

WATPHOU AND BOLAVEN



Departure time: 8h00

Return time: 17h00

08:50-10:50

We will take you to **Watphou Temple**, located 8 km from the southwest of Champasak, at the junction of the Mekong and the Phou Kao Mountain, this historical site is acknowledged as UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2001. It is the only important Khmer remain of the country. Inscriptions in Sanskrit and Chinese sources confirm that this place has been venerated since the 5th century. The archaeological site contains 6 terraces on 3 levels in the centre along a stone-paved road.

At the end of your visit, take a few minutes to sit down and to enjoy the full view on the **baray**, the plains and the historical remains.

Do not miss the **museum** located at the entrance of the site. It will give you interesting complementary knowledge.



11:10-11:40

After visit, our car will take you to Champasak city to discover French colonial buildings. Then our car will take you back to continue to Bolaven area.

12:30-12:50

Your first stop will be at Ban Blacksmith, where traditional agriculture tools are manufactured following secular craft procedures. This village comprises various, small family-run factories that produce anything from a jungle knife to a machete. The various road-side stalls expose lots of knives from different shapes and prices.



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13:05-14:05

Our driver will take you to a local restaurant.

14:10-14:30

After lunch, you will continue to visit a tea plantation. It is about 40 minutes away from Pakse and rises over 780 m above sea level. There, you can learn how they make traditional tea and you can taste one cup.

Plantations, stretching as far as the eye can see, belong to Vietnamese since 1930. Customs and traditions are still alive after the years and produce the originality of this tea.



14:40-15:30

Then visit ***Tad Fane***, one of the most spectacular waterfalls in Laos. It is located in the protected area of ***Dong Hua Sao (NBCA)***. Surrounded by cliffs, it shows two twins water flows falling down 120 meters, and finally meeting in a powerful flow.

The site is permanently clouded by pulverized water and offers to your view a lush jungle.

15:35-16:30

Your next destination is Tad Yuang waterfall. This impressive waterfall with twin torrents falls from 40 meters high. The setting is idyllic as it is surrounded by a lush jungle. Be careful when you take the stairs to join the waterfall as they are slippery!

Then you go to Mrs. South's Tea Shop where you will get to know all the subtleties of smoking and drying tea, and tea tasting as well as visiting a family organic coffee farm.



TOTAL COVERED DISTANCE: around 170 kilometers