

Laos: Vientiane to Luang Prabang (by train)

7 days / 6 nights

From
\$1799

Per person / Double occupancy / land package
For departure between April 01 and September 20, 2023,
3* hotels

COPE in Vientiane

COPE is an inspiring NGO that provides survivors of unexploded ordnance (UXO) with care and prosthetics.

Wat Xieng Thong

This Buddhist temple was built between 1559 and 1560 and is one of the most important monasteries in Laos.

Kuang Si Falls

This three-tiered waterfall, about 29 kilometers south of Luang Prabang, is a favorite for international guests and locals as well.

Mount Phousi Sunset

Located in the heart of the city and 150 m high, Mount Phousi is offering unforgettable views over the temples and homes of Luang Prabang.



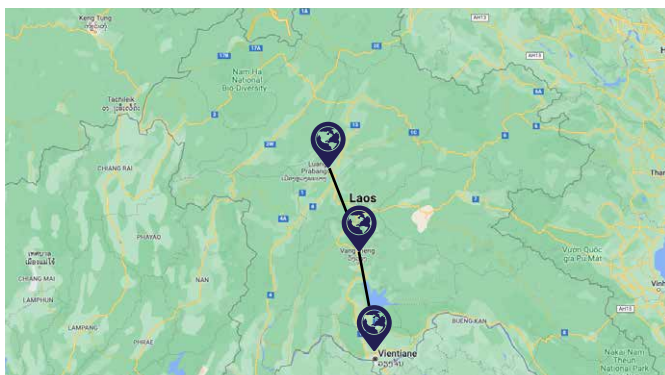
Day 1: Vientiane arrival

Welcome to Laos! Upon clearing Customs and Immigration, meet your guide who will present you with a welcome packet with all necessary documentation and vouchers.

Vientiane's unhurried air reflects its status as South-east Asia's smallest capital. Old French colonial villas mix with tranquil Buddhist temples in this quaint city nestled on the banks of the Mekong.

Transfer to the hotel by air-conditioned vehicle and time for leisure.

Overnight in Vientiane



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Day 2: Vientiane City Tour

Breakfast at the hotel. Vientiane is confusing! Is it Asian or French? There are beautiful Buddhist sites such as Wat Sisaket and the gleaming golden stupa of Pha That Luang. Yet turn a corner and you come face to face with Patuxai, a monumental arch resembling the Arc de Triomphe. Did you know that Laos was the most bombed country during the Vietnam War? You will visit COPE, an inspiring NGO that provides survivors of unexploded ordnance (UXO) with care and prosthetics.

And of course, there will be time to practice your bartering skills at the local market!

Today's Highlights: Pha That Luang, Ho Pha Keo (former Royal Temple), Wat Si Saket, Wat Si Muang, Patuxai, Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE), Talaat Sao Market. (ca. 8 hours)

Overnight in Vientiane

Day 3: Vientiane to Vang Vieng (by train)

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer by air-conditioned vehicle to Vientiane train station for your departure to Vang Vieng. The new Lane Xang Fast Train will take approximately one hour from Vientiane to Vang Vieng. Upon arrival to Vang Vieng, transfer to your hotel for check in.

Visit the Tham Chang Cave with its stunning view over the valley, home for migrating people who settled near the town's southern Meuang Xong Village to raise vegetables.

Continue to the Poukham Cave, considered sacred by Lao people and is popular largely due to the lagoon in

the cave. The beautiful green-blue waters are perfect for a dip after the stiff climb. The main cave chamber contains a Thai bronze reclining Buddha. Finish today by taking a long tail boat (2 persons per boat) on the Nam Song River through the scenery of beautiful karst mountains.

Overnight in Vang Vieng

Day 4: Vang Vieng to Luang Prabang (by train)

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the Vang Vieng train station for your departure to Luang Prabang. The ride will take approximately one hour.

Arrival in Luang Prabang and transfer by air-conditioned vehicle to your hotel.

Traditionally known as the Kingdom of a Million Elephants, Laos is blessed with a verdant countryside, glittering Buddhist temples, languid village life and gentle people.



