



Your passport to adventure

Country(ies): Egypt

Tour type: Small Group

Transport: A/C minibus/coach & 5-star deluxe cruise boat

Group size: Min: 2 | Max: 10

Days: 15 days

Start Location: Cairo, Egypt

End Location: Luxor or Aswan

Meals:

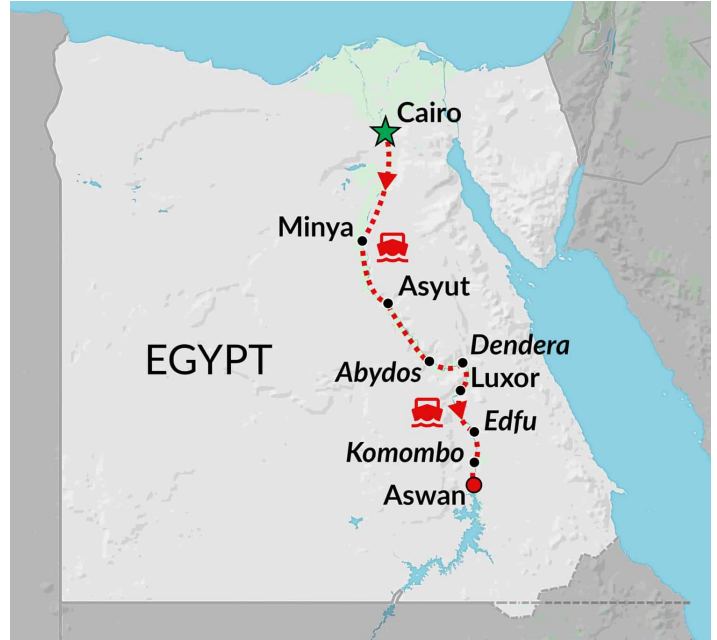
15D: Breakfasts - 14, Lunches - 13, Dinners - 14

11D: Breakfasts - 10, Lunches - 9, Dinners - 10

1D: Breakfasts - 1, Lunches - 1, Dinners - 1

Highlights:

Pyramids, Sphinx, Egyptian Museum, Tuna al Gebel, Tel el Amarna, Beni Hassan, Abydos, Dendera, Valley of the Kings, Temple of Karnak, Edfu, Komombo, Philae Temple



Aswan Cruise Day 1: Arrival in Cairo and Transfer to Cruise Ship

Upon your arrival at Cairo airport, we will welcome you and escort you directly to your Nile Cruise vessel. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to settle in and unwind on board, or to begin exploring Cairo. The evening will be spent docked on the Nile in Cairo. Additional nights in a hotel in Cairo can be arranged should you wish to arrive earlier.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 2: Experiencing the Wonders of Ancient Egypt: Pyramids, Sphinx & Egyptian Museum

Your journey begins today with visits to some of Egypt's most iconic landmarks. Your first destination is the renowned Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Following this, you will head into central Cairo to immerse yourself in Pharaonic history at the Egyptian Museum, which also houses the treasures from King Tutankhamun's tomb. The evening will be enjoyed aboard your Nile Cruise boat in Cairo.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 3: Journey to Memphis, Saqqara & Coptic Cairo

Today, we journey to the outskirts of Cairo to delve deeper into the history and development of pyramid construction, as well as the rich legacy of Egyptian civilisation. Our first stop is Saqqara, an expansive desert burial site constructed for the pharaohs and elites of the Old Kingdom. Here, we will explore Zoser's 'step' pyramid, followed by a visit to the nearby Imhotep Museum, where we can learn more about Memphis and the surrounding area's history. Afterward, we'll proceed to Memphis, the ancient capital of Egypt.

Later, we'll enjoy a guided tour of the Coptic district in Cairo, where the Romans built the Babylon fortress. The Church of St. Mary, also known as the Hanging Church, was erected atop the ruins of two towers from the fortress. Our next stop will be St. Sergius Church, believed to be the resting place of the Holy Family. We'll also take the opportunity to visit the Coptic Museum.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 4: Set Sail for Beni Suef

Today, we begin our journey southwards to Beni Suef. As the vessel glides along the Nile, you will have the opportunity to observe rural Egyptian life unfolding before you. The entire day is yours to relax and take full advantage of the ship's facilities.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 5: Set Sail for Minya

We begin our cruise early today, prior to breakfast. The voyage to Minya is a lengthy one, and we plan to arrive there just after lunch, around 2pm. Once we arrive, we will spend the afternoon visiting the nearby sites. Our first stop will be Tuna al-Gebel, where you'll explore the Tomb of Petosiris, an intriguing blend of Greek and Egyptian architectural styles. Following this, we will head to Ashmunein, the site of Hermopolis, once a significant city in antiquity, before returning to

your cruise ship for the night in Minya.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 6: Exploring Ancient Egypt: Tuna el-Gebel, Ashmunein & Beni Hassan

