



# Highlights of Laos Private Adventure

8 Days



*The Adventure Company* | EST. 1969

**MT + SOBEK**<sup>TM</sup>  
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS**  
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

# ➤ Highlights of Laos Private Adventure

Nestled between Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam, Laos is a haven for a kind of simple, unhurried lifestyle that is hard to come by in the more developed nations of the Indochina Peninsula. This adventure focuses on the pristine, less traveled northwestern corner of the country and Luang Prabang. You'll enjoy interactions with Khmu and Lao Loum hill tribes who maintain a traditional lifestyle largely unchanged for generations — on a trek where you're unlikely to see any other westerners. With all this delightful country has to offer, it's the perfect destination for those making their first trip to Southeast Asia, and for those seeking a new perspective on this exotic region.

## Details

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Arrive:         | Vientiane, Laos   |
| Depart:         | Luang Prabang, Laos   |
| Duration:       | 8 Days  |
| Group Size:     | 2-8 Guests  |
| Minimum Age:    | 8 Years Old   |
| Activity Level: |  |

## Testimonials

*“Great experience every time with some of the most knowledgeable guides in their fields. We always come home with wonderful memories of the people we meet and things we see.”*

Bob J.

*“I have taken 12 trips with MT Sobek. Each has left a positive imprint on me—widening my view of the world and its peoples.”*

Jane B.

**GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.**

 1-800-974-0300

 [info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)

## Why Take This Trip With Us?

### REASON #01

MT Sobek captures the best parts of Laos as well as some unique additions not found on other itineraries!

### REASON #02

Our team of local guides are true experts and have over 25 years' experience leading guests in Laos.

### REASON #03

This trip is carefully tailored to break away from typical tourist destinations to explore hidden gems that are difficult to travel to on your own.

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## What to Expect



### ACTIVITIES

Cultural touring of Laos, as well as hiking and cruising the Nam Ou and Mekong Rivers.



### LODGING

Boutique hotels, tranquil bungalows and rustic resorts in remote, yet scenic locales.



### CLIMATE

Low range from the high 50's to low 70's and highs range from the low 80's to the low 90's.

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## Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Mr. Seng earned his degree from the Luang Prabang Teacher's Training College and has been guiding for more than 10 years.

His expertise is in adventure travel—whether it be kayaking, trekking, or cycling. He speaks English, Lao, Hmong, Thai and Khmu, and enjoys playing soccer and rattan ball in his spare time. He's excited to share his beautiful country with you!

**Sengkham Phet**

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# Itinerary

## DAY 1

### ARRIVE IN VIENTIANE

Welcome to Vientiane, the capital of Laos. A representative will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel. The day is free to get out and explore the city on your own. Your guide and group will gather early this evening for a brief orientation and a welcome dinner.

**Meals:** D

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## DAY 2

### RELAX IN OUDOMXAY

Take a scenic train to the provincial capital of Oudomxay and transfer to Nam Kat Yorla Pa Resort to relax by the pool. Once a sleepy town, Oudomxay has become an important trading hub, reflecting the changes happening rapidly in the region. This bustling town makes the final leg of the journey - a stark contrast of jungles and wilderness - all the more exciting.

**Meals:** B, D

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## DAY 3

### TREK TO PHONGSAVANH

Take a 4x4 ride along the Nam Pak River to the trailhead to begin the trek through dense forest. Arrive in the Kamu village of Houay Ho, then pass through rice fields to reach the Lao Loum village of Ban Phonsavan to enjoy a picnic lunch. Descend to the Yang village of Long Ya. Take in the 35m long reclining statue of Buddha in the temple of Wat Hoytinphabath, then follow a dirt road along the River Huay Ya, enjoying the stunning mountain scenery.

**Activity:** 5 hours/6 miles hiking

**Meals:** D

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## DAY 4

### CRUISE TO NONG KHIAW

Take a 2.5-hour drive to Muang Khua on the banks of the Nam Ou River to board a private long tail boat for a cruise down one of the most scenically beautiful stretches of river in Laos. Enjoy lunch in the village before boarding a boat up the Nam Ou River to Muang Ngoi, a quaint village nestled beneath a giant limestone outcropping - only accessible by boat. Continue to Nong Khiaw in the late afternoon, famed for the dramatic limestone mountains, to enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 5

### JOURNEY BY RIVER TO LUANG PRABANG

Depart from Pak Ou Pier on a private longtail boat and stop for a visit to the mysterious Pak Ou Caves, located at the confluence of the Nam Ou and Mekong rivers. Locally referred to as Tam Ting, these two caves are carved out of towering limestone cliffs and contain thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues. Continue downstream for two hours to Luang Prabang, with the option to stop at Ban Xang Hay, a village that specializes in making rice wine. Enjoy dinner at leisure.

**Meals:** B, L

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## DAY 6

### EXPLORE FASCINATING LUANG PRABANG

Join a knowledgeable local guide for a full day tour of this UNESCO Heritage city. Visit the former Royal Palace which now serves as the National Museum, and neighboring Wat Mai, then on to Wat Sensoukaram and Wat Xieng Thong, Luang Prabang's most revered temple. After touring Luang Prabang town center, enjoy the Traditional Arts & Ethnology Centre. Finally, climb to the top of Mount Phousi, the city's highest point, and enjoy sweeping views of Luang Prabang and the Mekong River. Before heading back, discover the vibrant night market.

**Meals:** B, L

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## DAY 7

### TAKE IN THE KUANG SI WATERFALLS

Rise at dawn to see the monks collecting alms. As the sun rises, long lines of orange-robed monks leave their pagodas and walk barefoot down the streets, collecting offerings. After breakfast, head to the countryside to Kuang Si Waterfalls, cascading turquoise pools surrounded by lush forest. Take a challenging, but rewarding, hike to the top of the highest drop or relax on the rocks of the lower pools. On the way back, stop at Phosi Market and visit Ock Pop Tock, a non-profit organization seeking to preserve traditional weaving techniques.

**Activity:** 1 hour hiking

**Meals:** D

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## DAY 8

### DEPART LUANG PRABANG

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your homeward-bound flights.

**Meals:** B

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## Dates

For full terms and conditions please visit [www.mtsobek.com/terms](http://www.mtsobek.com/terms). Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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## Inclusions & Exclusions

### PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Breakfasts, lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

### PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses

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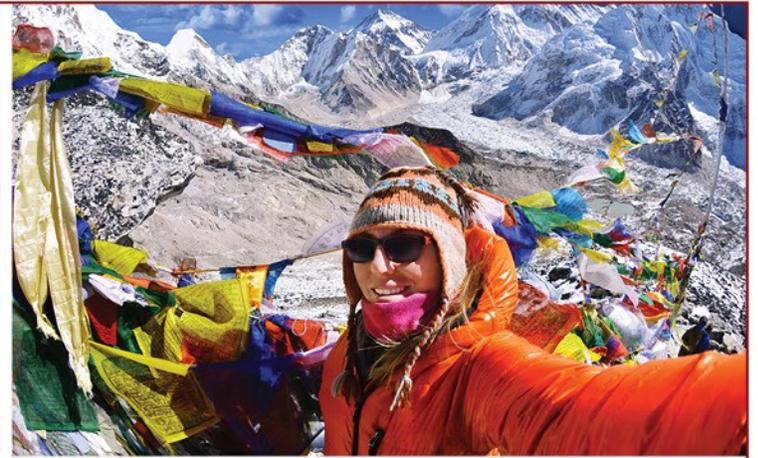
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## ➤ **The World of MT Sobek**

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are *the* adventure company.

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### **Awards**



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**SEVEN CONTINENTS.**

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