

EXOTISSIMO

ADVENTURE TRAVEL

Vietnam • Thailand • Cambodia • Laos • Myanmar • Indonesia



CYCLING TOURS
HIKING AND TREKKING
MULTI-SPORT ADVENTURES
EXPERIENTIAL TRAVEL
FAMILY ADVENTURES
CHARITY CHALLENGES
RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL
EXPEDITIONS

EXOTISSIMO

ADVENTURE TRAVEL

Vietnam • Thailand • Cambodia • Laos • Myanmar • Indonesia



100 Miles
200 Km

- ★ National Capital
- ✈ Airport
- ▲ Attractions
- City
- River
- Road





Get out there and explore. Exotissimo offers one-of-a-kind experiences in Southeast Asia designed to excite, challenge and enlighten. Whether it is biking, trekking, nature adventures or experiential travel, Exotissimo can design a tailor-made adventure to suit every traveler's needs.

We have a dedicated team of adventure experts who are passionate about the great outdoors and work tirelessly to research, design and operate the best journeys in the region. And with a firm commitment to preserving the environment, we incorporate philosophies of sustainable tourism in to all of our programs.

With offices throughout Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Myanmar and Indonesia, our staff are on the ground seeking out the best new products. We understand the different needs of travelers and embrace the concept that adventure does not have to mean hard core, high adrenaline ventures. To that end, we ensure our travelers get to know the real Asia through interaction with locals and immersion in the rich culture.

This brochure is a guide to our destinations and contains a sampling of the products we can offer. Give us a call, send us an email or come visit our offices so that we can create the perfect adventure for you.

Happy travels,

Exotissimo Adventure Team

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXPERIENTIAL TRAVEL	2
RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL	3
EXO ADVENTURE STYLES	4
SUSTAINABLE STAYS	6
VIETNAM	8
THAILAND	12
CAMBODIA	16
LAOS	20
MYANMAR	24
INDONESIA	28
CONTACT US	29

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EXPERIENTIAL TRAVEL



We believe adventure is more than just adrenaline-pumping action. Immersing oneself in a new culture, experiencing an ancient tradition or having an unexpected meeting with a friendly local are what makes travel so wonderful. To this end, we encourage our travelers to experience a destination from an insider's point of view. Exotissimo has meticulously researched opportunities for travelers to meet locals and learn more about the country's culture and traditions and discover an exotic, often over-looked, side of Southeast Asia.

Specialist Guides | Niche tours led by experts offer travelers a window into the local lifestyles and cultures. Architecture-focused walking tours, discovery journeys of hidden art galleries and culinary excursions led by famous chefs are just some of the unique ways to gain a deeper understanding of the destination. As our guides share their passion and knowledge, travelers are rewarded with authentic insights of Southeast Asia.



Unusual Encounters | Join locals as they perform a traditional dance in a hilltribe village. Gather vegetables from the garden and prepare lunch with a family in their house. Awake to the sound of gibbons calling from outside of your luxury safari tent. At Exotissimo we know that these are the things that take a holiday from ordinary to extraordinary.



Exotic Locations | With our locally-based offices staffed by enthusiastic travelers, Exotissimo is at the forefront of discovering new, exotic locations. Whether it's a hidden, bohemian café in the center of a busy city or a remote valley untouched by the modern world, we can take you off the beaten path and into the heart of Southeast Asia.





As a strong believer and advocate of responsible travel, Exotissimo is fully committed to developing, operating and marketing tourism in Southeast Asia in a sustainable manner. We strive to minimize the negative impacts of travel while maximizing its positive effects and, at the same time, fostering meaningful interaction with local cultures and protecting the natural environments.

Cultural & Environmental Conservation | To encourage travelers to act responsibly, all of our guests will receive an Exo Cares booklet upon arrival that provides guidelines on cultural and environmental sensitivities. Our Exotissimo tour leaders and guides strive to assist travelers in understanding local culture, tradition and etiquette. On trips through remote areas, we use biodegradable cleaning products, dispose of waste properly and ensure that no litter gets left behind.

Community-Based Tourism | Another facet of our Responsible Tourism program is the development and support of community-based tourism (CBT) projects. Not only do we incorporate these projects in to our itineraries, Exotissimo also has played an active role in developing initiatives such as the Akha Experience trek in northern Laos. CBT projects are rewarding experiences for travelers and have a direct, positive impact on the local communities.

Exo Foundation | The Exotissimo Foundation is our long-term initiative to raise funds for local community projects and contribute to the development of sustainable tourism in Southeast Asia. Each year a local charity is selected as the recipient for the Foundation's aid, from non-profit groups to rehabilitation projects in areas affected by natural disaster. The Foundation operates on a not-for-profit basis, with funds contributed by Exotissimo and our staff as well as generous donations from our clients and partners who wish to make a difference to the lives of the welcoming people of Southeast Asia.

Responsible Travel Tips

* Stay informed.

Read up on the history, customs and biodiversity of the destination before embarking on the trip. Learn a few phrases in the local language.

* Respect cultural differences.

Always seek permission before taking pictures of the locals. Respect local dress standards and dress appropriately.

* Protect the environment.

Do not support illegal wildlife trade or purchase items made from endangered species. Do not touch limestone formations or coral reefs underwater.

* Green your stay. Stay in an eco-lodge.

Reuse hotel towels and request housekeeping not to change the bed linens everyday. Turn off the lights, fans and air-conditioners when you leave your room. Use water sparingly.

* Waste minimization.

Waste should be recycled or properly discarded. When trekking in remote areas, use toilet facilities provided and avoid polluting water sources. Minimize the use of plastic packages and opt for a recyclable shopping bag instead.

* Support the local economy.

Buy locally made crafts or products. Bargain fairly, and with a smile. Enjoy local food at local restaurants.

EXO ADVENTURE STYLES



As varied as the landscapes of Southeast Asia, our adventure programs also cover a wide spectrum of options. Intense expeditions, charity challenges and family adventures are Exotissimo specialties and we have been successfully operating these unique holidays for more than 15 years.

FAMILY ADVENTURE

Exotissimo specializes in tailoring active family vacations for all ages and fitness levels, whether it is an exhilarating adrenaline-charged itinerary or a relaxing holiday with several soft adventure options. We also understand the challenges of traveling with a family and so we use family-friendly accommodation, enthusiastic guides and plan itineraries that balance sightseeing with ample free time for a fun, enjoyable holiday.

CHARITY CHALLENGES

Our Charity Challenges are fun ways to raise money and awareness about a particular charity or cause and we are proud to be a part of these journeys. Knowing that participants have trained extensively and worked hard to raise funds for their trip, we ensure that they are rewarded with an incredible experience that maximizes the awareness of their cause. Tapping on our relationships with key hotel suppliers to get the best deals, we keep costs to a minimum which, in turn, allows participants to apportion a greater amount of vital funds to their selected charity.

Kirimaya Golf Resort Spa

Khao Yai, Thailand

Sitting at the edge of Khao Yai National Park, Kirimaya Resort is an idyllic retreat to unwind from the stresses of city life by combining the natural charms of Khao Yai with the comfort of contemporary living. Commanding views of a scenic expanse of greenery, the 60 rooms, suites and villas feature an elegant combination of hardwoods, silks and linens. For a truly unique experience, opt for a stay at the tented villa - a chic sanctuary with its own indoor spa pool and deck spaces.

The signature Acala Restaurant serves authentic Thai cuisine and fine wines over panoramic vistas while the T-Grill offers delectable premium grilled dishes in a trendy safari-style setting. The stunning infinity pool overlooks an 18-hole golf course exclusively designed by Jack Nicklaus. Providing a rejuvenating collection of natural products and therapies, the Maya Spa soothes body, mind and spirit.





EXPEDITIONS

Cycling the entire length of a historic trail, trekking along ancient trading routes or crossing borders via remote passes, Exotissimo expeditions are designed to challenge and reward intrepid travelers. Breaking away from the normal tourist path, these journeys travel to the heart of Southeast Asia and expose the natural wonders of this mystical region.

Safety remains of utmost importance when researching our expeditions and action is taken to minimize potential hazards and risks. Beyond seeking out places to camp and alternative routes, we also spend time meeting with the locals to gather insider information on the area, climate and wildlife as well as developing positive ways to help their villages.

Most of our expeditions follow remote trails where tourists are few and spectacular views are many. Cross-border routes are some of our most popular, traversing from one country to another through valleys or deserted trails while our innovative single country itineraries are also epic journeys.

We ensure that our expeditions not only push physical limits but also introduce travelers to the most incredible places and people in Southeast Asia. More than just an adventurous holiday, Exotissimo expeditions promote sustainable tourism practices and help travelers develop a deeper appreciation for the immense, yet fragile, beauty of our world.



Hintok, Resotel, and Jungle Raft

The River Kwai, Thailand

Named as one of the top 10 adventure resorts in Asia Pacific by Agoda.com, the Hintok River Camp @ Hellfire Pass sits on a mountain ridge overlooking the River Kwai in Kanchanaburi. Spread across a grassy lawn, each of the 32 stylish safari tents is an oasis of comfort with en-suite bathrooms and private verandas. Wade in the natural spring pool or enjoy a barbecue campfire dinner when dusk falls.

Accessible only by boat, the River Kwai Jungle Rafts is another ecolodge that has made Agoda.com's top ecotourism list. Consisting of 100 rooms tucked into floating bamboo lodges moored along the historical river, the tropical outpost affords plenty of activities, from enjoying Mon folk dances to canoe trips to exploration of hidden caves.

