

Ancient Laos 7N 8D

Luang Prabang – Xieng Khouang – Vientiane

Day 01 Hong Kong – Luang Prabang

Depart Hong Kong by PG4554 (code share with *Cathay Pacific Airways*) 0930hrs, arrive Bangkok 1130hrs, connecting flight PG945 departing 1440hrs, arrive Luang Prabang 1650hrs. Meet and greet, hotel transfer.

Overnight Luang Prabang.

Day 02 Luang Prabang (Pak Ou Caves)



Pak Ou Buddha Caves

Enjoy breakfast in the comfort of your hotel, your Private Tour begins as you are escorted for your **Upstream Cruise** from the Mekong River to the sacred **Pak Ou Buddha Caves**. See light misting through thousands of gold lacquered Buddhas of various sizes deposited by locals over the centuries. Continue via a traditional boat to the **Ethnic Minority Villages** of the Hmong and Lao Thung tribes.

In the afternoon head to Luang Prabang as your tour takes you to the Buddhist temple **Wat Xieng Thong** tucked away on the northern tip of the peninsula. Considered one of the most important monasteries in the area, standing tall as a significant monument to the spirit of religion, traditional art and royalty.



Wat Xieng Thong

Head to **Wat Visoun**, originally built during the rein of King Wisunarat from the early 16th century, Luang Prabang's oldest operating temple. After checking out **Wat Aham** your guide will take you to the **Ham Kham**, the **Royal Museum** where you can learn about Lao history and culture.

As the day comes to close, ascend to the top of **Mt. Phousi**, climb 328 steps and you will be rewarded with an amazing view of the city with a charming sunset across the majestic Mekong River. Hotel transfer

Overnight Luang Prabang.

Day 03 Luang Prabang (Kuang Si Waterfall & Night Market)



Kuang Si Waterfall

Hotel breakfast, at 8:00 AM you will be transferred to an excursion of **Kuang Si Waterfall**, pack your swimming gear! Soak in the breathtaking cascades of water at this scenic attraction, enjoy swimming in the spectacular azure pools. Below the tiered limestone pools you will find cold water, a great place to escape the heat.

Visit **Hmong Village Ban Na Ouane** where older women still dress in traditional costumes, you will have a chance to purchase hand woven crafts as a souvenir should you like. Embark on a short walk through the forest to the waterfall to experience the serene beauty.

Your private tour concludes with a stroll through the local **Night Market**, hotel transfer, Stroll down to the local Night Market and have a short visit and head back to hotel

Overnight Luang Prabang.

Day 04 Luang Prabang (Plain of Jars) – Xieng Khouang

After breakfast, check-out and at 8.30 AM your private guide shall escort you to the fascinating **Plain of Jars** in the Xieng Khouang Plateau (approx. 06 hrs car ride). Drive along the mountainous roads where beautiful panoramic views can be seen, lunch will be served at the peak Kiukhacham. Afterwards. You will be driven to the enigmatic Plain of Jars, today your tour covers **Site 01** or Tong Hai Hin, the most popular of the three.



Plain of Jars



Plain of Jars

Explore this megalithic archaeological landscape where thousands of stone jars lay scattered across the lower foothills and upland valleys. These clusters of objects range from one to several hundred, a French researcher in the 1930s concluded that these objects were associated with prehistoric burial practices.

The Plain of Jars dates to the Iron Age over 2,500 years ago! **Site 01** was a strategic

military point during the second Indochina War, you can see trenches, foxholes and tank scrapes among other signs of battle. Transfer to hotel for check in & rest

Overnight Xieng Khouang.

Day 05 Xieng Khouang (Plain of Jars) – Vientiane

After breakfast, check-out and at 8:30 AM your private guide will take you to two other sites at the **Plain of Jars, Site 02** and **03**. Site 02 or Hai Hin Phu Salato contains about 93 jars spread across two adjacent hills; a small plundered stupa is situated east whereas on a hill to the west you will find a stone disc with an animal relief. Bomb craters are all over the place and many stone jars have impacts from ground battles.

Site 03 or Hai Hin lat Khai is comprised of eight groups with the main group housing 150 jars on top of a scenic hill providing amazing views of rice paddies. You will be driven to **Muang Khoun**, the ancient Tai Phouan Capital destroyed during the second Indochina War, see the mysterious ruins of **That Foun** and **Vat Piavat** that offer a glimpse into the war torn past. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant.



Muang Khoun

After early lunch and proceed to Xieng Khouang airport for QV402 1540hrs, arrive Vientiane 1610hrs, your guide and car shall be waiting to greet you upon your arrival. Transfer to hotel for check in

Overnight Vientiane.

Day 06 Vientiane (Buddha Park)



Wat Si Saket

Enjoy breakfast in the comfort of your hotel, your morning tour covers **Wat Si Saket, Wat Ho Phra Keo, That Luang** and **Victory Monument**. Around 9:00 AM your guide shall escort you to the oldest temple in Vientiane, **Wat Si Saket**, famous for the cloister wall portraying thousands of tiny Buddhas from the 16th and 19th century comprised of wood, bronze and stone. You may also see locals praying and offering food to the monks, a charming daily ceremony to witness.

Continue to the beautiful 16th century **Wat Ho Phra Keo**, originally constructed as the Lao royal family's personal chapel and home to the Emerald Buddha. Learn how the statue was snatched, reclaimed and how it currently sits in Bangkok. The temple has since been converted into a museum.



Wat Ho Phra Keo

Your morning tour ends with **That Luang**, see the towering 45 meter high stupa and the most revered shrine in Laos. On the way, stop at **Victory Monument** (Patuxai), a war monument right in the heart Vientiane, dedicated to this who fought in the struggle for independence from France.



Buddha Park

Afternoon private tour takes you to **Buddha Park**, a famous sculpture park with hundreds of religious statues, a great place for a relaxing walk and photos. The entrance is crafted to look like the mouth of a demon while a stone ladder inside provides a bird's eye view of the park. We recommend photography on top of the giant pumpkin structure that towers at three stories tall! Hotel transfer, overnight Vientiane.

Day 07 Vientiane (Free day)

Enjoy your final full day at your own leisure, optional private sightseeing can be arranged if you prefer or even full day car / guide you to visit places you wish to see.

Overnight Vientiane.

Day 08 Vientiane – Bangkok – Hong Kong

After breakfast, check-out and transfer to airport depart Vientiane by PG944 1140hrs, arrive Bangkok 1255hrs, connecting flight PG4563 depart Bangkok 1455hrs, arrive Hong Kong 1850hrs.