



*Cambodia & Vietnam*

# HALONG BAY, RED RIVER & LAOS MEKONG

VIET TRI TO VIENTIANE - 21 NIGHTS

UPSTREAM

For the first-time travelers will be able to explore the key sites of Northern Vietnam by river ship traversing the Red River delta and its main tributaries, connecting the wonders of Halong Bay with the excitements of down town Hanoi, and then on into the interior, well off the beaten track. This is a combination of scenic beauty, lively and interesting (sometimes industrial) life of the river and exploring rivers where no other tourist craft operate.

Combined this with a three-country expedition as we will traverse Laos to touch Thailand and Burma at the once notorious Golden Triangle. From Vientiane, the old French capital, and so redolent of L'Indochine, beyond Luang Prabang, Pandaw is the first river expedition since prewar days to cross all Laos.

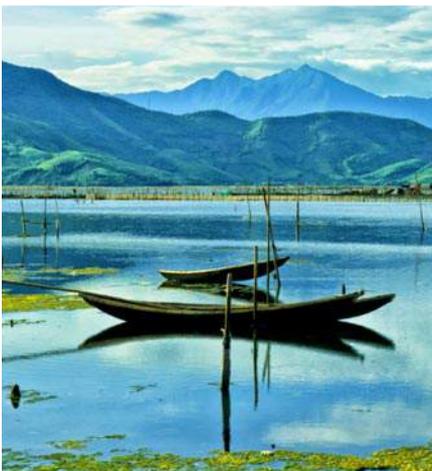
This trip included flight between Hanoi and Vientiane or v.v. with a one-night hotel stay.



[VIEW ONLINE](#)

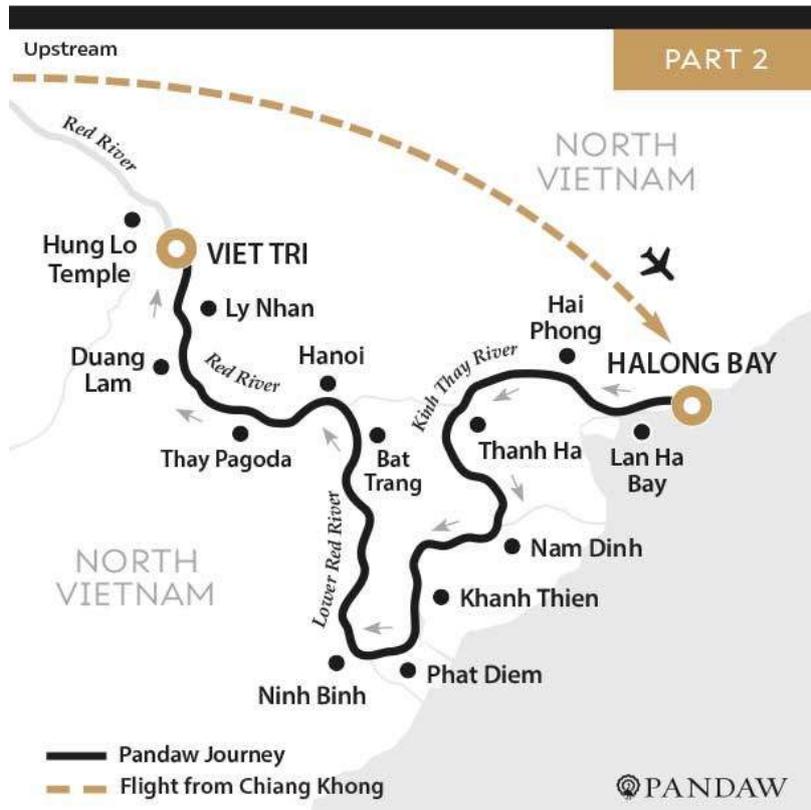
# CONTENTS

---



|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Route Map .....                | p.03 |
| Itinerary Upstream .....       | p.04 |
| Pandaw Stateroom .....         | p.10 |
| Ships - RV Angkor Pandaw ..... | p.11 |
| Ships - RV Champa Pandaw ..... | p.12 |
| Pre & Post Tours .....         | p.13 |
| Other information .....        | p.23 |

# ROUTE MAP



UPSTREAM

# ITINERARY UPSTREAM

---



## DAY 1 VIENTIANE

Pick up from your hotel in Vientiane at 08.00am, followed by a local long-tail boat expedition to your Pandaw vessel upstream. Lunch and drinks will be provided on the local boat by your Pandaw chef and bar staff. Embark your Pandaw in the afternoon for a welcome briefing and welcome drinks. We moor overnight at Pak Lay.

[More about Vientiane](#)



## DAY 2 CRUISING THE MEKONG

Cruise upstream on the Mekong, passing lush jungle scenery and tiny riverside villages. Morning presentation on the Lao language after a short walk at Pha Laeb village. If time permits, we will also enjoy an afternoon walk at Ban Khok Fark.



## DAY 3 XAYABOURI DAM

Morning walk at Ban Pak Bor Khummu village before passing through Xayabouri Hydroelectric Dam, taking an inside look of the workings of this somewhat controversial attraction as we navigate the locks. Afternoon visit to Ban Na San village, a Hmong minority village.



