



Viengchampa

"Your expert ground handler in Laos"

JOURNEY IN NORTH THAILAND-LAOS AND CAMBODIA

www.viengchampatour.com

1- Thailand portion:

Day01: 8 July'14 Bangkok – Chiang Mai (L/D) Appr. 50 Km Trip Duration

Upon arrival at Chiang Mai on July 8th, 2014 12:00 o'clock (TG 2106) meet representative, have lunch and go to visit Doi Suthep. Return to Chiang Mai to check into the hotel. In the evening, welcome Khantoke dinner, typical dinner of the North accompanied with music and traditional dances. Overnight in Chiang Mai at De Naga hotel

Day02: 9 July'14 Chiang Mai (B/L) Appr. 140 Km Trip Duration

Your guide and driver will meet you at the hotel at 0830. Drive to Mae Tang Elephant Park. Watch elephant bathing and watch the elephant show. Elephants will demonstrate their skills in handling heavy teak logs. After the show make a bamboo raft trip on the Ping River. It is time for lunch which we will enjoy at local restaurant. After lunch, drive to Baan Tong Luang. This is a settlement where people of various hilltribes live. Although this is not a real village it is a good chance to see the traditional dress of Lahu, Hmong, Karen and Palong people in a village setting. Greatest attraction though is the famous Long Neck Karen women. Head back to Chiang Mai where we will arrive late in the afternoon. We can make a stop at an orchid nursery on the way back. We will arrive back in Chiang Mai in the late afternoon. Overnight in Chiang Mai at the same hotel

Day03: 10 July'14 Chiang Mai – Chiang Rai – Golden Triangle (B/L) Appr. 320 KM Duration

Early depart from hotel around 07.30, drive to Chiang Rai along a wildy route via Doi Saket through scenic hills, valleys and villages. A short break is made at Mae Khachan Hot Spring. Proceed to Chiang Rai province. Before arriving in Chiang Rai we will visit Wat Rong Kun, the famous 'White Temple'.

Continue to visit Akha & Yao hill tribe villages in Mae Chan area. View around taking pictures of tribal villages & people who still dress up in their traditional costume as well as purchasing some cheap crafts from them. Visit Long Neck Tribe. Lunch will be at local restaurant. Continue to the ancient town of Chiang Saen. Visit Wat Chedi Luang, almost 800 years old temple, also one of the most important temples in Chiang Saen. Further drive along the Mekong's River Bank to the world renowned, Golden Triangle Drive up a small hill to a scenic point at Wat Pu Kao for a picturesque view over the Mekong River and the meeting point of 3 different countries; Thailand – Laos – Myanmar. Then, take a short walk from the temple down to the Opium Museum where questions and curiosity about the Opium are replied. After that, visit the Golden Triangle where the borders of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet before check in to the hotel. Overnight in Chiang Rai at the Legend hotel

Day04: 11 July'14 Chiang Rai – Golden Triangle – Chiang Khong (B/L) Appr. 160 Km Duration

Departs from hotel around 0800 for a short boat trip on the Mekong river. Visit the island Don Sao, which is Lao territory. Walk around the market and try a Bia Lao if you want. Enjoy the border atmosphere before drive to Mae Sai, the bustling border town. Cross the border into Myanmar. By tuk tuk we will explore Tachilek. You will visit the Temple of the Enrobened Elephant and the Mahamyatmuni Temple, a fine example of typical Burmese temple architecture. Continue to Tachilek's own Shwedagon Pagoda, a smaller copy of the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon. After this we will enjoy an authentic Burmese lunch in a local restaurant. After lunch there will be time to visit

the interesting border market, a favorite destination for Thai day-trippers. Continue to Doi Tung, visit the Mae Fah Luang botanic gardens and learn about the Royal Project on Doi Tung before we transfer you to Chiang Khong where we arrive late afternoon. Overnight in Chiang Khong at Chiang Khong Teak Garden hotel

2-Laos portion:

Day05. 12 July'14 Chiang Khong - Houay Xai – Luang Namtha – Muang Sing (../L)

(Huayxay – Muangsing: 220 KM 5 – 6 Hrs)

