



Mysteries of LAOS and Cambodia

18 Day Tour 13 - 30 September 2009

LAOS

- Discover the enigma that is Laos, a country once known as *The Kingdom of the Million Elephants & the White Parasol*.
- Described by Lonely Planet as " *the highlight of South East Asia*" Laos is regarded as having had the least foreign influence and being the most mysterious of the three former French Indochina states.
- Travelling in Laos gives an unequalled glimpse of old South-East Asia.
- Visit the fascinating Plain of Jars
- View the unique French influenced architecture of Luang Prabang
- This is a land of mountains, rivers, forests and mists; of monks, wats and temples; and of laid-back, friendly people of a diverse ethnic mix.
- See Laos before it become the next 'in' tourist destinations.

CAMBODIA

- See the breathtakingly spectacular ruins of Angkor that are matched by only a few other sites in the world.
- Take a boat ride on Tonle Sap Lake, the largest lake in South-East Asia which has a unique ecosystem that gives it biosphere status.
- Visit Phnom Penn is a city of extremes, from the magnificence of the Imperial Palace to the 'Killing Fields' which are a grim reminder of Cambodia's tragic recent past.
- Relax in Kep, a charming fishing village on the South coast.

Non-Riders

While this is a motorcycle based tour, non riders are welcome and can take the tour from the comfort of our support vehicle. With a couple of exceptions the tour vehicle takes the same route as the motorcycles. You can still experience a taste of Laos and Cambodia, and have the opportunity to stop and take photos, and meet the locals.

Tour Highlights

LAOS

Luang Pra Bang - This former Imperial Capital is situated on a peninsular formed by the junction of the Mekong River and the smaller Nam Khan river. It is a serene and beautiful town, that captures the heart of most who travel here.

Plain of Jars - The origin of these huge ceramic jars is unknown. Despite heavy 'secret' bombing in the region during the American and Vietnamese conflict many of these large structures remain intact.

Nong Kiau – A small village situated on the banks of the Ou River, the surrounding area is one of the more attractive natural settings in Northern Laos with vertical limestone mountains and lush jungle clad hills.

Mekong River cruise - Take a cruise from Pak Beng to Luang Prabang on this great river with its turbulent, and largely unknown, past.

Vang Vieng kayaking - Vang Vieng is situated beside the quiet waters of the Nam Song river. Enjoy a fun filled kayaking tour.

Vientiane – The capital of Laos Vientiane is situated on one bank of the Mekong, with Thailand on the other. There is much to see: markets; Wats; temples & remnants of this countries past history.

CAMBODIA

Angkor Wat - See the magnificent ancient temples of Angkor Wat on a groovy scooter...just like a local!

Penhom Penh - Sitting at the base of the confluence of the Mekong, Tonle Bassac & Tonle Sap Rivers this is an Asian city of extreme contrasts.

Kep – A picturesque fishing village on Cambodia's South coast, the Kep region was once a Khmer Rouge stronghold.

During the Vietnam/American conflict war journalists referred to Laos as the Land of a Million Irrelevants due to the unacknowledged heavy bombing and secret operations carried out there by the US Government.

Previously the least developed of the three former Indochina states; Laos is showing promise as the one to watch in economic and political development.

Cambodia is a nation undergoing a rebirth. Three decades of civil war made it a difficult place to safely travel. This has changed now and while Cambodia still has many problems to resolve, it is a country with beautiful, friendly people, who are opening their arms to the visitors.

The tour is not only a motorcycle adventure but also an opportunity to experience Laos and Cambodia: the secret histories they both hold; the people, their way of life and the myriad of cultures and ethnic groups; the food, and the landscapes.

COST* – on a twin share basis

Motorcycle Rider \$NZ 9195.00

Pillion/Van: \$NZ 89950.00 Single Supplement: \$NZ 850.00

Ex Auckland, New Zealand

* Price may be subject to change

THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

Return airfares¹ Auckland – Laos – Cambodia – Auckland, (includes a stopover) transport to and from the airports in Laos and Cambodia (and stopover), Motorcycle hire or a place in the tour vehicle, the services of the tour co-coordinators and our local guides, luggage transport in the tour/backup vehicle (20kg max per person), Motorcycle hire, petrol and oil, mechanical and puncture repairs. Breakfast is provided daily on the tour, and most dinners and lunches. All accommodation for the duration of the Laos and Cambodia Tour is included.

¹ Clients outside NZ contact us for a land content only package

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