

Indochina Past & Present Journey

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# **Indochina Journey**

Ancient cultures and timeless landscapes make Laos and Cambodia an enticing proposition for anyone curious to explore Southeast Asia. With their proximity to the historic city of Luang Prabang in Laos and Cambodia's temples of Angkor, Amantaka and Amansara are uniquely placed to offer an incredible cultural itinerary.

## **Rate Inclusions**

- Three nights' accommodation at Amantaka and three nights' at Amansara
- Daily breakfast and choice of lunch or dinner (excluding alcoholic beverages)
- Afternoon tea and seasonal fruits
- Private return airport transfers with fast-track immigration on arrival at Luang Prabang International Airport and Siem Reap International Airport
- Transportation within Luang Prabang and Siem Reap
- Experiences at Amantaka include the following: dawn alms offering; Baci ceremony; Luang Prabang temple and city tour; 60-minute Lao massage
- Experiences at Amansara include the following: daily excursion to Angkor temples with English speaking guide; a traditional Khmer breakfast at Amansara's village house in the Angkor Archaeological park; cycling through the temples; a 30-minute foot massage
- Laundry (excluding dry cleaning)
- Additional benefits include a room upgrade and early check in/late check out (both subject to availability)

# **Supplementary Charge**

One-day Angkor temple pass - US\$37 per person Three-day Angkor temple pass - US\$62 per person Seven-day Angkor temple pass - US\$72 per person

#### Reservations

Amantaka

Tel: +856 71 860 333 amantaka@aman.com

Amansara

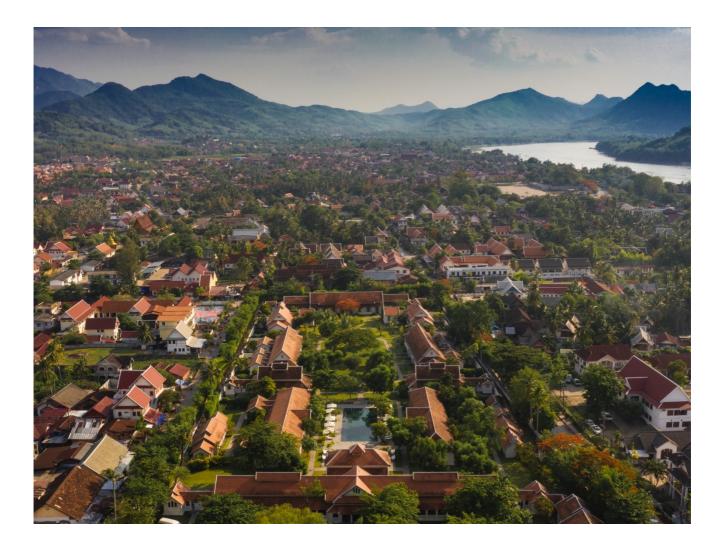
Tel: +855 63 760 333

amansara@aman.com

A minimum stay of 3 nights at Amansara and 3 nights at Amantaka is required. This exclusive is valid for new bookings only, based on two guests per room and is subject to availability. Cancellation and payment conditions are as per hotel standard terms. A minimum stay of 3 nights at Amansara and 3 nights at Amantaka is required. Rate is subject to 10% service charge, 2.42% Accommodation Tax & 11% Government Tax. Supplementary charges: Temple Pass, USD 37 for a 1-day pass, USD 62 for a 3-day pass. For children between ages 6-11 a supplementary charge of USD 130 (plus tax and service) per night is applicable for half board. For children ages 12 and above, and adults, a charge of USD 375 (plus tax and service) per night applies, with the offer inclusions as stated.



# Three-Night Itinerary at Amantaka



## Day one

Arrive at Amantaka and take part in a Baci (Sou Khouan) ceremony hosted by our Mo Phone (master of ceremonies). After settling in, enjoy a delicious dinner of local or Frenchinfluenced cuisine along with a traditional Lao performance at the Restaurant.

## Day two

Awaken to the serene atmosphere of Luang Prabang at dawn and join our Amansanti for alms giving to the monks at our main gate. The morning's walking tour of the city and its temples will be well rewarded with a rejuvenating Lao massage.

# Day three

Visit the colourful morning market and choose your own ingredients for your Lao cooking lesson to be held on our organic farm. Later, board Amantaka's classic river boat and enjoy a sunset cruise to the Buddha-filled Pak Ou Caves.

## Day four

Check out and head to Luang Prabang International Airport for your flight to Siem Reap.

# Day One Arrival in Amantaka



## Arrival in Amantaka

On arrival you will be greeted by Amantaka's airport representative and enjoy fast-track immigration assistance. The scenic, 10-minute drive to the resort will take you past classic Lao and French colonial buildings, golden-spired temples and beautiful natural scenery.

**4pm** Traditional Baci ceremony in the Library

A traditional Baci ceremony or 'Sou Khouan' is a centuries-old Brahmin-influenced ritual practiced to protect the blessed from illness, sadness and general malice in everyday life. Strings are tied around the wrist to preserve this good luck.

7pm Welcome dinner at the Restaurant

Tonight's welcome dinner takes place at the Restaurant with its lofty ceiling, white and rattan palette and antique tile floors. Choose between dining on authentic Lao or comforting Western cuisine as you enjoy a live performance by local musicians and dancers.

# Day Two

# Spiritual & Cultural Immersion



## 5.30 to 6am Alms offering at the Main Entrance

For centuries monks and novices have left their temples at dawn every day and walked through the town, accepting alms from the local townsfolk; a way for people to gain merit and for the monks to maintain contact with their community. There is a procession along the town's main street, but we prefer the quieter and less frequented 'sai bat' in front of the resort.

6.30am
Breakfast
at the Restaurant

Enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared to your liking.

8.30am to 12pm City and temple tour

Experience the city up close and personal on this fascinating private walking tour that takes in Vat Visoun and Vat Aham, as well as Mount Phousi and other attractions.

After strolling the banks of the Nam Khan River, visit the magnificent Wat Xieng Thong, Luang Prabang's most famous temple, then follow the Mekong to the Royal Palace which now houses the National Museum.

2pm Buddhist learning session at the Buddhist Learning Centre

Embodying the living spirituality of the Unesco town of Luang Prabang, Amantaka has partnered with three monasteries to educate guests on the practice and principals of Buddhism during a one-hour learning session at the resort's Buddhist Learning Centre.

**4pm** Traditional Lao massage at the Aman Spa

End the day with a traditional Lao massage. This ancient massage technique has been passed down through the generations as a way of treating imbalance. An arrhythmic oil-free treatment, it is performed over loose comfortable clothing. A series of gentle stretches opens the body and enhances mobility, while deep pressure point stimulation eases tension.



# Day Three Culinary Adventures



#### 6am Sunrise market visit with chef

Discover the culinary culture of Laos with our chef by visiting a morning market, just a short walk from Amantaka. Witness the morning rituals of the inhabitants of Luang Prabang and handpick your own ingredients to be transformed into classic Lao dishes during your morning's cooking lesson.

7.30am Breakfast at the Restaurant

After your early start, refuel with a delicious breakfast at the Restaurant.

#### 10am

Organic farm tour and cooking masterclass at the Living Land

Taking place on Amantaka's beautiful organic farm, this cooking masterclass will see you transforming your fresh market ingredients and those you've picked on the farm into a delicious Lao lunch.

#### 2pm Cruise to Pak Ou caves

Absorb the beauty of Luang Prabang from the water on a leisurely cruise along the Mekong River on Amantaka's private river boat. Observe Mekong village life as children play on the riverbanks, women do laundry and men fish or work in the fields. Then visit the caves at Pak Ou where pilgrims have been visiting and offering Buddha statues for hundreds of years. On reaching the caves, you will ascend a flight of stairs to see the lower and upper-level limestone caves filled with thousands of Buddha statues.

US\$480++ for two persons













# Three-Night Itinerary at Amansara



# Day four

After the short flight from Luang Prabang to Siem Reap International Airport, you'll be whisked through immigration then transferred to Amansara in a vintage Mercedes.

# Day five

Experience Angkor Wat by sunrise then discover the jungle-embraced wonders of Ta Prohm. After a morning of exploration, enjoy a traditional Khmer breakfast at our Khmer Village House. Afterwards continue your temple tour with Angkor Thom and the enigmatic Bayon.

