DAY TRIPS IN LAOS

TOURS ESCAPE FROM VIENTIANE

1. OVERVIEW:

Located on the bank of Mekong River, Vientiane is the capital of Laos since 1563 witnessing the many ups and downs of the history. This delightful small city delivers a refreshingly laid-back atmosphere unlike other Asian capitals. The French architectures contrast pleasingly with the ancient Buddhist temples dotted around the town. There are plenty of things to see, from Buddha Park to the morning market and a wide selection of international cuisines. Navigating Vientiane can be done simply on foot or by bike. The rural countryside is never far away with rice paddies providing a backdrop to most streets.

When in Laos, do as the Lao do and slow the pace right down. Vientiane may not reveal its beauty readily as Luang Prabang, but spend a few days visiting its landmarks, sampling its outstanding dishes, and enjoying Beerlao at sunset by the mighty Mekong, you will soon be inspired.

VIENTIANE – FULLDAY CITY TOUR

Tour code: **VTE-V03**
Tour type: Historical & Cultural
City: Vientiane capital
Time: 8:30-17:30

Overview:

Located on the banks of Mekong River, Vientiane is one of the least discovered capitals in Asia. This trip will provide a comprehensive insight into this laidback capital. Explore its different highlights from the gilded temples to important monuments. A visit to o the Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE) will offer a better understanding of land mine clearance in the country and the ongoing consequences of the bombings from the war. End of the tour with the chance to savor the sunset over the Mekong while enjoying a cold drink.

Itinerary:

Morning, enjoy a guided tour to discover the hidden charms of Vientiane. Vientiane is one of the quietest capital cities in the world, far away from the bustle and hustle of other Asian capitals. Your tour begins at the serene Wat Sisaket, the only temple left intact after the Siamese (Thai) invasion in 1828. It is one of the most beautiful temples in the capital, and its breezy teak covered hallways are filled with thousands of miniature Buddha statues. Continue on to the nearby Wat Phra Keo. Used as a religious museum, Wat Phra Keo displays a collection of both Lao and Khmer works of art. Also nearby, is the Presidential Palace. Although you are not allowed to visit inside, it is a good glimpse in to the town's colonial past as this building formerly served as the French governor's palace. Visit COPE, an association working to help landmine victims. A visit to the center provides in-depth information about the history of the American/Vietnam war and the lasting impact of unexploded ordinances (UXO) in the area and the efforts underway to clear them.

In the afternoon, continue to the Patuxay monument, Laos' version of the Arc de Triomphe, where you

can climb the stairs to the roof for sweeping panoramic views of the city. Next, your tour takes you to That Luang, the holiest site in Laos. Constructed by King Setthethirat in the 16th century, the temple is resplendent as the sun is shines upon its towering golden spire. End your tour of the capital 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. Find the way back to your hotel and finish tour.

Group	1	2	3-4	5-6	7-9	10-12	13-15
Price	137	73	52	38	33	27	22

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