

Before you read

1 Work in pairs. Tell your partner your favourite form of transport for short journeys (car, bus, etc.) and for long journeys, and say why you prefer them.

Reading

2 Read the title and look at the map. How much of the journey do you think is done by:

a boat? b bus? c plane? d train?

3 Read the itinerary quickly and check your answers.

4 Read the itinerary again. Find out where you can:

- 1 see many ancient temples _____
- 2 cross the border from Laos to Thailand _____
- 3 visit the Grand Palace _____
- 4 visit caves (two places) _____
- 5 see the sunrise _____
- 6 visit the Silver Pagoda _____
- 7 cross the border from Thailand to Cambodia. _____

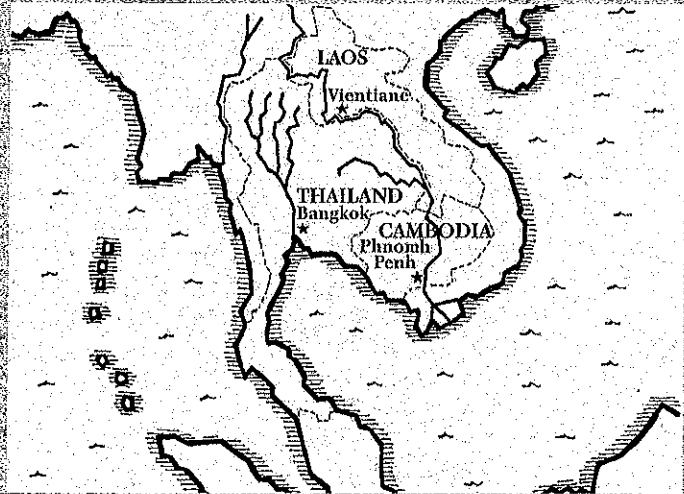
THAILAND, CAMBODIA, AND LAOS

16 DAYS

The trip An exciting journey through the fascinating kingdoms of Cambodia and Laos by boat, train, and bus. A busy trip, but with lots of time for shopping, relaxing, and exploring.

Size of group 5-15 plus group leader and local guides.

Accommodation 11 nights in hotels; 2 nights in local houses.



ITINERARY

Day 1 Depart Heathrow Airport.

Day 2 Arrive Bangkok.

Day 3 Visit the Grand Palace, then take train to Aranyaprathet.

Day 4 Cross the border by train to the old town of Battambang in Cambodia, explore in the afternoon.

Day 5 Take boat down river to Tonle Sap, then a short bus journey to Siem Reap; afternoon sightseeing in Banteay Srei.

Day 6 A day to explore the amazing temples of Angkor, including the Bayon, Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom, and countless others.

Day 7 Early morning boat ride to Phnom Penh; afternoon visiting the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda.

Day 8 Fly to Vientiane, the capital of Laos.

Day 9 Morning tour of Vientiane; afternoon bus journey to Vang Vieng past rice paddies and through dense forests.

Day 10 Free day to wander around peaceful Vang Vieng, or take a walk and explore the spectacular limestone caves or the surrounding hills.

Day 11 Drive to Luang Prabang, a world heritage sight.

Day 12 Early morning climb of Mount Phousi to see the sunrise; rest of the day free to visit the waterfalls or simply relax.

Day 13 Speedboat trip to Pak Beng, stopping off at the Pak Ou caves.

Day 14 Another boat trip to the border town Huay Xai and cross the Mekong back into Thailand.

Day 15 Fly to Bangkok in the morning. Night flight to London.

Day 16 Arrive Heathrow Airport.