

THE DAILY DISPATCH

Day 15 Loei ¬to Vientiane (190.3km)

Today we said goodbye to the ancient kingdom of Siam and, via a relaxed cross-country route from Loei, we set our sights on the fourth country of our odyssey. The Land of a Million Elephants, or more formally, the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

After 167km, a couple of Passage Controls in Ban Phue and the border zone, we crossed the Mekong and entered Vientiane, the Capital City of Laos. Our agents, Vithaya, Claire and Michel from Inspiration Cambodia and Bespoke Laos were waiting with their team to once again help us with paperwork and formalities. And, as we saw in Cambodia, they had streamlined the process to perfection.

There were few incidents along the way but David and Jo Roberts' Chrysler needed its fuel pump rewiring on the way to the border. This hiccup only delayed them slightly, and along with the sweep crew of Andy Inskip and Charlie Neale, they soon joined the rest of the rally at the border.

A buffet lunch was arranged for us at the Crowne Plaza only 30km away from the frontier. After which the day was free for sightseeing and whatever else took our fancy. No group dinner was scheduled for this evening giving us the chance to discover the charms of this old city for ourselves.

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Graham and Marina Goodwin, 1973 Porsche 911 Targa



Hans Ulrich Wartenweiler and Reinhard Siegfried, 1980 Volvo 144





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