## DAY 4 KUANG SI WATERFALLS

In the morning we moor at the village of Ban Mouang Khai and visit the dramatic Kaung Si waterfall. On the way back to the ship, we stop at the Laos Buffalo Farm, a social enterprise utilizing the abundant buffalo in Laos. Arrive in the heart of the temple city of Luang Prabang mid-afternoon where there is a buzzing night market and many great cafes and local restaurants. Traditional Laos Bacci ceremony and dancing on the upper deck during happy hour. Moor overnight in central Luang Prabang.

[More about Kuang Si Waterfall](#)



## DAY 5 LUANG PRABANG CRAFTS & CULTURE

Today we explore the various handicrafts of Laos in more detail. We start with Ock Pop Tok, a social enterprise providing sustainable employment and training for the women of local weaving villages. We then head to TAEC (Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre) to understand more about Laos musical instruments. After lunch aboard the ship, we sail toward Ban Chan and take part in a pottery demonstration at the local pottery workshop. We finish the day with a sunset cruise on the Mekong alongside Luang Prabang, returning to moor overnight in the centre of town.

CONT'D

# ITINERARY UPSTREAM

---



## DAY 6 LUANG PRABANG

Early morning walking tour to observe the alms offerings to the hundreds of monks who walk around the city every morning. We continue after breakfast to the morning market before taking tuktuks for a city tour of this well preserved and unique world heritage site with its many Buddhist temples, libraries and royal palace. The afternoon is free to explore the beauty and unique atmosphere of Luang Prabang.

[More about Luang Prabang](#)



## DAY 7 PAK OU CAVES

Morning at leisure in Luang Prabang before setting sail at midday upstream. Afternoon sightseeing by local boat exploring the unique Pak Ou Caves, a Buddhist sanctuary with spectacular limestone cliff faces. See the production of local Laos whisky at the Whisky village and shop for locally produced handicrafts.

[More about Pak Ou Caves & Nam Ou River](#)



## DAY 8 BAN TON AND SANDBANK BBQ

Day of sailing upstream along the Mekong with morning walk through Ban Ton village. In the evening, we moor alongside a sandbank for a special riverside barbecue and cocktail party. Light paper lanterns with the crew and enjoy a dance in remote Laos.

## DAY 9 PAK BENG ELEPHANT SANCTUARY

Laos is known as 'The land of a million elephants' and today we will visit a rescue sanctuary that is helping to preserve the elephants of Laos and provide sustainable alternative employment for Mahouts who once trained and rode these beautiful creatures. Afternoon walk at Ban Pak Sith Khummu village.

[More about Pak Beng](#)



## DAY 10 PAK SITH - CHIANG KHONG

Today we sail the final leg of our journey upstream toward Huayxay. Cross over into Thailand via the Thai-Laos Friendship Bridge before rejoining your ship in Chiang Khong. Enjoy a ship tour of your Pandaw vessel and fruit carving demonstration from your Pandaw Chef. Farewell cocktails and Thai traditional dance on board for your last evening.



CONT'D

# ITINERARY UPSTREAM

---



## DAY 11 CHIANG KHONG

Disembark by 8.30 in Chiang Khong and group transfer to hotel/airport. En route, explore the Golden Triangle including a visit to the opium museum. Continue to airports or city hotels in Chiang Rai (2 hours) and Chiang Mai (6 hours).



## DAY 12 HALONG BAY

Transfer from Hanoi to Halong Bay to embark your Pandaw ship followed by lunch on board. Cast off in the afternoon with a welcome cocktail for an evening sail, dropping anchor in a sheltered bay amidst the beautiful island scenery.

[More about Halong Bay](#)

## DAY 13 HALONG BAY

Morning sail around Halong Bay and beyond with its 1,500 dramatic limestone islands and extraordinary rock formations, dating back 20 million years.

We make a stop at Viet Hai Village and continue our journey by mountain bike or electric buggy to visit the village's vegetable farm and typical village houses. It is a breathtaking trip along a small road winding its way through the limestone rocks.

In the afternoon we will continue cruising towards Lan Ha Bay for a visit to a floating fishing house.

Weather dependent, we will end the day with cocktails at a beautiful beach in Halong Bay.



## DAY 14 HALONG BAY

Morning walk at Ban Luang Tong Lao Lowland village. Laos is known as 'The land of a million elephants' and after Lunch we will visit a rescue sanctuary that is helping to preserve the elephants of Laos and provide sustainable alternative employment for Mahouts who once trained and rode these beautiful creatures. In the evening we moor at a sandbank for a special riverside barbecue and cocktail party. Light paper lanterns with the crew and enjoy a dance in remote Laos.

## DAY 15 THE KINH THAY RIVER

Observe the lively and interesting life of the Kinh Thay river, a key commercial waterway. In the afternoon we visit Thanh Ha Commune,



CONT'D

# ITINERARY UPSTREAM

---



considered the origin of water puppetry in Vietnam. After a stroll or bicycle through the quaint village, we enjoy a private water puppet show set under shade by a beautiful pond of lotus and lilies, as it has been enjoyed for centuries.

We continue cruising until late evening and drop anchor midstream.

## DAY 16 DAY RIVER

We sail along the Lower Red River and Day River this morning whilst getting more acquainted with your expedition vessel as you enjoy a ship tour. After lunch onboard we head ashore to Co Chat village, Nam Dinh. Here we visit local craftspeople making silk by hand and the local markets filled with exotic produce.



