

Heritage Line Anouvong Cruise

Downstream 4 days: Huay Xai - Luang Prabang

The four-day itinerary includes a well-liked river trip between Huay Xai, which marks the Laos-Thai boundary, and Luang Prabang. We provide information on Laos, including its breathtaking landscapes, indigenous culture, and way of life. While cruising, engaging in fun onboard activities will undoubtedly make your trip one to remember.

- **Durations:** 4 days
- **Trip outline:** Luang Prabang - Pak Ou Caves
- **Price from:** US \$2036/person
- **Tour inquiry:** <https://besttratetours.com/mekong-river-cruises/heritage-line-anouvong-cruise-downstream-4-days-huay-xai-luang-prabang>

Trip outline

day	Activities	Accommodations	Meals
	Main Itinerary		NA
Day 1	Huay Xai - Huay Phaluang - Huay Ting	Heritage Line Anouvong	Lunch, Dinner
Day 2	Huay Ting - Pakbeng - Khok Aek	Heritage Line Anouvong Cruise	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 3	Khok Aek - Khok Luang - Khok Phou	Heritage Line Anouvong	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 4	Khok Phou - Pak Ou - Luang Prabang	NA	Breakfast, Lunch
	Alternate		NA
Day 1	Huay Xai – Kang Hang Yai	NA	Lunch, Dinner
Day 2	Kang Hang Yai - Khok Luang - Khok Phou	NA	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 3	Khok Phou - Pak Ou - Ban Mueng Kay	NA	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 4	Ban Mueng Kay - Luang Prabang	NA	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Itinerary

: Main Itinerary

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Meals: NA

Day 1: Huay Xai - Huay Phaluang - Huay Ting

Morning

09:00 - 09:30: Once all passengers have gathered, we provide transportation by minivan to the ship, which is docked at Huay Xai Pier. Our dedicated team assists with the check-in process and takes care of your luggage.

During the ship's initial voyage, an expert guide delivers an engaging lecture on the rich tapestry of Laos' diverse ethnic groups residing along the Mekong River.

Upon reaching the confluence of the Mekong and a major tributary, let the river gently carry you downstream while enjoying uninterrupted views of the surrounding natural scenery.

Afternoon

We then arrive at **Huay Phaluang village**, home to the Khmu ethnic group found across China, Laos, Thailand, Burma, and Vietnam. During a walk through the village, we gather for a traditional **Baci ceremony**, a meaningful Laotian ritual led by local elders (and possibly monks) to offer blessings for your journey.

Evening

Before dinner, you can join an insightful onboard talk as our guide explores the history of Laos and its former royal dynasties.

Later, you are welcome to relax in the lounge for a cosy film screening of "Chiang", the Laotian word for "elephant." Filmed in this very region in 1927 by the same visionary behind the first King Kong movie, the film sets the tone for the adventures ahead.

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Heritage Line Anouvong

Day 2: Huay Ting - Pakbeng - Khok Aek

Morning

Invite you to join our daily yoga class on the terrace deck, where the breathtaking Mekong scenery serves as a picturesque backdrop.

Our journey takes us to the charming town of **Pakbeng** in the morning, with engaging activities:

- Along the starboard side lies Laos' well-preserved elephant sanctuary, a symbol of ecotourism and sustainability, embodying a deep commitment to these creatures.
- Witnessing these gentle creatures emerge from the rainforest is an extraordinary experience, allowing us to learn fascinating details about them.

Following lunch, roll up your sleeves for a hands-on cooking class where you will learn to prepare Lao-Thai classics that you can easily recreate at home.

Afternoon

Our next stop is a village characterized by its fascinating diversity, **Ban Khok Aek**. Within this community, three distinct ethnic groups: the Hmong, Lao Loum, and Khamu coexist harmoniously.

We venture into the village, where representatives from each ethnic group warmly welcome us into their homes, showcasing and explaining the differences and characteristics of their day-to-day lives.

If time permits and the season permits, we may even get a glimpse of the organic gardens where villagers cultivate their crops, allowing us to sample some of the local produce.

Evening

Gather at the bar to enjoy snacks while receiving a sneak peek of the program for the upcoming day.

Before dinner, local villagers join us on the terrace deck for a captivating performance featuring the **Kene traditional instrument**, delighting us with its hypnotic melodies and unique movements.

Later, join us in the lounge for a cosy screening of "The Rocket", a 90-minute Lao film about a boy seeking redemption in a land scarred by war.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Heritage Line Anouvong Cruise

Day 3: Khok Aek - Khok Luang - Khok Phou

Morning

Embrace the tranquil early morning as the river basks in the gentle rays of the sun, extending a warm invitation to join our invigorating daily yoga class.