Breakfast in Hotel 06:30 Meeting with our Guide and transfer to Thai/Lao Friendship Bridge Following your completion of border formalities, meet by local guide and heading to the North-East of Laos to the town to Luang Namtha. This road has recently been improved and is now a very smooth and comfortable drive. We visit hill tribe villages along the road at Muang Phouka and other surrounding area. Luang Namtha, which is located on the banks of the Namtha River, is a land of rugged mountains and beautiful tropical forests and shares its border with China and Myanmar. Then we continue our way to Muang Sing- the first capital of Lu's principality, which is also home to various hill tribe communities in the afternoon. There is a significant Chinese population and a lot of trade goes on between here and China. We stop along the way at the Akha hill tribe village. This ethnic group originally lived in China but immigrated into Laos over a century ago. They are very poor, but have a vibrant culture and an interesting history. Overnight at Muang Sing at [Phou Iou \(Bungalow room\)](#)

Day06. 13 July'14 Muang Sing – Visit the surrounding (B/L)

Breakfast in the hotel

The remote mountainous area is beautiful and Muang Sing is ideal for adventurous trekking expedition.

After breakfast we walk around this town observing the daily activities of ethnic minorities in the village and see the small vendors sell local textiles and crafts in the streets. We leave the village and take a short drive north before taking a half day trek by using the local tracks.

We cross some mountain landscape breathtaking in hill tribe villages Yao, Akha and Lanten, where we are sure to attract the attention of many ethnic minorities, as visitors do not frequently encounter this remote part of the country. 2nd night in Muang Sing

Day07. 14 July'14 Muang Sing - Luang Numtha – Oudomxay (B/L) – by road

(Muangsing – Luangnamtha - Oudomxay: 174 KM 4.30 – 5 Hrs driving)

After breakfast, say goodbye to Muang Sing and we continue our adventure trip in the mountainous region and distance in northern Laos. The landscape of verdant and rugged mountain scenery combined with the colorful local population makes this an unforgettable experience.

Oudomxay province is home for a mixture of 23 ethnic minority groups. We make a few stops along the way, giving us the opportunity to see the Hmong ethnic minority groups, Khmu, Akha and Taidam.

The Mountaineers are always welcome us sympathetic shaking hands and smiling faces.

Overnight in Oudomxay at Charmong Lao hotel

Day08. 15 July'14 Oudomxay – Bountai – Phongsaly (B/L)- by road

(Oudomxay – Bountai – Phongsaly 248KM 5.30-6 Hrs driving)

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit the local market of pf the city, then continue by road up north and making several stops in the villages of ethnic minorities: Ikor, Yao, Hmong and Khmu to see their different lifestyles. Visit Wat Phra Xack Kham temple which houses a sacred Buddha image. We will pass the town of Muang La, the village of Pak Namnoy, Bountai Ban Yo. Arrival in the town of Phongsaly in the after noon and installation in local hotel

Overnight at local hotel in Phongsaly at Phoufa hotel

Phoufa hotel

Address: 01 Chommeuang, Phongsaly Pro., Lao PDR

Tel: 856-88 210031 **Fax:** 856-88 210031

Website: <http://www.tuanlinhtravel.com/Laos/hoteldetail/2263/Phoufa-Hotel.htm>

Day09. 16 July'14 Phongsaly – Visit the surroundings (B/L)

Breakfast at the hotel a walking visit othe outskirts of the capital, including the local market, exploring the beautiful nature around Phongsaly and enjoy the beautiful area of tea on the mountains. During this day trip you can visit the communities of Phounoi or Laoseng, Akkha, villages.

Overnight at hotel in Phongsaly

Day10. 17 July'14 Phongsaly – Pak Namnoy - Mouangkhoa (B/L) by road

(Phongsaly – Muangkhoa 197 around 5 hours KM)

After breakfast return by road to the village of Pak Namnoy through mountainous region, then turn left on the direction of Muang Khoua district, which located on the bank of the Nam Ou river.

Today Muang Khua plays an important role of stopover for passengers travelling between northeastern

Part of Laos and Dien Bien Phu and Spa in Vietnam Upon arrival check-in at the hotel in Muangkhoa at Senerly hotel.

Day11. 18 July'14 Mouangkhoa - Nong Khiaw (B/L) by boat 5 hours

After breakfast, then board the private local boat for an unforgettable cruise on the Nam Ou River to Nong Khiaw. This particular section provides amazing limestone karts scenery and remote villages, including Ban Sob Jaem, Khmu and Hmong village, which can only be reached by boat . We stop to explore a few sites before reaching our accommodation in Nong Khiaw in the afternoon.

Upon our arrival at the hotel, we will have the opportunity to make a bike ride through the picturesque local limestone caves nearby. Overnight at Nong khiaw riverside hotel

Day 12 19 July'14 Nongkhiaw - Luang Prabang (B/L) by boat 6 hours

After breakfast at the hotel, drive southward to Done Nguen village, where the dam construction takes place. Afterward we continue our journey quietly downstream on the Nam Ou River till the Mekong, enjoying the lush forests and landscapes. On the way we stop to visit the mysterious Pak Ou Caves, crammed thousands of statues of gold lacquered Buddha in various shapes and sizes left by devoted pilgrims.

We continue our journey to the World Heritage town of Luang Prabang UNESCO. This former royal capital with its gleaming temple roofs, fading colonial architecture and stunning mountain backdrop retains a unique charm rarely found in modern Asia. Transfer to the hotel in the early evening.

For those who love shopping the night bazaar offers a beautiful collection and textiles and hand-made by people of different tribes and ethnic minorities in the country hills surrounding Luang Prabang.

Overnight in Luang Prabang at Le Sen boutique

Day13. 20 July'14 Luang Prabang – Sightseeing Tour (B/L)

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit to the National Museum at the former Royal Palace, which displays a lovely collection of the artifacts reflecting the richness of Lao culture dating from the days of the early kings right through the last sovereign Today we explore some of the main sights of this fabulous city, including the impressive stupa of Wat Visoun, Wat Aham, the oldest temple of the city: Wat Sene and Wat Mai and the most magnificent temple of Wat Xiengthong. Then climb up 329 steps to the top of Mount Phou Si for an enjoyable exploration of the sacred, gilded stupa and enjoy a beautiful view of the city and its glowing reflection on the Mekong River. Overnight in Luang Prabang

Day14. 21 July'14 Luang Prabang - Kuang Si Waterfall (B/L) 35 Km

Watch Tagbat, the monks' rounds, early in the morning. It is a ritual that is truly part of Lao people's life and offers a memorable experience and great snapshots.

Your guide will explain how to follow the strict customs and rules involved and visit the fresh local market. Return to your hotel for breakfast

First we visit the morning Phousi Market, where you will see such diverse offerings as dried buffalo skin, local tea and saltpeter among the chickens, vegetables and hill-tribe weavings. Laos is also known for its traditional crafts, and today you will visit local villages of Lao ethnic minority groups at Ban Ouay, a Hmong village, Ban Ou a Laoloum village and Ban Thapene, a Khmu village. This then takes us to the beautiful Khuang Si Waterfall where you can cool off with a refreshing swim in the pools or walk along the forest trails. We then return to Luang Prabang.

In the afternoon we drive back to Luang Prabang by early evening in time for a sunset view over the Mekong. Overnight in Luang Prabang

Day15. 22 July'14 Luang Prabang – Vang Vieng (B/L)

[\(Luang Prabang – Vang Vieng 238 KM 5 - 6 HRS driving\)](#)

After breakfast, today we start early this morning, around 8 AM for the drive of 306km uphill a mountain surrounded by wonderful natural scenery to Vang Vieng. The road follows a twisty but very scenic mountain route, so you should have your camera ready. We make our first stop at the M'Hongs village at Kiu Kacham, which offers great views of the surrounding mountains. We then continue crossroad of Phoukhoun, before arriving at Phou Phueng Fa viewpoint, offering some of the best views in the whole of Laos (weather permitting) and a café for a lunch stop.

After lunch we continue further south to Vang Vieng, a small and tranquil town, which is nestled on a bend of the Nam Song River. Its stunning scenery with a mixture of quiet water and limestone outcrops remains unspoiled, despite recent developments with the advent of tourism.

We then visit the cave of Tham Jang, which was used in the early 19th century in defense against the Chinese invaders and other caves. Overnight in Vang Vieng Villa Namsong hotel

Day16. 23 July'14 Vang Vieng - Vientiane by road (B/L)

[\(Vang Vieng – Vientiane 160KM 3.30 – 4 Hrs Driving\)](#)

Breakfast in the hotel, We then set out on the road towards Vientiane. En route we stop at Tha Heua, a small village that specializes in dried fish, which you will see hanging in front of the houses. We then continue to Nam Ngum, a picturesque lake created by damming the Nam Ngum River. Following lunch overlooking the lake, we stop over at Ban Keun, which is famous for its salt mine. Here you can learn about the daily working life of the local people. Just outside of Vientiane we make a final stop at the interesting Don Makai Market, an insect market, where, the adventurous can try some of the tasty snacks on offer.

In the afternoon, we start visiting some the major sights; including the oldest temple Wat Sisaket, an amazing structure featuring remarkable frescoes and Buddha images. We also visit 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.

Observing the spectacular view of over the Mekong River at sunset from one of the riverside bars is a perfect way to finish the day. Overnight in Vientiane Ansara hotel (Savvy room)

Day17. 24 July'14 Vientiane – Pakse – Bolovens (Tad Lo) (B/L)

Breakfast in the hotel

You will be transferred to the airport early this morning for the flight QV 512 0630-0745 to Pakse. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred by road east into the Bolaven Plateau (130 Km). The Bolaven Plateau is known for its cooler temperature being located high above the Mekong Valley. Our first stop is to visit Houey Ten, a Katu village specializing in knifemaking. We then stop tea plantation, followed by a stop at Tad Fan Waterfall, a picturesque twin chute waterfall. We then make a stop at a coffee plantation, en route to Tha Teng Market, a colourful ethnic minority food market. Next we explore another interesting minority village, Ban Bong Neua, an Alak village, that boasts a sacrificial alters. We arrive at the beautiful Tadlo Waterfall in the afternoon, where you have the rest of the day at leisure. You also have the option of a short elephant ride to take in the beautiful scenery. Overnight at Tadlo Lodge:

Day18. 25 July'14 Tadlo – Pakse – Wat Phou –Khong Island (B/L) 250 Km

After breakfast, we head out of the plateau, stopping first at the attractive Paxuam Waterfall. We then transfer to Champassak and onto Wat Phou, another World Heritage Site in Laos, which became recognized by UNESCO in 2002. Wat Phou is the site of ruins which were once part of a temple built some time before Angkor Wat in Siem Reap. It contains some of the most Ancient Khmer architectures which date back to between the 7-11th centuries. In the late afternoon you will drive to Don Khong, an area of the 4000 islands which is the widest point of the Mekong River during the rainy season, although during the dry months the river recedes, leaving behind thousands of islands and islets. Arrive at Khong Island via ferry early evening. Senesothxuen hotel:

Day19.26 July' 14 Khong Island – Khone Island – Phapheng – Stung Treng – Banlung (B/L)

After an early breakfast, we enjoy a visit to the surrounding countryside, and embark on a long tail boat tour to Don Khone, where we disembark and have the option of exploring the island by bicycle, which takes you to visit the remains of the French period and Lphi Waterfall or "the Corridor of the Devil". We return to the mainland at the fishing village of Ban Nakasang and drive further south to visit Khone Phapheng. Khone Phapheng is considered the largest waterfall by volume in South East

Asia; this is a really impressive site near the Lao-Cambodian border, set within an area which is teeming with wildlife, making this area one of the most breathtaking destinations in Laos.
Lunch in local restaurant

Note: Nakasang-Border Lao/Cambodia 25 Km. We should leave the hotel before 8:00 AM.
And we should arrive at the border not later than noon.

2- Cambodian portion:

Day 19: 26 JULY 2014 KHONG ISLAND – KHONE ISLAND – TRAPEANG - RATTANAKARI (B/L/)

Welcome by your guide on the Cambodian side and departure to Stung Treng (50 km, new laterite road, 1 hour drive). Arrive in Stung Treng, lunch at local restaurant.

Then, departure by road to Banlung, capital of Rattanakiri, nicknamed "The Red City" because of the omnipresent laterite (177km, 3 hours drive). Check-in at Terres Rouges Lodge. Settle in and enjoy the evening at your leisure. Overnight at Terre Rouge Lodge (Standard Room)

Banlung: Terres Rouges Lodge (STD) Tel: (855) 75 974 051; (855) 12 770 650

Day 20: 27 JULY 2014 BANLUNG (B/L/-)

Breakfast, Ratanakiri region of Cambodia is a very isolated and little visited. Tribes of different ethnic groups in village particular constructions, roads or dirt tracks off a lot of red dust, or become filled with ruts and very slippery in the rain. forest rubber and pepper plantations, In the morning, early, visit with the guide of Banlung market, a particular market who start every morning very early, different ethnicities (Kroeung, Tompuon, Jarai), to sell or exchange their products, vegetables, gathering in forest, game, etc.. These ethnic groups are very recognizable with a small round wicker basket that women wear on their backs or in front of them for the market. Then starting with car and guide for the village of Voeune Sai a track uncomfortable. This village is composed of several communities, Chinese, Laotian and Tompuon. Departure by boat on the river Se San, to visit a village tribe where Tompuon practice funeral statuary (Totem wooden statue in the likeness of the deceased, installed in a "graveyard") Back to Banlung
Terre Rouge Lodge (Standard Room)

Day 21: 28 JULY 2014 BANLUNG (B/L/-)

Breakfast, Departure by private car to meet the different ethnic groups in their villages, they are still small villages, some with single houses curiously mounted on bamboo poles several meters high. These ethnic groups are very poor and live in an ancestral way; village leader directs the life of the village. Visit waterfalls a few miles from the city, including that of Katieng (during the dry season, several waterfalls no longer work) and plantations of rubber trees. In the main street of Banlung you can watch the working of semi-precious stones Zircon extracted in quantity from remote mines in the deep district. Ratanakiri is a region that has little real change for decades. She was also isolated by the shelter of some Khmer Rouge leaders who hid there for several years.

Terre Rouge Lodge (Standard Room)

Day 22: 29 JULY 2014 BANLUNG – KRATIE – PHNOM PENH (B/L/-)

Breakfast, Departure by private car and English speaking guide to Phnom Penh (496km, 8hours) without any stop for visit

Arrive in Phnom Penh at the end of afternoon. Lunch on the way
Riverside Suites (Junior Suite)

Phnom Penh: Riverside Suites (Junior Suite)

Phone: +855 23 211 927 email: info@riverside-suites.com

Day 23: 30 JULY 2014 PHNOM PENH – SIHANOUKVILLE (B/ L -)

This morning overland transfer from Phnom Penh to Sihanoukville on a scenic 240km journey through the Cardamom Mountains. On arrival in Sihanoukville check into your beachside accommodations and enjoy the remainder of the day and evening at leisure. There are 4 main beaches to explore round here and some fantastic trips to islands just off shore. There is also fantastic seafood to be had. In season, diving is also possible. [Sokha Beach Resort \(Deluxe Ocean Wing Room\)](#)

Day 24: 31 JULY 2014 SIHANOUKVILLE (B/-/-)

Free at leisure in Sihanoukville. [Sokha Beach Resort \(Deluxe Ocean Wing Room\)](#)

Sihanoukville: Sokha Beach (DLX Ocean wing) or equivalence

Day 25: 1 AUGUST 2014 SIHANOUKVILLE (B/L/-)

Take a boat trip to Koh Tas Island for snorkelling. Enjoy the rest of the day on the beach with seafood lunch on the island, swimming & other activities on your own. Then, come back to Sihanoukville in the afternoon. Note: Swimming equipment is at own arrangement.

[Sokha Beach Resort \(Deluxe Ocean Wing Room\)](#)

Day 26: 2 AUGUST 2014 SIHANOUKVILLE – PHNOM PENH (B/ L -)

[In the morning, free at leisure in Sihanoukville.](#)

Afternoon continue to drive to Phnom Penh the capital of the country.

[Riverside Suites \(Junior Suite\)](#)

Day 27: 3 AUGUST 2014 PHNOM PENH – DEPARTURE (B/-/-)

Breakfast, Free till transfer to Phnom Penh International Airport without guide

End of our services.