The River Kwai RESOTEL is a serene hideaway with 93 chalets surrounded by verdant greenery beside the Kwai Noi River. The resort offers soothing herbal massages, a turquoise pool, a pier with daybeds for riverside lounging and nature excursions into Kanchanaburi's wildlife-rich areas.

SUSTAINABLE STAYS



From spectacular mountain lodges to tree-top cabins and lakeside retreats, there is no shortage of eco-friendly accommodation options in Southeast Asia. Often set in stunning locations, these retreats connect guests to local cultures and the environment in an authentic way. Exotissimo incorporates these green stays to encourage our guests to minimize their impact while traveling in Southeast Asia.

Homestays | When we visit remote locations, homestays are our favorite accommodation. Whether it is an overnight stay with a hilltribe family in their stilted house in the Thai highlands or a Vietnamese family aboard their floating house in Halong Bay, a homestay experience allows guests to meet locals and become familiar with the traditional ways of life. These stays often provide a sustainable source of income for these rural communities as well as a means of cultural preservation and continuity.

Eco-lodges | Designed and operated in harmony with their surroundings, eco-lodges create impactful conservation initiatives while utilizing local labor and businesses. They also make good launch pads for excursions into pristine environs, whether it is interacting with the hilltribe people in Thailand's borders or spotting endangered river dolphins along the Mekong River. Each destination country of Exotissimo is home to eco-friendly accommodation options, such as Lisu Lodge in the Chiang Mai outskirts, The Boat Landing Guest House in Luang Nam Tha and Topas Eco-Lodge in the Sapa highlands.

Camping | Spending the night under a starry sky surrounded by the majestic splendor of the Angkor temples or falling asleep to the lull of waves gently breaking against a remote beach in Phang Nga Bay, these back-to-basics stays immerse travelers in the scenic beauty of Southeast Asia's wilderness. For guests who prefer camping in style and comfort, Exotissimo offers luxury safari tents that come complete with air conditioning, real beds, showers and toilet amenities.

Lisu Lodge, Chiang Mai Province Lanjia Lodge, Chiang Rai Province Thailand

The Lisu and Lanjia Lodges are epitomes of community-based tourism in Southeast Asia. Built in traditional styles and staffed by local villagers, these rustic retreats provide an immersive cultural experience while ensuring a low-impact stay.

Nestled in Chiang Mai's highlands, Lisu Lodge is a veritable sanctuary of Lisu heritage. Designed to blend harmoniously with the surroundings, the lodge features 24 guestrooms outfitted with basic modern comforts and en-suite bathrooms. Guests are extensively briefed on the tribal customs before making contact with the villagers and venturing on locally-led treks into the unspoiled countryside.

Perched on a hillside overlooking the Mekong River, the 16-room Lanjia Lodge is tucked within a Lahu and Hmong village. This remote outpost pays homage to the resplendent hilltribe cultures by decorating the interiors with a wealth of tribal costumes and hand-stitched fabrics while actively working with an established non-governmental organization to improve the quality of life in these villages.







Vietnam has a colorful landscape- intriguing hills, lush jungles, pristine beaches, and beautiful waters- and is rapidly emerging as one of the most exciting new destinations for adventure holidays in Asia. Our adventure team is constantly seeking out the best routes, finding opportunities for outdoor exploration and developing sustainable touring options to offer a range of adventures for every traveler.

EXO VIETNAM ADVENTURE TEAM

The Vietnam Adventure team is comprised of avid adventurers ready at a moment's notice to hit the road or the trails. Our team researches and operates innovative programs with a focus on responsible tourism, soft adventures and experiential travel. Many of our guides have been with us for five to ten years and not only are they the region's most knowledgeable guides but also the most enthusiastic. With over 140 bikes in the north and upwards of 100 in the south, a strong back-office team and over sixteen years of experience Exotissimo is one of the most well-established adventure operators in Vietnam.

THE DESTINATIONS

Sapa | Sapa is one of Vietnam's most popular trekking destinations and not surprisingly so. Although the areas near Sapa town are beautiful, we favor excursions to more remote markets and homestays in hilltribe villages for soft adventurers. Or for a real challenge, intensive multi-day treks to Sapa's outskirts are richly rewarding.



Central Highlands | Featuring a series of plateaus along the Lao and Cambodian borders, the Central Highlands is home to unique ethnic groups and pristine wilderness. Although the infrastructure is not as good as in other locations, intrepid travelers will enjoy discovering the rugged beauty of this region.

ITINERARY OPTIONS

Hue and Surroundings | Central Vietnam is noted for its cultural and historical sites yet is often overlooked as an adventure destination. Cycling and trekking around these areas offers a fresh perspective on the region as well as explores its natural beauty- flanked by mountains to the west and the coast to the east.

Ha Giang and the Far North | Our favorite alternative to Sapa, Ha Giang offers similar terrain and adventure options yet with far less tourists. Accessible by a 5 hour drive from Hanoi, Ha Giang has long trekking options or a new eco-lodge from which daytime excursions can be based.



Mekong Delta | The flat roads of the Mekong Delta are ideal for easy cycling journeys, which are guaranteed to take you beyond the well-trodden tourist trail. Biking on the quiet roads give you the chance to witness local lifestyles, diverse cultures and beauty of the region and a homestay adds to the experience.

Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City | The cities may seem busy but our cycling and walking tours unveil the quieter rhythms and ancient traditions of Vietnam. Led by locals and avoiding the busy streets, we expose overlooked aspects of city life and the incredible ancient villages on the outskirts of town.

Halong Bay | To put an adventurous twist on a classic Halong Bay trip, try kayaking in the Bay's turquoise waters or rock climbing on the hundreds of limestone karsts. Additionally, homestays at the floating villages offer a unique local experience and nearby Cat Ba is a good stopover for exploring mangrove forests and fishing villages.



➤ HANOI TO SAIGON BIKE RIDE

10 Days / 9 Nights

- DAY 1** Hanoi arrival and city tour.
- DAY 2** Cycle Hanoi's outskirts. Overnight train to Hue.
- DAY 3** Early morning arrival in Hue. Bike to Citadel and to mausoleums of former emperors.
- DAY 4** Challenging ride to Hoi An along Highway 1 with three climbs including famous Hai Van Pass.
- DAY 5** Ride quiet back roads to My Son. Return by vehicle.
- DAY 6** Cycle past the Marble Mountains to Danang. Afternoon flight to Nha Trang.
- DAY 7** Short transfer to the ride's starting point. After a flat 40km, climb to the Dalat highlands.
- DAY 8** Coast downhill to Phan Thiet. Afternoon at the beach.
- DAY 9** Morning cycle along the coast to Khe Ga Light-house. Continue by vehicle to Ho Chi Minh City.
- DAY 10** Departure.

➤ MAI CHAU & PU LUONG TREK

9 Days / 8 Nights

- DAY 1** Arrive in Hanoi. Afternoon walking tour.
- DAY 2** Drive southwest to Mai Chau. 6km trek to Pom Coong Village. Overnight in a lodge.
- DAY 3** Full day 'Elephant Valley' trek. Hilltribe homestay.
- DAY 4** Trek to Hang Village along parts of the Ho Chi Minh Trail and through Pu Luong Nature Reserve.
- DAY 5** Visit small villages with a trek through limestone mountains of Pu Luong. Overnight homestay.
- DAY 6** Downhill trek to early morning market. Continue to Nua village for overnight in an eco-lodge.
- DAY 7** Short, challenging trek to Hin Village. Return Hanoi.
- DAY 8** Relaxing day trip to Halong Bay.
- DAY 9** Departure.



ANTON JURGENS | Adventure Manager
Vietnam

The real Vietnam is far beyond the tourist sites, among the villages where people live out their lives a world away from our own. I like a trip that has it all and our multi activity adventure combines the best the country has to offer from the bustling cities to the cultural oasis of Hoi An, the calm natural beauty of the Mekong Delta to the striking contrast of the mountains, culminating with an outstanding few days in Halong Bay. What more could you ask from in a trip?



Vietnam is a diverse playground for adventurers. Trekkers and cyclists have the opportunity to explore not only wildlife but also the richness and diversity of cultures. From full length expeditions on foot or biking day trips through urban jungles, anything is possible in Vietnam. And for luxury travelers, families with young kids or those who just want a taste of adventure, there are unlimited options for soft adventures.



CYCLING

Road Biking | Taking advantage of Vietnam's incredible network of highways and quiet back roads, we offer a number of road biking options. These multi-day tours provide a real feel of the country and its people and can be tailored to suit any fitness level or travel style.

Mountain | The spectacular mountains of Sapa, gentle valleys of Mai Chau and forests of the Dalat Plateau are all exhilarating off-road destinations. From easy going to extreme, mountain biking in Vietnam is always an adventure.

Cycling Site Seeing | Meandering side streets of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City or cruising around Hue and Hoi An by bike is an enjoyable way to sightsee. Our guides take you to local spots where you will not only encounter friendly locals but discover a side of the city not seen from a bus seat.

TREKKING

Homestays | An overnight with a local family is one of the most richly rewarding experiences a traveler can have. We have worked with local villages to develop a set of light treks in the northern and central highlands with homestay visits that promote cultural exchanges in a sustainable manner.

