



Laos

# THE LAOS MEKONG

CHIANG KHONG TO VIENTIANE - 10 NIGHTS

DOWNSTREAM

Enjoy the splendour of Laos on Pandaw's 10-night expedition on the Upper Mekong. Sailing between Chiang Khong on the Thai-Laos border, and through Laos toward Vientiane, the old French capital, you will witness stunning scenery, meet amazingly warm and friendly locals and learn about Laos' national animal, the majestic elephant. We stop for three nights at the UNESCO World Heritage City of Luang Prabang with its dazzling wood-carved monasteries before heading deep into the mountains, through rapids and gorges on our high-powered little Pandaw vessels.



[VIEW ITINERARY](#)

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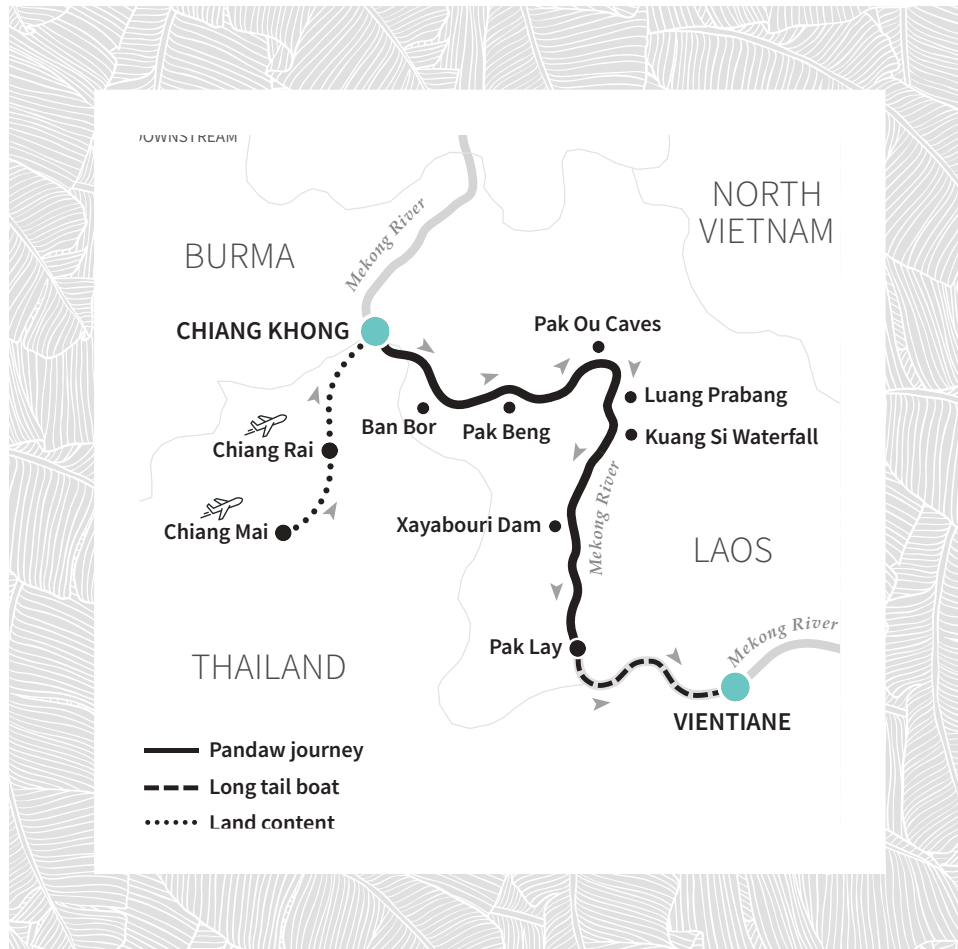
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# ROUTE MAP



## DOWNSTREAM





# ITINERARY DOWNSTREAM

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## DAY 1 CHIANG KHONG

Transfers from airports or any city hotel in Chiang Rai (2 hours) and Chiang Mai (6 hours) including Lunch at Ban Rai Sabaidee Farm plus guided visit to the Golden Triangle and the now infamous opium museum. Embark your ship by 16.00 and enjoy welcome drinks on the sundeck with traditional Thai dancing.

[More about Golden Triangle](#)

## DAY 2 INTO LAOS

Pass through immigration formalities at the Thai/Laos border and re-join the ship. Set sail downstream on the beautiful Upper Mekong River, Morning presentation on the Lao language. After lunch, if time allows, sightseeing on foot in Pak Sith.

[More about Into Laos](#)



## DAY 3 PAK BENG ELEPHANT SANCTUARY

Morning walk at Ban Luang Tong Lao Lowland village. Laos is known as 'The land of a million elephants' and after Lunch we will visit a rescue sanctuary that is helping to preserve the elephants of Laos and provide sustainable alternative employment for Mahouts who once trained and rode these beautiful creatures. In the evening we moor at a sandbank for a special riverside barbecue and cocktail party. Light paper lanterns with the crew and enjoy a dance in remote Laos.



## DAY 4 BAN BOR AND YOI HAI KHMU VILLAGES

Today we discover the Khmu minority group and learn about their remote way of life. In the morning we will visit Ban Bor village, home to the Lao & Khummu people. We will have the opportunity to support locally produced handicrafts and walk through the Khummu village of Yoi Haoi in the afternoon.



