

Siwa Explorer

Country(ies): Egypt

Tour type: Small Group

Transport: A/C minibus & Jeep

Group size: Min: 0 | Max: 0

Days: 8 days

Start Location: Cairo, Egypt

End Location: Cairo, Egypt

Meals: Breakfasts - 7, Lunches - 2, Dinners - 2

Highlights:

This 8 day tour is the ideal trip for travellers who are returning to Egypt or for those wishing to explore some of the lesser visited sites that lay northwest of Cairo.



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive into Cairo

Upon arrival our staff will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel close to the Pyramids for the start of your trip. They will help you settle in, introduce you to the local area, and explain tomorrow's arrangements.

OVERNIGHT: Cairo Hotel

MEALS: None

EXTRAS:

Day 2: Cairo. Drive to Siwa Oasis via Marsa Matrouh

Our trip begins with an early morning drive from Cairo towards the Mediterranean coastline stopping off at the WWII cemeteries of El Alamein. After enjoying lunch in Marsa Matrouh we continue through the desert arriving at Siwa Oasis. Set amidst a stunning landscape and lying close to the border with Libya, Siwa is one of Egypt's most isolated settlements.

OVERNIGHT: Siwa Hotel

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

EXTRAS:

Day 3: Siwa Oasis tour

Our tour of Siwa Oasis starts with a pleasant bicycle ride through date palm groves on the way to the Temple of the Oracle, built to honour Alexander the Great's first visit to Egypt. After a refreshing dip in the pools by Cleopatra Spring the rest of the day is free to explore the colourful markets and souks of Siwa.

OVERNIGHT: Siwa Hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 4: Siwa Oasis. Desert safari

A full day begins with a visit to the nearby Mountain of the Dead to view the many fascinating tombs found here before exploring the Old Shali City in the centre of Siwa. Built from mostly mud and rock this site acted as the town's original fortress. In the afternoon we climb into our 4WD vehicles and head through the dunes into the Great Sand Sea stopping off to discover an ancient ocean full of marine fossils before ending our day at the hot springs in Bir Wahed. After a relaxing swim we enjoy dinner here while watching the sun set over the desert landscape.

OVERNIGHT: Siwa Hotel

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 5: Siwa Oasis to Alexandria via Marsa Matrouh

Departing Siwa Oasis this morning we drive along the coast back to Marsa Matrouh. Home to a large Libyan/Berber population the town has a unique feel to it and offers us the chance to dip in the Med before wandering around the colourful markets including the Libyan souk. This afternoon we continue our drive on to Alexandria.

OVERNIGHT: Alexandria Hotel

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

EXTRAS:

Day 6: Alexandria. Montazah Palace

The morning is free to relax and browse around Alexandria before we enjoy an afternoon tour of the beautiful Montazah Palace. This evening we ride the tram into town, visit some local shops and walk along the cornice before enjoying Alexandrian Fateer for dinner.

OVERNIGHT: Alexandria Hotel

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 7: Alexandria. City tour. Return to Cairo

Discover the secrets of Alexandria as we enjoy a full tour of the city visiting Pompeii's Pillar, the national Museum and the modern day library of Alexandria. We also delve beneath the city to explore the ancient Roman catacombs. Later this afternoon we travel back to Cairo.

OVERNIGHT: Cairo Hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 8: Cairo. Departure transfer to the airport

Free day. Transfer to the airport for departure flight

OVERNIGHT: None

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Included:

- All accommodation as stated in the itinerary
- All transport in private vehicles with a local driver

- All transfers, including 24-hour airport arrival & departure transfer service
- Services of a local escort throughout the tour
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Tipping kitty

Excluded:

- International flights
- Visa fees
- Travel insurance (compulsory)
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Entrance fees (allow approx. US\$55)
- Drinks, snacks and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Tipping kitty (allow approx. US\$45)
- Hotel Gala Dinners (see Tour notes)
- 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 in the evening on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Payment for these is often optional on Christmas Eve (24 Dec) but compulsory on New Year's Eve (31 Dec), whether you attend or not. Prices can range from around US\$50 to over US\$150 per person. Final decisions on prices and whether dinners are compulsory are made relatively close to the time. Gala Dinner prices are therefore not included in our prices above, and will be added to your booking if required. 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.

No Options

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.

2. Dates & Prices

This tour is designed as a sample tailor-made tour itinerary. As such we do not offer set group departure dates that you can join. Rather, the tour is available for you to do privately starting on any date of the year. Guideline seasonal prices are given below, based on 2 people travelling. If you would like to adjust the tour itinerary, or there will be more or less people travelling, please contact us and we will customise a price for you.

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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.
