

## ITINERARY 03



# SABAIDEE & WELCOME TO LAOS!

- Learn about Laos
- Visit to Elephant Conservation Center (ECC)
- Explore the Mountains from Xayaboury province
- Community Service Learning
- Enjoy White Water Rafting
- Visit to Kuang Si Waterfall
- Experience La Khon

## DAY 01 –SABAIDEE & WELCOME TO LAOS!

Our leaders will meet you at the Luang Prabang Airport (LPQ) and after we collect baggage we will head to our accommodation. After checking in, we will have a brief orientation and we will have our first of many delicious meals together!

## DAY 02 – HEAD TO THE ELEPHANT CONSERVATION CENTER (ECC)

Today we will head to Xayaboury Province to the ECC! This amazing center does an amazing job at conserving and supporting elephants and their environment, while also providing interesting and educational content. You will stay on-site and have some amazing up close and personal experience with the elephants. However, the center has a philosophy of letting the elephants be

in as natural of an environment as possible and much of the activities are centered around observation.

Once you arrive you will meet with the staff and settle into your rooms. The staff will show you around the facility, you'll have a brief orientation, and then have a Laotian style picnic lunch. In the afternoon you will watch the elephants bathe and then take a visit to the elephant hospital. The hospital staff work hard to keep the elephants healthy and will explain to you some of the common injuries and treatments they employ. The elephants will go back to the forest after their afternoon bath. Before dinner you will have a chance to relax, journal, swim in the lake, take out a canoe, or go to the elephant museum.

### **DAY 03– ELEPHANTS, ELEPHANTS, AND MORE ELEPHANTS!**

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Today you will pick up the elephants in the forest and take a walk in their natural environment. You will stroll with them to the lake where they will take a bath. Afterwards you will observe the elephants in their socialization area where staff will explain the dynamics of the herd. We will have lunch at the center and then meet with the medical team who will explain to you the merits of target training and how to use positive reinforcement to keep the elephants safe, happy, and healthy. From a distance you will see them work.

Again this afternoon you will have time to relax and enjoy the facilities at the center.

### **DAY 04 – UP THE MOUNTAIN!**

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You will have one final activity at the center where you will prepare the enrichment area. By hiding toys and treats you will help keep your elephant friends mentally sharp and entertained. Once you say goodbye we will get back on the boat and head to the vans where we will travel further into Northern Laos.

Xayaboury province is known for its rugged landscape and dramatic mountains. You will head to the top of a mountain where you will enjoy a 360° of the landscape. This will be your home for the next few days. Our cooks will prepare dinner as you get acquainted with the area. This evening we will have a discussion to help get us prepared for the service learning project.

### **DAY 05 & 06 –SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT**

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In the morning you will eat breakfast with your peers, make a plan for the service project and get to work. Our volunteers work on the project that has been identified as the highest priority by leadership in the village. You will have discussions and activities with your leaders at night, and will find yourself enjoying the peace and quiet in the village.

## DAY 07 – WHITE WATER RAFTING AND BACK TO LUANG PRABANG.

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This morning we will pack up and head down the mountain. On the way home we will break up the drive with a white water rafting adventure

## DAY 08 – UXO-TAEC, OCK POP TOK LUNCH KAYAKING.

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Exploring Luang Prabang! UXO Center, Traditional Arts and Ethnology Center (TAEC), head to the river for some kayaking!

## DAY 09 – KUANG SRI WATERFALL AND LAOS DAIRY BUFFALO FARM

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No visit to Luang Prabang is complete without a visit to Kuang Sri Waterfall. If the group is feeling ambitious we can go the “secret” way and hike to the waterfall, on our way back to Luang Prabang we will stop at the Laos Dairy Buffalo Farm.

## DAY 10 – LA KHON & HEAD HOME

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We genuinely hope your time spent here, the experiences you’ve shared, and the things you’ve reflected on will stay with you for a lifetime. After some final group photos with Team Laos, your Program Leaders will take you to the airport for your departure as you say goodbye and reflect on your adventure.



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