Expeditions | Taking travelers way off the beaten path, our expedition treks involve days of intense hikes through untouched hills and landscapes to lesser known areas of Vietnam. Trek along the Ho Chi Minh trail for a historic journey or climb Mt Fansipan over four challenging days for an unforgettable adventure.

Day Hikes | Whether short on time or simply preferring an overnight in a hotel, day hikes are an easy way to experience Vietnam's natural beauty. Setting off from a hotel or lodge with a local guide, trek 2-4 hours in total stopping for lunch in a hilltribe village or a picnic in a stunning location.

EXPERIENTIAL

Insider Touring | Adventure is not always about adrenaline-pumping journeys, it is also about immersion into the local culture. Spend a day slurping noodles and trying local delights with a famous chef, dine with a historian in his ancestral house or travel with a photographer to seek out the country's most colorful sites. Our insider tours are led by experts in their fields.

City Walking Tours | A walk through Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh reveals an exciting blend of ancient cultures and increasingly modern lifestyles. Meet local personalities, find unusual sites and sip coffees at a streetside café to absorb the rhythms of Vietnamese life.

Luxury Adventures | Adding a touch of style to an adventurous holiday can turn an ordinary Vietnam journey to an extraordinary one. Our Vietnam team offers sidecar touring through rice fields, gourmet picnics in exotic locations and safari-style camping.



OTHER OPTIONS

Kayaking | The quiet waters of Halong Bay and Cat Ba Island are ideal sea kayaking locations. With no previous experience required, our kayaking excursions paddle between the islands, through limestone caves and to clusters of floating villages.

Rock Climbing and Caving | The endless limestone formations in Vietnam are only recently being explored by intrepid travelers. Exhilarating canyoning and rappelling day trips can be arranged in Dalat while Halong Bay is gaining attention for its rock climbing routes.

EXO SIGNATURE TOURS

* Mai Chau and Pu Luong Trek

Intensive trekking through Vietnam's western border area, sections of the Ho Chi Minh Trail and Pu Luong Nature Reserve. Overnights in village homestays or eco-lodges.

Duration: 6 days; Difficulty: Moderate to challenging

* Biking the Northern Highlands

Bike across rural landscapes in Vietnam's north-west, staying in villages and four-star hotels. 60-110km a day along mostly sealed roads.

Duration: 8 days; Difficulty: Moderate

* Riding the Ho Chi Minh Trail

Cycle the famous trail in full or partially to discover its history and diverse terrains.

Duration: 10 days; Difficulty: Challenging

* North to South Multi-Sport

Traverse Vietnam's length from Hanoi to Mekong Delta, and experience a myriad of activities from kayaking to cycling and trekking.

Duration: 14 days; Difficulty: Moderate

* Meandering the Mekong by Bike

Explore the Delta through cycling, homestay and boat trips. Ideal for families or as an extension to a classic Vietnam tour.

Duration: 4 days; Difficulty: Easy

➤ NORTH CYCLING LOOP

11 Days / 10 Nights

- DAY 1** Arrive in Hanoi.
- DAY 2** Transfer half way to Mai Chau and then cycle amid limestone karsts to Mai Chau. Overnight in an eco-lodge.
- DAY 3** A challenging uphill climb to Moc Chau to visit the Hmong market. Afternoon walking tour and overnight in a guesthouse.
- DAY 4** Coast downhill to a Pa Co village with short road transfer to Yen Chau. Continue by bike to Son La.
- DAY 5** A long but scenic day of riding to Tuan Giao. Very hilly but spectacular views.
- DAY 6** Pedal along a quiet side road to Dien Bien Phu passing through hilltribe villages. Overnight in a small guesthouse.
- DAY 7** Head off the main route to narrow roads and cycle through countryside in the morning. Continue by road to Lai Chau.
- DAY 8** Off-road cycling along the Nam Na River. Afternoon features a challenging climb followed by a downhill ride through mountain scenery and hilltribe villages to Tam Duong.
- DAY 9** Continue through narrow tracks and villages to Sapa. Optional afternoon trek.
- DAY 10** Climb challenging hills to Ban Khoang for spectacular views. Descend to Lao Cai for showers and dinner. Overnight train to Hanoi.
- DAY 11** Arrive in Hanoi early morning. Free at leisure until departure.



NGUYEN HA GIANG | Adventure Guide Vietnam

Seeing Vietnam by bike is the best way to discover the country. Hue - Nha Trang is my favorite tour as it's not too difficult nor too easy so different type of clients can enjoy the route. Northwest Cycling tour though is also a favorite! It's very challenging, the most difficult in Vietnam, but the scenery is the most beautiful in the country. The Northwest is also my favorite part of Vietnam- there are many hilltribes and as I am part H'Mong I can relate easily to the local people.



Thailand sits between the old world and the new, making it a fascinating country to take an adventure holiday. With beautiful scenery, Thailand is a well-established playground- the mountainous northern areas beckon trekkers and mountain bikers, while the south offers kayaking, scuba diving, and other water sports. Whether a hardened adventurer or a weekend warrior, Thailand's diverse landscape is perfectly suited for your active holiday.

EXO THAILAND ADVENTURE TEAM

Exotissimo has a dedicated Adventure Team who possesses cutting edge knowledge of Thailand's latest trails and destinations. Based in Chiang Mai, the team members hail from places as far away as Holland and as close by as a rural hilltribe village on the Lao border. Yet they all share a passion for Thailand, its culture, history and natural beauty and work tirelessly to share this enthusiasm with travelers. Utilizing the best equipment in the region and paying attention to every detail, our crew ensures that our Thailand adventures exceed everyone's expectations.

THE DESTINATIONS

Chiang Mai & North | Chiang Mai has long been a favorite of intrepid travelers for its rolling hills, blend of hilltribe cultures and nearby lakes and rivers. In the vicinity, Chiang Dao, Mae Taeng Valley and Doi Inthanon National Park are our favorite places for trekking, cycling trails and spotting wildlife, while Mae Kampong offers authentic local interaction opportunities.



Bangkok and Surroundings | Often overlooked by adventurers, the capital is one giant urban playground. Cycling in and around the city offers a fresh perspective, nearby river islands offer quiet trails and local villages to explore and several national parks can be reached for an overnight stay in the great outdoors.

ITINERARY OPTIONS

Khao Yai | A short distance from Bangkok yet far from its frantic pace of life, Khao Yai National Park is home to nature trails for trekking and a network of smooth quiet roads for cycling. The forests, waterfalls and jungles are filled with a diverse array of wildlife ideal for soft adventure exploration.

Khao Sok & South | Offering more than just snorkeling and scuba diving, the southern provinces boast a variety of outdoor sports. When camping, trekking or kayaking in Khao Sok National Park in the peninsular south travelers are likely to encounter gibbons and other exotic wildlife while sea kayakers in the Andaman Sea will be greeted by colorful marine life and pristine shorelines.



Sangkhlaburi & Umphang | Located near the Burmese border crossing at the distant edge of Thailand, Sangkhlaburi and Umphang provinces sit in a landscape of mountains and isolated hilltribe villages. These western areas still

see very few foreign visitors and are emerging as popular adventure destinations; the rich, fertile forests, limestone mountains and waterfalls make a magnificent setting for trekking and rafting. Multi-day and multi-activity itineraries can be adapted to any fitness level and can be resort based, include camping or home stays with Karen villagers.

Kanchanaburi | Rafting, elephant riding and off-road cycling in Kanchanaburi are a few of the ways to explore Thailand's natural beauty. Close to the capital, day trips or multi-day excursions with overnights on river rafts are good options for families and soft adventurers who do not want to travel far.



➤ CYCLE CHIANG MAI TO PRANBURI

14 Days / 13 Nights

- DAY 1** Fly to Chiang Mai.
- DAY 2** Day tour of Chiang Mai's main sights.
- DAY 3** Cycle to Wiang Kum Kam lost city and on to Lamphun. Transfer to Lampang by bus.
- DAY 4** Challenging, hilly ride from Lampang to Phrae. Continue by road to Uttaradit.
- DAY 5** Long, mainly flat cycling journey to Sukhothai. En route stop at ancient pottery villages and historical parks.
- DAY 6** Day at leisure to ride around Sukhothai Historical Park.
- DAY 7** Full day ride through the countryside to Kampaeng Phet.
- DAY 8** Follow the Chao Phraya River with a ride to Uthai Thani. Afternoon excursion to Koh Tepo Island.
- DAY 9** Using ferries to cross the river, reach Chai Nat by bike and onwards to Ayutthaya by bus.
- DAY 10** Bike through Ayutthaya Historical Park and to Bang Pa In Palace. Bus transfer to Kanchanaburi.
- DAY 11** Visit a local floating market before continuing to Pranburi by road.
- DAY 12** Scenic, flat ride around Pranburi area followed by boat trip to National Park.
- DAY 13** Drive to Bangkok. Afternoon cycling tour through the city's outskirts.
- DAY 14** Depart Bangkok.



BASTIAAN BRUNING | Adventure Manager Thailand

If you really want to experience Thailand's natural beauty and exotic cultures, then the Old Elephant Trail is the perfect expedition for you. We researched a part of the country seldom visited by tourists and have set up a route that gives maximum chances for interaction with the local hilltribes. But not everyone likes a challenging trekking expedition like I do, so we have several shorter 'softer' hikes in the same region.



