



Southeast Asia Encountered - Laos

Itinerary 2016-2017



Day 1:

Flight to Vientiane

Day 2:

You will be met at Vientiane, airport by our friendly VESA staff member who will be easily recognisable in their VESA t-shirt and will be holding a sign. Please ensure that whatever your flight arrangements, you will be at the international arrivals hall at the time of the group flight arrival. We will be transported by minivan to our hostel in the city of Vientiane where we will have a briefing and spend our first night.

Day 3:

Transfer via minivan to Sayaboury Elephant Conservation Centre (ECC) and comprehensive orientation on the volunteering week.

Day 4 - 9:

Volunteering week: You will be staying at the ECC which is set on the picturesque Nam Tien Lake. You will be split into groups, working with the elephants, planting food, maintaining and building infrastructure such as the veterinary clinic and accompanying them to and from the breeding area. You will also work with the children in a local school teaching English and basic sanitation, renovating and revitalising the facilities with fresh coats of paint, installing new play equipment and the construction of bathrooms.

A typical day volunteering goes a little like this:

- 7am – Breakfast
- 8am – Begin Volunteer work
- 10am – Light refreshment
- 12.30pm – Lunch
- 1pm – continue volunteer work
- 4pm – Finish
- 4.30pm – Free time and activities
- 7pm – Dinner
- 8pm – Free time and activities

Day 10-14:

See all that Laos has to offer on our stunning adventure tour...

Day 1: Tour of Luang Prabang, visit exotic temples, local markets and cool off with an afternoon pool party at 'La Pistoche'

Day 2: Cultural tour of a traditional rice plantation and visit exotic waterfalls with refreshing azure water for a swim.

Day 3: Take a scenic bike ride through the countryside for a kayak trip downriver past rural villages and elephants!

Day 4: Experience the stunning Karst Limestone Mountain scenery around Vang Vieng and go Tubing. We trek through rice paddies to 4 great caves and cool off by tubing inside a cave. Then float gently down the beautiful Song River back to VV.

Day 5: The Blue Lagoon awaits you with its crystal clear turquoise water and chill-out booths. Climb to the Pou Kham cave, check out the zip-line option and cool off in the refreshing river water.

Day 15:

Transfer by coach from Vang Vieng to Vientiane and your flight

*Lao Kip can be withdrawn using your own ATM card or

\$US Dollars are accepted for larger purchases and are easily changed

Accommodation:

1 night Sihome Backpackers- Vientiane

6 nights -Sayaboury Elephant Conservation Centre (ECC)

3 nights Kounsavan Guesthouse - Luang Prabang

3 Nights Vieng Vilay Backpacker Hostel

All meals except on free day

Dorm accommodation separated into male/female. Some doubles available at the ECC.

Electricity, full bathrooms and laundry facilities.

Internet available at reception in Luang Prabang and Vang Vieng.

No internet available at the Elephant Conservation Centre and limited electricity.

Inclusions

- **Breakfast lunch and dinner** on all days except for the free day.
- **All accommodation.**
- All **volunteer materials** and local builders/assistants.
- **Drinking water** where necessary.
- All in country **transportation.**
- Entry to temples, palaces etc
- All **activities** except where indicated as optional.

Optional extras (approx prices only in USD)

- Massage - \$7-10
- Hot Air Ballooning \$80
- Zip lining \$28