## DAY 5 PAK OU CAVES

Continue cruising downstream to Pak Ou, sightseeing by local boat exploring the unique Pak Ou Caves, a Buddhist sanctuary with spectacular limestone cliff faces. See the production of local Laos whisky at the Whisky village and shop for locally produced handicrafts before sailing into the World Heritage City of Luang Prabang. Moor overnight in central Luang Prabang.

[More about Pak Ou Caves and Nam Ou River](#)



## DAY 6 LUANG PRABANG CRAFTS & CULTURE

Today we explore the various handicrafts of Laos in more detail. We start with a morning walk up the 228 steps to Phousi temple where the best views of Luang Prabang can be found. After lunch aboard the ship, we visit Ock Pop Tok, a social enterprise providing sustainable employment and training for the women of local weaving villages. We then head to TAEC (Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre) to understand more about Laos musical instruments. Cocktail hour is accompanied by a traditional Bacci ceremony onboard highlighting some of the instruments seen in the afternoon.

# ITINERARY DOWNSTREAM

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## DAY 7 LUANG PRABANG

Early morning walking tour to observe the morning alms offering by local people to the hundreds of monks who walk around the city every morning. We continue after breakfast to the morning market before taking tuktuks for a city tour of this well preserved and unique world heritage site with its many Buddhist temples, libraries and royal palace. The afternoon is free to explore the beauty and unique atmosphere of Luang Prabang.

[More about Luang Prabang](#)



## DAY 8 KUANG SI WATERFALL

After breakfast sail downstream to Ban Chan where we take part in a pottery demonstration at the local pottery workshop. After Lunch we moor at Ban Mouang Khai and take a short drive to see the deep jungle pools at the Khaung Si Waterfall where you can swim in the crystal-clear waters. We then stop at the Laos Buffalo Farm, a social enterprise utilizing the abundant buffalo in Laos before rejoining the ship. We sail downstream for a sunset cruise and moor overnight at Ban Na San.

[More about Kuang Si Waterfalls](#)



## DAY 9 XAYABOURI DAM

Morning walk through Ban Na San Hmong Village. In the afternoon we pass through Xayabouri Hydroelectric Dam and take an inside look of the workings of this somewhat controversial attraction as we pass through the locks. Afternoon walk at Ban Khok Fark and moor overnight.



## DAY 10 BAN PAK YUN TO PAK LAY

Explore Ban Pak Yun Mixed minorities tribe in the morning, a rural local village before setting sail to Pak Lay, our final destination. Enjoy a tour of your Pandaw ship and fruit carving demonstration on the sundeck in the afternoon before farewell cocktails and dinner in the evening.

## DAY 11 VIENTIANE

Disembark at 08:30am followed by a local long-tail boat expedition downstream to Vientiane. Lunch and drinks will be provided on the local boat by your Pandaw chef and bar staff. Arrival to Vientiane around 17:30 with drop off at your hotel or Vientiane airport.

[More about Vientiane](#)



# WHATS INCLUDED, TRANSFERS & VISAS DOWNSTREAM

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**Cruise Price Includes:** Entrance fees, guide services (English language), gratuities to crew, main meals, local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes. Transfers Chiang Rai / Chiang Mai to ship v.v. and ship to Vientiane v.v.

**Cruise Price Excludes:** International flights, port dues (if levied), laundry, all visa costs, fuel surcharges (see terms and conditions), all beverages except local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes and tips to tour guides, local guides, bus drivers, boat operators and cyclo drivers.

## Transfers & Joining

### DAY 1 CHIANG KHONG

Hotel pick-ups from city hotels in Chiang Mai can be as early as 06.00 or as late as 08.00. From Chiang Rai hotels can be as early as 08.30 or as late as 10.00. Timing varies according to the docking place of the Pandaw vessel. Our representative will call you on the evening before or leave a message with the hotel to reconfirm the exact pick up time.

If your arrival is after the above mentioned time we will pick you up from the airport Chiang Rai (arrival must be before 13.00) or airport Chiang Mai (arrival must be before 13.00) and transfer you to the ship. This transfer will not include any visits to Golden Triangle, Opium House and Lunch due to time limit.

**Please Note:** There is a surcharge for private transfers if you are not able to meet us at above scheduled pick up times.

### DAY 11 VIENTIANE

Disembark 08.30 in Pak Lay after breakfast and transfer to Vientiane by Pandaw's local long-tail boat. Arrival in Vientiane approx 17:30 at your chosen hotel or VTE airport.

## Visa Information

### Downstream

Visa on arrival for Laos can be acquired easily at the border crossing and requires 1 passport photo plus USD40 - USD55 in cash for processing. Alternatively, an E-visa can be obtained prior to travel for a fee of \$50 USD. Please use the official Laos E-visa website only - <https://laoevisa.gov.la>.

### Upstream

Most nationalities are eligible for visa waiver in Thailand meaning no visa is required for stays of 15 days. Please check your local embassy for up to date information about your personal requirements.

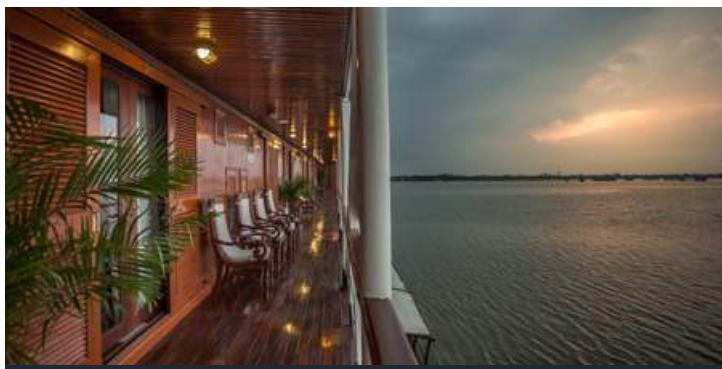
[Click here](#) for further visa information.



# PANDAW STATEROOMS

The Pandaw stateroom is the most celebrated feature of our ships, combining splendid colonial-era character with exquisite contemporary comfort.

Finished in brass and teak, the main and upper deck rooms are a spacious 168 square feet (15.6 sqm), with the exception of the Zawgyi Pandaw which is 150 square feet (14 sqm). As the space is much loved by all our passengers, we have ensured that with each ship we build, the stateroom remains essentially the same. Be advised: our cabins do not have mini-bars, satellite TV's, internet access or telephones. Passengers tend to choose Pandaw in order to escape from the tiresome features found in international business hotels.

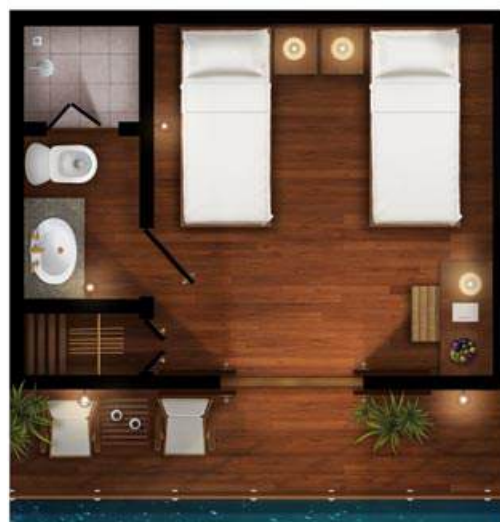


- Fruit and flowers on arrival
- Kimonos and slippers
- Spa-branded amenities
- Unlimited mineral water

Bedroom	12' x 10'
Bathroom	6' x 4'
Showeroom	2' 8" x 3' 4"
Single Bed	6' 7" x 3' 3"



DOUBLE CONFIGURATION



TWIN CONFIGURATION



# PANDAW SHIPS

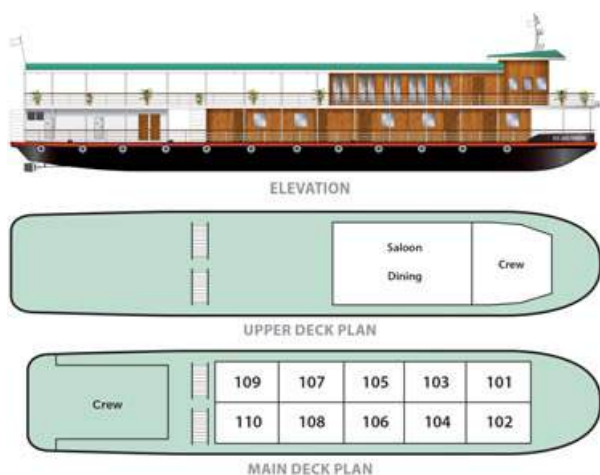
## RV Laos Pandaw

Seeing the quality of this ship it is hard to believe it was built in a hurry. There are no proper ship yards above the Khone Falls and we could not persuade our Vietnamese builders to assemble a ship trucked in in bits on the river bank. We tried our Rangoon builder and he also chickened out. By January 2015 we were taking bookings and selling out for November but still had no ship. Paul Strachan in a panic flew to Vientiane and took a taxi down to the river bank and boarded the first cargo ship we saw, a 40 meter barge used to carry heavy loads of cement and rice up to China. She had two 400hp truck engines and was just the thing for tackling the terrifying fast flow of the Upper Mekong. The captain was the owner and agreed terms with Paul. The owner agreed to stay on as skipper and is still there. He immediately took her up to the Golden Triangle, a week's sail away.

The Golden Triangle is where Burma, Laos and Thailand meet and was the perfect place to convert the ship. The build team came over from Mandalay, a two-day bus journey across the Shan mountains. They made a camp on the Burma river bank opposite where she lay on the Laos. We hired a house on the Thai side to act as an office and could source material and supplies from Thailand. Amazingly we had the ten cabin ship finished on time for the maiden voyage on the 1st November 2015. Actually it was the first time we have actually had the ship finished on time! Normally there are still sparks flying as the first passengers come on board.

The ship has quality mountain bikes for your independent exploration.

### Images of RV Laos Pandaw



- **Built:** in 2015 in Laos
- **Length:** 44.50 m
- **Beam:** 8.90 m
- **Draft:** 1.20 m
- **Berths:** 20 pax

### ACCOMMODATION

- 10 main deck staterooms
- Staterooms are 14 square meters (150 sqf), finished in teak and brass
- Panoramic sliding door
- Kimonos and slippers
- Spa-branded amenities
- Unlimited mineral water
- Electric mini safe
- Imported quality linens with duvet and two kind of pillows
- Premium mattresses
- Convertible bed configuration
- Welcome flower arrangement and welcome gift
- Mirror
- Multi-configuration plugs
- Generous closet space and under-bed storage
- Hair dryer
- Nightly turndown service
- 24hr laundry service
- Complimentary evening canapés

### WINING & DINING

- Local master chef heading an experienced international culinary team
- Personalized meal services
- Daily lean & light menu options
- Complimentary local mineral water, juggled coffee, teas & tisanes
- Extensive wine list with premium wines
- Series of cultural performances, educational talks, cooking classes, and ship tour
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Welcome cocktail
- Farewell reception
- Theme dinners
- Open air lounge and bar
- Bistro style al fresco dining
- 24hrs hospitality bar
- Onboard bakery with daily freshly baked breads and rolls

### ON EXCURSIONS

- Admissions
- Shoe cleaning after excursions
- Bottled drinking water
- Cold towel service after excursions
- Refreshing drink following excursions

### SAFETY & SECURITY

- All onboard crew is trained and certified as per international marine standards
- Fire alarm system in all cabins, public areas and back areas
- Firefighting system in all ship areas
- Expert marine superintendent
- 24 hrs watch on duty

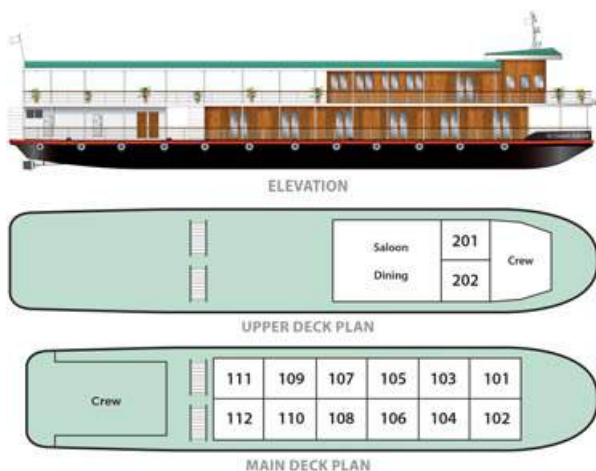


# PANDAW SHIPS

## RV Champa Pandaw

The Champa Pandaw, sister ship of the Laos Pandaw, began cruises on the Upper Mekong from September 2016. The ship has quality mountain bikes for your independent exploration.

[Images of RV Champa Pandaw](#)



- Built: 2016 in Thailand
- Length: 44.50 m
- Beam: 8.90 m
- Draft: 1.20 m
- Berths: 28 pax

### ACCOMMODATION

- 12 main deck staterooms
- Staterooms are 14 square meters (150 sqf), finished in teak and brass
- Panoramic sliding door
- Kimonos and slippers
- Spa-branded amenities
- Unlimited mineral water
- Electric mini safe
- Imported quality linens with duvet and two kind of pillows
- Premium mattresses
- Convertible bed configuration
- Welcome flower arrangement and welcome gift
- Mirror
- Multi-configuration plugs
- Generous closet space and under-bed storage
- Hair dryer
- Nightly turndown service
- 24hr laundry service
- Complimentary evening canapés

### WINING & DINING

- Local master chef heading an experienced international culinary team
- Personalized meal services
- Daily lean & light menu options
- Complimentary local mineral water, juggled coffee, teas & tisanes
- Extensive wine list with premium wines
- Series of cultural performances, educational talks, cooking classes, and ship tour
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Welcome cocktail
- Farewell reception
- Theme dinners
- Open air lounge and bar
- Bistro style al fresco dining
- 24hrs hospitality bar
- Onboard bakery with daily freshly baked breads and rolls

### ON EXCURSIONS

- Admissions
- Shoe cleaning after excursions
- Bottled drinking water
- Cold towel service after excursions
- Refreshing drink following excursions

### SAFETY & SECURITY

- All onboard crew is trained and certified as per international marine standards
- Fire alarm system in all cabins, public areas and back areas
- Firefighting system in all ship areas
- Expert marine superintendent
- 24 hrs watch on duty

# PANDAW SHIPS

## RV Sabaidee Pandaw

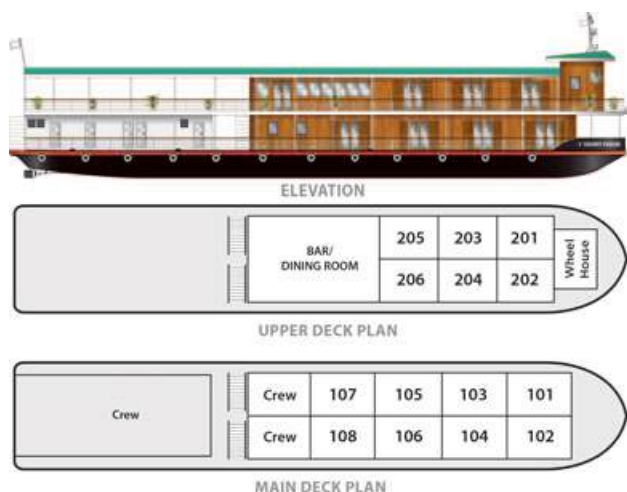
The RV Sabaidee is our seventeenth ship to the Pandaw Flotilla which was constructed to meet demand on our very popular Laos to China route across Yunnan.

In true Pandaw style this double decked vessel is designed to meet the navigational challenges of shooting rapids in the Laos gorges and sailing through shallow waters all the way to China.

The Sabaidee has just fourteen classic Pandaw staterooms; 8 on the main deck and 6 on upper deck as well as an open plan saloon with flexible indoor or outdoor dining. The Sabaidee is handcrafted to our usual level of excellence in teak and brass and provide all the comforts of the personalised service our guests expect.

The ship has quality mountain bikes for your independent exploration.

