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LAOS MYSTERIES REVEALED 9 DAYS

Laos, being known as "The land of a milion elephants", is featured with majestic mountains, unspoiled tropical forest, rice paddies, and river. There are many ancinets temples - Wat and the friendly people, always towards Buddhism creating a harmonious picture. Admiring the vast rice fields and dense forests, you like living in another world. In addition, the gentle ethnic minorities with their unique customs as well as traditions make you do not want to leave here. Let's join our Laos Mysteries Revealed 9 days tour and create your beautiful lifetime memories!!!

Tour type: Private **Duration:** 9 Days

Departure: Daily Tour Styles: Off the beaten track, Soft Adventure, Nature Destination: Vientiane - Buddha Park - Vang Vieng - Xieng Khouang - Luang Prabang - Pak Ou Caves - Kuang Si Waterfalls

ITINERARY TOUR:

DAY 1: VIENTIANE ARRIVAL

Welcome to "the city of the moon", the least developed capital city of Asia. Upon your arrival at Wattay International Airport, our tour guide and driver welcome you at the airport then take you to hotel to check in and relax. Please kindly note that the hotel room will be ready at 14:00 hrs. The early check-in could be guaranted with a surcharge. You will have time to stroll around the town for your own exploration.

Meals: NA

Accommodation: Hotel in Vientiane



DAY 2: VIENTIANE – BUDDHA PARK

Have breakfast at your hotel. Around 8:30 am, the tour guide and driver pick up you at lobby to start the tour today.

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We will first visit Wat Si Muang, which is very famous for its supernatural power. After that, we transfer out to see **Buddha Park**, an enchanting collection of Buddhist and Hindu sculptures on the Mekong Riverside meadow, close to the Friendship Bridge. There are approximately 200 religious images dating back over 500 years, which were created by a mysterious monk spreading his philosophy on life and revealing his ideas about the universe. We then visit **Lao Disable**

Women Development Center, which assist disable women to cope with their disability and advocate for their rights. Spend time watching the video and learn about the effort to earn their daily living. You can support them by buying some small handicrafts at the shop.

In the afternoon, we will make a visit to **That Luang**, the holiest site in Laos. Constructed by King Setthathirat in the 16th century, the temple is resplendent as the sun is shines upon its towering golden spire.

Then, we enjoy a panoramic view over the city as you climb the stairs to the top of **Patuxai**, Vientiane's own "Arc de Triomphe".

Continue down Lane Xang Avenue the serene Wat Sisaket, the only temple left intact after the Siamese (Thai) invasion in 1828.

After thatm we visit Wat Phra Keo. Being used as a religious museum, Wat Phra Keo displays a collection of both Lao and Khmer works of art.

We will end our city tour along the banks of the Mekong River as the sun begins to set. Stroll along the river, stop to enjoy a cold drink, or sample a snack from one of the many local food stalls.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Vientiane



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DAY 3: VIENTIANE – BAN THAHEUA

After breakfast at hote, we leave the capital at around 8:30 am for our journey northbound to Ban Thaheua.

We will see some breathtaking scenery enroute as we pass through spectacular countryside towards the mountainous region. Along the way, we visit the busy and colorful market of KM52 where various hill tribes come to trade goods and buy provisions.

We may also make a short photo stop at **Hin Heup bridge**, and the fish market in **Ban Tha Heua**.

From there, we will transfer to the nearby resort in Ban Thaheua locating at the north side of Nam Ngum lake, the "sea of Laos".

In the afternoon, our guide will escort you to the nearby village, passing through the local primary school, which is livelier during the school time. We will also visit the local market with plenty of fish stall displays.

After that, we come back to hotel and relax for the rest of the day.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Ban Thaheua

Distance: 160KM | 4-hour transfer



DAY 4: BAN THAHEUA - VANG VIENG

In the morning, transfer to Vang Vieng.

On arrival, visit Tham Jang, which was used by the local people as a refuge from Chinese invaders 200 years ago.

From there, we will drive further to Tham Nangfa or Angel Cave, which is filled by the huge limestone formations and has

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spectacular stalactites in various unique formations.

You have ample time to visit **Blue Lagoon**, which is a great spot to relax and cool off before transferring back to Vang Vieng

Take a local long tail boat (2 people per boat) to cruise for approximately 30 minutes upstream on the Nam Song River,

enjoying the beautiful scenery as you go.

