



Laos Adventure in Style (8days/7nights)
Tour code: LAS8
Vientiane-Muang La-Nong Khiaw-Luang Prabang

Adventure travel in Laos doesn't mean you have to rough it! Our 8 day tour incorporates a trip up to the luxurious eco retreat of Muang La, where you can explore remote hill tribe villages, yet sleep in comfort and in style.

Day1. Arrival - Vientiane – half day city tour (B)

Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Time permitting, we explore Vientiane capital by visiting the major sights of the capital; including the oldest **Wat Sisaket** with thousands of miniature Buddha statues and the former royal temple of **Wat Prakeo**, which previously housed the famous Emerald Buddha Image. Enroute to Lao's national precious heritage, the famous and sacred structure of **That Luang Stupa**, you will have the opportunity to take some pictures of the imposing **Patuxay** Monument, which is well known as Vientiane's own Arc de Triumph. The final visit of the day will be the excellent **COPE** exhibition centre, highlighting a much overlooked aspect of Laos and a major problem many of the local people face on a day to day basis in the form of unexploded ordnance as a result of heavy bombing campaigns during the Vietnam War era. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Overnight in Vientiane.

Day2. Vientiane – Oudomxay – Muang La (B,D)

Following the morning at leisure, you will be transferred to the airport for your **flight up to Oudomxay**. Here we have the chance to visit the intriguing **Pra Xack Kham Temple** with its sacred Buddha image. The 400 years old legendary statue is said to have many supernatural powers, and is widely worshipped among the faithful local Buddhists. We stop in **Muang La**, famous for its natural hot springs for the night. No activities are planned for the rest of the day so you can stroll around the village or just relax at the riverside retreat enjoying a massage or some time in the hot springs. Overnight in Muang La.

Day3. Muang La – 4WD Adventure (B,L,D)

Today you travel by 4x4 to explore the **Ikho and Hmong hill tribe people**. The journey is truly of the beaten track and offers some stunning mountain views along the way. After arriving at a remote Ikho village we discover and learn about their way of life before trekking 45mins to a Hmong village of Ban Tauser, extremely isolated and with superb views over the surrounding area. You will return by 4WD back to the resort at the end of the day. Overnight in Muang La.

Day4. Muang La – Muang Khua – Nong Khiaw

This morning we drive to the riverside town of **Muang Khua** and board our **local private boat** for an unforgettable **cruise down the Nam Ou River** to Nong Khiaw. This particular stretch offers stunning limestone karst scenery and remote villages that can only be accessed by boat. We stop to explore a few of these sights before reaching our accommodation in **Nong Khiaw** by mid afternoon. Upon checking into your hotel, you have the option of taking a short bicycle ride to the picturesque local caves nearby. Overnight in Nong Khiaw.

Day5. Nong Khiaw – Luang Prabang (B,L)

This morning we **continue our leisurely trip downstream on the Nam Ou River**, enjoying the lush green forests and landscape. Along the way we stop to visit the mysterious caves of **Pak Ou**, two linked caves crammed with thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues of various shapes and sizes left by devoted pilgrims. We continue our trip down the river to the UNESCO World Heritage City of Luang Prabang. This former royal capital with its gleaming temple roofs, fading colonial architecture and stunning mountain backdrop retains a unique charm rarely found in all Asia. You transferred to your hotel by private vehicle by early evening.

Day6. Luang Prabang – full day city tour (B)

After breakfast we visit the **Royal Palace Museum** which hosts a range of interesting artefacts. We begin our walking tour taking in some of the city's most beautiful temples. Depending on the rest of your programme this may include the magnificent **Wat Xiengthong**, with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, representing the classical Luang Prabang style, as well as **Wat Mai** and **Wat Sene**, the oldest temple in Luang Prabang. We also stop by at Kinnaly Gallery, where your guide will show you the different ethnic minorities that live in Laos. In the afternoon we stop at **Yensabai**, where you will see some Lao traditional stencils made with Saa paper.

Optional: Lao traditional Stencil class

Discover and learn how to produce a Lao Stencil. Mr Anousith will teach you how to do it and how you can use it when you come back to your own country.

- Make your own stencil

- Demonstration with gold painting and Saa paper

Duration: around 1h20 minutes

Number of pax: 2 pax maximum

Cost: 15 USD/pax

Our next stop is the excellent **Arts and Ethnology Centre** which gives us a further insight into the ethnic mix and culture of Laos. We then climb up **Mt Phousi**, which offers a spectacular sunset and a panoramic view over Luang Prabang and the Mekong River. Overnight in Luang Prabang.

Day7. Luang Prabang – Kuang Si Waterfall (B)

An optional early start gives you the fantastic opportunity to participate in the daily morning rituals of saffron-clad monks collecting offerings of Alms from the faithful residents. This procession is very unique in Laos, being the only Buddhist nation still preserving the tradition. After breakfast, we visit the local **Phosi Market**, this is the place where all the locals shop and your guide will show you the diverse offerings on display. We also stop at **Ock Pop Tock**, a silk weaving centre. Here you will be given a guided tour and the silk weaving process will be explained. We then drive to **Kuang Si** and relax at this magnificent multi-tiered waterfall. Here we can also stop to visit the **Bear Rescue Centre**, that does a great job rescuing and rehabilitating Asian Black Bears. We then return by road to Luang Prabang by lunch time.

Afternoon at leisure. Overnight in Luang Prabang.

Day8. Luang Prabang – Departure (B)

Depending on your departing flight you may have time at leisure before your transfer to the airport for departure.

END OF SERVICES

Tour price per person in US\$:

Price valid from 01-Oct-09 to 30-Sep-2010

Hotel	1	2	3-4	5-9	Single Supplement
4 Star	2,348	1,355	1,136	1,086	359
5 Star	2,605	1,484	1,264	1,214	488

Inclusive of above prices:	Exclusive of above prices:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation in private vehicle • Accommodation in twin shared room • Domestic air ticket as stated only • Private Boat trip as stated in above sights • English speaking guide • Admission fee to indicated sights • Meals: daily breakfast at hotel, lunch/dinner where stated only • Gov't tax and service charge • Luggage handling and drinking water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visa stamping fee on arrival • Int'l air tickets to/from Laos • Travel Insurance in all kinds • Single room (quoted separately) • Other foreign language guide • Peak tourist season or special event rates • Child or adult in triple sharing room • Tip, drinks and other personal expenses

Hotels quoted in above package

Location	4 Star	5 Star
Vientiane	Green Park (DLX)	Settha Palace (DLX)
Muang La	Muang La Resort (SUP)	Muang La Resort (SUP)
Nong Khiaw	Nong Khiaw Riverside (SUP)	Nong Khiaw Riverside (SUP)
Luang Prabang	Villa Santi Hotel (DLX)	Villa Maly (SUP)