Unforgettable Experience in Egypt



Travel Design Egypt

Specialists in the Art of Travel to Egypt.

Day 01: Friday.



Arrival: Arrive at Cairo International Airport, where you will be met by your Egypt Tour Coordinator.

Transfer: You will be assisted with obtaining your luggage, after which you will board a modern, air-conditioned vehicle to drive to the Hotel.

Check-in: Our Tour Coordinator will assist you with check-in at your hotel.

Overnight: **At Your Hotel in Cairo.**

Day 02: Saturday.

Breakfast: Buffet breakfast at the hotel

Tour: Start a day tour with your Egyptologist including the following:



The Museum: The Egyptian Museum was first built in Boulak. In 1891, it was moved to Giza Palace of "Ismail Pasha" which housed the antiquities that were later moved to the present building. The Egyptian Museum is situated at Tahrir square in Cairo. It was built during the reign of Khedive Abbass Helmi II in 1897, and opened on November 15, 1902.
Take a fascinating tour of 7,000 years of Egyptian history with a visit to the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities in Cairo. The Museum exhibits over 120,000 objects in its 107 halls, comprising the world's greatest collection of Ancient Egyptian artifacts, including 12 rooms filled with the golden treasures, all from the world-famous tomb of the boy-king Tutankhamun astound and delight visitors. More than 2 million people flock to this magnificent site each year.

Mummies Room: A specially-built area dedicated to the well-preserved mummies of 11 Royal Kings and Queens of Ancient Egypt, including the Great Ramses II, Egypt's longest ruling pharaoh.



Islamic Cairo: The fascinating tour of Islamic Cairo starts with the ancient **Citadel**, a spectacular medieval fortress perched on a hill above the city. Originally built by Salah El-Din in 1176 to fortify the city against the Crusaders, it has never been without a military garrison. The Citadel was modified and enlarged over the centuries by subsequent rulers, most notably Muhammad Ali Pasha, one of the great builders of Modern Egypt, who was responsible for considerable alteration and building within the Citadel. Today it is a complex of four mosques and four museums, including the beautiful and graceful **Mohamed Ali Mosque**. Built from 1830 to 1857, the mosque also became the site of the great Ottoman ruler's tomb. From the arcaded courtyard, enjoy a magnificent view across the city to the pyramids in Giza.



Lunch: Set Menu lunch at Naguib Mahfouz Restaurant at the heart of Khan El Khalili Bazaars. Located at the Khan El Khalili Bazaar, the restaurant is named after the famous Egyptian Nobel Prize-winning novelist Naguib Mahfouz. The restaurant is split into two distinct areas: a coffee shop offering Egyptian sandwiches and snacks as well as shisha (water pipes) and a very insightful palm reader; and a restaurant section offering a selection of chicken, meats and mouth-watering oriental mezzas.

(No alcohol is served at this restaurant)

Bazaar: The fascinating Khan El-Khalili Bazaar is reputed to be the largest bazaar in the Middle East. Originally founded as a watering stop for caravanserai in the 14th century, the bazaar has now grown to vast proportions.

As one wanders through the labyrinth of narrow streets you will find workshops and stalls selling all manner of things from woodwork, glassware and leather goods to perfumes, fabrics and Pharaonic curiosities. Remember to bargain hard!
Return to your hotel

Overnight: At Your Hotel in Cairo.

Day 03: Sunday.

Breakfast: Buffet breakfast at the hotel



Memphis: Founded around 3,100 BC during the Old Kingdom, Memphis is the legendary city of Menes, the King who united Upper and Lower Egypt. According to tradition, he first created dikes to protect the area from Nile floods and then started building. Much of what we know of Memphis comes from its necropolis, texts and papyrus from other parts of Egypt, and Herodotus, who visited the city. Early on, Memphis was probably a fortress from which Menes controlled the land and water routes between Upper Egypt and the Delta. Later, this great city became the administrative and religious center of Egypt, was home to a cosmopolitan community and most likely one of the largest and most important cities in the ancient world.



Sakkara: Across the Great Court of the Pyramid Complex of Zoser in Sakkara, stands the Step Pyramid, the oldest known of Egypt's 107 pyramids, which was built by Imhotep, one of the world's most famous historical figures. This architect of the world's first freestanding stone structure, which you will visit today with your Egyptologist, is often also recognized as the world's first doctor, as well as a priest, sage, poet, and astrologer. Although the original structure was a burial chamber 28 meters underground, Imhotep enlarged it several times to eventually reach a six tiered rectangle 60 meters high. Sakkara seems to have been the first area where limestone was employed, not only for the outer casing of the pyramid but also to cover interior walls.