Although Thailand is known primarily for its trekking, Exotissimo offers a wide range of adventure products in the Kingdom. We offer some old classics, like hilltribe trekking, as well as some of the most unique 'Exo-only' programs that cannot be found elsewhere. Regardless of the adventure, our products are well researched and customized to suit individual travelers' needs.



EXPERIENTIAL

Meaningful Journeys | Tapping in to what we value most, we create meaningful journeys rather than tourist agendas. Using our local knowledge, we find opportunities for you to meet with and talk to people who you may not encounter as a regular tourist, knowing that it is the people who really define Thailand's cultural identity.

Voluntourism | We have teamed up with several local charities to create volunteer opportunities throughout Thailand. Eco-buffs can plant trees in the jungle while sea lovers can work with families in ongoing rehabilitation projects in the tsunami-damaged areas along the Andaman coastline. Anyone will be warmed by the friendly smiles as they teach English to children in these coastal villages.

Special Touches | A steaming cup of Thai coffee awaiting you outside your tent on a misty morning. A refreshing wet towel handed to you when you board a bus. A blessing by a local monk before embarking on a cycling journey. It's these small touches that set us apart from the rest.

CYCLING

Cycle Touring | The best way to see Thailand is by touring on bicycle, whether center-based or point-to-point. We have researched and created itineraries for different fitness levels and budget requirements ranging from luxurious bike sojourns to tough multi-day charity rides. We provide full vehicle support, mountain bikes and an experienced guide to ride with every group. One of our most popular itineraries is the 10 day Chiang Mai to Bangkok ride.

Mountain Biking | For more serious or specialist groups we can organize real mountain bike tours. The best mountain biking is in the vicinity of Chiang Mai, where we are based, with a variety of trails for day-trips or multi-day rides.

Road biking | Thailand offers some of the best road biking routes in the world. With good roads, an incredibly diverse countryside, amazing scenery and great weather, especially in the winter, the roads of Thailand are really a roadie's heaven.

Cycling Site-Seeing | Sukhothai, Ayutthaya, Bangkok and Chiang Mai are popular stops for tourists, however experiencing these sites by bike is an interesting twist on traditional sightseeing. Seeking out quiet roads and stopping whenever desired, touring by bike is not only fun but also eco-friendly.

TREKKING

Expeditions | Developed after extensive research and designed to challenge, our long expedition journeys reach remote corners of the country rarely seen by travelers and are filled with experiences unavailable in the rest of the region. Trekking ancient trading routes or cycling overland to neighboring countries, Exotissimo Expeditions push the boundaries of adventure travel.

Homestays | The best way to understand and appreciate the unique cultures of Thailand's hilltribes are through homestays. Whether traveling by jeep to a remote, yet comfortable, village for a one night stay or trekking through thick jungles to secluded hilltribes our homestay experiences capture the authentic Thai lifestyles.

Nature Hikes | Accompanied by local botanist and wildlife experts, light hikes in Khao Yai and Khao Sok National Parks unveil the bountiful plant and animal life in Thailand. Catered to match all fitness levels, we seek out Thailand's best specialists and find the most vibrant regions for these excursions.



OTHER ADVENTURES

Family Adventure | We know the joys, and understand the challenges, of traveling with kids and design family adventures with careful consideration. Our favorite family programs include kayaking to a remote island in Phang Nga Bay for a night of camping, rafting down the gentle rapids of the Pai River or an overnight trek to a hilltribe lodge.

Water Sports | Taking advantage of the spectacular coastline and inner waterways of Thailand, we feature a range of water-based activities. We highly recommend rafting down the Pai River, kayaking in Khao Sok National Park and sea kayaking-day or evening- in Phang Nga Bay for a different perspective on the Thai scenery.

Off Road Adventures | Using four wheel drive vehicles and experienced drivers, we have crafted exhilarating excursions around the Chiang Mai region traveling along dirt trails and stopping at hilltribe villages far off the beaten path and, as of yet, undiscovered by other tourists.

EXO SIGNATURE TOURS

* Cycle the Bangkok Jungle

Leisurely cycling journey through Bangkok's green heart passing canals, temples and gardens.

Duration: 1 day; Difficulty: Easy

* Umphang Multi-Sport Adventure

A balance of adventure and comfort- hiking, elephant riding, rubber rafting and cycling in the day with stays in hotels each night.

Duration: 5 days; Difficulty: Moderate

* Khao Sok Jungle Safaris

Trek, kayak and ride an elephant in Khao Sok National Park with stays in treetop cabins or aboard river rafts recommended.

Duration: 3 days; Difficulty: Easy

* Old Elephant Trail

Trek 5-8 hours a day along an old trading route along the Thai-Burmese border. A challenging program with join-in tours or private excursions available.

Duration: 4-9 days; Difficulty: Moderate to challenging

* River Kwai Nature & Adventure

Explore history, nature and culture with light treks, rafting and walking tours in Kanchanaburi and along River Kwai.

Duration: 3 days; Difficulty: Moderate

ITINERARY OPTIONS

➤ FAMILY MULTI SPORT ADVENTURE

11 Days / 10 Nights

DAY 1 Arrive Chiang Mai.

DAY 2 Visit Mae Kampong village. Light trek through coffee fields and lunch with a family. Afternoon zip-line adventure.

DAY 3 Visit Doi Suthep temple, a small Hmong hilltribe village and an elementary school. Interact with the students and join them for lunch.

DAY 4 Drive to Pai stopping at waterfalls and hot springs.

DAY 5 Full day white water rafting adventure. Overnight in a jungle camp.

DAY 6 Continue rafting to the Mae Hong Son Valley. Transfer by road to town.

DAY 7 Visit long-neck hilltribes and enjoy an elephant ride near the Burmese border. Drive to Chiang Mai.

DAY 8-10 Fly to Phuket. Continue to Khao Sok National Park for two days at the rafthouses or join our kayaking and camping trip in the south.

DAY 11 Departure.

➤ CAMP AND KAYAK IN PHANG NGA BAY

4 Days / 3 Nights

DAY 1 Arrive in Phuket.

DAY 2 Travel by longtail boat to Hong Island. Spend the day kayaking around and through caves. Seafood buffet dinner with kratong lantern launch as the sun sets. Evening kayaking under the stars. Transfer to Koh Panak island for camping on a quiet beach.

DAY 3 Early morning paddle near Koh Panak. Excursion to other side of Phang Nga Bay for more kayaking and picnic lunch. Return to Phuket.

DAY 4 Depart Phuket.



HAMISH KEITH

Managing Director
Thailand

I started my career in travel as an adventure tour guide back in the early 90's leading Bangkok to Bali overland trips and have been leading, operating or selling adventure travel in Asia in one form or another ever since. Bicycle touring has always been my passion and there is nothing more fun or rewarding as creating a new bike tour and watching it become part of people's travel experience in Asia. My favorite tour in Thailand? Chiang Mai to Bangkok by bicycle is simply the best way to discover this fascinating and beautiful country, meet the people and discover the real Thailand!

adventure@exotissimo.com | 15



Cambodia is one of Asia's emerging destinations for Adventure travelers. Although not as well known as nearby Thailand and Vietnam, Cambodia is filled with potential for active tours. Diverse landscapes, rich biodiversity, and a plethora of remote villages are waiting to be explored. Even traditional tourist favorites like Angkor Wat take on a whole different perspective when viewed on foot or by bike.

EXO CAMBODIA ADVENTURE

Based in Siem Reap with an additional operations team in Phnom Penh, our Cambodia Adventure Department comprises of locals and expatriates with a shared passion for adventure and eco-friendly travel. Exotissimo owns a fleet of bikes and camping gear and has a group of enthusiastic guides who are not only experienced in tourism, but are also trained in first aid, skilled in bike maintenance and some are even expert fireside cooks. The knowledge and flexibility of our team contributes to the Exotissimo philosophy of offering professional, safe and fun adventure vacation experiences.

THE DESTINATIONS

Mekong River | Northern Cambodia is great for eco-tourism activities, especially along the 'Mekong Discovery Trail'. This path follows the Mekong River from the town of Kampong Cham north through Cambodia and into southern Laos, with cycling, homestays and exploration of the riverine life, including the endangered Irrawaddy Dolphins in Kratie.



Rattanakiri | Located in the remote northeast, the taxing road journey from Phnom Penh or Kratie has attributed to the lack of tourists to this province. But we know that the effort is greatly rewarded with treks through unusual, diverse hilltribe villages, rolling terrain, volcanic lakes and unspoiled jungles.

ITINERARY OPTIONS

Siem Reap | Although the most popular destination in Cambodia, we like to show a different side of Siem Reap through adventure. Overnight treks to remote temples include camping under the stars and cycling through the Angkor Park offering ways to gain a unique perspective on the sheer size and scope of the ancient sites. The area's wildlife can be explored by horseback or boat, or, for adventures of a faster pace, helicopters and quad-bikes.



Koh Kong | The southwestern province of Koh Kong offers miles of unspoiled coastline, mountains and jungles, making it one of our favorite soft adventure locations. Kirirom National Park, the province and Koh Kong island are all worth a stop on the overland route from Sihanoukville to Thailand's Koh Chang.



Battambang, Pailin & The Cardomans

The wild west of Cambodia, this border area with Thailand features endless stretches of countryside and the wildlife-rich Cardoman Mountains. Cycling overland from Bangkok or trekking through the

mountains, our western adventures unveil an unusual part of the country heavily influenced by Burmese culture and untouched by modern society.

