

# LAOS & Angkor Wat



20 Day Tour 8-28 October 2011

## LAOS

Discover the enigma that is Laos. 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. Laos has only 6.8 million inhabitants, and 68 ethnic minorities. With some of the most unspoiled countryside in Asia, it is described by Lonely Planet as “*the highlight of South East Asia*”.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), is a landlocked country bordered by Burma and China to the northwest, Vietnam to the east, Cambodia to the south and Thailand to the west. Laos has only been open to tourism since the mid 1990's. Travelling in Laos gives an unequalled glimpse of old South-East Asia. Visit the fascinating Plain of Jars, ride jungle trails, and view the unique French influenced architecture of Luang Prabang while sipping icy cold Beer Lao (best beer in South East Asia) at a roadside café beside the Mekong River.

## ANGKOR WAT – Siem Reap, Cambodia

**Angkor Wat** is a temple complex at Angkor, Cambodia, built for the King Suryavarman II in the early 12th century as his state temple and capital city. The temple is the epitome of the high classical style of Khmer architecture. It has become a symbol of Cambodia, appearing on its national flag, and it is the country's prime attraction for visitors. One of the more spectacular temples Ta Prohm, came to international notice when it featured in Tomb Raider movie starring Angelina Jolie.

## 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 that travel here.



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

**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.

**Khone Falls** – This huge, segmented waterfall on the Mekong River near the Cambodian border, in the very southern part of Laos, is the widest in the world, stretching to as much as 14 kilometers wide during the monsoon season.

## **CAMBODIA**

**Siem Reap and Angkor Wat** - See the magnificent ancient temples of Angkor Wat. Have your photo taken in your best 'Tomb Raider' pose. 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.

### **Non-Riders**

While this is a motorcycle based tour, non riders are welcome & can take the tour from the comfort of our 4WD support vehicle(s). Where possible the tour vehicle takes the same route as the motorcycles, although there is some off-road sections where it is not possible to follow the bikes. You can still experience a taste of Laos & have the opportunity to stop, take photos, & meet the locals.

**This tour** is not only a motorcycle adventure but also an opportunity to experience Laos: the secret history; the people, their way of life and the myriad of cultures and ethnic groups; the food, and the landscapes; and to take in the visual spectacle that is Angkor Wat.

### **COST\* – on a twin share basis**

**NZ\$ Contact us for Rider price**

**NZ\$ Contact us for pillion or 4WD price**

\* Prices are subject to change

### **THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES**

International return airfares, transport to and from the airports in Laos and Cambodia, Motorcycle hire or place in 4WD, the services of the tour co-coordinators and our local guides, luggage transport in the tour/backup vehicle (20kg max per person), petrol and oil, mechanical and puncture repairs. Breakfast is provided daily on the tour, and most dinners and lunches. Flights from Pakse, Laos to Siem Reap, Cambodia. All accommodation for the duration of the Laos and Cambodia Tour is included.

### **CONTACT**

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