

## THAILAND

### *Loy Krathong festival of lanterns in Thailand*

This traditional festival of lights is one of the most beautiful and most popular of Thailand, celebrated on the evening of the full moon of the 12<sup>th</sup> lunar month throughout the country, from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> 2015, especially near the rivers and sea. These festivities celebrate the end of the rainy season and honor the spirits of the water, which play a significant role in the life of the country.

People make *krathong*, tiny boats of banana leaves, whose shape evokes the lotus flower and contain a lighted candle, incense and flowers. They deposit these small candles on rivers and *khong* to exorcise their guilt. They also hunt the cares of everyday life by dropping in the sky lanterns so-called heavenly. A magnificent show in the night.



The celebrations are particularly hold:

In Bangkok: shows, parades and fireworks on the banks of the Chao Phraya River under the Rama VIII bridge; in Sukhothai, one of the most famous events to Loy Krathong with its sounds and lights and dancing spectacle at the historic Park (from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> 2015); in Chiang Mai, the Yee Peng Festival promises lanterns competitions, shows of fireworks and rafts on the river and especially to the Thapae Gate (from November 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> 2015); in Ayutthaya, at the Wat Tha Ka Rong; in Suphanburi, on the banks of the Tha

Chin River; in Samut Songkhram, with Annual Leaf Sheaf Loy Krathong Festival at the King Rama II Memorial Park and at Wat Phumrinsukdeethong; in Tak, at Rattanakosin 200 Years Bridge and on the beaches of the South to Phuket and Koh Samui.

### *Week of the bridge on the River Kwai in Kanchanaburi*



Each year in Kanchanaburi, for a week, is held a commemoration of the famous bridge bombed by the Allies on November 28<sup>th</sup> 1944. Carnival, exhibitions, folklore shows, rides trains are on the program of the week from November 20<sup>th</sup> to December 10<sup>th</sup> 2015. This annual celebration festivities end with a major reconstruction of the events of 1942 in a sounds and lights show. Several steam trains even operate for the occasion. This bridge become historic was built by the Japanese who

began to work for Allied prisoners.

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## *New shopping area to “Asiatique The Riverfront”*



Great night market "Asiatique The Riverfront", located on the shore of the Chao Phraya River, has just established a new area dedicated to the chic lifestyle. The Riverfront is located on warehouses 5, 7, 8 and 9 which have been completely renovated in the atmosphere and the Scandinavian tone.

Sugar Mustache (men and women hip clothing), ACTs Of Green (ecological mode), Cheetah Ciety (trendy and chic bags), By Myself (vintage leather) and BIKE coffee (meeting for bikers) are the lighthouse locations to discover. Another good reason to spend time to shopping in the Thai capital.

## *The golden days of Doi Inthanon*



At the end of October, the rice terraces around Doi Inthanon (Thailand the highest peak, in Chiang Mai) become progressively Golden, providing the lovers stunning visions of landscapes and grandiose photos. The Rice fields in terraces cover the entire Valley of Ban Pha Mon. The Rice culture is an integral part of the Karen life. They are also working to impress upon visitors the importance of the forest and water for people living in this region. Ban Pha Mon and Nong Lom are peaceful and welcoming Karen villages. Local guides invite tourists to explore their

villages by bike and experience the way of life of the tribe, based on weaving, agriculture, trekking and the cooking. The revenues from tourism contribute to the improvement of the living conditions, protection of forests and education. Thais come here for impressive landscapes while foreign visitors, while enjoying the beauty of the panorama, greatly appreciate unique experiences that they live by sharing this Karen community daily life. Ban Mae Klang Luang is another, made famous in 2008 by the Thai movie "Where The Miracles Happen". Since then, small bungalows have made their appearance to the delight of images hunter's tourists and beautiful landscapes which can also explore the village and taste its famous Arabica coffee.