### Images of RV Sabaidee Pandaw



- Sailing from 2018
- Berths: 28 pax

### ACCOMMODATION

- 6 upper deck staterooms and 8 main deck staterooms
- 170 square feet, finished in teak and brass
- Panoramic French window
- Kimonos and slippers
- Spa-branded amenities
- Unlimited mineral water
- Electric mini safe
- AC with individual control
- Imported quality linens with duvet and two kind of pillows
- Premium mattresses
- Welcome flower arrangement and welcome gift
- Mirror
- Multi-configuration plugs
- Generous closet space and under-bed storage
- Hair dryer
- Nightly turndown service
- 24h laundry service
- Complimentary evening canapés

### WINING & DINING

- Bistro style dining room with outside seating and air-conditioning inside
- Local master chef heading an experienced international culinary team
- Semi-buffet breakfast, semi-buffet lunch, and seated theme dinners
- Daily lean & light menu options
- Complimentary local mineral water, juggled coffee, teas & tisanes
- Extensive wine list with premium wines
- Series of cultural performances, educational talks, cooking classes, and ship tour
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Welcome cocktail
- Farewell reception
- Theme dinners
- 24hrs hospitality bar
- Onboard bakery with daily freshly baked breads and rolls

### ON EXCURSIONS

- Admissions
- Shoe cleaning after excursions
- Bottled drinking water
- Cold towel service after excursions
- Refreshing drink following excursions
- Full-size motor coach on all excursions
- 1st aid trained assistant guide to follow all tours and excursions

### SAFETY & SECURITY

- All onboard crew is trained and certified as per international marine standards
- Fire alarm system in all cabins, public areas and back areas
- Firefighting system in all ship areas
- Expert marine superintendent
- 24 hrs watch on duty

### ONBOARD STAFF

- Captain
- River Pilot
- First Officer
- Chief Engineer
- 1st Engineer
- Electrician
- Bosun & nautical crew
- Ship manager
- Housekeeping
- Dining
- Bar keeper
- Chefs
- Local tour guides

### PUBLIC SPACES

- Guest relation desk
- Library with contemporary and classic literature

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

## Pre Tour

### THE RACHAMANKHA HOTEL, CHIANG MAI

#### DOWNSTREAM

Enjoy the comfort and charm of the deluxe Rachamankha Hotel and explore Chiang Mai on our included full day excursion.



#### DAY 1: ARRIVE CHIANG MAI

Our local representative will meet you at Chiang Mai airport and transfer you to the Rachamankha Hotel in a superior room for a 2-night stay on a bed and breakfast basis.

#### DAY 2: EXPLORE CHIANG MAI

After breakfast, you will be met by your guide for a morning visit of Chiang Mai including Suan Buak Hat, a lovely park full of flowers that lies just inside the moat. From here, you take a local rickshaw (three-wheeled bicycle taxi) to Wat Pan Tao. Wat Pan Tao is essentially built of wood and, although rarely visited, is certainly one of the most charming temples of Chiang Mai. Then, continue to Wat Phra Sing – the most famous temple in the old city centre. Afterwards, visit Warorot Market, Chiang Mai's biggest market and well known for its huge choice of flowers. Lunch is included at a typical local restaurant serving Northern Thai food.

After lunch, drive up Doi Suthep Mountain and visit Wat Doi Suthep, Chiang Mai's most revered temple on the mountaintop. According to an old legend, Monk Sumana presented the king with a bone relic of the Lord Buddha. He then tied it to the back of a royal elephant that stomped through the jungle for days. The elephant finally stopped at the actual place of the temple where he died. Both the king and monk Sumana agreed that this would be the place where Doi Suthep temple would be built.

#### DAY 3: CHIANG MAI - TRANSFER TO PANDAW SHIP

Check out after breakfast. You will be collected from the hotel lobby and transferred to your Pandaw ship in Chiang Saen or Chiang Khong.

#### The Rachamankha Hotel

Well located in the heart of historic Chiang Mai old city, the 25-room Rachamankha is the leading luxury boutique hotel, offering charming colonnaded courtyards and gardens - a world of serenity and contentment. The hotel distinctive architecture is inspired by the eleventh centuries B.C. vernacular Chinese dwellings, from which Northern Thai architecture has its roots.

#### Public facilities

Public areas include the Library with over 2,000 books and an enchanting open-air massage pavilion overlooking a tranquil 20-meter pool where drinks and light snacks are served pool-side throughout the day. You can dine in al fresco or in the stylish restaurant. Antiques from different periods around the world, from Europe, Africa, China, Burma and Thailand are scattered throughout the hotel. The spacious and comfortable air-conditioned superior rooms are fully equipped with wireless Internet connection, TV and CD/DVD player.

6 Rachamankha, 9 Phra Singh, Chiang Mai 50200, Thailand

Tel: +66 53 904 111

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

#### Rates include

Airport transfer; sightseeing as per itinerary with English speaking local guide, 2-nights accommodation in superior room at the Rachamankha Hotel on bed and breakfast basis; lunch on day 2; entrance fees to specified sights; service charges, room tax and baggage handling.

Extension Code: LTM-RachPre1

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

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## Pre Tour

## THE HILL TRIBES OF NORTH THAILAND

### DOWNSTREAM

Travel off the beaten track with your English speaking guide and discover the hilltribes, beautiful scenery and history of the land of opium, in our exclusive pre cruise arrangement.



