



Discover Egypt

Country(ies): Egypt

Tour type: Small Group

Transport: A/C minibus/coach, sleeper train & felucca

sailboat

Group size: Min: 2 | Max: 18

Days: 10 days

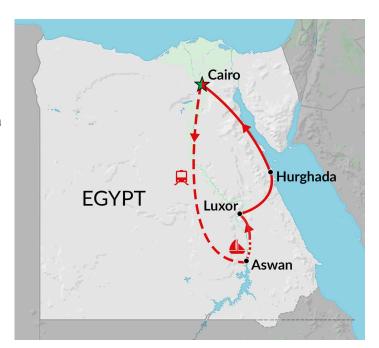
Start Location: Cairo, Egypt

End Location: Cairo, Egypt

Meals: Breakfasts - 9, Lunches - 3, Dinners - 5

Highlights:

The Pyramids & Sphinx, Antiquities at the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM), Traditional Koshary Lunch, Romantic Philae Temple, Nubian Village Experience, Abu Simbel option, Traditional Felucca Sailing, Ancient Valley of the Kings, Red Sea in Hurghada



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive into Cairo and transfer to hotel

Upon arrival our staff will meet you at the airport, assist you with obtaining your visa and luggage, and then transfer you to your hotel for the start of your trip. They will help you settle in, introduce you to the local area, and explain tomorrow's arrangements. The rest of the day is free. If you arrive early you may like to take an evening dinner cruise on the Nile, or enjoy a spectacular sound and light show at the pyramids (both available to book locally on arrival).

OVERNIGHT: Cairo hotel

MEALS: None

EXTRAS: Single room supplement (EGSGDE) Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - pre-tour

Day 2: Visit the Pyramids & Sphinx in Giza. Traditional Koshary Lunch. Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) Visit. Sleeper Train to Aswan

Our Discover Egypt tour begins with a visit to the iconic pyramids of Giza. Marvel at the Great Pyramid of Khufu (Cheops), a monumental structure standing tall at 500 feet and spanning 750 feet at its base. Constructed with massive stone blocks and adorned with a hard limestone casing, this architectural masterpiece will leave you speachless. Alongside the Great Pyramid, admire the smaller yet equally impressive pyramids of Khafre (Chephren) and Menkaure (Mycerinus). You'll even have the chance to venture inside the pyramids (limited tickets available for the Great Pyramid) for an unforgettable experience.

Next, we'll visit the magnificent Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM), located near the Pyramids of Giza. Immerse yourself in the wonders of ancient Egypt as you explore the Tutankhamun exhibit and countless other fascinating artifacts. Our expert Egyptologist guide will accompany you throughout your visit, sharing their wealth of knowledge and passion for Egyptian history and culture. *Please note: While we will have dedicated time to visit the Museum highlights, the GEM holds one of the largest archaeological collections in the world and therefore it won't be possible to explore the museum in its entirety. If you wish to explore further, you have the option to add on our GEM re-visit package, which will allow you to return and explore at your leisure during your scheduled free time.*

Between these captivating visits, savour a delicious Koshary lunch. This traditional Egyptian dish is a culinary delight, featuring a medley of rice, lentils, macaroni, chickpeas, and a tangy tomato sauce, topped with crispy fried onions. It's a true feast for the senses and a perfect representation of Egypt's rich culinary heritage.

As the day draws to a close, we'll transfer to the station for an overnight sleeper train to Aswan. The journey takes around 12 hours and you'll be accommodated in a twin birth cabin, where an airline style dinner and breakfast will also be served.

OVERNIGHT: Sleeper Train Cabin **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

EXTRAS: Cairo to Aswan flight upgrade

Day 3: Arrive in Aswan and visit Philae Temple. Nubian Village experience

After our night onboard the sleeper train, we arrive in Aswan, a city steeped in ancient Nubian history. The Nubian people have inhabited this region for millennia, their culture intertwined with the Nile. We'll be spending the night immersed in this vibrant culture, staying in a Nubian style hotel within a Nubian village. Get ready to be charmed by the brightly painted houses, adorned with symbolic patterns and vibrant colours, and explore the bustling local markets where you can find handcrafted souvenirs and spices.

