

A person's hands are shown placing a lit white candle on a floral offering that is floating on a body of water. The offering consists of a bouquet of orange and yellow flowers, green leaves, and a single lit white candle. The scene is set against a backdrop of a sunset or sunrise, with the water reflecting the golden light. The overall mood is serene and spiritual.

AMANTAKA

Boun Ok Phansa
17 & 18 October 2024

Boun Ok Phansa

The end of the Buddhist Lent Festival, Boun Ok Phansa, is when Luang Prabang — with its rich Buddhist heritage — truly comes alive. The Mekong River lights up with ornately illuminated boats and the city streets are animated by spirited processions and kaleidoscopic ceremonies.

Amantaka invites guests to be part of these well-preserved traditions and to savour the enchanting atmosphere, encouraging a respectful appreciation of local customs and the solemnity of this symbolic occasion.

17 October 2024

Full Moon Alms Offering

5.30am, the Amantaka lobby

Begin the festive day with an alms offering experience. For centuries, monks and novices have left their temples daily and walked through the town, accepting alms from the local townsfolk. This practice allows people to gain merit and helps the monastic community maintain contact with their community. While there is a procession along the town's main street, we prefer the quieter and less frequented Sai Bat in front of the resort.

Baci Ceremony

5.30pm, Amantaka Gallery

A traditional Baci, or 'Sou Khouan', ceremony is a time-honoured ritual in Luang Prabang with Brahmin roots, practiced for centuries. This communal blessing is conducted by a master of ceremonies, known as the 'Mo Phone', who leads the ritual with rhythmic chants and invocations, reminding the spirits of their duties. According to local belief, 32 spirits, or 'Khoun', reside within our bodies, safeguarding us from illness, sorrow and malevolence in daily life. The Baci ceremony aims to align and harmonise these spirits, ensuring their protective influence and fostering well-being.

A Night Under the Stars

6pm, Main Pool

As twilight descends, revel in the festive spirit with an enchanting display of traditional Lao dances. The evening opens with the Blessing and Frangipani dance, a graceful and evocative performance that conveys heartfelt prayers and wishes for a prosperous year. The festivities then transition to a vibrant multi-ethnic dance, celebrating the diverse cultural heritage of Luang Prabang.

After the performances, savour a Laotian set dinner served under the starry night sky, featuring a selection of the finest ingredients from land and sea. The night concludes with a traditional dessert, providing a perfect end to an unforgettable evening.



18 October 2024

Khatung Making Workshop

4pm, Amantaka Gallery

Discover the art of Krathong-making with Amansanti. Learn to craft a Khatung by beginning with a selection of lotus-shaped banana trunks and then embellishing it with an array of vibrant, colourful flowers. This workshop provides a perfect blend of cultural tradition and personal creativity.

Dinner

6.30pm, Main Pool

Delight in authentic Laotian and international dishes as you watch the sunset paint the horizon.

Lantern Boat Procession

From 7pm onwards

Experience the captivating procession of the fire boats as they glide along the water from the Vat Tat Noi area, offering a stunning display of light and tradition.

Mekong Evening Cruise

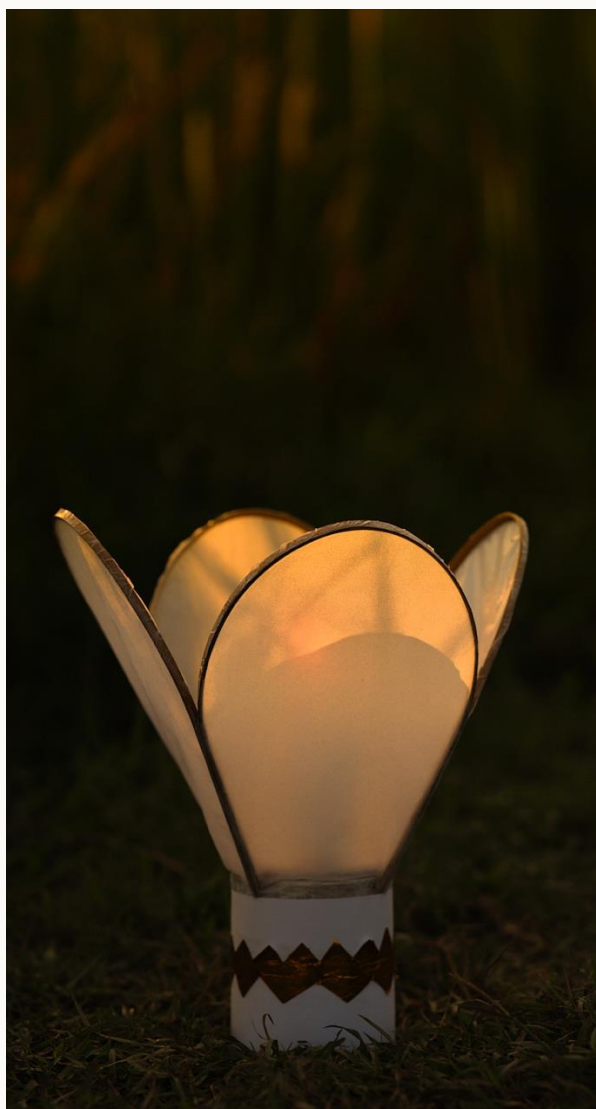
8pm, Amantaka

Embark on an evening cruise aboard Amantaka boats to witness the launch of the illuminated boats on the Mekong River. As the procession makes its way to Wat Xieng Thong Temple, we will set sail on our Aman boats. Enjoy the serene beauty of the boats entering the river at the steps of Vat Xieng Thong, and observe the townspeople as they send their offerings to the river.

Khatung Floating Experience

8pm, Amantaka

From the Amantaka boat, guests are invited to partake in the enchanting tradition of floating handmade Khatung vessels on the water. Each Khatung, adorned with a candle, represents your hopes and wishes for the coming year. Also, joss sticks are added to symbolise purity and compassion, while flowers honour the monks. Strands of hair or nail clippings are included to signify the release of past negativity, and coins are added as tokens of prosperity and good fortune.



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