

Tour connection Destination



The province and it's people

Phongsaly is famous for its colourful ethnic diversity and its 3 Greens: some people like to say that everything is green above the clouds: the nature, the tea, as well as the rice-whiskey! Without forgetting the ecotourism activities developed by the Tourism Office, of course. The Nam Ou River, essential waterway for local people, is also a highlight for the travellers, the boat journey being a fascinating adventure.

At 1430m the province capital, overlooked by the Phu Fa - the province's landmark, is the highest of the country. Phongsaly is also the only city to have been founded by members of a non-Tai ethnic minority: the Phunoy. Most visitors get a feeling of "no longer being in Laos, not yet having reached China". This is because of Phongsaly's history, the presence of the Hor community, the Yunnanese-style old town and the Chinese-related spoken languages.



How to get to Phongsaly

- + By boat: from Luangprabang - Nongkiew - Muang Khua - Samphan - Phongsaly on Nam Ou river.
- + By bus: Any where with the bus to Phongsaly.

More information

Phongsaly tourist information center:

Call and WhatsApp: +856 20 54284600, +856 20 22572373

Phone: +856 88 210098

E-mail: khamphanhsdp@hotmail.com

Website: www.phongsalytourism.org



Phongsaly Province

Mountains Above Cloud



Old town (center of Phongsaly town)

Unless many other cities in Laos, Phongsaly town has not been destroyed by bombing during in the American war. It features a remaining old quarter with Yunnanese wooden architecture now rare to find in Yunnan itself. Most of the people living here belong to the Hor ethnic group, speaking Chinese. Until the 1970s there has been a Chinese consulate in Phongsaly town, now the 'Phu Fa Hotel'.



Phufa or sky mountain

The Phu Fa Hill, with its 1625m, dominates Phongsaly town. The 45 min hike up to its stupa and Buddha statue on top offers spectacular views of the town and the mountains in far distance.



Ban Kounsouk (Green whisky producing village)

Walking to the green whisky producing village, enjoying the breathtaking view of endless mountain landscape, before trying a shot of the country-wide famous alcohol.



400 year old tea trees and tea pavilion

The famous 400-year-old tea plantation is located about 18 kilometres away in the village of Ban Komaen, which according to some tea experts has some of the oldest tea trees in the world. The large root system of the old trees extends deep into the mineral-rich soil and gives 'Phongsaly Tea' its specific aroma and taste. The oldest trees stand 6 m high with a stem up to 30 cm in diameter. There are regularly cut and kept to a reasonable size by Phunoy people, climbing to pick the precious leaves. They then process and sell this rare tea in cigar-shaped tubes.

Ban Komaen makes an ideal 1-day excursion, the relatively flat road passing through more recent tea plantations and offering a stunning view on Phongsaly and surrounding mountains. In the village a newly built tea-tasting shop also serves some food and sells the 400-year-old tea. (It is recommended to ask at the Tourism Office whether it is necessary to order food in advance). Have a look to the temple and its characteristic Buddha statue with big ears.



Trekking

Phongsaly Tourism Office offers 1 to 4-day eco-trekking tours to remote ethnic diverse villages. All of them follow community-based ecotourism principles. You can start from Phongsaly, Boun Neua and Boun Tai.

Please come directly to Phongsaly' tourist information center and choosing the trekking program that you prefer or you can book trek by E-mail or WhatsApp: + 856 20 54284600
khamphanhspd@hotmail.com



Museum of tribe

The museum of Phongsaly ethnic group' newly-designed exhibition has been inaugurated in January 2013. It also the province and its people, their origin and way of life. It also includes information and exhibits about different aspects of their daily life: clothes, music, agriculture, housing, social organization, their rituals and ceremonies, as well as about Buddhism. Don't miss it, it is one of the best museum in Laos and you will not find this information anywhere else !.

