



**Laos**  
**8 days / 7 nights**

Day 1 : arrival in Luang Prabang

Day 2 : Luang Prabang

Day 3 : Luang Prabang

Day 4 : Luang Prabang - Vientiane

Day 5 : Vientiane

Day 6 : Vientiane - Pakse

Day 7 : Pakse

Day 8 : Pakse - Siem Reap

## Itinerary and Map

- Day 1 : arrival in Luang Prabang
- Day 2 : Luang Prabang
- Day 3 : Luang Prabang
- Day 4 : Luang Prabang - Vientiane
- Day 5 : Vientiane
- Day 6 : Vientiane - Pakse
- Day 7 : Pakse
- Day 8 : Pakse - Siem Reap



# Itinerary Synopsis

Timing	Day 1 Arrival in Luang Prabang	Day 2 Luang Prabang	Day 3 Luang Prabang	Day 4 Luang Prabang – Vientiane
Breakfast	On board	At hotel	At hotel	At hotel
Morning	On board	City tour	Kuang Si Waterfalls	Boat cruise to Pak Ou Caves
Lunch	On board	Tamarind	Un Petit Nid	On the boat
Afternoon	Arrival in Luang Prabang with flight – TBA.  Transfer to hotel.  Baci ceremony at Villa Xieng Mouane	Split into 2 groups: - Group 1 = Easy cycling to Ban Xang Khong - Group 2 = Living Land	Split into 2 groups: - Group 2 = Easy cycling to Ban Xang Khong - Group 1 = Living Land	Back to Luang Prabang  Free time  Flight LPQ-VTE
Dinner	Welcome dinner at Villa Xieng Mouane (catered by L'Elephant)	Dinner at hotel	Coconut Garden	Dinner at hotel – restaurant La Signature
Accommodation	Villa Maly			Ansara

# Itinerary Synopsis

Timing	Day 5 Vientiane	Day 6 Vientiane - Pakse	Day 7 Pakse	Day 8 Pakse - Siem Reap
Breakfast	At hotel	At hotel	At hotel	At hotel
Morning	Full day tour	Transfer to airport  Flight VTE-PKZ  Full day tour 4000 islands	Option 1: Full day tour Bolaven Plateau  OR  Option2: Full day Vat Phou and Cycling in Don Daeng	Transfer to airport  Flight PKZ-REP  <b>***End of services in Laos***</b>
Lunch	Makphet	Local restaurant	Local restaurant	
Afternoon	Full day tour	Full day tour 4000 islands	Option 1: Full day tour Bolaven Plateau  OR  Option2: Full day Vat Phou and Cycling in Don Daeng	
Dinner	Kualao	Dinner at hotel	Dinner at hotel (poolside)	
Accommodation	Ansara	La Folie		

## Day 1 : Arrival in Luang Prabang

Welcome to the spiritual capital of Laos.

Upon arrival in to Luang Prabang, **VIP welcome** inside the immigration area by one of our representatives, collection of the passports, customs papers, visa on arrival forms duly filed in and assistance to proceed visa paperwork. In the meantime, guests proceed through immigration and outside – all luggage, VISA and customs formalities will be taken care of by our team.

Your guides will greet you and transfer you to your **hotel** for check-in.

Free time at hotel.

Enjoy a **baci ceremony** at Villa Xieng Mouane followed by a welcome dinner there. It will be catered by **L'Elephant**, the most famous restaurant in town.

Overnight in Luang Prabang.



## Day 2 : Luang Prabang

Your guides will pick you up from your hotel after breakfast. There will be a morning city tour, starting at the former Royal Palace, now the **National Museum**, where you will explore the history of Laos.

Then rest of the morning will include visits at **Wat Xieng Thong**, the most revered temple in Luang Prabang. You will also see **Wat Visoun**, the holiest temple of the city. You will also climb the 328 stairs of **Mount Phousi** and enjoy the magnificent view over the city and surrounding hills.

Lunch will be taken at **Tamarind**. Run by an Australian woman and her Lao husband, they have created a fresh menu of Lao dishes and are dedicated to promoting a greater understanding of the local cuisine.

This afternoon, the group will be split into 2 for the activities:

- Group 1 = Easy cycling to **Ban Xang Khong**, a village that has specialised for many years in manufacturing and selling products made from silk and Saa Paper (paper made from the bark of the Mulberry Tree).
- Group 2 = **Living Land**, a community enterprise run by local people to support the children of poor farming families with their education and medical needs. Amazingly fun and educational, this is the best insight in to traditional rural lifestyles that you can have in half a day. This place will be privatized for the group.

