



Pandaw River Expeditions

EXPEDITION No 10

HALONG BAY, RED RIVER & LAOS MEKONG

21 NIGHTS

For the first-time travelers will be able to explore the key sites of Northern Vietnam by river ship traversing the Red River delta and its main tributaries, connecting the wonders of Halong Bay with the excitements of down town Hanoi, and then on into the interior, well off the beaten track. This is a combination of scenic beauty, lively and interesting (sometimes industrial) life of the river and exploring rivers where no other tourist craft operate.

Combined this with a three-country expedition as we will traverse Laos to touch Thailand and Burma at the once notorious Golden Triangle. From Vientiane, the old French capital, and so redolent of L'Indochine, beyond Luang Prabang, Pandaw is the first river expedition since prewar days to cross all Laos.

This trip included flight between Hanoi and Vientiane or v.v. with a one-night hotel stay.

YOUR SHIP - [RV ANGKOR PANDAW](#) / [RV LAOS PANDAW](#) / [RV CHAMPA PANDAW](#) / [RV SABAIDEE PANDAW](#)

[MORE IMAGES OF THE RV ANGKOR PANDAW](#)

[MORE IMAGES OF THE RV LAOS PANDAW](#)

[MORE IMAGES OF THE RV CHAMPA PANDAW](#)

Cruise Price Includes: One overnight at Pan Pacific Hotel (Hanoi) or Ansara (Vientiane) or similar, one flight from Hanoi or Vientiane or v.v., entrance fees, guide services (English language), gratuities to crew, main meals, local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes. Transfers between ports of embarkation and Hanoi International Airport at the start and end of the voyage.

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.

UPSTREAM ITINERARY

All Other Departures

DAY 1

HALONG BAY

Transfer from Hanoi International Airport or meeting point to Halong Bay to embark your Pandaw ship with a stop for lunch en route. Cast off late afternoon with a welcome cocktail for an evening sail, dropping anchor in a sheltered bay amidst the beautiful island scenery.

[MORE ABOUT HALONG BAY](#)

DAY 2

HALONG BAY

Morning sail around Halong Bay and beyond with its 1,500 dramatic limestone islands and extraordinary rock formations, dating back 20 million years.

We make a stop at Viet Hai Village and continue our journey by mountain bike or electric buggy to visit the village's vegetable farm and typical village houses. It is a breathtaking trip along a small road winding its way through the limestone rocks.

In the afternoon we will continue cruising towards Lan Ha Bay for a visit to a floating fishing house.

Weather dependent, we will end the day with cocktails at a beautiful beach in Halong Bay.

DAY 3

HALONG BAY

Our exploration of Halong Bay continues and we stop at the so called "Dark and Bright Cave". Take a kayak or a local basket boat rowed by fishermen and enter this remarkable cave into an enclosed area similar to a crater. Bats can be heard in the cave and massive stalagmites hang from the ceiling.

In the afternoon, we leave Halong Bay and are enter the river where we drop anchor near Hai Phong.

DAY 4

THE KINH THAY RIVER

Observe the lively and interesting life of the Kinh Thay river, a key commercial waterway.

Afternoon excursion to Thanh Ha Commune with village walk and a private water puppet show set under shade by a beautiful pond of lotus and lilies.

We continue cruising until late evening and drop anchor midstream.

[MORE ABOUT THE KINH THAY RIVER](#)

DAY 5**DAY RIVER**

This morning we will sail on the Lower Red River and Day River. Afternoon visit the famous stone cathedral of Pat Diem. Cruise on Day River towards Ninh Binh City.

DAY 6**NINH BINH**

In the morning we will visit Tam Coc, taking a rowing boat ride to visit the so call "Halong on land" in Ninh Binh. In the afternoon we visit the quaint village of Pham Phao where guests can walk around the village visiting a host family where musician instruments have been made and repaired for generations. Listen to the owner who plays every instrument within his family run business. We visit local Woodworking Artisans who produce items for local and international markets.