On the other side of the mountain and very isolated, is situated Pa Pong Piang. Here Karen are Christian and profit, in the opinion of many people, of the most extraordinary landscape throughout the region. On "hilly shoulder" of Doi Inthanon, wavy ribbons of the rice in terraces unfold out of sight on mountains, occupying the lower plot of ground. A little farther, the small town of Mae Chaem is lulled also by beautiful paddy fields. Rice is only grown for personal consumption. After harvesting, the grains are kept dry in teak barns. Before any cooking of grains from the new harvest, the inhabitants of Mae Chaem organize a merit ceremony called Tan Mai Khao during which they offer to the monks a part of the stock and sweets... rice. At a time where the Sun lingers over the mountains before set, its last rays deposited on the rice fields Golden caresses. It's at this point that the photos are the most beautiful.

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## *World Film Festival in Bangkok*



In the program from November 13<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015: an international competition, a competition reserved for short and long Asian films, as well as a competition for documentaries and young filmmakers. More than 150 films from around the world are presented. The festival offers also a panorama of Thai films and retrospectives. It stands out, year after year, as one of the major events of the film scene in Southeast Asia and the world.

## *A new tourist visa with multiple entries*



From November 13<sup>th</sup> the METV, multiple-entry tourist visa, will be available.

Unlike existing tourist visas that offer one to three entrances, the METV will enable unlimited crossings for 6 months with each stay in Thailand limited to 60 days. The METV will apply to tourists of all nationalities and will be issued by all Royal embassies and consulates in Thailand around the world. It costs 5000 baht (125 euros).

## *At Samut Sakhon, vines float*



At the mouth of the Thailand Gulf, life flows peacefully in Samut Sakhon, along the canals. Water is everywhere and some, determined to take advantage, allows enjoying a strange spectacle. Under a green roof, perched on boats, workers are busy, a pair of scissors in hand, in a worldwide unique vineyard: 'floating vineyards'. Here, the Earth is a kind of waterproof clay, the owner of the premises has therefore to adapt and think of a new way to cultivate. Weather enables two harvests per year and the grapes of its floating vineyard sells more

expensive. However the Thailand is not really the wine country, We make rather what we call a refreshing wine, with alcohol.

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## MYANMAR

### *The Shwezigon pagoda festival in Bagan*



Nightly shows take place during the three weeks of the festival, from November 19<sup>th</sup> to December 19<sup>th</sup> 2015. Candles and Fireworks tribute to pagodas. The day of the full moon of Tazaunmon, for a week, food offerings and household tools are manufactured to be offered to the monks who fall into line to accept these donations.

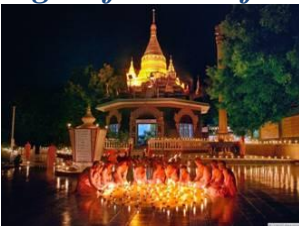
### *Balloon festival in Taunggyi*



The Pa - O festival, which takes place in Taunggyi, the capital of the South State of Shan, November from 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, is the opportunity to release hot air balloons competing in their beauty and their ability to fly. Balloons released in the day have shapes of animals (elephants, chickens, ducks, dragons...), representations of Buddha, while during the night paper lanterns are dropped, amount in group in the sky in the image of bright constellations in movement.

The balloons have a structure made of bamboo on which handmade paper is pasted. Hot air is produced by the combustion of rags under the opening. The balloons are judged on their size, their style, design and the time where they stay in the air. During the night, the villagers of Taunggyi organize a parade through the city with colorful lanterns.