You will then be driven back to your hotel, with the option to stop at local villages and a market along the way.

Relax for the rest of the day and enjoy a beautiful sunset on the Nam Song River from your hotel. Overnight in Vang Vieng

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Vang Vieng

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Vang Vieng

Distance: 240KM / 6–7-hour transfer



DAY 5: VANG VIENG - TRAIN TO LUANG PRABANG

After breakfast, drive 14 km north to the amazing **Tham Xang** (**Elephant Cave**) which lies on the banks of the Nam Song River. It is an important Buddhist temple and owes its name to the remarkable limestone formations in the cave. Next we head to the nearby **Tham Hoi cave** (**Snail cave**) which winds its way deep into the mountains. Here we spend 45 minutes exploring the numerous long corridors and wonderful limestone formations.



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We will also explore the Loop Cave and its amazing stalagmite formations before continuing on to **Tham Nam (Water Cave**)

At Tham Nam cave a cool pool of spring water lies at the mouth. It is a brilliant place to cool off by going for a swim! We tube through the cave which is full of water. In the dry season the water is completely crystal clear!

After this we trek 2km to the Hmong village of Phathao. The journey there passes through rice paddy fields and vegetable

gardens. Up on arrival there is transport to take us back to Vang Vieng.

In the afternoon, take the train to Luang Prabang (15:31-17:00)

On arrival in Luang Prabang, transfer to your hotel.

Overnight in Luang Prabang.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Luang Prabang



DAY 6: LUANG PRABANG - CITY TOUR

After breakfast, our guide will take you on an in-depth walking tour of the city.

The walk is oriented towards **the lesser-known parts of the town** including charming lanes showing the more traditional atmosphere of the heritage town.

Along the way, we will see the four different types of buildings categorized by UNESCO.

The first one is the **traditional Lao house** which is made from tropical hardwood or bamboo and built on stilts.



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The second is a **half wood and half cement house** built after the arrival of the French.

The third is the **traditional French colonial building** that are similar to those found in Vietnam and Cambodia.

The last form of architecture you will see is the **old Chinese shop houses** that were built to be used for both commercial and residential purposes.

In the afternoon, we will visit some famous attractions inside city center including the oldest temple of **Wat Sene** and the magnificent Wat Xiengthong with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, which represents classical Laotian architecture. We then continue with a visit to the **Royal Palace Museum**, which hosts a range of interesting artifacts. From there, we walk to the nearby **Wat Mai**, which is one of Luang Prabang's largest and most richly decorated temples.

Late afternoon, we climb up to the top of **Mount Phousi** for an enjoyable exploration of the sacred, gilded stupa as well as a panoramic sunset view of the city and the Mekong River.

The tour ends after a visit to the famous Night Market, where you can find a lovely selection of handmade textiles made by local and hilltribe people surrounding Luang Prabang.

Overnight in Luang Prabang

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Luang Prabang



DAY 7: LUANG PRABANG - PAK OU CAVES

Today we will wake up as sunrise (around 05:30am - 06:30 am depending on season) to prepare for the most sacred tradition of Laos, the daily morning alms giving, which dates to the 14th century. More than 200 Buddhist monks depart

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from various temple to gather their daily meal from the faithful residents sitting quietly on the streets.

We then visit the temporary morning market near the former Royal Palace. Just set on the ground, the local people come here to barter their day's catch from rice, to vegetable, to fish, or chicken.

After that, we have breakfast then make a visit to **Royal Palace Museum**, which was built in 1904 during the French colonial era for King Sisavang Vong and his family.

After that, we embark on a leisure cruise upstream on the Mekong River, which also gives us a breathtaking view of the tranquil countryside, before reaching the mysterious 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 village of **Ban Xanghai**, where they make the local rice wine.

On the way back to Lunag Prabang, we will visit the old **Wat Sene** and the nearby magnificent **Wat Xiengthong** a superb piece of Lao temple architecture, which presents a sweeping two-tiered roof and ornate mosaics including a beautiful 'tree of life 'glass montage on the rear temple wall.

If we have enough time, we will drive out of the city to visit **Ban Xangkhong**, the Thai Lue village, which is famous for its arts and crafts. We also visit the nearby village of **Ban Xienglek** specializing in making the traditional Saa paper.

You can either get to the nearby village and join a **petangue game** with the local team.