After a satisfying breakfast, our morning expedition takes us to a picturesque village inhabited by the Khmu people, nestled amidst expansive rice fields.

- Here, we have the privilege of encountering an elderly couple or a multigenerational family deeply connected to the land, their lives sustained through manual agriculture.
- Delve into the intricacies of their daily existence, observing their way of life and engaging in insightful conversations that provide a profound understanding of their unique experiences.

Afternoon

We explore the captivating 200-year-old village of **Ban Khok Phou**, situated above a magnificent white sandbank and inhabited by the ethnic Lao community. This is a very nice hamlet with a nice square to observe the afternoon life unfolding.

Return to the ship for a refreshing break before the night's festivities commence. Savor a delightful cocktail on the sandbank, immersing yourself in the serene atmosphere.

Evening

A meticulously arranged **farewell dinner** is set against the backdrop of this idyllic location, allowing you to revel in the ambiance of your last evening on the Laotian Mekong River, as the vibrant hues of the blue hour gracefully transition into the tranquility of the night.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Heritage Line Anouvong

Day 4: Khok Phou - Pak Ou - Luang Prabang

Morning

As our exhilarating 3-night cruise draws to a close, we make our way toward the iconic Pak Ou Caves, setting the stage for our arrival in Luang Prabang. This morning's breakfast features a refined à la carte selection, followed by a varied brunch served prior to disembarkation.

Upon reaching the [Pak Ou Caves](#), dramatically set along the rocky banks of the Mekong River, discover two grottoes housing nearly 4,000 sacred Buddhist statues and images. We explore the lower cave, the most impressive and easily accessible of the two.

After the cave visit, continue the experience with a scenic kayaking journey along the peaceful **Nam Ou River**, an unforgettable way to take in the area's natural beauty.

Returning on board later, unwind and enjoy the final serene moments of the cruise, with lunch served until approximately one hour before arrival.

Afternoon

We arrive at Luang Prabang in the late afternoon. After check-out, our team will assist with luggage and any final arrangements before bidding you farewell at the town-centre pier and wishing you a pleasant onward journey.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: NA

: Alternate

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Meals: NA

Day 1: Huay Xai – Kang Hang Yai

Morning and Afternoon

9:00 - 9:30: After all passengers have gathered, we embark on a short minivan ride to the pier, where a longtail boat awaits to transport us to the magnificent Heritage Line 'Anouvong' ship (approximately 8 hours transfer time).

We serve you with a delicious lunch and snacks onboard. Our dedicated crew accompanies you throughout the journey, ensuring your comfort and enjoyment.

If you desire a neck & shoulder or foot massage, please feel free to approach our team.

Our knowledgeable tour guide will share interesting information and insights about the destinations we cruise along, as well as the rich Lao culture. Sit back, relax, and take in the captivating scenery and the activities unfolding on the riverbanks.

Evening

Around **17:00**, we arrive at the esteemed Heritage Line Anouvong ship, where you will check in to your comfortable cabin. Take a moment to refresh yourself and settle into the inviting ambiance of your stateroom.

Later, we invite you to a comprehensive ship and safety briefing. Indulge in a delightful multi-course dinner served in the restaurant, savoring the flavors of a carefully crafted menu.

Additionally, you have the option to join our nightly cinema in the lounge, featuring a different captivating movie each evening, should you wish to unwind and enjoy a cinematic experience.

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: NA

Day 2: Kang Hang Yai - Khok Luang - Khok Phou

Morning

Join our invigorating daily yoga class while we sail downstream toward our first destination

After a satisfying breakfast, our morning journey takes us to the picturesque village of **Khok Luang**, home to the Khum people. This serene location boasts bamboo huts raised on stilts amidst expansive rice fields.

- Immerse yourself in the simplicity of their lifestyle as we encounter an elderly couple or a multigenerational family deeply connected to the land
- Engage in insightful conversations and gain a profound understanding of their unique experiences.

Returning to the ship, we continue our sailing while a delicious lunch is served.

Afternoon

Our next stop is the enchanting village of **Khok Phou**, a small and charming hamlet perched above an impressive sandbank. This 200-year-old village is predominantly inhabited by the ethnic Lao community and boasts a delightful square.

One of the highlights is the traditional **Baci ceremony**, a heartfelt Laotian ritual led by local elders, showering blessings upon your journey.

If time permits, you can ascend to a serene temple where you can meet the local monk and novices, providing an opportunity for moments of meditation and tranquility.

Evening

We remain moored at this idyllic spot. Join us at the lounge for a sunset cocktail and mingle with fellow passengers before heading to dinner.