Lunch: Set Menu lunch at Khan El Khalili restaurant at Mena House hotel.

Pyramids: proceed to the Great Pyramids of Giza. The only present-day survivors of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, they are among the world's greatest tourist attractions and never lose their ability to inspire and overwhelm visitors.

Sphinx: Visit the mysterious Sphinx, an ancient figure shrouded in legend and mystery. Your Egyptologist will enthrall you with the tales told of this fascinating figure.

Solar Boat Museum: Your tour today will include the incredible Solar Boat Museum, located to the south side of the Great Pyramid of Cheops, housing the same Pharaoh's magnificent 141-foot-long funerary boat of cedar wood. Discovered in a pit by the Great Pyramid in 1954, the entire boat was carefully assembled and placed in the museum. Remarkably, no nails were used in the original construction of the Solar Boat, only ropes and pegs. Its discovery was hailed as the single most important archaeological find in Egypt since the Tomb of Tutankhamun.
Return to your hotel

Day 04: Monday.
Check-Out and Transfer: Transfer from Hotel to Cairo Airport by modern, air-conditioned vehicle.
Flight: Board your domestic flight to Luxor. (Flight time and details will be determined upon confirmation)
Arrive Luxor then transfer to Five Stars Deluxe Nile Cruise

4 Nights Cruise: Luxor/Aswan on Nile Cruise

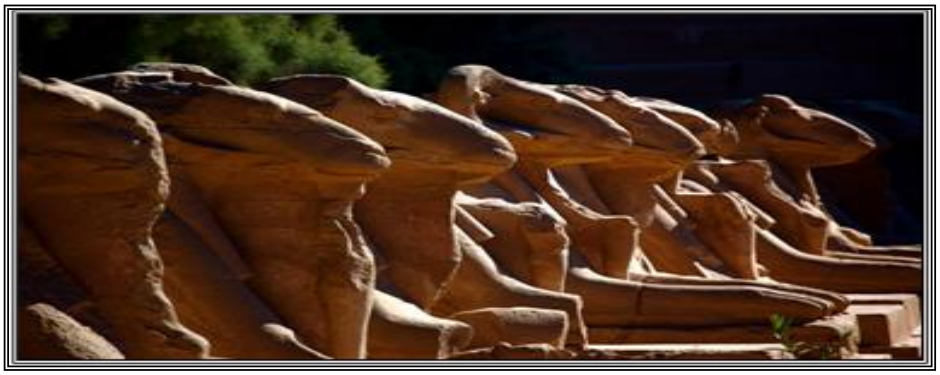


Check-in at noon time: Arrive on your 5-star Nile cruise boat, dock in Luxor. On board, you will be welcomed by the reception staff, who will offer you chilled fruit juice while assisting with your check-in.

Lunch: will be served on board in the main restaurant.



Karnak Temple: Start your Tours to the East Bank by visiting the Temple of Karnak, built over more than a thousand years by generations of Pharaohs. The great "Hypostyle Hall" is an incredible forest of giant pillars, covering an area larger than the whole of Notre Dame Cathedral.



Luxor Temple: After that your Egyptologist will guide you on a tour of the strikingly graceful Temple of Luxor dedicated to the god Amun.





Afternoon Tea: Return to your cruise for afternoon tea on board in the lounge.

Dinner: Gourmet menu on board followed by a belly dancer, accompanied by a whirling dervish show.
Overnight: On board in Luxor.

Day 05: Tuesday.

Breakfast: breakfast buffet on board.

Valley of the Kings & Queens: Morning visit to the West Bank of Luxor to explore the Valley of the Kings, a vast City of the Dead where magnificent tombs were carved into the desert rocks, decorated richly, and filled with treasures for the afterlife by generations of Pharaohs. You will also have the chance to visit at least one tomb in the Valley of the Queens.





Hatshepsut Temple: Rising out of the desert plain in a series of terraces, the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut (Ancient Egypt's only female Pharaoh) merges with the sheer limestone cliffs that surround it, as if nature herself had built this extraordinary monument.



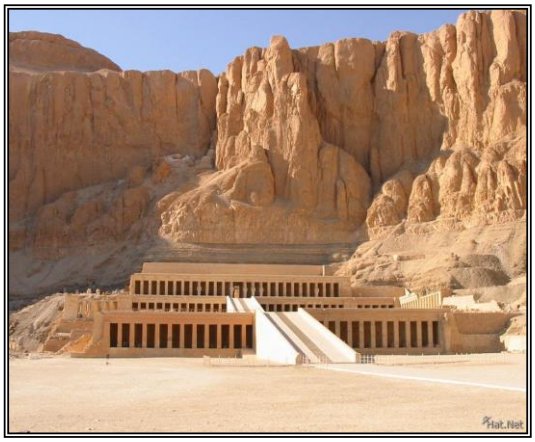


Photo stop Colossi of Memnon: On the way back to the river Nile, your road passes by the famed Colossi of Memnon, known in Ancient Greek times for their haunting voices at dawn.



Lunch: Lunch on board while you cruise to Esna.

Afternoon Tea: Afternoon tea will be served in the lounge while you cruise.

Dinner: Tonight's dinner on board will be an "Egyptian Night" costume party for all guests, with a chance to dress up in traditional Egyptian "galabeyyas". Dinner will be a lavish buffet of Egyptian specialties, followed by oriental music and dancing for everyone.
Overnight: On board in Esna.

Day 06: Wednesday.

Breakfast: Breakfast buffet on board.

Lunch: Lunch on board, while you cruise to Edfu.

Edfu Temple: This afternoon, explore the largest and most completely preserved Pharaonic – albeit Greek-built – temple in Egypt, the extraordinary Temple of Horus at Edfu.



Afternoon Tea: Afternoon tea will be served while you cruise to Kom Ombo.

Dinner: on board

Overnight On board in Kom Ombo.

Day 07: Thursday.

Breakfast: Breakfast buffet on board.

Kom Ombo Temple: Visit the Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to the crocodile-god Sobek. The temple stands at a bend in the Nile where in ancient times sacred crocodiles basked in the sun on the riverbank.



Lunch: Return to your boat for lunch on board, while you cruise to Aswan.

Philae Temple: Take a short motorboat ride to visit the romantic and majestic Philae Temple on the Island of Agilka.



Unfinished Obelisk: Next we proceed to the Granite Quarries, which supplied the ancient Egyptians with most of the hard stone used in pyramids and temples, and still hold a huge unfinished obelisk.



Felucca Ride: In the afternoon (weather permitting) take a ride on a felucca, a typical Egyptian sail boat, around Elephantine Island, Lord Kitchener's Botanical Gardens, and the Agha Khan Mausoleum (life jackets will be provided).

Afternoon tea: Enjoy your afternoon tea served in the lounge.

Dinner: Tonight's farewell dinner will be a gala dinner (jacket required), with white-gloved waiters serving gourmet cuisine.

Overnight: On board in Aswan.

Day 08: Friday.
Breakfast: Buffet breakfast on board, and check out at 8:00 AM.
Transfer: By Private air-conditioned car to Aswan airport.
Flight: Board your domestic flight to Cairo. (Flight time and details will be determined upon confirmation)
Transfer: You will be assisted with obtaining your luggage, after which you will board a modern, air-conditioned vehicle to drive to the Hotel.
Check-in: Our Tour Coordinator will assist you with check-in at your hotel.
Overnight: **At Your Hotel in Cairo.**

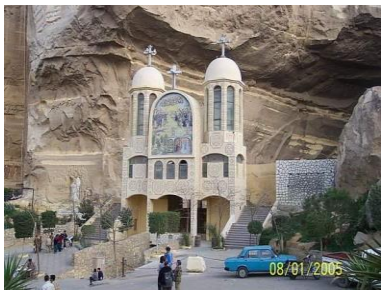
Day 09: Saturday.
Tour: start a full day tour with your Egyptologist including:



Coptic Museum & Hanging Church: The Hanging Church (El Muallaqa), so named for its location on top of the southern tower gate of the old Babylon fortress with its nave suspended above the passage, is curious indeed. (Muallaqa translates to 'suspended') The church was first built, in Basilican style, in the 3rd or 4th century. However, at that time it is unlikely that the church would have been constructed at this location. The main church is thought to have been built between the 5th and 6th centuries with the southeastern section called the "upper church" being added later. Though destroyed in the 9th century, it was rebuilt in the 11th century and became the seat of the Coptic patriarchate until the 14th century.



Church of St. Barbara: This modest church is named for Saint Barbara, a beautiful young lady who most likely lived during the 4th century; she was the daughter of a pagan merchant who tortured and killed her when she converted to Christianity. Although the main portion of the Church dates from the late 7th century, a door found during one of the church's restorations could date as early as the 4th. It was most likely reconstructed between 1072 and 1073 to house the relics of Saint Barbara. The chapel still contains her remains.



