

Discover Northern Thailand & Laos

CHIANG MAI ● CHIANG RAI ● LUANG PRABANG

The Offer

Begin this life-changing small-group adventure when you fly into Chiang Mai to discover the 'real' Thailand and Laos. Walk among artisan markets, time-honoured temples and remote wilderness regions, home to flourishing hill tribes.

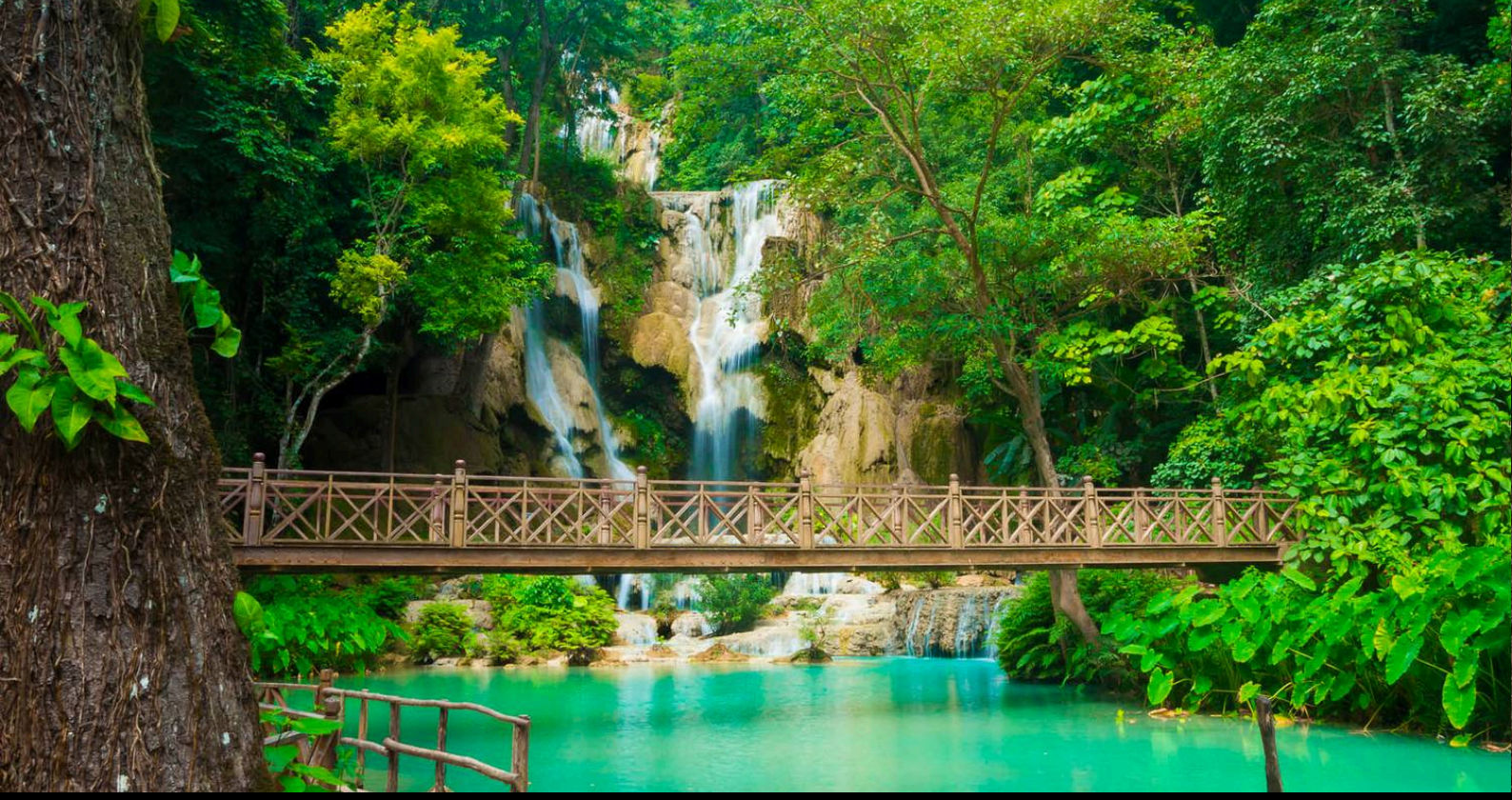
A guided city tour welcomes you to Chiang Mai on your first day. Enjoy a cultural immersion culminating in a vibrant traditional Khantoke Dinner. Choose your own adventure with time at leisure in Chiang Mai before you travel to the natural hot spring oasis of Mae Khajan. From there, venture to Chiang Rai's gleaming Wat Rong Khun and the historic Golden Triangle where Laos, Thailand and Myanmar meet. Make sure to savour fragrant Thai street food while shopping for treasures in the lively Mae Sai markets as you continue to Chiang Khong.

Travel across the Friendship Bridge to Laos to embark on a cruise along the Mekong River aboard a traditional boat. Explore the unique culture of indigenous riverbank communities before docking in Pakbeng overnight. Keep an eye out for elephants as you head east to the ancient town of Luang Prabang. Admire the intricate carvings of Wat Sene temple, explore the hidden secrets of the Pak Ou Cave and the turquoise pools of Kuang Si's tri-waterfalls. Add to the adventure with opportunities for kayaking, zip-lining, an afternoon visit to a wildlife sanctuary or learning the delicious secrets of Lao cuisine. Conclude your journey among the limestone karsts of Vang Vieng and charming Vientiane, where a visit to Buddha Park's hundreds of Buddhist and Hindu statues is a must!

