



Your passport to adventure

**Country(ies):** Egypt

**Tour type:** Small Group

**Transport:** A/C minibus, cruise-boat & flights

**Group size:** Min: 2 | Max: 18

**Days:** 10 days

**Start Location:** Cairo, Egypt

**End Location:** Cairo, Egypt

**Meals:** Breakfasts - 9, Lunches - 4, Dinners - 5

**Highlights:**

The Pyramids & Sphinx, Egyptian Museum, Philae Temple, Abu Simbel option, luxury Nile cruise, Temple of Karnak & Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon, Red Sea at Hurghada



## **Day 1: Arrive in Cairo and proceed to the hotel for transfer**

Upon your arrival at Cairo airport, we will greet you and assist with visa procedures and baggage claim, before transferring you to your hotel. Our representative will ensure you're settled in, and the remainder of the day will be at your leisure. Should your flight arrive earlier than expected, you might consider a first glimpse of the pyramids with an enchanting sound and light show, or perhaps enjoy a Nile dinner cruise and show in central Cairo.

### **OVERNIGHT:**

Cairo 5-star hotel

### **MEALS:**

### **EXTRAS:**

## **Day 2: Cairo, Pyramids, Sphinx & Museum Excursion**

Your journey through the Gods of Egypt starts with a visit to the mysterious Sphinx and the three most iconic pyramids in Egypt. Towering at 500 feet and stretching 750 feet wide at its base, the Great Pyramid of Khufu (Cheops) is a remarkable feat of engineering, constructed from massive stone blocks and originally covered in white limestone. Over time, much of the limestone casing has been removed, revealing the inner stone structure. Together with the smaller pyramids of Khafre (Chephren) and Menkaure (Mycerinus), the awe-inspiring sight of these colossal structures emerging from the desert is unforgettable. You'll have the opportunity to enter the pyramids if you wish, but please note that your guide cannot accompany you inside (tickets for the Great Pyramid are limited). Following the pyramids, we continue into central Cairo to visit the vast Egyptian Museum, which houses the renowned Tutankhamun exhibit, along with a vast collection of other ancient Egyptian artefacts. A knowledgeable local Egyptologist guide will accompany you throughout the tour, as well as on all other sightseeing excursions. You'll soon realise that our guides possess an immense passion for Egypt's history and a deep love for their country. In the evening, we transfer to the airport for a domestic flight to Aswan, where we will be met and transferred to our hotel, offering stunning views over the Nile.

### **OVERNIGHT:**

Aswan 5-star hotel

### **MEALS:**

Breakfast

## **EXTRAS:**

### **Day 3: Nile Cruise with Optional Abu Simbel Excursion and Aswan Sightseeing**

We rise this morning to witness one of the most stunning stretches of the Nile in Egypt. The river here is adorned with islands and traditional felucca boats, while Aswan itself presents a fascinating blend of African and Middle Eastern influences, evident as you wander through the lively markets. You have some leisure time this morning to explore, take a stroll along the Corniche by the river, or visit the Nubian Museum, which houses a remarkable collection of artefacts from the Nubian people. After checking out of our hotel, we board our Nile Cruise boat for lunch, followed by an afternoon tour of Aswan. Our first stop is the Temple of Philae. This captivating island temple, dedicated to Isis, was rescued from the rising waters of Lake Nasser and can only be accessed via a scenic boat ride. The rest of the day is free for exploration, though there is also the option to take a camel ride across the sands on the far side of the Nile to visit St. Simeon's monastery.

An optional early morning visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Abu Simbel is also available. Built by Ramses II, this awe-inspiring site was fully dismantled and reconstructed when Lake Nasser was flooded.

## **OVERNIGHT:**

Nile Cruise Boat

## **MEALS:**

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

## **EXTRAS:**

### **Day 4: Journey on the Nile: Kom Ombo and Edfu Temples**

Today, we embark on a scenic sail down the Nile, unwinding on the sun deck while taking in the serene views of rural Egyptian life unfolding around us. Our first destination is the stunningly located riverside temple at Komombo. This uniquely designed temple is actually a double temple, with one half dedicated to Sobek, the crocodile god, and the other to Horus, the falcon-headed god of the sky. We then continue our journey downstream to the Temple of Horus at Edfu. We will stay overnight here.

## **OVERNIGHT:**

Nile Cruise Boat

**MEALS:**

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

**EXTRAS:**

## **Day 5: Witness the Magic of Ancient Egypt at Night: Edfu and Luxor Temples**

This morning, we visit the Temple of Horus, renowned as the best-preserved temple in all of Egypt. It features numerous inscriptions in the Coptic language and is decorated with vibrant paintings. We then continue our journey, passing through the Esna lock on the Nile, before reaching Luxor. Luxor is located on and around the ancient city of Thebes and boasts the highest concentration of ancient ruins in the Nile Valley, if not the entire world. To the west, across the river, is the City of the Dead, with its mortuary temples and rock-hewn tombs, while to the east stand the impressive Temples of Luxor and Karnak.

In the evening, we'll embark on a walking tour of the smaller Luxor Temple, located in the heart of the city, which is beautifully illuminated at night.

**OVERNIGHT:**

Nile Cruise Boat

**MEALS:**

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

**EXTRAS:**

## **Day 6: Ancient Wonders of Luxor: West Bank & Karnak Temple Exploration**

We begin our exploration of Luxor's West Bank with a crossing of the Nile early this morning. This area, home to the Valley of the Kings, still uncovers secrets from the past through its ancient tombs, making it one of the world's most significant archaeological sites. Our visit will take us through several of these royal tombs, as well as the temples of Queen Hatshepsut and Medinat Habu, along with the imposing Colossi of Memnon.

A thrilling hot air balloon ride over the West Bank of the Nile is offered this morning (prepare for an early start to witness the sunrise as the balloon ascends).

Following lunch, we will explore the vast temple complex at Karnak, once the heart of religious life in Thebes and Upper Egypt. It was connected to Luxor by a grand avenue flanked by sphinxes, and the entire site was linked to the Nile by a canal that allowed the sacred boats of the god Amun to pass through. Entering via a smaller sphinx-lined avenue built by Ramesses II, we arrive at the colossal pylon entrance. Within the immense Courtyard are three chapels dedicated to the gods Amun, Khonsu, and Mut. The awe-inspiring Hypostyle Hall features 134 massive columns, each decorated with scenes of gods and pharaohs, and the walls are covered in intricate hieroglyphs.

**OVERNIGHT:**

Luxor 5-star hotel

**MEALS:**

Breakfast

**EXTRAS:**

## **Day 7: Journey from Luxor to the Red Sea Coast at Hurghada**

Following a relaxed morning, we depart the Nile Valley and make our way to the Red Sea resort of Hurghada, where we check into a luxurious 5-star hotel. Your accommodation here is provided on a 'soft all-inclusive' basis, which covers all meals, soft drinks, and snacks, though alcoholic drinks are not included.

**OVERNIGHT:**

Hurghada - 5-star resort

**MEALS:**

Breakfast, Dinner

**EXTRAS:**

## **Day 8: A Day of Leisure in Hurghada on the Red Sea**

You have a free day today to unwind and enjoy your time by the Red Sea. Hurghada is renowned worldwide for its exceptional scuba diving and snorkelling, and the vibrant marine life of the Red Sea draws divers from across the globe. Additional thrilling activities on offer include windsurfing, kite surfing, glass-bottomed boat tours, quad biking, camel rides, and sea fishing excursions. Our

local representative in Hurghada will be available to assist you with any arrangements. Hurghada also boasts a fascinating marina and an old town worth exploring.

If desired, we can arrange extra nights for you at the resort in Hurghada to extend your stay—please get in touch for further information and prices.

Note: Please be aware that by adding extra nights in Hurghada, you will depart from the group and miss the remaining activities in Cairo. You have the option to either conclude the tour in Hurghada or return to Cairo to complete your itinerary. Please contact us for more details and personalised pricing.

#### **OVERNIGHT:**

Hurghada 5-star resort

#### **MEALS:**

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

#### **EXTRAS:**

## **Day 9: Cairo City Tour: Old Cairo and Khan el-Khalili Bazaar**

We journey back to Cairo this morning (approximately 5 hours) and check into a hotel in the city centre. An upgrade to an internal flight can also be arranged upon request. Later in the afternoon, we embark on a guided stroll through the narrow lanes and markets of Old Cairo. We'll pass through the grand Bab al-Futuh gateway and discover streets filled with metalwork, spices, pottery, fabric, jewellery, and much more, as we gradually make our way to the more tourist-oriented Khan-el-Khalili bazaar. There will be a chance to pause for some mint tea and a shisha pipe, offering a perfect opportunity to purchase a few final souvenirs from your Egyptian adventure.

#### **OVERNIGHT:**

Cairo 5-star hotel

#### **MEALS:**

Breakfast

#### **EXTRAS:**

## **Day 10: Hassle-Free Departure and Free Time**

You have some free time today for any last-minute sightseeing or shopping before being transferred to the airport for your departure flight. If your flight is in the afternoon or evening, a half-day tour of Coptic Cairo and the Citadel is available, or you may opt for another half-day tour to explore the history of pyramid construction at Saqqara, Dashour, and Memphis. Additional tours are also available today. Alternatively, you can extend your stay in Cairo, allowing you to take a day trip to the colonial city of Alexandria on the Mediterranean coast, or venture into the desert outside Cairo to visit the World Heritage Site of the Valley of the Whales at Wadi Rayan.

**OVERNIGHT:**

N/A

**MEALS:**

Breakfast

**EXTRAS:**

**Included:**

- 6 nights stay at 5-star hotels
- 3 nights aboard a 5-star deluxe Nile Cruise boat
- All transportation and transfers in private air-conditioned vehicles
- Domestic flight from Cairo to Aswan
- 24-hour airport transfer service for arrivals and departures
- Guided sightseeing tours as specified in the itinerary
- A local Egyptologist guide for all sightseeing excursions
- Private guide for our group during the Nile cruise
- Meals as specified in the itinerary

**Excluded:**

- International flights (can be arranged upon request)
- Visa charges (USD 25, available on arrival for most nationalities)
- Travel Insurance (compulsory, available upon request)
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Entrance fees to attractions (approximately US\$89)
- Tipping fund (approximately US\$70)
- Beverages, snacks, and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Tips for the tour guide
- Hotel Gala Dinners (if applicable, on 24th & 31st December; refer to Tour notes)
- Any other items not listed above

## 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.

### Hot air balloon in Luxor



**From \$130.00**

Min numbers:

\*Based on person/s

An early morning departure is required for this popular optional tour, designed to capture the sunrise over the Valleys of the Kings & Queens, ancient temples, and desert scenery. We prioritize the earliest flights possible, as their timing aligns with the sunrise; therefore, departure times may fluctuate. This flight offers roughly one hour of aerial viewing.

The approximate cost is \$170.00, and booking is exclusively available locally through your tour guide, who will provide the most up-to-date pricing.

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### Alexandria day trip





**From \$125.00**

Min numbers:

\*Based on person/s

Discover Alexandria, a 2.5-hour drive north of Cairo on Egypt's Mediterranean coast. This full-day tour showcases the city's highlights, including the Roman amphitheatre, the Catacombs of Kom al-Shoqafa, Pompey's Pillar, Fort Qaitbey (exterior view), and the modern Library of Alexandria. Depending on time, you may also visit Fort Qaitbey's interior and Montazah Palace gardens. A seafood lunch is provided. This tour requires either a late-night departure flight on your final day or an extra day added to your trip.

Pricing is based on a minimum of two travellers; solo supplements apply. Entrance fees (approximately USD 18) are not included.

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Cairo city tour



**From \$75.00**

Min numbers:

\*Based on person/s

This half-day guided tour of Cairo commences in the Islamic quarter, featuring the Citadel of Saladin, home to the renowned Alabaster Mosque of Mohammed Ali. We then proceed to the Coptic area of Cairo, where the Romans erected the fortress of Babylon. The Church of St. Mary, more commonly known as the Hanging Church, was built upon the remnants of two fortress towers. Our next stop is St. Sergius, believed to be the resting place of the Holy Family. The tour concludes at the bustling Khan el-Khalili bazaar. The entrance fee budget covers the Coptic Museum, the Citadel, and the Sultan Hassan Mosque. Please be aware that depending on the day's schedule, it may not be possible to visit all of these sites.

Entrance fees for visited sites are not included (budget approximately USD 17).

Prices quoted are based on a minimum of two persons travelling. Solo traveller supplements are applicable.

