

Your passport to adventure

Country(ies): Egypt

Tour type: City Break

Transport: A/C minibus

Group size: Min: 1 | Max: 0

Days: 5 days

Start Location: Cairo, Egypt

End Location: Cairo, Egypt

Meals: Breakfasts - 4, Lunches - 1, Dinners - 1

Highlights:

Visit the Pyramids, Sphinx & Saqqara, Egyptian Musuem with the famous King Tutunkhamun display, city tour including the Citadel & Khan al Khalili bazaar, Alexandria city tour, Nile dinner cruise



Day 1: Touchdown in Egypt: A Seamless Transfer to Your Hotel

Upon your arrival at Cairo airport, you will be greeted and transferred to the remarkable Mena House hotel, positioned directly at the base of the pyramids. Our local representative will welcome you, assist with your hotel check-in, and provide a brief overview of your itinerary for the upcoming days.

OVERNIGHT:	
Cairo hotel	
MEALS:	
EXTRAS:	

Day 2: Journey to the Pyramids, Sphinx & Saqqara

Following breakfast, we will have a brief pre-tour orientation before embarking on a guided excursion to Giza and Saqqara. Giza, which dates back approximately 4600 years, was established as a burial ground for the pharaoh Khufu (Cheops). As the successor to Sneferu, Khufu is remembered as a tyrant who, in his hubris, commissioned the construction of a tomb that would surpass all others. The Pyramid of Khufu, standing at 500 feet in height and 750 feet at its base, is an awe-inspiring feat of engineering, built from enormous stone blocks and originally covered with a hard limestone casing. Over time, the casing has been removed, exposing the internal structure of the pyramid. Along with the smaller pyramids of Khafre (Chephren) and Menkaure (Mycerinus), these monumental structures rise majestically from the desert, creating a breathtaking panorama. Here, you will have the opportunity to explore the interior of one of the pyramids (subject to availability, as tickets are limited) and enjoy a camel ride. Nearby, the enigmatic Sphinx stands as it has for millennia, guarding the pyramids. You will also have a guided tour around the Sphinx, followed by some free time to wander and capture photographs.

Next, we will journey to Saqqara, located 25 km south of Cairo. The Step Pyramid of Djoser (Zoser), built 4700 years ago, dominates the landscape and is thought to have been the ancient Egyptians' first attempt at pyramid construction. The vast 7 km stretch of desert at Saqqara is a veritable treasure chest of pyramids, temples, and tombs, all of which we will have ample time to explore while learning about the history of pyramid building in Egypt.

After an enriching day of sightseeing, we will return to the hotel for a relaxing evening.

OVERNIGHT:

Cairo hotel

MEALS:
Breakfast
EXTRAS:
Day 3: Full-Day Cairo City Tour and Nile River Dinner Cruise
After breakfast, we set off to explore Cairo. Established in 969 AD by Gohar, a leader of the Fatimid army, El Kahera (Cairo) rapidly became Egypt's capital. Over time, additions such as the El Azhar mosque, the Islamic University, and the defensive walls along with a citadel constructed by Saladin in 1179, have ensured Cairo remains the country's principal city. The 16-year reign of Ismail (1830-1895) marked an era of growth and transformation for Cairo. New areas like Heliopolis, Dokki, and Roda were incorporated, while gardens, opera houses, grand hotels, and broad, tree-lined boulevards were created. The city's expansion continued after the revolution, making Cairo one of the largest cities in the world. Today, Cairo is a vibrant metropolis of over 20 million residents, offering a fascinating fusion of the modern and the historic, a melting pot of cultures, and a doorway to Egypt's rich heritage.
Your tour includes a visit to the Egyptian Museum (home to an extensive collection of artefacts from Egypt's past, including the famous King Tutankhamun exhibition), the Citadel (a complex of mosques and palaces, providing a stunning panoramic view of the city), and the Khan al Khalili Bazaar (a labyrinthine market that offers a glimpse into the past and ensures you find the perfect souvenir).
In the evening, we will enjoy a dinner cruise on the River Nile. While dining, you'll be entertained by traditional Sufi dancing and vibrant, exotic belly dancing.
OVERNIGHT:
Cairo hotel
MEALS:
Breakfast, Dinner
EXTRAS:
Doy 4. Exploring Alexandria