DAY 7**THE LOWER RED RIVER**

In the morning we sail upsteam on the Red River to Dien Xa village where we will walk to the bonsai village and meet with local artists and share their bonsai experience. We then continue on the Red River to Hanoi.

[MORE ABOUT THE LOWER RED RIVER](#)

DAY 8

HANOI

Dropped anchor in the bustling city of Hanoi, passengers will visit some highlights of this Asian metropolis, must see's like the notorious Vietnam war prison known as the Hanoi Hilton, temple of literature where Confucius did his thinking and the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. Afternoon walking tour of Hanoi including a visit to a coffee shop where we learn about Vietnam's famous coffee making industry. Before returning to your ship you will enjoy a traditional unicorn and lion dance at the jetty.

[MORE ABOUT HANOI](#)

DAY 9

HANOI

Morning going off shore to visit Bat Trang ceramic village then sail through day from Hanoi up the Red River to Viet Tri, not the most picturesque of towns but an excellent base for going deeper into Highland Vietnam. Going a shore we visit a timeless Arcadian Vietnam with emerald green rice paddies punctuated by lime stone rock formations. Of particular interest is the Thay and Tay Phuong Pagodas, hardly known, yet with exquisite temples dating from the 8th and 11th century and home to some fine Buddhist statuary carved from jackfruit trees. We will arrive in Vinh Phuc in the evening.

DAY 10**THE UPPER RED RIVER**

In the morning we go ashore to visit the UNESCO praised village of Duang Lam. In the afternoon, visit the carpenter and smith village of Ly Nhan. We sail upstream on the Upper Red River to Viet Tri. Enjoy traditional dances on board.

[MORE ABOUT THE UPPER RED RIVER](#)

DAY 11**VIET TRI**

Disembark after breakfast and visit the conical hat making village of Gia Thanh. By bus we continue to Hung Lo Temple, Lunch will be served at a local restaurant, followed by a transfer to Pan Pacific Hotel Hanoi.

[MORE ABOUT VIET TRI](#)

DAY 12**HANOI - VIENTIANE**

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Vientiane, the capital of Laos. After arrival, transfer to your Pandaw ship.

DAY 13

CRUISING THE MEKONG

Cruise upstream on the Mekong, passing lush jungle scenery and tiny riverside villages. Morning presentation on the Lao language. Afternoon cooking demonstration on the upper deck. Arrive in Ban Xanakham to moor overnight.

[MORE ABOUT CRUISING THE MEKONG](#)

DAY 14

PAK LAI

Afternoon visit to the French administrative town of Pak Lai with many colonial buildings and a bustling local market. This town boasts the largest elephant festival in South East Asia, usually in February.

[MORE ABOUT PAK LAI](#)

DAY 15

BAN PARK BOR VILLAGE

Morning visit and walking tour to Khamo tribal village, a typical village, set on the banks of the Mekong amidst lush jungle. In the afternoon pass through the Xanyaburi Hydro Electric Power Plant.

DAY 16**BAN MOUANG KHAI VILLAGE AND LUANG PRABANG**

In the morning visit a Hmong village and continue upstream to the village of Ban Mouang Khai. Afternoon sightseeing by minibus visiting the jungle pools and dramatic Khaung Si waterfall then on to a butterfly garden. Arrive in the heart of the temple city of Luang Prabang where there is a buzzing night market and many great cafes and some good local restaurants.

DAY 17**LUANG PRABANG**

In the morning explore by tuktuk this well-preserved and unique world heritage site with its many Buddhist temples, libraries and royal palace. Visit the National Museum and have the afternoon free to explore the beauty and unique atmosphere of Luang Prabang on your own. Enjoy traditional Laos dancing on the upper deck late afternoon. Moor overnight in Luang Prabang.

[MORE ABOUT LUANG PRABANG](#)

DAY 18

PAK OU CAVES

Early morning walking tour to see the alms offering by the local people to hundreds of monks who walk around the city every morning. Passengers are invited to join in with offerings we provide for the alms giving. Morning sightseeing by local boat exploring the unique Pak Ou Caves, a Buddhist sanctuary with spectacular limestone cliff faces. Evening cocktails on a sandbank. Sail upstream on the beautiful Mekong towards Ban Bo.

