

Dahab PADI Open Water

8 OR 10 DAYS / SMALL GROUP OR PRIVATE TOUR / STANDARD TOUR /



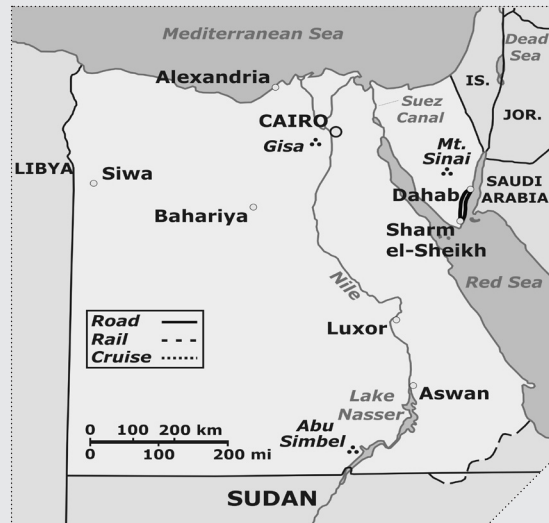
This tour allows you to enjoy your first diving course in the Red Sea, which boasts deep clear blue waters and an extremely diverse marine ecosystem including some of the most beautiful coral reefs in the world. The PADI Open Water Diver course is the world's most popular diving course, and Dahab is an ideal location to learn, with no pool sessions required due to the shallow bay and reefs which give you the chance to see plenty of coral & fish during the course itself. Dahab's relaxed nightlife tops it off.

FLIGHT BOOKINGS AVAILABLE

See below for details

Regular small-group departures run all year round. Call or check the website for dates and prices. Private and tailor-made options are also available on request.

Please see notes below or our website for details



FLIGHTS INCLUDED:* ✗	LOCAL PAYMENT: ✗	ENTRANCE FEES: ✗	AIRPORT TRANSFERS: ✓
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TOUR FACTS

Tour Code & Class:	DVEGOD / Standard
Group Size & Age:	Min. - 1 Max. - 8 / Min. age - 12
Activity - Diving:	PADI diving course
Activity Level:	Medium
Accommodation:	7 nights in hotels (from 3-star)
Transport:	A/C bus/minibus/car
Meals:	7 Breakfasts (B)

YOUR 8-10 DAY TOUR ITINERARY

- Day (1):** (Start Cairo pre-tour option).
- Day 1 (2):** Arrive in Sharm-el-Sheikh. Transfer from airport to hotel in Dahab. (Cairo pyramids tour and o/n coach to Dahab)
- Day 2 (3):** Introduction to dive centre. Begin PADI Open Water course.
- Day 3 (4):** Dahab - PADI Open Water course.
- Day 4 (5):** Dahab - PADI Open Water course.
- Day 5 (6):** Dahab - PADI Open Water course.
- Day 6 (7):** Dahab - PADI Open Water course/free time.
- Day 7 (8):** Dahab - Free day. (o/n coach to Cairo)
- Day 8 (9):** Dahab. Free time. Transfer to Sharm-el-Sheikh airport for departure. (Cairo city tour)
- Day (10):** (Finish Cairo post-tour option).

"Looking for more adventure? Interested in visiting deserts and oases? ...then check out our Egyptian Desert Safari tour"

**To book visit: www.egypt-uncovered.com,
email: tours@egypt-uncovered.com or call us on: +44 (0) 845 130 48 49
Please quote Tour Code: DVEGOD when booking**

Dahab PADI Open Water continued...



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DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY (1) EXTRA OPTIONS

Cairo pre-tour option

See pages 3-4 for details

DAY 1 / ARRIVE IN SHARM-EL-SHEIKH

You arrive at Sharm-el-Sheikh airport where we greet you and transfer you on the 1 ½ hour drive through the mountains to Dahab. Here, you check into your hotel, our rep helps you settle in, and lets you know the plan for the next few days.