Before heading to the Nubian villages, we'll embark on a boat trip to the breathtaking Philae Temple. Dedicated to the goddess Isis, this temple complex was once threatened by the rising waters of Lake Nasser. Thankfully, it was carefully dismantled and relocated to its current island location, preserving its beauty for generations to come.

Following our visit to Philae Temple, we delve deeper into Nubian culture. We'll journey south of Aswan to a traditional Nubian village, where we'll have the unique opportunity to experience the local way of life firsthand. We'll wander through the village, visit the homes of Nubian families, and learn about their customs and traditions. In the evening, we'll share a delicious home-cooked dinner with a Nubian family, savouring traditional dishes and enjoying their warm hospitality. We'll then spend the night in a Nubian-style hotel, allowing us to fully immerse ourselves in the peaceful rhythm of village life.

OVERNIGHT: Aswan - Nubian Village hotel

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 4: Optional visit to Abu Simbel. Sail on the River Nile on a traditional Felucca sailboat

Those seeking an awe-inspiring adventure can rise early for an optional excursion to Abu Simbel. This UNESCO World Heritage Site boasts two magnificent temples carved into the mountainside by Ramses II. These monumental structures, adorned with colossal statues and intricate reliefs, are a testament to the grandeur of ancient Egypt and a definite highlight of any trip.

At lunchtime, we embark on a quintessential Egyptian adventure: a felucca sailing trip on the Nile. These traditional wooden sailboats offer a unique perspective of the river, allowing you to witness the beauty of the Nile and observe rural Egyptian life unfold along its banks. Our Nubian crew will expertly navigate the felucca, ensuring a relaxing and enjoyable journey. They'll also entertain you with their local knowledge and prepare meals onboard.

For your comfort and convenience, a separate facilities boat will accompany us, providing essential amenities such as toilets, showers, and a hygienic kitchen. In the evening, we'll moor along the riverbank and enjoy a dinner prepared by our crew. As the stars twinkle overhead, we'll settle down for a magical night's sleep on deck, under the vast expanse of the Egyptian sky (mattresses, blankets, and mosquito nets are provided).

Should you prefer a more conventional overnight stay, you have the option to upgrade your felucca experience and spend the night in a comfortable hotel in Aswan. You'll then rejoin the group the following morning when disembark the Felucca in Aswan. This upgrade won't affect the rest of your itinerary.

OVERNIGHT: Felucca Sailboat **MEALS:** Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS: Abu Simbel overland Upgrade from felucca to hotel in Aswan

Day 5: Disembark Felucca and visit Edfu Temple. Drive to Luxor and visit Luxor Temple by Night

After breakfast onboard our felucca, we bid farewell to our Nubian crew in Aswan and continue our journey north by road. Our first stop is Edfu, home to the impressive Temple of Horus. Dedicated to the falcon-headed god, this remarkably well-preserved temple is one of the largest and most complete in Egypt. We'll have time to explore its towering pylons, hypostyle halls, and intricate reliefs, immersing ourselves in the mythology and grandeur of ancient Egyptian religion.

From Edfu, we continue northwards to the legendary city of Luxor. Built upon the ancient site of Thebes, Luxor boasts an unparalleled concentration of historical wonders. Often referred to as the world's greatest open-air museum, it's divided by the Nile into two distinct areas: the East Bank, with its vibrant city life and magnificent temples, and the West Bank, a necropolis of royal tombs and mortuary temples.

This evening, we have a special treat in store: a guided tour of Luxor Temple at night. Situated in the heart of the modern city, this beautifully illuminated temple offers a magical experience after dark. Our guide will bring the temple's history to life, revealing its secrets and explaining its significance as a centre of worship for centuries.

