



Laos Adventure in Style (8days/7nights) Vientiane-Muang La-Nong Khiaw-Luang Prabang

Adventure travel in Laos doesn't mean you have to rough it! Our 8 day tour incorporates a trip up to the luxurious eco retreat of Muang La, where you can explore remote hill tribe villages, yet sleep in comfort and in style.

Day1. Arrival – Vientiane

Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Your half day city tour, begin with the oldest, **Wat Sisaket** with thousands of miniature Buddha statues and the former royal temple of **Wat Prakeo**, which previously housed the famous Emerald Buddha Image. Enroute to Lao's national precious heritage, the famous and sacred structure of **That Luang Stupa**, you will have the opportunity to take some pictures of the imposing **Patuxay** Monument, which is well known as Vientiane's own Arc de Triumph. **Wat Si Muang**, site of the lak meuang (pillar-stone) of Vientiane, Si Muang temple is home to the guardian spirit of the statues. The final visit of the day will be the excellent **COPE** exhibition centre, highlighting a much overlooked aspect of Laos and a major problem many of the local people face on a day to day basis in the form of unexploded ordnance as a result of heavy bombing campaigns during the Vietnam War era. A spectacular view of the Mekong River at sunset is a perfect way to finish the day.

Overnight in Vientiane.

Meals: _/_/_

Day2. Vientiane – Oudomxay – Muang La (Flight and Road)

Following the morning at leisure, you will be transferred to the airport for your **flight up to Oudomxay**. Flight from Vientiane to Oudomxay with Lao airlines QV501 departs at 10:00, arrives at 10:50 (*note: the flight schedules are subject to change without prior notice from the airlines*).

Upon arrival in Oudomxay, you will be met by your guide and continue on road for about 45minutes to Muang La. Here we have the chance to visit the intriguing **Pra Xack Kham Temple** with its sacred Buddha image. The 400 years old legendary statue is said to have many supernatural powers, and is widely worshipped among the faithful local Buddhists. We stop in **Muang La**, famous for its natural hot springs for the night. No activities are planned for the rest of the day so you can stroll around the village or just relax at the riverside retreat enjoying a massage or some time in the hot springs. Dinner at Muang La Resort.

Overnight in Muang La.

Meals: Breakfast/_/Dinner

Day3. Muang La – 4WD Adventure “Meet the Lao ethnic groups”

Today with 4WD to meet Ichor villages and Hmong, two communities typical of Laos. The track you will use is superb and offers an incredible climb up 1000m where you will have a memorable and unique point of view. You will visit first a beautiful village Ichor totally isolated. This community from Yunnan and Tibet has remained extremely traditional. Lunch will be taken on a magnificent view. We join in after the Hmong village of Ban Tauser (45minutes walking). These ethnic group, originally high steppes of Tibet, you will discover their habits, the important place that keeps the animals (pigs, buffaloes...) in their lifestyle and care they provide. The path leading to the village completely isolated offers many viewpoints impressive. A few minutes from the villages is a viewpoint with 360 degree panorama on the region... unique. Back to the resort at the end of the day. Dinner at Muang La Resort.

Overnight in Muang La.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Day4. Muang La – Muang Khua – Nong Khiaw (Road and Boat)

This morning we drive to the riverside town of **Muang Khua** and board our **local private boat** for an unforgettable **cruise down the Nam Ou River** to Nong Khiaw. This particular stretch offers stunning limestone karst scenery and remote villages, including **Ban Sob Jaem** a Khmu and Hmong village that can only be accessed by boat. We stop to explore a few of these sights before reaching our accommodation in **Nong Khiaw** by mid afternoon. Upon checking into your hotel, you have the option of taking a short bicycle ride to the picturesque local limestone caves nearby. *(Approximately 2-3hours driving, 5-6hours boating depending on stop on the way)*

Overnight in Nong Khiaw.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/_

Day5. Nong Khiaw – Luang Prabang (Boat)

