



THAILAND TO LAOS EXPLORER ADVENTURE

14 Day Bangkok to Vientiane Tour

Thailand and Laos

STARTS: Bangkok

FINISHES: Vientiane

DURATION: 14 Days / 13 Nights

START DAY: Monday

FINISH DAY: Sunday

MIN. / MAX. NUMBERS: 6 / 16 passengers

Overview

Discover the heart of Southeast Asia on this 14 day journey from Bangkok's hidden canals to Chiang Mai's sacred mountain temple. Cruise the Mekong past jungle villages, explore the Buddha-filled Pak Ou Caves, and meet the friendly locals of Laos. Connect with rescued elephants, wander rice fields, and cool off at the stunning Kuang Si Waterfalls — an unforgettable blend of culture, nature, and adventure.



DAY 1: Arrive Bangkok

Hello and welcome to your Stray Adventure! Your adventure kicks off in the vibrant metropolis of Bangkok, Thailand. If you arrive early in the day, feel free to check out the buzzing markets and ancient temples that make up only a small part of this diverse city. This evening your Tour Leader will meet you at your hotel reception at 6pm along with your new travel mates for a Welcome Meeting and introduction. We'll cover how Stray works and answer any questions you have before heading out for a group dinner in Bangkok.

Inclusions: Welcome Meeting & Dinner

Meals: (D)

Accommodation: W22 Hotel

DAY 2: Bangkok

Today we're going to tour the canals of Bangkok which are known as the Klongs. Far away from the bustling city centre, this tour will take you to see the quieter, 'real' Bangkok where you'll see wooden

houses on stilts and colourful temples, meet friendly locals, and spend some time in an unexpected green oasis.

This evening we'll head to the train station to board the overnight train to Chiang Mai for an overnight sleeper train experience. For those who have never been on one before this is an adventure complete with lie flat beds and a restaurant carriage. It's the most fun way to travel to Chiang Mai and get to know your new travel mates!

Inclusions: Klong Tour, overnight train

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: Overnight Train

DAY 3: Arrive Chiang Mai

We'll arrive at Chiang Mai train station around this morning and head for breakfast where you can begin to see the beauty of the city and plan your optional activities. As the largest city in Northern Thailand, Chiang Mai is a popular place for many travellers full of endless activity options, such as Thai cooking classes and bike tours to name a few. Once a kingdom unto itself, there are over 300 Buddhist temples to discover and we'd recommend visiting the old walled city to see the Tapae Gate.

Late afternoon we'll head to the Doi Suthep mountain and temple. You have the choice to climb the towering 300 steps or take the scenic cable car ride where you'll get stunning views over Chiang Mai. At 6pm we'll hear the chanting of the monks ringing out across the valley. Once back in the centre, we recommend spending your evening browsing the famous night market to score a bargain or you can check out the lively music scene.

Inclusions: Doi Suthep Temple and sunset

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: Chiang Mai Gate Hotel

DAY 4: Chiang Mai

Today you'll visit the incredible Elephant Nature Park where you can observe and spend time with a magnificent elephant herd. This immersive experience allows you to watch them in a natural environment, see them walking down to the river and bathing playfully together.

Inclusions: Elephant Nature Park

Meals: (B,L)

Accommodation: Chiang Mai Gate Hotel

DAY 5: Chiang Mai – Houay Xai

This morning we'll depart Chiang Mai and head for the Thailand-Laos border. We'll make a stop near Chiang Rai to check out the famous White Temple (Wat Rong Khun). Wat Rong Khun is a unique modern Buddhist temple that features some curious statues and murals that include images from Star Wars and The Matrix, Freddie Kruger's head hanging in the trees and a giant Predator emerging from the garden. We'll stop here long enough to grab a snack and take a few photos before we continue on to cross the border into Laos. Once in Laos we'll take a short tuk-tuk ride to the small town of Houay Xai, our stop for the night.

Inclusions: The White Temple (Wat Rong Khun)

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: Wangview Hotel

DAY 6: Houay Xai – Pakbeng

Leaving Houay Xai this morning we'll board our private slow boat to cruise down the Mekong River to a secluded village where we'll get to experience a slice of the 'real Laos'. Sitting back we'll soak up this incredible journey as we wind our way through lush farmland, past thriving jungle and rugged mountain scenery, arriving in the village in the late afternoon. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to become immersed in Lao culture, where you will get a taste of traditional Lao village before we head to the small riverside town of Pakbeng for the evening.

Inclusions: Border Crossing, Slow Boat + village visit

Meals: (B,L)

Accommodation: Phetsoksay Hotel

DAY 7: Pakbeng – Luang Prabang

Today we wave goodbye to the village and its lovely residents and jump back aboard our private boat to head downriver to the famous limestone Pak Ou Caves. Pak Ou is an important pilgrimage site for Lao people where we will see thousands of Buddhist images that have been placed throughout the caves over hundreds of years. Back on board our boat, a short trip takes us to the UNESCO World Heritage town, Luang Prabang, which features a fusion of French Colonial architecture and traditional Lao design. Set against a backdrop of misty mountains and lush green jungle, Luang Prabang is a truly majestic place to spend time.

Inclusions: Slow Boat + Pak Ou Caves

Meals: (B,L)

Accommodation: Vang Luang Hotel

DAY 8: Luang Prabang

Today we'll travel to the Living Land Farm which is an organic farm run by locals for the benefit of Lao people. They grow organic produce, herbs and rice which they supply to leading restaurants and hotels in Luang Prabang.