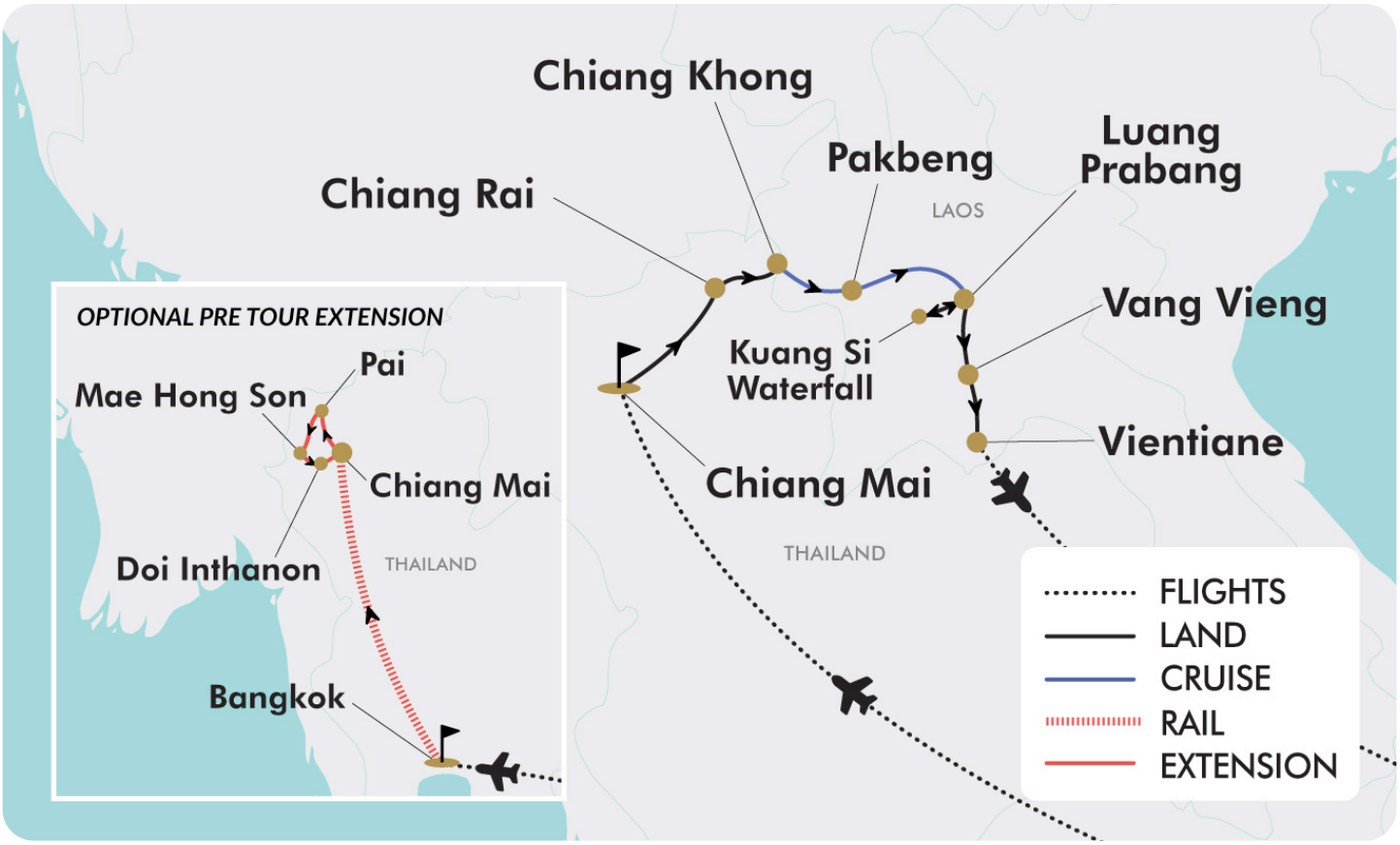
This amazing cultural tour includes return international flights, 12 nights of 3 & 4-star accommodation, 17 meals, including a traditional Khantoke dinner in Chiang Mai, English-speaking tour guides, return airport transfers and more.

Want more?

Extend your in-depth cultural experience with Itinerary 2. Begin in Bangkok to explore Royal palaces, temples, markets and lively nightlife of this buzzing capital. Travel like a local on an overnight sleeper train to embrace the breathtaking mountains and canyons of Northern Thailand's Mae Hong Son Province. Interact with remote tribal cultures, explore the pristine wilderness of Inthanon National Park, discover delicate pagodas, iconic Buddhist temples and so much more.



The Map


Chiang Khong
Chiang Rai
Pakbeng
LAOS
Luang Prabang
Vang Vieng
Kuang Si Waterfall
Vientiane
Chiang Mai
THAILAND
OPTIONAL PRE TOUR EXTENSION
Pai
Mae Hong Son
Chiang Mai
Doi Inthanon
THAILAND
Bangkok
FLIGHTS
LAND
CRUISE
RAIL
EXTENSION



The Itinerary

Itinerary 1 - 13-day Northern Thailand & Laos

Day 1 Australia (or New Zealand) - Chiang Mai, Thailand

Today, depart from Australia (or New Zealand) to Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Upon arrival in Chiang Mai, you will be met and transferred to the hotel, where the remainder of the afternoon is yours to spend at leisure.

Chiang Mai, the "Rose of the North," is a culturally rich city known for its beautiful temples, lively markets, northern Thai cuisine and vibrant festivals. Surrounded by lush mountains, Chiang Mai is a gateway to stunning natural attractions.

Please note: Due to flight times and scheduling some customers may be required to depart on Day 0. Flight times will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent at least 4-6 weeks prior to departure.

Overnight: Mercure Chiang Mai or similar, Chiang Mai
Meals included: In-Flight

Day 2 Chiang Mai City Tour & Khantoke Dinner

Today, after breakfast, begin your cultural immersion experience with a city tour visiting the Chiang Mai moat, an important historical structure built in the late 13th century. Afterwards, continue to the Three Kings Monument Square, a large open square in the heart of the walled Old Town, featuring a statue of King Mengrai, King Ramkhamhaeng and King Ngam Muang, who are considered the founders of Chiang Mai. Next, visit Chedi Luang Temple, a historic Buddhist temple known for its massive and partially restored Lanna-style chedi (stupa). Afterwards, return to the hotel to enjoy some free time before dinner in the evening.

Begin the evening with a traditional Khantoke Dinner, a cultural experience that originated in Chiang Mai. Enjoy a delightful meal served on a low, circular tray while being entertained by time-honoured dance and music performances from local hill tribes. After dinner, head to the Chiang Mai Night Market, the city's most famous market. Explore the vibrant stalls and enjoy a fantastic shopping experience, discovering unique local crafts, souvenirs and street food.

Overnight: Mercure Chiang Mai or similar, Chiang Mai
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

Day 3 Chiang Mai - Day at Leisure

Today choose to enjoy a day at leisure to explore Chiang Mai, or alternatively, opt to participate in one of the optional activities on offer.

Optional Tour: Half-Day Afternoon Elephant Nature Park



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Activity booked directly with the operator on tour

Pick up hotel: 11:30 - Drop off hotel: 18:30

Elephant Nature Park in Chiang Mai is a renowned sanctuary dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of elephants. Located in a serene valley surrounded by lush greenery, the park provides a natural habitat for elephants rescued from abusive situations. Visitors can observe and interact with these gentle giants in an ethical and sustainable environment, learning about their stories and the importance of wildlife conservation. The park also cares for other rescued animals and promotes awareness and education on animal welfare, making it a meaningful and unforgettable experience for all who visit. Please see current pricing in Important Information. Purchase on tour, subject to availability

Optional Tour: Guided Street Food Tour

Embark on a late afternoon and evening foodie tour of Chiang Mai, perfect for wrapping up your day. This tour offers an authentic glimpse into local culinary culture, allowing you to savour delicious specialties like mango sticky rice and tapioca dumplings. Explore one of Chiang Mai's oldest open-air markets with an English-speaking guide, learning the history behind some of the city's best-known dishes. The tour includes a private guide, transfer and street food. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Overnight: Mercure Chiang Mai or similar, Chiang Mai
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4 Chiang Mai - Chiang Rai - White Temple

Today, journey north to Chiang Rai, celebrated for its cultural richness and magnificent temples. En route stop at Mae Khajan Hot Springs, a natural oasis renowned for its therapeutic mineral waters nestled amidst lush forests.

Next, visit The White Temple (Wat Rong Khun), a modern marvel of Buddhist artistry renowned for its gleaming white exterior and intricate mirror embellishments. Afterward, check in to the hotel, where you'll have the rest of the day to relax and explore at your leisure.

Overnight: Wiang Inn Hotel or similar, Chiang Rai
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5 Chiang Rai - Golden Triangle - Chiang Khong

After breakfast, depart Chiang Rai for Chiang Khong, stopping at the Golden Triangle en route. Explore the historical significance of this convergence of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar, enjoying panoramic views of the Mekong River from viewpoints along the way. Later, visit the lively Mae Sai market, renowned for its blend of Thai and Burmese cultures showcasing a wide variety of goods including handicrafts and fresh produce.

Finally, check in at the hotel where you can unwind and enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure.

