

Where to stay

Visitors can choose from a wide range of accommodation, from simple, budget guest houses to hotels offering every comfort.

How to move around

The historic center (a rectangle measuring around 1.7km x 400m) is easy to explore on foot. It's the best way to immerse yourself in the atmosphere of the city and the perfect way to discover the many murals and architectural treasures.

You can also opt to rent a bicycle. If you want to explore a little further, you'll find tuk-tuks on the banks of the Mekong near the old immigration office, at the bus station or in front of the Savanxay market. Several shops also offer scooters for rent.

Cultural dynamism

As proof of its dynamism, the town hosts a number of cultural events throughout the year, including the now-famous Savan Fun Fest.

For any information

www.tourismsavannakhet.org
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What to see around:

There are several sites nearby that are well worth staying at for one or more extra days in Savannakhet:

That Ing Hang is a sacred stupa located 12 km north-east of Savannakhet. The stupa was originally built in 307 BC then restored in the middle of the 16th century and is reported to house relics of Buddha's spine. It is an important place of worship for Laotian and Thai Buddhists, particularly during the annual festival in December.

That Ing Hang is accessible by tuk-tuk, bicycle or motorbike. Open daily from 8:00am to 6:00pm.

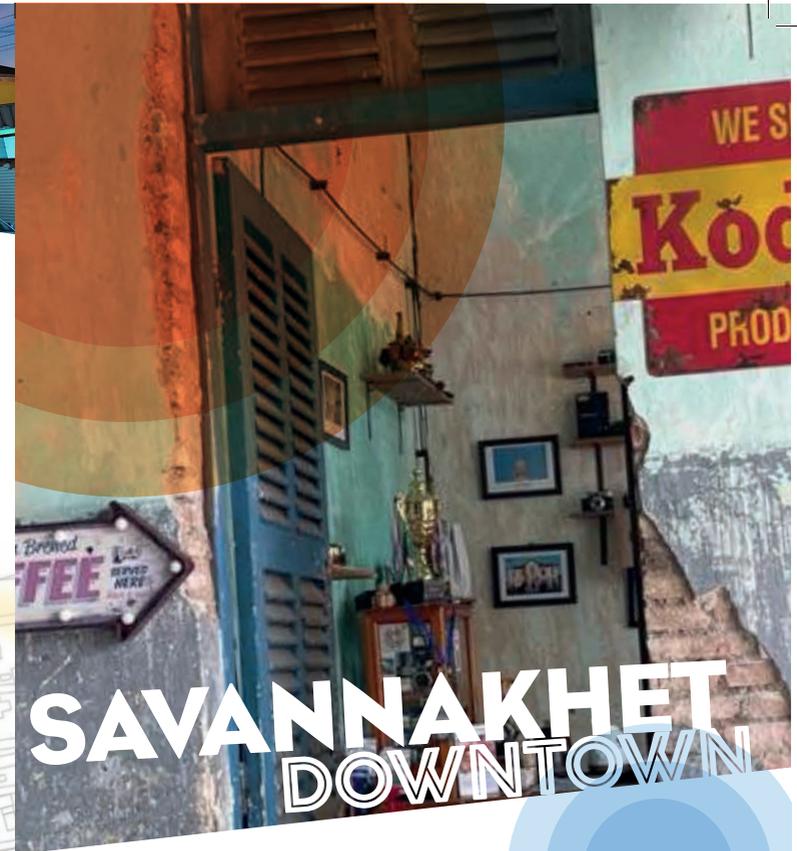
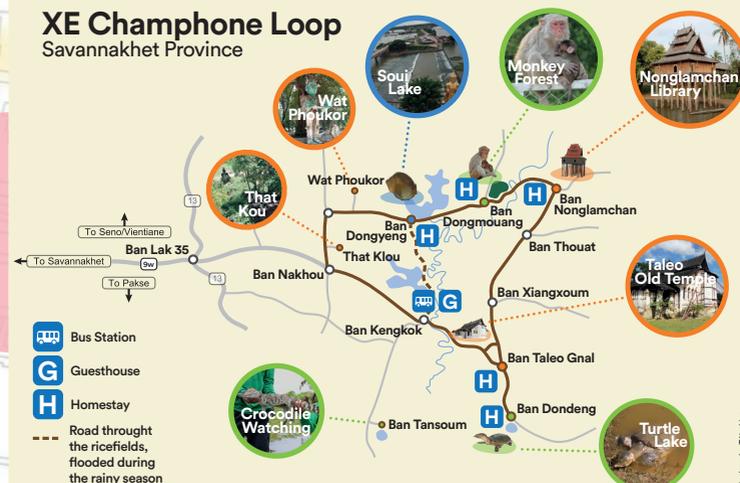
Beung Va lake is a large lake located 8km east of Savannakhet. It offers a chalky immersion in the country lifestyle and is a perfect stopover on the way back from visiting That Ing Hang Stupa. There are many restaurants serving local food on its shores.

