

## Mekong Riverview Hotel

For most travellers, Luang Prabang is the highlight of their visit to Laos. Declared a UNESCO heritage site in 1995, the town is known for its charming colonial streets, dazzling Wats, early morning alms ceremonies, a fabulous night market, and an impeccable dining scene. Part of our Mekong Tour is a languid ride upstream by boat on the mighty Mekong to reach Luang Prabang. Our accommodation in Luang Prabang - **The Mekong Riverview Hotel**



First opening its doors at the tail end of 2007, The Mekong Riverview is the ultimate destination for travelers who want an elegant, upscale base while in Luang Prabang. Perched next to one of the country's most beautiful and important temples, Wat Xieng Thong, the Mekong Riverview boasts an incredible location—positioned at the tip of the old town at the confluence of the Nam Khan and Mekong Rivers, the hotel gifts its guests with an incredible view. Additionally, it offers a serene setting at which to relax and unwind, but also a convenient position to explore the rest of the town.



Superior Room - The beds: imported from Sweden, a fine example of Swedish engineering at its finest. Contours of its memory foam perfectly cradle the body - as if perfect cloud-quality of our bed isn't enough, it also comes with remotes so that you can elevate and contort the mattress so that you could sit upright in bed without ever breaking contact with any part of the mattress.



Bathrooms - the space is large and bright, and the standing shower (complete with rainfall showerhead) is nicely separated from the rest of the room, meaning no pesky pooling of water all over the place. The toilet was conveniently located in its own separate room, which is ideal for a traveling couple.

Superior rooms come with a private patio complete with lounge chairs that are optimally positioned for gazing out on the Mekong, a desk, a mini-bar stocked with complimentary bottles of water and free soft drinks and lovely bathrooms.



Most travelers and guidebooks suggest that Luang Prabang, a rather compact and chill little city, is best toured by bicycle; consequently, there are many places around town to rent bikes for the day, but they are provided free to guests at the Mekong Riverview. They also offer a complimentary golf cart shuttle that will drop you off anywhere in town.



Restaurant - riverside view in a beautiful garden. Breakfast awaits - The Mekong View will also tempt us out of bed every morning with one of the best breakfasts in town. Start each day with some selections from the breakfast buffet. Flaky and crispy croissants are piled beside a basket of whole-grain baguettes that had the perfect amount of crunch and chew to them. Platters of fresh cold cuts— including smoked ham and silky prosciutto—along with soft pats of butter, dollops of aromatic grainy mustard, and slices of sharp cheese awaited those whose breakfast palates are European in profile. There is also an dizzying assortment of local jams, from standard options like strawberry to more exotic offerings such as mango, mulberry, or mango passion fruit. Steaming samovars of coffee and hot water for tea were always standing by, as well as bottles of chilled water and jugs of fresh orange juice. For those looking for a little less decadence, cold cereals and fresh fruit yogurts were also available, and the local yogurt is so thick and creamy it seemed more akin to custard than curd.

To supplement the buffet, several hot à la carte menu items are offered, from eggs cooked virtually any way you can imagine them (and executed perfectly, whether scrambled, fried, or poached) to sausage, proper American/streaky bacon, and ham. They also offer some sweet options, including three different types of “pancakes” (really, crêpes), a favorite being topped with banana and vanilla sauce.

The hotel also offers three Asian breakfast menu options of the fried rice, fried noodles, noodle soup variety. These need to be ordered at least 40 minutes in advance or preferably the evening before, along with your dining time, so they can be ready for you as soon as you sit down.





The peninsula is the "old" Luang Prabang where you find the famous atmosphere - it is about 1200 meter long and 300 meter wide. Eleven of the 34 temples in Luang Prabang are located here. The UNESCO headquarters and the city's most famous Temple Wat Xieng Thong are your hotel's neighbours. A new bamboo bridge is constructed each year which provides an interesting walk to a nearby textile/weaving village.

All the good restaurants and main township attractions are located on the peninsula. Note: Swimming pools are not allowed on the historic peninsula (World Heritage regulations). Note: we travel in November, end of the rainy season, one of the best times to visit as it is a cooler month.