OVERNIGHT: Luxor hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 6: Visits to Valley of the Kings, Temple of Hatchepsut, Workers Village, Colossi of Memnon. Afternoon visit Karnak Temple

This morning, we embark on a journey to the West Bank of Luxor, a realm steeped in ancient history and shrouded in the mystique of pharaohs and their eternal resting places. Our exploration begins with a visit to the Valley of the Kings, a vast necropolis where generations of pharaohs were laid to rest in elaborately decorated tombs. We'll venture into several of these tombs, marvelling at the vibrant hieroglyphs and intricate paintings that adorn their walls. These ancient chambers continue to reveal their secrets to archaeologists, making the Valley of the Kings one of the most significant archaeological sites in the world.

Our West Bank adventure continues with a visit to Deir el-Medina, a fascinating village that was once home to the skilled artisans who constructed and decorated the royal tombs. We'll explore the remains of this ancient community, gaining insights into the lives of the workers and their families.

Next, we'll be captivated by the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, a unique mortuary temple built into the cliffs. Its elegant colonnades and terraces offer stunning views of the surrounding landscape. And no visit to the West Bank would be complete without encountering the Colossi of Memnon, two colossal statues that have stood guard over the Theban necropolis for millennia.

In the afternoon, we cross back to the East Bank to explore the sprawling complex of Karnak Temple. Dedicated to the Theban Triad of Amun, Mut, and Khonsu, Karnak is a masterpiece of ancient Egyptian architecture. We'll wander through its vast courtyards, admire its towering columns, and decipher the intricate carvings that adorn its walls. Our guide will unravel the temple's complex history, revealing its secrets and explaining its significance as a religious and cultural centre for over 2,000 years.

For those seeking an unforgettable experience, an optional hot air balloon flight over the West Bank is available this morning. Imagine soaring above the Valley of the Kings, the temples, and the Nile as the sun rises, painting the landscape in golden hues. It's a truly magical way to witness the grandeur of Luxor from a unique perspective (expect an early start to catch the sunrise).

OVERNIGHT: Luxor hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS: Hot air balloon in Luxor

Day 7: Leave Luxor and Drive to the Red Sea resort of Hurghada

This morning, we bid farewell to the Nile and embark on a scenic journey eastward towards the glistening shores of the Red Sea. Our destination is Hurghada, a vibrant resort town renowned for its stunning beaches, crystal-clear waters, and world-class diving and snorkelling opportunities.

Upon arrival, we'll check into our 5-star resort, a haven of comfort and relaxation. Prepare to be pampered with exceptional amenities and impeccable service. Your stay here is on a 'soft all-inclusive' basis, meaning that all your meals, soft drinks, and snacks are included throughout your stay. Indulge in delicious buffets, savour snacks by the pool, and quench your thirst with refreshing beverages – all without worrying about extra costs. (Alcoholic beverages are not included in the soft all-inclusive package.)

The resort offers a wealth of facilities to enhance your stay. Take a refreshing dip in the sparkling swimming pool, unwind on the sun-drenched terrace, or stroll along the pristine beach. For those seeking active pursuits, there are opportunities for water sports, beach volleyball, and other activities. Or perhaps you'd prefer to pamper yourself with a rejuvenating treatment at the spa. The choice is yours!

With its idyllic setting, luxurious amenities, and convenient all-inclusive package, your stay in Hurghada promises to be a relaxing and rejuvenating escape.