Overnight: Chiangkhong Teak Garden Hotel or similar, Chiang Khong
Meals included: Breakfast



The Itinerary

Itinerary 1 - 13-day Northern Thailand & Laos

Day 6 Chiang Khong, Thailand to Laos - Mekong River Cruise to Pakbeng

After breakfast, transfer to the Thai-Laos border at the Friendship Bridge. Once border formalities are completed, the guide will assist you to the boat pier to board a traditional boat for a scenic journey along the legendary Mekong River. Known for its breathtaking landscapes in this remote region, stop at Hmong, Yao and Khmu tribal villages to experience their unique cultures and traditions.

Upon reaching Pakbeng, explore the local market bustling with colourful hill tribe traders exchanging goods, offering a glimpse into their daily lives. Finally, check in at the lodge accommodation for an evening of relaxation and leisure.

Please note: Obtain visas-on-arrival for a fee. Please be aware that to process the visa-on-arrival you will need:

- *Passport with at least 6 months validity*
- *2 blank pages for entry and exit stamps at the border control*
- *Passport photograph (digital or hardcopy) 4x6cm size*
- *$40 USD for visa processing*

Please note: Your Thai guide's services conclude at the border and a new Lao guide will accompany you for the remainder of the journey.

Overnight: Sanctuary Pakbeng Lodge or similar, Pakbeng
Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 7 Pakbeng - Luang Prabang - Mekong River Cruise

Today after breakfast, we continue our scenic cruise down the Mekong River, taking in breathtaking views of untouched forests and picturesque villages nestled along the riverbanks. Keep an eye out for elephants and their mahouts along the way.

During the journey, we'll visit a fishing village and a village where rice is made, providing opportunities to immerse ourselves in local culture and traditions. Learn about the art of making Lao Rice Wine and explore the renowned Pak Ou Caves, home to thousands of Buddha statues.

As the sun sets, arrive in Luang Prabang and transfer to the hotel for check-in, marking the end of an enriching day on the Mekong River.

Overnight: Treasure Hotel Laos or similar, Luang Prabang
Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch

Day 8 Kuang Si Waterfalls & Bear Rescue Centre

Begin the day with a visit to the historic temple Wat Sene, renowned for its intricate carvings and stunning architecture. Then, head to the magnificent Kuang Si Waterfall, a natural wonder famed for its stunning three-tiered cascade. The turquoise pools at each level are perfect for swimming and provide a picturesque setting against lush jungle surroundings.

Continue your journey with a visit to the Tat Kuang Si Bear Rescue Centre. Unlike general wildlife centers, this facility focuses entirely on the protection and rehabilitation of Asiatic Black Bears (also known as Moon Bears) rescued from the illegal wildlife trade. As you walk along the shaded paths, you can



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observe these resilient animals enjoying their forested enclosures, climbing wooden platforms, and foraging for food in a safe, natural environment.

Afterwards, return to the hotel to enjoy the remainder of the day at your own leisure.

Overnight: Treasure Hotel Laos or similar, Luang Prabang
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 9 Luang Prabang - Day at Leisure

Today you'll have the day at your own leisure to explore beautiful Luang Prabang. Alternatively, you can choose to participate in an optional tour.

Optional Tour: Luang Prabang's Heritage and Way of Life

Uncover the soul of Laos with this cultural immersion into the traditional Luang Prabang way of life.

Your journey begins at a beautifully preserved heritage house dating back to the early 1900s. Explore unique architectural secrets and gain a deep understanding of the ancestral beliefs, ceremonies, and vibrant festivals that shape local identity. This is a truly hands-on experience; you'll head beneath the traditional home to engage in age-old crafts such as weaving on ancient looms, basket-making, or creating handmade paper using techniques passed down through generations.

To top it all off, join a family-style cooking session to master the authentic ingredients and bold flavors of Lao cuisine, concluding with a communal meal that celebrates the warm hospitality at the heart of local life. Please note: you will need to walk to the designated meeting point in town to meet your guide and group, this will be approximately 1km away, about a 15 minutes walk. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Overnight: Treasure Hotel Laos or similar, Luang Prabang
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 10 Luang Prabang - Vang Vieng

Enjoy a leisurely morning before transferring to the train station for the journey to Vang Vieng. Arrival time in Vang Vieng will be either 11:30 or 13:45, based on the rail schedule closer to departure.

Arrive in the picturesque town of Vang Vieng, nestled in a scenic valley surrounded by towering limestone cliffs. Later in the afternoon or early evening, unwind with a relaxing boat cruise on the Nam Song River to soak in the tranquil beauty of sunset over the water.

Overnight: Sisombat Plaza Hotel or similar, Vang Vieng
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 11 Vang Vieng - Day at Leisure

Indulge in a relaxing day at leisure in Vang Vieng. Suggested activities could see you cycling through the countryside around Vang Vieng to admire the limestone karsts, unwinding by the outdoor pool at the hotel, or treating yourself to a traditional massage (additional fees may apply). Alternatively, choose the following optional activity.

Optional Tour: Cave Exploration and Village Hike



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Drive to Tham Xang (Elephant Cave) on the banks of Nam Song River, a significant Buddhist temple amidst limestone formations. Explore Tham Hoi, Samil and Tham Na (Water Cave, ideal for swimming seasonally). Trek through rice paddies to a local village for lunch. Visit Tham Pou Kham (Golden Crab Cave) with its reclining Buddha statue. Includes lunch. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Please note: Optional tours are subject to minimum numbers and may change for operational reasons. Limited to one option per person.

Overnight: Sisombat Plaza Hotel or similar, Vang Vieng
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 12 Vang Vieng - Vientiane & Buddha Park

This morning transfer to Vientiane, the capital of Laos, situated on the banks of the Mekong River.

Originally established as the capital in 1563, Vientiane served as the administrative centre during recent French colonial times. Today, it stands as the country's primary economic hub, marked by recent economic growth.

In the afternoon, visit the Buddha Park, located outside the city. Also known as Wat Xieng Khuan this renowned sculpture park features over 200 religious statues, including a monumental 40-metre-high Buddha image. The park's highlight is the giant gourd structure offering panoramic views, accessed via a stone ladder through a demon's mouth entrance. Built in 1958 by Luang Pu Bunleua Sulilat, a monk versed in Buddhism and Hinduism, the park showcases sculptures of Hindu gods, demons, and animals from both traditions.

Notable sculptures include Indra, king of the Hindu gods mounted on a three-headed elephant (Erawan or Airavata), a four-armed deity on a horse, and a twelve-faced deity with multiple hands, each adorned with intricate details and symbolism. Cool off after exploring with local snacks like papaya salad, fried bananas and cold Lao beer at a nearby eatery by the Mekong River (additional fees may apply).

In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner, reflecting on this memorable journey through Northern Thailand and Laos with newfound friends.

Overnight: Landmark Life Centre or similar, Vientiane
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

Day 13 Vientiane, Laos - Australia (or New Zealand)

Today, at the appropriate time, be transferred to the airport in preparation for the return flight to Australia (or New Zealand).

Please note: Due to flight times and scheduling some customers may be required to depart on Day 14 with an additional night in Vientiane. Flight times will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent at least 4-6 weeks prior to departure.

Meals included: Breakfast; In-Flight



The Itinerary

Itinerary 2 - 19-day Northern Thailand & Laos with Extension

Day 1 Australia (or New Zealand) - Bangkok, Thailand

Today, depart from Australia (or New Zealand) to Bangkok, Thailand. Upon arrival in Bangkok, be met and transferred to the hotel. Spend the remainder of the afternoon at your leisure.

Bangkok, the vibrant capital of Thailand, is known for its bustling street life, ornate temples and rich cultural heritage.

Please note: Due to flight times and scheduling some customers may be required to depart on Day 0. Flight times will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent at least 4-6 weeks prior to departure.