In the late afternoon, we will make a stop at Wat Prabath to admire the sunset; this is the ideal place to catch the last beauty of the day.

The tour ends after a visit to the famous **Night Market**, where you can find a lovely collection of handmade textiles made by local and hilltribe people surrounding Luang Prabang.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Luang Prabang

If you are fond of various ethnic cultures, you can visit the Traditional Art and Ethnology Center (closed on Monday).

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DAY 8: LUANG PRABANG - KUANG SI WATERFALLS - BUFFALO FARM

After breakfast at the hotel, the tour guide and driver pick up you at lobby at **8:30 am** then start today today. We ascend the 329 steps to the top of **Phousi Hill** for a panoramic view of the city and the Mekong River.

On the way to **Kuang Si waterfalls**, we will make a stop at **Buffalo Dairy Farm** to join a scheduled tour of the farm every 20 minutes starting on the hour from 10am until 5pm

Cuddle up to our beautiful buffalo at 450 kilos or feed Ferdinand, the friendly buffalo at just 750 Kilos! They love to eat, not only grass but bananas as well!

After eating, our buffalo's next favourite activity is having a bath. You'll get to wash them and give them a scrub. It's like a "day spa" for buffalo!

Hands on milking demonstration! Learn how to milk a buffalo and why buffalo milk is so good for you.

The Buffalo may be the stars of the show, but our playful pigs, cheeky chickens and rollicking rabbits are also plenty of fun for the young and young at heart!

Then we transfer directly to the beautiful **Kuang Si**, which is the biggest waterfall in the Luang Prabang area with three tiers leading to a 50-metre drop into spectacular azure pools before flowing downstream. The pools also make great swimming holes and are very popular with both tourists and locals

There is also the chance to walk to the nearby village of **Ban Thapene**, and explore the hidden waterfalls, which is rarely visited by other tourists



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If you want, we will take a short visit to the Bear Rescue Center, which houses a couple of dozen animals rescued from the hands of poachers and traffickers.

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On the way back to Luang Prabang, we will take a short visit to the Ock Pop Tock Living Craft Center, set serenely close to the Mekong, this beautiful, traditionally styled workshop, where weavers, spinners and batik makers produce top-quality fabrics, offers free tours every half-hour. This is also one of the best spots to admire the sunset in Luang Prabang Transfer back to your hotel late afternoon. Overnight in Luang Prabang

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Luang Prabang



DAY 9: LUANG PRABANG DEPARTURE

Have breakfast at your hotel. Enjoy your free time to explore Luang Prabang. Driver will pick up you at lobby at 2.5 hours before your departure flight and take you to the airport for your next flight.

Thanks for joining us and we hope to see you in the future.

Meals: Breakfast Accommodation: N/A



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PACKAGE PRICES:

27 Jan 2023 - 26 Aug 2023

	PRIVATE TOUR
Superior (3* hotels)	US \$1150
First class (4* hotels)	US \$1309
27 Aug 2023 - 25 Mar 2024	
	PRIVATE TOUR
Superior (3* hotels)	US \$1150
First class (4* hotels)	US \$1309

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Notes:

- *All prices are based on per adult, in Double/Twin sharing
- Small group tour available (max 10 guests): HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- Surcharge will be applied for single traveler or single room request

OUR PRICE INCLUDE:

- 8 Breakfasts
- Car, Cruise
- Hotel (8 nights), N/A (1 night)
- Transportation with air-condition in private
- Accommodation in twin/double shared room
- Boat trip as stated in above sights
- English speaking guide
- Admission fee to indicated sights
- Meals as per program
- Tax and service charge
- Luggage handling and drinking water

OUR PRICE EXCLUDE:

- Hotel EARLY check in & LATE check out
- Peak season surcharge & compulsory dinner at the hotel (if any)
- International flights with taxes
- Travel Insurance
- Tips, laundry and gratuities
- Meals not marked on itinerary, and water during meals

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Cancellation by Customer

- Cancellation received from 31 days to 40 days prior arrival date: 10% of total package tour charged
- Cancellation received from 21 days to 30 days prior arrival date: 30% of total package tour charged
- Cancellation received from 11 days to 20 days prior arrival date: 50% of total package tour charged
- Cancellation received from 1 day to 10 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total package tour charged

CHILDREN PRICES:

- The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults
- For infant (<04 years old): FOC except domestic ticket cost
- 04 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate
- 04 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
- 04 11 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate