



Pyramids and Nile Cruise

10-Night Small Group Tour

Discover the enchanting wonders of Egypt on our 10-night small group tour. Our Pyramids and Nile Cruise tour takes you on an epic trip through this historical country, from visiting the iconic Pyramids and Valley of the Kings to enjoying a relaxing cruise on the Nile and exploring Luxor.

Your Egyptian adventure awaits...

Highlights:

- Discover the Cairo not found in the guidebooks
- Visit the famous Pyramids and Sphinx
- Explore the renowned Egyptian Museum
- Spend time in a successful sustainable community project
- Enjoy a relaxing Nile cruise
- Explore the Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens and Hatshepsut temple, and Memnon Colosso
- Relax on a felucca ride
- Explore the Temple of Horus, Philae and Kom Ombo
- Discover Luxor and its temple

What's included:

- Getting there: Direct or indirect flights from UK to Cairo (with possible overnight)
- Meet & greet at airports in Egypt to help with the visa/check in - excluding Sphinx International Airport where customers will be greeted in arrivals hall.
- Transport: Private air-conditioned vehicles or buses, return internal flights from Cairo to Luxor
- Accommodation: 10 nights total duration - 3 nights in Hotel Baron or similar in Cairo, 7 nights onboard the Sonesta Nile Goddess or similar
- Meals: 10 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 7 dinners
- Local English speaking tour guides throughout the trip
- Tours as mentioned in small groups with a private guide (min. 2, max. 10)
- 1 bottle of water per day

Not included:

- Meals, drinks and transportation not detailed in the itinerary
- Personal expenses of any kind
- Gratuities
- Services not specified in the program
- Early/late check-in/out service at hotels (surcharge if requested)
- Travel insurance

Full Itinerary

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN CAIRO

Arrive at Cairo airport. Meet and greet provided at the airport followed by private transfers to the hotel for check in.

Afterwards, take a leisurely stroll along the bustling Korba Street, lined with charming cafes and inviting restaurants. Immerse yourself in Cairo's vibrant energy and indulge in delectable local cuisine or aromatic Egyptian coffee.

As night falls, the city's history and allure come to life, captivating you with its rich heritage.

Please note flights can be direct or indirect and some are overnight. Please make sure your flight arrives in Egypt on the Saturday for the start of the tour.

ACCOMMODATION: Hotel Baron or similar



DAY 2: PYRAMIDS, SPHINX, EGYPT MUSEUM AND KHAN EL KAHILI

After breakfast, your Egyptian adventure commences with a visit to the iconic Pyramids and Sphinx. Led by our knowledgeable expert, you'll stand in awe of the majestic Cheops, Chefren, and Mykerinos tombs.

Following lunch, explore the Egyptian National Museum at Tahrir Square, delving into the captivating tapestry of pharaonic history, including the legendary Tutankhamun exhibition. If available and if time permits, an optional visit to the Grand Egyptian Museum can be arranged to witness its vast collection.

Conclude the day by wandering through the historic Khan El Khalili Bazaar before returning to your hotel or enjoying an optional dinner on a romantic Dahabiya boat cruise along the Nile (time permitting).

ACCOMMODATION: Hotel Baron or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch



SPECIAL DAHABIYA BOAT DINNER (OPTIONAL AT A CHARGE)

Enjoy a delightful 4-course dinner aboard a traditional Dahabiya boat and discover the vibrant capital city of Cairo by night. This two-hour Dahabiya Tour along the Nile immerses you in the captivating atmosphere and picturesque sights, as the enchanting lights illuminate the banks of the river. This experience is sure to be a delightful and memorable highlight of your time in Cairo.

DAY 3: CAIRO FULL DAY NOT IN GUIDEBOOKS

Today's adventure takes you beyond guidebooks as you explore the enchanting Old Islamic Cairo.

Begin your morning on the oldest street in Cairo, immersing yourself in the tranquillity of Islamic mosques away from the crowds. Guided by local experts, discover hidden gems and exclusive sites not typically accessible.

Enjoy a traditional Egyptian breakfast before heading to the SEKEM community, a serene oasis just outside Cairo. Engage with nature and support organic farming initiatives, followed by a satisfying organic lunch.