#### DAY 1: CHIANG MAI ARRIVAL

Our local representative will meet you at Chiang Mai airport and transfer you to the Rachamankha. Chiang Mai is a Thailand's "Rose of the North" which is a cultural and natural wonderland with ethnic diversity, a multitude of attractions and welcoming hospitality.

Overnight at Rachamankha

**Meals:** none

#### DAY 2: CHIANG MAI - CHIANG DAO

Morning departure from Chiang Mai to visit Doi Angkhang, with a stop to visit Chiang Dao cave, situated among the rolling hillside. The cave consists of 4 interconnected caverns that are opened. Here you will see an array of different stalactites everywhere.

Lunch at local restaurant. After lunch, proceed to hotel for check in and afternoon at leisure. Dinner will be served at Hotel.

Overnight at The Rachamankha

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 3: CHIANG DAO - DOI ANGKHANG - MAE CHAN

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and proceed to Doi Angkhang National Park. The area has a cool climate all year round, particularly from December to January. During this period, visitors should be prepared to cope with cold weather. Doi Angkhang Royal Agricultural Station is a site for planting and researching for flowering plants, temperate fruit trees, vegetables and other crop under the patronage of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej (King Rama IX).

Lunch is at a local restaurant.

Afternoon visit Muser Hill tribe at Baan Khob Dong village, The tribe believe in ghosts and spirits and still hold on to simple ways of life. The Royal Project has supported this village in promoting agriculture and handicrafts. The Young Local Guide project is underway to guide visitors on the local lifestyle and beliefs, as well as to create a non-migration awareness in local youths.

The next stop will be a visit to Baan Nor Lae village, this village is located on the Thai-Burmese border. The people of No Lae migrated from Myanmar about 15 years ago. They speak their own language and are Buddhists. From here we continue to the villages of Baan Khum which is a village located near the Royal Agricultural Station. It is a small community comprising of people from various races such as Burmese, Hwa, and Thai Yai. They settled in the area and run souvenir shops and restaurants.

In the late afternoon, transfer to Mae Chan for check in at your hotel.

Overnight at Katiliya Mountain Resort & Spa

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

CONT'D ➔



# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

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## DAY 4: GOLDEN TRIANGLE - CHIANG KHONG

Today, we make our way to Chiang Khong in Chiang Rai. On the way you will visit Golden Triangle with Golden Buddha viewpoint to enjoy the spectacular view for 360 degree. From there we continue to visit the Opium Hall. The hall was built to educate people about the dangers of the drug through an entertaining exhibition which traces the opium's history from its first use 5,000 years ago to current issues of drug abuse and addiction.

**Meals:** Lunch at local restaurant.

After lunch, then continue to Chiang Khong along the scenic route. Arrive at Chiangkhong Teak Garden Riverfront Hotel. Here you will get firsthand experience on how to make Hmong batik handkerchief with Hmong ladies or alternatively, you can learn how to make and set animal traps. Dinner and watch traditional Hmong performances.

Overnight at Chiangkhong Teak Garden Riverfront Hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast & Lunch

## DAY 5: CHIANG KHONG - PANDAW CRUISE

After breakfast, (09h40) watch a presentation on the Hmong and Lahu tribes, the Golden triangle area and the giant catfish (locally known as Pla Buek) – the world's biggest fresh water fish found in the Mekong River. Learn about the activities that affect the Mekong River and the people whose lives depend on the river. Tour the Hmong and Lahu hill tribe village, including a visit at the shaman house of the Hmong. Drink tea with the shaman and discover why the fireplace is important to the Hmongs.

Lunch will be provided on the charming terrace that looks to the Mekong River and Laos.

Then continue to Chiang Khong to embarkation to Pandaw Cruise. On the way you might be able to stop at Chiang Khong City to visit local Buddhist temple if time allow before embarking to Pandaw Cruise.

**Meals:** Breakfast & Lunch

## The Rachamankha Hotel

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### Public facilities

Public areas include the Library with over 2,000 books and an enchanting open-air massage pavilion overlooking a tranquil 20-meter pool where drinks and light snacks are served pool-side throughout the day. You can dine in al fresco or in the stylish restaurant. Antiques from different periods around the world, from Europe, Africa, China, Burma and Thailand are scattered throughout the hotel. The spacious and comfortable air-conditioned superior rooms are fully equipped with wireless Internet connection, TV and CD/DVD player.

6 Rachamankha, 9 Phra Singh, Chiang Mai 50200, Thailand

Tel: +66 53 904 111

[Visit Hotel Website](#)



CONT'D ➡

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

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## Katiliya Mountain Resort & Spa

KATILIYA, is an all-suite luxury resort providing guests with superb services and facilities, in a stunning natural setting. Each of our Villas offers 4 to 6 units ensuring guest privacy and serenity with some units close to our pool and lobby area for convenience and some along our beautiful hillside and surrounded by extensive landscaping, our suites provide the most spacious accommodation in Chiang Rai. The individual sites range in size from 90 to 375 square metres, including large private balconies that open to magnificent views of rolling hills and verdant forests.

388/1 Moo 4 Tambol Pha Sang, Amphur Mae Chan, Chiang Rai, 57110, Thailand

Tel: +66 53 603 000

[Visit Hotel Website](#)



## Chiangkhong Teak Garden Riverfront Hotel

CHIANGKHONG TeakGarden Riverfront enjoys a beautiful riverfront location on the border between Thailand and Laos, the gorgeous Mekong River. CHIANGKHONG TeakGarden Riverfront is adjacent to the main road of the peaceful town of Chiangkhong, which is situated in the relaxing province of Chiang Rai. The rooms feature a fusion between Lanna and Contemporary styles. CHIANGKHONG TeakGarden Riverfront also has a wonderful and relaxing garden of golden teak trees, which are over a hundred years old. This convenient gateway to Indochina is located only 1 kilometer away from the bus station and 400 meters away from the Bug Pier, making CHIANGKHONG TeakGarden Riverfront the perfect destination for you.

