



Classic Laos Boutique (7days/6nights)
Tour Code: VLP7
Vientiane-Luang Prabang

A unique Vientiane and Luang Prabang tour, this programme focuses on some of the best boutique properties in Laos; all feature peaceful surrounds, stylish design, great food and a friendly personal ambiance. All of this is complimented by some wonderfully varied excursions all at a relaxed pace along the way. All in the entire perfect laid back week long tour of Laos.

Day1. Arrival – Vientiane

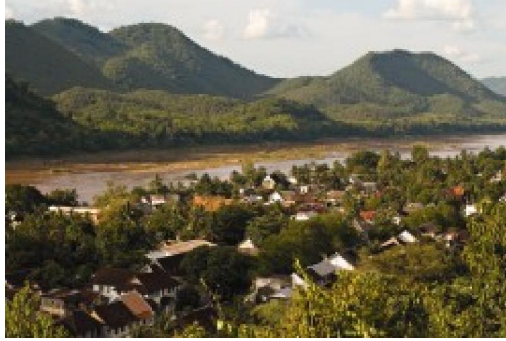
Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred out to **Ban Sufa**. Ban Sufa is located about 25 minutes from the city centre in a delightful rural setting overlooking paddy fields and within 3 hectares of gardens. With a swimming pool and a bewildering array of delicious Lao and Mediterranean cuisine Ban Sufa is the perfect place to relax. Overnight at Ban Sufa.

Day2. Vientiane – half day city tour (B)

Today 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 is an optional visit to 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 at Ban Sufa.

Day3. Vientiane – Luang Prabang – half day city tour (B)

After breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your short flight to Luang Prabang. Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Luang Prabang has been claimed by UNESCO to be 'the best preserved city in South East Asia'. We visit the **Royal Palace Museum** which hosts a range of interesting artifacts. We begin our walking tour taking in some the cities 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. We end the tour with a climb up **Mount Phousi**, which offers a spectacular panoramic view over Luang Prabang and the Mekong River. Overnight at 3 Nagas.



Wat Xiengthong and the view from Mt Phousi

Day4. Luang Prabang – Pak Ou Cave (B)

After breakfast, we enjoy a short-guided tour seeing the magnificent **Wat Xiengthong** with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, representing classical Laotian architecture. We then board a cruise upstream on the Mekong River, which gives us a panoramic view of the tranquil countryside. Our first stop is the village of **Ban Muangkeo** where we start a short trek to reach the mysterious **Pak Ou Caves**, two linked caves crammed with thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues of various shapes and sizes left by pilgrims. En route, we stop at the village of **Ban Xanghai**, where the local specialty of rice wine is produced. On the way, we also visit **Ban Xangkhong**, **Ban Xienglek** and **Ban Nong Xai**, small villages well known for silk weavings and for Saa (jute) Papermaking. Once back in Luang Prabang city we visit a traditional silversmith workshop. Overnight at 3 Nagas.

Note: during rainy season the itinerary is subject to change due to the weather conditions, an alternative programme is available.

Day5. Luang Prabang – Hmong Experience and Kuang Si Waterfall (B,L)

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. Next we drive to **Ban Thinkeo**, a Hmong village and start trekking with the villagers. Your guide will explain to you the common use of the plants for the Hmong people. You will go to the garden and cut some vegetables and herbs with the local people. When you arrive at the village, learn to cook some local dishes in a traditional house. Lunch will be your collective efforts! Then, the villagers will show you a demonstration of Hmong Khene and local games. In the afternoon, drive to **Khuang Si** and relax at this magnificent multi tiered waterfall. We then travel by road to Zen Nam Khan, a delightful rural retreat located high up on the banks of the Nam Khan River. Overnight at Zen Nam Khan.

Day6. Luang Prabang – at leisure at Zen Nam Khan (B)

Today is a full day at leisure to relax at the boutique resort or to try some of the activities on offer. Overnight at Zen Nam Khan.

Day7. 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
Boutique	1,393	793	714	683	359

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 based on ROH unless stated

Location	Boutique
Vientiane	Ban Sufa (SUP)
Luang Prabang	3 Nagas by Alila (SUP)
Luang Prabang	Zen Nam Khan Resort (SUP)