



# 8D 7N Explore Mysterious LAOS

## 5 XIENGHOUANG – MORNING MARKET ➡ VANG VIENG (B/L/D)

Visit the interesting **Central Phonsavan local market** this morning. After which, visit **Site 1 of the Plain of Jars**, an impressive archaeological site where hundreds of large stone jars are scattered all over.

A large area extending around the town of Phonsavan, where huge jars of unknown origin are scattered around the landscape. The stone jars appear in clusters, ranging from a single or a few to several hundred jars. The jars vary in height and diameter between 1 and 3m and are all hewn out of rock. These jars are undecorated with the exception of a single jar that has a human bas-relief carved on the exterior. Research of the Plain of Jars suggests that the stone jars are associated with prehistoric burial practices. Set off for **VangVieng**. Take in the splendid scenery of the surrounding countryside and the mountain ranges while driving to VangVieng – a riverside town, located in central Laos. The area's main attraction is the dramatic surrounding karst hill landscape. The limestone cliffs and valleys surrounding the resort complex of VangVieng are home to numerous caves and caverns. The most famous of these caves is ThamJangi which was used by the local people as a refuge from Chinese invaders 200 years ago. Catch the **sunset on Namsong River**.

## 6 VANG VIENG ➡ CITY TOUR – THAM PHOUKHAM CAVE (B/L/D)

After breakfast, we start our tour through paddy field areas heading to **ThamPhoukham caves**, where your breath will be taken away seeing the most beautiful and famous limestone cavern, surrounded by natural forests. Along the way, you have chance to explore the local cultures by greeting the local villagers and learning about their daily lifestyle. After spending the day at the caves and its surrounding areas, we make our return to the VangVieng town using local transportation or tractor. En-route, visit the ethnic minority villages of Hmong, Souay and Taidam villages meeting the warm and friendly hill tribe people and observing their traditional tribal costumes.

## 7 VANG VIENG – NAM NGUM LAKE ➡ VIENTIANE CITY TOUR (B/L/D)

Return to Vientiane. Along the way, stop by Nam Ngum, a huge reservoir created by damming the Nam Ngum Lake. Before reaching Vientiane, make a stop at Ban Keun, known for its salt extraction plant and a village that distill the local Lao whisky. A city tour acquaints you with the capital. Start visiting the major sights, including the oldest **Wat Sisaket**, the temple with thousands of miniature Buddha statues and the former temple of **Wat Prakeo**, which previously housed the famous Emerald Buddha Image. Next, visit Lao's national precious heritage, the famous and sacred structure **That Luang Stupa**. You will have the opportunity to take some pictures of the imposing **Patuxay Monument**, which is well known as Vientiane's own Arc de Triump.

## 8 VIENTIANE → SINGAPORE (B)

After breakfast, transfer to the airport to flight back to Singapore.

\*The order and contents of itinerary is subject to change in the event of unexpected circumstances. 07AUG14-OCC/IKC