Transfer back to your hotel for the **dinner**.

Overnight in Luang Prabang.



## Day 3 : Luang Prabang

After breakfast at hotel, take a short transfer through the Luang Prabang countryside to **Kuang Si Waterfalls** (32km southwest of the city).

Stop en-route to visit a small village which is home to one of the area's many **ethnic minorities**. You will have an opportunity to learn about their traditions and culture, much of which has remained unchanged for centuries.

Upon reaching Kuang Si Waterfall, relax and enjoy the beautiful natural surroundings. The water tumbles down a large drop and cascades gently in to several cool, clear pools where you can enjoy a refreshing swim (please dress modestly). You might also like to visit the bear sanctuary which is next to the falls, run by Free The Bears Fund Inc.

Transfer back to the restaurant **Un Petit Nid** in Luang Prabang to have lunch.

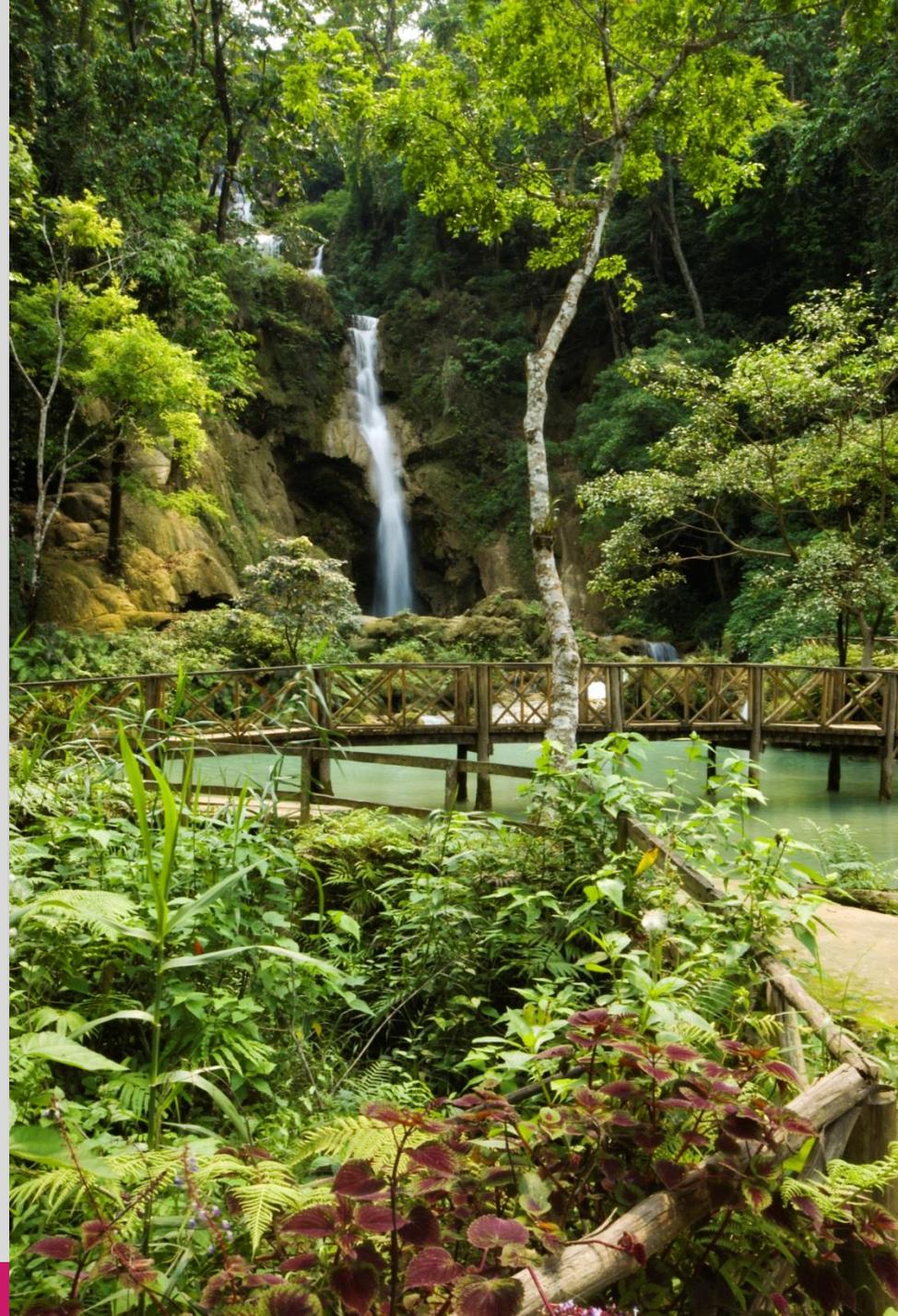
In the afternoon, the 2 groups (made on day 2) will be switched:

- Group 2 = Easy cycling to **Ban Xang Khong**
- Group 1 = **Living Land**

And then it will be time to enjoy a nice dinner at the **Coconut Garden**, one of the most popular restaurant in town, serving delicious fresh food.

Take also some time to visit the hill tribe evening market for some shopping. This colorful market takes place every evening from around 5pm along the main streets of town and is a great place to look for souvenirs.

Overnight in Luang Prabang.



## Day 4 : Luang Prabang - Vientiane

Breakfast at hotel. You will be met at your hotel this morning for a private transfer to the boat jetty. Board the Nava Mekong, a traditional river boat, for a shared cruise on the mighty Mekong River, departing around 1000. You will travel at a leisurely pace and have plenty of time to appreciate the simple rural lifestyles along the river and the dramatic yet peaceful scenery.

The cruise upstream to the **Pak Ou Caves** takes approximately 2 hours and along the way you will stop to explore the village of Ban Xang Hai. The caves themselves are very close to the confluence of the Nam Ou and Mekong Rivers, hence the name Pak Ou. In these 2 caves are displayed hundreds of sacred centuries-old Buddha images which are the object of pilgrimages during the Lao New Year festivities around mid-April.

As you cruise back downstream a selection of **typical Lao dishes** will be served onboard. The cruise back to Luang Prabang takes approximately 1.5 hours, arriving around 1400.

After that you will be transferred to the hotel and will have some **free time**. You can relax at the hotel or enjoy a stroll in the surroundings.

Transfer to the airport to take **flight QV104 to Vientiane** (18.35-19.20).

Upon arrival you will be transferred to your **hotel** where you will have dinner. Their restaurant **La Signature** is very reputed in the capital.

Overnight in Vientiane.



## Day 5 : Vientiane

Today enjoy a guided tour to discover the hidden charms of Vientiane, whose name means ‘the city of sandal wood’.

Your tour begins at the serene **Wat Sisaket**, one of the most beautiful temples in the capital, and its breezy teak covered hallways are filled with thousands of miniature Buddha statues.

Continue on to the nearby **Wat Phra Keo**. Used as a religious museum, this temple displays a collection of both Lao and Khmer works of art. Visit **COPE**, an association working to help landmine victims. Continue to the **Patuxay** monument, Laos’ version of the Arc de Triomphe, where you can climb the stairs to the roof for sweeping panoramic views of the city. Next, your tour takes you to **That Luang**, the holiest site in Laos.

Enjoy a delicious Lao-style lunch at **Makphet** Restaurant. Established by Friends International ([www.friends-international.org](http://www.friends-international.org)), Makphet is a charity-run restaurant aiming to train the area’s street children in the hospitality industry.

After lunch, drive out to **Buddha Park**. The drive takes around 45 minutes. Also known as Xieng Khuang, this unusual park is filled with over 200 Buddhist and Hindu statues.

Start the drive back to Vientiane with a stop en route at **Mai Savanh** to explore the traditional textiles of the Lao people. Another stop will be made at the **Lao Disabled Women Development Center**.

At the end of the day, you can take a stroll along the **Mekong**.

Dinner at **Kualao** restaurant, located in the city centre.

Overnight in Vientiane.



## Day 6 : Vientiane - Pakse – 4000 Islands

In the early morning, transfer to the airport to take **flight QV305 to Pakse** (06.15-07.05).

Welcome to the Southern part of Laos! Upon arrival you will be transferred to the **4000 islands** directly. Your luggage will be dropped at your hotel in Champasak in the meantime.

Get ready for a full day exploring the area known locally as Sipandon ('4000 Islands'). In this beautiful area the Mekong River reaches 14 kilometers wide and thousands of small islands dot the waterway. Travel first by car for around 2 hours to the village of Ban Nakasan. From here you will take a local boat to the peaceful island of **Done Khone**, where plantations and simple villages are almost all you will find. We recommend bicycles as the best way to explore, or a tuk-tuk if you prefer.