### *Lights festival of Tazaungdine*



The full moon day of the lunar month of Tazaungdine, from November 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, candles are lit in homes and pagodas throughout the country and paper lanterns are launched into the sky. Treasure hunts are organized for children. The Kyaikhtiyo pagoda, a gigantic Golden Rock in balance on the edge of a cliff of Mount Kyaikto in Mon state, particularly beautiful while 9999 candles shine on the platform during the night. This Festival of lights is accompanied by *zat*, these theatre festivals taking over Burmese mythology and history, and mixing dances, music and songs. Troops stop in the villages illuminated to play. On the eve of full moon day, many pagodas host competitions of dresses weaving, during which women contribute all night to finish the robes of Saffron colors offered to Buddha images at dawn. Buds maezali salads, which attributed powerful, magical and medicinal properties if consumed at this time, are served to visitors.

The Tazaungdaing festival is particularly celebrated at the Shwedagon, one of the most beautiful in the world, pagoda in Yangon (Rangoon), and the Kaung Hmu Daw Pagoda of Sagaing.

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## LAOS

### *Pha That Luang Festival in Vientiane*



Pha That Luang is a Buddhist monument in Vientiane, capital of Laos. The most sacred monument of the country, it's supposed to contain a hair of the Buddha. It appears on the arms coat of Laos and its money. It's also the most revered stupa in Laos and one of the most beautiful. The Buddhist stupa of 45 metres in height and 69 meters wide, built with a pyramid form and also surrounded by 30 small stupas. The stupa is covered with 500 kilos of gold leaf, precious metals that

produce this impressive golden color, symbol of the splendor of Laos. The complex where stands the Pha That Luang is surrounded by a cloister of 85 meters long, cloister which houses various statues of Buddha and paintings.

It's built on 3 levels, symbolizing the ascension of the Earth to the sky. The first level is the underworld, the perfections of second level represents Buddhism and the third and final level, the prelude to the Kingdom of heaven. Each level is closer to that its previous level, for example the first level is 69 meters in width, the second level 47 meters and the last level just 29 meters.

The temple is the scene of a festival at the time of the full moon in November, from October 22<sup>nd</sup> to November 25<sup>th</sup> 2015. In the early morning, monks from all over the country gather in the galleries that surround the stupa and receive offerings of the faithful in the form of flowers garlands. They paraded in procession from Wat That Luang to Wat Si Muang, another great temple of Vientiane, carrying garlands of flowers and food offerings of one temple to another. They return to the neediest. Also on the program: competitions such as football, boxing, tennis, but also percussion. At nightfall, the monks' torchlight processions still illuminate the streets.

In recent years, this celebration took a turn over in more secular, and an international fair appeared whereby traders of Southeast Asia can make themselves known. Outside of the temple stand all sorts of attractions that are not religious.



On this occasion it may also attend ceremonial play of tikki, a form of hockey played with bamboo butts, specialists say that this game, originating in Laos would be then arrived in Myanmar and gave birth to the British field hockey.

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## VIETNAM

### *Waters festival (Or Om Boc) to Sóc Trăng*



The Ooc Om Boc festival is a religious festival that celebrates the genius of the Moon, revered by the Khmer ethnic group. During this ceremony, from November 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> 2015, we pray for luck, happiness, good weather and abundant crops. The festival is usually held when the dry season starts and the rice is ripening in the fields. The ceremony takes place in courses of the pagodas or houses of the inhabitants. People erect poles bamboo with a crossbar that they decorate with flowers and foliage. Underneath, they place an

offering table on which there are flakes of rice, potatoes, bananas, coconut, grapefruit, oranges and cakes. We sit on the floor, cross-legged. We joined hands before the altar, facing the moon. An old master of ceremonies prays aloud and calls upon the divinity of the moon to receive offerings and bless present people.

Then, the elders asked the children of the house to sit also on the ground, cross-legged, before the altar. They take then a handful of green rice to feed each child and then ask them what they wish in administering a pat in the spine. If the children answer the question clearly and politely, happen them the best in the year. After that, people enjoy the offerings together, and children play games or dance and sing under the moon. Anyone who visits the houses of the Khmer on this occasion will be invited to taste the 'com dep' (a kind of young sticky rice). Since the pagodas of the Khmer people, the inhabitants unleash paper lanterns in the sky and on the Mekong. The custom to release lights flying and that float on the water is designed to sweep away the darkness, the unclean things and allow the sadness away from the village. Many traditional activities of the Khmer are organized the first night of the festivities.

