

Vientiane to Chiang Khong RV Pandaw Cruise 11 days

- **Itinerary Overview**
- **Includes & Excludes**
- **Detailed Itinerary**

I. Itinerary Overview

Day	Destination
Day 1	VIENTIANE
Day 2	CRUISING THE MEKONG
Day 3	PAK LAI
Day 4	BAN PARK BOR VILLAGE
Day 5	BAN MOUANG KHAI VILLAGE
Day 6	LUANG PRABANG
Day 7	LUANG PRABANG
Day 8	PAK OU BUDDHA CAVES
Day 9	PAK BENG
Day 10	CHIANG KHONG
Day 11	GOLDEN TRIANGLE

II. Includes & Excludes

Inclusion:

- o Entrance fees
- o Guide services (English language),
- o Gratuities to crew,
- o Main meals
- o Locally made soft drinks, local beer and local spirits,
- o Jugged coffee and selection of teas and tisanes, mineral water.
- o Transfers from Vientiane or Udon Thani to ship in Vientiane or v.v.
- o Transfers from Jinghong airport/hotel to ship in Jinghong..

Exclusion:

- o International flights,
- o Port dues (if levied),
- o Laundry, all visa costs,
- o Fuel surcharges (see terms and conditions),
- o Imported beverages such as wines,
- o Premium spirits and liqueurs, fancy soft drinks like Perrier,
- o Espressos and cappuccinos at bar and tips to tour guides,
- o Local guides,
- o Bus drivers,
- o Boat operators and cyclo drivers.

III. Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 VIENTIANE

Transfer from airports or hotel in Vientiane or from Udon Thani (1.5hrs) in Thailand just across the river. Embarkation 11.30am, followed by lunch and afternoon explorations of the delightful French city including visits to Sisaket Temple, the President's Hall, Wat Prakeo Temple and the Phatouxay monument. Set sail late afternoon, enjoy a welcome dinner on board and overnight near Vientiane.

Meals: Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 2 CRUISING THE MEKONG

Today we 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 where we more overnight.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 3

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. We return to the ship at Ban Muang where we overnight.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 4

BAN PARK BOR VILLAGE

Afternoon visit and walking tour of Ban Park Bor (Kmu Tribal) Village, a typical village, set on the banks of the Mekong amidst lush jungle.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 5

BAN MOUANG KHAI VILLAGE

In the morning we pass the newly constructed lock that forms part of the Xanyaburi Hydro Electric Power Plant. Continue upstream to the village of Ban Mouang Khai.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 6

LUANG PRABANG

Morning sightseeing by mini coach to visit the jungle pools and dramatic Khaung Si waterfall. We also visit a butterfly garden and elephant camp. Arrive in the heart of the temple city of Luang Prabang. After lunch, explore by tuktuk this well-preserved and unique world heritage site with its many Buddhist temples, libraries and royal palace. There is a buzzing night market and many delightful cafes and some quite good restaurants ashore.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 7

LUANG PRABANG

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 walking tour visiting the National Museum and morning market. Afternoon free to enjoy the beauty and unique atmosphere of Luang Prabang on your own explorations ashore. Enjoy

traditional Laos dancing on the upper deck late afternoon. We moor overnight in Luang Prabang.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 8 **PAK OU BUDDHA CAVES**

Morning sightseeing by local boat exploring the unique Pak Ou Caves, a Buddhist sanctuary with spectacular limestone cliff faces. Sail upstream on the beautiful Mekong towards Ban Bo. After lunch, enjoy a cooking demonstration on the upper deck.

Your cruise includes a flight from Homalin to Mandalay or Yangon. Please note the flight times for your flight from Homalin to Mandalay or Rangoon are currently as follows:

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 9 **PAK BENG**

Morning walking tour of the market town of Pak Beng. After lunch, if time permits, we explore Ban Pak Sip, a traditional riverside village full of charm and life.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 10 **CHIANG KHONG**

Scenic cruising to the border between Laos and Thailand at Huay Say. Here we cross into Thailand where our waiting transport takes you to re-join the ship at the bustling and pretty Thai port town of Chiang Khong. Afternoon visit the Golden Triangle and Opium Museum. Enjoy farewell cocktails and dinner on board the Champa Pandaw tonight.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Pandaw Cruise

Day 11 **GOLDEN TRIANGLE**

Disembark by 8.30am in Chiang Sean and explore the Golden Triangle including a visit to the opium museum. Continue to airports or city hotels in Chiang Rai (3 hours) and Chiang Mai (6 hours).

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: N/A