Since its inception in 1977, the SEKEM project has worked wonders in transforming a barren desert into a thriving community. This exemplary initiative has brought life to an area that was once devoid of roads, water, and infrastructure. Through organic farming and reforestation efforts, SEKEM supports farmers in adopting sustainable agricultural practices and reducing carbon emissions.

Accompanied by an expert guide, we'll have the opportunity to explore the fields, factories, schools, training centres, and healthcare facilities within the SEKEM community. It's a chance to gain insight into their innovative approach to sustainable living and witness the positive impact they have on the environment and local communities.

The day continues with shopping opportunities at the community store, contributing to a better quality of life for members.

In the afternoon, fly to Luxor and embark on your Nile Cruise adventure, starting with an illuminated visit to Luxor Temple.

ACCOMMODATION: Sonesta Nile Goddess or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



DAY 4: NILE CRUISE - KARNAK TEMPLE & LUXOR TEMPLE

Begin your day with a morning visit to the magnificent Temple of Karnak, a testament to the grandeur of ancient Egypt, then enjoy a delightful lunch on board as we cruise along the Nile River.

In the afternoon, immerse yourself in the captivating atmosphere of the Temple of Luxor.

As evening approaches, you have the option to attend the mesmerizing Sound & Light Show at Karnak, where the temple comes alive with enchanting lights and captivating narration (time permitting).

ACCOMMODATION: Sonesta Nile Goddess or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



SOUND & LIGHT SHOW AT KARNAK TEMPLE (OPTIONAL AT A CHARGE)

If you enjoy classical music and have a keen interest in ancient Egyptian history, this is the perfect opportunity for you.

As you explore the temple, you will be immersed in an atmosphere complemented by informative commentaries, soothing sounds, and classical melodies that enhance the overall experience. Prepare to be amazed by the captivating Sound and Light show, which will transport you back in time and breathe life into the temple with its vibrant lasers and projections.

This mesmerizing display beautifully narrates the fascinating story of Thebes and its legendary pharaohs.

DAY 5: NILE CRUISE - VALLEY OF THE KINGS AND QUEENS, MEMNON COLOSSO

After breakfast, discover the West Bank, including the Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens with Hatshepsut Temple, and the Colossi of Memnon. Marvel at the intricate treasures and the awe-inspiring hieroglyphics that adorn these ancient burial grounds.

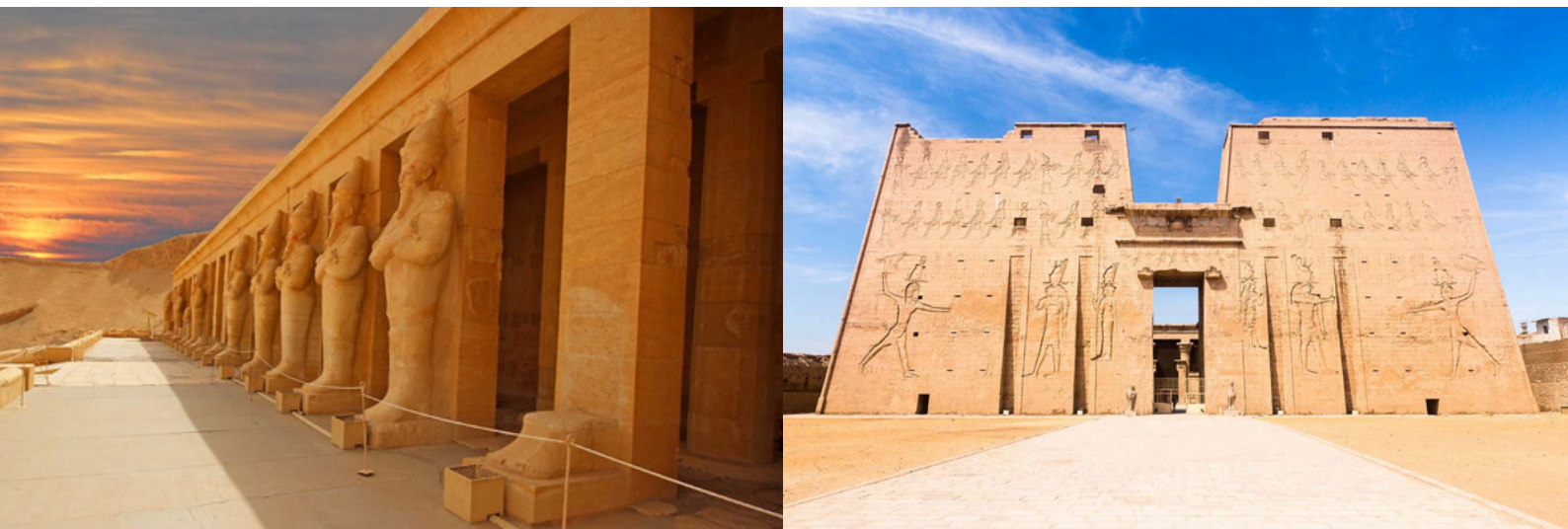
Next, immerse yourself in the captivating legacy of Hatshepsut and stand in reverence before the colossal statues of Memnon.

