

## **5DAYS – JEWELS OF THE MEKONG**

### **Laos (Houeixai – Pakbeng – Luang Prabang)**

#### **DEPARTURE SCHEDULE OF LUANGSAY CRUISE**

01 Oct – 30 Apr: Monday, Thursday, Friday

01 May – 30 Sep: Monday, Friday

#### **1. OVERVIEW:**

*The highlight of this tour is the 2 day 1 night cruising along the Mekong River from Houeixai (the bordering town with Thailand) to Luang Prabang (the UNESCO World Heritage Site) with the luxury Luangsay Cruise, which is renowned for offering a unique cultural journey and an opportunity to understand more about life and nature along the legendary river. As part of our 2 days cruise, you will spend the night at Luang Say Lodge, and experience the fiery and romantic sunset from your luxury teak and rosewood bungalow along the river. The visit to the ancient city of Luang Prabang also gives you a deeper look on the culture of the sleepy Laos.*

#### **2. ITINERARY IN BRIEF**

<b>DAY</b>	<b>ITINERARY</b>
1	HOUEIXAI – PAKBENG (Luangsay Cruise)
2	PAKBENG – PAK OU CAVES – LUANG PRABANG
3	LUANG PRABANG – KUANG SI WATERFALLS – SUNSET COCKTAIL
4	LUANG PRABANG – MAHOUT COURSE
5	LUANG PRABANG – DEPARTURE

#### **3. THE TOUR**

##### **DAY 1: HOUEIXAI – PAKBENG (Luangsay Cruise)**

The Luang Say boat leaves Huay Xai pier at 9.30am (please be at Luang Say Houei Sai office not later than at 8.30) for a cruise down the Mekong River to Pakbeng. En route, one stop is made to observe rural life along the Mekong and observe minorities. A buffet lunch is served on board. We arrive in Pakbeng before sunset and check in at the Luang Say Lodge. Dinner on the terrace overlooking the Mekong River

**Meals: Lunch, Dinner**

**Accommodation: Overnight on Houeixai Cruise**

##### **DAY 2: PAKBENG – PAK OU CAVES – LUANG PRABANG**

You will enjoy a full breakfast at the Lodge from 7.00am. (Optional: walk to Pakbeng market, where people from the surrounding village of minorities sell their goods, please ask at Luang Say lodge). At 8.00am board the boat for the second leg of the cruise. A short stop is made to visit a hilltribe village where you can watch the traditional process of Lao whiskey production before having a buffet lunch on board. Continue to Pak Ou village at the mouth of the Nam Ou River, where you visit the Tam Thing Caves of a Thousand Buddhas. Arrive at Luang Prabang around 16h00 or 17h00. Transfer to your hotel; free for the rest of the day.

**Meal: Breakfast, Lunch**

**Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Luang Prabang**

### **DAY 3: LUANG PRABANG – KUANG SI WATERFALLS – SUNSET COCKTAIL**

An optional early start gives you the fantastic opportunity to participate in the daily morning rituals of saffron-clad monks collecting offerings of Alms (ubiquitous sticky rice) from the faithful residents. This tradition is very unique in Laos, being the only Buddhist nation still preserving the procession. From here, we visit local market near the Royal Palace where you can find anything from fresh vegetables, rice, steamed fish, frogs and many other things. This is an opportunity to get a real flavor of the local culture.

We then drive to Kuang Si Falls, located 30 kilometers south of Luang Prabang. The many tiered waterfalls have scooped out small basins of turquoise color. You can cool off with a refreshing swim in the pools and hike around the falls if wanted. You'll also visit the Kuang Si Falls Butterfly Park, one of the must-visit spots, newly opened on January 2014.

From there, we will transfer to the Living Craft Center, where we will be welcomed by the Manager, who will offer us the tour around the center and give us the detailed explanation of what the center are doing to promote the traditional Lao silk. This is the good chance for you to have a soft knowledge of the Lao traditional weaving techniques.

After the tour, we will enjoy the wonderful sunset cocktail at the Living Craft Center terrace overlooking the Mekong River. This is the really unforgettable experience for you when visiting Laos; the best way to catch the last beauties of the day. We then transfer back to your hotel.

