



INDOCHINA OVERLAND MOTORCYCLE TOUR : ADVENTURES & BEYOND

(20 days)

Day 1 : Hanoi – Pu Luong

We will set up a starting point out of Hanoi city so you do not have to ride through its chaotic traffic. Our bus will pick you up at your hotel, transferring you to where the motorcycles are ready to go! Then there will be back roads heading to Pu Luong. The route includes some steep and twisted distances which go deep in the rural countryside.

The Pu Luong National Reserves, in the heart of Cuc Phuong mountain range, is the largest remaining area of lowland limestone forest in Northern Vietnam. We will spend our first night in a hospitable Thai family home, and will enjoy a homemade dinner with some local dishes and try the famous local “rice whisky”.

Day 2 : Pu Luong – Vieng Xai (Laos)

In the morning, we ride on a shady road along the Ma river, through fine countryside and luxuriant bamboo forest. It takes about an hour to deal with the official paper-works to exit Vietnam and enter Laos.

The next distance in Laos will be on a road as rough as fun and we will have the first sights of rural Laos. Our stop today is Vieng Xai, it was once the head-quarters of Pha Thet Laos - the leading force of the country’s revolution to peace. Nowadays, Vieng Xai has become a well-known historical site, and also an attractive spot featuring great landscapes.

Day 3 : Vieng Xai – Phonsavan

It’s a great mountain road we get to ride today. Thousands and thousands of bends and corners which open to great views of the countryside. We enjoy the fresh air and

breezing out of nature as well as every moments of riding through rural villages which seem far away from the rest of the world. See the innocent kids playing around with happiness.

You soon find yourself in love with Laos because of its quiet roads, luxuriant landscapes and dreamy people. Authentic Laos-style.

Day 4 : Phonsavan – Na Hin

After breakfast, we ride to Site 1 of the Plain of Jars, World Heritage Site of Laos, to visit this mysterious site. It's named after the hundreds of huge stone jars scattered across the landscape, measuring from 1 to 2.5 meters high. There are stories to be told...

We do a long distance today but the route is all good and smooth. There are passes, mountain roads and lush landscapes in Nam Kading National Park. And a good point, here, riding means you don't have to worry about the traffic. Later in the afternoon, we ride down from the hills and find our place to stay for the night at the edge of the local river.

Day 5 : Na Hin & surroundings

We have a short distance on motorcycle before our trek through the famous and fascinating Kong Lor cave that we reach by boat. We have a full day to explore this spot before another short ride back Na Hin.

*** A torch/flash light is recommended

Day 6 : Na Hin – Villabuary

Today, we aim for the famous Ho Chi Minh trail in Laos. Heading further to the center of the country, there are more distances on dusty roads, as we call them, « Laos' specials ». The main road condition is fast gravel through non-touristy countryside all the way.

Day 7 : Villabuary - Salavan

Today brings another great ride on the Ho Chi Minh trail in Laos. As we ride in the countryside, the region seems to be untouched for decades. All dirt roads, river crossings, broken bridges give us such a clear image of this nation's past.

At the end of the day, the landscape draws another color of riding. Since we hit the Bolevan plateau, luxuriant & green plantations spread all over the prosperous highlands. And we get an absolute sense of relaxation in among nature in the Tadlo Lodge. Hearing the waterfalls choir from afar and the elephants walking through the trees, we enjoy a cozy stay.

Day 8 : Salavan - Tad Fane resort

Just a short distance for that day so we can have more time off the motorcycle. Also there will be another great stay amongst nature in the Tad Fane resort, named after the twin waterfalls nearby. The place is also famous for its own grown-coffee, a worthy present to bring back home.

Day 9 : Tad Fane resort – Khong Island

We ride to Wat Phou, the most important temple of the country. Spending our free time in this charming religious complex, we also appreciate the beautiful landscape surrounding, we then follow the Mekong river to find our way to Khong Island.

