



## Grand Tour of Laos

13 Days/ 12 Nights

Take your time to discover the Jewel of Asia. Laos, with Cambodia, Thailand, Burma and Sri Lanka, are the only countries that follow the Theravada way. Impressed you by Luang Prabang, definitely is one of the most impressive cities in the world. Xieng Khoang, with the mystery of Plain of Jars. And the beautiful landscape of remote area such as Hinboun with Kong Lor Caves, Thakhek and the mystery of 4000 Island.

### Trip at a glance:

- Day 1: Luang Prabang Arrival
- Day 2: Luang Prabang city tour (B)
- Day 3: Luang Prabang – Pak Ou – Khoang Si (B)
- Day 4: Luang Prabang – Xieng Khoang (B)
- Day 5: Xieng Khoang – Plain of Jars (B)
- Day 6: Xieng Khoang – Pak xan (B)
- Day 7: Pak Xan – Hinboun (B)
- Day 8: Hinboun – Thakhek (B)
- Day 9: Thakhek – Pakse (B)
- Day 10: Pakse – Tadlo (B)
- Day 11: Tadlo – Khong Island (B)
- Day 12: 4000 Island – Pakse (B)
- Day 13: Pakse – Out (B)

### Itinerary in detail:

#### **Day1. Luang Prabang arrival**

On arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Luang Prabang is perhaps the best-preserved traditional city in Southeast Asia. The tranquility and charm of this town with its splendid natural scenery and cultural sights make it one of the most delightful places to visit in Laos.

Overnight in Luang Prabang

### Day2. Luang Prabang city tour (B)

After a short rest, we visit the impressive stupa of **Wat Visoun** and the shrine of **Wat Aham, Wat Mai, Wat Sene**. We then climb up to the top of **Mount Phousi** for an enjoyable exploration of the sacred, gilded stupa as well as a beautiful sunset view of the city and the Mekong River. From there, we explore the **Night Market**, where you can find a lovely selection of handmade textiles made by the hill tribe and local people surrounding Luang Prabang.

### Day3. Luang Prabang – Pak Ou – Khoang Si (B)

*An optional early start gives you the fantastic opportunity to participate in the daily morning rituals of saffron-clad monks collecting offerings of Alms (ubiquitous sticky rice) from the faithful residents. This tradition is very unique in Laos, being the only Buddhist nation still preserving the procession.*

**AM:** After breakfast, we enjoy a short-guided tour seeing the magnificent **Wat Xiengthong** with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, which represents classical Laotian architecture. We then board a cruise upstream on the Mekong River, which also gives us a panoramic view of the tranquil countryside as well as an interesting visit to the mysterious of **Pak Ou Caves**, two linked caves crammed with thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues of various shapes and sizes left by pilgrims. Along the way, we stop at the small village of **Ban Xanghai**, where the local rice wine is distilled. We return to Luang Prabang at noon.

**PM:** We continue our excursion toward **Khouangsi Waterfall**, en route, we visit local villages of Lao ethnic minority groups at Ban Ouay, Hmong Village, Ban Ou, Laoloum Village and Ban Thapene, Khmu Village, then drive to the beautiful Khouangsi Waterfall where you can splash around in the turquoise pools or walk along the forest trails. The Khouangsi Waterfall setting really illustrates paradise. We return to the city by late afternoon to observe the **sunset at Wat Phabath**.  
Overnight in Luang Prabang

### Day4. Luang Prabang – Xieng Khouang (B)

Breakfast at hotel. We then heading out of Luang Prabang to **Xieng Khouang**, driving 6-7 hours through the wonderful natural scenery. En route, there will be plenty of opportunities for photos. We visit the **Plain of Jars site 1**. Transfer to your hotel for check-in.

Overnight in Xieng Khouang

### Day5. Xieng Khouang – Plain of Jars (B)

Following breakfast at Hotel, we transfer out to visit the **Plain of Jars site 2 & 3**, an impressive archaeological site encompassing hundreds of large stone jars scattered throughout the plateau. Then we drive south to visit the ancient town of **Muang Khoun**, the former provincial capital, where you can explore the ruins of a number of ancient pagodas in the Lanna style That Fun sputa and **Wat Phiawat**, a ruined temple containing a huge sitting Buddha  
The rest of day is free at your leisure.

Overnight in Xieng Khoang.

#### **Day6. Xieng Khoang – Pakxan (B)**

After breakfast visit Central Market in Phonsavan. Then transfer south to Pak Xan. Upon arrival, transfer to hotel for checking in. Overnight in Pakxan.

#### **Day7. Pak Xan – Hinboun (B)**

After breakfast, transfer to visit **Wat Dan Soung** - A series of colorful Buddhist buildings on the rocky outcrops surrounded by the beautiful nature. There are many large Buddha images, a holy pool, flower gardens, and rocks have interesting stories of the old legend 'Nang Sip Song' (The Twelve Ladies). 5Km on '4B Road' from 'Pakxan' Municipality. Then visit HMong Market Tunnam. Overnight in Pakxan.

#### **Day8. Hinboun – Thakhek (B,L)**

After breakfast we drive to **Kong Lor village**, which you can explore before we sit down in a small boat and go cave in the famous Kong Lor. We navigate through the cave, which is 7km long and a number of spectacular caves has, which are up to 100m high. We return through the cave and enjoy our lunch, then it goes to the boat for a 30 minutes on the Hin Boun River, which leads us past beautiful landscapes.

We then head out to Thakhek.  
Overnight in Thakhek.

#### **Day9. Thakhek – Pakse (B)**

After breakfast visit the **Tham Pa Fa cave**, which was rediscovered in April of 2004. The cave preserves 229 brozene Buddhas, some of which are over 300 years old, which is why this cave is also called Buddha Cave.

If time permits, we will explore a sea cave underneath lying with the local canoe boat.

Then we leave Thakhek to Pakse.  
Overnight in Pakse

#### **Day10. Pakse – Tadlo (B)**

The next destination of our trip will be **Tadlo**. On our way we pass many lush plantations, hills, forests and villages. Part of our pleasure of travelling in this region is to observe the beautiful countryside and meet local people. We stop over at some of the nearby villages, home of the Kato hilltribe group. The hill tribe people are unfailingly friendly; welcoming you with waving hands and smiling faces. These ethnic minorities still retain their age and old cultural traditions and are recognisably distinct from each other by their dress. We continue our journey through the Paksong and Boloven Plateau. The Boloven Plateau is known for its cooler temperature being located high above the Mekong Valley. Rivers run off this high plateau in all directions and then plunge out to lush forests along in a series of spectacular surging waterfalls. The scenery around Tad Fan waterfall is spectacular with twin waterfalls plummeting into a deep gorge surrounded by

flourishing vegetation. A trip to the plateau provides a refreshing break from the heat and allows you to observe the cultivation of rich coffee, tea, cardamom, bananas, and other crops that can be seen en route. This trip gives visitors the chance to venture off the beaten track and to discover some of the lesser-known areas of Laos, exploring the wild beauty of this southern region.

Overnight in Tadlo

#### **Day11. Tadlo – Khong Island (B)**

The views of stumbling water and lush vegetation around the waterfalls are nothing short of spectacular. We leave this lovely destination and drive back to Pakse and enjoy a leisurely trip to the former royal capital of Champasak, our base for exploring the ruins of Wat Phu. One of Southeast Asia's most dramatically situated temples. We have time to explore these intriguing Khmer ruins, which are perched at the base of Mount Phu Kao. Wat Phu is one of the Lao World Heritage sites recognized by UNESCO in 2001, this wonderful archeological site of Khmer civilization dates back to the 9<sup>th</sup> century, predating the famous Angkor Wat in Cambodia. A festival of this site is held yearly during the full moon in February and attracts numerous pilgrims from all over southern Laos. We continue our journey by motorboat to Don Khong, the largest island in the South Mekong river region known as the 4000 islands, one of the most scenic areas in Laos.

Overnight in Don Khong Island

#### **Day12. 4000 Island – Pakse (B)**

Heading out of town we embark on a long tail boat for venturing into the widest reach of the Mekong River, where during the dry season the waters recede and leave behind thousands of islets, giving this area a lovely name "Si Phan Done". We explore the local peaceful villages of Ban Khone, where you will see an array of relics from the French colonial era and retrace the old colonial past, including old French colonial buildings and the remnants of the first Lao railway with its locomotive. We continue discover the 4000 islands area by boat at our leisure to visit the marvelous Liphi waterfall, also called the "Corridor of the Devil" one of the most beautiful waterfalls marking the end of Lao border to Cambodia. Then we head out to Pakse.

Overnight in Pakse

#### **Day13. Pakse – Out (B)**

After breakfast, free at your leisure till transfer to airport for your flight home.

#### **TOUR PRICE:**

Please contact with Asia Reveal Tours for best price: [info@asiarevealtour.com](mailto:info@asiarevealtour.com)

#### **Inclusive of above prices:**

- Private transportation in private air-conditioned
- Accommodation in twin shared
- Private boat trip as stated in above sights

English speaking guide  
Admission fee to indicated sights  
Meals: as mentioned in the program (B= breakfast, L= lunch and D= diner)  
Gov't tax and service charge  
Luggage handling  
2 bottles of drinking water per day during the tour  
2 cold towels per day during the tour

**Exclusive of above prices:**

Visa stamping fee  
Int'l air tickets to / from Laos  
Domestic with airport tax  
Travel Insurance in all kinds  
Meals: lunch or dinner where not stated  
Single room (quoted separately)  
Tip, drinks, personal expenses and others