

# CIA Bases and Archaeological Wonders Lao Tour

📍 Night Market, Sisavangvong Road, Luang Prabang, Luang Prabang District, Luang Prabang, 06000, Laos



Embark on an unforgettable journey through Laos with our **CIA Bases and Archaeological Wonders Lao Tour**. This fascinating experience uncovers the country's rich history and ancient cultural heritage. By blending modern intrigue with timeless wonders, this tour offers a deeper understanding of Laos' complex past.

## Explore the Secrets of CIA Bases in Laos

Start your adventure by delving into the history of **CIA operations in Laos** during the **Secret War** (1964–1973). Laos played a crucial role during this period, with the CIA conducting covert missions to counter communism. Visit remote areas where these bases once stood, including remnants of bunkers, airstrips, and hidden outposts. Furthermore, guided tours provide fascinating narratives about Laos' wartime role and its lasting impact on local communities. As a result, you'll gain unique insights into Laos' secretive history.

## Uncover the Ancient Mysteries of the Plain of Jars

Transitioning from modern history, explore the ancient archaeological wonders of Laos, starting with the Plain of Jars. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, this location in Xieng Khouang features hundreds of massive stone jars scattered across the landscape. These mysterious jars, estimated to be over 2,000 years old, have puzzled archaeologists for decades. Many believe they were used for burial practices or food storage, though their purpose remains a subject of debate. As you tour the site, the ancient enigma of the jars will captivate your imagination.

## Discover Wat Phou: A Khmer Temple of Historical Significance

Next, continue south to the Khmer ruins of Wat Phou near Champasak. This ancient temple complex, dating back to the 5th century, offers an excellent example of both Hindu and Buddhist architecture. Nestled at the foot of Mount Phou Khao, the temple provides stunning views of the Mekong River. The site's intricate carvings and architectural beauty reflect the lasting influence of the Khmer Empire in the region. Wat Phou holds immense historical and spiritual significance, adding another layer to your cultural journey.

## A Journey Through Laos' History and Culture

The CIA Bases and Archaeological Wonders Lao Tour is perfect for history enthusiasts, culture lovers, and curious travelers alike. Whether you are fascinated by the wartime history of Laos or intrigued by ancient archaeological sites, this tour provides a comprehensive view of the country's heritage. From CIA bases to the ancient mysteries of Laos, you will uncover hidden stories and experience a unique journey through time. Book your trip today with [Laos Travel Links](https://laotravellinks.com) and embark on a tour that combines Laos' wartime secrets and ancient archaeological marvels.

## Tour Facts

Group Size:

**4**

Duration:

**10**

Language:

**English, French, German, Italian, Spanish**

Tour Type:

**continuous**

## Tour Itinerary

### Day 1 : Arrival and explore Vientiane's treasure



Catch a morning flight to Vientiane and meet your guide upon arrival at the airport. Transfer to your hotel in the serene capital city situated on the Mekong River. In the afternoon, explore Buddha Park, a unique blend of Buddhist and Hindu sculptures by the Mekong River, and stop to admire That Luang Stupa and Victory Gate en route. In the evening, take a leisurely stroll along the Mekong River for sunset and visit the night market. Overnight at accommodation in Vientiane

Duration

**4 Hours**

### Day 2 : Scenic excursion to the former headquarters



After breakfast, we will go on a sightseeing tour of the city before heading off. We will visit some of the best sights, including the Wat Prakeo (Emerald Buddha's house) and the Wat Sisaket. Then, we will take a 5-6 hour drive to Xay Somboun, also known as the battle zone, where the Lao Communist Party forces headquarters confronted the American CIA base. Due to its location and military importance, it was also referred to as The Most Secret Place on Earth. Overnight at accommodation in Xaysomboun

Duration

**6 Hours**

### Day 3 : Delving into Xaysomboun's CIA Base





Enjoy breakfast at a local restaurant and then spend the morning exploring the area with a guide or on your own. Later, we will proceed to Chao Anou Vong caves. We will climb up to admire the view at Phra Nang Yue and before sunset, visit the viewpoint at Phou Houa Lon (bald mountain), which offers an excellent landscape view over the city. Overnight at accommodation in Xaysomboun.