In addition to the religious ceremony, thirty traditional canoes gather on an arm of the River in Sóc Trang (at the southern tip of Vietnam) for a competition " Ngo ' during 2 day which brings together all the Khmer community. Each pagoda brings his canoe which requires fifty oarsmen. The Chùa Dõi pagoda canoe's, very long, marked with a bat at the bow, is transported by hundred young people. There are fifty rowers in each boat (never monks, but the faithful). The evening before the race, spectators flock from everywhere. It's a sleepless night. Rowers gather by group and engage in friendly and musical exchanges. Replicas of Chay-Zam, drum of the Khmer, the sound of the flutes, of music Romvông and songs motivate the crowd and competitors. The D-day, the crowd is gathered on the banks of the River to encourage the team that bears the name of a Khmer pagoda of their town or their district to the sound of drums and gongs, in a very festive and joyful atmosphere. Around midday, when the tide reaches its highest level of the year (the tide of bright waters held often at this time), the edge of the river is in effervescence. At the finish of the race, the winning team and his boat are accompanied, followed by spectators, along the River to the sounds of drums and gongs.

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## *In Hoi An, a park dedicated to the fired clay*



In the heart of the pottery village of Thanh Hà in Hôi An, there is a park of 6.000 m<sup>2</sup> dedicated to the hand-made works with fired clay. Its singularity: exhibit the major heritage world of humanity, reproduced faithfully on a reduced scale.

The Thanh Hà Park of the artisanal craft in fired clay opened last May after four years of works. The site has been designed and built by the architectural firm of Nhà Việt (Vietnamese House), in

the heart of the pottery village of Thanh Hà, established 500 years ago in the town of Hôi An, Quang Nam province (Centre). The initiative amounts to Nguyễn Văn Nguyễn, Director of Nhà Việt and coming architect of this famous village. "I wanted to create a work of mark on the ground that saw me born to promote and preserve the know-how of trades related to ceramics, especially the art of fired clay pottery of Thanh Hà," he explains.

The work of this Park have cost a total 22 billion dong. The inauguration day, the architects and craftsmen of the Nhà Việt Company surprised guests by unveiling a huge cooking wood-fired oven in red brick with an area of 2,000 m<sup>2</sup>. Built in the centre of the Park, it actually houses a museum. The spaces around the structure are devoted to the installation of the artisanal works in fired clay. "This Museum of crafts of ceramic in Vietnam boasts the know-how of the Thanh Hà village pottery" says the Deputy Director of the culture and sports Centre of the city of Hôi An. Indeed, architecturally, the Park is divided into different areas: the Museum of trades related to the ceramics of the country (Chu Đậu, My Nghiệp, Thanh Hà, Sa Huynh, Cham, etc.), outdoor spaces reserved for clay pasta market, to the exposure of know-how, to the sale of objects of memories, in the miniature garden of heritage and the workshops of the craftsmen.

Besides the rich information collected by visiting the ceramics crafts Museum of the country, it's impossible to overlook the outdoors miniature garden of heritages. Here, some of the larger buildings in the history of humanity are met, in few details: their size and their material – fired clay. Among them, the Tower of Pisa (Italy), Big Ben (London), the Sydney Opera House, Notre Dame de Paris, the White House (United States), Taj Mahal (India), the Great pyramids (Egypt), the Coliseum (Rome), the Arc de Triomphe (Paris), the Vatican, etc. The Vietnam has also a good place with the Imperial Citadel of Hue, the sanctuary of My Son, Hoi An's old quarter, the Temple of literature, etc. A meeting place for ceramists.