Day 4: Exploring Alexandria

We depart Cairo today, heading north towards the Mediterranean city of Alexandria. The day's itinerary is flexible, but typically includes a visit to the Roman amphitheatre, which boasts twelve semi-circular marble tiers and remains in remarkably good condition. We will also explore the Citadel, constructed on the site of the renowned ancient lighthouse, as well as the Catacombs of

Additionally, we may visit the stunning Montazah Palace, set amidst its tranquil gardens. In the late afternoon, we return to Cairo.
OVERNIGHT:
Cairo hotel
MEALS:
Breakfast,Lunch
EXTRAS:
Day 5: Airport Departure Transfer
Your tour concludes today, and you have free time in Cairo until we transfer you to the airport for your return flight home.
OVERNIGHT:
N/A
MEALS:
Breakfast
EXTRAS:
Included:
 Accommodation for the entire duration of your stay

Kom al-Shoqafa, the largest Roman burial site in Alexandria. Dating back to the early Second Century AD, this cemetery exhibits a unique fusion of Pharaonic and Roman artistic styles.

- All meals specified in your itinerary
- Airport transfers at both the beginning and end of your journey
- Entrance fees for all attractions included in your itinerary
- A qualified guide to accompany you on all sightseeing excursions
- Private transport for all road journeys as indicated
- Detailed pre-departure information provided

Excluded:

- International flights (available upon request)Travel insurance (mandatory, can be provided upon request)
- Egyptian Tourist Visa
- Tipping fund (estimated at around US\$30)
 Meals, beverages & snacks not specified in the itinerary
- Any additional items not included in the itinerary

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.

Wadi Rayan day trip (Valley of the Whales)



From \$110.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

This tour offers a striking contrast to the Pharaonic sites encountered on your main itinerary. Departing Cairo, we journey to the Fayoum region, where we'll explore the Wadi Rayan Protected Area. This area surrounds a freshwater lake, nestled amidst the desert, fed by surplus irrigation water from the Fayoum. You'll find several waterfalls here (a popular backdrop in Egyptian pop music videos), and a bird hide offering excellent views of the lake's avian population, particularly during the winter migration. We'll also visit the Springs Oasis area, a rare example of an uninhabited Saharan oasis, home to a diverse array of flora and fauna, including the Dorcas Gazelle, Ruppell's Sand Fox, and Fennec Fox.

Before lunch, we'll pause at the sand dunes around Wadi Rayan for a spot of

sandboarding. Following a packed lunch, we'll venture into the dramatic desert and mountain landscapes of Wadi Hitan (Valley of the Whales). This World Heritage Site is globally recognised as a pivotal location for understanding whale evolution. We'll embark on a 2-3km walk to observe various fossilised whale specimens, exposed on the desert surface, alongside fossilised mangroves and the remnants of crab burrows.

This tour requires a full free day in Cairo, but can also be arranged directly after your return from Luxor/Aswan via the overnight sleeper train. Alternatively, it can be incorporated into any tour with the addition of extra days at the beginning or end. Prices are based on two or more persons travelling, with a supplementary charge for solo travellers.

The price includes lunch in Wadi Hitan and all entrance fees.

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1. Transport

Our tours offer a variety of transport choices. Our aim is for you to truly immerse yourself in the country you're exploring, while also ensuring you arrive at each new destination rested and ready to continue your adventure. In Egypt, we avoid using public tourist buses or overnight coaches, as we recognise that passengers struggle to sleep on board and often feel exhausted in the days that follow. All the vehicles we provide are air-conditioned, many are equipped with speed limiters, and each one undergoes daily inspections and checks.

2. Dates & Prices

This tour is crafted as a sample bespoke itinerary. As a result, we do not provide fixed group departure dates for you to join. Instead, the tour is available for private booking and can start on any date throughout the year. Below, we have outlined the seasonal price guidelines, based on two travellers. Should you wish to modify the tour itinerary or if the number of participants changes, please get in touch with us, and we will tailor a price to suit your requirements.

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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.