Xe Champhone loop. To be done in one or 2 days, the Xe Champhone loop allows you to discover the main sites around Savannakhet and offers an authentic immersion in this rice-producing region. Monkey Forest, Hotay Pidok Library, Taleo Kao Temple, Turtle Lake, Siamese crocodile watching and many more... Thanks to its rich heritage, the Xe Champhone loop is on its way to becoming as popular as the Thakhek and Bolaven Plateau loops.

Although it can be done by bike or minivan with a guide, the best way to do the loop is to hire a motorbike from Savannakhet.

XE Champhone Loop

Savannakhet Province



Savannakhet, long regarded as a mere stopping-off point on the banks of the Mekong and close to the Thai border, is now enjoying a clear revival as a tourist destination. Its unique, vintage and trendy atmosphere makes it well worth a visit.

Savannakhet is proud to have preserved a large number of remarkable buildings (almost 200 have been identified) of colonial, art-deco or Lao architecture, as few cities in South-East Asia have managed to do.

This authentic and serene atmosphere is best experienced on foot: Take the time to wander from street to street to discover the many murals scattered around the town, sit in the shade of a terrace to watch life go by while sipping a coffee or a Lao beer, soak up the local life in the late afternoon on the redesigned promenade along the banks of the Mekong... You'll soon get the strange feeling that the town is both steeped in the past and bubbling with dynamism and creativity!



Main places of interest

1- Talat Yen Plaza. The Talat Yen Plaza (the former night market place) between Khantaburi Street and Phetsarat Street, is considered to be the historic center of the town, around which the old town grid is structured. It is framed by a number of remarkable colonial and art-deco buildings.

2- Khounsavanh, formerly Nang Lit Cinema, is an Art Deco-style cinema rarely used for many years. As the owning family left Laos in 1975, the province recovered the site, which was renamed Khounsavanh in 2011.

Renovation work is planned, including the renovation of the cinema and the installation of a restaurant.

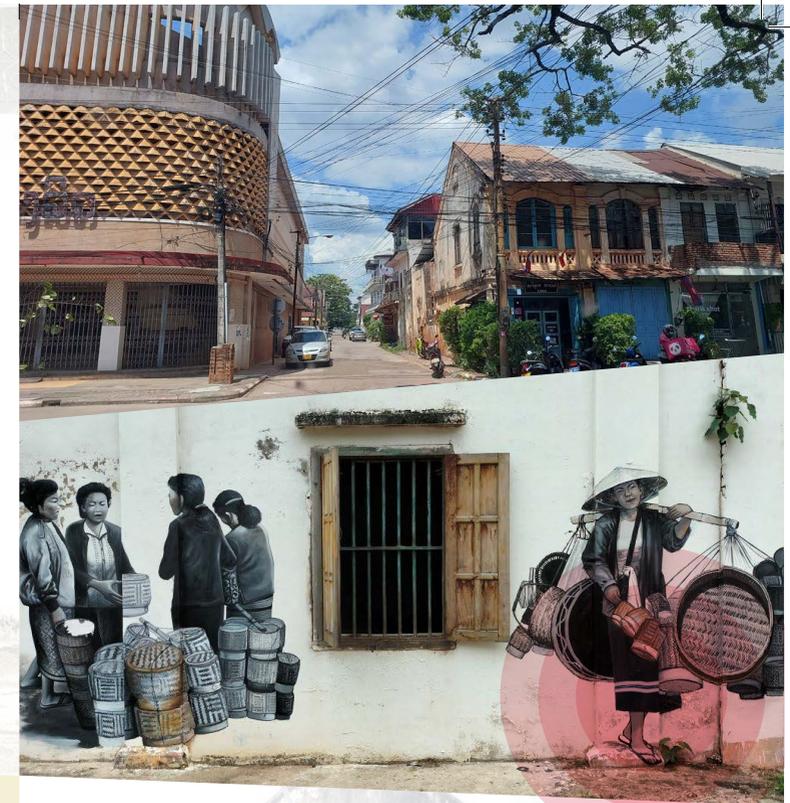
3- Laochaleun Cinema and square. The Laochaleun cinema dates back to the 1930s and was once a beautiful Art Deco building. It is a single-storey cinema that has been somewhat damaged over the years, but has retained its soul and charm.

Adjacent to the cinema, a large open-air area leading to the Mekong River is home to an outdoor market. Stalls sell mainly food every day from 5 to 10 pm. The square is quite popular and is a good place to mix with the locals.

4- The provincial museum. Situated in Khantaburi Street, at the end of an avenue of century-old trees and facing beautiful colonial buildings, the Provincial Museum is identified as one of the most remarkable buildings in the old town. The museum is the subject of an ambitious renovation and collection renewal plan. In time (from 2025), it will become one of the places not to be missed on any visit to Laos.

5- Dinosaur museum. Many dinosaur remains were discovered in Savannakhet province in the 20th century. They are on display in the small but very interesting Dinosaur Museum.