The word Dahab in Arabic means gold and refers to the fine yellow sand that colours its beaches. Most of the hotels and dive centres are located around the Bedouin village of Assalah, which lies along the shore of Ghazala Bay and is a collection of campsites, hotels, restaurants, shops and bars, dotted with palm trees. It is here that you will experience the Bohemian feel that makes Dahab so special. Overnight at hotel in Dahab.

DAY 2-6 / INTRODUCTION TO DIVE CENTRE, AND START PADI OPEN WATER COURSE

On your first morning, we'll introduce you to the Dive centre, and explain what you will be doing over the next few days.

The Open Water Course is conducted over a 4 to 5-day period, and successful completion leads to full entry-level certification to the world of scuba diving.

The course itself is broken down into three sections. These are

- Confined water dives, of which you do 3, and which are usually done in a cordoned off beach area or a pool close to the beach
- The theory section, which provides basic information and principles about diving, usually with the aid of videos along with a manual, and
- At least 2 open water dives under qualified supervision and

guidance.

During your confined water dives, you will complete your skills development sessions, which will include (but are not limited to): neutral buoyancy, mask clearing, regulator removal / replacement, gear assembly/disassembly and storage, equalization, no-mask breathing, cramp removal, tired diver tow, no mask swim, alternate air source, stationary free flow regulator breathing, BC inflate, oral, removal and replacement of the scuba unit (u/w), removal and replacement of weight belt (u/w), removal and replacement of scuba unit (surface), removal and replacement of weight belt (surface), air depletion exercise.

The theory section (classroom sessions) is geared towards knowledge development, and will comprise of lectures, class participation and discussion. Students must successfully complete each section (module) before attempting the next module; there are 5 in total. There will be a final written exam. Most questions are either multiple choice or true/false.

Your Open Water dives will give you the opportunity to demonstrate dive planning, practice, and evaluation.

The course is relaxed and designed to be a comprehensive learning experience to help you reach your goal of becoming a qualified diver. Our instructors are used to teaching a wide variety of people, and will tailor the way they teach the course to your personal needs and ability.

This course can be done in conjunction with our Advanced Open Water course. Please contact us to arrange an extended tour.

Overnight at hotel in Dahab (B).

DAY 7 / DAHAB, FREE DAY

Your last full day in Dahab is left free for you to relax. You can also visit Mt. Sinai and St. Catherine's monastery (though discuss with your dive centre about the 24-hour rule if you plan to climb the mountain), and we also offer a 4x4 desert jeep safari to the

Coloured & White Canyons, and the Ain Khudra Oasis. If you want to do some extra dives, then we can arrange these, within the restrictions of the 24-hour diving and flying rule.

Some of the best dive sites in the area include:

- A wall dive down to the **Eel Gardens** is a must for divers of all levels. Bottoming at fewer than 20m, there are few other sites that get you this close to Garden Eels in their natural habitat.
- **The Lighthouse** offers a variety of routes, for all levels, and is especially popular as a night dive. This dive can be combined with a drift dive from the **Eel Gardens**.
- **The Fish Bowl** is an enclosed circular cavern filled with small goldfish. Access is via beautiful coral gardens and there are several entrance/exit points, starting at 12-15m.
- **The Islands** is a collection of small islands that provide a maze of beautiful coral gardens. A max depth of approx 16m means plenty of sunlight and an unequalled diversity of marine life.
- Drift dive along a coral wall at **Rick's Reef** and over the top of **The Canyon**. At only 20m (max) depth, this dive is suitable for all levels.
- The experience of finning across the centre of the **Blue Hole** after a wall dive down to about 30m makes this site extremely popular. At over 50m wide and 100m deep, this deep pool also provides access to an archway (about 50m down) that exits into the deep blue sea.
- **The Bells** is a crack in the reef that exits at about 30m to reveal the bottomless ocean.

Overnight at hotel in Dahab (B).

DAY 7 EXTRA OPTIONS

Cairo post-tour option

2 extra dives option

Desert jeep safari option

See pages 3-4 for details

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Dahab PADI Open Water continued...