[MORE ABOUT PAK OU CAVES AND NAM OU RIVER](#)

DAY 19

PAK BENG

Morning visit to a local Khamo village. Sail upstream on the Mekong passing Pak Beng towards Pak Sit.

[MORE ABOUT PAK BENG](#)

DAY 20

BAN HOUAYXAY

Early morning walking tour in a Khamo village then cruise through stunning scenery to the border of Laos and Thailand. The night is spent on the Lao side in the Huay xay area where we take a late afternoon village walk.

DAY 21**CHIANG SAEN**

Cruise upriver to the Town of Chiang Sean for border crossing at the Golden Triangle. Farewell cocktails and Thai traditional dance on board for your last evening.

[MORE ABOUT CHIANG SAEN](#)

DAY 22**CHIANG SAEN**

Disembark by 8.30 in Chiang Sean and group transfer to hotel/airport. En route, explore the Golden Triangle including a visit to the opium museum. Continue to airports or city hotels in Chiang Rai (2 hours) and Chiang Mai (6 hours).

[MORE ABOUT CHIANG SAEN](#)

13 Sep 2020

DAY 1

HALONG BAY

Transfer from Hanoi International Airport or meeting point to Halong Bay to embark your Pandaw ship with a stop for lunch en route. Cast off late afternoon with a welcome cocktail for an evening sail, dropping anchor in a sheltered bay amidst the beautiful island scenery.

[MORE ABOUT HALONG BAY](#)

DAY 2

HALONG BAY

Morning sail around Halong Bay and beyond with its 1,500 dramatic limestone islands and extraordinary rock formations, dating back 20 million years.

Stop at Viet Hai Village and explore on mountain bike or electric buggy, visiting the village's vegetable farm and typical village houses. It is a breathtaking trip along a small road winding its way through the limestone rocks.

In the afternoon continue cruising towards Lan Ha Bay for a visit to a floating fishing house.

Weather dependent, end the day with cocktails at a beautiful beach in Halong Bay - bring your swimwear!

DAY 3

HALONG BAY

Exploration of Halong Bay continues with a visit to the so called "Dark and Bright Cave". Take a kayak or a local basket boat rowed by fishermen and enter this remarkable cave into an enclosed area similar to a crater. Bats can be heard in the cave and massive stalagmites hang from the ceiling.

Depart Halong Bay and enter the river to drop anchor near Hai Phong.

In the afternoon, our chef will share his skills in fruit carving and demonstrate how to create Vietnamese spring rolls.

DAY 4

THE KINH TRAY RIVER

Observe the lively and interesting life of the KinhThay river, a key commercial waterway.

Meet your guide in the dining room for a lecture on Vietnam, its history, geography and the boat people.

Afternoon excursion to Thanh Ha Commune with village walk and a private water puppet show set under the shade by a beautiful pond of lotus and lilies.

Return to ship and continue cruising until late evening, dropping anchor midstream.

[MORE ABOUT THANH HA AND WATER PUPPETS](#)

DAY 5**BAT TRANG VILLAGE**

The day is spent cruising towards Hanoi. Enroute, stop at Bat Trang in the afternoon, a ceramic village. On the way back to the ship watch a traditional unicorn and lion dance at the jetty.

This dance originated in China and spread over Southeast Asia.

[MORE ABOUT BAT TRANG](#)

DAY 6**HANOI**

Drop anchor in the capital and bustling city of Hanoi to visit some highlights of this Asian metropolis. Must-sees include the notorious Vietnam War prison known as the Hanoi Hilton, temple of literature where Confucius did his thinking, and the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum.

Afternoon walking tour of Hanoi's old quarter, including a visit to a coffee shop to learn about Vietnam's famous coffee-making industry.

[MORE ABOUT HANOI](#)

DAY 7**THE LOWER RED RIVER**

Morning sail through the day from Hanoi up the Red River to Viet Tri - not the most picturesque of towns, but an excellent base for going deeper into Highland Vietnam.