## DAY 17 KHANH THIEN VILLAGE

We continue our exploration of the Red River Delta today, sailing toward Ninh Binh before mooring at Khanh Thien Village. We disembark in the morning for a journey to Phat Diem, home to Phat Diem Cathedral, a 19th-century Roman Catholic church built in an eclectic blend of Vietnamese and European architectural styles. After lunch we explore Khanh Thien Village by local transportation or bicycle and discover a host of handicrafts including water hyacinth weaving and a variety of rice paper and cakes. We end the evening with a performance by the locals of 'Chau Van' singing, an ancient art form local to this area.



## DAY 18 NINH BINH

Discover 'Halong on Land' today as we visit Ninh Binh and take small bamboo rowing boats through the magnificent limestone caves. Visitors in September and October or April and May will witness the valleys shine golden as the rice fields prepare for harvest. We then return to our ship and sail upstream on the Red River towards Hanoi.



## DAY 19 HANOI

Dropping anchor in the bustling city of Hanoi, passengers will visit some highlights of this Asian metropolis including must-sees like the notorious Vietnam war prison known as the Hanoi Hilton and the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first University that is dedicated to the Chinese Philosopher Confucius. We also stop outside The Ho Chi Minh

CONT'D

# ITINERARY UPSTREAM

---



Mausoleum along the way to discuss the work required to preserve the body of 'Uncle Ho.' In the afternoon we take a walking tour of Hanoi old quarter, a bustling maze of food and shopping that is an assault on the senses. We visit a coffee shop to learn about Vietnam's famous coffee making industry and try an authentic egg coffee.

## DAY 20 **BAT TRANG CERAMIC VILLAGE**

This morning we visit Bat Trang ceramic village, a hub of ceramic production for generations. The ceramics made here are famous throughout Vietnam and adorn many homes both north and south. Before returning to the ship, a local dance troupe will treat us to a lion dance on the pier. This colourful and energetic dance is customary during festivals throughout Vietnam, most notably during Tet. We then set sail into the lesser visited upper Red River beyond Hanoi. We make a stop at a small village dedicated to the handmade production of Vietnam's most famous headwear, the Non La conical hat before continuing to Thay Pagoda. Hardly known, yet with exquisite temples dating from the 11th century, we visit this beautiful temple beside a lake and explore the village that surrounds the pagoda.



## DAY 21 **THE UPPER RED RIVER**

In the morning we go ashore to visit the UNESCO praised village of Duang Lam. This ancient village is a well preserved example of a traditional Vietnamese village from centuries ago with intricate architecture and fascinating culture. In the afternoon we visit the smith village of Ly Nhan to witness first-hand the traditional production methods still being used to this day. We then sail upstream for your farewell dinner onboard.



## DAY 22 **VIET TRI**

Disembark after breakfast and enjoy a morning excursion en route to Hanoi. We start with a visit to Hung Lo temple where we will be serenaded with traditional folk music as well as enjoy an exploration this quaint traditional town. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant followed by a transfer to Hanoi Noi Bai International Airport or Hanoi City.

[More about Viet Tri](#)

# WHATS INCLUDED & TRANSFERS UPSTREAM

---

**Cruise Price Includes:** One overnight hotel in Hanoi, one flight between ships, entrance fees, guide services (English language), gratuities to crew, main meals, local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes. Transfers between ports of embarkation and Hanoi International Airport at the start and end of the voyage.

**Cruise Price Excludes:** International flights, port dues (if levied), laundry, all visa costs, fuel surcharges (see terms and conditions), all beverages except local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes and tips to tour guides, local guides, bus drivers, boat operators and cyclo drivers.

## Transfers & Joining

### DAY 1 VIENTIANE

Transfers included from your hotel in Vientiane to the ship in Pak Lay via Pandaw's local long-tail boat. Pick up will be at 08:00am so we advise to stay in VTE at least 1 night pre cruise. Please ensure your hotel information is provided to Pandaw so that pick-ups can be arranged.

### DAY 22 VIET TRI

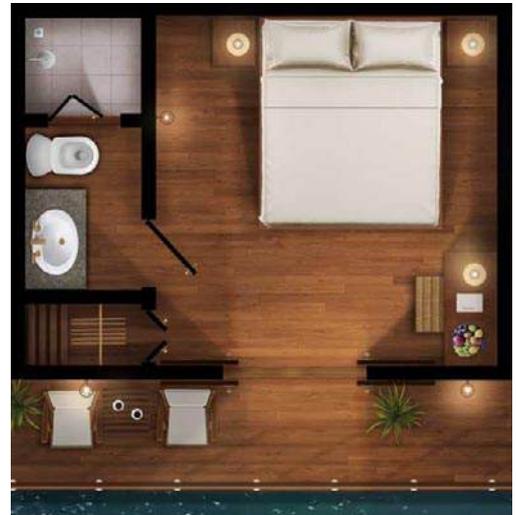
After lunch at local restaurant departure for Hanoi Noi Bai International Airport and Hanoi hotels. Estimated arrival at Hanoi Airport between 14:30 to 14.45, hotels in Hanoi arriving between 15:30 to 16.00. Your flight out of Hanoi airport must be after 16.00pm (domestic) or 17.00pm (international).

Our last drop off is at the Pan Pacific Hanoi Hotel for passengers staying in Hanoi.