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DAY 8 / TOUR ENDS

Your time is free this morning, until we transfer you back through the mountains to Sharm-el-Sheikh airport for your flight home.

(B).

SMALL GROUP, PRIVATE AND TAILOR-MADE TOURS

SMALL GROUP DEPARTURES:

We have regular small group departures on this tour throughout the year. Departure dates are given on our website, and on request.

PRIVATE DEPARTURES:

You can also choose to do the tour privately, following the itinerary above, but on any other date. We add a small supplement for these departures. Please contact us first to check availability.

TAILOR-MADE TOURS:

This tour can also be used as a base for a private tailor-made itinerary, to be run on any dates. You can make adjustments as per your own requirements (for example, combining your diving with one of our other tours visiting Luxor and the Nile Valley).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OPTIONS:

Booking and paying for options:

Options are split into two types

A - Those that must be booked in advance (mainly accommodation based). Prices for these are set in GB Pounds and must be booked and paid for in advance of your arrival.

B - Those that may be arranged in Egypt (eg. Extra Dives, Jeep Safari.). Prices for these are set in Egyptian Pounds, and they are paid for while you are in Egypt. This gives you more flexibility and means

you won't lose out if you were to book an option in advance and then not do it.

A - ADVANCE BOOKING OPTIONS

These may be booked by selecting them on our online reservation form, and can also be added after you have made your booking, subject to availability at the time. Prices are given on our website, or on request.

Single room supplement

If you want to guarantee yourself a single room throughout the tour, then we need to add a single supplement charge.

If you are a single traveller joining one of our diving tours, then you also need to add this option, as we do not share rooms on our diving tours.

Note: Couples will always be given a private double room, and triple/family rooms are available on request.

Extra days -

These are available on request in Dahab before and after the tour starts and finishes. If you'd like to extend the options at the start and end of the tour in Cairo, these are also available. The price includes a night in the 3-star hotel, breakfast, all taxes and transfers. Single supplements apply, and triple rooms are available.

Cairo pre-tour option

If you want to visit Cairo during your trip to Egypt, or your flights will bring you into Cairo rather than Sharm-el-Sheikh, then we offer this option to add on to the start of our diving tours.

Day 0 (1) - You fly to Egypt on Saturday (for group departures), and are met at Cairo airport and transferred to a 2 to 3-star city centre hotel.
Overnight at hotel in Cairo.

Day 1 (2) - The following day (Sunday for group departures) we arrange a guided tour to visit the Pyramids and Sphinx at Gisa and Saqqara.

In the evening we transfer you to the overnight public tourist coach to Dahab (approx. 8 hours - daytime coaches available on request if you miss the pyramids tour).

Overnight on coach to Dahab (B).

Day 2 (3) - You are met on your arrival in Dahab on Monday morning, and transferred to your hotel. The tour continues as per Day 2 in the main itinerary.

Overnight at hotel in Dahab.

Cairo post-tour option

If you would like to visit Cairo after your diving, or your flights will leave from Cairo rather than Sharm-el-Sheikh, then we offer this option to add on to the end of our diving tours.

Day 7 (8) - After your free day today, you leave this evening, and we transfer you to Cairo on the overnight public tourist coach (approx. 8 hours).

Overnight on coach to Cairo (B).

Day 8 (9) - You arrive in Cairo early this morning, and we transfer you to a 2 to 3-star hotel in the city centre. During the day, we arrange a full day guided tour of the city of Cairo, visiting the famous Egyptian museum, the Citadel, mosques, and the Khan-el-Khalili bazaar.

In the evening we take you on a 2-hour sunset felucca cruise on the Nile.

Overnight at hotel in Cairo (B).

Day 9 (10) - Our tour ends after breakfast and your day is free until we transfer you to the airport in time for your flight home.

(B).

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B - OPTIONS AVAILABLE IN EGYPT

You will receive more information on all the options available to you while you are in Egypt in the Welcome Pack we provide on your arrival, together with information on how and when to book and pay for them with your guide or our local reps.

