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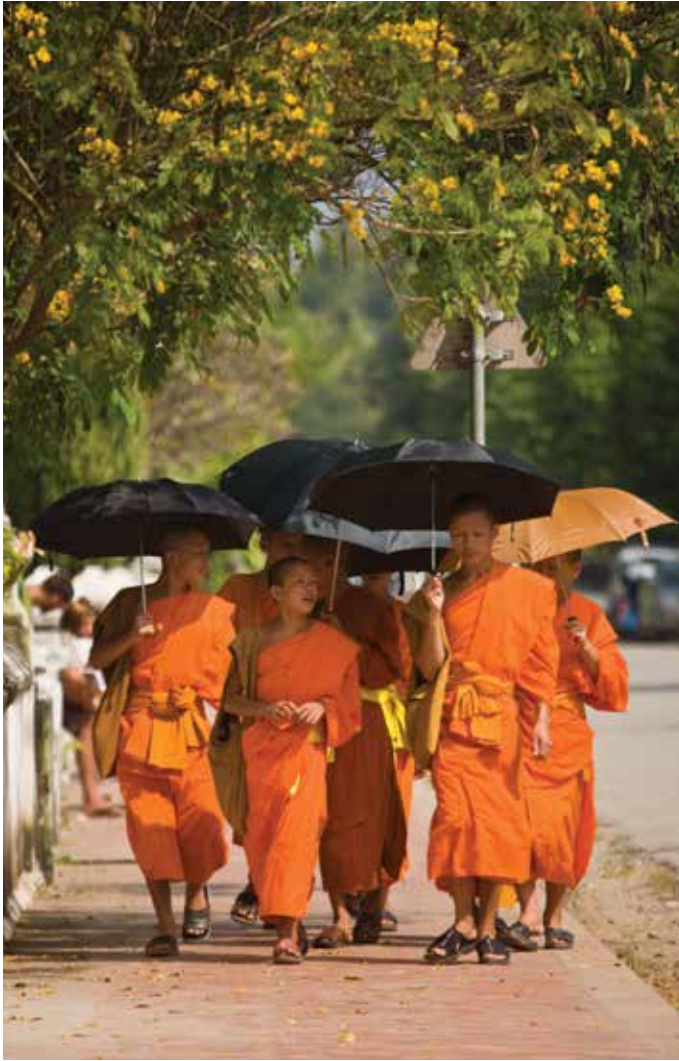
Hotline: (856-71) 260 456  
hello@trailsofindochina.com  
www.trailsofindochina.com



*Luang Prabang*

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LAOS POCKET GUIDE



*The second largest city in Laos, Luang Prabang is often referred to as 'sleeping beauty' for its quiet nature*

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A sleepy town nestled in a mountain valley at the confluence of the Mekong and Khan rivers in north-central Laos, Luang Prabang is considered the centre of Lao culture. Well-known for its landscape endowed with picturesque palm-lined riverbanks, ornate golden temples, and ancient monuments, it is a city lost in a simpler time.

Among the backdrop of the towering Mt. Phousi, it is no wonder that UNESCO declared Luang Prabang as a World Heritage Site in 1995. Nearby attractions include the Pak Ou Caves, which house thousands of Buddha images, Kuang Si Waterfall, and several cotton and silk farms.



## Places To Eat

Luang Prabang offers adventurous diners a chance to try an eccentric cuisine and one-of-a-kind delicacies. Relax in quaint cafés, riverside restaurants, or even join an authentic cooking class.