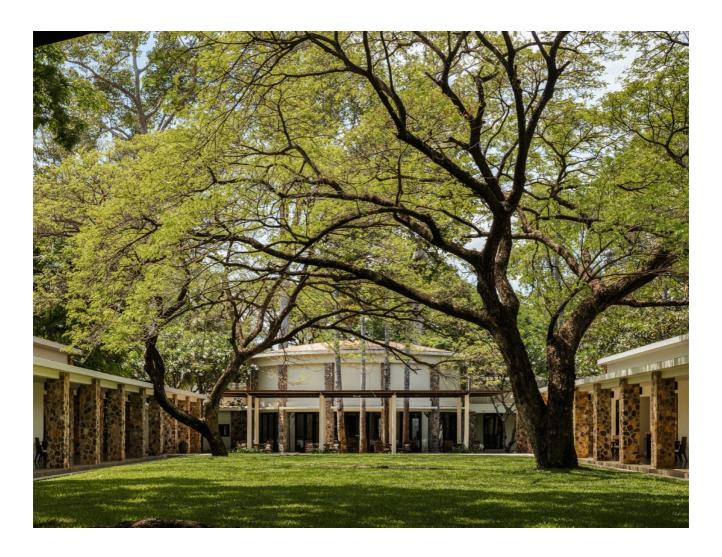
## Day six

In the morning, experience the countryside and daily rituals of agricultural life on the outskirts of Siem Reap and Angkor Park with a private jeep tour. Receive a water blessing from a monk to cleanse your spirit and later indulge in our Temple Walk spa treatment.

# Day seven

Check out and depart for Siem Reap International Airport.

# Day Four Arrival in Siem Reap



7.30am Breakfast at the Restaurant

#### Amantaka Farewell

Bid farewell to your Amantaka family then depart for Luang Prabang International Airport for the short flight to Siem Reap.

## Arrival in Siem Reap

Enjoy the view of the Cambodian countryside and jungle as you descend into Siem Reap. On arrival you will be greeted by Amansara representatives and enjoy fast-track immigration assistance.

The 20-minute transfer to Amansara along the road to Angkor will take place in a vintage Mercedes.

## 6.30pm Dinner at the Dining Room

The striking centrepiece of Amansara, the circular Restaurant opens onto two terraces – one overlooking verdant lawns and the other the main swimming pool. The menu includes both traditional Khmer and Western cuisines.

# Day Five Angkor Temple Exploration



## 5 to 7.30am Angkor Wat

Capturing the atmosphere of the temple first by moonlight and then inside as the sun rises is our preferred way to present this magnificent monument. The extensive relief panels are the main feature of this morning's outing.

#### 8 to 9.30am Ta Prohm

Ta Prohm, one of the most popular temples in the park, was once home to 615 dancers. Today, the force of nature is vastly apparent as giant fig trees have reclaimed the temple ruins, holding the ancient stones hostage in the grip of their huge and extremely photogenic roots.

#### 10am

Traditional Khmer breakfast and rice noodle class at Khmer Village House

After a morning of exploration, take a break and enjoy a traditional Khmer breakfast overlooking Srah Srang, the ancient royal bathing pool. After breakfast, try your hand at making rice noodles.

# 2pm Angkor Thom

The day's temple exploration recommences at the rarely visited Ta Nei temple, followed by Ta Keo, the epitome of an Angkorian temple-mountain with its massive five-tiered pyramid structure. Next stop at Vihar Bram-Pi Loveng to admire a stone-carved Buddha seated on a naga that was moved from Bayon temple to this shrine by the French in 1933.

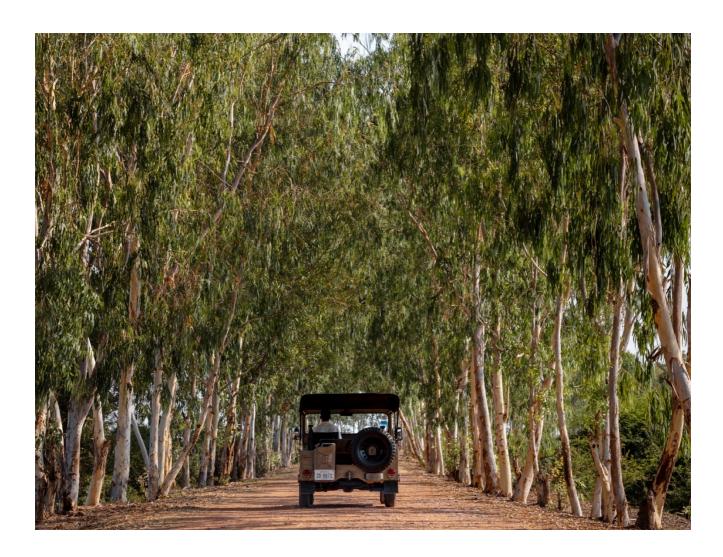
#### 3pm Enigmatic Bayon

Your next destination is the celestial palace of Baphuon – described as the world's largest three-dimensional puzzle. A walk around the Elephant Terrace with its scenic bas-reliefs and the Terrace of the Leper King brings us to the Bayon. This temple represents Mount Meru, the centre of the Buddhist cosmos. The highlight of this visit for many is spotting the massive stone faces carved into the temple's many towers.