Phnom Penh | In and around the capital, the flat roads are ideal for cycling trips. Although busy in the city, just a few kilometers away the traffic clears giving way to scenic countryside where lifestyles remain traditional. We offer bike rides to small river islands, fruit plantations and craft villages such as Kampong Chhnang.

Sihanoukville & Kep | The beaches of Sihanoukville and nearby islands are ideal for snorkeling and other water sports. Nearby Ream National Park offers trekking through its wetlands to spot gibbons, deer, and elusive freshwater dolphins.



Following the coast eastwards, Kampot and Kep are great destinations for easy exploration of the countryside with cycling and trekking routes to durian farms, caves, and secluded waterfalls.

BIKING THE MEKONG

7 Days / 6 Nights

- DAY 1** Arrive at the Cambodia/Lao border from Si Phan Don. Cycle 60 km to Stung Treng on the Sekong River. Dine at a charity-run restaurant.
- DAY 2** Cycle to Kratie following the Mekong River. Midday stop at O'Russey Kandal ecotourism resort for lunch and swim in the lake. Continue to Kratie with a boat trip to spot endangered Irrawaddy Dolphins.
- DAY 3** Cross the Mekong and continue biking south through Muslim and Buddhist villages. Stop en route at temples for a picnic. Reach Kampong Cham early evening.
- DAY 4** Pedal away from the Mekong and along side streets to Kampong Thom.
- DAY 5** Early morning ride through the temples of Sambor Prei Kuk. Continue to a local community for lunch in riverside huts. Vehicle transfer to Banteay Kdei on Siem Reap's outskirts and cycle into town.
- DAY 6** Full day of cycling at the Angkor Archaeological Park.
- DAY 7** Depart Siem Reap.

PHNOM KULEN CAMPING

2 Days / 1 Nights

- DAY 1** Depart Siem Reap by jeep to the base of Kulen Mountain. Trek or continue by jeep uphill through the forested area to the campsite. Pass Kbal Spean, the River of 1000 Lingas, en route to the campsite. Dinner and overnight camping.
- DAY 2** Return to Siem Reap stopping at Banteay Srei and the Roulous temples en route.



MILES GRAVETT | Adventure Manager Cambodia

My favorite Exo Adventure tour is the Ratanakiri Experience- an area that is both fascinating and formidable. The stunning landscape and unique cultures cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Swimming in crystal clear Yoklom Crater Lake, hiking to remote waterfalls, visiting tribes of people still hunting and gathering for survival in the lush jungles, Ratanakiri is an experience to be remembered. To top it off there is nothing like coming home to a cold beer and a nice shower at the beautiful Terrace Rouges lodge.



With flat plains covering most of the country and a sparsely-populated countryside, Cambodia offers prime roads for cycling with seemingly endless touring possibilities. In addition, the country has highlands such as the Cardamon mountains in the southwest and the Mondulkiri area in the northeast where trekkers can experience pristine landscapes and discover unusual indigenous tribes.



CYCLING

Rural Journeys | We thrive on taking travelers beyond the main tourist sites and think that there is nothing like taking in the rural beauty of Cambodia on a bike. Endless stretches of quiet backroads provide scenic views of farmlands and rice fields, temples and villages and the opportunity to meet friendly locals along the way.

Touring by Bike | Slowly pedaling along the shady lanes of the Angkor Archeological Park shows Angkor in a different way. Avoiding the busloads of tourists, touring by bike allows one to take in the magic of Cambodia's ancient wonders at a leisurely pace and discover hidden temples along the way.

Crossing Borders | Traveling to neighboring Laos, Vietnam and Thailand is an Exotissimo specialty. With our network of adventure departments, we take you through rural areas and across scenic borders to experience the diversity of cultures Asia has to offer.

TREKKING & CAMPING

Hike Angkor | Trek from temple to temple, spend the night alongside ancient ruins and pass through remote villages along the way. The serenity of camping near a temple and awaking to the tranquil air of rural Cambodia is an unbeatable experience.

Homestays & Hill Tribes | While treks to hilltribe villages in neighboring Thailand and Vietnam are a staple of any adventure program, few tourists take the time to explore Cambodia's diverse hilltribes. We have developed a series of overnight homestay options to provide fascinating insight into these cultures, whose people speak unusual local dialects and live a lifestyle untouched by the modern world.

Luxury Camping | Trekking no longer means 'roughing it' with luxury camping options. Experience the country's natural beauty in style, staying in specially designed tents with full beds and toilet facilities, enjoying delicious catered meals and be treated to exemplary service in the jungles, islands, and temples of Cambodia.

SCENIC RIDES

Helicopter Journeys | Although we love seeing the Angkor temples from the ground, the sheer scope and scale of the ruins is truly awe-inspiring when viewed from above. We offer short ten minute flights for a quick view of the main temples or our longer, full day journey flies to remote Beng Melea and Ko Ker temples touching down to explore and enjoy a champagne picnic lunch.

Motorbikes & Jeeps | Exploring the Cambodian countryside is a favorite pastime of our Adventure Team but to negotiate the sometimes perilous rural roads, jeeps and motorbikes are the best. Add a touch of excitement to a Siem Reap holiday with an excursion to remote villages and temples in a jeep or on the back of a motorbike.

River Cruises | Our cruise itineraries include something for everyone and provide a unique perspective on local life. Day trips along the Tonle Sap Lake, sunset cruises on the waterways of Phnom Penh or multi-day journeys through the country's heartland are available as well as longer cross-border programs to Vietnam's Mekong Delta.



ENRICHING JOURNEYS

Family Adventure | In addition to cycling and trekking, Siem Reap is a playground for the entire family with options such as All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) journeys, horseback riding and elephant rides.

Charity Challenges/Voluntourism | Make a difference to the lives of the Cambodian people. Exotissimo arranges holidays that are not only fun and inspirational, but will also make a positive impact on the country. Whether it is long expeditions to raise money for a particular charity or hands-on projects in the countryside, these rewarding trips give something back in a responsible manner.

Cultural Immersion | Sometimes 'adventure' is as much about the experience as it is about the physical effort. The lesser known attractions and deep rooted culture of Cambodia form the essence of our hands-on discovery tours- from culinary delights to Khmer arts traditions and everything in between.

EXO SIGNATURE TOURS

* Cycling the Mekong

Ride from Siem Reap to the Lao border. Includes several charity visits and ample opportunities for local interaction.

Duration: 7-10 days; Difficulty: moderate

* Phnom Kulen Camping

Camp next to a waterfall at Phnom Kulen on the outskirts of Siem Reap. Opt for a challenging hike or 4WD soft-adventure.

Duration: 2 days; Difficulty: easy to challenging

* Trekking the Cardomans

Traverse the jungles of the Cardomans, staying in village lodges or homes. 10-15 kilometers a day through slightly hilly terrain.

Duration: 4 days; Difficulty: moderate

* Biking Kep To Sihanoukville

A leisurely cycling tour of the southern edge of Cambodia averaging 50-70 kilometers a day. Visit fruit plantations, waterfalls and Ream National Park en route.

Duration: 4 days; Difficulty: moderate

ITINERARY OPTIONS

➤ HIKING THE CARDOMANS

3 Days / 2 Nights

- DAY 1** Drive southwest from Phnom Penh to Andoung Tuk village. Take a 2 hour boat journey through mangrove forests to Chi Pat village. Overnight in an eco-lodge.
- DAY 2** Trek through small villages and along old logging trails. Visit caves and waterfalls, stop for lunch in a hilltribe village and spend the night in a homestay.
- DAY 3** Awake early for sunrise. Trek downhill to the eco-lodge and continue by boat to Angdoung Tuk. Transfer to Phnom Penh or further south to the coast.

