

Elephant Conservation Center Adventure

3 days

(Luang Prabang)

Itinerary Overview

| Day | Destination | Meals |
|-------|--|-------|
| Day 1 | LUANG PRABANG – ELEPHANT CONSERVATION CENTER | L/D |
| Day 2 | MEET THE ELEPHANTS IN THE FOREST | B/L/D |
| Day 3 | ELEPHANT CENTER – LUANG PRABANG | B/L |

Note*: B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 LUANG PRABANG – ELEPHANT CONSERVATION CENTER

07:40: Gather at meeting point in [Luang Prabang](#) for join mini bus transfer to the Elephant Conservation center. Enjoy activities upon arrival.

Nursery

When you arrive at Nam Tien Lake, we will transfer you to the Center by boat. You will have time to settle into your private bungalow before your guide takes you to the forest. After enjoying a Laotian style picnic on a lakeside platform, you observe the elephants bathing at the nursery, an area in the forest reserved for our youngest elephants and their mothers.

Hospital

When the elephants have drunk enough and returned to the forest, you will take the boat back to the Center for the hospital visit. Our Laotian vet assistant or our biologist will introduce you to their world and tell you more about common and uncommon injuries and their respective treatments

Elephant bath

You will then observe one of the elephants' daily baths and learn more about our giant guests' playful characters. The bath is a time to socialize and strengthen ties in the herd through playing together

Note*: this is a copy of itinerary on Indochina Treks Travel' Official Website and not the final itinerary.

Elephants & Mahouts

After the elephants have washed themselves, you will have the opportunity to see them up close. Their ears flapping, tails swatting while they use the trunk and the trees for a good scratching. Meanwhile, the guide will tell you a little about the background of each elephant. They have all been worked hard before they came here.

Back to the forest

Now it's time for them to walk back to the forest. After a short trek the mahouts will decide on a place where the elephants can graze for the night. On the way back, our guide will show you one of our plantation and the tree nursery.

Conservation talk

Before dinner, take in the surroundings from one of our viewpoints. You can also go for a swim in the lake, take out a canoe, or visit the museum.

At 6 pm one of the staff will give a presentation on our conservation efforts, feel free to ask your unresolved questions. After diner you can relax at the bar.

Meal: Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Traditional Bungalow

Day 2

MEET THE ELEPHANTS IN THE FOREST

Forest

On the second day, you will pick up the elephants in the forest. Enjoy strolling together with these magnificent animals through their natural habitat.

After spending the night in the jungle, it is time for the morning bath.

Socialization area

The Socialization Area is an area where the elephants can freely interact during a big part of the day, recreating a semi-natural living environment. Here the elephants can enjoy being elephants.

Follow the guide to the different platforms to see how a new herd is being formed, something which is very special about our program and difficult to find anywhere else.

Positive reinforcement

Lunch is served at the Center. You have some time to relax before the elephants come down for their afternoon bath.

You will meet our Laotian vet assistant or the biologist again as they will conduct a Target Training Session. All our elephants are being trained using positive reinforcement techniques to facilitate any necessary treatments and to reduce the stress that these treatments or routine checks can give to them.

We offer you the chance to follow their work from a safe distance.

Meal: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Traditional Bungalow

Day 3

ELEPHANT CENTER - LUANG PRABANG

Enrichment

To give the elephants mental stimulation and work closely on specific relationships we provide cognitive enrichment in the form of hidden food, toys, a mud bath etc.

On the third day, our guide and biologist will explain the Enrichment Activities. It is a dynamic process for enhancing animal environments to their specific needs.

We invite you to take part in this amazing experience by helping our team to prepare this area by cutting and hiding the food. Make sure you to give the elephants a challenge.

Once they arrive, you will observe how the elephants try to find what you have hidden! This is a novel and unique way to interact with our elephants, contributing directly to their well-being.

Departure

Lunch is served at the Center.

You have some time to relax before we bring you back to Luang Prabang by minivan at 2pm. Arrive Luang Prabang at about 6pm. Manage yourself to transfer to the hotel in Luang Prabang. Trip ends.

Meal: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: n/a

Important Note*

- PROGRAMS & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
- The itinerary can be customized basing on your interests (you can extend your stay at each location, add/remove activities)

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions:

- Overnights at traditional bungalow in the center
- All in-tour stationed local English speaking guide.
- Entrance fees for sightseeing mentioned in the itinerary
- Excursions as mentioned in the itinerary
- Transfer to/from the center by join mini van
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

Exclusions:

- Meals and services other than those noted in the itinerary
- Visa stamping fee

- International flights pre/post tour
- Laundry, telephone calls, and personal expenditures
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, porters, boat crew, and personal, non-itinerary services

Cancellation Policy

- Cancellation received 60 days or more before arrival date: 15% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 25% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 15 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 50% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 7 days to 14 days prior arrival date: 70% of total rate
- Cancellation received less than 7 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total rate

Children Policy

- For infant (<02 years old): FOC
- 02 – 10 years old without bed: 35% adult rate
- 02 – 10 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
- 02 – 10 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate
- from 11 years old: 100% adult rate

Important Information

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the travel consultant whom you deal with and then our hot line contacts. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please send us a detailed message and contact information by email to the agent and to info@indochinatreks.com, we may check and return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

Our all travel consultants use WhatApps. Please ensure that you have the contact number. It's best to buy a local sim-card upon arrival. Most hotels offer free wifi. So it's very easy to contact in urgent case.

Emergency contact numbers

Mr. Kelvin Do: +84 986759655

Ms. Thuy Pham: +84 984654964

Internal Flights

For all internal flights, we would use Vietnamairlines, Vietjesair, Jestar, Cambodia Angkorair or Laos Airlines. Most domestic flights in Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, airlines would use small 70 seat ATR72 for short distances. Most airlines in Vietnam use the Airbus A321. 20kg for checkin luggage and 7kg for hand-bag is included in the price.

International flights before/after the tour must be booked by yourself before travelling date.

Accommodation

We would use different hotel categories and you can select any basing on your budget. So your travel companions would not stay at your hotel. A Hotel Voucher will be provided once your tour is confirmed with all hotel details.

Packing List

Conservative Dress

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Note*: Please pack clothing for the season in which you will be travelling. From Dec-Feb weather can be cold, so please pack warm clothing. From May-Nov it is the wet season, so please bring waterproof clothing.

Documents

- All tickets (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Required visas
- Hotel & Tour Vouchers
- Meeting sign (with your names and flight details that we will use for transfers)

Train Travel

Train travel in Vietnam is very basic and train cleanliness is often not a priority for train staff. Sleeper trains normally have 4 seats per compartment, which convert into sleeping bunks (two upper and two lower). A sheet, pillow and blanket are provided, although many people prefer to bring their own sleeping sheet. At times, passengers of different genders may be required to share a sleeper train berth and/or share a compartment with people not travelling in your group. For short distance - 3 hours (as Hue to Danang or vv), you will do the trip on soft/hard seat carriage.

Simple food is available on the train but many people like to stock up on freshly baked bread, cheese and fruit prior to departure. Water should also be bought before the journey.

Train journeys in Vietnam are an experience and allow you to get a real taste of Vietnam.

Airport transfers

All airport transfers are included in the tour price. You should provide us your arrival/departure flight details and we will arrange things basing on the information. A meeting sign with your name and all flight details will be sent to you. Please be ready at the lobby at pointed time for pickup.

Driver/guide should always be present at the airport before your arrival time. If you could not find the driver, please contact your travel consultant who you deal with. For any reason that airport transfer could not be arranged, please take the taxi to the hotel. We will refund the money then.

Travel insurance

Travel insurance is not included in our tour price. When travelling with us, you are suggested to buy insurance that covers all medical coverage, cancellation, personal liability, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects.

Trip Specific Safety

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Be aware that petty theft can be an issue in some towns and cities especially late at night. A common tactic is opportunists on motorbikes that drive by and snatch bags. Please always leave valuables and passports etc in your hotel in safety boxes if available and only carry with you enough cash to spend for the day. Bags should always be carried over the neck and not left to sit on your shoulder.

Warming

Please do not buy gems unless you know what you are doing. Even if genuine you should not expect to be able to sell them at home. If you fall victim to a gem scam, we are unable to assist you.

Visas and Entry Requirements

Please note that visas for Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are the responsibility of the individual traveller. The visa requirements for your trip vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. For the most up to date information please check your Governments Foreign Ministry website or with you travel agent as rules do change.

CAMBODIA - Visas can be obtained at the Cambodian border or Siem Reap Airport for approx. \$35 USD very easily. Please have **at least** 2 passport photos with you as well.

VIETNAM - As of March 2017, a select 80 nationalities are now eligible to enter Vietnam with an E-Visa. Please contact your Foreign Ministry or Vietnamese consulate to see if your nationality is eligible. Please note that you should **ONLY** apply for a Vietnam E-Visa if you are entering Vietnam by international airport - either Noi Bai International Airport (Hanoi) or Tan Son Nhat International Airport (Ho Chi Minh City).

If you are entering Vietnam by land border, please apply for a regular visa for Vietnam. Many of the land borders we travel through do not accept the Vietnam E-Visa. Please view this link to apply E-Visa: <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn/web/guest/trang-chu-ttdt>

LAOS - Visas are issued upon arrival in Laos. You will need two passport size photographs and approx \$35. Tourists are generally admitted to Laos for 15 days with a visa on arrival or for 30 days with a visa issued at a Lao embassy. Please bring visa photos with you.

Please be aware that you will require four clean pages (minimum) in your passport and at least six months validity.

Tipping

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$3-\$5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service.

Electricity

Indochina Countries use 220V, and a mixture of flat 2-pin, round 2-pin or 3 pin plugs. It is recommended to bring a universal plug adapter.