

THE OFFER

While the rest of Asia bustles around it, Laos takes a more relaxed approach. Steeped in tradition, rich in culture, and covered in every shade of green - from the lush rice paddy fields to the untamed jungle - Laos will have you saying, 'wow' from beginning to end.

Discover the best of untouched Laos on this incredible 11 day fly and tour package. Spend two nights in the thriving capital of Thailand, Bangkok, before your short flight to Luang Prabang, Laos. Enjoy time at leisure and stroll the night markets in Luang Prabang, cruise the Mekong River to the Pak Ou Caves, home to thousands of Buddhist statues. Milk buffalo at a dairy farm, take in the stunning mountain views on route to the three tiered, Kuang Si Falls, the biggest in Laos. Talk to the elephants at MandaLao Elephant Conservation and rise early for a Morning Alms Giving Ceremony, where 300 monks gather food in a Buddhist act of humility. Spend time at leisure in Vang Vieng, swim in the emerald waters of the Blue Lagoon and explore the ancient cave of Tham Phu Kham Cave. Indulge with a traditional Laos dinner in Vientiane, and visit Buddha Park, home to more than 200 statues. Package includes return international flights, nine nights hotel accommodation, 11 meals, English speaking guides and more.

11 DAY WOW LAOS STANDARD \$1999

11 DAY WOW LAOS PREMIUM \$2399

*Please note: all information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current live deal at www.tripadeal.com.au or contact our customer service team on 135 777 for the most up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.







Day 1 Australia - Bangkok, Thailand

Today depart from Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane for Bangkok, Thailand. Fly with Thai Airways. Upon arrival be met by a tour representative and transferred to the hotel.

Overnight: Bangkok, Thailand (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

Meals included: In-Flight

Day 2 Bangkok Free Day

Today enjoy a free day to explore some of the highlights of this vibrant city or take the opportunity to join an optional city tour (not included).

Optional activity: Bangkok City Tour - \$100 AUD

This morning be picked up from the hotel. Visit the Golden Buddha Temple (Wat Trimit) which houses the world's largest gold Buddha image, now more than 700 years old, and a valuable treasure of Thailand and Buddhism. Next you will visit Wat Pho Wat Phra Chetuphon (locally known as Wat Pho) which is famed for the massive 'Reclining Buddha' it houses. At 46m long and 15m high, the gold-plated Buddha image depicts the Buddha's passing into Nirvana. A highly ornate spectacle - its genuinely worth seeing. The Buddha eyes and feet are decorated with mother-of-pearl and carvings in the feet depict the '108' characteristics of Buddha. You will also visit the Marble temple Wat Benchamabophit, once the most modern work of Thai religious architecture. This temple is very famous for its main chapel built in white Italian marble. Next visit The Grand Palace (Wat Phra Kaew). The palace is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Thailand. In the north of the royal residence and linked by a connecting gateway lies the royal monastery of the Emerald Buddha. The Emerald Buddha is a face carved from a block of green jade and was first discovered in 1437 in a stupa in Chiang Rai. At that time the image was covered with plaster and thought to be an ordinary Buddha image.

Overnight: Bangkok, Thailand (Standard Or Premium Hotel

Option)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 3 Bangkok, Thailand - Luang Prabang, Laos

Enjoy the morning at leisure before transferring to the airport for your short flight to Luang Prabang, Laos with Bangkok Airways. On arrival you will be picked up from the airport and be transferred to the hotel.

This evening, for those who are feeling energetic, you can take the opportunity to join a tour to Mount Phousi and a night market. At 4.45pm you will be picked up by the tour guide, to visit Mount Phousi. Rising 150m above the centre of town, Mount Phousi cuts a distinctive figure on the Luang Prabang skyline. The hill is a popular place to watch the sun set over the Mekong River. From the summit you can enjoy a spectacular 360 degree outlook across the city and its many temples, and out over the surrounding landscape to the mountains in the distance. Count on spending a couple of hours for the climb and descent, with several stops to see the temples, rest under shady trees and admire the magical views. After visiting Mount Phousi, the tour guide will take you to visit the night market which has a few hundred stalls.

For those who want to relax and just explore the markets another guide will meet you at the hotel at 6:30pm for a short walking tour of the night market.

Both tours will finish in the main street of Luang Prabang, where there are many dinner options (not included).

Overnight: Luang Prabang, Laos (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4 Pak Ou Cave, Buffalo Dairy and Kuang Si Falls

This morning at 7:30am you will meet the tour guide and embark on a private boat cruise along the Mekong River, (approx. 1.5 hours) with a brief stop in a rice wine making







village. After the cruise you will arrive at Pak Ou Caves. Pak Ou is a place which not only shelters historic cultural values but is also home to thousands of Buddhist statues. After visiting the cave by slow boat you will arrive back into Luang Prabang, and then travel by bus to experience the Lao Buffalo Dairy Farm, an inspiring non-profit organization.

Lead by the tour guide, you have the chance to feed chickens, pigs and buffalo. You will even have an opportunity to milk a buffalo! After the tour you will enjoy lunch while basking in the glorious mountain views. Lunch will include a dessert of buffalo ice cream and a choice of a delicious cake! Continue to the breathtaking Kuang Si waterfalls, the largest in Luang Prabang. Whilst contemplating the natural beauty, you have the opportunity to take a refreshing swim. Transfer back to hotel in Luang Prabang.

Overnight: Luang Prabang, Laos (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch

Day 5 MandaLao Elephant Conservation

Today enjoy the morning at leisure before embarking on an afternoon visit to the amazing MandaLao Elephant Conservation. Arrive at the MandaLao property at 2:00pm and enjoy coffee or tea during a 30min introduction about elephant behaviour, ecology and conservation efforts. Following that, the guides will help outfit everyone with specifically designed boots and rain gear (if needed). The group will make special treats to feed the elephants whilst giving them a fun bath. This will be an unforgettable experience you will cherish for life. Once clean and cool, the group will trek along with the elephants through a stretch of Lao gardens and onto the Huay Kang Stream (approx. 500m). Afterwards transfer back to the hotel and enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure.

Optional activity: Mekong River Sunset Cruise - \$40 AUD

Sunset in Luang Prabang leaves a lasting impression on travellers, often becoming one of their most memorable experiences. It's not just pretty skies but that is also certainly part of the magic time of the day to capture the mood and feeling of the entire place. It's the golden light on the mountains, the calm that blankets the Mekong, the gathering of friends, the temple bells and drums heralding evening prayers. For locals and tourists alike, it's a collective sigh, a pause in time. This evening you will be picked up from your hotel and transferred to the cruise. Upon boarding enjoy a nice welcome Laos cocktail and also enjoy soft drinks, beer and snacks while cruising.

Overnight: Luang Prabang, Laos (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 6 Morning Alms Giving Ceremony - Vang Vieng (approx. 180km day)

Rise early to the sound of the temple gong, then join your guide for a walk through the quiet streets to watch the daily procession of three hundred young monks walking silently by, collecting sticky rice and other foods in their bronze bowls. The ritual is linked to a Buddhist tradition in which monks beg for their daily food as a way to demonstrate humility. Alms giving is an important religious act in Buddhism and it must be carried out respectfully by locals and tourists alike. If you would like to be involved in the offering of food, your guide will be more than happy to show you the best way to interact with monks. After this wonderful experience you will be transferred back to the hotel for breakfast. After breakfast, you will travel to Vang Vieng. Arrive at 12:30pm where you will check-in to the hotel and enjoy the afternoon at leisure or you can take the opportunity to join an optional 'Kayaking on Nam Song River'

Optional Activity: Kayaking on Nam Song River - \$35 AUD

A quick drive 10km North to the ethnic Khmu village of Viengsamay. After an introduction to the basics of kayaking you will set off down the beautiful Nam Song River. From here you will continue travelling downstream to Tham None (Sleeping cave), which is one of the biggest caves in Vang Vieng







and served as a rescue shelter for the villagers during the Second Indochina War. Today it is home to a family of bats and the 'Magic Stone' of Vang Vieng. The final leg of the journey is a gentle paddle which will return you back to Vang Vieng, hopefully just in time to catch the sunset.

Overnight: Vang Vieng, Laos (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 7 Morning at Leisure – Tham Phu Kham Cave & Blue Lagoon

After breakfast, you will have the morning to spend at your own leisure or you can choose to join an optional 'Half Day Trekking to Pha Ngern View Point' tour.

Optional Activity: Half Day Trekking to Pha Ngern Viewpoint - \$30 AUD (high level of fitness required)

At 8:00am you will be picked up by the tour guide in a tuk tuk. On arrival in Pha Ngern you will start the climb to the Pha Ngern viewpoint - 650m (approx. 45-60mins). Once you reach the top you will find the most spectacular views, with picturesque landscape views over the paddy fields that "pop" out in clear view from their flat surroundings. From the top you will also witness a sea of clouds cuddling rocky mountain peaks. After the trek back down the mountain you will be transferred back to the hotel and arrive at approximately 10:30am.

This afternoon at 2:00pm you will be met by the tour guide, and travel to Tham Phu Kham Cave and Blue Lagoon. Tham Phu Kham Cave and Blue Lagoon is an improvised eco-water park in a scenic village close to Vang Vieng. Observe sharp stalactites and stalagmites as you descend down steep walls to reach the largest hall of the cave, which holds the bronze statue of a reclining Buddha, with several other smaller Buddha images revered by locals. The green-blue waters of the lagoon outside the cave provide a beautiful relaxation spot, as well as the opportunity to re-live your younger years as you jump off a tree into the water. During your tour you can also try your hand at abseiling one of the water slides. At approximately 5:00pm you will arrive at a boat station where you will take a long tail

boat for an hour long cruise on Nam Song River. You will see the beautiful sunset over the river with picturesque scenery of Vang Vieng. After docking at the boat station you will be transferred back to the hotel.

Overnight: Vang Vieng, Laos (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8 Vang Vieng - Vientiane (approx. 130km day)

Today after breakfast you will be transferred to Vientiane. Upon arrival you will check-in to the hotel and then you can enjoy the rest of the afternoon at lesiure. Tonight you will enjoy a traditional dinner with live music at the famous Khop Chai Deu Restaurant.

Overnight: Vientiane, Laos (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

Day 9 Half Day City Tour and Buddha Park

After breakfast, with the tour guide you will visit Patuxai Monument, Laos' version of the Arc de Triomphe, where you can climb the stairs to the roof for sweeping panoramic views of the city. Next, the tour takes you to That Luang (a gold covered Buddhist Stupa), the holiest site in Laos. Next, take a stroll around the Buddha Park (Xieng Khuan), which is filled with more than 200 Buddhist and Hindu statues. The tranquil setting along the Mekong River is a contrast to the slightly eccentric sculptures built in 1958 by a Laos shaman. The concrete sculptures are unique and intriguing, sitting majestically in the peaceful park.

Overnight: Vientiane, Laos (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 10 Vientiane, Laos - Australia

After breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight back to Australia via Bangkok with Thai Airways.







Meals included: Breakfast;In-Flight

Day 11 Arrive in Australia







TOUR INCLUSIONS

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a day at leisure in vibrant Bangkok
- Experience Laos 'the Land of a Million Elephants'
- Discover the beauty of UNESCO heritage listed Luang Prabang
- Cruise along the Mekong River to Pak Ou Caves
- Witness numerous Buddha statues at Pak Ou Cave
- Visit the inspiring Buffalo Dairy and even milk a buffalo
- Enjoy a refreshing swim at the beautiful Kuang Si Falls
- Spend an afternoon with the elephants of MandaLao Conservation
- Experience a Buddhist 'Alms Giving Ceremony'
- Explore Vang Vieng's famous Tham Kham Cave
- Witness the bronze reclining Buddha statue in Tham Phu Cave
- Swim in the emerald waters of the Blue Lagoon
- Experience the sunset from a long tail boat cruise on the Nam Song River
- See the That Luang stupa on a Vientiane city tour
- Marvel at the statues of Buddha Park

FLIGHTS

- Return international flights (economy class) ex SYD/MEL/ BNF
- Fly with award winning Thai Airways

ACCOMMODATION

- 2 nights hotel accommodation in Bangkok
- 7 nights hotel accommodation in Laos (Standard Or Premium Hotel Option)

DINING

• Enjoy 11 meals including a traditional dinner

TOUR ESSENTIALS

- English-speaking tour guides
- Airline taxes and surcharges
- Sightseeing and monument entry fees

TRANSPORT

• Transportation by private A/C Vehicles

TRANSFERS

All airport transfers





IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*Please note: all information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current live deal at www.tripadeal.com.au or contact our customer service team on 135 777 for the most up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.

BOOKING INFORMATION

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. The Passenger Information Form must be completed within 72 hours of purchase.

Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form.

Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

On purchasing this Travel Offer you are bound by the General Terms and Conditions, in addition to the specific terms and conditions outlined in this Important Information.

Please note: all additional charges are payable direct to your Travel Consultant (unless otherwise stated).

OFFER ESSENTIALS

Travel offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 15th September 2019.

This travel offer is priced for one person based on twin share.

Single Traveller Supplement

For solo travellers a mandatory single supplement applies:

Standard Package: \$300 Premium Package: \$500

Departure Dates

Please see TripADeal website for current departure dates.

Surcharges

Please note: dates/months with a *, ^ or † incur a high season surcharge:

* Standard Package Land High Season - \$150 per person

^ Premium Package Land High Season - \$200 per person

† Flight High Season - \$250 per person

Departure Cities

Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane

FLIGHTS

Full Service Airline(s) Used

* Australia - Thailand & Laos - Australia: Thai Airways

* Thailand - Laos: Bangkok Airways

Arrive early in Bangkok, Thailand \$200 per person, subject to availability

Please note:

- This fee does not include extra nights accommodation, meals or airport transfers.
- No flight booking changes or cancellations permitted after air tickets have been issued.
- Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Stay behind in Vientiane, Laos \$200 per person, subject to availability

Please note:

- This fee does not include extra nights accommodation, meals or airport transfers.
- No flight booking changes or cancellations permitted after air tickets have been issued.
- Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Stopover Packages

Not available.

Flight Class Upgrades

- Premium Economy: Not available.
- Business Class (Australia Thailand & Laos Australia): Buy now for \$3299 per person.

Please note:

- All Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are subject to availability (if we are not able to fulfill your business class request the upgrade cost will be refunded).
- On any upgrade purchase, short haul flights and domestic flight sectors

are not guaranteed in a Premium or Business cabin; subject to aircraft configuration.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation Used

Standard Package

3 Star (self-rated):

- Bangkok, Thailand: Miramar Hotel,/
 Bangkok Pietra Hotel OR Lemontea
 Hotel Pratunam
- Luang Prabang, Laos: Saynamkhan River View / Golden Lotus River View OR Jasmine Luang Prabang
- Vang Vieng, Laos: Vang Vieng Central Park Hotel / Laos Haven Hotel OR Vang Vieng Boutique Hotel
- Vientiane, Laos: Lane Xang Hotel / Vientiane Garden Hotel / Ibis Vientiane Nam Phu OR Vientiane Luxury Hotel

Premium Package

4 Star (self-rated):

- Bangkok, Thailand: The Berkeley Hotel Pratunam
- Luang Prabang, Laos: Santi Resort and Spa OR Villa Maly Boutique Hotel
- Vang Vieng, Laos: Amari Vang Vieng
- Vientiane, Laos: Crowne Plaza
 Vientiane / S Park Design Hotel OR
 Green Park Boutique Hotel

Please note: rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type, and are subject to availability based on seasonality. Properties will be confirmed, no later than two weeks prior to travel.

Extra Nights

- Bangkok, Thailand (Pre Tour/Standard Package): \$100 per room including breakfast.
- Bangkok, Thailand (Pre Tour/Premium Package): \$120 per room including breakfast.
- Vientiane (Post Tour/Standard Package): \$60 per room including breakfast.
- Vientiane (Post Tour/Premium Package): \$100 per room including breakfast.

Please note: extra nights are based on room only and subject to availability until





IMPORTANT INFORMATION

the time of booking. Airport transfers are not included if you wish to arrive early or stay behind

Maximum Room Capacity

3 people (subject to availability).

Child Policy

- No child discounts. Full price applies for all children travelling with their parents.
- Valid for Children 8 years old and over. Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors allowed.

Triple Share

No discounts apply for 3rd person travelling. Full price applies, subject to availability.

Please note: Triple shares may be required to share existing bedding.

Bedding Configuration

Double or twin bedding (subject to availability).

Adjoining / Interconnecting Rooms Not available.

GENERAL TOUR INFORMATION

Minimum group size 10, maximum group size 16 per vehicle.

Optional Tours / Activities

- Day 2: Bangkok City Tour \$100 AUD
- Day 5: Mekong River Sunset Cruise \$40 AUD
- Day 6: Kayaking on Nam Song River -\$35 AUD
- Day 7: Half Day Trekking to Pha Ngern Viewpoint - \$30 AUD

Please note:

- prices are based on per person, are subject to availability, time permitting and weather conditions.
- The optional tours listed above must be purchased on checkout or over the phone prior to submitting your passenger information form (subject to availability).
- Some tours require minimum numbers to operate.