Overnight: Hotel Royal or similar, Bangkok
Meals included: In-Flight

Day 2 Bangkok - City Tour & Dinner Cruise on Chao Phraya River

Embark on a city and temple tour via electric tuk-tuk. The first stop is the Grand Palace, an architectural masterpiece and former royal residence. Next, visit Wat Pho, home to the magnificent Reclining Buddha and renowned for its traditional Thai massage school. These iconic landmarks offer a deep dive into Bangkok's rich cultural and historical tapestry. Afterwards, head to Pak Khlong Talat, Thailand's largest wholesale and retail fresh flower market. Wander through this vibrant market, where colourful displays of roses, orchids, carnations and marigolds create a sensory feast. The fragrant aroma and lively atmosphere make this a truly memorable experience.

At around 19:00, board a dinner cruise on the Chao Phraya River, also known as the River of Kings. Enjoy a delicious meal while gliding past illuminated temples along the riverbanks. This picturesque journey showcases why Bangkok is often referred to as the "Venice of the East." The cruise concludes around 22:00, with a return transfer to your hotel.

Overnight: Hotel Royal or similar, Bangkok
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

Day 3 Bangkok - Chiang Mai by Overnight Train

The morning is free for you to explore Bangkok at leisure. or alternatively choose to participate in an optional tour. Check out of the hotel at midday, however you can store your luggage at the hotel until departure time this evening.

In the late afternoon, transfer to Central Railway Station for an overnight train to Chiang Mai in a 2nd class sleeping cabin. The train departs at 18:40 and arrives in Chiang Mai at 07:15 the following morning (12-hour journey).

The 2nd class sleeping cabins are comfortable and offer a memorable travel experience. Please note: The train schedule is subject to change without notice by the railway station. There is also an upgrade option to take a flight from Bangkok to Chiang Mai.

Optional Tour: Half-Day Floating Market and Railway Market

After breakfast, embark on an optional tour to the Mae Klong Railway Market. Witness the unique spectacle of vendors moving their stalls off the tracks as a train passes through every two hours, then quickly re-establishing their stalls once the train has



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passed. Afterwards, visit the floating markets. Along the way, stop to sample homemade coconut sugar cream. Upon arrival at the Damnoen Saduak Floating Market, board a long-tailed boat to navigate the canal and enjoy some free time exploring the market before returning to the hotel. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Optional Flight Upgrade: Bangkok - Chiang Mai

An optional flight upgrade is available as an alternative to travelling by overnight train. The option includes domestic airfare, return airport transfers and an extra night's accommodation in Chiang Mai. On the morning after, join the rest of the group for breakfast at a local restaurant. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Overnight: Train from Bangkok to Chiang Mai, 2nd Class Sleeper Cabin
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4 Arrive in Chiang Mai - Pai

This morning you will arrive in Chiang Mai where you will be met at the train station and transferred to enjoy breakfast at a local restaurant. After breakfast, be transferred to Pai, located approximately 3 hours North-West of Chiang Mai. Pai is nestled in the mountains of the Mae Hong Son Province in Northern Thailand. Known for its relaxed atmosphere and scenic beauty, Pai showcases lush landscapes, hot springs, waterfalls and a vibrant arts scene.

Visit Pai Canyon (Kong Lan) to witness the breathtaking views from high cliffs, providing panoramic vistas of Pai's stunning landscapes. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, savouring traditional Thai cuisine. After lunch, visit the Pai Memorial Bridge, a historic structure built during World War II as a transport route between Thailand and Burma. Proceed on to the famous Pai Coffee in Love, a charming coffee shop known for its picturesque setting and delightful beverages. Stop at the towering Yun Lai Viewpoint, offering spectacular views over Pai and the valley below.

Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before heading to Pai Walking Street. Stroll through the vibrant market, explore the various stalls and soak in the lively atmosphere as you browse local crafts, food and souvenirs. This bustling street offers the perfect ending to your day in Pai, combining relaxation and cultural exploration in one of Northern Thailand's most charming towns.

Overnight: Montis Resort or similar, Pai
Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 5 Pai - Mae Hong Son

After breakfast, visit the Chinese Yunnan Village, known as Santichon Village. This unique village is one of three Chinese villages in Northern Thailand populated by Yunnan tribespeople, offering a distinct cultural experience. Next, visit Wat Nam Hoo (South Lake Temple), a renowned temple in Pai. The temple is famous for a Buddha statue whose head produces clear water, considered holy by locals. Visit Mae Hong Son and enjoy the stunning views at Jabo View Point.



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Have lunch at a local restaurant, then visit the Fish Cave, a hillside cave with a stream flowing through it year-round. Continue to Wat Chong Klang and Wat Chong Kham, two of the most popular temples in town, known for their beautiful architecture and serene ambience. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before exploring Mae Hong Son Walking Street, where you can browse various stalls and enjoy the lively evening atmosphere.

Overnight: Fern Resort or similar, Mae Hong Son
Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 6 Mae Hong Son - Doi Inthanon

After breakfast this morning, journey to Doi Inthanon, known as the 'Roof of Thailand', the country's highest peak at 2,565 metres above sea level and part of the Himalayan mountain range. The national park features lush forests, cascading waterfalls and diverse biodiversity, attracting nature enthusiasts and bird watchers alike. Home to scenic trails, the renowned twin pagodas honouring the King and Queen, and panoramic views from the summit.

Overnight: Inthanon Riverside Resort or similar, Doi Inthanon
Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 7 Doi Inthanon - Chiang Mai

This morning, witness the serene sunrise at Inthanon National Park followed by a visit to the twin stupas commemorating the birthday of King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit. Visit a lively local market operated by the Hmong hill tribe, offering a deep cultural immersion. After an optional lunch at a local restaurant (additional fees apply), take in the breathtaking Wachiratharn Waterfall.

Depart from Doi Inthanon to embark on a scenic journey to Chiang Mai, a 2-hour drive to the hotel, before enjoying the remainder of the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Mercure Chiang Mai or similar, Chiang Mai
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8 Chiang Mai City Tour & Khantoke Dinner

Today, after breakfast, begin your cultural immersion experience with a city tour visiting the Chiang Mai moat, an important historical structure built in the late 13th century. Afterwards, continue to the Three Kings Monument Square, a large open square in the heart of the walled Old Town, featuring a statue of King Mengrai, King Ramkhamhaeng and King Ngam Muang, who are considered the founders of Chiang Mai. Next, visit Chedi Luang Temple, a historic Buddhist temple known for its massive and partially restored Lanna-style chedi (stupa). Afterwards, return to the hotel to enjoy some free time before dinner in the evening.



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Begin the evening with a traditional Khantoke Dinner, a cultural experience that originated in Chiang Mai. Enjoy a delightful meal served on a low, circular tray while being entertained by time-honoured dance and music performances from local hill tribes. After dinner, head to the Chiang Mai Night Market, the city's most famous market. Explore the vibrant stalls and enjoy a fantastic shopping experience, discovering unique local crafts, souvenirs and street food.

Overnight: Mercure Chiang Mai or similar, Chiang Mai
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

Day 9 Chiang Mai - Day at Leisure

Today choose to enjoy a day at leisure to explore Chiang Mai, or alternatively, opt to participate in one of the optional activities on offer:

Optional Tour: Half-Day Afternoon Elephant Nature Park

Activity booked directly with the operator on tour

Pick up hotel: 11:30 - Drop off hotel: 18:30

Elephant Nature Park in Chiang Mai is a renowned sanctuary dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of elephants. Located in a serene valley surrounded by lush greenery, the park provides a natural habitat for elephants rescued from abusive situations. Visitors can observe and interact with these gentle giants in an ethical and sustainable environment, learning about their stories and the importance of wildlife conservation. The park also cares for other rescued animals and promotes awareness and education on animal welfare, making it a meaningful and unforgettable experience for all who visit. Please see current pricing in Important Information. Purchase on tour, subject to availability.