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Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis



**From \$90.00**

Min numbers:

\*Based on person/s

This half-day guided tour, venturing to the outskirts of Cairo, offers a fascinating insight into the history and evolution of pyramid building, and the wider narrative of Egyptian civilisation. Our explorations are centred on the area of ancient Memphis, a former capital of Egypt.

We begin with a visit to Saqqara, a vast desert necropolis constructed for the kings and nobles of the Old Kingdom. Here, we'll see Zoser's 'step' pyramid and the adjacent Imhotep Museum, where we can delve deeper into the history of Memphis and the surrounding region. Next, we journey to Dashur to witness one of the subsequent attempts at pyramid construction. Dashur's 'bent pyramid' – a testament to the ongoing learning process – is a captivating site, retaining much of its original limestone casing. We will then return you to your hotel.

Prices quoted are based on a minimum of two persons choosing this option. Entrance fees to the sites visited are not included (budget approximately USD 18). Solo traveller supplements are applicable.

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



**From \$105.00**

Min numbers:

\*Based on person/s

This option allows you to extend your tour by an additional day, with accommodation at the same hotel as your main tour (subject to availability). Your airport departure transfer remains included. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing. Please note that single-room and peak-season supplements are applicable.

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



**From \$105.00**

Min numbers:

\*Based on person/s

This option allows you to begin your tour a day early, staying at your tour hotel (subject to availability). Your airport arrival transfer remains included. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing. Please note that single-room and peak-season supplements apply.

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#### 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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Abu Simbel overland



**From \$140.00**



Min numbers:

\*Based on person/s

The temples of Abu Simbel, built by Ramses II, are a true highlight of any trip to Egypt. Their impressive scale is matched only by the fascinating story of their relocation. When Lake Nasser was flooded, these magnificent temples were in danger of being submerged. In a remarkable feat of engineering, the entire complex was dismantled and rebuilt further up the hillside, where it stands today as a testament to both ancient Egyptian prowess and modern ingenuity.

To witness this marvel in the best possible light, we depart Aswan very early in the morning (around 3-4am), aiming to arrive at Abu Simbel as the sun rises. You'll then enjoy a guided tour with one of our expert Egyptologists, followed by free time to explore at your own pace, before we return to Aswan (approximately 3 1/2 hours drive each way, with around 2 hours at the temples). This tour is carefully designed to ensure you won't miss any other activities on your itinerary.

We choose the overland route to Abu Simbel as flight schedules are unreliable, leading to a more fragmented and less restful journey. Furthermore, flying is significantly more expensive.

Please note that entrance fees to the site (approximately US\$17, with a 50% discount for children) are not included in the tour price and should be paid locally. A minimum of two people is required for this tour to operate.

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Single room supplement (EGSGGE)



**From \$665.00**

Min numbers:

\*Based on person/s

This tour is based on twin-share accommodation, where solo travellers are paired with another same-sex member of the group. Should the final group composition preclude a room share, you will not be required to pay the single supplement. However, if you wish to guarantee a single room for the duration of the tour, please add this option to your booking.

Please note: Single supplement prices are subject to seasonal variations.

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## 1. Transport

Our trips incorporate a variety of transportation methods to give you the chance to truly experience the country you're travelling through, while ensuring you're refreshed for each new stage of the journey. In Egypt, we refrain from using public tourist buses or overnight coach journeys as we understand that passengers often struggle to sleep on board and feel exhausted for the following days. All vehicles used are air-conditioned, many equipped with speed limiters, and are thoroughly inspected daily. Some 4WD vehicles utilised for desert safari excursions may not always have air conditioning as they are only used for short durations.

This enhanced tour avoids overnight train journeys, opting instead for a flight from Cairo to Aswan. On the return journey from Hurghada to Cairo, we will travel via the new, faster road, though this may be upgraded to a flight if you prefer.

Nile cruise boat itineraries may change depending on local conditions during your trip. Some sailings might take place after dark. Boats may dock next to each other at night, necessitating you to cross through other boats to reach the shore. On Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, the cruise boats typically offer a special Gala Dinner. This cost is sometimes mandatory, whether or not you attend, and is not included in the group tour price but will be added to your booking if required.

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## 2. Dates and Prices

We operate regular small-group departures for this tour, which begin on Saturdays throughout the year. All departures are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 travellers. Departure dates and prices are available on our website and can also be provided on a separate dates & prices sheet upon request.

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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.

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