Go ashore to visit a timeless Arcadian Vietnam with emerald green rice paddies punctuated by limestone rock formations. Of particular interest are the Thay and Tay Phuong Pagodas.

Afternoon excursion to a carpenter village famous for exquisite carvings and wood work techniques.

Evening arrival in Viet Tri.

[MORE ABOUT THAY AND TAY PHUONG PAGODAS](#)

DAY 8**LO RIVER**

In the morning cruising to Tien Du ferry station to the village of Gia Thanh, makers of the conical hats (known as 'non la'). Take in the sights and sounds of the bustling river with all kinds of craft and activity.

The 'non la' are handmade with palm leaves and bamboo. There is no machinery available to create this work of art. Their origin dates approximately 3,000 years back.

By bus continue to Hung Lo Temple.

[MORE ABOUT LO RIVER](#)

DAY 9

THE DA RIVER

Day sailing downstream while admiring the unspoilt beauty of the Da River. Pass through the Ba Vi National Park with its rich and diverse tropical and sub-tropical flora and fauna before arriving at Hoa Binh then visit the UNESCO-praised village of Duong Lam.

In the afternoon, take a tour of the ship including the galley, crew area and engine room.

[MORE ABOUT DUONG LAM](#)

DAY 10

HOA BINH

Hoa Binh was the site of a major battle with the French in 1951 & 1952 and is home to the Muong ethnic group.

The Hoa Binh Dam at the Black River is the largest hydroelectric dam in Vietnam and Southeast Asia. Take a morning boat ride on the reservoir of Hoa Binh power station and visit a local village. A traditional performance by local hill tribe people is given in the evening.

[MORE ABOUT HOA BINH](#)

DAY 11**HOA BINH - HANOI**

Disembark after breakfast (08.30am) and visit a museum and local village where villagers still wear traditional dress.

Lunch will be served at a local restaurant, followed by a transfer to the Pan Pacific Hotel Hanoi.

DAY 12**HANOI - VIENTIANE**

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Vientiane, the capital of Laos. After arrival, transfer to your Pandaw ship.

[MORE ABOUT VIENTIANE](#)

DAY 13**CRUISING THE MEKONG**

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[MORE ABOUT CRUISING THE MEKONG](#)

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[MORE ABOUT XAYABURI DAM](#)

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[MORE ABOUT KUANG SI WATERFALLS](#)

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[MORE ABOUT PAK OU CAVES AND NAM OU RIVER](#)

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[MORE ABOUT GOLDEN TRIANGLE](#)

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CHIANG SAEN

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[MORE ABOUT CHIANG SAEN](#)

STATEROOM

The Pandaw stateroom is the most celebrated feature of our ships.

Finished in brass and teak, the main and upper deck rooms are very spacious at 168 square feet (15.6 sqm). Much loved by all our passengers we have ensured that with each ship we build the stateroom remains the same. Our cabins do not have mini-bars, satellite TV's, internet or phones. Pandaw passengers usually want to escape from the tiresome features found in international business hotels.

Many passengers describe life on board a Pandaw more like being a guest on a private motor yacht than a cruise ship. Where we go and what we see is intrepid in extreme. What you come back to is a floating base of discreet comfort, caring service and all the good things one looks for in life. All our cabins have the same size and Pandaw signature amenities. Choose from Main Deck, Upper Deck or Premium Upper Deck (Mekong only).

Special to Your Stateroom

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

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

ARRIVAL IN HANOI

Our guide will pick you up at the airport and bring you to your hotel. Enjoy this bustling Asian metropolis at your own leisure. Overnight at the hotel.

Please note: Guides and drivers are not allowed inside the terminal building. We will be waiting for you outside with a Pandaw sign. Hanoi Airport has two exits; if you don't see us, please try the other exit on the same level (30 meters).

DAY 2

DEPARTURE

Transfer and embark your Pandaw cruise.



5 STAR

Pre Tour Hanoi 1 Night

Savour a 5-star hotel experience with the best views in the city. Pan Pacific Hotel Hanoi enjoys a spectacular location rising up between the watery expanses of Truc Bach Lake, West Lake and the Red River with inspiring, uninterrupted panoramas.