This morning we **continue our leisurely trip downstream on the Nam Ou River**, enjoying the lush green forests and landscape. Along the way we stop to visit the mysterious caves of **Pak Ou**, two linked caves crammed with thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues of various shapes and sizes left by devoted pilgrims. We continue our trip down the river to the UNESCO World Heritage City of Luang Prabang. This former royal capital with its gleaming temple roofs, fading colonial architecture and stunning mountain backdrop retains a unique charm rarely found in modern Asia. You transferred to your hotel by private vehicle by early evening. *(The boat journey today takes approximately 6-7hours including stops on the way)*

Overnight in Luang Prabang.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/_

Day6. Luang Prabang – full day city tour

An optional early start gives you the fantastic opportunity to participate in the daily morning ritual of saffron-clad monks **collecting offerings of Alms** from the faithful residents. This procession is very unique in Laos, being the only Buddhist nation still preserving the tradition. Afterwards, we have the option of visiting the local morning market, before returning to the hotel for breakfast.

After breakfast we visit the **Royal Palace Museum** which hosts a range of interesting artefacts *(closed on Tuesday)*. We then begin our temple tour taking in some of the city's most beautiful, including the nearby Wat Mai, the magnificent **Wat Xiengthong**, with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, representing the classical Luang Prabang style, as well as **Wat Visoun**, known as 'The Water Melon Stupa' due to its shape.

In the afternoon we visit the excellent **Arts and Ethnology Centre** which gives us a further insight into the ethnic mix and culture of Laos *(closed on Monday)*. We then visit the weaving textile and jute paper making villages of **Ban Xangkhong** and **Ban Xienglek**. Late this afternoon stretching your legs climb **Mount Phousi**, these offers a spectacular sunset and a panoramic view over Luang Prabang and the Mekong River. Afterwards, strolling through the night market (open between 5pm-10pm) setting in downtown selling a large variety of local textiles and ethnic handicrafts.

Overnight in Luang Prabang.

Meals: Breakfast/_/_

Day7. Luang Prabang – Kuang Si Waterfall

After breakfast, we visit the local **Phosi Market**, this is the place where all the locals shop and your guide will show you the diverse offerings on display. We also stop at **Ock Pop Tock**, a silk weaving centre. Here you will be given a guided tour and the silk weaving process will be explained. Next we drive to **Ban Thinkeo**, a Hmong village and start trekking with the villagers. Your guide will explain to you the common use of the plants for the Hmong people. You will go to the garden and cut some vegetables and herbs with the local people. We then continue to **Kuang Si Waterfall**, where you will enjoy a picnic lunch overlooking the beautiful multi tiered falls. You also have the opportunity to cool off in the turquoise blue pools. Afterwards you return to Luang Prabang in time to catch the sun setting over the Mekong.

Overnight in Luang Prabang.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/_

Note: during rainy season (May-September) the itinerary is subject to change due to the weather conditions, an alternative programme is available.

Day8. Luang Prabang – Departure

Depending on your departing flight you may have time at leisure before your transfer to the airport for departure.

Meals: Breakfast/_/_

END OF SERVICES

Hotels quoted in above package

Location	3Star	4Star	5Star
Vientiane	City Inn Vientiane (Deluxe room)	Green Park Boutique (Deluxe room)	Settha Palace (Deluxe room)
Muang La, Oudomxay	Muang La Resort (Superior Bungalow)	Muang La Resort (Deluxe Riverview Bungalow)	Muang La Resort (Deluxe Riverview Bungalow)
Nong Khiaw	Nong Khiaw Riverside (Standard Bungalow)	Nong Khiaw Riverside (Standard Bungalow)	Nong Khiaw Riverside (Standard Bungalow)
Luang Prabang	Mekong River Side Hotel (Superior room)	Villa Maly (Superior room)	Satri House (Deluxe room)

**** Prices please contact directly sales@viengchampatour.com ****