Optional Tour: Guided Street Food Tour

Embark on a late afternoon and evening foodie tour of Chiang Mai, perfect for wrapping up your day. This tour offers an authentic glimpse into local culinary culture, allowing you to savour delicious specialties like mango sticky rice and tapioca dumplings. Explore one of Chiang Mai's oldest open-air markets with an English-speaking guide, learning the history behind some of the city's best-known dishes. The tour includes a private guide, transfer and street food. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Overnight: Mercure Chiang Mai or similar, Chiang Mai
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 10 Chiang Mai - Chiang Rai - White Temple

Today, journey north to Chiang Rai, celebrated for its cultural richness and magnificent temples. En route stop at Mae Khajan Hot Springs, a natural oasis renowned for its therapeutic mineral waters nestled amidst lush forests.

Next, visit The White Temple (Wat Rong Khun), a modern marvel of Buddhist artistry renowned for its gleaming white exterior and intricate mirror embellishments. Afterward, check in to the hotel, where you'll have the rest of the day to relax and explore at your leisure.

Overnight: Wiang Inn Hotel or similar, Chiang Rai
Meals included: Breakfast



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Day 11 Chiang Rai - Golden Triangle - Chiang Khong

After breakfast, depart Chiang Rai for Chiang Khong, stopping at the Golden Triangle en route. Explore the historical significance of this convergence of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar, enjoying panoramic views of the Mekong River from viewpoints along the way. Later, visit the lively Mae Sai market, renowned for its blend of Thai and Burmese cultures showcasing a wide variety of goods including handicrafts and fresh produce.

Finally, check in at the hotel where you can unwind and enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure.

Overnight: Chiangkhong Teak Garden Hotel or similar, Chiang Khong
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 12 Chiang Khong, Thailand to Laos - Mekong River Cruise to Pakbeng

After breakfast, transfer to the Thai-Laos border at the Friendship Bridge. Once border formalities are completed, the guide will assist you to the boat pier to board a traditional boat for a scenic journey along the legendary Mekong River. Known for its breathtaking landscapes in this remote region, stop at Hmong, Yao and Khmu tribal villages to experience their unique cultures and traditions.

Upon reaching Pakbeng, explore the local market bustling with colourful hill tribe traders exchanging goods, offering a glimpse into their daily lives. Finally, check in at the lodge accommodation for an evening of relaxation and leisure.

Please note: Obtain visas-on-arrival for a fee. Please be aware that to process the visa-on-arrival you will need:

- *Passport with at least 6 months validity*
- *2 blank pages for entry and exit stamps at the border control*
- *Passport photograph (digital or hardcopy) 4x6cm size*
- *$40 USD for visa processing*

Please note: Your Thai guide's services conclude at the border and a new Lao guide will accompany you for the remainder of the journey.

Overnight: Sanctuary Pakbeng Lodge or similar, Pakbeng
Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 13 Pakbeng - Luang Prabang - Mekong River Cruise

Today after breakfast, we continue our scenic cruise down the Mekong River, taking in breathtaking views of untouched forests and picturesque villages nestled along the riverbanks. Keep an eye out for elephants and their mahouts along the way.

During the journey, we'll visit a fishing village and a village where rice is made, providing opportunities to immerse ourselves in local culture and traditions. Learn about the art of making Lao Rice Wine and explore the renowned Pak Ou Caves, home to thousands of Buddha statues.

As the sun sets, arrive in Luang Prabang and transfer to the hotel for check-in, marking the end of an enriching day on the Mekong River.

Overnight: Treasure Hotel Laos or similar, Luang Prabang
Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch



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Day 14 Kuang Si Waterfalls & Bear Rescue Centre

Begin the day with a visit to the historic temple Wat Sene, renowned for its intricate carvings and stunning architecture. Then, head to the magnificent Kuang Si Waterfall, a natural wonder famed for its stunning three-tiered cascade. The turquoise pools at each level are perfect for swimming and provide a picturesque setting against lush jungle surroundings.

Continue your journey with a visit to the Tat Kuang Si Bear Rescue Centre. Unlike general wildlife centers, this facility focuses entirely on the protection and rehabilitation of Asiatic Black Bears (also known as Moon Bears) rescued from the illegal wildlife trade. As you walk along the shaded paths, you can observe these resilient animals enjoying their forested enclosures, climbing wooden platforms, and foraging for food in a safe, natural environment.

Afterwards, return to the hotel to enjoy the remainder of the day at your own leisure.

Overnight: Treasure Hotel Laos or similar, Luang Prabang
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 15 Luang Prabang - Day at Leisure

Today you'll have the day at your own leisure to explore beautiful Luang Prabang. Alternatively, you can choose to participate in an optional tour.

Optional Tour: Luang Prabang's Heritage and Way of Life

Uncover the soul of Laos with this cultural immersion into the traditional Luang Prabang way of life.

Your journey begins at a beautifully preserved heritage house dating back to the early 1900s. Explore unique architectural secrets and gain a deep understanding of the ancestral beliefs, ceremonies, and vibrant festivals that shape local identity. This is a truly hands-on experience; you'll head beneath the traditional home to engage in age-old crafts such as weaving on ancient looms, basket-making, or creating handmade paper using techniques passed down through generations.

To top it all off, join a family-style cooking session to master the authentic ingredients and bold flavors of Lao cuisine, concluding with a communal meal that celebrates the warm hospitality at the heart of local life. Please note: you will need to walk to the designated meeting point in town to meet your guide and group, this will be approximately 1km away, about a 15 minutes walk. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Overnight: Treasure Hotel Laos or similar, Luang Prabang
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 16 Luang Prabang - Vang Vieng

Enjoy a leisurely morning before transferring to the train station for the journey to Vang Vieng. Arrival time in Vang Vieng will be either 11:30 or 13:45, based on the rail schedule closer to departure.

Arrive in the picturesque town of Vang Vieng, nestled in a scenic valley surrounded by towering limestone cliffs. Later in the afternoon or early evening, unwind with a relaxing boat cruise on the Nam Song River to soak in the tranquil beauty of sunset over the water.



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Overnight: Sisombat Plaza Hotel or similar, Vang Vieng
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 17 Vang Vieng - Day at Leisure

Indulge in a relaxing day at leisure in Vang Vieng. Suggested activities could see you cycling through the countryside around Vang Vieng to admire the limestone karsts, unwinding by the outdoor pool at the hotel, or treating yourself to a traditional massage (additional fees may apply). Alternatively, choose the following optional activity.

Optional Tour: Cave Exploration and Village Hike

Drive to Tham Xang (Elephant Cave) on the banks of Nam Song River, a significant Buddhist temple amidst limestone formations. Explore Tham Hoi, Samil and Tham Na (Water Cave, ideal for swimming seasonally). Trek through rice paddies to a local village for lunch. Visit Tham Pou Kham (Golden Crab Cave) with its reclining Buddha statue. Includes lunch. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Please note: Optional tours are subject to minimum numbers and may change for operational reasons. Limited to one option per person.

Overnight: Sisombat Plaza Hotel or similar, Vang Vieng
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 18 Vang Vieng - Vientiane & Buddha Park

This morning transfer to Vientiane, the capital of Laos, situated on the banks of the Mekong River.