After dinner, you are welcome to gather in the lounge once again for a cozy screening of "Chiang" (Laotian for "elephant"), produced by the visionary behind the first King Kong movie, which sets the mood for the adventures.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: NA

Day 3: Khok Phou - Pak Ou - Ban Mueng Kay

Morning

Begin your day with an early morning yoga session, invigorating your mind and body before indulging in a delicious breakfast.

Today, we embark on a journey to one of the most breathtaking caves in all of Asia.

Nestled along the rocky shores of the Mekong River, these two grottoes house approximately 4,000 sacred Buddhist statues and images.

We board a tender boat and glide towards the cave's entrance, where a short climb up a staircase leads us to the lower cave, the most impressive and easily accessible part of the complex.

After exploring the cave, Heritage Line presents you with *two optional choices*:

- Option 1: Embark on an exciting kayak tour along the serene **Nam Ou River**
- Option 2: Visit the nearby village of **Ban Muang Keo**, renowned for its traditional silk weaving and Lao whisky distillation.

If time and availability permit, we may even have the opportunity to meet a local "medicine man" in the village, who will enlighten us about traditional healing practices using the bountiful resources of nature.

Returning to the ship, we enjoy a delectable lunch as we continue sailing downstream, passing by the enchanting city of Luang Prabang.

Afternoon

We offer a captivating presentation that delves into the intricate history of the **Golden Triangle**. Unraveling the complexities of colonialism, opium trade, conflicts, and the significant roles played by Burma, Thailand, Laos, Britain, and China.

As night falls, we moor the ship along a tranquil sandbank where we invite you to a memorable farewell dinner onshore.

Enjoy this special evening with your fellow passengers and our dedicated crew, who are eager to entertain you with a captivating **local dance performance**. Cherish the final night of your journey in the company of newfound friends, creating lasting memories of your time on the river.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: NA

Day 4: Ban Mueng Kay - Luang Prabang

On the final day of your remarkable journey, we have two more extraordinary highlights in store for you.

After a delightful breakfast, we embark on a minivan excursion to visit a **local elephant sanctuary**. Here, you will have the unique opportunity to get up close and personal with one of Laos' most majestic creatures.

- The Laotian mahouts, caretakers of these former logging elephants who have found a new home filled with tender loving care, will guide us on a morning walk along the riverbank.
- Watch as the elephants joyfully bathe in the river, while the mahouts share fascinating insights about these remarkable Laotian creatures.

Travel by minivan to our next highlight in Laos, the magnificent **Kuang Si waterfalls** located nearby, renowned for its breathtaking beauty and the rushing turquoise waters, this natural park offers a leisurely walk through nature's awe-inspiring creations.

Afterward, we return to the ship, where a delicious lunch is served onboard as the Anouvong makes its way toward our final destination, Luang Prabang.

We arrive in Luang Prabang around **15:00**. Upon check-out, our attentive staff will assist you with your luggage and bid you a fond farewell at the pier in the town center.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: NA

Booking Policy

Inclusion

- Accommodation; daily (group) shore excursions & entrance fees
- Sightseeing and transfers during the cruise
- Transfers from/to Heritage Line's meeting point to/from the ship (please read details in the embarkation guide);
- English-speaking tour guiding on and offshore
- Entertainment/activities during the cruise as mentioned in the program; meals as mentioned in the program
- Welcome drink, brewed coffee, tea and mineral water; passenger liability insurance;
- Internet on the ship (subject to cellular network signal);
- Complimentary usage of ship facilities (exclusive of spa treatments);
- Port or anchorage fees; river pilots; fuel; taxes.

Exclusion

- Crew and guide gratuities;
- Visa fees; private transfers; personal expenses;
- Beverages other than those stated under inclusions; medical services;

- Spa treatments;
- Port and anchorage fees;
- All other services or items not listed under inclusions.

Cancellation Policy

- For cancellations of bookings, the following charges will apply:
- Prior 180 days to embarkation date: 5%
- 180 – 121 days prior embarkation date: 15%
- 120 – 91 days prior embarkation date: 30%
- 90 – 61 days prior embarkation date: 50%
- 60 – 31 days prior embarkation date: 75%
- 30 days – embarkation date: 100%

Children Policy

- A child from 5 to 11 years old: 50% of adult rate (sharing bed), or 75% of adult rate if staying in a cabin with one adult . Children below 5 years are not allowed on board

WHY BOOK WITH US?

Best Rate Guaranteed

Offering the BEST RATE package which is worthy of your payment.

Money Back Guaranteed

In case the service we provide is not qualified enough, except for out-of-control situations such as weather conditions. We will investigate your case and will offer the reimbursement once your complaint is rational.

Customizable by local experts

Local consultants with rich of knowledge will give you the most suitable itineraries for you.

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