# PANDAW STATEROOMS

The Pandaw stateroom is the most celebrated feature of our ships, combining splendid colonial-era character with exquisite contemporary comfort.

Finished in brass and teak, the main and upper deck rooms are a spacious 168 square feet (15.6 sqm), with the exception of the Zawgyi Pandaw which is 150 square feet (14 sqm). As the space is much loved by all our passengers, we have ensured that with each ship we build, the stateroom remains essentially the same. Be advised: our cabins do not have mini-bars, satellite TV's, internet access or telephones. Passengers tend to choose Pandaw in order to escape from the tiresome features found in international business hotels.



DOUBLE CONFIGURATION



TWIN CONFIGURATION



- Fruit and flowers on arrival
- Kimonos and slippers
- Spa-branded amenities
- Unlimited mineral water

|            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| Bedroom    | 12' x 10'     |
| Bathroom   | 6' x 4'       |
| Showeroom  | 2' 8" x 3' 4" |
| Single Bed | 6' 7" x 3' 3" |



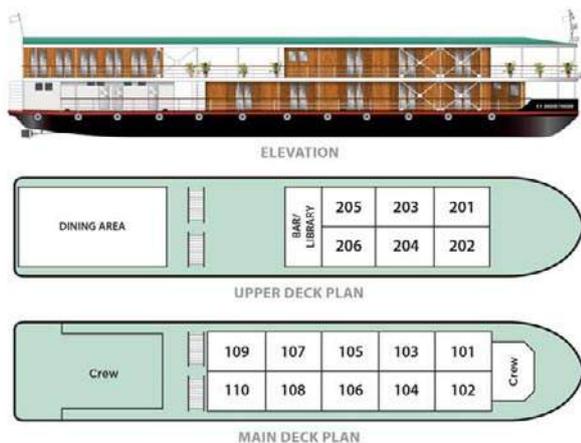
# PANDAW SHIPS

## RV Angkor Pandaw

Sister to the Katha and from the same yard delivered in 2013, the only difference with the Katha is an enclosed air conditioned dining room insisted on by an American charterer. Originally on the Mekong in 2015 we transferred her to the Red River in North Vietnam. In fact the enclosed dining room has proved useful as it can be cold up there in winter.

The ship has quality mountain bikes for your independent exploration.

### Images of RV Angkor Pandaw



- **Build:** 2012 in Saigon
- **Length:** 138.61ft / 42.25m
- **Beam:** 8.50ft / 8.70m
- **Draft:** 3ft / 90cm
- **Berths:** 32 pax

### ACCOMMODATION

- 10 main deck staterooms and 6 upper deck staterooms
- Air-conditioned panorama dining room
- Spacious, open-air lounge
- Observation deck
- Lounge bar
- 24hrs hospitality bar
- Fair-trade Shop
- Guest relation desk
- Library with contemporary and classic literature
- Hair Dryers in all cabins

### WINING & DINING

- Local master chef heading an experienced international culinary team
- Semi-buffet breakfast, Semi-buffet lunch, and seated theme dinners
- Daily lean & light menu options
- Complimentary local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes
- Extensive wine list with premium wines
- Series of cultural performances, educational talks, cooking classes, and ship tour
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Welcome cocktail
- Farewell reception
- Theme dinners
- Lounge bar
- 24hrs hospitality bar
- Onboard bakery with daily freshly baked breads and rolls

### ON EXCURSIONS

- Admissions
- Shoe cleaning after excursions
- Bottled drinking water
- We give away aluminium water bottles
- Cold towel service after excursions
- Refreshing drink following excursions
- Full-size motor coach on all excursions
- 1st aid trained assistant guide to follow all tours and excursions

### SAFETY & SECURITY

- All onboard crew is trained and certified as per international marine standards
- Fire alarm system in all cabins, public areas and back areas
- Firefighting system in all ship areas
- Expert marine superintendent
- 24 hrs watch on duty
- Certified hygiene standards for all areas (Johnson & Diversey)

### ONBOARD STAFF

- Captain
- River Pilot
- First Officer
- Chief Engineer
- 1st Engineer
- Electrician
- Bosun & nautical crew
- Ship manager
- Housekeeping
- Dining
- Bar keeper
- Chefs
- Spa therapist
- Local tour guides

### PUBLIC SPACES

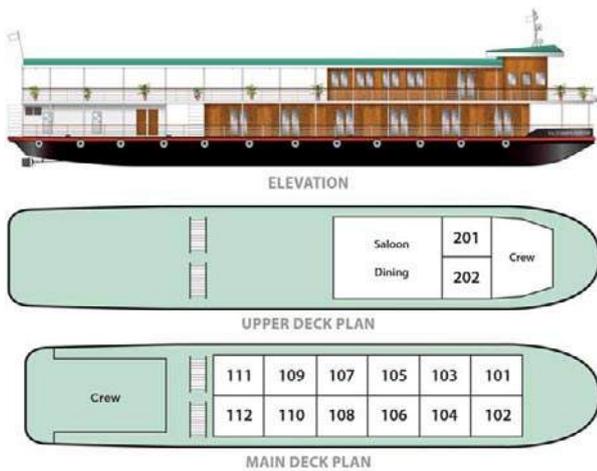
- Guest relation desk
- Shop, supporting fair trade
- Library with contemporary and classic literature
- Wireless internet in all public areas

# PANDAW SHIPS

## RV Champa Pandaw

The Champa Pandaw, sister ship of the Laos Pandaw, began cruises on the Upper Mekong from September 2016. The ship has quality mountain bikes for your independent exploration.

