

Egypt Express

Country(ies): Egypt

Tour type: Small Group

Transport: AC minibus/coach, overnight train

Group size: Min: 2 | Max: 18

Days: 8 days

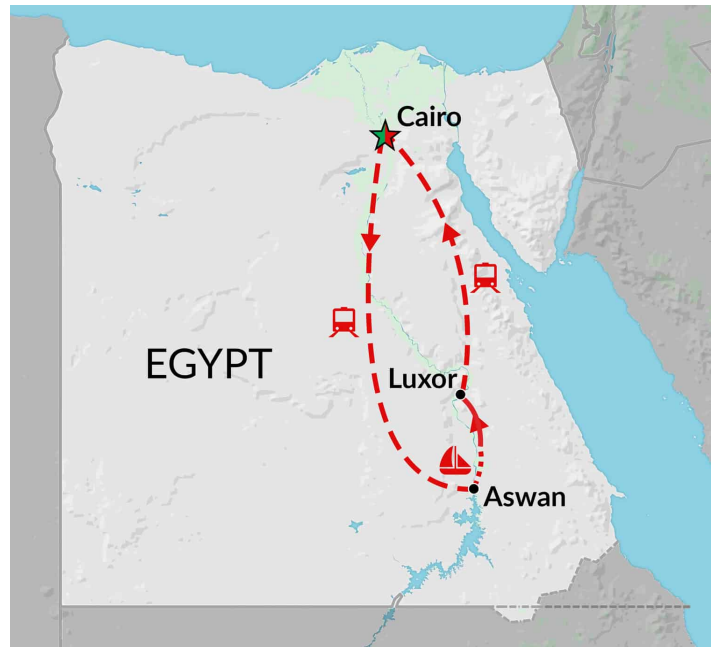
Start Location: Cairo, Egypt

End Location: Cairo, Egypt

Meals: Breakfasts - 5, Lunches - 1, Dinners - 1

Highlights:

The great Pyramids & Sphinx, beautiful Philae temple by boat, Nile felucca cruise, Traditional Nubian Villages
Pharaonic sites of Luxor's East and West Banks,
Egyptian Koshary Lunch



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive into Cairo, 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 in central Cairo 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 4-star hotel

MEALS: None

EXTRAS: Nile dinner cruise in Cairo Single Room Supplement (EGSHES) Extra day in Cairo pre-tour (3-star)

Day 2: Cairo, Pyramids & Sphinx at Giza. Included Koshary Lunch. Overnight train to Aswan

We start our exploration of Egypt with the iconic three great pyramids at Giza, on the outskirts of Cairo. Probably the most recognizable ancient buildings in the world, these three pyramids were built by the Pharaohs Khufu, Khafre and Menkaure around 2500 years BC. Our Egyptologist guide will start your introduction into Egyptian history here with information on how and why pyramids were built and how they fit into the whole ancient Pharaonic story. You'll have the chance to climb down inside one of these pyramids if you wish (and if you're not claustrophobic!).

Our next visit is the majestic Sphinx, which nestles nearby, and was uncovered completely only in the 1920s. After your awe-inspiring visit to the Sphinx, we'll take a well-deserved break to refuel with an included Koshary lunch. Koshary is a beloved Egyptian staple, a hearty and flavorful dish that perfectly embodies the country's culinary heritage. Koshary consists of a bed of fluffy rice and lentils, topped with perfectly cooked macaroni and chickpeas, all brought together with a tangy tomato sauce and a sprinkle of crispy fried onions. It's a symphony of textures and tastes that will leave you feeling satisfied and ready for the next adventure!

After lunch you'll have some free time to visit the Egyptian Museum of antiquities, home to the treasures of ancient Egypt.

This evening we will board the overnight VIP seater train from Cairo to Aswan. For those preferring more comfort, there is the option of upgrading to the sleeper train where you will have a private cabin onboard with airline style meals included.

OVERNIGHT: Overnight seater train

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

EXTRAS: Two way sleeper train upgrade

Day 3: Arrive in Aswan. Philae Temple & Nubian village

After our night onboard the overnight train, we arrive in Aswan where we spend the night in a Nubian village staying in a Nubian style hotel. The ancient region of Nubia comprised an area around the Nile in parts of present day southern Egypt and northern Sudan. Many descendants of the Nubian people still live around Aswan and during our stay we'll see their colourful houses.

This morning we'll take a boat trip to visit one of Egypt's most beautifully situated temples which was also reclaimed from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. This is the Temple of Philae, which was dedicated to Isis.