Rates include:

All transfers as above by coach or car with local guide, 1-night Pan Pacific Hotel Hanoi in a Luxury Room.

Note

- Please advise arrival/ departure flight details in order to arrange the transfer accordingly
- Check out time from hotel at 1200hrs

* Please note that your hotel will be confirmed after we have received your deposit payment. Prices are subject to change. Hotel subject to availability. We will try to offer you an alternate accommodation if the requested hotel would not be available.

Saigon (HCMC) International Airport Arrival Transfer Notes

Please take note your driver/guide will be waiting for you at Column No 12 outside the International Arrival area. Upon exiting the International Arrival Terminal please turn right towards column No 12. In case you do not see the driver/guide at column No 12, please call the Pandaw hotline number and remain standing at the column No 12 in order for the guide/driver to locate you. Please be on the lookout for the Pandaw welcome sign in front of Column No 12.

PAN PACIFIC HOTEL HANOI
1 Thanh Nien Road

Ba Dinh District

10000 Hanoi

Tel: +84 4 382 38888

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

ARRIVE IN HUE

Individual arrival at Hue airport, meet your local guide and transfer to your hotel for a 2-night stay on a bed and breakfast basis. The rest of the day is free to enjoy the hotel and relax.

Meals: none.

DAY 2

HUE

This morning we take a boat trip on the serene Perfume River to the best-known pagoda in Middle Vietnam, Thien Mu. Then we visit to the impressive tomb of former Emperor Tu Duc and a beautiful garden once belonging to the royalty followed by a royal style lunch at a local restaurant (included). In the afternoon, visit Hue citadel including Moon Gate, Thai Hoa Palace, Royal Urns and the ruins of the Forbidden Purple City.

Meals: Breakfast at hotel, Lunch at local restaurant.

DAY 3

HUE - HOI AN

After breakfast we leave Hue for Hoi An. En route we'll travel through the Ocean Clouds Pass, visit Non Nuoc Beach and the fascinating Cham Museum. We continue to your hotel in Hoi An. In the afternoon, you will have time to explore this charming and wonderfully preserved merchant town that retains Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese and European influences from its flourishing old days.

Meals: Breakfast at hotel.

DAY 4

HOI AN

Day at leisure. Explore the beautiful old town of Hoi An or relax at the beach.

Meals: Breakfast at hotel.

DAY 5

HOI AN - HANOI

Transfer to Danang Airport for morning flight to Hanoi Airport, followed by transfer to the Angkor Pandaw. It is possible to extend your stay in Hoian - please email information@pandaw.com for availability and prices.

Meals: Breakfast at hotel.



DISCOVER

Hue & Hoi An 4 Nights Pre Tour

This is a Pandaw group tour.

Hue and Hoi An are two of Vietnam's scenic and historic highlights and a 'must see;' on most people's visit to this most wonderful country. Our included trip on the Perfume River and visit to the enormous Hue Citadel are fascinating. Hoi An is best explored independently and retains a charming village feel which comes alive after sunset with the glow of red lanterns and the senses of Asia. And, of course, enjoy time to relax at your beach resort.

We are pleased to offer a pre and post extension staying in delightful and specially selected boutique hotels, including a connecting domestic flight, all transfers, excursions in Hue, a scenic journey from Hue to Hoi An and 2-nights in Hoi An. It is possible to extend your stay in Hoi An if required.

Rates include:

English speaking guide on tours, 1x lunch at local restaurant, economy one-way domestic air ticket Danang - Hanoi, 2 nights at Pilgrimage Village Hue (Deluxe Room) and 2 nights at Victoria Hoi An (Deluxe Garden Room), transportation by AC vehicle, daily breakfast, and entrance fees.