US\$500++ for two persons



# Day Six Excursions



#### 7am Breakfast in the Dining Room

Start the day with a delicious breakfast in the Dining Room.

# 7.30am Countryside Jeep Rally

Experience authentic rural family life on the outskirts of Siem Reap and Angkor Park. Our well-chosen route will take you past children riding their bikes to school whilst their mothers head to market for fresh food supplies. You will see men and women hard at work in the verdant rice fields that abound, while younger children play in the yards of their picturesque stilted homes.

## 10am Spiritual Water Blessing

On the rustic outskirts of Siem Reap, we will take you to our favourite pagoda to engage with Cambodian Buddhism in a more personal way by receiving an authentic water blessing. As the monk gently pours flower infused water over you, he will chant to purify your spirit.

#### 2pm Temple Walk Spa Treatment at the Aman Spa

Created especially for after your exploration of the temples, this treatment includes a crystal salt soak and foot scrub to clean and refresh tired feet, as well as the application of a 100% natural Aman cooling foot and leg lotion to stimulate and revive. The experience culminates in a soothing foot and leg oil massage.

# Day Seven Farewell to Amansara



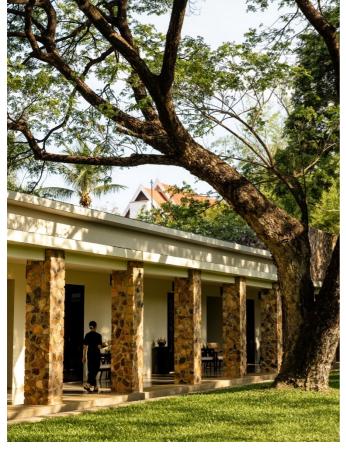
7am Breakfast in the Dining Room

Start the day with a delicious breakfast in the Dining Room.

2pm A farewell from Amansara

Check out and depart for Siem Reap International Airport.



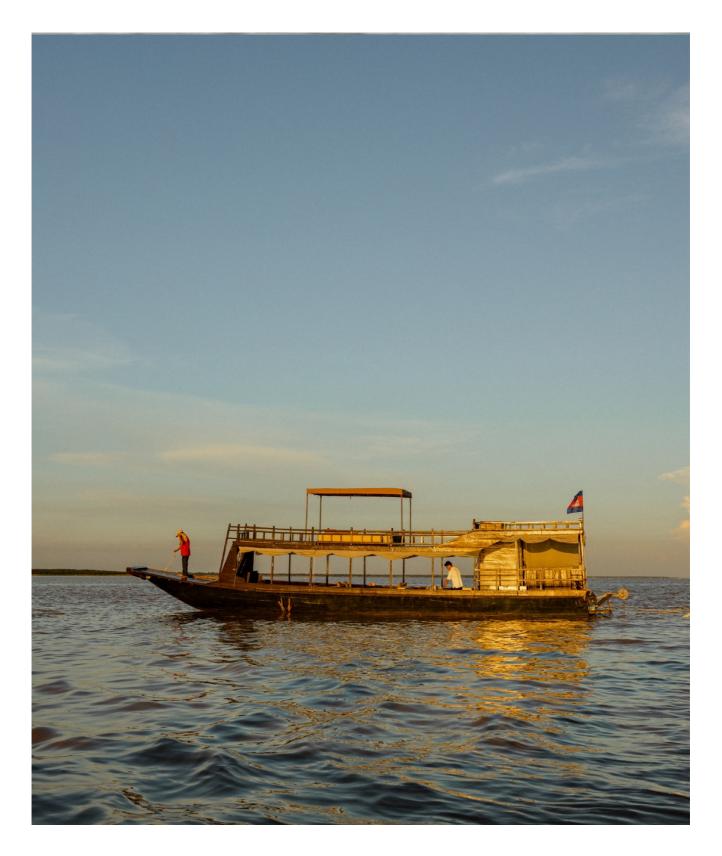












# AMANTAKA

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amantaka.com

# AMANSARA

Road to Angkor Siem Reap Kingdom of Cambodia

amansara.com