[Images of RV Champa Pandaw](#)



- **Built:** 2016 in Thailand
- **Length:** 44.50 m
- **Beam:** 8.90 m
- **Draft:** 1.20 m
- **Berths:** 28 pax

### ACCOMMODATION

- 12 main deck staterooms
- Staterooms are 14 square meters (150 sqf), finished in teak and brass
- Panoramic sliding door
- Kimonos and slippers
- Spa-branded amenities
- Unlimited mineral water
- Electric mini safe
- Imported quality linens with duvet and two kind of pillows
- Premium mattresses
- Convertible bed configuration
- Welcome flower arrangement and welcome gift
- Mirror
- Multi-configuration plugs
- Generous closet space and under-bed storage
- Hair dryer
- Nightly turndown service
- 24hr laundry service
- Complimentary evening canapés

### WINING & DINING

- Local master chef heading an experienced international culinary team
- Personalized meal services
- Daily lean & light menu options
- Complimentary local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes
- Extensive wine list with premium wines
- Series of cultural performances, educational talks, cooking classes, and ship tour
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Welcome cocktail
- Farewell reception
- Theme dinners
- Open air lounge and bar
- Bistro style al fresco dining
- 24hrs hospitality bar
- Onboard bakery with daily freshly baked breads and rolls

### ON EXCURSIONS

- Admissions
- Shoe cleaning after excursions
- Bottled drinking water
- Cold towel service after excursions
- Refreshing drink following excursions

### SAFETY & SECURITY

- All onboard crew is trained and certified as per international marine standards
- Fire alarm system in all cabins, public areas and back areas
- Firefighting system in all ship areas
- Expert marine superintendent
- 24 hrs watch on duty

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Pre Tour

### THE PLAIN OF JARS

#### UPSTREAM

The Plain of Jars offers fascinating insights into Phuan, Hmong, Khmu and Tai Dam culture. Very little is known about the civilization that created The Plain of Jars, but you can only imagine the greatness of the ruler who constructed these unusual and enormous storage jars.

This is a Pandaw group tour depending on how many guests booked this extension.



#### DAY 1: VIENTIANE

Welcome to Laos! Today you will be picked up and transfer to the airport for flight to Xiengkhuang. Upon arrival, our guide and driver will transfer you to the hotel. Scheduled flight departing from Vientiane at 13:50.

**Meals:** none

#### DAY 2: PLAIN OF JARS

A full day to explore the famous Plain Of Jars, a vast area extending around Phonsavanh where over 300 huge stone jars carved out of solid rock from 1 to 3.25 meters high and weighing up to six tons each. And estimated to be 2,500 to 3,000 years old. According to local legend, King Khun Chuang had them constructed in order to store wine for the celebration of his conquest of the province in the 6th century. We visit Site I, II and III. Continue to Ban Na Pia (War Spoon Village) before returning to Phonsavanh.

**Meals:** Breakfast at hotel, lunch at local restaurant.

#### DAY 3: PHONSAVANH - VIENTIANE

Morning visit to scenic Muang Khoun, surrounded by mountains, the ancient capital that was founded by Chao Noi Muang and was a stronghold for the Xieng Khouang royal family was destroyed during the Indochina War. The town was rebuilt after 1975 with rows of wooden Lao houses and a market area. We also visit the ruins at Wat Phia Wat, That Foun and That Chomphet. Transfer to Phonsavanh airport for flight to Vientiane followed by transfer to your hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Lunch.

#### DAY 4: EMBARKATION

Pick up from your hotel at 08:00am and transfer to your Pandaw expedition.

CONT'D

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Vansana Plain of Jars Hotel

Conveniently located just 30 minutes from the Plain of Jars and 15 minutes from the Airport, the Vansana Plain of Jar Hotel is a simple hotel and the best option in Phonsavan City – Capital of Xiengkhouang Province. The hotel with 44 guestrooms (38 standards rooms and 6 executive suites) is located on a hilltop near the center of the city with 360 degree beautiful views on Phonsavan and the chain of mountains surrounding the Plain of Jars.

### Facilities

Rooms come with fan (no AC), bathroom, tea and Coffee making facilities, minibar and safe deposit box, snack bar and restaurant, cable TV, meeting room for 40 persons, shuttle service from the hotel to the airport and the center of the city and laundry service.

Phonsavanh, Xieng Khouang, Laos

Tel: +856 61 213170

[Visit hotel website](#)



## Salana Boutique Hotel

The Salana Boutique hotel has a Lao contemporary style, finished in real timber wood promoting a sense of comfort and class. Guests can take pleasure in experiencing the outstanding level of service and the attention to detail ensuring your stay is comfortable and carefree.

Chao Anou Rd, 112 Wat Chan Village Chanthabouly District, Vientiane Capital, Lao

Tel: +856 21 254 254

[Visit hotel website](#)



### Rates include

English speaking guide, 2-nights at a hotel in the Plain of Jars and 1 night at a hotel in Vientiane on a bed and breakfast basis, 1x lunch at local restaurant, return domestic flights from Vientiane to Phonsavanh, taxes, all transfers and excursions as described and entrance fees.