EXCLUSIONS

- Visa fees and requirements (A tourist visa for Thailand & Laos is a strict requirement if travelling on an Australian passport).
- Meals/beverages not stated in the itinerary.
- Recommended gratuities/tipping: 30,000 Laotian Kip (approx. \$5 AUD) per person/ per day.
- Optional activities/tours.
- Personal expenses.
- Travel insurance (Mandatory).

 Please note: A comprehensive travel Insurance policy must be organised BEFORE all details can be finalised.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

Tour Guide:

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction in which he or she is guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves the group at the end of the tour, they do not travel with the group.

Tour Leader:

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour guides in each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village, and offer information on the place visited on the bus, however they are not required to have specific knowledge on art, architecture, or history. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and if caught doing so, can be

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not

a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when particularly required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.

FLIGHTS

Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points

At TripADeal we do not arrange seat selection. It is important to highlight that some Airlines do not allow preselected seats. We strongly suggest you contact the Airline directly with seating allocation requirements and or arrive at the airport earlier to arrange your seating. While we do not add frequent flyer member details to bookings, you can do this directly with the Airline once you have your flight information.

COACH TOUR

Meals:

Daily breakfast is included in the tour, for all other meals; lunches and dinners the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify TripADeal of any dietary requests/requirements. Please note; we will do our best to meet your requests/requirements, however cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

Luggage:

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on the tour. With regards to luggage, you must carry your own luggage from the coach to the hotel room and back to the coach. The driver will assist with the uploading and off-loading of the luggage from the coach.

OTHER

Fitness Level Required / Mobility:

Our vehicles are not equipped with wheelchair access, so unfortunately our tours are currently not suitable for wheelchair users and those less mobile.

Please note: a general level of fitness will





IMPORTANT INFORMATION

be required. For the Half Day trekking to the Pha Ngern Viewvoint and the walk to the viewpoint on Mount Phousi a higher level of fitness will be required. If you have any concerns please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/ travel.

Gratuities / Tipping:

Gratuities (tips) are not included in the tour price for services of the tour leader (when available) and driver throughout the tour. The recommended tip for the tour leader and driver is 30,000 Laotian Kip (approx. \$5 AUD) per person per day, which will be collected whilst on tour.

CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Bangkok:

Bangkok's climate is tropical with an average temperature in the high 20's with high humidity. There are three distinct seasons – the hot season from March to May, the cool season from November to February and the rainy season from about June to October. Please note in the rainy season it is likely for afternoon showers but still plenty of sunshine!

Laos

Laos has a tropical monsoon climate, with afternoon showers common between May and October. A cool dry season from November through February, and a hot dry season in March and April.

Sightseeing:

Please note: In the event entrance to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary will be adjusted to ensure you do not miss out on the experience.

Shopping:

Shopping overseas can be a daunting and confusing experience, especially when there is a language barrier. Please be very cautious when foreign currencies and prices are involved. If paying by credit card, please pay close attention to the amount you are being charged and keep all of your receipts.

Do not make any purchases you are not comfortable with or feel pressured into. If you are uncertain or need assistance with the language barrier, please seek assistance from your Tour Guide/Leader.

Please refer to our Terms and Conditions in regards to shopping for further information.

VISAS

THAILAND & LAOS

A Tourist Visa for Thailand and Laos is granted upon arrival if travelling for up to 30 days on an Australian Passport. All information regarding this Visa will be in your travel documentation that is sent out approximately 6 weeks prior to departure. There is a \$35 USD fee for entry into Laos and you will need to provide one passport sized photo on arrival into Laos as well.

Please note: Passengers who are not Australian citizens must check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required. It is also important to note, some areas of employment such a journalism, government authorities and charity organisations may have additional restrictions in applying for Visas. This may in turn affect the type of application required.

INSURANCE

We are proud to offer a range of travel insurance products - please ask your Travel Consultant for more information.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

Voluntary Changes

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

- 1st Change - \$100.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/

- accommodation/other travel provider.
- 2nd Change \$150.00 per person
 + any additional charges applied
 by the airline/cruise company/
 accommodation/other travel provider.
- Subsequent changes \$250.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/ accommodation/other travel provider.
- Changes within 30 days of departure \$350.00 person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.
- Changes within 14 days of departure \$500.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.

Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

 If the incorrect name has been advised to TripADeal, charges of \$150.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/ accommodation/other travel provider.



