

6 Days Unveiled Mystery Laos

Validity Till Sept 2018

Tour Code: VXL06/VATL160601421

This multi destination tour combines the World Heritage city of Luang Prabang, the Plain of Jars site at **Xieng Khouang** and the pleasant capital of Vientiane. Although a small country Laos is rich with attractions, culture and mystery, Laos preserves its unique heritage in many community and religious activities and festivals such as the tradition of "Alms Giving", the daily procession of the offerings of alms to hundreds of saffron clad monks at dawn in Luang Prabang. There are many intriguing and mysterious destinations such as the ancient Plain of Jars and the bizarre Buddha Park.

Day1. Arrival - Luang Prabang

On arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

After check in at your hotel 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 there we 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.

Your evening is free to explore the **Night Market** and sample some local cuisine at one of the many restaurants the town has to offer. Overnight in Luang Prabang (B)

Day2. Luang Prabang – Pak Ou cave – Khouangsi Waterfall

This morning you have the option and opportunity to rise early and participate in the daily morning ritual of **Alms Giving**, you will experience saffron-clad monks collecting offerings or 'Alms' from faithful local residents. This tradition is unique to Laos, being the only Buddhist nation still preserving the daily procession.

After breakfast back at the hotel we begin our journey 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.

Your evening is free to treat yourself a spa treatment or massage, do some shopping or relax at your hotel. Overnight in Luang Prabang (B, L)

Day3. Luang Prabang – Xieng Khouang (Road)

Today we depart early for a drive through spectacular scenery to Xieng Khouang Province, the home of the Plain of Jars. There are many stunning photo opportunities along the way and a couple of stops to explore **hill tribe villages**. After check in at your hotel in Phonsavan there will be time to go for a wander through town, visit the **MAG Centre** or chill out over a drink at the hotel. Overnight in

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Xiengkhuang (B)

Day4. Xieng Khouang – Vientiane (flight)

This morning we head out to explore the Plain of Jars. We will be visiting Sites 1, 2 & 3 as well as taking a short trek to a **Tai Dam** and **Lao Leum** village along the way.

Following lunch we drive on to explore the old capital of **Muang Khoun** and the nearby villages, home to the **Hmong hilltribe** and **Tai Dam** people.

Returning to Phonsavan we then board our short flight to Vientiane. On arrival we check in to the hotel. Your evening is free to take a stroll along the waterfront and enjoy a few drinks as you watch the sunset over the Mekong River. Overnight in Vientiane (B)

Day5. Vientiane – City Tour

This morning we head out to see the major highlight. 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 Prakeo**, 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.

After lunch and time to relax we drive south from Vientiane city to see the **Buddha Park**, an enchanting collection of Buddhist and Hindu sculptures set in parkland on the banks of the Mekong close to the **Friendship Bridge**. Here we find over 200 religious images dating back some 500 years faithfully recreated by a mysterious Buddhist monk.

Your evening is free to explore the **Night Market** and sample some local cuisine at one of the many restaurants the town has to offer. Overnight in Vientiane (B)

Day6. Vientiane – Departure

After breakfast you are free until 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	1023	836	734	673	609	581	579	560	316
4-Star Hotel	1135	947	846	778	717	690	687	669	428
5-Star Hotel	1358	1169	1068	1001	939	912	910	892	649
Alms Giving	Additional charge US\$40.00/person								

Cities	3-Star Hotel	4-Star Hotel	5-Star Hotel
	Standard	Standard	Standard
Luang Prabang	Sada Hotel	Vangthong Hotel	Luang Prabang View
	Deluxe	Deluxe	Superior
Xiengkhouang	Vansana	Anoulack Khen Lao	Anoulack Khen Lao
	Superior	Big Standard	Suite
Vientiane	Season Riverside	Lao Plaza	Settha Palace
	Standard	Regular	Deluxe

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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