Itinerary

7 Day Classic Laos Small Group Tour

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.**

Day 1: Arrival in Vientiane, Laos

Sabaidee! Welcome to Vientiane, the charming capital city of Laos. This vibrant city is a unique blend of French-colonial architecture and traditional Buddhist temples, offering a rich cultural tapestry for visitors to explore. One of the city's most iconic landmarks is the golden Pha That Luang, a 16th-century Buddhist stupa that stands as a national symbol and testament to the city's historical and spiritual heritage.
Upon your arrival at the airport, you will be warmly greeted by your driver (please note that no guide will be present) who will assist with your transfer to the hotel. After checking in, the rest of the day is at your leisure. You may choose to relax at the hotel and unwind from your journey or start exploring the city's charming streets.

Take a leisurely stroll along the Mekong River promenade, where you can enjoy scenic views and perhaps visit a local café for a taste of traditional Laotian coffee. If you're up for some exploration, you might want to visit the nearby Patuxay Monument, also known as Vientiane's Arc de Triumph, or take in the serene atmosphere of one of the many nearby temples.

Whether you decide to immerse yourself in the local culture or simply relax and acclimatize, your first day in Vientiane promises to be a delightful introduction to Laos.

MEALS: Nil

OVERNIGHT (3 STAR): Lao Orchid Hotel, Vientiane

OVERNIGHT (4 STAR): SurStay Vientiane Hotel, Vientiane

Day 2: Vientiane – City Tour

After breakfast, we embark on a captivating, guided tour, starting with a visit to Wat Si Muang, a temple renowned for its supernatural powers and deep spiritual significance. This vibrant temple is a focal point for local worshippers who come seeking blessings and making offerings, creating a lively and reverent atmosphere.
Next, we transfer to Buddha Park, also known as Xieng Khuan, an enchanting collection of over 200 Buddhist and Hindu sculptures located on the picturesque Mekong Riverside meadow near the Friendship Bridge. Created by a mystical monk in the 1950s, the park is a surreal landscape filled with intricate statues and sculptures that blend religious imagery with fantastical elements, each piece reflecting the monk's unique philosophy on life and the universe.

In the afternoon, we continue our exploration of Vientiane's major sights. Our first stop is Wat Sisaket, the city's oldest temple, which is famous for its remarkable collection of thousands of miniature Buddha statues lining the walls of its cloister. This historic site offers a glimpse into the rich religious heritage of Laos.

We then visit the former royal temple of Wat Prakeo, which once housed the revered Emerald Buddha Image. This temple, with its elegant architecture and serene gardens, provides a tranquil retreat from the bustling city.

As we make our way to That Luang Stupa, the most significant national monument in Laos, we stop en route to photograph the imposing Patuxay Monument, Vientiane's very own Arc de Triumph. This grand monument, dedicated to those who fought for independence from France, offers panoramic views of the city from its upper levels.

The day concludes with a visit to the That Luang Stupa, the golden pinnacle of Lao architecture and a symbol of the nation's Buddhist faith. As the sun sets, we are treated to a spectacular view over the Mekong River, where the golden hues of the stupa and the vibrant colours of the sky create a mesmerizing scene, perfect for reflection and photography.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT (3 STAR): Lao Orchid Hotel, Vientiane

OVERNIGHT (4 STAR): SurStay Vientiane Hotel, Vientiane

Day 3: Vientiane ~ Vang Vieng

After enjoying a delicious breakfast, our driver (please note that no guide will be present) will transfer you to the train station for your journey to Vang Vieng. Your train is scheduled to depart at 07:50, and the scenic ride will take approximately 30 minutes.
Upon arrival in Vang Vieng around noon, you will be greeted by a friendly Tuk Tuk driver who will take you to your hotel in the heart of the town. After checking in and settling into your accommodations, the rest of the day is at your leisure to explore this picturesque town at your own pace.

Vang Vieng is renowned for its stunning natural landscapes, characterized by dramatic limestone karsts and lush green countryside. You might choose to begin your exploration with a leisurely walk through the town, where you can soak in the relaxed atmosphere and perhaps visit some of the local cafes and shops.

As the day draws to a close, head to the Nam Song River. The riverbanks offer the perfect setting to watch the sunset, with numerous spots to sit and take in the breathtaking scenery. Be sure to bring your camera to capture the vibrant colours of the sky as the sun dips below the horizon.

After a day of exploration and relaxation, return to your hotel to rest and recharge for the adventures that await in Vang Vieng.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT (3 STAR): Confetti Garden Hotel, Vang Vieng

OVERNIGHT (4 STAR): Silver Naga Hotel, Vang Vieng

Day 4: Vang Vieng - Kayaking, Caving, Ziplining & Blue Lagoon Adventure

Today's tour offers an action-packed combination of adventure, nature, and history—perfect for discovering what makes Vang Vieng such a captivating destination. After breakfast at your hotel, your English-speaking guide will collect you for the day's journey.

The adventure begins with a short drive north to Ban Vieng Sa Mai, a traditional Khmu village nestled along the Nam Song River. Here, you'll receive a safety briefing and basic kayaking instruction before launching your kayak into the gentle current.

As you paddle downstream, soak in the stunning scenery of limestone karsts rising dramatically from the lush greenery. You'll encounter a series of fun, bouncy rapids as you make your way to Tham Norn, also known as the Sleeping Cave.

Next, enjoy a visit to Tham NgangFar, or Angel Cave, where you'll explore its cavernous interior and float by tube into the depths of Tham Norn. Your guide will share stories of the cave's role during the Second Indochina War, offering a glimpse into Laos' hidden history.

A well-earned picnic lunch will be served amidst the serene surroundings before your next thrill—ziplining through the jungle canopy. Soar over the forest and Nam Song River on eight exhilarating lines and three sky bridges, covering 1,450 metres of pure adrenaline.

The journey continues with a final kayaking segment downstream back toward Vang Vieng, concluding with a refreshing visit to the famous Blue Lagoon, where you can swim or simply unwind.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

OVERNIGHT (3 STAR): Confetti Garden Hotel, Vang Vieng

OVERNIGHT (4 STAR): Silver Naga Hotel, Vang Vieng

Day 5: Vang Vieng ~ Luang Prabang

After enjoying a delightful breakfast at your hotel, a Tuk Tuk will be waiting to transfer you to the train station for your journey to the historic town of Luang Prabang. The train is scheduled to depart at 08:55, and the scenic ride will take approximately 60 minutes, offering you a chance to relax and enjoy the picturesque Laotian countryside.
Upon your arrival in Luang Prabang, you will be warmly greeted by our driver (please note that no guide will be present). The driver will assist with your luggage and transfer you to your hotel in the heart of the town. After checking in and settling into your accommodations, the rest of the day is at your leisure to explore this charming UNESCO World Heritage site or simply relax and unwind.

Luang Prabang is renowned for its well-preserved architectural, religious, and cultural heritage. You might choose to start your exploration with a visit to the bustling night market, where you can browse a variety of handcrafted goods, textiles, and local souvenirs. This vibrant market is a great place to immerse yourself in the local culture and interact with friendly vendors.

If you prefer a more tranquil experience, consider taking a leisurely walk along the Mekong River. The riverside offers stunning views and a peaceful atmosphere, perfect for a relaxing afternoon. You can also visit one of the many cafes and enjoy a cup of traditional Laotian coffee while watching the world go by.

As the day draws to a close, you may want to climb Mount Phousi, located in the centre of the town, for a breathtaking panoramic view of Luang Prabang and the surrounding landscape. The climb is rewarded with a spectacular sunset, providing a perfect end to your first day in this enchanting town.

Whether you choose to delve into the cultural sights, relax by the river, or shop at the night market, your first day in Luang Prabang promises to be a memorable start to your visit.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT (3 STAR): Sala Prabang Hotel, Luang Prabang

OVERNIGHT (4 STAR): Muangthong Hotel, Luang Prabang

Day 6: Luang Prabang - UNESCO Heritage & Pak Ou Buddha Caves

Today, we begin our exploration of Luang Prabang with a delightful Tuk Tuk ride to the National Museum, housed in the former Royal Palace. This museum showcases a rich collection of artifacts that beautifully reflect the cultural heritage of Laos, offering insights into the history and traditions of the Lao people. Our next stop is Wat Sene, the city's oldest temple, known for its striking architecture and serene ambiance. We then proceed to Wat Xieng Thong, a magnificent temple that stands as a significant monument to the spirit of religion, royalty, and traditional art in Laos. Its intricate carvings and beautiful mosaic decorations make it one of the most important and beautiful temples in the country.

Continuing our temple tour, we visit Wat Visoun, the oldest temple in Luang Prabang, which houses numerous Buddha images. The temple's distinctive architectural style and its serene atmosphere make it must-see. Next, we explore Wat Aham, known as the ‘Monastery of the Blossomed Heart,’ exuding a sense of tranquillity and spiritual significance. Finally, we visit Wat Mai, the largest and most richly decorated temple in the city, renowned for its impressive gold-covered façade and intricate carvings.

In the afternoon, we embark on an enchanting boat trip to the Pak Ou Caves. As we cruise along the Mekong River, we are treated to splendid natural scenery and glimpses of local fishermen going about their daily activities. The Pak Ou Caves, also known as Tam Ting, are a revered site filled with thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues in various positions, including meditation, teaching, peace, rain, and reclining (nirvana). These statues create a profound sense of spirituality and history, making the caves a fascinating destination.

On our return journey, we stop at the riverside village of Ban Xanghai, renowned for its production of Laolao, the traditional local rice wine. Here, you can observe the distillation process and perhaps sample some of the local brew. Our next stop is Ban Xang Khong, a village famous for its handmade paper and weaving crafts. This visit provides an excellent opportunity to witness traditional Lao craftsmanship and perhaps purchase some unique souvenirs.

As we cruise back along the mighty Mekong, if the weather permits, we will enjoy a marvellous sunset, with the golden hues of the sun reflecting off the river's surface, creating a breathtakingly beautiful scene.

In the evening, we explore the vibrant Luang Prabang night market. This bustling market offers a variety of handmade textiles crafted by local and hill-tribe people, as well as an array of street food, knick-knacks, and friendly banter. It’s the perfect place to immerse yourself in the local culture, sample delicious Lao cuisine, and pick up some unique handmade goods.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT (3 STAR): Sala Prabang Hotel, Luang Prabang

OVERNIGHT (4 STAR): Muangthong Hotel, Luang Prabang

Day 7: Depart Luang Prabang

As your unforgettable holiday in Laos comes to an end, today marks the final chapter of your journey. After enjoying a leisurely breakfast at your hotel, take some time to savour the last moments in the serene surroundings of Luang Prabang.
Once you have checked out of your hotel, our driver will be ready to transfer you to the airport. Please note that this transfer service does not include a guide, but our professional driver will ensure a smooth and comfortable journey.

As you make your way to the airport, reflect on the rich cultural experiences and breathtaking natural beauty you have encountered during your stay. From the bustling markets and historic temples of Vientiane to the tranquil rivers and caves of Vang Vieng, and the spiritual heritage and scenic landscapes of Luang Prabang, Laos has offered you a truly memorable adventure.

We hope your travels through this enchanting country have left you with lasting memories and a deeper appreciation for the unique charm and hospitality of the Lao people. Wishing you safe travels and a pleasant onward journey to your next destination.

MEALS: Breakfast