Originally established as the capital in 1563, Vientiane served as the administrative centre during recent French colonial times. Today, it stands as the country's primary economic hub, marked by recent economic growth.

In the afternoon, visit the Buddha Park, located outside the city. Also known as Wat Xieng Khuan this renowned sculpture park features over 200 religious statues, including a monumental 40-metre-high Buddha image. The park's highlight is the giant gourd structure offering panoramic views, accessed via a stone ladder through a demon's mouth entrance. Built in 1958 by Luang Pu Bunleua Sulilat, a monk versed in Buddhism and Hinduism, the park showcases sculptures of Hindu gods, demons, and animals from both traditions.

Notable sculptures include Indra, king of the Hindu gods mounted on a three-headed elephant (Erawan or Airavata), a four-armed deity on a horse, and a twelve-faced deity with multiple hands, each adorned with intricate details and symbolism. Cool off after exploring with local snacks like papaya salad, fried bananas and cold Lao beer at a nearby eatery by the Mekong River (additional fees may apply).

In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner, reflecting on this memorable journey through Northern Thailand and Laos with newfound friends.

Overnight: Landmark Life Centre or similar, Vientiane
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner



The Itinerary

Itinerary 2 - 19-day Northern Thailand & Laos with Extension

Day 19 Vientiane, Laos -Australia (or New Zealand)
Today, at the appropriate time, be transferred to the airport in preparation for the return flight to Australia (or New Zealand).

Please note: Due to flight times and scheduling some customers may be required to depart on Day 20 with an additional night in Vientiane. Flight times will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent at least 4-6 weeks prior to departure.

Meals included: Breakfast; In-Flight



Tour Inclusions

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy 13 days discovering 'real' Thailand & beautiful Laos
- Discover Chiang Mai's sites on a city tour
- Attend a traditional Khantoke Dinner with traditional performances by local hill tribes
- Marvel at the unique Wat Rong Khun (White Temple) near Chiang Rai
- Stand on the Golden Triangle, where Thailand, Myanmar & Laos meet
- Visit the vibrant Mae Sai market with its blend of Thai & Burmese cultures
- Board a traditional boat and cruise down the famous Mekong River
- Witness the amazing scenery of tribal communities, unspoilt forests & elephants
- Visit the iconic Pak Ou Cave, home to thousands of Buddha statues
- Spend an evening in Pakbeng & explore the local markets
- Be mesmerised by the beauty of Luang Prabang
- Witness the turquoise waterfall, Kuang Si, with a series of cascades & pools
- Visit the Tat Kuang Si Bear Rescue Centre, housing rescue bears & other animals
- Marvel at the towering limestone karsts in Vang Vieng
- Visit the renowned Buddha Park featuring a monumental 40-metre-high Buddha

FLIGHTS

- Return international full-service flights (economy class), departure city surcharges may apply (Excludes Trip Only option)

ACCOMMODATION

- 12 nights of 3 & 4-star accommodation

DINING

- Enjoy 17 meals, including a traditional Khantoke dinner in Chiang Mai

ESSENTIALS

- English-speaking tour guides
- Airline taxes & surcharges
- Mineral water (two 500ml bottles per person per day)

TRANSPORT

- Transportation by private air-conditioned vehicles
- Air-conditioned train (2nd class cabin) from Luang Prabang to Vang Vieng, Laos

TRANSFERS

- Return airport transfers (Excludes Trip Only option)



Tour Inclusions

ITINERARY 2: 19-day Northern Thailand & Laos with Extension

ITINERARY 2: Northern Thailand & Laos with Extension includes all the above, plus the following:

HIGHLIGHTS:

Discover bustling Bangkok's on an electric tuk-tuk

Witness Bangkok's blend of traditional temples & palaces alongside modern buildings

Enjoy a dinner cruise on the Chao Phraya River & marvel a the illuminated temples

Travel to the 'real' Thailand aboard an overnight sleeper train (or choose a flight upgrade option instead)

Escape to the picturesque town of Pai, surrounded by lush forests, waterfalls & hot springs

Enjoy incredible vistas from Pai Canyon

Experience the Chinese Yunnan minority community

Spend a day in Mae Hong Son, adorned with many temples

Explore the foothills of Doi Inthanon, Thailand's highest mountain

Witness the Hmong hill tribe markets, known for the production of colourful embroidery

ACCOMMODATION

6 nights of 3 & 4-star accommodation

DINING

Enjoy 13 meals including a dinner cruise along the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok

TRANSPORT

Overnight train (2nd class cabin) from Bangkok to Chiang Mai, Thailand (or choose a flight upgrade option instead)

Important Information

**Please note: All information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for 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. You must complete the Passenger Information Form 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 and the specific terms and conditions outlined in this Important Information.

Please note: All countries and territories have different entry requirements in relation to vaccinations, quarantine/isolation periods and travel restrictions. Due to the evolving nature, we would ask all of our customers to monitor, meet and adhere to the specific requirements of their intended destination(s) in the lead-up to and immediately before travel, as well as any requirements post-travel upon their return.

Our Policies

Cancellation & Refund Policy

By placing a booking with us, you acknowledge the following important information:

- **we act as your booking agent:** TripADeal is a booking services provider, and curates the Travel Offers available on our website. We act as your booking agent, and we receive payment for the Booking Services as part of the booking price, however, we do not provide any of the Travel Services (flights, accommodation, tours or other products or services) included in your booking – the Travel Services are provided by a number of third party Travel Suppliers.
- **each booking is unique:** our Travel Offers are made up of a variety of different components and are, during the booking process, uniquely tailored to suit your requirements, for example, departure dates and ports, flight and room upgrades, tour inclusions, etc.
- **changes/modifications to your booking may not be possible:** once your booking has been made, changes or modifications may not be possible, and where possible, may incur a fee. It is important to ensure that the information you provide during the booking process is accurate and up to date, and that you read the Travel Offer carefully before placing your order.
- **Travel Offers are a package:** our Travel Offers have been curated into package offerings and must be used as a package – individual components cannot be used independently of the full package offering.
- **our Travel Offers are generally non-refundable:** in order to provide great value Travel Offers, we work with a variety of Travel Suppliers to find the best deals – this often means the Travel Suppliers' offerings are non-refundable to ensure the best price. We recommend that you obtain travel insurance as soon as you make a booking with us.

To read more about our Cancellation and Refund Policy, please click here.

General Terms and Conditions

By placing your booking with us, you acknowledge and agree to our Terms & Conditions, Privacy Policy and Cancellation Policy.

Offer Essentials

This travel offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 10th November 2027.
Minimum group size 4, maximum group size 20 per vehicle.
This travel offer is priced per person based on a twin share.

Single Traveller Supplement

For solo travellers, a mandatory single supplement applies:

- 13-Day Standard Itinerary 1: $650
- 19-Day Extension Itinerary 2: $1,050

Please note: Accommodation for single customers who are travelling on a tour or cruise package may be in a single room, depending on availability.

Child Policy

- No child discounts. The full price applies to all children travelling with their parents.
- Valid for children 12 years old and over.

Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors are allowed.

Departure Dates & Surcharges

See checkout for live dates and availability.

