

DAY TRIPS IN LAOS

TOURS ESCAPE FROM LUANG PRABANG

OVERVIEW

Situated in northern Laos at the confluence of the Nam Khan and Mekong Rivers, the ancient town of Luang Prabang was declared as UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1995. The small city is an outstanding example of the fusion between traditional architecture and Lao urban structures with those built by the European colonial authorities.

Luang Prabang was the ancient royal capital of the Lan Xang Kingdom until 1545 when Vientiane was chosen the capital. The myriad temples, saffron-robed monks, sacred caves and colonial buildings, hill tribes, the well-recognized hand-woven silk and cotton textiles with local patterns which deeply reflect century-old tradition, cozy atmosphere and laid-back pace of life, all become the undeniable trademarks of this ancient town. Cascading waterfalls and the mighty Mekong River with plenty of opportunities to unwind and sail your way through the town are some of other highlights the town has on offer. Luang Prabang is simply a must for any first-time visitors to the country.

LUANG PRABANG – BAN LONG LAO – KUANG SI WATERFALLS – LUANG PRABANG (Trekking)

Tour code: LPQ-L14
Tour type: Cultural, Nature & Adventure
City: Luang Prabang
Time: 8:30-17:30

Overview:

If you love experiencing Luang Prabang in another way, then this trip is for you. Get a sense of the natural beauty of the town on this full-day trekking to numerous ethnic villages surrounding the town and have interesting glimpse at lives of Lao hill-tribe community. Hike through rice paddy fields, lush green jungle and steep slopes to villages of Khmu and Hmong villages. The final stop on your trekking route is the beautiful Kuang Si Waterfalls where you can relax and swim after a long day. This tour is ideal for travelers with a reasonable level of fitness.

Itinerary:

Your private guide will meet you at your hotel lobby and then drive west to Ban Xeng Mouk where the trek starts. The driving time is approximately 1 hour.

You begin with a visit to the ethnic Khmu village of Ban Longlao Nung before heading to the nearby Hmong village of Ban Longlao Song. You will be able to observe the lifestyles of these two culturally very different minority groups and see how despite their differences they manage to work together on a day to day basis and even sharing the same school.

As we continue onwards the trail leads through rice paddy and vegetable fields before reaching the mountainous forest. Along the way we explore a cave which was used as a bomb shelter by the locals during the second Indochina war. Afterward, one more hour of trekking brings you to one of the many springs which feed Kuang Xi waterfalls, a beautiful pool full of sacred fish can be seen here. After

descending from the top of the waterfall you will be served a Lao style lunch amongst some beautiful settings!

We recommend you spend the afternoon on bathing and relaxing around the turquoise pools below the waterfall. You also can visit the bear conservation center which is located nearby and home to many bears which have been rescued from illegal farms. Return to Luang Prabang, a short walk made at a nearby Khmu village of Ban Thapene which is home to some of the most beautiful pools of Kuang Xi Waterfalls. Tour ends at your hotel in late afternoon

Approx. 2 hours driving, 4 hours trekking (no car escorted)

Group	1	2	3-4	5-6	7-9	10-12	13-15
Price	292	155	118	98	82	76	61

Included: Private transportation with English or French speaking guide/Entrance fee & mineral water/ lunch