Here we are downstream on the Mekong river, right before it goes to Cambodia. We check in before dark and have plenty of time for a cold drink and to enjoy the sunset on the river bank.

Day 10 : Khong Island – Rest day!

A full day of joy to explore "a thousand islands site" of Laos.

Day 11 : Laos border – Preah Romkel (camping)

Upon arrival, meet our local guide at the border. It will take about an hour to cross the border. An easier option takes you directly to Stung Treng town where we will stop for lunch at a local restaurant. We'll cross the Mekong River in the morning on a newly-built,

1.7 kilometer-long bridge and then continue to ride to Preah Romkel, the Laos and Cambodia border on the Mekong River. We will then be dropped off at our own island beach where the rest of the team will have prepared our campsite and a BBQ.

Day 12: Preah Romkel – Preah Vihear – Anlong Veng

We will ride our bike along the Laos/Thailand/Cambodia borders in a back road. For some parts of the road, we can enjoy some off-road riding. Enjoying the scenery of the Mekong River, mountains and jungle, as well as small villages on the way, we reach the main site for today's visit: the Preah Vihear World Heritage Temple, dating from the 10th Century (Classified as a UNESCO world heritage in 2008). Overnight in Anlong Veng, last base of the Khmer Rouge Army in the late 1990s.

Day 13: Along Veng – Siem Reap

Breakfast at a local restaurant, we will ride up to the top of the Dong Rek Mountain and to the Thailand border gate. While visiting Pol Pot's tomb, our tour guide will tell you the story of the Khmer Rouge Regime between 1975-79 and the civil war in Cambodia in 1979-99. We continue to ride our bike off-road to Siem Reap.

Day 14: Angkor temples tour

Today, we will be guided by a temple guide with an **A/C vehicle** to visit all main temples in Angkor such as Angkor Wat, Ta Prohm, Angkor Thom, and the Bayon temples.

Note*** *lunch and dinner today will be at your own expense, the tour will cover only the tour guide, A/C van, and entrance fees to temples.*

Day 15: Siem Reap – Preah Khan Kampong Svay (homestay)

We ride a back road from Siem Reap to Preah Khan Kampong Svay, in the Kampong Thom Province. On the back road, we go through some villages and jungle which will bring you more joy than the off-road. Lunch will be provided in a local restaurant. After lunch, we continue to ride to Preah Khan temple where we will have dinner and an overnight stay in a local house.

Day 16: Preah Khan Kampong Svay – Tbeng Meanchey town (Preah Vihear City)

Today, after visiting the Preah Khan Kampong Svay Temple, we will enjoy an off-road ride to visit the Koh Ker temples and have lunch. After lunch, we ride on a good paved road to Preah Vihear town for dinner and an overnight stay.

Day 17: Tbeng Meanchey – Balung (ratanakiri)

After breakfast, we will ride on a paved road longer than the other days. But we still have a chance to stop in small villages for a visit, sightseeing beautiful spots for pictures, and if the time allows, we can take a short off-road ride before arriving Banlung.

Day 18: Banlung – Vietnam Border -Pleiku

After breakfast, we take a short ride around Bun Long town to visit the Beong Yaklom waterfalls and hill-tribe villages before heading to O'adaw border (between Cambodia and Vietnam). We plan to be at the border around 11am. After formalities at checkpoint, we do just another short distance to the nearby city in Vietnam of Pleiku.

Day 19 : Pleiku – Ngoc Hoi

We take it easy in the morning. After a first smooth ride to Se San dam, we turn off to Chu Mom Ray National park. We'll have a long way of gravel on the historical route 14C, as well known as the original Southern Ho Chi Minh trail. Hidden in the jungle of Central Highlands, route 14C is a lot of fun because of its condition as well as the wild nature along. Enjoy the route from there until our next town, Ngoc Hoi.

Day 20 : Ngoc Hoi - Danang

Hit speed on the Ho Chi Minh road, then heading to coastline of Danang. We do the last mountain road through the outbound of Ngoc Linh National park before catching smooth distance to center of town. End of tour!