OVERNIGHT: Hurghada Resort **MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 8: Enjoy the Red Sea in Hurghada, optional excursions available

Today is yours to savour the delights of the Red Sea. Relax on the pristine beach, soak up the sun, and take a refreshing dip in the crystal-clear waters. Hurghada is renowned worldwide for its exceptional diving and snorkelling, and the vibrant coral reefs teeming with marine life attract enthusiasts from across the globe. If you're feeling adventurous, a plethora of activities awaits. Glide across the waves with windsurfing or kitesurfing, explore the underwater world in a glass-bottomed submarine, embark on a thrilling quad biking adventure in the desert, enjoy a leisurely camel ride along the shore, or try your luck at a spot of sea fishing. Our local representative in Hurghada will be happy to assist you with arranging any of these exciting excursions.

For those who prefer to stay closer to shore, Hurghada offers a charming marina and an atmospheric old town to explore. Wander through the bustling streets, browse the local shops, and soak up the vibrant atmosphere of this seaside town.

If you find yourself captivated by Hurghada's charms, we can arrange extra nights at the resort, allowing you to extend your Red Sea relaxation. (Please note that adding extra nights in Hurghada means you will depart from the group. You can either conclude your tour in Hurghada or arrange a flight back to Cairo at a later date. Contact us for further information and personalised pricing.)

OVERNIGHT: Hurghada Resort **MEALS:** Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 9: Drive to Cairo, optional Khan-el-Khalili Bazaar visit

We drive back to Cairo this morning (approx.. 5hrs) and check into our hotel. An upgrade to an internal flight is also available on request.

In the afternoon there is the option to take a guided walk through the back streets and bazaars in central Cairo. We'll walk through the huge Bab al-Futuh gateway and explore streets dedicated to metalwork, spices, pottery, fabric, jewellery and anything else you can imagine as we gradually enter the more touristy Khan-el-Khalili bazaar. We'll have time for a break to try some tea and a shisha pipe and perhaps enjoy an early dinner of Egypt's unofficial national dish, Kushari before returning to our hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Cairo hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS: Hurghada to Cairo flight upgrade Cairo Tower inc transfers Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) Visit Khan-el-Khaliali bazaar walking tour Fyramids Sound & Light Show

Day 10: Cairo, free time, departure airport transfer

Your time is free today for some last minute sightseeing or shopping until we transfer you to the airport for your departure flight. If you have an afternoon or evening flight departure, then a half-day tour of Coptic Cairo and the Citadel is available today, or you could take another half-day tour to learn more about the evolution of pyramid building at Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis. tours are also available today. Alternatively you can add extra nights to your time in Cairo which would allow you to take a day trip to the colonial city of Alexandria on the Mediterranean coast, or a trip into the desert outside Cairo to see the World Heritage Site of the Valley of the Whales at Wadi Rayan.

OVERNIGHT: N/A MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS: Alexandria day trip Cairo city tour Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - post-tour

Included:

- 6 nights in 5-star hotels in Cairo and Luxor
- 1 night onboard the overnight sleeper train private twin-berth cabins (flight upgrade available)
- 1 night in a traditional Nubian style hotel in Aswan
- 1 night on a felucca sailboat with accompanying support boat with toilet & shower
- Sightseeing tours as detailed in the itinerary
- Traditional Koshary Lunch in Cairo
- Nubian Village Experience in Aswan
- Red Sea Relaxation in Hurghada
- All transport and transfers in private AC vehicles
- 24-hour airport arrival & departure transfer service
- Services of a local Egyptologist guide for all sightseeing tours
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

Excluded:

- International flights (available on request)
- Visa fees (available on arrival for most nationalities)
- Travel insurance (compulsory, available on request)
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary

- Entrance fees (allow approx. US\$124)
- Tipping kitty (allow US\$80)
- Drinks, snacks, guide tips and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Hotel gala dinners (see Tour notes)
- Any other items not mentioned above

Notes

Similar tours:

The following tours run alongside this tour with slight adjustments in the itinerary and accommodation...