"It is surprising! When Nguyễn presented us this project, we took him crazy as it seemed so ambitious. In the end, we are confident and very happy to see so many visitors to get here" say a Potter from the village of Thanh Hà. Inexhaustible as soon as it comes to talk of his "Kingdom", Nguyễn Văn Nguyễn says he wants to make it a meeting place for ceramists. The objective is that the craftsmen meet directly, exchange with people who visit the park. Another objective: to make this site a cultural space of preservation of ceramics craft techniques. Six months after its inauguration, the Park welcomes every day more visitors, from all countries and all nationalities.

Many artists specialized in the installation of ceramics art came to establish their workshops. This Park, it's my dream. Even away from my village, I have always been very attached to this handcraft. In addition to the valuation of businesses related to ceramics in the whole of the Vietnam, I want to stress here the charm of the village of Thanh Hà pottery. Clay paste, which is used to make all these works, is the soul of my village" says Nguyễn Văn Nguyễn, designating the heritage garden.

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## *The market of natural stones of Luc Yên*



The country is full of treasures, but there is one that is particularly typical: This is the table in natural or semi-precious stones. The market of Luc Yen, located 80 km from the capital of the province of Yen Bai, in northern Vietnam, is specialized in the sale of these stones.

The market is open every morning from 7 hours to 10 hours. The stones are shown on small wooden tables and twenty merchants offer their goods. Here, we find all kinds of stones, precious as Ruby, Sapphire or emerald and semi-precious stones such as quartz or Amethyst. Precious stones are the most expensive, and prices range from hundreds of thousands dongs and hundreds of million dong. They can be raw or carved. The customers are mainly professionals. Tourists are interested especially in tables in natural and semi-precious stones sold in shops around. Luc Yen is one of the largest reserves of stones of Vietnam. The largest stones will be carved to represent flowers, leaves or the roofs of the houses. The smallest will be crushed in powder which is then sprinkled on the tables. We used 502 glues to attach the stones. In general, stone paintings in Luc Yen are reproductions of works of art. Nguyen Thi Hang, owner of a manufacturing workshop of stones paintings in Luc Yen: *"the quality of the stones is essential for the beauty of the table. Then we choose those of better quality. Of course the skill and creativity of artisans are also very important ».*

The stone table realization dates from the 1990s. Luc Yen today has hundreds of workshops, concentrated mainly in the capital of the district and in the municipalities of Minh Xuan, Yen Thang, Lieu Do or Tan Linh. Some thousands of local workers are employed. The making of a table requires several people, each carrying a task based on its qualification. And according to Nguyen Thi Ha, it's a neat work: *" at the beginning, I thought this job was extremely difficult but in the end, I am able to exercise. It's a neat and meticulous work that asked to be creative and passionate ».*



Today, the tables in natural stone from Luc Yen are prized by the Vietnamese and foreign tourists and their exports have significantly increased in recent years.

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## CAMBODIA

### *Independence day in Cambodia*



After its independence proclaimed on March 13<sup>th</sup> 1945, Cambodia returns to the France the same year and joined the French Union who declares at the same time the autonomy of the country and the holding of general elections which declared the victory of Yuthevong of the Democratic Party. Yuthevong died by suites of tuberculosis, it was Sihanouk who rises to power. In 1949, the France declares the independence of Cambodia of the French Union. On the occasion of the independence of Cambodia, stores must suspend the national flag before their showcase, for example improvising a mast with a hanger. November 9<sup>th</sup> is a day of national celebration in Cambodia.

### *Feast of water (Bon Om Touk) in Cambodia*



The day of the full moon, November 24<sup>h</sup> 2015, Cambodians cheer the change of the meaning of the watercourse of the Tonle Sap, the moment where the Lake empties into the River: an event unique in the world. On this occasion, don't miss the regattas of multicolored canoes along the Tonle Sap River opposite the royal palace in Phnom Penh, followed by dances and Fireworks. Canoe races are sometimes held in the Angkor Wat moat. A part of the royal palace is closed to the public and access to the city by car is problematic. Two legends are potentially at the origin of the water festival. The first dates back to the period of Angkor and fights between the King of Champa, who had invaded Cambodia and the Khmer King. The battles were in canoe on the river. In the memory of the victory of the Khmer King, canoe races were held annually on the river. A second legend tells that this festival serves to thank the geniuses of the waters who provide water for agriculture. Whatever, it's a very popular festival in Cambodia, not to be missed.

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*The Agenda:*

*Here is a list of the holidays don't miss through Southeast Asia*

**THAILAND**

Full moon (Full Moon Parties) parties  
on the island of Koh Phangan : from January 4<sup>th</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 15  
World Film Festival in Bangkok: November 2015  
Bangkok marathon: November 15<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Laguna Phuket Triathlon in Phuket: November 2015  
Lopburi monkeys Feast: November 2015  
Silk and Phuk Seow Festival in Khon Kaen: November / December 2015  
Loy Krathong, lantern festival: from November 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Yi Peng Festival in Chiang Mai: from November 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Birthday of his Majesty the King: December 5<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Constitution Day: December 10<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Thailand International Balloon Festival in Chiang Mai: December 2015  
New year in Thailand: December 31<sup>st</sup> 2015 - January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016  
Pimex, Phuket International Boat Show in Phuket: January 2016  
Flower Festival in Chiang Mai: February 2016  
Chinese New Year: February 2016  
Magha Puja: March 2016  
Earth Hour: March 2016  
Chakri dynasty Day: April 6<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Songkran (Buddhist New Year or water festival) in Thailand: mid-April 2016  
The release of turtles in Phuket Festival: April 13<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Cricket Week in Phuket: April 2016  
Coronation day: May 5<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Visakha Puja: May 2016 (full moon)  
Rune Paradise, Phuket international marathon: June 2016  
Asalha Puja: July (full moon) 2016  
Khao Phansa (Festival of the candles): end July 2016  
Wan Mea, Feast of the mothers and Queen Sirikit anniversary: August 12<sup>th</sup> 2016  
International festival of dance and music in Bangkok: September / October 2016  
Festival of the Sakon Nakhon wax castles: October 2016  
Ok Pansa in Thailand: October 2016  
Chulalongkorn day: October 2016

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## CAMBODIA

If the working week capped at 44 h, in return, Cambodia is one of the most spoiled countries in number of holidays... Twenty-six holidays annual sometimes given in series of three consecutive days - New Year, the King's birthday, the day of the dead local and the Festival of the waters, allowing most city dwellers to join their village and their families for a well-deserved rest. These days are marked by a sharp slowdown of the commercial activities of the Kingdom because they are all cities that began to turn at idle...

Independence day in Cambodia: November 9<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Water Festival (Bon Om took): mid November 2015  
Human rights day: December 10<sup>th</sup> 2015  
International New Year: January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016  
National Holiday in Cambodia: January 7<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Meak Bochea day, Buddhist celebration: February 2016  
KaZantip Festival in Sihanoukville: February 2016  
Tet Festival (Vietnamese or Chinese New Year) in Cambodia and Laos: February 2016  
International women's day: March 8<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Earth Hour: March 2016  
Khmer New year (Bon Chaul Chhnam) in Cambodia's: April 2016  
Visak Bochea day: may 2016  
Birthday of the Buddha to the Vietnam and Cambodia: May 4<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Day of royal plowing - feast of the sacred furrow: May 6<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Day of the genocide in Cambodia: May 9<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Labor Day: May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016  
Anniversary of King Sihanouk: May 14<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Cambodian and international children's day: June 1<sup>st</sup> 2016  
Birthday of the Queen Mother Monique: June 18<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Constitution Day: September 24<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Celebration of Pchum Ben, day of the dead: mid-October 2016  
Day of commemoration of the King Father Norodom Sihanouk: October 15<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Day of the Paris agreements: October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016  
Crowning of the King: October 29<sup>th</sup> 2016

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## MYANMAR

Hot Air Balloon Festival in Taunggyi: November 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Tasaungmone Festival: November 6<sup>th</sup> 2015  
National day: November 16<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Karen New Year: December 21<sup>st</sup> 2015  
Shan New Year: November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015  
New year: January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016  
Pyatha (independence day): January 4<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Kachin Manaw Festival in Myikyina: January 2016  
Naga New Year Festival (Kaing Bi): January 2016  
Feast of the Union: February 12<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Baw - gyo Festival at Thipaw: February / March 2016  
Feasts of peasants: March 2016  
Full moon of Tabaung: March 2016  
Armed forces day: March 27<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Earth Hour: March 2016  
Thingyan Festival (water Festival): April 2016  
Birman New year: April 17<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Labor Day: May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016  
Full moon of Kasone: may 2016  
Full moon of Waso: July 2016  
Day of martyrs: July 19<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Nat Festival at Taungbyon (Mandalay): August 2016  
Celebration of the Phaung Daw Oo to Lake Inle: October 2016  
Kyaukdawgyi pagoda festival At Mandalay: October 2016  
Thidingyut Festival (Festival of lights): October 2016  
The elephants dance festival to Kyaukse (Mandalay): October 2016  
Kyauk Hti Yo Pagoda festival (at the Golden Rock): October 2016

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## DAYS OF THE MARKET AT LAKE INLE

2015 / MONTH												
DAY	JAN	FEB	MARC	AVR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
1	A	B	E	A	A	B*	B*	C	D	D	E	E
2	B	C	A	B	B*	C	C	D	E	E	A	A
3	C	D*	B	C*	C	D	D	E	A	A	B	B
4	D*	E	C*	D	D	E	E	A	B	B	C	C
5	E	A	D	E	E	A	A	B	C	C	D	D
6	A	B	E	A	A	B	B	C	D	D	E	E
7	B	C	A	B	B	C	C	D	E	E	A	A
8	C	D	B	C	C	D	D	E	A	A	B	B
9	D	E	C	D	D	E	E	A	B	B	C	C
10	E	A	D	E	E	A	A	B	C	C	D	D
11	A	B	E	A	A	B	B	C	D	D	E**	E**
12	B	C	A	B	B	C	C	D	E	E	A	A
13	C	D	B	C	C	D	D	E	A**	A**	B	B
14	D	E	C	D	D	E	E	A	B	B	C	C
15	E	A	D	E	E	A	A	B**	C	C	D	D
16	A	B	E	A	A	B**	B**	C	D	D	E	E
17	B	C**	A	B**	B**	C	C	D	E	E	A	A
18	C	D	B	C	C	D	D	E	A	A	B	B
19	D*	E	C**	D	D	E	E	A	B	B	C	C
20	E	A	D	E	E	A	A	B	C	C	D	D
21	A	B	E	A	A	B	B	C	D	D	E	E
22	B	C	A	B	B	C	C	D	E	E	A	A
23	C	D	B	C	C	D	D	E	A	A	B	B
24	D	E	C	D	D	E	E	A	B	B	C	C
25	E	A	D	E	E	A	A	B	C	C	D	D
26	A	B	E	A	A	B	B	C	D	D	E*	E*
27	B	C	A	B	B	C	C	D	E	E	A	A
28	C	D	B	C	C	D	D	E	A*	A*	B	B
29	D	X	C	D	D	E	E	A	B	B	C	C
30	E	X	D	E	E	A	A	B*	C	C	D	D
31	A	X	E	X	A	X	B	C	X	D	X	E

A: HEHO (animal market) - TAUNG TO (on the road to Kakku)

B: FLOATING MARKET (Ywama) - TAUNGGYI - AUNG BAN - KYAUK TA LONE

C: MINE THAUK (East coast of Lake Inle)-PAUNG DAW OO - KYAUK TAING - PWE HLA (on the road to Pindaya)