After visiting Philae Temple, we'll head south of Aswan to visit one of the Nubian Villages where we'll have the opportunity to experience the local way of life and visit the local homes of the Nubian people and even spend the night in a Nubian style hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Aswan - Nubian Village hotel

MEALS: None

EXTRAS:

Day 4: Abu Simbel option. Nile Felucca Cruise

An option is available this morning to visit the temples built by Ramses II at the amazing UNESCO world heritage site of Abu Simbel. We depart very early with the aim of seeing the rising sun over the temples. If you don't visit Abu Simbel, then this morning is free.

We board our traditional Nile felucca at lunchtime to enjoy an afternoon sailing down the Nile. Floating down the Nile on a felucca is one of Egypt's most enjoyable activities and you'll be able to watch local rural Egyptian life pass you by on the banks of the river as you drift past. Our Nubian crew will sail the boat and entertain you on the way, as well as preparing meals for you. Our separate facilities boat will join with us from time to time during the day and moor up with us at night. This boat has a welcome toilet and showers on board as well as a hygienic kitchen. You sleep on the deck of the boat tonight (mattresses, blankets and mosquito nets provided). This is a fun, but basic experience, and we offer an optional upgrade to spend this night back in the Aswan hotel instead of sleeping on the felucca for those wishing some more comfort. You then rejoin the rest of the group the next morning.

OVERNIGHT: On board felucca

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

EXTRAS: Abu Simbel overland Felucca to Hotel upgrade

Day 5: To Luxor via Edfu. Optional Luxor temple at night

We spend some more time onboard the Felucca this morning whilst enjoying breakfast with the crew, before we bid them a reluctant goodbye and drive north to Luxor, making a stop along the way to visit Edfu Temple. Luxor is the jewel in Egypt's crown with the largest concentrations of ancient ruins in the Nile Valley, if not the world. These are split across both banks of the Nile, with the City of the Dead on the West Bank with many mortuary temples and tombs cut into the rocky mountains, and with the Temples of Luxor and Karnak and their connecting Avenue of Sphinxes the highlights on the East Bank. Later this evening there is an optional tour available to Luxor Temple which is right in the middle of town and beautifully lit up at night. You'll can also head into town to explore some of Luxor's popular outdoor cafes, perhaps enjoying a few games of backgammon and trying a shisha pipe with the locals. We spend the night at a comfortable 4-star hotel with a pool on the banks of the Nile.

OVERNIGHT: Luxor 4-star hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS: Hot air balloon in Luxor

Day 6: Luxor, West Bank tour. Optional Karnak temple tour. Train to Cairo

This morning we take a tour to the West Bank of the Nile, where we'll visit the Temple of Queen Hatchepsut, explore several tombs in the Valley of the Kings, learn about the workers who made all this happen in Deir El-Medina (the Valley of the Artisans) and stop to see the huge Colossi of Memnon. Your afternoon is then free to relax in the hotel, or take an optional tour to explore the huge temple complex at Karnak. A spectacular hot air balloon flight over the west bank of the Nile is also available today (expect another early start to catch sunrise as the balloon rises).

This evening we re-join the overnight VIP seater train back to Cairo (there is another opportunity to upgrade to the sleeper train for those looking for more comfort).

OVERNIGHT: Overnight seater train

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS: Hot air balloon in Luxor Two way sleeper train upgrade Karnak Temple tour

Day 7: Arrive in Cairo. Optional day trips available

We arrive back into Cairo this morning and transfer to our hotel. The day is then free to explore Cairo as you choose or you may take an optional tour. These include a city tour in Cairo which visits Coptic Cairo, the Citadel and Mohamed Ali Mosque, or a half day tour to Saqqara, Dashour and Memphis to learn more about the history and evolution of pyramid building. Another full day option further afield includes a trip into the desert outside Cairo to see the World Heritage Site of the Valley of the Whales at Wadi Rayan.

If you haven't chosen to join one of our full day optional tours, 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, jewelery 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 3-star hotel

MEALS: None

EXTRAS: Alexandria day trip Cairo city tour Wadi Rayan day trip (Valley of the Whales) Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis

Day 8: Cairo, Optional Museum & City tour. 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. We recommend an afternoon or evening flight so that you can take a tour to visit the incredible Egyptian Museum and more of the city this morning. Extra nights in Cairo are also available if you would like to extend your stay.

OVERNIGHT: N/A

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS: Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis Extra day in Cairo post-tour (3-star)

Included:

- 3 nights accommodation in 3-4-star hotels
- 1 night in a Nubian style hotel in Aswan
- 1 night on a felucca sailboat cruise with accompanying support boat with toilet & shower
- 2 nights on the overnight seater train (sleeper train upgrade available)
- All transport and transfers in AC vehicles
- 24-hour airport arrival & departure transfer service
- Services of a specialist Egyptologist tour guides for all sightseeing tours
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

Excluded:

- International flights (available on request)
- Visa fees
- Travel insurance (compulsory, available on request)
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Tipping kitty (allow US\$45)
- Entrance fees (budget approx. US\$75)
- Drinks, snacks, guide & driver tips and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Hotel Gala Dinners (see Tour notes)
- Tour Guide Tips
- Any other items not mentioned above

Notes

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 normally 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 in 5-star hotels. 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, especially for New Year's Eve. 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. 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.