6- Kaysone Phomvihane House. This is the house of former President Kaysone Phomvihane who was born in Savannakhet in 1920. Unfortunately, the house can no longer be visited.

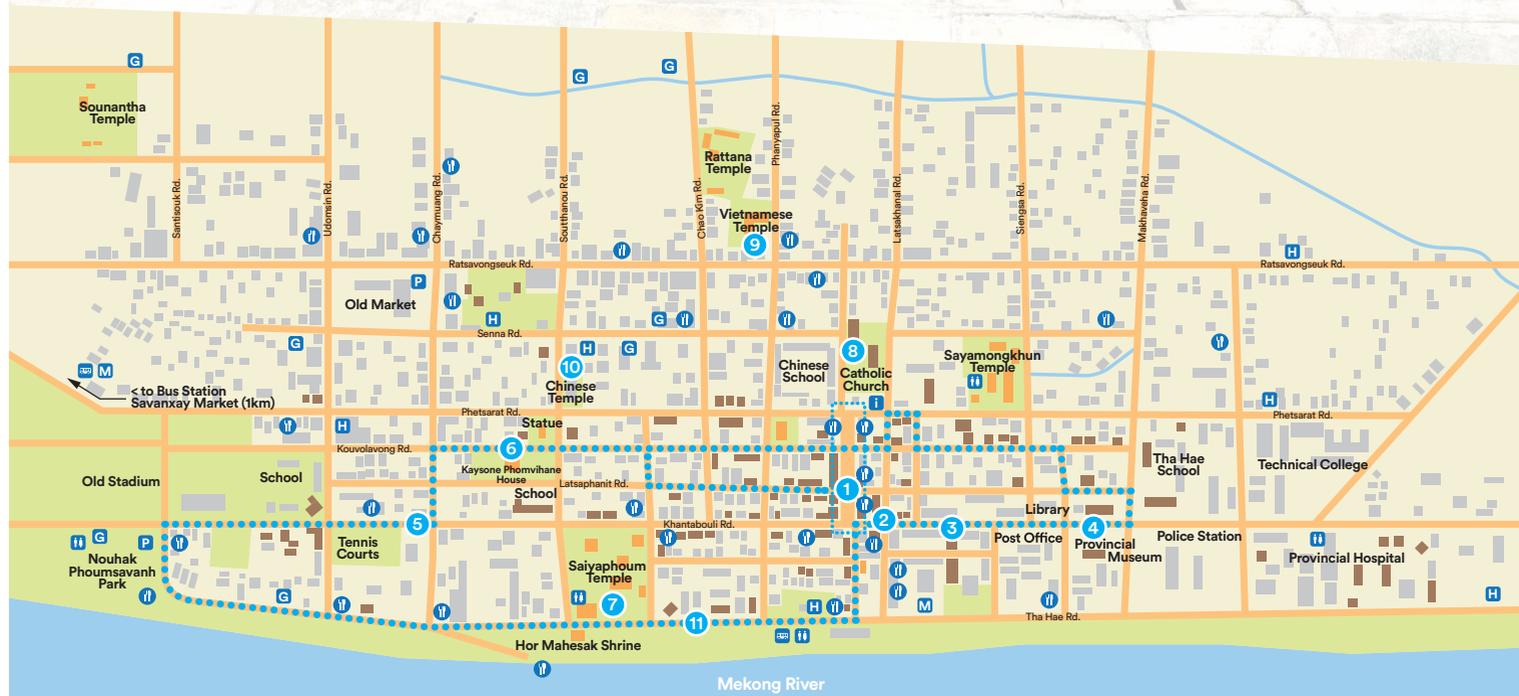


7- Vat Saiyaphoum is the oldest Buddhist temple in Savannakhet, originally established in 1642. The current buildings were constructed in the last century. The temple also houses a Buddhist school.

8- Saint Theresa catholic Church. The church, built in the 1920s, is a landmark in Savannakhet's historic center, although it does not directly face Talat Yen square. It is mainly frequented by the city's Vietnamese community.

9&10- Vietnamese temple and Chinese temple bear witness to Savannakhet's economic boom in the 1920s and 1930s. At that time, many Vietnamese and Chinese settled here to cater for the commercial activity.

11- Mekong River banks. The recently renovated Mekong River promenade is a popular spot for locals and Thais alike. This is the perfect area for socializing, sport activities leisure, especially late afternoon. Many local and Thai people also like to walk near the big Naga and make offerings there or at the nearby temple.



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- M Market
- H Hotel
- G Guesthouse
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- 2 Place of interest
- Model Walking Route
- Old Buildings
- Temples/Monuments
- Other Buildings

1. Talat Yen Plaza
2. Khounsavanh, formerly Nang Lit Cinema
3. Laochaleun Cinema and square
4. The Provincial Museum
5. Dinosaur Museum
6. Kaysone Phomvihane House
7. Vat Saiyaphoum
8. Saint Theresa Catholic Church
9. Vietnamese Temple
10. Chinese Temple
11. Mekong River Banks