Extension Code: LTBJ3-VTE-JAR-PRE-O

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Pre Tour

### EXPLORING VIENTIANE 2 NIGHT PRE TOUR (LA SEINE HOTEL)



#### UPSTREAM

Vientiane, the capital city of Laos has been given many evocative nicknames, such as the City of Sandalwood and the City of the Moon, at certain points in its history. Explore this French colonial city with a 2 night extension to your Pandaw expedition.

This tour may be operated on a private basis or as a group tour with your fellow passengers depending on bookings.

#### DAY 1: VIENTIANE ARRIVAL

Upon arrival the airport, our driver will wait you at the airport and transfer to your hotel.

**Meals:** None

#### DAY 2: VIENTIANE FULL DAY CITY TOUR

Depart with your local guide for a full day city tour exploring Laos' French colonial capital. Visit Talaat Sao - Vientiane's Morning Market, Wat Sisaket, Haw Phra Kaew and Putousay, the victory gate inspired by the Arc of Triumph in Paris. After lunch at a local restaurant, head out of town to visit one of Laos' slightly stranger attractions - Xieng Khuan Buddha Park.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Lunch

#### DAY 2: EMBARKATION

Check out of your hotel and be picked up at 08:00am for the transfer to your Pandaw ship.

#### La Seine Hotel

La Seine Hotel by Burasari offers boutique accommodation in the Laos capital that reflect Vientiane's rich French colonial history and enduring, romantic charm. Located directly on the Mekong River it is ideally placed for visits to the nearby night market.

160 Quai Fa Ngum, Ban Sithan Neua, Sikhottabong District n13, Vientiane

Tel: +856 (0)21 253800

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

#### Rates include

English speaking guide, 2-nights at La Seine Hotel Vientiane on a bed and breakfast basis, 1x lunch at local restaurant, taxes, all transfers and excursions as described and entrance fees.

#### Rates exclude

International flights, visa, travel insurance, not mentioned beverages and meal.

**Extension Code:** LTM-VIN-SEINE-PRE

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Pre Tour

### EXPLORING VIENTIANE 2 NIGHT PRE TOUR (SETTHA PALACE)



#### UPSTREAM

Vientiane, the capital city of Laos has been given many evocative nicknames, such as the City of Sandalwood and the City of the Moon, at certain points in its history. Explore this French colonial city with a 2 night extension to your Pandaw expedition.

This tour may be operated on a private basis or as a group tour with your fellow passengers depending on bookings.

#### DAY 1: VIENTIANE ARRIVAL

Upon arrival the airport, our driver will wait you at the airport and transfer to your hotel.

**Meals:** None

#### DAY 2: VIENTIANE FULL DAY CITY TOUR

Depart with your local guide for a full day city tour exploring Laos' French colonial capital. Visit Talaat Sao - Vientiane's Morning Market, Wat Sisaket, Haw Phra Kaew and Putousay, the victory gate inspired by the Arc of Triumph in Paris. After lunch at a local restaurant, head out of town to visit one of Laos' slightly stranger attractions - Xieng Khuan Buddha Park.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Lunch

#### DAY 2: EMBARKATION

Check out of your hotel and be picked up at 08:00am for the transfer to your Pandaw ship.

#### Settha Palace Hotel

Located in central Vientiane, Settha Palace Hotel is a luxury escape steeped in history. Built in the 1930's it was painstakingly renovated in the 1990's to become the idyllic escape it is today by the Theodas family who still own and run the hotel to this day.

6 Pangkham Street, Vientiane

Tel: +856 (21) 217 581

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

#### Rates include

English speaking guide, 2-nights at Settha Palace Hotel Vientiane on a bed and breakfast basis, 1x lunch at local restaurant, taxes, all transfers and excursions as described and entrance fees.

#### Rates exclude

International flights, visa, travel insurance, not mentioned beverages and meal.

**Extension Code:** LTM-VIN-SETTHA-PRE

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Post Tour

### HANOI

(SOFITEL LEGEND  
METROPOLE)

#### UPSTREAM

Hanoi is a magical and charming city. You will find that the character, history and romance of the Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi may add a little extra special something to your journey here. Savour the French art de vivre blended with elegant Vietnamese touches and enjoy this wonderful place.



#### DAY 1 HANOI

Transfer from the disembarkation point to Hanoi by Pandaw. Overnight at your hotel in Hanoi.

#### DAY 2 HANOI

Room available until check out time at 12:00 noon. Transfer to Airport for your flight.

#### Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi

Located in the heart of the old city, the Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi is an iconic award-winning luxury Hanoi old quarter hotel. Blending a heritage colonial style with neo-classical luxury and a dash of modernity, you'll find an elegance during your stay you're unlikely to experience anywhere else. Located only 35km away from Hanoi Noibai airport, and mere steps from the Opera House in Hanoi's culturally rich French Quarter, one of Hanoi's prime locations for leisure and business trips.

15 Ngo Quyen Street, Hoan Kiem District, 15 Ngo Quyen, Hoan Kiem 100000, Hanoi  
Tel: +84 24 3826 6919

[Visit hotel website](#)



#### Rates include

All transfers as above by coach or car with local guide, 1 night accommodation.