Prices are set in Egyptian Pounds but payments may also be made with hard currency (GB Pounds, Euros, US Dollars) at our local exchange rate at the time, which is set monthly. Credit card payments are also accepted in Cairo for these payments (3% fee).

Refresher Dive

If you have not dived for over 6 months, then you must do a refresher dive before you can start the course. An instructor will go over your skills and knowledge with you, to ensure you are ready to begin the course and dive again without hands-on supervision. You can also take up this option if you just want to brush up on your skills before starting the course.

Book & pay in advance OR in Dahab.

2 Extra Dives

This option adds 2 extra pre-booked dives into your tour, to be arranged on one of your free days in Dahab. You can arrange exactly when and where to take these dives with the dive school while you are in Egypt.

We can also offer more extra dives if required - please contact us for more details and prices.

Book & pay in advance OR in Dahab.

Jeep Safari in Dahab

One on of your free days in Dahab, you can head into the desert for a 4X4 jeep adventure. Firstly we take you to visit the impressive Coloured Canyon where we walk for around 2-3km and admire the many coloured rocks, and worn rock formations. We then continue

the bright green Ain Khudra Oasis where you can relax among the many palm and date trees, and enjoy a traditional Bedouin cooked lunch. Our next stop is the White Canyon, which also has strange rock formations but looks completely different to the coloured canyon. There is a ladder and steep path with a rope handrail at the end of the canyon so you need to be relatively fit for this trip. Finally we take you back to Dahab to relax for the evening.

Book & Pay in advance OR in Dahab.

INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TOUR:

- Accommodation
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers, including 24-hour airport transfer service
- Services of dive masters and instructors as indicated on the itinerary
- Diving instruction and course fees
- PADI course manual
- Provision of all diving equipment
- All transport
- Certificate proving completion of course

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TOUR:

- International airfares
- Visa costs
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Drinks, snacks, tips, and other personal expenses
- Entrance fees to sites visited on the Cairo extensions
- PADI certification card
- Travel insurance
- Any other items not mentioned above

ACCOMMODATION:

Our Standard level diving tours use good quality hotels (approx. 3-star) in which all rooms have air-conditioning and en-suite bathrooms. In Cairo, subject to availability, we like to use a pyramids area hotel with a pool in the summer months, and a city centre hotel when it is cooler in the winter months. The hotel in Dahab has a swimming pool, and the normal hotels we use are located within walking distance of the dive centre.

Hotels used on this tour (subject to availability):

Cairo (3-star):

- Zayed Hotel, Oasis Hotel.

Dahab (3-star):

- Oricana Hotel, Dyarna Hotel or similar.

At certain times of the year or where circumstances & availability dictate we may need to use a different hotel from the one listed above. In this event alternative hotels will always be of a similar standard.

Please see our website for more current details of the hotels that would be used on the tour.

MEALS:

We include breakfasts only in our diving tours in Egypt. This is because you will need to start relatively early, and we have found it more convenient for you to take breakfast in the hotel.

The opportunities for eating out for lunch and dinner in Dahab are extensive, cheap, and of good quality - most people find that the food here is one of the highlights of their stay.

TRANSPORT:

We provide a private transfer by air-conditioned car, minivan or minibus between Sharm-el-Sheikh airport and Dahab, and for any sightseeing tours in Cairo.

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The optional journey to and from Cairo is done using an overnight air-conditioned public tourist coach. Day-time coaches, private vehicles and internal flight upgrades are available if required.

TRANSFERS:

All our tours include a 24-hour meet & greet service in Sharm-el-Sheikh airport.

Our representative will meet you after you go through Passport Control in Sharm-el-Sheikh airport, and transfer you straight to your hotel (approx. 1 ½ hours). Your departure airport transfer is also included, as are all other transfers involved in the tour.

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS:

In order to keep our tours flexible, and to make them accessible to as many people as possible, we do not include your international flights in the set tour itinerary or price.