➤ SOUTH COAST DISCOVERY

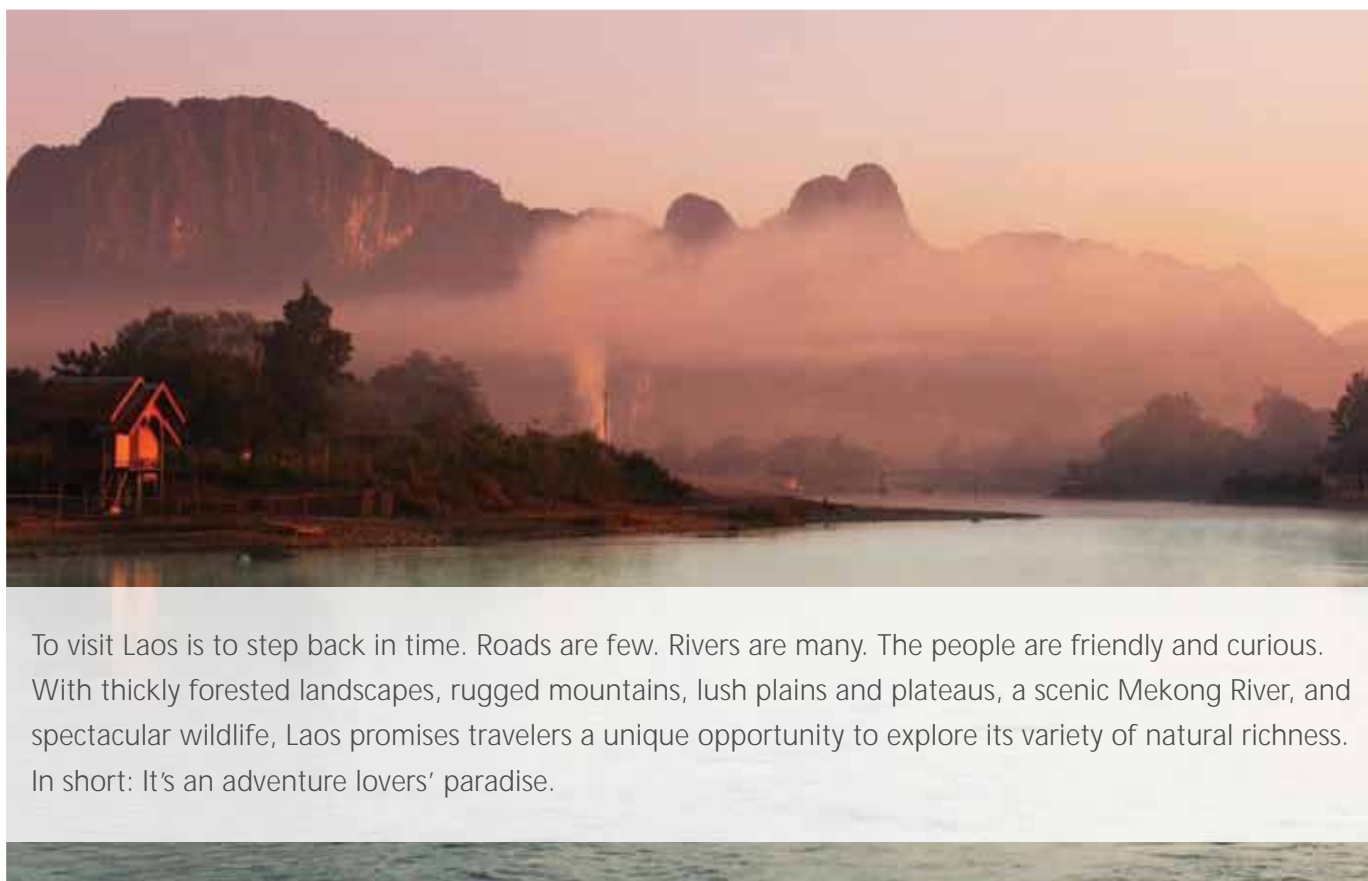
8 Days / 7 Nights

- DAY 1** Depart from Phnom Penh or arrive via Vietnam to the town of Kep.
- DAY 2** Boat trip to Rabbit Island for snorkeling and optional trek through island interior. Return to Kep late afternoon.
- DAY 3** Cycle 30km along flat roads to Kampot. Excursion to durian farms, rapids and countryside caves.
- DAY 4** Follow the coast to Sihanoukville combining driving and cycling. Arrive mid-afternoon.
- DAY 5** Full day excursion to Ream National Park. Boat ride through mangrove forests, short jungle trekking and lunch in the jungle.
- DAY 6** Half day boat trip to islands around Sihanoukville for snorkeling and swimming.
- DAY 7** Drive to Phnom Penh. Stop in Takeo province at the Tonle Bati area for a picnic lunch. Option to continue to the Cardoman Mountains instead for additional trekking and camping.
- DAY 8** Depart Phnom Penh.



PAGNA SENG | Adventure Assistant
Cambodia

For a sustainable adventure, head to the Mekong River where you can make a positive impact on the Cambodian people and enjoy unique, local encounters. In Kratie we work with river guides to teach them responsible ways to show tourists the endangered Irrawaddy dolphins. We hire bikes from villagers for a ride around Koh Trong Island and can arrange homestays for an unforgettable experience. It's a program I'm really proud of- it shows the beauty of my country and gives something back to the Khmer people.



To visit Laos is to step back in time. Roads are few. Rivers are many. The people are friendly and curious. With thickly forested landscapes, rugged mountains, lush plains and plateaus, a scenic Mekong River, and spectacular wildlife, Laos promises travelers a unique opportunity to explore its variety of natural richness. In short: It's an adventure lovers' paradise.

EXO LAOS ADVENTURE

Inspired by nature and committed to delivering authentic, responsible experiences, our Laos adventure team is passionate about creating the perfect adventure. With offices in Luang Prabang, Vientiane and Pakse our teams and guides are able to research the best trails and have unbeatable knowledge of the country's terrain. Our equipment stock includes high-quality mountain bikes, tents and electric bikes as well as safety equipment for water and land activities. Exotissimo guides receive training and conduct research trips regularly to deliver the best and most innovative adventures in Laos.

THE DESTINATIONS

Northwestern Laos | Flanked by mountains, inhabited by countless ethnic groups and receiving very few tourists, the northwest of Laos is prime grounds for an adventure trip. Lured by the tranquil landscapes, our Adventure team has thoroughly mapped and organized treks and cycling journeys in the area and worked with local villages to offer community-based tours.



Luang Prabang | Although it is easy to fall into the laid-back rhythms of Luang Prabang, the town's surroundings is one of our favorite playgrounds for soft adventures. Elephant riding in the jungle, kayaking down the Nam Ou and light treks through hilltribe villages are just a few of the excursions available in the area.

ITINERARY OPTIONS

Southern Laos | The inspiring landscapes of Southern Laos have led us to create a range of trekking and cycling tours for authentic outdoor experiences. The Boloven plateau is filled with trekking routes through coffee plantations and waterfalls, the Mekong is home to the endangered Irrawaddy River dolphins and dotted with sleepy islands perfect for cycling and the Xe Pian protected area offers opportunities for village visits and elephant rides.



Vientiane | Part of the reasons why we love the capital city is that within a short drive, one can be in the middle of a pristine nature reserve or alongside a tranquil lake. Day trips to Phou Khao Kway National Park for trekking or a boat trip and picnic on the Nam Ngum Reservoir provide a touch of adventure during a stay in the capital.



Nam Ou Valley | Overshadowed by the popularity of the Mekong River, the quiet Nam Ou and its riverside villages offer quieter alternatives for boat and trekking journeys. Departing from Luang Prabang, we offer overnight journeys in the valley with homestays or overnights in local guesthouses.

Xam Neau and Vieng Xai | Mystical and haunting, the mountainous northeast is about as rugged as it gets. A former hang-out of the Pathet Lao during the revolution, we think the terrain is some of the most challenging and intriguing in the country. The perilous road journey has limited travelers, yet for those seeking a truly 'out there' experience, we highly recommend it.

Eastern Laos | One of the least explored sections of Laos, the area east of Vientiane is sure to delight intrepid adventurers. The road travel is rough but the scenery is spectacular with limestone cliffs and small villages filling the terrain. We offer multi-sport programs including caves, homestays and treks and overland journeys to Vietnam or the mysterious Plain of Jars.



OUTDOOR DELIGHTS OF THE NORTH

8 Days / 7 Nights

- DAY 1** Depart from the Lao/Thai border to Luang Nam Tha. Overnight in an eco-lodge.
- DAY 2** Drive to Muang Sing to start Akha Experience. Trek through hilltribe villages to Ban Lao Khao for a massage, dinner and overnight stay.
- DAY 3** Join the farmers' morning activities. Continue on foot to Ban Tamee village.
- DAY 4** Half day trekking to Muang Sing. Transfer to Luang Nam Tha. Walking or cycling tour of town.
- DAY 5** Cycle over mountainous roads to Oudamxay. Stop for lunch and a rest. Continue by bike to Muang La and soak in the resort's natural hotsprings.
- DAY 6** Set off by car to Pakmong then cycle along the Nam Ou riverbanks to the Pak Ou caves. Visit the caves and take a boat ride to Luang Prabang.
- DAY 7** Early morning participation in the monks' alms collection followed by full day of city touring.
- DAY 8** Depart Luang Prabang.

ADVENTUROUS LUANG PRABANG

4 Days / 3 Nights

- DAY 1** Drive from Luang Prabang to a small Kamu village. Full day of kayaking on the Nam Ou River. Stop to visit hilltribe villages, swim in the waters and have a picnic lunch. Overnight homestay.
- DAY 2** Continue paddling to where the Nam Ou River meets the Mekong. Visit Pak Ou caves and local craft villages. Road transfer to Luang Prabang.
- DAY 3** Elephant ride through the jungle to Tad Sae waterfalls. Picnic lunch and half-day trek to a Kamu village. Return to the city early evening.
- DAY 4** Cycle to Kuang Si waterfalls stopping en route at Hmong villages. Picnic lunch at the falls. Return to the city by bike or van.



JEAN-YVES PAILLE | Adventure Manager
Laos

Southern Laos is my favorite place for an adventure. A trek through the Boloven Plateau reveals a land shared by coffee, waterfalls and hilltribes. Biking along the Mekong takes you to Wat Phou, 4000 islands and majestic Lippi and Khone Phapheng waterfalls. You can pass from one village to another one without making any noise ... watching lazy buffalos lying in the rice fields, fishermen casting their nets or passing by kids playing kataw (local volleyball game) Just make your trail along the river...it's magical.



When traveling in Laos, one cannot ignore the beautiful natural surroundings and our adventures allow travelers to experience that beauty in a number of ways. Authentic homestay experiences and river journeys offer a softer approach to nature discovery while trekking and cycling journeys add a bit more adventure to a Laos holiday.



TREKKING

Expeditions | Whether it is cross border expeditions from Thailand's north, week-long journeys across the rugged northeast or customized treks through the east, our expeditions are designed to challenge physical limits and discover untouched lands.