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.

Two way sleeper train upgrade

Min numbers: 1

This option provides an upgrade to the sleeper train from the overnight seater train that we use on this tour for the Cairo-Aswan and Luxor-Cairo journeys. On the sleeper train you have a private twin-berthed cabin, which features two large seats; fold down beds with mattress, sheets, pillow, blanket; storage locker and wash basin. An airline tray-style evening meal and breakfast are included. The carriage steward will make up and put away your beds in the evening and morning. All transfers between your hotel and the station are also included. Single cabin supplements apply.

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 (4-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.

Single Room Supplement (EGSHES)

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.

Extra day in Cairo post-tour (3-star)

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.

Luxor Museum tour

Min numbers: 1

The Luxor Museum has a much smaller collection than the huge Egyptian Museum in Cairo, but the collection is beautifully displayed and includes some very important and impressive specimens. These include a huge red granite head of Amenhotep III, a calcite double statue of the crocodile god Sobek and some items from Tutankhamun's tomb such as boats, sandals and arrows. There are also some items from the periods after the end of Pharaonic Egypt. The museum is normally open in the mornings from 9am-2pm and then in the evenings from 5pm-9pm. Your guide will advise you of current opening times and arrange a guided visit to fit around your other sightseeing.

Prices are based on a minimum of people travelling. Solo traveller supplements apply. Entrance fees to sites visited are not included - please budget approx. USD 5

Karnak Temple tour

Min numbers: 1

This tour takes you to the huge Karnak Temple Complex on the East bank of the Nile in Luxor. Karnak is connected to Luxor Temple by a long 2.4km avenue of Sphinxes, which is currently being opened up and restored. The site started being built over 4000 years ago and construction continued until Roman times with many Pharaohs adding their own additions and alterations. The entire site covers around 200 acres (1.5km x 0.8km) and is often considered the largest religious building in the world. There are temples dedicated to several different gods, a huge Hypostyle Hall containing 134 massive columns, several obelisks including one 30m tall erected by Queen Hatchepsut and a sacred stone walled lake.

You will spend several hours in the site with one of our Egyptologist guides with transfers to and from your hotel included.

Prices are based on a minimum of 2 people travelling. Solo traveller supplements apply. Entrance fees are not included (budget approx. \$7)

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.

Luxor temple by night

Min numbers: 1

Luxor Temple is an impressive ancient Egyptian temple complex dedicated to the god Amun in ancient Thebes, modern day Luxor. The temple is known for its grand entrance pylon, large courtyard, hypostyle hall, and sanctuary. The temple is also decorated with impressive reliefs and inscriptions. On this tour, we'll visit the temple at night, when it is beautifully illuminated, giving a contrast against other temples you will have visiting during the day.

Prices are based on a minimum of people travelling. Solo traveller supplements apply. Entrance fees to sites visited are not included (budget USD 14)

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. 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 journeys from Cairo to Aswan (approx. 12 hrs) and Luxor to Cairo (approx. 9 hrs) this tour uses the VIP overnight seater train. Seats onboard the train are large enough to be able to relax, however for those who prefer additional comfort, we also offer the sleeper train as an optional upgrade. The sleeper train has private twin berth cabins with large seats and fold-down beds with sheets, pillow & blanket. The lockable cabins also have a washbasin and storage cupboard, and an airline tray-style evening meal and breakfast is included.

2. 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 during the day and at night by our support boat where a toilet and shower is 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 prepare your meals while on board and entertain you in the evening.

If you would like some more comfort, then an option is available locally to upgrade to a hotel for the night in place of the felucca. You will still spend the afternoon on the boat and have dinner with the group, but then return to the accommodation in Aswan. The price covers the hotel accommodation, breakfast, and the additional transfers back to the hotel and to rejoin the group after they finish on the felucca.

3. Dates & Prices

We run regular small-group departures on this tour throughout the year, starting on Saturdays. All departures are guaranteed to run with a minimum of 2 travellers and a maximum of 26. Departure dates and prices are listed on our website and on a separate dates & prices sheet available on request.

Printed on: Saturday 4th of October 2025

Note: Please [download an up-to-date copy](#) of these tour notes shortly before you travel as itineraries and information does change from time to time.
