

## DOWN MEKONG RIVER THAI LAN BORDER – LAOS – 5 DAYS

### DAY 1: CHIANG RAI (THAILAND) - HOUEI XAY - PAKBENG (L/D)

After your tour in **Thailand**, you must prepare to get into **Laos** through the **Border of Huay Xai**

You are transferred from the **Chiang Rai** to **Chiang Khong**. After passing through immigration, you cross the Mekong River to **Houei xay in Laos** where your Lao guide will be waiting for you at the immigration point. After completing border formalities, you board a ready traditional boat for the trip down the Mekong River. As you cruise down the river, you will stop at some tribal minority villages such as the **Hmong, Yao and Khmu**.

*Stay overnight in Pakbeng.*

### DAY 2: PAKBENG - PAK OU CAVES - LUANG PRABANG (B/ L/-)

Check out **Pakbeng** stopover, and today you keep cruising from **Pakbeng** to **Luang Prabang**, you will pass areas of virgin forest with hill tribal villages along the riverbanks and perhaps the odd elephant or two with his mahout. You'll visit a fishing village and a rice wine making village and perhaps even taste some of the infamous beverage known as Lao Rice wine. Then you'll visit the **Pak Ou Caves**. After that, you'll spend the day visiting **Wat Xiang Thong**- the most important Buddhist monastery in the country.

*Stay overnight in Luang Prabang.*

### DAY 3: LUANG PRABANG - CITY TOUR - KUANG SI FALLS (B/ L)

Today you have a full day of city tour and excursion.

Explore **Wat Visoun, Wat Khili and Wat Mai**. Later, visit the former **Royal Palace**. It now is a **National Museum** where you will find ornate, gilded and brocaded reception rooms as well as Buddha and spectacular artifacts including the Prabang- a large holy image which was given in the 14th century by the **Khmers** to **King Fa Ngum**.

Climb the steps to reach the nearby temple-topped hill of **Phousi** where you'll catch a lovely view out over the town and the river. We get out the town to experience local lifestyle of **Luang Prabang Villages** and the most beautiful waterfall in **Luang Prabang**. On the way, visit **Phosi Market** where you will see such diverse offerings as dried buffalo skin, local tea and saltpeter among the chickens, vegetables and hill-tribe weavings. After that, visit local village of Lao ethnic minority groups at **Ban Ouay and Ban Thapene** and the weaving village of **Ban Phanom**. If time permits, you may also want to drive to the beautiful **Khouangsi Waterfall** where you can splash around in the pools or walk along the forest paths. Return to **Luang Prabang city** in the late afternoon and visit Street **Night Bazaar**.

*Stay overnight in Luang Prabang.*

#### **DAY 4: LUANG PRABANG - FLIGHT TO VIENTIANE (B/ L)**

You will stroll around and visit the Silver smith's and the **Central Market** in the morning (if time permit) before you catch a flight to **Vientiane**. Upon arrival, we see the major temples including the oldest **Wat Sisaket** - a temple of thousands of miniature **Buddha statues** and the former royal temple of **Wat Prakeo** which was previously housed the famous **Emerald Buddha Image**. On the way to the famous, sacred structure of **That Luang Stupa** which originally built in the 16th century, is the most important national monument, and stands for Lao culture , we stop to take some pictures of the imposing **Patuxay Monument** which is **Vientiane's own Arc de Triumph**. Enjoy sunset by Mekong Riverside.

*Stay overnight in Vientiane.*

#### **DAY 5: VIENTIANE - DEPARTURE (B)**

We visit the **Morning Market**. The tour ends after your transfer to **Wattay Airport** for departure.

## PRICE:

Group Size	2 persons	3-4 persons	5- 7 persons	8- 10 persons	Single Sup
Price per person	970 \$	870 \$	770 \$	670 \$	160

## TOUR HOTELS

Destinations	Hotel Names
Pakbeng	Pakbeng Lodge ***
Luang Prabang	Luang Prabang View Hotel ****
Vientiane	Mercure Hotel ****

## INCLUSION:

- 04 Nights Accommodation with BKF.
- Domestic flight tickets: **Luang Prabang - Vientiane**
- Boat cruises as specified
- Pick-ups and transfers by private air-conditioned vehicle as specified in the itinerary above.
- The services of experienced English-speaking guides as indicated in the itinerary.
- Where necessary, entry fees for all visits as mentioned in the program.
- Meals (as specified in the itinerary) in the best local restaurants, or picnics where no suitable restaurant is available.

## EXCLUSION:

- Visa to Laos
- Personal Drinks
- Travel Insurance
- Some exclude meals