- Gods of Egypt adds a flight from Cairo to Aswan in place of the sleeper train, and then
 upgrades the felucca trip to a 3 night luxury Nile Cruise from Aswan to Luxor
- <u>Nubian Adventure</u> adds an extra night in Luxor and then returns to Cairo to make a 9-day tour instead of heading to the Red Sea at Hurghada
- Ancient Encounters adds our signature 8-day small group <u>Jordan Encounters</u> tour to the start, making a 17-day tour in total

Hotel Gala Dinners

Many of Egypt's hotels and Nile cruise boats arrange a very special gala dinner with entertainment in the evening on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Payment for these is often optional on Christmas Eve (24 Dec) but may be compulsory on New Year's Eve (31 Dec), whether you attend or not. Prices can range from around US\$50 to over US\$180 per person. Final decisions on prices and whether dinners are compulsory are made relatively close to the time. We aim to always select hotels that make their Gala Dinners optional, though this is not always possible. Gala dinner prices are therefore not included in our prices above, but will be added to your booking if they become required. Please budget accordingly, especially for New Year's Eve. More information is available on request.

Options

Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you're visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

All accommodation based options (e.g. Single supplements, extra nights, cruise upgrades) should be booked and paid for in advance so that we can make the appropriate arrangements. Other options may either be booked and paid for in advance or while you are on the tour, though we recommend booking in advance to ensure there are no issues with availability.

Many options are priced the same throughout the year, but some may incur single or high season supplements - full details are given on the tour reservation form or on request.

Hot air balloon in Luxor

Min numbers: 1

This popular optional tour starts early in the morning so that you experience the sunrise over the Valleys of the Kings & Queens, temples and desert. We endeavour to use the earliest flights of the day as they are timed to fit with the rising sun, this means that times may vary. You get around 1 hour in the air.

The price of this option is approximately \$170.00. Please note that this option is only available to be booked locally, via your tour guide who will also advise you of the current price.

Alexandria day trip

Min numbers: 1

Alexandria is about 2.5 hours drive, north of Cairo on the Mediterranean coast of Egypt. This ex colonial city is the second largest in Egypt and our visit will include the Roman amphitheatre with its twelve semi-circular marble tiers, the Catacombs of Kom al-Shoqafa which is the largest Roman cemetery in Alexandria, Pompey's Pillar, Fort Qaitbey (from outside), the famous modern library before returning to Cairo. If time allows you can tour inside Fort Qaitbey and we may also visit the Montazah Palace gardens. Lunch at a seafood restaurant is included. As the tour takes a full day you will either need a late evening flight departure on the last day of the tour to accommodated it, or to add an extra day to the start or end of your trip.

Prices are based on a minimum of 2 travellers choosing the option. Solo traveller supplements apply. Entrance fees to sites visited are not included (budget approx. USD 10)

Cairo city tour

Min numbers: 1

This half day guided tour of Cairo tour begins with Islamic areas including the Citadel of Saladdin, boasting the famous Alabaster Mosque of Mohammed Ali. Then we head onto the Coptic area of Cairo where the Romans constructed the fortress of Babylon. The church of St. Mary was built over the ruins of two towers of the fortress whilst it is more commonly known as the Hanging Church next stop is St. Sergius which is said to be the resting place of the Holy Family. The tour finishes at the Khan-el-Khalili bazaar. The entrance fees budget covers the Coptic Museum, the Citadel and the Sultan Hassan Mosque. Depending on your day, you may not have time to visit all of these.

Entrance fees to sites visited are not included (budget approx. USD 10)

Prices shown are based on a minimum of 2 people travelling. Solo traveller supplements apply.