Flights

(Flight information for options excluding Trip Only)

Departure Cities

Sydney*, Melbourne, Brisbane*, Adelaide*, Perth, Auckland*

Departure City Surcharges

- Sydney: $100 per person
- Brisbane: $250 per person
- Adelaide: $350 per person
- Auckland: $850 per person

International Full-Service Flight(s)

- Cabin Class: Economy Class

Please note:

- *Internal flights may use a codeshare low-cost carrier.*
- *We cannot accommodate one-way flights. Travellers must take all included flights within the package, and any flights intentionally forfeited will result in later flights being subject to cancellation.*

Important Information

Preferred Airline Surcharge

- Cabin Class: Economy Class
- Singapore Airlines: $315 per person
- Please note if flying with Singapore Airlines: the internal Asia Short haul flights may be operated by Scoot (Singapore to Chiang Mai & Vientiane to Singapore)

Please note:

- *Preferred airlines are subject to availability. If we are unable to fulfil your request, the above extra cost will be refunded.*
- *On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed, subject to aircraft configuration.*
- *In the event that a purchased stopover package and a purchased preferred airline upgrade are not compatible, you will have the option to receive a refund for the preferred airline upgrade or be offered an alternative stopover city option, e.g if you choose to fly with Singapore Airlines you cannot stopover in Dubai.*
- *Preferred airline refers to the marketing carrier and could include codeshare partners.*

Arrive Early & Stay Behind Options

Fly out and return home up to 60 days pre and post your tour dates.

Arrive Early

Chiang Mai, Thailand - From $300 per person, subject to availability (13-day Standard Itinerary 1).
Bangkok, Thailand - From $300 per person, subject to availability (19-day Extension Itinerary 2).

Stay Behind

Vientiane, Laos - From $300 per person, subject to availability.

Please note:

- ***Exclusions:***

  This fee does not include extra nights' accommodation, meals or airport transfers.

- ***Internal Flights:***

  If you select to Arrive Early or Stay Behind in a city other than the one where the tour starts or ends, the package will include an internal flight to your destination. If you wish to forfeit this flight, please advise our friendly team at the time of purchase. Please note that the cost does not change when you choose to forfeit your connecting flight.

- ***Cancellations & Changes:***

  Flight booking changes or cancellations after air tickets have been issued are not guaranteed and may incur additional fees and fare difference, subject to the airline cancellation and change policies. Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

- ***High-Season:***

  A high-season Arrive Early or Stay Behind can be purchased for an additional charge, subject to availability. For pricing, please refer to the cart.

- ***+ 60 days:***

  You can fly out up to 60 days before your package's start date, and/or return home 60 days after your package's end date. Should you wish to fly out or return home for more than 60 days from the tour, please contact us to request availability. Additional costs may apply.

- ***Estimated dates:***

  Your estimated departure, return, and arrival dates are all subject to availability and may vary. The confirmed schedule for all flights will be provided when you receive your flight tickets.

- *High season surcharges apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:*

16 June 2025 - 20 July 2025
15 September 2025 - 12 October 2025
1 December 2025 - 31 January 2026
3 April 2026 - 20 April 2026
26 June 2026 - 17 July 2026
18 September 2026 - 9 October 2026
12 December 2026 - 26 January 2027

Stopover Packages

- Singapore

Includes:

- 2, 3 or 5 nights in 4-star accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- Return airport transfers

For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

Please note:

- *When a pre and post-tour stopover is chosen, the same stopover location must be chosen each way, due to the airline used.*
- *When selecting to Arrive Early for your tour in conjunction with a Stopover Package, your fly out date from home will take place before the stopover.*
- *When selecting to Stay Behind after your tour in conjunction with a Stopover Package, your stopover will take place before your final flight home.*
- *Stopover packages are subject to availability.*
- *In the event that a purchased stopover package and a purchased preferred airline upgrade are not compatible, you will have the option to receive a refund for the preferred airline upgrade or be offered an alternative stopover city option, e.g if you choose to fly with Singapore Airlines you cannot stopover in Dubai.*
- *Blackout dates apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:*

Singapore Grand Prix: 02 October - 08 October 2025
Christmas and New Years Eve: 22 December 2025 - 2 January 2026

Flight Class Upgrades

Business Class: For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

Please note:

- *Flight upgrades are subject to availability and pricing changes (if we cannot fulfil your request, the upgrade cost will be refunded).*
- *On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed*

Missed Flights

If you fail to arrive for your outbound flight, you risk all flight and land arrangements in your destination being automatically cancelled by the airlines and

Important Information

land operator, respectively. Additional fees may apply to reinstate these services. If you miss your flight for whatever reason, please contact us as soon as possible to make arrangements.

Trip Only Option

If you choose to remove international flights from your package, your holiday may be shorter, as travel days for flights are not included in the Trip Only package. You will receive an email confirmation when minimum numbers have been met and the departure is guaranteed.
We recommend making further travel arrangements, such as flights, after you have received confirmation of a guaranteed departure.
TripADeal assumes no liability for financial losses incurred due to travel arrangements made prior to confirmation of guaranteed departure.
Note: The Trip Only Package does not include return international airfares or airport transfers. At the conclusion of the tour, you will be responsible for booking your own onward travel.
Click here for full Trip Only terms and conditions (see section 4.1)

Accommodation

Accommodation Used

4-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

- Chiang Mai, Thailand: Mercure Chiang Mai or similar
- Vientiane, Laos: Landmark Life Centre or similar

3-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

- Chiang Khong, Thailand: Chiangkhong Teak Garden Hotel or similar
- Chiang Rai, Thailand: Wiang Inn Hotel or similar
- Pakbeng, Laos: Sanctuary Pakbeng Lodge or similar
- Luang Prabang, Laos: Treasure Hotel Laos or similar
- Vang Vieng, Laos: Hotel Sisombat Plaza Hotel or similar

19-Day Extension Itinerary 2 only, all the above plus the following:

4-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

- Bangkok, Thailand: Hotel Royal or similar
- Pai, Thailand: Montis Resort or similar
- Mae Hong Son, Thailand: Fern Resort or similar

3-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

- Doi Inthanon, Thailand: Inthanon Riverside Resort or similar

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type and are subject to availability based on seasonality. In the instance a property is not available, a similar standard of accommodation will be provided. Properties will be confirmed and included in your travel pack, which you will receive 4-6 weeks before travel.

Extra Nights

Not available.

Maximum Room Capacity

2 people.

Triple Share

Not available.

Bedding Configuration

Twin or double (subject to availability).

Optional Tours/activities

13-Day Standard Itinerary 1

- Day 3: Half-Day Afternoon Elephant Nature Park ฿2,500 Thai Baht per person*
- Day 3: Guided Street Food Tour - $80 AUD per person
- Day 9: Luang Prabang's Heritage and Way of Life - $85 AUD per person
- Day 11: Cave Exploration and Village Hike - $105 AUD per person

*Booked and paid directly with the tour operator in the currency specified

19-Day Extension Itinerary 2

- Day 3: Half-Day Floating Market and Railway Market - $100 AUD per person
- Day 3: Optional Flight Upgrade: Bangkok - Chiang Mai $220 AUD per person
- Day 9: Half-Day Afternoon Elephant Nature Park ฿2,500 Thai Baht per person*
- Day 9: Guided Street Food Tour - $75 AUD per person
- Day 15: Luang Prabang's Heritage and Way of Life - $90 AUD per person
- Day 17: Cave Exploration and Village Hike - $100 AUD per person

*Booked and paid directly with the tour operator in the currency specified

Please note:

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

*Purchase on tour, subject to availability.

Exclusions

- Visa fees and requirements
- Domestic transfers and flights not stated in the deal offer
- Meals/beverages not stated in the deal offer
- Optional gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance
- Any costs associated with an interruption to your tour as a result of an airline schedule change or cancellation

Please note: Return international flights and transfers to and from the tour are not included in the Trip Only option.