D: KALAW - KHAUNG DAING (side of Inle Lake) - INN TAIN - SHWE NYAUNG

E: NYAUNG SHWE (market town) - NAM PAN (the wider market in Inle) - SAGAR - PINDAYA

\* Day of full moon / \* black moon day

NOTE: all the markets can be made a day in advance at the time of full moons

One of the most authentic markets is the market of Indein Pagoda on the shores of the Lake but which becomes more and more frequent. We must therefore come very early in the morning, climb immediately to the pagoda to see people come out of the villages and get off at the market in the middle of the ruins of ancient pagodas.

The market of Sagar is also still very authentic. We really need to leave very early because the canoe ride is long (at least 2 hours).

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## VIETNAM

Waters Festival (Or Om Boc) in Sóc Trang: November 2015  
Festival of Tet, Vietnamese New Year (Tết Nguyên Đán): January 2016  
Anniversary of the Founding of the Vietnamese Communist Party: February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016  
Chua Huong (perfume Pagoda Festival) at Huong Son: February 2016  
Festival of Tet, Vietnamese New Year (Tết Nguyên Đán) to the Vietnam: February 2016  
Feast of the Quan Dong Ky procession (province of Bac Ninh) Dam: February 2016  
Chua Huong (perfume Pagoda Festival) at Huong Son: February / may 2016  
Lim Festival or Festival of Hội in Lim (Bac Ninh province): March 2016  
Feast of Trang-Nguyen (first winner): March 2016  
Earth Hour : March 2016  
Pagoda Thay festival (province of Ha Tay): April 2016  
Festival of the fishermen in Hoi An: April 2016  
Khmer New year in the Vietnam: April 2016  
Festival of cold foods at Têt Han Thuc: April 2016  
Thay Pagoda festival (province of Ha Tay): April 2016  
Feast of Bach Dang (Quang Ninh province): April 2016  
Feast of the village of Van Vi (province of Ha Tay): April 2016  
Truong Yen festival (Ninh Binh province): April 2016  
Anniversary of the capture of Saigon: April 30<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Celebration of the launch of Ba Giang kites (province of Ha Tay): may 2016  
Anniversary of the Buddha to Vienam and Cambodia: may 4<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Ba Chua Xu Festival to Chau Doc: June 2016  
Thât-Tich (the obscure seven or the double seven day): August 2016  
National Holiday: Septembre 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016  
Festival of Quang Lan (Bac Ninh province): July / August 2016  
Do Son Buffalo fighting Festival: September 2016  
The Mid Autumn Festival (Children festival): mid September 2016  
Tran Temple Festival at Nam Dinh: September 2016  
Double-nine Festival in Trung Cuu: October 2016  
Keo pagoda Autumn festival in Thai Binh: October 2016

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**LAOS**

Pha That Luang Festival in Vientiane: November 2015  
National holiday (Vanh Saad): December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015  
Hmong New year: December 2015  
Festival of Tet (Vietnamese or Chinese New Year) in Cambodia and Laos: Jan – Feb. 2016  
Festival of Tet (Vietnamese or Chinese New Year) in Cambodia and Laos: February 2016  
Makha Bucha (Magha Puja) in Luang Prabang: March 2016  
Borhani Phavet (feast of monasteries) in Laos: February - April 2016  
Pii may or Songkran (new year Buddhist): April 2016  
Earth Hour: March 28<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Nights of the full moon and Mahakhabousa to Wat Phou  
to Champasak: October 2015 may 2016  
Boun Khao Padabdin (day of the dead): Beginning September 2016  
Boun Ok Phansa and Boun Xouang Heua in Laos: October 2016  
Boun Ok Phansa boat on the banks of the Mekong River races: October 2016

*All the mentioned dates are subject to change.*

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