Extension Code: LTM-PANDAW-07

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Post Tour

### HANOI

(SILK PATH BOUTIQUE)

#### UPSTREAM

Welcome to this charming boutique hotel situated a stone's throw from Hoan Kiem Lake, the historical center of Hanoi. Silk Path Boutique Hanoi is an oasis of distinguished design and serenity in the bustling heart of the city, putting you on the doorstep of the capital's most inspiring sights, top shopping areas and the street food delights that have put Hanoi on every foodie's bucket list.



#### DAY 1 HANOI

Transfer from the disembarkation point to Hanoi by Pandaw. Overnight at your hotel in Hanoi.

#### DAY 2 HANOI

Room available until check out time at 12:00 noon. Transfer to Airport for your flight.

#### Silk Path Boutique Hanoi

Welcome to our charming boutique hotel situated a stone's throw from Hoan Kiem Lake, the historical center of Hanoi. Silk Path Boutique Hanoi is an oasis of distinguished design and serenity in the bustling heart of the city, putting you on the doorstep of the capital's most inspiring sights, top shopping areas and the street food delights that have put Hanoi on every foodie's bucket list.

21 Hang Khay, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi

Tel: +84 24 3938 5555

[Visit hotel website](#)



#### Rates include

All transfers as above by coach or car with local guide, 1 night accommodation.

Extension Code: LTM-PANDAW-08

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Pre Tour

### SAPA & HANOI

#### UPSTREAM

Explore Sapa with Pandaw in combination with your Red River expedition. Famous for its terraced rice paddies & highlands, Sapa is home to more than 30 colorful hill tribes and close to Vietnam's highest peak, Mount Fansipan. During colonial times Sapa - surrounded by what is referred to as the "Vietnamese Alps" - was a hill station where the French escaped the Hanoi heat, and this heritage is reflected in our elegant, regal interior design and architecture.



#### DAY 1 TRANSFER TO SAPA

After lunch, transfer from ship to Sapa. Arrive at the Silk Path Grand Sapa and check in to the mountaintop retreat before enjoying dinner in the hotel.

Overnight Silk Path Grand Sapa

Meals: Breakfast on ship, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 2 SAPA

After breakfast, we visit Mount Fansipan, the Roof of Indochina, 3143m above the sea level. Starting your trip by train from central Sapa we continue by cable car for our journey upwards. Enjoy the fresh air and the beautiful landscapes from the peak as well as the various temples located high in the mountain. In the afternoon, your guide will offer a choice of excursions including the local market, national forest trek or simply relaxing and enjoying the facilities at the hotel.

Overnight: Silk Path Grand Sapa

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

#### DAY 3 SAPA

Today we explore the various hilltribe peoples that reside in this mountainous region with trekking through the breathtaking terraced mountainsides and local village visits. We check out of the hotel early before visiting the H'mong people and Red Dao people with exact stops are dependent on weather conditions and physical ability and can be tailored with your local guide. A picnic lunch amidst the dramatic scenery of Sapa is provided. After the day's excursions, we transfer to Lao Cai train station and relax in the exclusive Chapa lounge for dinner and showers before we board our luxury overnight train to Hanoi.

Overnight aboard Chapa Luxury Train

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 4 HANOI

Early morning arrival into Hanoi followed by transfer to your hotel for check-in. Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and free time in the morning before we explore Hanoi further. We visit the Royal Palace, the Ethnic Minority Museum as well as the house of Uncle Chuong to learn more about ancient Hanoi.

#### DAY 5 HANOI

Breakfast at your hotel, transfer to the airport.

Meals: Breakfast

#### CONT'D

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Silk Path Boutique Hanoi

Welcome to our charming boutique hotel situated a stone's throw from Hoan Kiem Lake, the historical center of Hanoi. Silk Path Boutique Hanoi is an oasis of distinguished design and serenity in the bustling heart of the city, putting you on the doorstep of the capital's most inspiring sights, top shopping areas and the street food delights that have put Hanoi on every foodie's bucket list.

21 Hang Khay, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi

Tel: +84 24 3938 5555

[Visit hotel website](#)



---

## Silk Path Grand Sapa

Welcome to our mountain resort, perched on a private spot atop one of Sapa's highest hills. Here time stands still, giving you ample opportunities to stroll through the flower gardens and absorb captivating views of the surrounding mountain range. During colonial times Sapa – surrounded by what is referred to as the "Vietnamese Alps" - was a hill station where the French escaped the Hanoi heat, and this heritage is reflected in our elegant, regal interior design and architecture.

Doi Quan 6, Group 5, Sapa, Lao Cai, Vietnam

Tel: +84 214 3788 555

[Visit hotel website](#)



---

## Rates include

Transfers and tours as per itinerary, accommodation at the Silk Path Boutique Hanoi and the Silk Path Grand Sapa, with daily breakfast and three lunches and one dinner during the tour.

Extension Code: LTM-PANDAW-11

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Post Tour

## HUE & HOI AN

4 NIGHTS

UPSTREAM



Hue and Hoi An are two of Vietnam's scenic and historic highlights and a 'must see;' on most people's visit to this most wonderful country. Our included trip on the Perfume River and visit to the enormous Hue Citadel are fascinating. Hoi An is best explored independently and retains a charming village feel which comes alive after sunset with the glow of red lanterns and the senses of Asia. And, of course, enjoy time to relax at your beach resort.

We are pleased to offer a pre and post extension staying in delightful and specially selected boutique hotels, including a connecting domestic flight, all transfers, excursions in Hue, a scenic journey from Hue to Hoi An and 2-nights in Hoi An. It is possible to extend your stay in Hoi An if required.