Gratuities/tipping

Land

Gratuities (tips) are not included for the services of the tour leader (when available) and driver throughout the tour. The recommended tip is $5 per person per day. This covers the guide/leader and the driver and will be collected on tour.

Important Information

Please note: Tipping for services provided is always a matter of personal discretion; however, please be aware that many locals consider tipping part of their normal remuneration, and they may approach you for payment; there's no need to be intimidated by the request.

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 the history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction where they are guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves it 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 at 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 art, architecture, or historical knowledge. 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 fined.

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.

CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Chiang Mai, Thailand

Cool Season (November - February): During this period, Chiang Mai enjoys a dry and cooler climate, with average high temperatures ranging from 25°C to 29°C and average low temperatures ranging from 11°C to 15°C.
Hot Season (March-May): The hot season is characterised by higher temperatures, with average highs ranging from 33°C to 35°C, and average lows hovering around 20°C
Rainy Season (June - October): Chiang Mai experiences its wettest months during this time, with a mix of both rain and sunshine. Average high temperatures typically range from 28°C to 32°C, while average lows range from 21°C to 23°C.
Burning Season - (February to April)

Please note: Northern Thailand is impacted by forest fires and agricultural clearing from February to April, peaking in March which causes increased air pollution and decreased visibility over this period. If you suffer from respiratory issues, travel is not advised due to the increased air pollution. Please consult your health care professional if you have any concerns.

Laos

Cool and Dry Season (November - February): Laos experiences a pleasant and dry climate during this period. Average high temperatures range from 25°C to 29°C, and average low temperatures range from 13°C to 16°C
Hot Season (March-May): The hot season brings higher temperatures. Average highs can range from 30°C to 35°C , while average lows are around 21°C
Rainy Season (June - October): Laos's wettest months fall within this time. Average high temperatures range from 29°C to 32°C, and average lows range from 22°C to 24°C. Rainfall is more frequent during this season, with occasional heavy downpours.

19 Days Extension Itinerary 2

Bangkok, Thailand

Cool Season (November - February): Bangkok experiences a milder and drier climate during this period. Average high temperatures range from 31°C to 32°C, and average low temperatures range from 20°C to 21°C.
Hot Season (March-May): The hot season sees higher temperatures. Average highs can range from 34°C to 36°C, while average lows are around 25°C.
Rainy Season (June - October): Bangkok's wettest months fall within this period. Average high temperatures range from 31°C to 32°C, and average lows range from 24°C to 25°C. Rainfall is more frequent during this time, with occasional heavy showers.
Burning Season - (February to April)

Please note: Northern Thailand is impacted by forest fires and agricultural clearing from February to April, peaking in March which causes increased air pollution and decreased visibility over this period. If you suffer from respiratory issues, travel is not advised due to the increased air pollution. Please consult your health care professional if you have any concerns.

FLIGHTS

Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points

We do not arrange seat selection. It is essential to highlight that some airlines do not allow pre-selected 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.

Passport Validity

Customers must provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase or no later than 45 days before the departure date. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the booking. Customers will be responsible for any costs and fees incurred in this instance.

COACH TOUR

Meals

For meals not included, the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with

Important Information

reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify us of any dietary requests/ requirements.

Please note: We will do our best to meet your requests/requirements; however, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

Luggage

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on tour. You must carry your own luggage from the vehicle to the hotel room and back to the vehicle. The driver will assist with the uploading and unloading of bags from the vehicle.

OTHER

Mobility

If you require wheelchair access please contact our friendly sales and service team to inquire on your behalf.

Fitness Level Required:

Adventure (and spontaneity) create some of the best travel memories. Bear in mind, your home schedules and timings might not be adhered to on tour - it's all part of the fun!
A Moderate level of fitness will be required.
Moderate
Expect a moderate pace of touring with a focus on guided tours that may include full days with extended activity, guided city tours or nature walks. You will require a general level of fitness for unassisted navigation of stairs and inclines, longer distances with possible periods of standing when visiting sites, walking on sloping, uneven ground or elevations. You will be responsible for your own luggage and have the ability to board all modes of transport without assistance. Please note: Many areas may be inaccessible to wheelchairs or mobility scooters, where the unassisted use of personal walking sticks and other aids may be required. Although some assistance may be available, every traveller should be self-reliant during all aspects of their travel.

Please note: It is expected that every traveller must be self-reliant and able to undertake all aspects of their own travel. Please speak to your booking agent about your personal circumstances and any assistance requirements to ensure this tour is right for you.

Please note: If you have any concerns, please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/travel.

Sightseeing

Please note: If entry to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary, where possible, may be adjusted, or a similar activity will be offered in its place (subject to availability).

Wildlife

TripADeal cannot guarantee animal sightings. Wildlife are unpredictable and factors such as weather conditions, predatory fear and animal movements can impact sightings.

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 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 regarding shopping for further information.

Visas

Thailand

If you're visiting Thailand for tourism or short-term travel, you may be able to get a visa exemption (visa-free travel). You may only be allowed to enter Thailand on 2 visa-free entries each calendar year if you don't have a justifiable reason.
Your passport must be valid for more than 6 months before entering. Be ready to show proof of your accommodation in Thailand, enough funds for your stay and your onward or return flight ticket. You may be refused entry if you can't show these documents.
You must complete a Thailand Digital Arrival Card (TDAC) within 3 days before arriving in Thailand. The TDAC is free of charge and must be submitted online through the Thailand Immigration Bureau website. Beware of fake websites charging you a fee for the TDAC.
If you require an E-Visa, you can apply through the Official Thai E-Visa website.
You can only apply if you're currently not in Thailand and in a country where E-visa services are available. You're no longer required to submit your passports and supporting documents in person at the Royal Thai Embassy/Consulate-General.
After your E-Visa application has been approved, you'll receive a confirmation email, which you can print and show to airlines and Thai immigration officials when entering Thailand.
You must get an entry stamp from an immigration officer at the point of entry into Thailand. Don't get your visa, visa extension or entry stamp from visa shops or travel agents in Thailand.

Laos

You can, for a fee, obtain visas-on-arrival and e-visas.
Please be aware that to process the visa-on-arrival you will need:

- Passport with at least 6 months validity
- 2 blank pages for entry and exit stamps at the border control
- Passport photograph (digital or hardcopy) 4x6cm size
- $40 USD for visa processing

Important:

- *Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.*

Important Information

- *Visa rules are subject to change. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination/s you are visiting once you receive your travel documentation to ensure you have the most up to date information.*
- *It is your responsibility to be travel-ready and ensure that you are aware and comply with any destination or travel requirements, including the validity of all required travel documents.*
- *Passengers who are not Australian citizens must also 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 that some areas of employment, such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations, may have additional restrictions in applying for visas. This may, in turn, affect the type of application required.*

Travel Insurance

Embarking on your next trip is exciting, and while you hope the unexpected does not happen, it is best to be prepared. We strongly recommend you take out travel insurance when making your booking. Whether it's a potential medical emergency, a flight cancellation, a delayed suitcase, or an unforeseen event, it's important to ensure you're adequately protected. For more information or advice visit https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance

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.

- Changes - $100 AUD per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/ other travel providers.

Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

If the incorrect name has been provided, charges of $100 AUD per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

Supplier Fees

In the event the tour package you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/or a travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the tour due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to non-refundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/ accommodation partners. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. In the event we are unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee.