

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 – CITY TOUR – PAK OU CAVES

<u>Tour code:</u>	LPQ-L06
<u>Tour type:</u>	Historical & Cultural
<u>City:</u>	Luang Prabang
<u>Time:</u>	8:30-17:30

Overview:

Enjoy the beauty of Lao's culture and natural wonders with a full day exploration around Luang Prabang, then travel up the Mekong River to the Buddha-filled caves of Pak Ou. Learn more about the diverse ethnic groups living in Laos at Traditional Arts & Ethnology Center. Visit the gilded halls of temples such as Wat Xieng Thong and a local rice-wine making village. Lastly, go shopping at the bustling night market.

Itinerary:

Today, your private car and guide pick you up at your hotel to start a full day city tour to visit the beautiful UNESCO World Heritage Site of Luang Prabang and Pak Ou Caves.

You will first visit the Traditional Art and Ethnology Center to learn about Laos' many ethnic cultures. Afterwards, we will visit magnificent Wat Xiengthong with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, which represents classical Laotian architecture. You then embark on the 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. Afterward, drive back to the city to visit Royal Palace Museum, which hosts a range of interesting artifacts. From there, we will transfer to visit Wat Siphouthabaht to admire the sunset, the really peaceful 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 hill tribe people surrounding Luang Prabang. Tour ends at your hotel

Group	1	2	3-4	5-6	7-9	10-12	13-15
Price	242	129	95	78	66	52	47

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