



AMANTAKA

A Time of Festivity



April in Luang Prabang

In April, Luang Prabang comes alive with ancient traditions, where the pulse of life quickens in harmony with the rhythm of the season. The city, draped in history, awakens to the jubilant embrace of the Lao New Year, Pi Mai, from 12 to 17 April. The air is filled with the sound of laughter and song, as the streets burst into a kaleidoscope of celebration.

Parades wind through the city, carrying with them the sacred spirit of renewal, while water fights, a playful ritual, symbolise the washing away of the old and the welcoming of the new. In temples, sacred ceremonies are held, honouring ancestors and seeking blessings for a prosperous year ahead. This is a time not only for festivity but also for deep reflection, as families and communities come together to renew bonds and embrace the promise of fresh beginnings.

Amid this whirlwind of celebration, Amantaka offers a serene sanctuary where the spirit of the season is honoured in peaceful reflection. The hotel becomes a bridge between the past and present, offering guests a chance to both immerse in local tradition and enjoy the gentler pace of Easter festivities on 20 April.



13 APRIL 2025

Elephant Procession

WAT MAI
7-7.30 AM

The elephant procession begins at Wat Mai, a historic monastery of great significance to the people of Laos. For centuries, it has been a sacred site for the royal family and the residence of the Phra Sangkharat, the highest Buddhist dignitary in Laos.

The elephants will then proceed to Wat Xieng Thong, also known as the Golden Tree Monastery. Located at the confluence of the Mekong and Nam Khan rivers, this stunning temple is the symbolic gateway to Luang Prabang.

Together, these temples represent the spiritual and cultural heart of Laos, and the procession between them is a powerful symbol of the nation's rich history and enduring traditions.

14 APRIL 2025

Morning Market Walk

VILLAGE MARKET FAIR
7 AM

The Village Market Fair, from the Old Stadium to the Royal Palace, comes alive with the spirit of Pi Mai. Traditional crafts, local delicacies and the joyful buzz of celebration fill the air, offering a feast for the senses and a true taste of Laos.

Sand Stupa Making Experience

MEKONG RIVERBANK
1 PM

During Lao New Year (Pi Mai Lao), people gather along the Mekong Riverbank to build sand stupas. This tradition symbolises respect for ancestors and a wish for good fortune. The sand stupas, decorated with flowers and incense, also serve to purify and bring blessings for the year ahead. The lively atmosphere, combined with the river's serene backdrop, makes it a meaningful and festive experience.

15 APRIL 2025

Miss Luang Prabang Procession

WAT MAI
1PM ONWARDS AT WAT THATNOI

Join the procession of Miss Luang Prabang as she travels from Wat Thatnoi to Wat Xiengthong along the main road. A cherished tradition, this beauty pageant honours the Buddha and seeks blessings for the year ahead, blending elegance with spiritual reverence.

Water Pouring Ceremony

WAT NONG
7PM

As twilight falls, wander to Wat Nong, where the soft murmur of water mingles with the evening air. The sacred water-pouring ceremony, a symbol of purification, cleanses Buddha statues, ushering in blessings for the New Year and filling the heart with serenity and renewal.

16 APRIL 2025

First Light Alms Offering

OUTING GATE
5.30AM

Join the serene tradition of *Sai Bat* (alms offering at dawn), a sacred act of giving to the monks and novices of Luang Prabang. During this season, the offering of rice, prepared by Amantaka's family, holds deep significance, fostering a spirit of generosity and peace as you begin the New Year with mindful reflection.

Miss Luang Prabang Procession

WAT XIENGTHONG
1PM

Be part of the graceful procession of Miss Luang Prabang as she makes her way from Wat Xiengthong to Wat Thatnoi, accompanied by the vibrant Ban Thongchaleun carrying sand flags to celebrate Pi Mai. This beloved beauty pageant is a highlight of the New Year, uniting locals and visitors in a festive celebration of beauty and tradition.



16 APRIL 2025

Pi Mai Lao Dinner

MAIN POOL

7PM

As twilight ensues and stars begin their celestial dance, gather by the pool for a feast that celebrates the heart of Laos. The ancient tale of the Ramayana comes to life in a captivating performance, weaving through the evening air. Relish a Laotian set menu, where every dish is a symphony of sweet, sour and spicy flavours, crafted with locally-sourced ingredients and fragrant herbs. This is not just a meal, but a celebration—a tribute to the spirit of Pi Mai, where tradition, culture and the promise of a new year are savoured in every bite.