Rates exclude:

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

Compulsory dinner

- Christmas 24Dec: Victoria USD 88.- / Pilgrimage USD 70.- per person
- New Year's Eve 31Dec: Victoria USD 97.- / Pilgrimage USD 70.- per person

Note

- Please advice arrival flight details in order to arrange the transfer accordingly
- Check in time at hotel is 1400hrs
- Check out time from hotel at 1200hrs
- Early check in and late check out are subject to hotel room availability

* Please note that your hotel will be confirmed after we have received your deposit payment. Prices are subject to change. Hotel subject to availability. We will try to offer you alternative accommodation if the requested hotel is not available.

POST-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

ARRIVE CHIANG MAI FROM PANDAW SHIP

Arrive from your Pandaw ship transfer at the deluxe Rachamankha Hotel, Chiang Mai where you stay in a superior room for 2-nights on a bend 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 AIRPORT

Check out after breakfast. You will be collected from the hotel lobby and transferred to Chiang Mai airport for your onward flight.



DISCOVER

The Rachamankha Hotel, Chiang Mai Post Tour

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

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.

Rates exclude:

Compulsory Gala Dinners at Rachamankha Hotel on 24 & 31 December 2016, travel insurance, visas, tips, items of a personal nature.

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.

THE RACHAMANKHA HOTEL

6 Rachamankha

9 Phra Singh

Chiang Mai 50200

Thailand

Tel: +66 53 904 111

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

POST-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

PANDAW CRUISE - CHIANG KHONG / CHIANG SEAN - MORNING ARRIVAL

Morning meet and greet by our local guide for pick up and transfer to Lanjia Lodge. Arrive at Lanjia Lodge. Herbal local juice will be served during the check-in. Then, watch a presentation about 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. Morning tour of the Hmong and Lahu hill tribe village, including a visit at the shaman's 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.

In the afternoon you will get firsthand experience on how to make Hmong batik handkerchief with Hmong ladies (about 45 minutes) or Alternatively, you can learn how to make and set animal traps. Dinner and watch traditional Hmong performances.

Overnight at Lanjia Lodge

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

DAY 2

CHIANG KHONG - GOLDEN TRIANGLE - BAN THATON

After breakfast, check out and continue drive to visit Golden Triangle with Golden Buddha viewpoint to enjoy the spectacular view for 360 degree. From there we continue to visit the Hall of Opium that was built to educate people about the dangers of the drug through an entertaining exhibition which traces opium's history from its first use 5,000 years ago to current issues of drug abuse and addiction.

Lunch at local restaurant. Then proceed to Ban Thaton where you will stay overnight at the natural resort. Dinner will be serving at the hotel.

Overnight at Maekok River Village Resort

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3

BAN THATON - DOI ANGKHANG - CHIANG DAO

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.

Late afternoon, transfer to hotel in Chiang Dao for check in. Dinner will be served at Hotel.

Overnight at Azalea Village Resort

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4

CHIANG DAO - CHIANG MAI

Today, before leaving to Chiang Mai, you will visit Chiang Dao cave, 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 is at a local restaurant. Continue to Chiang Mai hotel for check in and afternoon at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

DAY 5

CHIANG MAI DEPARTURE

Today will be your own leisure until check out time at noon. We will transfer you to boarding either flight or train depending on your selection of transportation to next destination. Chiang Mai Airport to Rachamankha: 15 - 20 min.

Meals: Breakfast



DISCOVER

The Hill Tribes of North Thailand Post Tour

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 post cruise arrangement.

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).

Note

- This is a group tour exclusively for Pandaw guests

- All accommodation will be booked after your deposit is received
- On day 1 of your post tour we do a hike to Lahu village. This tour including visits/stops takes 2.5 to 3 hours. The mountain road is steep and can be demanding. Medium fitness is required. If you do not want to walk then transport will be provided
- The cruise itinerary includes the Golden Triangle and Opium House on the last day. You will have this covered during this post tour on Day 2 instead
- If twin beds are required at Azalea Village Resort there will be a upgrade supplement charge of US\$138, as you would require a room upgrade from a Superior Cottage room to Suite Cottage 2 Bedrooms (1 king size bedroom & 2 queen size bedroom)

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!

Useful Links

[Terms & Conditions](#)

[General Information & Life on Board](#)

[Visa Information](#)