In the afternoon, we'll visit the beautiful Kuang Si Waterfalls, where the turquoise water and calm pools offer the perfect chance to cool off and enjoy a refreshing swim. At the base of the falls, you'll find a rescue centre for the native Asiatic moon bears where you can watch them happily living in a safe environment. If you're feeling fit, climb up to the very top of the falls and take in the view from the above.

Inclusions: Living Land Farm + Kuang Si Falls

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: Vang Luang Hotel

DAY 9: Luang Prabang

Today you have a full free day to explore Luang Prabang, the ancient capital of Luang Prabang Province in northern Laos. Explore some of the many Buddhist temples, including the gilded Wat Xieng Thong, dating to the 16th century, and Wat Mai, once the residence of the head of Laotian Buddhism or stroll through the incredible food markets and sample some traditional Lao fare.

Inclusions: Free Day in Luang Prabang

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: Vang Luang Hotel

DAY 10: Luang Prabang – Vang Vieng

This morning we head to the train station to board our fast train for a 1 hour journey to the little riverside town of Vang Vieng, formerly known as the best place to take tubing trips down the Nam Song River to visit riverside bars and indulge in cheap booze. These days you can still go tubing, but now you get to enjoy the beauty of Vang Vieng's landscape without the sound of pounding bass in the background. On arrival we'll go for an orientation walk around the town and then you'll have free time to explore.

Inclusions: Fast Train tickets

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: Silver Naga Hotel

DAY 11: Vang Vieng

With its stunning natural scenery, Vang Vieng offers ample outdoor activities to choose from. We recommend hiring a bike to explore the town and visiting the Blue Lagoon, one of the best natural

swimming holes in Laos or if you're looking for more adventure there are also great rock climbing, caving, zip lining and kayaking options. This evening check out one of several international restaurants for a taste of home or head to one of the bars to really get the party started.

Inclusions: Free Day – Optional Activities

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: Silver Naga Hotel

DAY 12: Vang Vieng – Vientiane

Today we'll board the bus and cruise through to the capital of Laos. On arrival in Vientiane your Tour Leader will take you on a tour of the city's main attractions, including Putaxai, Pha That Luang, That Dam, the Presidential Palace, and the COPE centre – a non-profit organisation that educates visitors and raises awareness for victims of UXO (Unexploded Ordnance) and the Secret War. After checking in at our centrally located accommodation, you are free to explore the city, get a massage, go shopping or people watch at one of the local restaurants by the river

Inclusions: City Tour

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: City Inn Hotel

DAY 13: Vientiane

Today you have a free day to explore Vientiane and enjoy your last full day on tour. Enjoy the French-colonial architecture, explore the Buddhist temples, stroll along the tree-lined streets and enjoy delicious food in one of the many restaurants and cafes around.

Inclusions: Free Day

Meals: (B)

Accommodation: City Inn Hotel

DAY 14: Departure Day

Today your journey with Stray comes to an end. Whether you're spending some extra time in Laos or travelling onwards to your next destination, we hope you've had a blast on your great Stray adventure and that you've made friends and memories to last a lifetime!

Meals: (B)

What's Included:

- Experienced tour guide
- All transport from Bangkok to Vientiane
- 13 nights accommodation
- 13 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Welcome Meeting & Dinner in Bangkok
- Canal Boat Klong Tour
- Elephant Nature Park Experience
- The White Temple (Wat Rong Khun)
- Pak Ou Caves
- Living Land Farm Experience
- Kuang Si Waterfalls
- Vientiane City Tour

What to Bring:

- Camera
- Sturdy walking shoes
- Insect Repellant
- Waterproof jacket
- Hat & sunscreen
- Swimsuit/towel
- Water bottle
- Motion sickness tablets

Highlights:

- **Cruise through Bangkok's hidden canals (klongs)** to discover stilted homes, vibrant temples, local life, and a peaceful green oasis beyond the city's bustle
- Witness the golden sunset at the **Doi Suthep Temple**, perched high above Chiang Mai with breathtaking views and sacred serenity
- Spend time at an **Elephant Nature Park** - connect with rescued elephants, watch them roam, bathe, and play freely in a peaceful, natural sanctuary.
- **Cruise the Mekong River by slow boat**, soaking in lush jungle scenery and tranquil village life along the way
- **Visit a traditional Laos village** and meet the warm, welcoming locals
- Cruise to the sacred **Pak Ou Caves**, filled with centuries-old Buddha images
- **Experience local life at an organic rice farm** in Luang Prabang and then cool off at the stunning **Kuang Si Waterfalls**.
- Enjoy the laid-back charm and stunning natural beauty of **Vang Vieng**, with time to explore its rivers, caves, and adventurous outdoor activities

- Discover the relaxed charm of **Vientiane**, where you'll have free time to visit Buddhist temples, French-colonial landmarks, and riverside cafés in Laos' sleepy capital.

Important Notes:

- Tours start at WW2 Hotel, Bangkok - check in is from 3pm, the welcome meeting is at 6pm. Tour finishes on Day 14 at the City Inn Hotel, Vientiane - check out time is 12pm (noon).
- All transport will be in a private air conditioned (9 seater) minivan, overnight sleeper train, traditional slow boat and local tuk tuk.
- Accommodation is based on twin share, with a single supplement available for travelers who prefer their own room. All accommodation is in hotels except the overnight train that features bunk beds (with a curtain for privacy) in an open carriage. The single supplement does not apply to train accommodation as private cabins are not available.
- Children aged 12–15 may travel with a parent/legal guardian. Travellers aged 16–17 may travel alone with signed parental consent.
- Minimum group size is 6 passengers and maximum group size 16 passengers.