This is a Pandaw group tour.

### DAY 1: HANOI - HUE

Disembark and fly from Hanoi to Hue. On arrival at Hue airport, meet your local guide and transfer to on a bed and breakfast basis. The rest of the day is free to enjoy the hotel and relax. **Meals:** None.

### DAY 2: HUE

This morning we take a boat trip on the serene Perfume River to the best-known pagoda in Middle Vietnam, Thien Mu. Then we visit to the impressive tomb of former Emperor Tu Duc and a beautiful garden once belonging to the royalty followed by a royal style lunch at a local restaurant (included). In the afternoon, visit Hue citadel including Noon Gate, Thai Hoa Palace, Royal Urns and the ruins of the Forbidden Purple City. **Meals:** Breakfast at hotel, Lunch at local restaurant.

### DAY 3: HUE - HOI AN

After breakfast we leave Hue for Hoi An. En route we'll travel through the Ocean Clouds Pass, visit Non Nuoc Beach and the fascinating Cham Museum. We continue to your hotel in Hoi An. In the afternoon, you will have time to explore this charming and wonderfully preserved merchant town that retains Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese and European influences from its flourishing old days. **Meals:** Breakfast at hotel.

### DAY 4: HOI AN

Day at leisure. Explore the beautiful old town of Hoi An or relax at the beach. **Meals:** Breakfast at hotel.

### DAY 5: HOI AN - DANANG

Transfer to Danang Airport for your onward flight. It is possible to extend your stay in Hoian – please email [information@pandaw.com](mailto:information@pandaw.com) for availability and prices. **Meals:** Breakfast at hotel.

CONT'D 

# PRE & POST EXTENSIONS

Pre & Post Bookable via Pandaw.com as add on

---

## Silk Path Grand Hue

Hue is unlike anywhere else in the country. Tree-lined streets branch from the winding Perfume River. Tombs and temples lay embedded in the countryside. Pagodas and palaces offer mysterious and enticing atmospheres. The Silk Path Grand Hue Hotel captures all of these elements, wrapped by a broad French boulevard and a snaking canal. The character of the neighborhood – colonial mansions, traditional garden houses and the city’s historic train station – inspired the hotel’s concept and design.

02 Le Loi Street, Hue, Vietnam

Tel: +84 234 397 5555

[Visit hotel website](#)



## Victoria Hoi An Beach Resort & Spa

Victoria Hoi An Beach Resort & Spa replicates a traditional fishing village with small streets, water ponds and village houses with clay tiled roofs. The resort offers comfortable rooms incorporating unique design features inspired by traditional Vietnamese, Japanese and French colonial elements. Combining the elegance of local handicraft with the comfort of an international hotel.

Cua Dai Beach, Hoi An Town, Quang Nam

Tel: 0235 3927 040

[Visit hotel website](#)



## Rates include

English speaking guide on tours, 1x lunch at local restaurant, economy one-way domestic air ticket Hanoi to Hue, hotels as advertised, transportation by AC vehicle, daily breakfast, and entrance fees.

## Rates exclude

International flights, visa, travel insurance, not mentioned beverages and meal.

Extension Code: LTM-PANDAW-16

# OPTIONAL PACKAGE ADDONS & OTHER INFORMATION

---

## Optional cruise add ons

**PRE-BOOKABLE HOUSE WINE PACKAGE** [Read more](#)

**FREE FLOW DRINKS** [Read more](#)

**FREE FLOW DRINKS & WINE PACKAGE** [Read more](#)

---

## River Conditions Warning!

The rivers you will sail on are subject to seasonal rises and falls of water level, in some places as much as 30 metres. Water levels can change dramatically overnight and a sudden rise can impede our progress upstream considerably and even prevent us from passing under certain bridges. A sudden fall can result in our being unable to get into certain places or go as far upstream as we would hope. Groundings on sandbars are not infrequent and are part of the excitement of any Pandaw expedition. Published itineraries are indicational only and subject to sudden change. In such events alternative itineraries will be provided and we do our best to ensure that if a stop is missed we make up for it with another stop. Passengers are thus forewarned and expected to be flexible and patient. River cruising in Asia can be a dramatic and adventurous experience - not like cruising the controlled waterways of Europe or America. Note also that we operate in areas with little or no developed infrastructure and subject to the strictures of local officialdom. Be prepared for this and it is all more the fun!

---

## Useful Links

**BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS** [Read more](#)

**GENERAL INFORMATION & LIFE ON BOARD** [Read more](#)

**VISA INFORMATION** [Read more](#)

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



facebook.com/pandawriverexpeditions



@pandaw\_river\_expeditions



@pandaw-river-expeditions



Pandaw Expeditions



**UK**

+44 (0)208396 7320

uk@pandaw.com

**GLOBAL**

+84 (0)28 4458 2618

information@pandaw.com

**NORTH AMERICA**

TOLL FREE 1-877-872-6329

usa@pandaw.com

**AUSTRALIA**

TOLL FREE 1800 207 625

aus@pandaw.com

**NEW ZEALAND**

TOLL FREE 0800 115 250

aus@pandaw.com

**GERMANY, SWITZERLAND  
& AUSTRIA**

+49 30 3464981 30

dach@pandaw.com

P A N D A W . C O M