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Day 4: Continued

Visit the National Museum, a modest but graceful building which combines traditional Lao and French beaux-arts motifs. This turn-of-the-century royal residence has been preserved as it was when the royal family last lived here and provides unique insights into the history of Laos. Then, visit Hor Phrabang. In the right front corner room of the Palace, which opens to the outside, is a collection of the palace's most prized art pieces, including the Phrabang, cast of a gold, silver, and bronze alloy. This Buddha stands at 83 cm tall and weighs around 50 kg.

Continue to Wat Mai, which was constructed in 1821 during the reign of King Manthatourath and was once the residence of Phra Sangkharaj (the Patriarch of the Buddhist clergy).

In the evening visit Mount Phousi for the sunset. Climb 328 steps starting from the entrance on the opposite side of National Museum, or 410 steps on the other side of Khan River to the small temples atop Phou Si. The hill is 150m high and sits in the middle of the town, offering beautiful views over the temples and river.

Overnight in Luang Prabang

Day 5: Luang Prabang – Pak Ou Caves & City Tour

Breakfast at the hotel. Today, follow the spiritual footsteps of the pilgrims to the Pak Ou Caves. These ancient limestone caves are crammed full of thousands of Buddha statues, many broken and crumbling, covered in dust and cobwebs. But first, relax on a cruise upstream the Mekong River observing life on the sleepy riverbanks. If there's time, you'll stop at a village where the eye-watering Lao Lao whisky is made. Be warned, it's potent! Today's Highlights: River cruise to Tham Pak Ou Caves, Ban Xang Hai Village. Set between the Nam Khan and Mekong rivers, Luang Prabang is a charming town filled with heritage buildings, colonial villas, and gilded temples.

Wat Xieng Thong was built in 1560 and situated on the banks of the Mekong River, It is the most beautiful monastery in Luang Prabang and shows the typical Lao art style with old religious artifacts and some ancient masterpieces of Lao art.

Wat Visunalat (Wat Visoun) was built in 1513 during the reign of Chao Wisunalat and is the oldest operating temple in Luang Prabang with a collection of gilded wooden Buddhas from the 15th and 16th centuries. Also visit That Makmo, one of the more unusually shaped stupas in Luang Prabang. It is affectionately called by many locals as That Makmo, meaning Watermelon Stupa, on account of its rotund shape. Explore Wat Aham, an old temple known for its two enormous banyan trees.

Overnight in Luang Prabang

Day 6: Luang Prabang – Kuang Si Waterfall - Elephant experience

Enjoy the essentials on this exciting tour. Begin with a presentation about elephants, then Experience being a mahout / learn to communicate with your elephant, Lao long boat rides, Tad Sae Waterfall and finish with a delicious lunch buffet.

You will also explore our elephant museum, hospital and dung paper making process.

Pack your swimsuit for a unique swimming experience at the Kuang Si Waterfall - the biggest waterfall in the Luang Prabang area. The pools also make great swimming holes where both tourists and locals can enjoy a refreshing dip.

We'll have you back to your hotel with plenty of time to enjoy your afternoon plans in Luang Prabang.

Overnight in Luang Prabang

Day 7: Departure from Luang Prabang

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning at leisure until your transfer by air-conditioned vehicle to Luang Prabang airport for your departure from Laos.



The Package Includes:

- 6 nights accommodation in double occupancy, choice of hotels or similar
- 6 breakfasts
- English speaking private local guides
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Drinking water during sightseeing
- Ground transportation in private, air-conditioned vehicles
- Train ticket from Vientiane to Vang Vieng in regular class
- Train ticket from Vang Vieng to Luang Prabang in regular class
- All entrance fees for sightseeing as mentioned on itinerary

The package does not include:

- Any airfare
- Visa for Laos
- Meals not mentioned, beverages
- Personal expenses
- Gratuities to guides and drivers, tips

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Hotel options, or similar

City	Option A	Option B
Vientiane	Surestay Hotel 3* S	Lao Poet Hotel, 4*
Vang Vieng	Silver Naga Hotel, 3*	Riverside Boutique Hotel, 4*
Luang Prabang	Parasol Blanc Hotel, 3*	Villa Maly Hotel 4*

Land package rates 7 days / 6 nights

Dates	Hotels Option A Per person / double occupancy	Hotels Option B Per person / double occupancy
January 10 to March 31, 2023	\$ 1,899	\$ 3,269
April 01 – September 24, 2023	\$ 1,799	\$ 2,549

Single traveler / Single room supplement

On request

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