However, we do hold an ATOL (UK flight sales license) and are happy to book your flights for you. If you let us know your ideal dates and departure airport, then we will be happy to provide you with some flight options that we can arrange for you. You can then choose whether to book the flights through us, or make your own arrangements. Either way, your airport arrival & departure transfers are included.

TOUR LEADERS/GUIDES:

In order to provide the most personal service, and to make sure that you get as much out of our diving tours as possible, we like to keep our groups small. We therefore set the maximum number at 8 and the minimum at 2 people.

Our policy at Egypt Uncovered is to use only local guides and tour leaders where possible and for more details on our reasons for this please visit the 'Tour Type' page on our website. Our local reps in all the towns and cities en-route are also at your service. There still aren't enough qualified Egyptian diving instructors to go

around however, so when we do use Western instructors, these will have worked in Dahab for some time, and know the country and surrounding dive sites well.

DIVING:

When you are booking dive(s) and diving courses in advance, you should consider the possibility that you might not elect (for whatever reason) to use one or more of those dives. Dives are strictly non-transferable, and no refund would be issued if you did not use up all your dives. In the eventuality of a diving problem occurring whilst on one of our dive packages or courses, unfortunately no refund can be issued.

More information on diving with us is available on the diving pages of our website.

EXTRA DIVES:

We cannot guarantee that all of the dive sites and options on approved diving courses will always be available. Changes will occur (subject to availability) and are entirely at the Dive Centre's discretion. Also, we cannot confirm where you will do any 'Extra Dives' that you book. The Dive Centre will endeavour to satisfy customers where possible, but it is entirely at the Dive Centre's discretion and local diving conditions at the time.

DATES & PRICES:

We run regular small-group departures on this tour, normally every two weeks, throughout the year. These departure dates and prices are listed on our website and on a separate dates & prices sheet available on request. We can also run the set tour itinerary privately for you on other dates, subject to availability of instructors at the dive centre.

We can also customise the itinerary to make a tailor-made tour to fit your personal requirements.

HEALTH:

Scuba-diving has its own special considerations with regard to your health. Please ensure you read the medical information on our website relating to scuba-diving. We will also send you a copy of the standard PADI medical questionnaire after you have booked, which you will need to complete before you start any diving.

For up to date health information & vaccination requirements for Egypt we recommend that you contact your GP or a travel clinic (1st Contact travel clinic gives free advice tel. 0800 0393073).

General vaccination recommendations for Egypt include Tetanus, Typhoid, Polio and Hepatitis A.

VISAS:

Many nationalities (including UK, USA, European, Australian, Canadian) can obtain their Egyptian visa on arrival in Cairo airport (cost US\$15 or equivalent).

All African nationals will need to arrange their Egypt visa in advance.



What an experience! No pressure - just fantastic! I'll be doing my advanced course with you as well. thanks!



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RESPONSIBLE TOURISM:

We take responsible travel seriously, and as well as taking this into consideration when we design our itineraries, and select the people and agents we work with, we also donate £2 for every person travelling on of our Egyptian tours. This is split between two projects - the Dar Al Rahman orphanage in Cairo, and a desert clean-up project in Wadi Rayan, near Al Fayoum. If you would like to visit or support either of these projects while you are in Egypt, please let your guide or our Cairo representatives know. Full details of our responsible travel policy are given on our website.

PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION:

After booking, we will provide you with detailed information to help you prepare for the tour. This will include helpful advice on money, health, insurance, tipping, climate, clothing etc. Further information is also available in the County & Travel guides on our website.

YOUR SPACE @ UNCOVER THE WORLD:

We have launched a community space for use by past, present and future travellers with us. Here you can make contact with fellow travellers in your group before you travel, or share photos and stay in contact with them after you return home. You can also ask questions of our staff and read updates on itineraries and destination news etc. For further details, please check...

<http://yourspace.uncovertheworld.travel>

We are fully bonded for your complete financial protection.



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