This morning, we will head to Tuna al-Gabel, a site named after the ancient necropolis nearby. In Pharaonic times, this area served as a religious centre where pilgrims gathered to honour the god Thoth. Many of these pilgrims brought Ibises and Baboons to offer to the priests, who would embalm them. It is estimated that more than 2 million of these animals were sacrificed here. The embalmed remains were placed in a necropolis, some believe extending as far as Hermopolis. The tomb of Petosiris and his family is the best-preserved site at Tuna al-Gabel. Petosiris, who lived during the reign of Alexander the Great, is entombed in a structure that exhibits a blend of Greek and Egyptian architectural styles.

Later, we will visit Beni Hassan. Of the 39 tombs here, most remain unfinished; however, they showcase the transitional phase between the traditional Mastaba tombs of the Old Kingdom and the deeper cut tombs found in the Valley of the Kings. During the Middle Kingdom, provincial officials began to assert their independence by commissioning elaborate tombs in their local regions, rather than opting for burial sites such as Saqqara. The tombs are adorned with Pharaonic symbols and distinctive murals, including depictions of wrestling scenes. We will spend the night on board in Minya.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 7: Voyage to Tel El Amarna and onward to Asyut

Embark on a journey to Tel El Amarna, where you'll immerse yourself in the unique 'Amarnian experience'.

Explore the northern tombs of Tel El Amarna, including the Royal Tomb of Akhenaten, the northern palace, and the small temples dedicated to Aten. As you pass Prince Tawdrous Monastery, your guide will share insights into the significance of this historic site.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 8: A Day's Sailing to Sohag

We will enjoy a peaceful day today, cruising south to Sohag. Meals will be provided throughout the day, and you'll have the chance to unwind by the pool on board, while observing the traditional Egyptian life along the banks of the River Nile. In the evening, music will be played in the bar.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 9: Exploring Abydos and Sailing to Naga Hammadi

Our excursion today will guide us to Abydos, the legendary birthplace of Osiris. The ancient Egyptians believed that after Osiris was murdered by his brother Seth, he was resurrected at Abydos. It was here that Osiris was bestowed with the powers to reign as the lord of the Afterlife. During our time in Abydos, you'll also explore the temple of Seti I, the founder of Abydos. Although the temple was not completed in Seti's lifetime, it was eventually finished under the reign of his famous son, Ramses II.

Afterwards, we'll return to the boat and cruise towards Naga Hammadi, passing through the Naga Hammadi Bridges.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 10: Dendera Temple Tour and Luxor Sailing Excursion

Today, we journey a bit further south to the Temple of Dendera. This significant temple is devoted to Hathor – the goddess of joy, dance, and love. The ancient Egyptians held the belief that Hathor possessed healing abilities, which is why they would often bring the ill to Dendera for treatment. After spending ample time discovering the temple, we will resume our sail towards Luxor. In the evening, we will be entertained by a belly dancer, showcasing traditional performances.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 11: West Bank Tours in Luxor

Luxor is commonly known as the largest open-air museum in the world, and this morning we crossed the Nile at dawn to start our exploration of the West Bank. The West Bank is home to the Valley of the Kings, where the ancient tombs continue to uncover their secrets, making it one of the most significant archaeological sites globally. Our itinerary covers several of these Pharaonic tombs, along with the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 12: Luxor East Bank Exploration and Edfu Sailing Adventure

Today, we'll have breakfast on board before exploring the vast Karnak temple complex, which was once the religious heart of Thebes and Upper Egypt. This grand site was connected to Luxor by a long avenue lined with sphinxes, and the entire complex was also connected to the Nile through a canal that carried the sacred boats of the god Amun. Entering through a smaller avenue of sphinxes built by Ramesses II, you arrive at the colossal pylon entrance. Within the expansive Courtyard, there are three chapels dedicated to the gods Amun, Khons, and Mut. The awe-inspiring Hypostyle Hall boasts 134 towering columns, each intricately carved with scenes of gods and pharaohs, with hieroglyphic inscriptions adorning the walls.