Reservations essential

Starter

Yam Yai

Chilled Farm Vegetable Salad, Banana Blossom, Sesame, Coriander

Sar Seen Moo

Minced Pork Salad, Garden Herbs, Bean Sprouts, Rice Powder, Lime

Soup

Kaeng Ka Porc Paa

Fish Maw Clear Soup, Oyster Mushrooms, Chayote, Quail Egg

Main

Khua Kai Sai King

Stir-Fried Chicken, Ginger, Onion, Coconut Milk

Mok Paa Sai Ka Thi

Steamed Barramundi, Coconut Cream, Micro Herbs

Ping Sin Ngua Song Khueang

Grilled Australian Ribeye, Ginger & Coriander Rub, Tamarind Sauce

Orlam Sin Khuay

Buffalo Shank Stew, Spice Wood, Eggplant, Dill, Lao Basil

Khua Nor Mai

Stir-Fried Young Bamboo Shoots, Glass Noodles, Egg

Dessert

Nam Wan Mak Tao

Preserved Sugar Palm, Coconut, Tapioca

Sang Ka Nya Mak Aue

Pumpkin & Lime Custard

Seasonal & Local Tropical Fruits

Reservations essential



17 APRIL 2025

Prabang Welcome Ceremony

WAT MAI SUWANNAPHUMAHAM
7 AM

At the break of dawn, witness the sacred return of the Prabang Buddha statue to Wat Mai Suwannaphumaham, following its ceremonial New Year journey through the town. This solemn gathering invites you to witness age-old rituals as devotees unite in reverence, honouring the statue that carries the soul of Luang Prabang. In the stillness of the morning, the air is thick with devotion, and the peaceful ritual binds past and present in a timeless embrace.

20 APRIL 2025

Egg Painting Workshop

AMANTAKA GALLERY
10 AM

Join us for a creative and fun-filled morning at Amantaka Gallery exploring the art of Easter egg painting. This hands-on workshop invites participants of all skill levels to express their creativity by decorating eggs with beautiful, intricate designs. Whether you're a seasoned artist or a beginner, you'll have the opportunity to create your own masterpiece in a welcoming and inspiring environment.

Afternoon Tea

LIBRARY
3-5 PM

Indulge in a delightful Easter-themed Afternoon Tea at the Amantaka Library, where a selection of exquisite treats and sweets awaits. Savour a variety of freshly brewed teas accompanied by beautifully crafted pastries and festive, Easter-inspired delights.

Laos-Tribes Costume Experience

YOGA STUDIO
4 PM

Discover the beauty of Laos' tribal costumes during this hands-on experience. The Yoga Studio invites you to try on traditional attire from various Laos tribes, offering a fascinating insight into the culture and artistry behind these garments.

20 APRIL 2025

Folktales Storytelling by Garavek

5-6PM

Join Garavek for an enchanting evening of Luang Prabang and Laos folktales. Discover the origins of local landmarks like Mount Phusi, the Mekong and the Nam Khan River, and meet legendary characters such as the trickster Xieng Mieng and Fa Ngum, the first king of Lan Xang. A fascinating dive into Laos' rich myths and history.

1 APRIL - 30 APRIL 2025

Purifying Rituals: A Journey of Renewal

Step into a journey of renewal as we welcome the new year. This 150-minute healing experience is designed to cleanse the body, clear the mind and bring a sense of lightness and clarity. Through purifying scrubs, hydrating wraps and soothing massages, the skin is detoxified, glow restored, and tension released.

The experience begins with the Purifying Scrub & Wrap Ritual, followed by a calming bath to refresh and rejuvenate. It culminates in the Purifying Massage Ritual, leaving you balanced, revitalised and ready to embrace new beginnings.

150 minutes

For bookings or enquiries, please visit the Aman Spa or contact us directly by dialling extension '2'.

Purifying Scrub & Wrap Ritual

This ritual revives the spirit, tones the skin and promotes peace. Key ingredients include quartz, known for balancing energy, along with seaweed-packed fucus oil, raw honey and essential oils to stimulate circulation and lymphatic drainage. A marine-flora mud wrap with kaolin, sea lavender and seaweed boosts collagen levels, finishing with a calming Palo Santo Salve applied to the body.

Bath Enhancements

After the scrub and wrap, enjoy a tranquil bath experience designed to enhance the treatment's effects, further cleansing and calming the body. Light refreshments complete the experience.

Purifying Massage Ritual

This deeply relaxing, detoxifying massage restores harmony to the body and clears the mind. By concentrating on lymphatic-drainage techniques, it manipulates lymph nodes and vessels to increase activity and restore the body's natural flow.





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