Start with a short boat trip will give you the chance to spot the rare **Irrawaddy Dolphin**.

Visit the impressive **Lippi falls**, which are on the west of Don Khone, very close to the Cambodian border. Their original name, Tad Somphamit, means "trap spirit" and the locals revere these falls as they believe they act as a trap for bad spirits.

The islands played an important role during the French Colonial rule as they linked Laos to Cambodia and Southern Vietnam.

Continue your exploration and ease in to the slow pace of life, observing locals and taking your time. Lunch will be included at a **local restaurant**.

Return to the mainland by boat and then return to your hotel by car, arriving back at your hotel in time for sunset and then enjoy a **dinner** there.

Overnight in Champasak.



## Day 7 : Pakse (Champasak)

For today, there will be 2 options that you can choose from:

### OPTION 1: Bolaven Plateau

Discover some of southern Laos' most beautiful scenery with a full day tour of the **Bolaven Plateau**, a mountainous region home to dozens of hill tribes, waterfalls and coffee and tea plantations. Your first stop is at **Tad Lo Waterfalls**, a beautiful formation of three separate falls.

Stop en route for lunch at a **local restaurant**.

This afternoon, continue to Tad Yuang and **Tad Fane waterfalls**. On the drive back you will stop to visit a tea and/or **coffee plantation**. Laos is known for its famous coffee, the majority of which is grown here on the Bolaven Plateau. Enjoy a cup of the local brew before you leave.

### OPTION 2: Vat Phou & cycling on Don Daeng

Groups will be split into 2 and will do the half day activities vice versa.

In a half day, discover an ancient temple ruin and quaint colonial town. **Wat Phou** is a ruined Khmer Hindu temple complex which has been inscribed a world heritage site by UNESCO.

Recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, Wat Phou was built by the rulers of the Khmer empire before the construction of Angkor Wat.

You will have the chance to enjoy **cycling on Don Daeng** during the other half day and explore the charm of this peaceful island, or just relax!

A nice **dinner** will be served at the hotel on the **poolside**.

Overnight in Champasak.



## Day 8 : Departure from Pakse

Breakfast at hotel, then transfer to the airport to take your departure flight to **Siem Reap**.

Suggested flight with Lao Airlines: **QV517** (08.25-09.25).





## Appendix Venue & Hotels

# VILLA XIENG MOUANE

Capacity up to 100 pax

The building rests on large wooden stilts and is surrounded by bricked path and tropical garden. The site has been renovated by the Maison du Patrimoine and is a remarkable example of the conservation of the built heritage of Luang Prabang.

The Villa is a rare living example of the all-wooden traditional Lao style architecture and has kept a special appeal that only oil lamps and candles will enable you to witness. It is now home to the Heritage Information center and hosts a permanent exhibition of Lao Arts, Crafts and Ethnic diversity.



# VILLA MALY

Once the Princess's residence, the boutique hotel Villa Maly is situated in the heart of the city of Luang Prabang, 10 min. walking distance from the main historical attractions and places of interest. Set amidst tranquil garden the hotel an idyllic heaven.

## ACCOMODATION

- 33 rooms in total
- Room Types : Superior room & Deluxe room

## HOTEL FACILITIES

- Spa: poolside venue, therapists, four-hand option
- Swimming pool
- Electric vehicle
- Restaurant & Bar



# ANSARA

Ideally located on a quiet lane right in the center of the historical capital, Ansara hotel offers an effortless access to Vientiane's most popular sights and attractions.

## ACCOMODATION

- 28 rooms in total
- Room Types : Savvy room & Suites

## HOTEL FACILITIES

- Free wifi
- 24h front desk
- Laundry service
- Pool
- Restaurant & Bar



# LA FOLIE LODGE

La Folie Lodge located on Done Deang Island, on the banks of the Mekong River in the southern Laos, where exceptional natural beauty and unspoilt charm combine with areas of significant cultural in-terest, faces to the ruined Khamer temples of Wat Phou.

La Folie Lodge is surrounded by lush landscape and exotic garden ideal for peace and relaxation. Daily vistas of superb sunsets and traditional scenes of fishermen in pirogues greet the eyes.

## ACCOMODATION

- 24 rooms in total
- Room Types : Superior room, Standard room & VIP Residence

## HOTEL FACILITIES

- Balcony with Mekong River view
- Swimming Pool & poolside restaurant



