Asia Concierge

THE ART OF TRAVEL DESIGN



THE CULTURAL COMPANION

# LAOS

BOOKS, FILMS AND SERIES TO ENJOY BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

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BOOKS, FILMS AND SERIES TO ENJOY BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

Laos is one of Asia's gentlest and least-known destinations. These books and films, from a charming Vientiane mystery series to an award-winning tale of a rocket festival, offer a window onto Lao life, its unhurried pace and the history that has shaped it.

## TO READ

### FICTION




**The Coroner's Lunch** · Colin Cotterill · 2004

The first Dr Siri mystery, featuring Laos's only coroner in 1970s Vientiane: charming, funny and clever.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS




**Mother's Beloved** · Outhine Bounyavong · 1999

Short stories by one of Laos's best-loved writers, offering gentle glimpses of everyday Lao life.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON




**Thirty-Three Teeth** · Colin Cotterill · 2005

The second Dr Siri mystery, which takes the coroner from Vientiane to the royal capital of Luang Prabang.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS

### NON-FICTION




**Another Quiet American** · Brett Dakin · 2003

An American spends two years working in Vientiane and reflects on Laos, its people and its past.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON




**A Great Place to Have a War** · Joshua Kurlantzick · 2017

The story of America's secret war in Laos and its lasting legacy.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS




**Stalking the Elephant Kings** · Christopher Kremmer · 1997

An Australian journalist's quest across Laos to discover the fate of its last royal family.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON




**Ant Egg Soup** · Natacha Du Pont de Bie · 2004

A food lover's travels through Laos, with recipes, markets and memorable meals.

UK AMAZON
USA AMAZON




**The Ravens** · Christopher Robbins · 1987

The story of the American pilots who flew in Laos's secret war.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS




**A Short History of Laos** · Grant Evans · 2002

A concise, readable introduction to the country's history.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS




**Mekong** · Milton Osborne · 2000

The story of the great river that runs through Laos, from its source to its delta.

UK AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS
USA AMAZON · APPLE BOOKS

# TO WATCH

## FILMS & SERIES




### The Rocket · Kim Mordaunt · 2013

An award-winning, heart-warming film about a boy who enters a rocket festival to change his family's luck.

UK APPLE TV
USA APPLE TV




### Air America · Roger Spottiswoode · 1990

Mel Gibson and Robert Downey Jr. star as pilots flying for the CIA in 1960s Laos.

UK APPLE TV · AMAZON
USA APPLE TV · AMAZON




### Rescue Dawn · Werner Herzog · 2006

Christian Bale stars in the true story of a US pilot shot down over Laos who escapes through the jungle.

UK APPLE TV · AMAZON
USA PRIME VIDEO · APPLE TV




### Dearest Sister · Mattie Do · 2016

An atmospheric Lao film that blends ghost story and family drama.

UK *Not currently available*
USA AMAZON




### The Long Walk · Mattie Do · 2019

An inventive Lao ghost story and time-travel drama set in the countryside.

UK APPLE TV · AMAZON
USA APPLE TV · AMAZON

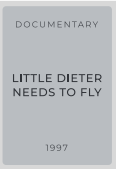
## DOCUMENTARIES & TRAVEL SERIES




### Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown · CNN · 2017

The Laos episode explores the country's food, scenery and the legacy of the Secret War.

UK PRIME VIDEO · AMAZON
USA HBO MAX · APPLE TV




### Little Dieter Needs to Fly · Werner Herzog · 1997

Herzog's documentary about the pilot whose escape from captivity in Laos inspired Rescue Dawn.

UK *Not currently available*
USA PRIME VIDEO · APPLE TV

## YOUTUBE CHANNELS TO FOLLOW




### Paddy Doyle · @PaddyDoyleYT

British travel vlogger exploring Southeast Asia, with honest, upbeat travel guides.

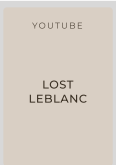
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### Mark Wiens · @MarkWiens

Bangkok-based food vlogger, famous for his joyful street-food videos across Asia.

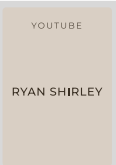
WATCH YOUTUBE




### Lost LeBlanc · @LostLeBlanc

Christian LeBlanc's cinematic travel films from across Asia.

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### Ryan Shirley · @RyanShirley

Travel vlogs from across Southeast Asia.

WATCH YOUTUBE

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WE KNOW ASIA INTIMATELY.

ASIA KNOWS US.

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INDONESIA · SINGAPORE · JAPAN · CHINA

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