Homestays & Hill Tribes | Our overnight village homestays or lodges allow travelers to witness the strong cultural traditions of the Lao hilltribes and get a first-hand glimpse of the local lifestyles. With just a short trek, or sometimes accessible by boat, we offer authentic experiences without the strain of a multi-day hike.

Nature Hikes | To discover the rich diversity of the flora and fauna in Laos, our nature hikes are led by local guides who know all the best locations for wildlife spotting. With over 15% of Laos' total land area designated as a 'Biodiversity Conservation Area', there are options for nature hikes in every corner of the country.

SUSTAINABLE TOURS

Voluntourism | We firmly believe in promoting sustainable tourism in Laos and actively encourage our travelers to do the same. Richly rewarding, our voluntourism projects include book donations, English teaching and clean-up projects of the waterways.

Community Based Tourism | Visiting one of our community-based tourism projects in Laos will uncover hidden villages, age-old customs and natural delights. We have CBT options throughout the country ranging from half day to three day itineraries.

Eco Stays | Minimizing environmental impact through a variety of methods, Laos has several eco-friendly accommodation options. We highly recommend staying at these properties as they not only are designed with eco-principles but they also are surrounded by spectacular scenery.

ENRICHING JOURNEYS

Family Adventure | Designed to please both kids and adults, our Laos family adventures are enjoyable and fulfilling holidays. Blending outdoor activities, cultural exploration and kid-friendly hotels we craft an unforgettable family vacation that provides lasting memories.

Immersive Experiences | Exotissimo creates unforgettable experiences for discovering a side of Laos that is rarely seen. Explore a particular aspect of the culture in-depth with an expert guide, partake in ancient local traditions or venture to hidden corners of the country untouched by time.

River Journeys | The waterways of Laos play an integral role in the lives of the people and our boat journeys are designed to provide a glimpse into this riverside life. Day trips around Luang Prabang are a good introduction or longer journeys from the Thai border or in the southern reaches of the Mekong offer more insight in to the importance of these waterways.



CYCLING

Road Biking | With little road traffic and enough variety in the terrain to satisfy any biker, see a different side of Laos with our cycling tours. We offer challenging climbs in the north where isolated mountain passes sweep down into jungle-covered river valleys or less-taxing routes along the flat southern roads.

Day Touring | Traveling by bike through the cities and villages of Laos is, in our opinion, the best way to get a feel of the local lifestyles. By local bike or battery-powered electric bikes, our city tours pedal alongside the locals, through quiet sidestreets and uncover hidden gems that are uniquely Laos.

EXO SIGNATURE TOURS

* Akha Experience

Experience the rich Akha traditions and trek over challenging hills in Northern Laos. Jointly developed by Exotissimo and the Akha hilltribes.

Duration: 2-4 days; Difficulty: moderate

* Boloven Loop

Enjoy coffee tasting sessions, elephant rides in nature reserves, cycling on river islands and a visit to the spectacular Wat Phou.

Duration: 4 days; Difficulty: easy

* Biking Vientiane

Sightsee the city in a fun and eco-friendly way, riding along small lanes to visit monuments and explore hidden sites.

Duration: half day; Difficulty: easy

* Authentic Laos

A soft-adventure program that showcases the scenery and ethnic diversity of Laos with the Akha Experience in the north and trip to Kamu Lodge near Luang Prabang.

Duration: 8 days; Difficulty: easy

* Orchid Trek

Led by an orchid expert and local villagers, explore Phou Khao Kway National Park's native wild orchids and fabulous scenery.

Duration: 1 day; Difficulty: moderate

ITINERARY OPTIONS

➤ CYCLING THE MEKONG

6 Days / 5 Nights

- DAY 1** Fly from Bangkok to Ubon Ratchathani or Pakse.
- DAY 2** Transfer to Don Daeng island in the middle of the Mekong River. Take a short bike ride around the island.
- DAY 3** Cross the river by boat and cycle to Wat Phou Temple. Continue by bike to Champassak for lunch and to explore the town. Return to Don Daeng.
- DAY 4** Cycle along Road 13 to Xe Pian National Protected Area. Ride through the park for a full day of exploring the area's flora and fauna.
- DAY 5** Take a boat ride to Don Khone. Full day riding around the island, observing local lifestyles and visiting small villages.
- DAY 6** Return to Pakse by road or continue cycling south to the Cambodian border.

➤ WILD ORCHIDS & CAVES

7 Days / 6 Nights

- DAY 1** Depart Vientiane for a full day 'Orchids Trek' in Phou Khao Kway Park. Continue to Ban Pako eco-lodge for overnight stay.
- DAY 2** Drive east to Hin Boun province. Visit the 7.5km Konglor cave by boat.
- DAY 3** Drive through dramatic scenery to Thakhek, a quiet town on the Mekong River.
- DAY 4** Full day trek through the area's villages and forests. En route visit to waterfalls and caves, stopping for a picnic with local villagers.
- DAY 5** Drive south to Savannakhet. Stop en route to visit Dong Natad Sacred Forest known for its unusual indigenous community.
- DAY 6** Travel to the Boloven Plateau to visit tea and coffee plantations. Take a light trek to several towering waterfalls. Overnight at a local lodge.
- DAY 7** Transfer to Pakse airport for departure flight.



SOMCHIT MATTHAVONG | Adventure Guide
Laos

Whether on our Akha Experience or our treks in the far north, I enjoy introducing travelers to the local hilltribes and their traditional customs. Hilltribe treks are particularly interesting in the Phongsali province as the blend of cultures is unique to Laos and there are very few tourists. Waking up early, going for a walk in the forest as the village comes to life and taking a cruise down the Nam Ou River as the mist begins to lift is truly a breathtaking experience. I highly recommend hitting the trails in the north to discover a beautiful side of Laos.



Myanmar is a fascinating country, where timeless landscapes and ancient traditions fill its vast land. Over half of the country is covered by thick jungles and beautifully preserved temples fill the countryside. Running north to south, the enormous Irrawaddy River dissects the country in two. For those seeking adventurous travels in an exotic land, look no further than Myanmar.

EXO MYANMAR ADVENTURE TEAM

With a passion for the outdoors, our Myanmar Adventure Team is dedicated to bringing travelers the best adrenaline-pumping experience in the Golden Land. Sourcing the best local guides, who have an intimate knowledge of the land and its people, Exotissimo delivers experiences unmatched by other tour operators. Whether it's taking a walking tour through a rarely visited part of Bagan or heading to the highlands where few tourists have ever been, we do it all. In addition to having offices throughout the country, we are also the only operator in Myanmar with our own fleet of bikes and camping gear.

THE DESTINATIONS

Shan State | Surrounded by endless green mountains and rivers, the eastern Shan State is ideal for a cultural and adventurous trek. Pindaya and Kalaw, near Inle Lake, and Kengtung, just across the Thai border, are our favorite jumping off points for treks through villages inhabited by ethnic minorities such as Danu and Pa-Oh.



Putao | For those looking to really get out there, we recommend Putao, a town perched on the edge of the Himalayas along the Nam Lang River. Spectacular trekking routes, village excursions, kayaking, rafting and mountain biking are all possible in this area and the elegant Malikha Lodge is a comfortable base for soft adventurers.

Kengtung | Located in the south-eastern corner of Myanmar near the border with Thailand, the area around Kengtung is full of rolling hills and ancient, diverse cultures. The Shan-influenced town is a starting point for exploratory treks to neighboring hilltribe villages.



Myeik Archipelago | Comprised of 800 islands off Myanmar's southwestern coast, the Myeik Archipelago is one of our favorite destinations in the region for water-based adventure. Overshadowed by the popular Thai coast, this unspoiled stretch of ocean beckons for kayaking, canoeing and snorkeling, live aboard boats and island hopping excursions.



Chin State & Mt Victoria | In the west of the country, the sparsely populated hills of the area are dominated by Mt Victoria and inhabited by the Chin hilltribe, noted for their tattooed faces. To make this incredibly scenic area

accessible to all travelers, we offer a variety of touring options including four-wheel drive excursions, nature hikes or full mountaineering expeditions.

Bagan | Indian Jones would feel right at home in Bagan. Walking tours through the remote temples, many of which feature cavernous interiors, are an explorer's dreams come true. Our biking and horseback rides are exhilarating ways to see the thousands of monuments in Bagan.

The Cities | On the outskirts of Yangon and Mandalay, cycling journeys are our favorite way to enjoy the architecture, sights and busy markets of Myanmar. We seek out quiet roads and local villages where the traffic is light and the scenery fantastic. From Mandalay, a bike ride to Mingun is highly recommended and Dhala, across the river from Yangon, is another favorite.



ITINERARY OPTIONS

➤ SHAN TREK

3 Days / 2 Nights

- DAY 1** Depart Kalaw for 4 hours of trekking in surrounding hills. Overnight in a Pa-O village.
- DAY 2** Awake early to join your host family in the fields. 4-5 hours of trekking through Danu, Pa-O and Paluang villages. Overnight in a monastery.
- DAY 3** Trek downhill to Indein on the shores of Inle Lake. Transfer by boat to hotel.

➤ MANDALAY TO BAGAN CYCLING

9 Days / 8 Nights

- DAY 1** Arrive in Yangon.
- DAY 2** Fly to Mandalay. Afternoon at leisure.
- DAY 3** Cycle through small villages to the ancient capitals of Amarapura and Mingun. Return to Mandalay by boat along the Irrawaddy. City tour by bike culminating at Mandalay Hill.
- DAY 4** Pedal through Chindwin Valley to Monywa. Explore the town and its temples.
- DAY 5** Early morning ride to Myitche craft village and onwards to Pakkoku. Continue the final 50 km by boat downstream to Bagan.
- DAY 6** Tour the Bagan plains by bike, visiting stupas, villages and craft shops.
- DAY 7** Cycle out of Bagan through rural countryside for a challenging, uphill climb to Mt Popa. Return by car.
- DAY 8** An easy day of biking through Bagan's neighboring towns which are rarely visited by tourists. Evening flight to Yangon.
- DAY 9** Depart Yangon.



AUNG KYAW THU | Adventure Manager
Myanmar

The trip that I like most is Cycling Mandalay to Bagan. It is based on the two places of Myanmar's heart and cultural historical cradle but deviates from the usual tourist path. Cycling along the way you can observe lifestyles and cultural traditions in arid zone of upper Myanmar and get a chance to meet with the local community. Cyclists may face hot weather and bumpy roads, however it is worthwhile as you get the pleasure of seeing the beautiful landscape from a different view.



Exotissimo knows the best rivers, mountains and trails for your Myanmar adventure. We have developed a range of tours from classic three day hilltribe treks to epic cycling rides between cities. Heading off the beaten path or showing a new side of a classic destination, our tours offer allow travelers to choose their level and style of adventure for their Myanmar holiday.



TREKKING

Expeditions | Whether as part of a charity challenge or as an intensive multi-day trek, our specially developed expeditions reward travelers with awe-inspiring scenery and a sense of accomplishment. Our favorite routes are along the edge of the Himalayan mountains in Myanmar's far north and Mt Victoria in the west.

Village to Village | To introduce the diverse cultures of Myanmar, we have developed a series of village to village treks. Ranging from two to five days, these hikes follow the forested paths used by locals to trade goods and travel to the nearest towns and feature overnight stays in monasteries or houses in hilltribe villages.

Nature Hikes | Due to its sparsely populated lands and extensive wetlands, Myanmar is home to hundreds of bird species and other unique wildlife. Around Inle Lake, near the Golden Rock and in towns like Sittwe and Pyin Oo Lwin, day treks with specialist guides can be arranged for bird and animal watching.

EXPERIENTIAL

Festival Touring | Join locals as they make a pilgrimage up the Golden Rock during an auspicious period, partake in parades and water-throwing festivals during the lively Burmese New Year or witness the solemn, full day noviation ceremony of a young monk entering the temple. Our festival tours are immersive experiences and windows to the unique cultures of Myanmar.

Homestays | Experience Burmese hospitality and discover more about the local lifestyles with a homestay. Not only are the Burmese some of the most friendly, welcoming people in the world they also have a deep spiritual side and incredible sense of humor. We work closely with the communities to maximize the benefit of these programs while minimizing impact.

Volunteering | From donations to village schools up to full scale house building projects, we offer several ways to volunteer in Myanmar. Adhering to our strong values of responsible travel, we ensure that our volunteering projects benefit the local communities while enriching travelers with a Myanmar experience.

CYCLING

Road Biking | Very few places in the world offer the opportunity for a cycling journey between ancient capitals- Myanmar is one of them. Following minor roads along mostly flat plains, our rides from Bagan to Mandalay are designed to trace the history of ancient kingdoms and can be tailored to any cyclist's fitness level.

Touring by Bike | With our own fleet of bikes in Bagan, Yangon and Mandalay, we offer plenty of options for day trips around the country. Cycling past temples, landscapes and villages provides a different perspective than from the view of a bus and often brings out curious onlookers to greet you.



SCENIC ADVENTURES

Kayaking & White Water Rafting | We offer several water excursions through some of the country's most scenic locations perfect for paddling enthusiasts or travelers seeking a unique adventure on their holiday. Raft down rapids with the Himalayas as a backdrop on the Nam Lang River or explore the clear waters of the Myeik Archipelago by sea kayak.

Hot Air Ballooning | Scenic balloon flights capture the beauty of Myanmar in a way that is impossible to put into words. We offer sunrise flights over the plains of Bagan or week long journeys encompassing several flights above the lush Shan State.

Elephant Adventures | For an unforgettable outdoor experience try jungle trekking on the back of an elephant. In Myanmar's north we offer elephant encounters of a different kind where semi-wild animals roaming free are available for rides to hilltribe villages.

EXO SIGNATURE TOURS

* Bike & Trek the Shan State

Trek and cycle across Shan State's rolling hills and hilltribe villages with evenings spent in monasteries or homestays.

Duration: 7 days; Difficulty: Moderate

* Mandalay to Bagan Cycling

Get off the beaten trail with rides to Monywa and Pakkoku, a relaxing Irrawaddy cruise and a scenic pedal across the Bagan plains.

Duration: 9 days; Difficulty: Moderate to challenging

* Day Trek around Inle

A range of light treks around Inle Lake to explore the area's rolling terrain and local lifestyles.

Duration: 1 day; Difficulty: Easy

* Mt Victoria Expedition

From Bagan, take a scenic jeep ride to Chin State to trek up Mt Victoria and visit unspoiled Chin villages.

Duration: 3 days; Difficulty: Moderate

* Into the Edge of the Himalayas

Trek along mountain paths, wild rivers and remote hilltribe villages with the Himalayas as a dramatic backdrop.

Duration: 3 days; Difficulty: Moderate to challenging

* Kengtung Adventure

Explore the rich blend of culture and scenery along the Thai and Chinese borders with light treks to different hilltribe villages.

Duration: 3-4 days; Difficulty: Easy

ITINERARY OPTIONS

➤ KENGTUNG ADVENTURE

3 Days / 2 Nights

- DAY 1** Drive from Chiang Mai or Chiang Rai to Mae Sai. Cross to Myanmar, explore the border market. 4 hour drive to Kengtung.
- DAY 2** Jeep transfer to trek start point. 3 hour trek through hilltribe villages and lunch in a local house. Return to Kengtung.
- DAY 3** Visit the colorful morning market followed by an excursion to the hot springs and local pagodas. Afternoon transfer to airport for flight to Yangon or Heho (Inle Lake).

➤ MYEIK LIVEBOARD CRUISE ADVENTURE

6 Days / 5 Nights

- DAY 1** Arrive in Kawthaung.
- DAY 2** Board liveboard boat and cruise 4 hours to Island 115 for snorkeling and kayaking.
- DAY 3** Transfer by longtail boat to Nyaung Wee Island for half day jungle trekking. Visit a sea gypsy village.
- DAY 4** Go ashore on Lampi Island for river kayaking. Afternoon cruise to Nga Mann Island for afternoon on the beach and evening bonfire dinner.
- DAY 5** Cruise back to Kawthaung stopping to snorkel near Myauk Ni Island. Overnight in Kawthaung.
- DAY 6** Departure.



YAN NAING AUNG | Adventure Guide Myanmar

Of all the destinations in Myanmar, I enjoy the Shan Hills for an adventure. The biking trip from Heho - Kalaw - Pindaya is exhilarating as you cycle through flower beds, local farms and beautiful scenery along the way. And all year, the weather is perfect meaning that one can go there without feeling tired. When you trek around Pindaya you get the opportunity to meet the friendly local people and observe their culture and traditions. In my opinion, it is the best trip to enjoy Myanmar's natural beauty and traditional customs.



Enchanted by the endless coastlines, towering volcanoes and rich culture we have decided to add Indonesia as the latest Exotissimo destination. Although Bali has been a longstanding favorite among the region's top tourist destinations, we have sought out hidden enclaves of the island, met fascinating local characters and chartered unseen routes for adventures. And with more than 17,000 other islands to explore we are sure that Exotissimo will lead the way in discovering the best adventures Indonesia has to offer.

THE DESTINATION AND ADVENTURES

Mention Bali and most people picture white beaches and blue seas. While this is true, and the coast offers unlimited options for water sports, it is the interior of the island that allures us with its volcanoes, lush rice fields and opportunities for homestays. Neighboring Java and Lombok also are noted for their diverse terrain and we particularly like other islands such as Sulawesi and Flores for their exotic interiors. Our Adventure team has hit the ground running and will be creating invigorating and enlightening journeys to showcase Indonesia's natural beauty.

EXO SIGNATURE TOURS

Bali Bike, Hike and Raft | We developed this multi-sport journey to cover the island's interior and provide ample opportunities for local interaction. Climb the extinct volcano of Mt Kintamani for sunrise and then coast downhill on a mountain bike through the lava fields. Travel deeper into the island's center for an overnight homestay and village experience. Then raft down the Agung River to encounter class III and IV rapids.

Active East Indies | We take you island hopping from Java to Bali to Lombok to unveil the culture and natural wonders of the East Indies. Combining village visits, meetings with naturalists and local experts and a variety of trekking and cycling excursions this journey is our team's favorite. We can further tailor this journey to suit all levels of adventure travelers, including families.

Experiential Journeys | We have sought out the best guides and hidden places for a series of experiential journeys that offer a new perspective on the local culture. In addition to homestays, we offer hands on cooking classes in rural villages, tours with expert photographers, cultural celebrations and festivals as well as excursions to remote locations by jeep or Harley Davidson for lunches in spectacular settings.

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