## Must-Try Local Foods



### PING GAI

Grilled chicken and sticky rice with spicy sauce



### KAIPEN

Fried seaweed with vegetables and sesame seeds



### MIANG KHAM

Traditional snack wrapped in a pepper leaf



### KHAO POON

Spicy vermicelli soup with pork, fish, or chicken



### KHAO NIEW

Sticky rice grilled on banana leaves

# LAOS DINING



Pricing Reference: \$ - Inexpensive    \$\$ - Moderate    \$\$\$ - Expensive

## 3 Nagas Restaurant

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This open-air restaurant located in 3 Nagas Luang Prabang, MGallery by Sofitel is a great lunch stop to recharge during a day of sightseeing. The diverse menu spans the globe – think prawn cocktail, coq au vin and stir-fried beef sitting side by side. Open daily 6:30am to 9:30am; 11am to 11pm

Vat Nong Village - Tel. +856 71-253-888

## Dining at Amantaka

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The dining at Amantaka offers Lao and Western cuisine, highlighting new menus with only fresh ingredients. Dine by the pool terrace, in the airy dining room, or enjoy a shared Lao barbecue while being entertained by dancers in traditional costumes. Open daily 5am to 12am

55/3 Kingkitsarath Rd. - Tel. +856 71-860-333

## Coconut Garden

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Coconut Garden offers well prepared cuisine in a modern yet charming outdoor setting. There is an eclectic choice of traditional Lao dishes, such as Larb, which is a flavourful meat salad and a dish not to miss. The menu also includes Western options to satisfy all tastes. Open daily 10:30am to 11pm

Sisavangvong Rd. - Tel. +856 71-254-504



## Dyen Sabai Restaurant

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Located on the Nam Khan River opposite from the historic old town, Dyen Sabai Restaurant provides panoramic sunset views. Bungalows and a large terrace are set in a beautiful garden of bamboo and coconut trees. This local restaurant gives you an authentic Laotian experience. Try their unique Sindhat, a special fondue-barbeque dish. Open daily 8am to 11:30pm

**Ban Phan Louang - Tel. +856 71-410-185**

## Elephant Blanc

\$\$

This chic, open-air restaurant, located in Souvannaphumm Hotel, takes the name of a majestic and much revered animal in Laos, the elephant. It serves an array of French, Laotian and Indochinese cuisine in a serene setting by the pool. It is a former residence of Prince Souvannaphouma. Open daily 7am to 10am; 11:30am to 4pm; 7pm to 10pm

**Maison Souvannaphum - Tel. +856 71-254-609**

## Khaiphaen

\$

Khaiphaen is named after a popular Laotian snack made of a crispy Mekong River weeds. Enjoy creative Lao cuisine, as well as great shakes and cocktails. It is run by Peuan Mit, an organisation founded by Friends-International in Vientiane to address the needs of underprivileged children and young people in Laos. Open Mon-Sat 11am to 10:30pm

**100 Sisavang Vatana Rd. - Tel. +856 71-254-135**



## Manda de Laos

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Manda de Laos features Laotian specialties from all regions of Laos. During sunset, sip on the signature cocktails while watching the magical changing colours of the sky. This will be an evening dining under the stars, surrounded by a lotus pond in a tropical ambience. Open daily 12pm to 3pm; 6pm to 10:30pm

**10 Norrassan Rd. - Tel. +856 71-253-923**

## Phou Savanh Restaurant

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For a special evening out, don your best Lao silk outfit and feast at Phou Savanh Restaurant inside one of Luang Prabang's most luxurious hotels, Belmong La Residence Phou Vao. Here, you can browse through the seasonal a la carte menu and enjoy creative cuisine that consists of Lao delicacies and European favourites. Open daily 11am to 3pm; 6pm to 10pm

**La Résidence Phou Vao, Phou Vao Hill - Tel. +856 71-212-530**

## Tamarind

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A must-visit in historic Luang Prabang, this family-run restaurant, overlooking the Nam Khan River will not disappoint. The Tamarind philosophy is to use only the freshest of local ingredients and to provide a place where visitors can sample and learn about the flavours of Lao cuisine. Open daily 11am to 4pm; 5:30pm to 10pm

**Kingkitsarath Rd. - Tel. +856 71-213-128**



## INTERNATIONAL DINING



### Governor's Grill

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Gourmet cuisine reaches new heights in the skillful hands of world-class chefs who prepare sensational dishes worthy of this superb setting. Enjoy local buffalo meat specialties, cooked to perfection on the grill, and decadent patisseries. Open daily 6:30am to 10pm

**Ban Mano Rd. - Tel. +856 71-260-777**

### La Belle Epoque

\$\$\$

La Belle Epoque, at The Luang Say Residence, offers guests wonderful views over the inspiring tropical garden. The menu changes quarterly and offers a healthy and enticing selection of regional dishes from Laos and other countries in Southeast Asia. Open daily 6:30am to 11:30pm

**4-5 Ban Phonepheng - Tel. +856 71-260-891**

### Apsara

\$\$

Apsara's open plan and simply decorated space enhances the varied and scrumptious selection of dishes it serves. The menu may be small but it changes seasonally. There is also a respectable selection of international wines and liquor. Open daily 7am to 3pm; 11am to 3pm; 6pm to 10pm

**Kingkitsarath Rd. - Tel. +856 71-254-670**

### Blue Lagoon

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Blue Lagoon is located next door to the Luang Prabang Night Market and surrounded by banana trees, making it one of the most romantic spots for a late dinner in the whole city. The menu offers a mixture of European and traditional tastes. Open daily 6pm to 11:30pm

**Ban Choumkhong - Tel. +856 20-59-252-525**

### L'Elephant

\$\$\$

An original Luang Prabang culinary institution, the renovated L'Elephant remains a favourite with diners looking for delicious, classic French fare. The menu is impressively simple with dishes like pumpkin soup or a plate of boneless, stuffed quail. L'Elephant's corner location makes this a great place for watching Laotian life go by. Open daily 12pm to 2:30pm; 6pm to 10pm

**Ban Vat Nong - Tel. +856 71-252-482**



LUANG PRABANG  
DOWNTOWN MAP

- |                       |                      |  |                    |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1. Wat Xieng Thong    | 8. Wat Xieng Mouane  | 15. Traditional Art & Ethnology Center | 21. Wat Hoxiang    |
| 2. Wat Xi Boun Heuang | 9. Wat Siphouthabath | 16. Talat Dara Market                  | 22. Wat Maha That  |
| 3. Wat Pak Khan       | 10. Night Market     | 17. H'mong Market                      | 23. Wat Aham       |
| 4. Luang Say Pier     | 11. National Museum  | 18. Wat Phouxai                        | 24. Wat Visoun     |
| 5. Wat Saen           | 12. Phou Si Mountain | 19. Wat Mai                            | 25. Wat That Luang |
| 6. Wat Nong           | 13. Wat Tham Phou Si | 20. Wat Aphai                          | 26. Wat Manorom    |
| 7. Wat Pa Phay        | 14. Wat Phan Luang   |  | 27. Royal Palace   |

## La Rosa \$\$

A wood-fired oven cooks the pizza to perfection at La Rosa, a neighbourhood Italian restaurant in Luang Prabang. La Rosa has a cosy inside area and also quiet outside terrace seating. Open daily 11:30am to 10pm

Ban Wat Nong - Tel. +856 71-253-937

## La Silapa \$

La Silapa offers homemade Italian food in Luang Prabang. The menu has everything from fresh pasta, piadina, and Italian crêpes to creamy risotto and a delicious lasagne. For dessert, try the house tiramisu, chocolate salami, or a limoncello. Open daily 12:30am to 3:30pm; 5pm to 11:30pm

Pommathat Rd. - Tel. +856 30-534-4913

## Tangor Restaurant Bar & Lounge \$\$

This small restaurant situated on the main street of Luang Prabang has been elegantly restored to offer diners a wonderful experience. The ceviche is heavenly and is made with a Lao twist. There is also a wonderful wine list to pair with the mouth-watering menu. Open daily 11am to 11pm

63/6 Sisavangvong Rd. - Tel. +856 71-260-761

## The House \$\$

The House restaurant is located in Luang Prabang's old town. Built in 1953, the building has a historical charm made from brick, cement, and beautiful local rosewood. The House has become a meeting point for expats because of its setting, its unique beer selection and, of course, its food. Open daily 5pm to 11pm

10 Kingkitsarath Rd. - Tel. +856 71-255-021

# BAR & LOUNGE



## 525 Cocktail Bar

525 Cocktail Bar is the culmination of a lifelong dream of Andrew Sykes. He has completely transformed a large house into, a luxurious bar and restaurant featuring a beautiful garden complete with fire pits. Open daily 5pm to 11pm

100 Kingskitsarath Rd. - Tel. +856 71-212-424



## CAFÉ & TEAHOUSE



### Joma Bakery Café

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Joma is inspired by the American café, serving dishes like breakfast burritos and bagel sandwiches. The smell of freshly baked pastries and brewing coffee fills the air in this Western-style coffee shop. They pride themselves in giving back to the local community by donating 10% of profits to charitable organisations. Open daily 7am to 9pm

Chao Fa Ngum Rd. - Tel. +856 71-252-292

### Le Banneton

\$\$

A favourite French bakery in Luang Prabang that serves pain au chocolat, pizza, terrine, baguette sandwiches, salads, crêpes and more. The ceiling is a maze of arabesques, cool fans, and the white walls are offset by a blur of orange as monks from the monastery opposite the café pass by. Open daily 7am to 6:30pm

46 Sakkhaline Rd. - Tel. +856 30 57-88-340

### Saffron Coffee

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Saffron Coffee is located on the Mekong River side of the Luang Prabang peninsula. The café offers seating on both levels of the restaurant and on a small patio overlooking the Mekong River. It is a convenient location in town that offers a great view while you relax with an aromatic cup of coffee or a bite to eat. Open daily Mon-Fri 7am to 7pm; Sat-Sun 7:30am to 5:50pm

Khem Khong Rd. - Tel. +856 71-212-915



# Things to Do

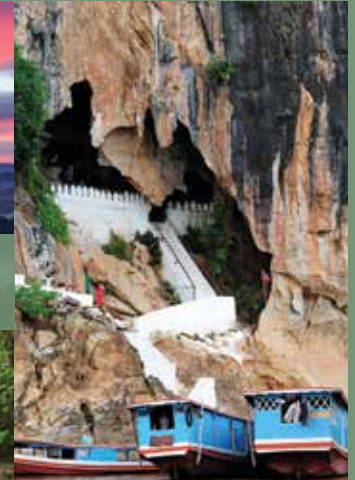
Luang Prabang is often called the 'sleeping princess' or 'sleeping beauty.' Explore this UNESCO World Heritage Site's culture and adapt to the slow pace of life to truly admire the natural beauty of the surrounding landscape.



# Top Things to Do



Hike Mount Phousi for a panoramic view of the rivers and city



River cruise to the famed Pak Ou Caves



Swim in Kuang Si Waterfall's electric turquoise waters



Participate in offering morning alms to a procession of monks



Experience the life of a local farmer



## ENTERTAINMENT

### Garavek Storytelling

Garavek Storytelling is a new company based in Luang Prabang, with the aim of promoting and preserving the local traditional stories, myths, legends, and folktales.

**Ban Xieng Thong - Tel. +856 20-96-777-300**

### Royal Ballet Theatre

The Ramayana is an ancient Indian epic poem that narrates the struggle of the divine prince Rama to rescue his wife, Sita, from the demon King Ravana. This saga is depicted combining dance and drama performed by the provincial government troupe of 60 artists. Open Mon, Wed, and Sat 6:30pm to 8pm

**Sisavangvong Rd. - Tel. +856 20 55-773-669**



## SHOPPING

Gifts, Accessories  
and Decor

### Kopnoi

This shop targets the avid shopper with East-meets-West clothing made with natural fabrics and dyes, designer jewellery, homewares and handicrafts. It also showcases many books on Lao cuisine, architecture, and crafts. Open daily 7am to 10pm

**Th Kingkitsarat - Tel. +856 71-260-248**

### Ma Té Sai

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Ma Té Sai means 'where is it from,' in Laotian. This three-year-old shop is a member of Fair Trade Laos. Set up by two long-term expats of Luang Prabang, they collaborated with NGOs, Fair Trade Laos and villages from all across the country to source and sometimes co-design unique handmade and natural products. Open daily 8:30am to 8:30pm

**Ban Aphai - Tel. +856 71-260-654**

## Naga Creations

This special shop produces individual masterpieces using a variety of semi-precious stones and silver. All items are handcrafted and you can see the jewellers at work in the store. Open daily 10am to 10pm

**Sisavangvong Rd. - Tel. +856 71-212-775**

## Ock Pop Tok

Known for elevating the profile of Lao textiles and artisans, Ock Pop Tok is an international team that shares a common passion for textiles and cultural exchange. This cultural shopping experience offers handmade products crafted using skills and traditions passed down from one generation to the next. Open daily 8am to 8pm

**125/10 Ban Saylom. - Tel. +856 71-212-597**

## Orange Tree

Located on the riverbanks, this Laotian antique shop has a collection that highlights the owners' extensive travels. Wander through stacks of Hong Kong tea tins, Chinese retro alarm clocks, Mao revolutionary crockery, Bakelite inkwells, Vietnamese clocks, and Burmese Buddhist statuary. Open daily 10am to 7pm

**67 Ban Wat Nong - Tel. +856 206-575-495**

## Pathana Boupna Antique House

Follow the sweeping stairs of this impressive old French mansion to discover a hidden treasure trove of antiques including Buddhas, golden nagas, silver betel nut pots, Akha-style bracelets and Hmong necklaces. Open daily 8:30am to 6:30pm

**Chao Xomphou, 26/2 Ban Visoun - Tel. +856 20 55-570-658**



## Mekong Spa

This award-winning Luang Prabang spa was the first of its kind. The custom-designed spa treatments are based on traditional Laotian herbal remedies. They heal and nurture using only pure botanical ingredients from local organic gardens and farms. Open daily 9am to 10pm

**Phou Vao Rd. - Tel. +856 71-212-194**

## Aman Spa at Amanataka

Using Aman Spa's own organic products, the spa experts infuse each treatment with peace and tranquillity. With a steam room, sauna, and plunge pool to relax in between treatments of facial scrubs and body wraps, visitors are sure to unwind and rejuvenate to the fullest.

55/3 Kingkitsarath Rd. - Tel. +856 71-860-333

## AVANI Spa

This spa retreat offers a range of massage treatments and other therapies that use traditional Laotian techniques designed to ease away the stress. There is also a state-of-the-art yoga studio and fitness centre where visitors can exercise and strengthen.

Ban Hua Xieng, Sethathirath Rd. - Tel. +856 71-262-333

## Angsana Spa at Spa Maison Souvannaphoum

Custom-made massage oils and lotions are created specifically with the guest in mind at Angsana Spa at Spa Maison Souvannaphoum. The individualisation and care the therapists put into their treatments set this spa apart from the rest.

Ban That Luang - Tel. +856 71-254-609



## Luang Prabang Art Studio

Vunhuhai is a master in the lifelike portrayal of Buddhist monks and common Lao people, capturing emotions like no other. He has a distinct realist style, characterised by his use of light and bright coloured elements that contrast sharply with the darkened backgrounds.

Kinhkitsarath Rd. - Tel. +856 20 95-667-788

## The Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre

The Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre is an independent, non-profit museum dedicated to the preservation of traditional arts and lifestyles among the many Laotian ethnic groups. The centre opened its doors in 2007 and has since worked towards encouraging engagement with ethnic minority groups and supporting the artisans within these communities. Open Tues-Sun 9am to 6pm

Ban Khamyong - Tel. +856 71-253-364

# Notes