

A tranquil oasis: Maison Dalabua's mindful journey in Luang Prabang

Maison Dalabua, Luang Prabang, Lao PDR

Tucked away in a tranquil corner of Luang Prabang, Lao PDR, Maison Dalabua is a boutique hotel that blends traditional Laotian hospitality with eco-conscious practices, offering a refuge from the hustle and bustle of city life.

Quality destinations

Work conditions

Employment

Skills

Maison Dalabua combines luxury with sustainability. Priorities include the well-being and preservation of the environment, along with the welfare of staff and guests.

Initiative

- Passion and dedication: The owner's personal commitment to sustainability drives the hotel's practices.
- A holistic approach: Activities encompass the environmental, social, and economic aspects of sustainability.
- Community engagement: The local community contributes to initiatives targeting sustainability.

Actors

Ms. Sisouphanthavong SISOUPHANTHAVONG, Owner

URL

<https://www.maisondalabua.com/>

A Legacy of Sustainability

When Maison Dalabua opened in 2007, it was a family-run establishment with just 15 rooms. In 2011, under the visionary leadership of the owner, Toune Sisouphanthavong, the hotel started to blossom. Recognizing the potential of the property and its serene surroundings, Sisouphanthavong embarked on an initiative to transform the hotel into an oasis of sustainability. The renovation project took seven years and was completed in 2017.

Careful planning and execution ensured that the hotel's expansion was in harmony with the natural environment and showcased local heritage. Sustainable building practices that replicated traditional methods were adopted, and construction advanced without the use of large equipment. The expansion increased the number of guest rooms to 40, offering guests a wider selection of luxurious options.



A harmonious blend of tradition and sustainability

Sisouphanthavong's passion to conserve Luang Prabang's cultural heritage is evident in many aspects of the hotel. The architecture, inspired by traditional Laotian design, blends harmoniously into the natural surroundings. The use of local materials and traditional construction techniques not only pays homage to the past but also minimizes environmental impact. The rooms, scattered around the lush gardens that include a celebrated lily pond, are adorned with local artworks and artifacts.

The hotel's commitment to sustainability does not stop at physical infrastructure. By prioritizing energy efficiency, waste reduction, and a chemical-free environment, Maison Dalabua also strives to minimize its ecological footprint.



A sustainable future, one step at a time

The hotel's dedication to sustainability is evident in numerous eco-friendly activities. By implementing these innovative practices, the aim is for Maison Dalabua to contribute to greater sustainability.

- Zero-waste initiatives: The hotel has a comprehensive waste management system, including composting organic waste, eliminating single-use plastics, and recycling plastic waste brought in by guests.
- Organic gardening: The hotel's own organic garden provides fresh produce for the restaurant as well as plants and flowers that are used for decorative purposes.
- Chemical-free environment: By avoiding the use of harmful chemicals in cleaning and gardening, the hotel contributes to healthier conditions for guests, staff, and the local ecosystem.
- Water and energy conservation: The hotel's resource-saving measures include devices in every room to regulate the use of precious water and electricity. Water fountains located around the hotel enable guests to refill their water bottles.

Empowering the local community

Maison Dalabua is a catalyst for community development. Over 90% of the hotel's employees are from the local community. This work empowers both individuals and families, and the owner takes pride in seeing employees develop. Time and effort are devoted to training and education, which includes instilling awareness of sustainable practices.

The hotel also actively engages with local artisans and businesses, sourcing products and services from within the community. This approach strengthens the local economy and supports traditional crafts and skills, contributing to regional sustainability.



From local charm to global recognition

As the president of the Luang Prabang Hotel Association, Sisouphanthavong is spearheading efforts to elevate the community's appeal as a visitor destination through sustainable practices. By working with other local hotels to prioritize eco-friendly initiatives, her aim is to attract a truly discerning international clientele.

To meet the rigorous standards set by global travel agencies and certification bodies, hotels in the association undergo thorough inspections to ensure compliance with detailed checklists covering environmental and operational matters. Sisouphanthavong also emphasizes the importance of community culture, encouraging guests to embrace local customs and etiquette. By promoting a harmonious fusion of traditional and contemporary, she aims to position Luang Prabang as a top destination for travelers seeking authenticity and sustainability.