Duration  
**4 Hours**

#### Day 4 : Tracing War History to the Plain of Jars

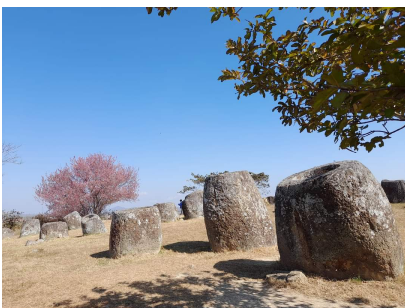


Following breakfast, we explore Long Chieng, an American CIA base during the Vietnam War that housed over 40,000 residents. It was a strategic site during the Lao Civil War and operated until 1975 when it was attacked by Lao Communist forces, leading to its evacuation. After lunch, we journey to Xieng Khouang, also known as "onsavan," the gateway to the Plain of Jars. We will visit Plain of Jar sites 3 and 2

before relishing the sunset from the hotel balcony. Overnight at accommodation in Xieng Khouang.

Duration  
**6 Hours**

#### Day 5 : Archaeological Excursion in Xieng Khouang



Start your day with a hotel breakfast before heading to the ancient capital city of Muang Khoun at 8AM. The city features a sitting giant Buddha and ancient pagodas, including the remnants of Wat Phia, a 30-meter stupa from the Lan Xang/Lanna period.

Afterwards, visit Plain of Jar Site 1 and the MAG Center, a humanitarian organization dedicated to clearing conflict remnants worldwide.

- *The Plain of Jars was heavily bombed during the war; it is imperative to respect all signage and to stay along the defined trails due to bombs, UXO and landmines.*

Overnight at accommodation in Xieng Khouang.

Duration  
**5 Hours**

## Day 6 : Serenity at Aza Hot Springs



Today is a leisure day as we depart for a relaxing visit to the Aza Hot Spring water, just 50km away. We will have the opportunity to unwind and enjoy the amenities at the Aza Resort

Overnight at accommodation in Aza Resort

Duration  
**2 Hours**

## Day 7 : Scenic Route to Luang Prabang



Start your day with breakfast at the hotel before departing at 7:30AM for a scenic 6-7 hour journey to Luang Prabang with your private guide and driver. Enjoy the beautiful scenery and local villages along the way. Upon arrival, check in to a centrally located hotel. In the evening, relax with a sunset cruise along the Mekong River and visit the lively Luang Prabang Night Market. Overnight at accommodation in Luang Prabang.

Duration  
**7 Hours**

## Day 8 : Cultural Immersion in Luang Prabang



Following breakfast, board a ferry to cross the Mekong River and visit a pottery village, then return to explore the charming textile village of Xangkong. Enjoy a pleasant lunch at a local restaurant before heading to the National Museum at the former Royal Palace. End the day by admiring the picturesque confluence where the Kan River joins the mighty Mekong. Return to the hotel for the night. Today meal inclusive : Lunch will be served at Tamarind. Overnight at accommodation in Luang Prabang.

Duration  
**5 Hours**

## Day 9 : Waterfall Wonders and Elephant Encounters



Following breakfast, you will travel to the Khouang Si Waterfall for a visit. There will be some free time to take a leisurely walk and swim.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant located near the waterfalls before returning to Luang Prabang. On the way back to the hotel, there will be a stop at the Elephant Sanctuary.

Overnight at accommodation in Luang Prabang.

Duration  
**4 Hours**

## Day 10 : Leaving Luang Prabang



Participate in the optional morning Alms giving ritual (4USD per person) or return to the hotel for breakfast. Afterward, visit Mount Phousi and take a stroll through the morning market with some free time. Then, transfer to the airport and board a flight to your next destination. End of service.

Duration  
**3 Hours**