**Meal: Breakfast**

**Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Luang Prabang**

### **DAY 4: LUANG PRABANG – MAHOUT COURSE**

In the morning, your guide and driver will take you to Elephant Village. On arrival, the Camp Manager will welcome and greet you and brief shortly about the village. After, enjoy the impressive experience of approx. 30 minute elephant ride on the Howdah – the name of Elephant seat, you will then take boat trip to the nearby jungle.

Lunch at the Elephant Restaurant

Bathe Your Elephant: Take your own elephant down to the Nam Khan River for an exhilarating bathing experience! Boat trip to the Tad Sae Waterfall: Take a traditional Lao long boat to the Tad Sae Waterfall and relax in the clear water.

We are free to stroll around the Elephant Village before transferring back to city center

**Meal: Breakfast, Lunch**  
**Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Luang Prabang**

#### **DAY 5: LUANG PRABANG – DEPARTURE**

A prominent Luang Prabang silver smith's, the Fine Arts School and the Central Market are of interest to many people and we can visit these sights prior to bidding farewell to Luang Prabang and catching the departure flight

**Meal: Breakfast**

#### **4. EXTENSION TOURS:**

Add-on beach relaxation or tours to neighbor countries; Laos, Cambodia and Thailand or Myanmar

**5. PRICE:** All rates are per person sharing DBL or TWN/FB Basis, in US dollar, net and non-commissionable.

**Date: 01 Oct 2015 – 30 Apr 2016**

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
First Class	1.880	1.802	1.763	1.745	931
Superior packages	2.251	2.173	2.134	2.117	1.310
Deluxe packages	3.955	3.877	3.838	3.820	2.168

**Date: 01 May 2016 – 30 Sept 2016**

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
First Class	2.352	1.542	1.466	1.450	581
Superior packages	3.014	1.870	1.794	1.766	913
Deluxe packages	6.219	3.889	3.813	3.797	2.100

**Date: 01 Oct 2016 – 31 Dec 2016**

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
First Class	1.959	1.878	1.836	1.818	970
Superior packages	2.345	2.264	2.223	2.205	1.365
Deluxe packages	4.120	4.039	3.998	3.979	2.259

#### **WHAT IS INCLUDED**

- Accommodation in a twin or double room with daily breakfast
- Lunch or dinner as specified in the itinerary
- Services of a driver and private air-conditioned vehicle during all tours and transfers.
- Experienced English-speaking guide during all tours and transfers
- Private board for sightseeing as mentioned in the program, Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary

- Mineral water is available as complementary

### **WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- International & Domestic flight tickets
- Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- Gratuities for guides and drivers
- Visa stamping fee at the airport ( US\$ 30 in Laos, paid by cash at the airport)
- Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance)
- Personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone, drinks, etc. All other services not specified in the itinerary
- All other services not specified in the itinerary

### **LIST OF HOTELS USED:**

<b>Destination</b>	<b>OPTION 1 – 5 STAR</b>	<b>OPTION 2 – 5 STAR</b>	<b>OPTION 3 – 5 STAR</b>
<b>Luang Prabang</b>	<b>LUANGSAY RESIDENCE</b> <a href="#">Luangsay Residence</a> (Pioneer Suite)	<b>BELMOND LA RESIDENCE</b> <a href="#">Belmond La Residence Phouvao</a> (Garden Suite)	<b>AMANTAKA RESORT</b> <a href="#">Amantaka Resort</a> (Suite)
<b>Pakbeng</b>	<b>LUANGSAY LODGE</b> <a href="#">Luangsay Lodge</a> (Superior)	<b>LUANGSAY LODGE</b> <a href="#">Luangsay Lodge</a> (Superior)	<b>LUANGSAY LODGE</b> <a href="#">Luangsay Lodge</a> (Superior)

### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- All prices are quoted in USD/ per person, based on Double/Twin occupancy
- Supplement for standard Laos menu meals: US\$ 16 for lunch & US\$ 20 for dinner
- Private services & daily departure
- Quotation is quoted based on English speaking guide: Surcharge for other guide
  - Supplement for German Speaking guide: USD 15/day per group
  - Supplement for Spanish Speaking guide: USD 20/day per group
  - Supplement for Italian Speaking guide: USD 35/day per group
- Surcharge for Compulsory dinner for Xmas and New Year Eve
- Surcharge for Peak Season at above mentioned hotels (if have)

### **FREE OFFER**

- Mineral water is available during transfers