Wadi Rayan day trip (Valley of the Whales)

Min numbers: 1

This tour provides a great contrast to the Pharaonic sites you have visited on the rest of your tour. We leave Cairo and head to the Fayoum region where we head for the Wadi Rayan Protected Area, which surrounds a fresh-water lake in the middle of the desert, filled by the remaining irrigation water from the Fayoum area. There are several waterfalls here (popular in Egyptian pop music videos), and a bird hide which gives good views of the lakes birdlife, particularly in the winter months when the lake is an important stop for migrating water-birds. We also visit the Springs Oasis area, a rare example of an uninhabited Saharan oasis, and host to many different plants and animals, including Dorcas Gazelle, Ruppell's Sand Fox and Fennec Fox. Before lunch, we'll make a stop in the sand dunes surrounding Wadi Rayan to have a go at Sandboarding. After a stop for a packed lunch, we then drive into the stunning desert & mountain scenery of Wadi Hitan (Valley of the Whales). This World Heritage Site is accepted as the most significant site in the world to demonstrate the evolution of whales, and we take a 2-3km walk here to see several specimens of fossilised whales of different types sitting on the surface of the sand, as well as fossilised mangroves and the remains of crab holes.

This tour requires a full free day in Cairo, but can also be arranged straight after you arrive back in Cairo from Luxor/Aswan from the overnight sleeper train. We can also arrange it on any tour if you add extra days before and after your main tour. Prices shown are based on 2 or more people travelling, with an additional supplement due for solo travellers.

Price includes lunch whilst in Wadi Hitan and entrance fees.

Single room supplement (EGSGDE)

Min numbers: 1

The tour price is based on 2 people sharing twin/double rooms. This option books a single room in all the accommodation throughout the tour. If you are a single traveller and would be happy to share a room, let us know and we will see if we can pair you up with another single traveller of the same sex. If a room share is not available when you book then we will add the single room supplement to your booking and it will be payable with your balance payment unless we have arranged a room share for you by then. If a room share is arranged after you have paid the supplement then we will refund it to you. Room shares are arranged in order of booking.

Note: Single supplement prices may vary seasonally.

Abu Simbel overland

Min numbers: 2

The temples built by Ramses II at Abu Simbel are one of Egypt's highlights, and have a fascinating story behind them to go with their impressive size. When Lake Nasser was flooded, the final water level was going to submerge several temples, the most important of which being Abu Simbel. The temple was therefore dismantled completely and rebuilt further up the hillside where it sits today. The temple stands today as a testament to Ramses II and the great building prowess of the ancient Egyptians, as well as to modern engineering. We depart Aswan very early in the morning (around 4am), with the aim of getting to Abu Simbel to see the temples in the light of the rising sun. We then have a guided tour with one of our Egyptologists and some free time before we drive back to Aswan (approx. 3 1/2 hours drive each way, with around 2 hours at the temples). The tour itinerary is designed so you will not miss any other activities if you choose this option.

Note - we choose the overland route to get to Abu Simbel as the flight times there are unreliable and the journey using the flight is much more segmented (you get more rest on the coach), not to mention it is much more expensive to fly.

Entrance fees to the site (approx. US\$10, 50% for children) are not included in the option price and should be paid locally . A minimum of 2 people is required to operate this option.

Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis

Min numbers: 1

This half day guided tour on the outskirts of Cairo tour provides more insight into the history and evolution of pyramid building, and of the Egyptian civilisation. Our tours are based in the area of ancient Memphis, a former capital of Egypt. First we'll visit Saqqara, a huge desert necropolis which was built for the kings and nobles of the Old Kingdom. Here we see Zoser's 'step' pyramid and the adjacent Imhotep museum where we learn more about Memphis and the history of the region. Next we head to Dashour to see one of the next attempts at pyramid building. Dashour's moniker of the 'bent pyramid' shows they still had a bit to learn, but this is a fascinating site and the pyramid still has much of its original limestone cladding. We'll then return you to your hotel.

Prices are based on a minimum of 2 people choosing the option. Entrance fees to the sites visited are not included (budget approx. USD 12). Solo traveller supplements apply.

Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - pre-tour

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the start of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport arrival transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - post-tour

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the end of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport departure transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Felucca to Hotel upgrade

Min numbers: 1

If you would like some more comfort in place of sleeping on the deck of the felucca, then this option provides an extra night in a hotel in Aswan instead. You then rejoin the rest of the group after they finish on the felucca. Your time is free in Aswan, but additional sightseeing tours are available locally on request. Single room supplements apply.

Khan-el-Khaliali bazaar walking tour

Min numbers: 1

This guided walking tour takes you along El Moez Street, just a few hundred metres from Babh el Futr, one of the main gates allowing entrance to the walled city. The area is one of Cairo's most charming, with covered markets, narrow streets, old buildings and mosques. After leaving the hotel, you'll see many Ottoman houses, mosques and old architectural highlights before entering the more touristy section of the Khan-el-Khalili bazaar. Leaving that section behind, we explore fabric, jewelry and craft bazaars before gradually winding our way back to the hotel. The whole tour takes around 3 hours.

Prices are based on a minimum of 2 people travelling, with solo traveller supplements available.

Pyramids Camel Ride

Min numbers: 1

Experience the Giza Pyramids from a unique vantage point with an optional camel ride. This excursion takes you across the desert to a scenic view point, offering panoramic views of the pyramids. Capture memorable photos and enjoy the desert landscape.

Pyramids Sound & Light Show

Min numbers: 1

Experience the magic of the Giza Pyramids at night with a captivating sound and light show. This optional extra includes convenient round-trip transport from your hotel, ensuring a hassle-free evening as you witness the ancient wonders illuminated against the desert sky.

Pricing is based on a minimum of 2 passengers travelling together. Supplements may apply when this option is operated for just 1 passenger.

River Nile Kayaking

Min numbers: 1

Experience the Nile from a unique perspective with our optional kayaking trip. We'll collect you from your Nubian Guesthouse and transfer you to the starting location, where you'll receive a safety briefing before embarking on your adventure. Paddle your own single kayak along the Nile for 30-45 minutes, enjoying the scenic river views. We'll then arrive at Mud Island, where you'll have free time to relax and, if desired and permitted, take a refreshing swim in the Nile. To avoid paddling against the current, we'll return to the hotel by motorboat.

Safety is our priority:

- A support motorboat accompanies the kayaking trip.
- Life jackets are provided for all participants.
- A qualified lifeguard will be present throughout the activity.

Cairo Sunset Felucca

Min numbers: 1

Take a relaxing felucca ride on the Nile at sunset. See Cairo's landmarks from the water as the sky changes colour. Enjoy a peaceful break from the city, and get great photo opportunities of the skyline. This trip offers a calm way to experience the Nile and create memorable moments of your time in Egypt.

The price of this option is based on a minimum of 2 travellers, single supplements may apply when this tour is operated for just 1 passenger.

Cairo Tower inc.transfers

Min numbers: 1

Experience breathtaking panoramic views of Cairo by night with an optional evening visit to the iconic Cairo Tower. This trip includes convenient round-trip transfers from your hotel, ensuring a comfortable and hassle-free journey. Ascend to the tower's observation deck and witness the city's glittering skyline, the Nile River, and the illuminated landmarks stretching into the distance.

Please note: The Cairo Tower entrance fee is not included and is approximately \$7. Pricing is based on a minimum of 2 passengers, a single supplement applies when this tour is operated for just 1 adult.

Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) Visit

Min numbers: 1

Elevate your Egyptian exploration with an unmissable optional guided visit to the awe-inspiring, brand new Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) in Cairo. This monumental museum is a landmark achievement, eagerly anticipated for years, and now ready to share its treasures with the world. We will provide comfortable and convenient return transportation directly from your accommodation to the museum, allowing you to relax and anticipate the wonders ahead without the hassle of navigating Cairo's bustling streets.

