Markets

Shopping in Laung Prabang









With several outlets in Luang Prabang, you are never far away from being able to buy something produced at the Living Crafts Centre (also worth a visit!). Founded in 2000 with the principles of fair trade and sustainable practices, the company has spent two decades pioneering social business and ethical fashion in the region. Ock Pop Tok is now an enterprise employing over 78 people, producing exceptional, hand-made textiles from traditional techniques. From simple scarves to enormous wall-hangings, you can find something here.

Open 8AM – 19.00PM Daily www.ockpoptok.com

Traditional Arts & Ethnology Centre

Hosting two shops, one in the centre of Luang Prabang along the main street, and one alongside their museum the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre stocks locally produced crafts from over 20 different ethnic groups. All are hand-made as part of the centre's Livelihoods Development Program and their products range from wood-carvings from Champassak province to crocheted vine-bags from Oudomxai. This is definitely a stop for those looking for something for the house.

Open 9AM – 18.00 PM Daily, except Mondays www.taeclaos.org

Ma Te Sai

Ma Te Sai, "from the village, for the village" is a beautiful boutique in the heart of Luang Prabang, where all items are hand-made from local villages. Part of the Fair Trade Laos, their stock is constantly changing so be sure to contact them in advance if you have a specific request, but they typically have more than just souvenirs – home décor and jewelry are among their offerings!

Open 8.30AM - 20.30PM Daily www.matesai.com



Anakha – Lifestyle Boutique

Fusing French design with elegant Laotian and Indochinese textures, and set-in a gorgeous UNESCO-listed Chinese Trading House, founder Veronique Cotterau-Pravin sources and custom-designs treasures from all over the region. Just looking around the 'Blue House' is a worthy visit, but if you are looking for a truly unique gift it is a must. Silver jewelry, gemstones, clothing, home linen and ceramics are all available here.

Open 9.30AM -22.00PM Daily www.anakhalifestyle.com



Asiama

For those who need something to stand-out and get people asking about this exceptionally curated gallery by Dr. Linda Macnithos presents a selection of antiques and ethnic handicrafts bound to take centre-stage for someone's personal collection. Among the collection are ceremonial bells, amulets, anthropomorphic figurines and regional textiles.

Open 10AM-13.00PM, and 15.00PM – 20.00PM Daily

www.asiama.fr

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CAMACrafts

CAMACrafts is another excellent outlet that provides sustainable work to Hmong women to use their traditional skills to support their families. The goal is to lead village producers toward self-sufficiency, to promote community development through meaningful work, and to preserve and encourage traditional skills and handicrafts. All of their products are handmade, and some can take 7–10 days to stitch. Women can work in their spare time at home, allowing them to continue to care for their children and household needs.

Open 8AM – 16.00PM Mon - Saturday www.camacrafts.org

Celadon

Sometimes called 'the essence of Luang Prabang', Celadon is a pottery term for glazing items in a light jade colour, of which you will find many here. There are also Buddhist religious products – gongs, statues and books that will be sure to be of interest to those who want to be closer to the spiritual side of Luang Prabang. All profits go towards education of local children.

Open 9AM - 17.00PM Daily

www.celadon-laos.com



Hilltribe Heritage

Just opposite the former shop sits a very small shop where a Hmong family sell fabrics, decorations and jewelry that they have sourced themselves. Wall hangings, pillow covers, batik and home decorations are available, all in the traditional Hmong Style of Laos.

Open 8AM – 22.00PM www.facebook.com/hilltribeheritage/





Saffron Coffee

Just down the road from Asiama, with another location on the way out to Ock Pop Tock, break up your shopping with a hot (or iced!) cup of Laotian coffee. Coffee is one of Laos largest export products, known for a high quality and medium body and Saffron Coffee knows how to brew that to perfection for you. You can also grab some roasted beans to take home for the coffee lovers among your friends!

Open 7AM – 18.45PM Weekdays, 7.30AM – 17.30PM Weekends www.saffroncoffee.com

Luang Prabang Nightmarket

Almost impossible to miss, the Luang Prabang Nightmarket takes up the entire main street each night and is filled to the brim with a variety of souvenirs, clothing and artworks – generally at lower prices although sometimes lacking the 'unique' feel. Around the sides of the market you'll find plenty of food stalls – milkshakes and banana pancakes being quite popular!

Open from around 5PM Daily