666 Moo 8, Vieng, Chiang Khong District, Chiang Rai, TH 57140

Tel: (+66) 053 792 008

[Visit Hotel Website](#)



## Rates include

Accommodation at selected hotels with daily breakfast, check-in time is 2.00PM and check-out time is 12.00PM. Early or late service is subject to availability with surcharge, meals as mentioned, english speaking guide, tours and transfers as mentioned by air-conditioned vehicle, sightseeing fees and permits during guided time, service charge and current government VAT tax.

## Rates exclude

Early/late check in/out service at hotels (surcharge if requested), tips and gratuities, services and meals if not mentioned in itinerary, all drinks, including water, soft drink and alcohol on all included or optional excursions, laundry, telephone calls and expenditure of a personal nature, travel Insurance (Compulsory).

Extension Code: LTTH2BT

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

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## Post Tour

### THE PLAIN OF JARS

#### DOWNSTREAM

The Plain of Jars offers fascinating insights into Phuan, Hmong, Khmu and Tai Dam culture. Very little is known about the civilization that created The Plain of Jars, but you can only imagine the greatness of the ruler who constructed these unusual and enormous storage jars.

This is a Pandaw group tour depending on how many guests booked this extension.



#### DAY 1: VIENTIANE - PHONSAVANH

We will pick you up 09.00am after disembarkation from your Pandaw vessel. Drive to visit the surroundings of Vientiane including the Buddha Park, located 24 km south of Vientiane, and take a look at the impressive Friendship Bridge. Continue to visit the National museum which is highlighting the revolution of the 1970s and is located in a French colonial building. Afternoon visit to Cope Visitor Center: After the war ended in 1975, the country is still littered with a significant amount of UXO's (unexploded ordnance). COPE stands for Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise and provides prosthetics and mobility devices for those people who require them, free of charge if they cannot afford to pay for them. An interactive exhibit about the UXO problem tells how UXO affects communities, with stories of injured people and their experiences through their rehabilitation process.

Transfer to the airport for your afternoon flight to Phonsavanh, the gateway to the plain of jars. Transfer to your hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast at hotel, lunch at local restaurant..

#### DAY 2: THE PLAIN OF JARS

A full day to explore the famous Plain Of Jars, a vast area extending around Phonsavanh where over 300 huge stone jars carved out of solid rock from 1 to 3.25 meters high and weighing up to six tons each. And estimated to be 2,500 to 3,000 years old. According to local legend, King Khun Chuang had them constructed in order to store wine for the celebration of his conquest of the province in the 6th century. We visit Site I, II and III. Continue to Ban Na Pia (War Spoon Village) before returning to Phonsavanh.

**Meals:** Breakfast at hotel, Lunch at local restaurant.

#### DAY 3: MUANG KHOUN - VIENTIANE

Morning visit to scenic Muang Khoun, surrounded by mountains, the ancient capital that was founded by Chao Noi Muang and was a stronghold for the Xieng Khouang royal family was destroyed during the Indochina War. The town was rebuilt after 1975 with rows of wooden Lao houses and a market area. We also visit the ruins at Wat Phia Wat, That Foun and That Chomphet.

Transfer to Phonsavanh airport for flight to Vientiane followed by transfer to your hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast at hotel.

#### DAY 4: VIENTIANE

After breakfast, transfer the airport.

**Meals:** Breakfast at hotel.

CONT'D ➔

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

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## Vansana Plain of Jars Hotel

Conveniently located just 30 minutes from the Plain of Jars and 15 minutes from the Airport, the Vansana Plain of Jar Hotel is a simple hotel and the best option in Phonsavan City – Capital of Xiengkhouang Province. The hotel with 44 guestrooms (38 standards rooms and 6 executive suites) is located on a hilltop near the center of the city with 360 degree beautiful views on Phonsavan and the chain of mountains surrounding the Plain of Jars.



## Facilities

Rooms come with fan (no AC), bathroom, tea and Coffee making facilities, minibar and safe deposit box, snack bar and restaurant, cable TV, meeting room for 40 persons, shuttle service from the hotel to the airport and the center of the city and laundry service.

**Phonsavanh, Xieng Khouang, Laos**

**Tel: +856 61 213170**

## The Laos Poet

Whether your visit to Vientiane is for business or a holiday, we'll provide you with a relaxing retreat in the heart of the city. Our rooms and suites are designed to provide an indulgent escape for the weary traveler. Bought to you by Mrs. Lamphoune Voravongsa, creator of iconic Satri House hotel in Luang Prabang, her inspiration in creating Lao Poet was deliver a hotel that offered unique elegance and comfort, whilst mixing modern touches with flourishes of 1930's Indochina. The aim is to be original, unique and distinct and Lao Poet is sure to offer that, along with a warm welcome.



**Henbounnoy Street, Ban Haysoke,  
Chanthabouly District, Vientiane, 10111**

**Tel: +856 21 253 537**

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

## Rates include

English speaking guide, 2-nights at the Vasana Plain of Jars Hotel and 1-night at the Laos Poet Hotel on a bed and breakfast basis, 2x lunches at local restaurants, return domestic flights from Vientiane to Phonsavanh, taxes, all transfers and excursions and described and entrance fees.