Upon arrival, you will embark on an enlightening tour led by an expert guide. They will bring the wonders of the GEM to life, providing fascinating insights into Egypt's rich and captivating history and navigating you through its vast collections. Your guide will highlight the most significant artefacts, ensuring you don't miss the key exhibits, including colossal statues, intricate jewellery, and the famed treasures of Tutankhamun, all presented in a state-of-the-art setting befitting their historical importance. This guided experience will deepen your understanding and appreciation of the splendours on display.

Please be aware that the entrance fee to the Grand Egyptian Museum is not included in the cost of this optional excursion. As of the time of publication (May 2025), the standard entrance fee is approximately \$26 per person. However, it is anticipated that this fee will increase to around \$30 per person in the near future. We recommend verifying the current entrance fee closer to your travel date.

Don't miss this exceptional opportunity to be among the early visitors to what is destined to become one of the world's most important cultural institutions, all while benefiting from the knowledge and passion of a dedicated guide. Secure your place on this excursion and prepare for an unforgettable and insightful encounter with the splendours of ancient Egypt in a truly twenty-first-century museum.

Karnak Sound & Light Show

Min numbers: 1

Experience the magic of Karnak Temple at night with a captivating sound and light show. This optional extra includes convenient round-trip transport from your hotel, ensuring a hassle-free evening as you witness the ancient wonders illuminated against the Egyptian sky.

Pricing is based on a minimum of 2 passengers travelling together. Supplements may apply when this option is operated for just 1 passenger.

Siwa Oasis Extension (3 Nights)

Min numbers: 1

Discover the wonders of Siwa Oasis on a 4-day optional tour from Cairo, featuring ancient sites, unique natural landscapes like salt lakes and desert springs, and cultural experiences before returning to Cairo.

Philae Sound and Light Show

Min numbers: 1

Experience the magic of Philae Temple at night with a captivating sound and light show. This optional extra includes convenient round-trip transport from your hotel, ensuring a hassle-free evening as you witness the ancient wonders illuminated against the desert sky.

Pricing is based on a minimum of 2 passengers travelling together. Supplements may apply when this option is operated for just 1 passenger.

1. Felucca Sailboat

This tour features an overnight felucca cruise. Feluccas are very basic traditional Nile sailboats and are a fun and relaxing way to travel down the river. You sleep on the deck of the boat (mattresses and some blankets are provided, but we suggest that you bring a sleeping sheet, blanket or light sleeping bag during the winter months of November-February). There are no toilet facilities on board, but you will be joined several times each day and at night by our support boat where a toilet and warm showers will be available. Mosquito nets are provided for use while you are sleeping but you should bring mosquito repellent for the evenings and early mornings. Your Nubian boat crew will cook all your meals while on board and entertain you in the evenings.

2. Transport

Our trips feature a mix of different transport options. We want you to feel like you're really experiencing the country you're travelling through, but at the same time we want you to finish journeys refreshed enough to enjoy the next stage of the tour. In Egypt we do not use any public tourist buses or overnight coach journeys as we know that people don't sleep on board and end up very tired for the following few days. All the vehicles we use are air-conditioned, many are fitted with speed limiters, and all are inspected and checked daily. Some 4WD vehicles used on desert safaris may not always have air conditioning where they are only used for short periods.

For the overnight train journey between Cairo and Aswan this tour uses the overnight sleeper train. You will have a private lockable twin cabin on board which holds two large seats and fold down beds which the carriage steward will make up for you in the evening. Sheets, blanket & pillows are provided. The cabin also contains a wash basin and storage cupboard. An airline tray-style evening meal and breakfast are provided. The Cairo-Aswan journey takes around 12 hours.

3. Dates & Prices

We run regular small-group departures on this tour starting on Saturdays throughout the year. All departures are guaranteed to run with a minimum of 2 travellers and a maximum of 18. Departure dates and prices are listed on our website and on a separate dates & prices sheet available on request.

Printed on: Sunday 30th of November 2025

Note: Please <u>download an up-to-date copy</u> of these tour notes shortly before you travel as itineraries and information does change from time to time.