Synagogue of Ben Ezra: Continue to the Synagogue of Ben Ezra, from the time of the once thriving Jewish community in Egypt under the leadership of Rabbi Ben Ezra. Inside, the so-called "Geniza Documents" were found, a treasure hailed as an unparalleled source of information about life of the Jews in Egypt's past. The basilica-style temple contains a Jewish heritage library inaugurated in 1997. At the back of the temple, the coffers in which the infant Prophet Moses was placed by his mother, was reportedly found in a deep well.
Then visit St. Simon Monastery

Lunch: Set Menu lunch at Al Azhar park restaurant.
Overnight: **At Your Hotel in Cairo.**

Day 10: Sunday.
Breakfast: Breakfast buffet at your hotel, and check out.
Transfer: By Private air-conditioned car to Cairo international airport for your final departure.

BON VOYAGE!

GENERAL INFORMATION ON EGYPT

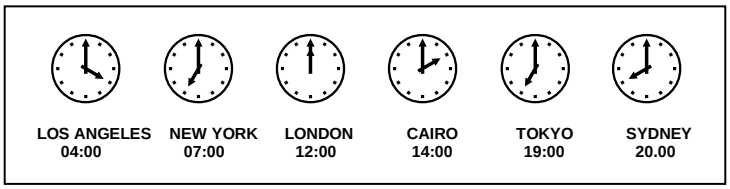


Orientation:

Egypt lies at the crux of Africa and the Middle East, and is bordered by Sudan in the South, Libya in the West, and Israel in the East. The southern area by Luxor and Aswan is known as "Upper Egypt", as the Nile flows from here "down" through the capital city, Cairo, to the Mediterranean Sea near Alexandria.

Time zone:

Egypt is two hours ahead of GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) during winter. During summer, from May 1st till October 1st, the clocks move one hour forward.



Temperature:

Local daytime temperatures range as follows for the year (°C):

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cairo	**High**	19	21	24	28	32	35	35	35	32	30	24	21
	Low	9	9	11	14	17	18	22	22	20	18	14	11
Luxor	**High**	23	25	29	35	40	41	41	41	39	35	30	25
	Low	5	7	11	16	21	23	24	24	22	18	12	8
Aswan	**High**	24	30	35	39	42	41	41	40	36	30	25	25
	Low	8	9	13	17	21	24	24	25	22	9	14	10
Sharm El-Sheikh	**High**	23	26	29	33	36	34	34	34	33	28	23	23
	Low	16	17	18	21	24	26	27	27	26	23	20	16

Visas:

All nationalities require tourist visas for Egypt. Europeans, Americans and Australians can purchase these on arrival at the airport; other nationalities should check with their local Embassies for latest regulations.

Language:

The national language in Egypt is Arabic. However, tourists will rarely find a problem communicating as English is widely spoken in hotels and shops, with French a close second, and many staff in tourist areas also speaking German or Italian.

Currency:

The local currency is the Egyptian pound, or 'LE', which is divided into 100 piasters. At the moment, US$ 1.00 is worth around LE 16.00.

Tipping:
It's customary to tip often in Egypt and you may want to think about carrying small bills in your pocket for this purpose. Visitors would normally consider tipping their Egyptologist guide, driver on tours, hotel staff, and waiters in restaurants; however, tips for porterage in airports and hotels is always covered by our staff.

Photography:
If you are taking photographs of local people, always ask their permission beforehand. Your guide can assist you in this. Do not take photographs of military installations or airports. Film is readily available in all tourist areas. It is advisable to carry your camera in a dust-proof bag. Photography or camera fees are applicable at most sights and museums; your guide can give you details of the latest charges.

Electricity:
Egypt electrical current is 220V, and sockets take the standard continental ropean dual round-pronged plug.

Health:
No vaccinations are currently needed for visitors to Egypt. During your stay, it is preferable to drink only bottled water and to avoid eating from street stalls. Take care from the sun, which can often feel cooler than it really is due to the cool coastal breezes and lack of humidity. Drink plenty of water when staying outside during the day.

Dress Code:
Egypt is a country very used to tourists, and for sightseeing in popular areas such as the Pyramids or the main sights of Upper Egypt, shorts and T-shirts are fine. However, you should allow for a more conservative dress code when walking in central Cairo and other cities, and especially in rural areas. When visiting mosques or other religious sites, casual, comfortable clothing covering knees and elbows is best, in order to respect the local culture. Around the pool at your hotel or on a cruise, low necklines, sleeveless shirts, or shorts can be comfortably worn; and at the beach in Red Sea resorts, feel free to dress as you would at home.

Many Thanks, Best Regards

Maged Girgis
Chairman & Managing Director

Travel Design Egypt
18-A Rawdat Zayed, Sheikh Zayed, Cairo – Egypt.
Tel: +2 0122 110 1101
Mobile: +2 0122 100 9923
E-Mail: maged@traveldesignegypt.com
Website: www.traveldesignegypt.com

Travel Design Egypt
Please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this email and any documents