**Extension Code: LTBJ3-VTE-JAR-POST-O**



# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

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## Post Tour

### EXPLORING VIENTIANE 2 NIGHT POST TOUR (LA SEINE HOTEL)



#### DOWNSTREAM

Vientiane, the capital city of Laos has been given many evocative nicknames, such as the City of Sandalwood and the City of the Moon, at certain points in its history. Explore this French colonial city with a 2 night extension to your Pandaw expedition.

This tour may be operated on a private basis or as a group tour with your fellow passengers depending on bookings.

#### DAY 1: VIENTIANE ARRIVAL

Check in to your hotel after your disembarkation transfer from the ship.

**Meals:** none.

#### DAY 2: VIENTIANE FULL DAY CITY TOUR

Depart with your local guide for a full day city tour exploring Laos' French colonial capital. Visit Talaat Sao - Vientiane's Morning Market, Wat Sisaket, Haw Phra Kaew and Putousay, the victory gate inspired by the Arc of Triumph in Paris. After lunch at a local restaurant, head out of town to visit one of Laos' slightly stranger attractions - Xieng Khuan Buddha Park.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Lunch.

#### DAY 3: VIENTIANE DEPARTURE

Check out of your hotel and our driver will transfer you to the airport for your onward flight.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

#### La Seine Hotel

La Seine Hotel by Burasari offers boutique accommodation in the Laos capital that reflect Vientiane's rich French colonial history and enduring, romantic charm. Located directly on the Mekong River it is ideally placed for visits to the nearby night market.

160 Quai Fa Ngum, Ban Sithan Neua, Sikhottabong District n13, Vientiane

Tel: +856 (0)21 253800

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

#### Rates include

English speaking guide, 2-nights at La Seine Hotel Vientiane on a bed and breakfast basis, 1x lunch at local restaurant, taxes, all transfers and excursions as described and entrance fees.

#### Rates exclude

International flights, visa, travel insurance, not mentioned beverages and meal.

**Extension Code:** LTM-VIN-SEINE-POST

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

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## Post Tour

### EXPLORING VIENTIANE 2 NIGHT POST TOUR (SETTHA PALACE)



#### DOWNSTREAM

Vientiane, the capital city of Laos has been given many evocative nicknames, such as the City of Sandalwood and the City of the Moon, at certain points in its history. Explore this French colonial city with a 2 night extension to your Pandaw expedition.

This tour may be operated on a private basis or as a group tour with your fellow passengers depending on bookings.

#### DAY 1: VIENTIANE ARRIVAL

Check in to your hotel after your disembarkation transfer from the ship.

**Meals:** none.

#### DAY 2: VIENTIANE FULL DAY CITY TOUR

Depart with your local guide for a full day city tour exploring Laos' French colonial capital. Visit Talaat Sao - Vientiane's Morning Market, Wat Sisaket, Haw Phra Kaew and Putousay, the victory gate inspired by the Arc of Triumph in Paris. After lunch at a local restaurant, head out of town to visit one of Laos' slightly stranger attractions - Xieng Khuan Buddha Park.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Lunch.

#### DAY 3: VIENTIANE DEPARTURE

Check out of your hotel and our driver will transfer you to the airport for your onward flight.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

#### Settha Palace Hotel

Located in central Vientiane, Settha Palace Hotel is a luxury escape steeped in history. Built in the 1930's it was painstaking renovated in the 1990's to become the idyllic escape it is today by the Theodas family who still own and run the hotel to this day.

6 Pangkham Street, Vientiane

Tel: +856 (21) 217 581

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

#### Rates include

English speaking guide, 2-nights at La Seine Hotel Vientiane on a bed and breakfast basis, 1x lunch at local restaurant, taxes, all transfers and excursions as described and entrance fees.

#### Rates exclude

International flights, visa, travel insurance, not mentioned beverages and meal.

**Extension Code:** LTM-VIN-SETTHA-POST

# OPTIONAL PACKAGE ADDONS & OTHER INFORMATION

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## Optional cruise add ons

**PRE-BOOKABLE HOUSE WINE PACKAGE** [Read more](#)

**FREE FLOW DRINKS** [Read more](#)

**FREE FLOW DRINKS & WINE PACKAGE** [Read more](#)

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## River Conditions Warning!

The rivers you will sail on are subject to seasonal rises and falls of water level, in some places as much as 30 metres. Water levels can change dramatically overnight and a sudden rise can impede our progress upstream considerably and even prevent us from passing under certain bridges. A sudden fall can result in our being unable to get into certain places or go as far upstream as we would hope. Groundings on sandbars are not infrequent and are part of the excitement of any Pandaw expedition. Published itineraries are indicational only and subject to sudden change. In such events alternative itineraries will be provided and we do our best to ensure that if a stop is missed we make up for it with another stop. Passengers are thus forewarned and expected to be flexible and patient. River cruising in Asia can be a dramatic and adventurous experience - not like cruising the controlled waterways of Europe or America. Note also that we operate in areas with little or no developed infrastructure and subject to the strictures of local officialdom. Be prepared for this and it is all more the fun!

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## Useful Links

**BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS** [Read more](#)

**GENERAL INFORMATION & LIFE ON BOARD** [Read more](#)

**VISA INFORMATION** [Read more](#)

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