We'll also visit the smaller Luxor temple, located in the heart of the city. You will then have a little more free time in Luxor before the boat continues its journey south towards Edfu, where we will spend the night on board.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 13: Edfu and Kom Ombo Temples: A Nile Sailing Adventure

Today, we explore the magnificent riverside Temple of Edfu, dedicated to the god Horus. This temple is one of the best-preserved in Egypt, making it a visit you certainly don't want to miss. Continuing our journey southwards towards Aswan, we will make a stop at the remarkable double temple of Komombo, which honours the gods Sobek and Horus. The temple's distinctive design ensures perfect symmetry along its central axis. During your visit, you may also have the opportunity to view one of the mummified crocodiles on display here. After Komombo, we will continue our sail towards Aswan, where you will spend the night on board.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 14: Exploring Aswan

This morning, we embark on a brief boat ride to the stunning Philae Island Temple. We will also drive over the Aswan High Dam, which controls the waters of Lake Nasser. After lunch, we'll have some time to explore the Nubian Museum, where you can discover more about the Nubian people who reside in much of southern Egypt.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Aswan Cruise Day 15: Tour concludes in Aswan, airport transfer provided

Your tour concludes today after breakfast, though you may choose to take an optional sunrise excursion to the magnificent temples of Abu Simbel, located on the shores of Lake Nasser. This tour requires an early start, with a return to Aswan anticipated by 1pm. We suggest scheduling a departure flight from Aswan no earlier than 6pm to account for potential delays on the return journey from Abu Simbel.

If needed, we can arrange additional hotel nights in Aswan, as well as international flights into Cairo and out of Aswan (returning via Cairo with EgyptAir). Please enquire for further details.

OVERNIGHT:

N/A

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 1: Arrival in Cairo and Transfer to Cruise Boat

Upon arrival at Cairo Airport, you will be met and welcomed, then transferred directly to your Nile cruise boat. The remainder of the day is yours to settle in, unwind on board, or begin exploring Cairo. The evening will be spent docked on the Nile in Cairo. Additional hotel nights in Cairo are available should you wish to arrive earlier.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 2: Exploring Pyramids, the Sphinx and the Egyptian Museum

Today, your tour begins with visits to some of Egypt's most renowned landmarks. Your first destination is the iconic Pyramids and Sphinx in Giza, one of the ancient world's seven wonders. Afterward, you'll head to central Cairo to delve into Pharaonic history at the Egyptian Museum, which also houses the treasures from King Tutankhamun's Tomb. In the evening, you will relax on board your Nile Cruise boat in Cairo.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day3: Journey to Memphis, Saqqara & Coptic Cairo

Today, we journey to the outskirts of Cairo to gain a deeper understanding of the history and development of pyramid construction and Egyptian civilisation. Our first stop is Saqqara, an extensive desert necropolis created for the kings and nobility of the Old Kingdom. Here, we'll explore Zoser's 'step' pyramid and the nearby Imhotep Museum, where we'll delve further into the history of Memphis and the region. Following this, we'll visit Memphis, once the capital of Ancient Egypt.

Later, we'll enjoy a guided tour of Cairo's Coptic quarter, where the Romans built the Fortress of Babylon. The Church of St. Mary, often referred to as the Hanging Church, was constructed over the ruins of two towers of this fortress. Our next destination is St. Sergius, believed to be a resting place of the Holy Family. We'll also make time to visit the Coptic Museum.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 4: Set Sail for Beni Suef

Today, we begin our journey southwards to Beni Suef. As the ship glides along the Nile, you'll have the chance to observe scenes of rural Egyptian life unfolding onshore. The day is yours to relax and enjoy the ship's facilities at your leisure.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 5: Set Sail for Minya

We begin our cruise early this morning, before breakfast. The journey to Minya is lengthy, and we plan to arrive there just after lunch, around 2 pm, where we will spend the afternoon visiting nearby sites. Our first stop of the afternoon is Tuna al-Gebel, where you'll explore the Tomb of Petosiris, a remarkable blend of Greek and Egyptian architectural styles. Following this, you'll visit Ashmunein, the site of the ancient city of Hermopolis, before returning to spend the night aboard the cruise ship in Minya.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 6: Journey to Tuna el-Gebel, Ashmunein & Beni Hasan

This morning, we'll explore Tuna al-Gebel, named after the nearby ancient necropolis. During the Pharaonic era, this area served as a pilgrimage site where devotees came to honour the god Thoth. Pilgrims often brought ibises and baboons as offerings, which priests would then embalm. It's believed that more than two million of these animals were sacrificed here. Their mummified remains were placed in a necropolis, which some suggest extends all the way to Hermopolis. Tuna al-Gebel's most well-preserved site is the tomb of Petosiris and his family. Petosiris, who lived during Alexander the Great's time, is remembered for his tomb's unique blend of Greek and Egyptian architectural styles.

In the afternoon, we'll visit Beni Hassan. Of the 39 tombs here, most remain unfinished, yet they reflect the transition from the traditional Old Kingdom mastaba tombs to the deeply cut tombs seen in the Valley of the Kings. This Middle Kingdom period marked a shift as local dignitaries commissioned elaborate burials in their own regions, moving away from centralised sites like Saqqara. The tombs are adorned with Pharaonic symbols and remarkable murals, including rare depictions of wrestling scenes. Overnight stay on board in Minya.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 7: Journey to Tel El Amarna and onward to Asyut

Today, you will journey to Tel El Amarna, the site of the 'Amarnian experience'.

- Explore the northern tombs of Tel El Amarna.
- Visit the Royal Tomb of Akhenaten.
- Discover the northern palace and the smaller temples dedicated to Aten.
- Pause in front of the Prince Tawdrous Monastery to admire its structure from the boat (your guide will provide insights into the monastery's significance).

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 8: A Day's Sailing to Sohag

Today will be a tranquil day as we sail southwards towards Sohag. Throughout the day, meals will be provided, and you'll have the chance to unwind by the pool, taking in the sights of everyday Egyptian life along the River Nile. In the evening, live music will be playing in the bar.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 9: Trip to Abydos and Sail to Naga Hammadi

Our excursion today will lead us to Abydos, the birthplace of the Osiris myth. The ancient Egyptians held that Osiris was brought back to life at Abydos after being slain by his brother Seth. He was then endowed with the powers to become the ruler of the Afterlife.

During our visit to Abydos, you will also explore the Temple of Seti I, who established the city. Although the temple was left incomplete during Seti's reign, it was eventually finished under the rule of his renowned son, Ramses II.

Afterward, we will return to the boat and cruise towards Naga Hammadi via the Naga Hammadi Bridges.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 10: Dendera Temple Tour and Luxor Sailing Excursion

Today, we journey a bit further south to the Temple of Dendera. This significant temple is devoted to Hathor – the goddess of joy, dance, and love. The ancient Egyptians believed Hathor possessed healing abilities, and as a result, they frequently brought their ailing ones to Dendera in hopes of a cure. After spending ample time exploring the temple, we'll proceed with our journey towards Luxor. In the evening, a belly dancer will join us to provide traditional entertainment.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 11: West Bank Tours in Luxor

Luxor is commonly known as the largest open-air museum in the world. This morning, we crossed the Nile at dawn to begin our journey on the West Bank. It is the site of the Valley of the Kings, where the timeworn tombs continue to uncover their mysteries, making it one of the most significant archaeological locations globally. Our excursion will take us through several of these ancient royal tombs, as well as the temple dedicated to Queen Hatshepsut.

OVERNIGHT:

Nile cruise boat

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Luxor Cruise Day 12: Your Luxor adventure concludes with a seamless transfer to the airport

Your tour concludes today after breakfast, but you may wish to extend your stay in Luxor.

We are able to help arrange additional hotel accommodation in Aswan if needed, as well as international flights into Cairo and departing from Luxor (these will connect via Cairo with Egypt Air). Please enquire for further details.

OVERNIGHT:

N/A

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Included:

- Accommodation aboard the 5-star deluxe cruise vessel (Movenpick M/S Darakum)
- Meals as specified (full board while on the boat)

- All transfers, including a 24-hour airport transfer service in Cairo and Aswan
- Excursions and guides as detailed in the itinerary, accompanied by a shared Nile Cruise guide
- All transport necessary for sightseeing en route
- All entrance fees to sites

Excluded:

- International flights (available upon request)
- Visa charges (USD 25, payable on arrival for most nationalities)
- Travel insurance (mandatory, available upon request)
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Beverages, snacks, and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Gratuities
- Gala dinners on the cruise boat (if charged by the boat on 24 & 31 Dec, see Tour notes)
- Any additional 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 cabin supplement - 15 Day Cruise
(EGSGLN)



From \$4225.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

This option guarantees a single cabin on the Nile Cruise (M/S Darakum) for the 15-day journey. If your booking includes any solo travellers, they will need to add this supplement. We do not arrange shared cabins between individuals who are not already acquainted on this tour.

Please note: Solo travellers may be able to travel without paying any supplement on some departures. This offer is based on staying in a lower-deck cabin and is subject to availability at the time of booking. Please contact us for details.

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Single cabin supplement - 12 Day Cruise
(EGSGLN)



From \$3330.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

This option guarantees a single cabin on the Nile Cruise (M/S Darakum) for the 12-day journey. If your booking includes any solo travellers, they will need to add this supplement. We do not arrange shared cabins between individuals who are not already acquainted on this tour.

Please note: Solo travellers may be able to travel without paying any supplement on some departures. This offer is based on staying in a lower-deck cabin and is subject to availability at the time of booking. Please contact us for details.

Printed on: Thursday 16th of April 2026

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.
