of Laos, **That Luang Stupa**, stopping along the way to take some pictures of the imposing **Patuxay Monument**, which is Vientiane's own Arc de Triumph, from there you visit **COPE Center**. The COPE was created in response to the need to provide **UXO** survivors with the care and support they required, namely by way of orthotic and prosthetic devices. This museum was set after in 1997 to help covering the victim during Indochina war.

Heading for the waterfront your evening is free to enjoy a few drinks watching the sunset over the Mekong River, explore the **Night Market** and take in some of the city's nightlife. Overnight in Vientiane (B)

Day2. Vientiane – Vang Vieng (Road)

After an early breakfast we depart the capital for our journey northbound. Our drive will take approximately 4 hours passing through spectacular countryside before climbing into the mountains. There will be photo opportunities along the way and a stop at a colourful local market where various hill tribes come to trade goods and buy provisions.

We will arrive in the midst of the stunningly beautiful scenery of Vang Vieng in time for lunch at the **Organic Farm** where you can eat traditional Lao food and sample some roasted goat cheese and mulberry wine.

After lunch we will visit the famous **Than Jang Cave**, once used by local people as a hideout from Chinese invaders. The rest of the afternoon is free to explore Vang Vieng by foot or bicycle, take a boat ride up river or just relax by the pool at your hotel. Overnight in Vang Vieng (B)

Day3. Vang Vieng – Tham Phoukham

After breakfast this morning we explore the countryside surrounding Vang Vieng by local tractor transport. We will pass by rice paddies, local ethnic villages and have opportunity to observe daily life. We visit **Tham Phoukham caves**, a national limestone cave surrounded by natural forest. You can explore the cave and take a dip in the natural pool at the cave's entrance.

We will enjoy a picnic lunch before making our way back to town and the rest of the afternoon is free to explore or relax at your hotel. Overnight in Vang Vieng (B, L)

Day4. Vang Vieng - Lung Prabang (Road)

This morning we drive further into the mountains passing spectacular scenery and numerous hill tribe villages. We will lunch at an altitude of approximately 1,300 meters above sea level surrounded by the endless mountain peaks of this remote region.

After lunch we continue on along Route 13 stopping for photo opportunities and arriving in Luang Prabang early evening. Overnight in Luang Prabang (B)

Day5. Luang Prabang - Pakou - Luang Prabang

This morning we will head out to see 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**.

From here we make our way to the Mekong River to 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.

Your afternoon and evening is free to explore Luang Prabang town, take in the **Night Market** or relax at the hotel. Overnight in Luang Prabang (B)

Day6. Luang Prabang - Departure

After breakfast we take a stroll through the **Dalat Sao** or morning market, full of local foodstuffs from the farms and jungles surrounding Luang Prabang. From here it is a short walk to the **Royal Palace Museum**, which hosts a range of interesting artifacts from the Royal period in Luang Prabang.

We then transfer to the airport for your departure flight. (B)

Prices below are quoted in USD per person, valid **till September 2018**

Group of:	2-2	3-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	25-29	Single suppl.
3-Star Hotel	1059	863	707	706	633	603	594	575	321
4-Star Hotel	1175	968	823	822	749	719	710	691	437
5-Star Hotel	1358	1162	1006	994	933	903	894	874	620

Cities	3-Star Hotel	4-Star Hotel	5-Star Hotel
Vientiane	Season Riverside Standard	Lao Plaza Regular	Settha Palace Deluxe
Vang Vieng	Vieng Tara Bungalow Riverview	Silver Nagas Deluxe	Riverside Boutique Deluxe
Luang Prabang	Sada Hotel Deluxe	Vangthong Hotel Deluxe	Luang Prabang View Superior

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 airticket

- 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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