After an eventful morning, return to your river cruiser and indulge in a delightful lunch onboard.

As your journey continues southward to Edfu, be enchanted by the timeless scenery that unfolds before your eyes.

ACCOMMODATION: Sonesta Nile Goddess or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



DAY 6: NILE CRUISE - TEMPLE OF HORUS, KOM OMBO AND ASWAN

After Breakfast, explore the remarkably well-preserved Temple of Horus, considered one of Egypt's finest Pharaonic treasures.

Afterward, return to the ship and continue cruising towards the magnificent riverside Temple of Kom Ombo. Marvel at its hypostyle halls, burial chambers, and fascinating displays of mummified crocodiles. Delve into the captivating history of the twin temple dedicated to the pharaohs Sobek and Haroeris.

The journey then takes us to Aswan, where we will dock for three nights, allowing ample time to immerse ourselves in the enchanting atmosphere of this city, with the grand mausoleum of the Aga Khan serving as a constant backdrop.

ACCOMMODATION: Sonesta Nile Goddess or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 7: NILE CRUISE - PHILAE TEMPLE, ASWAN DAM AND FELUCCA RIDE

Today, discover the Aswan Dam, which held the distinction of being the largest dam in the world at the time of construction, and the magnificent Philae Temple where you can explore the temple and marvel at its masterful architecture.

After visiting the temple, enjoy a relaxing Felucca Ride on the Nile, taking you around Kitchner Island. Absorb the serene beauty of the river and the surrounding landscape as you glide along the water.

Late afternoon you can join an optional excursion to Elephantine Island (time permitting).

ACCOMMODATION: Sonesta Nile Goddess or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

ELEPHANTINE ISLAND WITH SPECIAL NUBIAN DINNER (OPTIONAL AT A CHARGE)

A boat trip to the island of Elephantine, which was once a bustling economic and religious centre and is believed to have been a favourite spot for Agatha Christie during her stay at the legendary old Cataract Hotel located across from the island. It was here that she wrote one of her most renowned novels, "Death on the Nile."

Immerse yourself in the local community, savour their warm hospitality, and engage with the locals. Indulge in a truly authentic dinner prepared by the dedicated mothers and wives of the Nubian family called Jamaica. Each family member works with passion and love, providing exceptional service to the guests. In fact, some Google reviews describe their food as the best cuisine they have ever experienced in Egypt.



DAY 8: NILE CRUISE WITH OPTIONAL ABU SIMBEL

Enjoy a free day for relaxation or opt for an excursion journeying into Egypt's Ancient Past, unveiling the Wonders of Abu Simbel.

These remarkable temples, carved into the mountainside, showcase the impressive architectural mastery of Ramses II and the goddess Hathor. Rediscovered in the 19th century, they stand as iconic treasures of Egypt, captivating visitors with their grandeur and historical significance.

Explore the intricately adorned interiors and immerse yourself in the rich heritage of this extraordinary site. Abu Simbel promises an unforgettable journey into Egypt's ancient past.

ACCOMMODATION: Sonesta Nile Goddess or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

GUIDED TOUR OF ABU SIMBEL (OPTIONAL AT A CHARGE)

Abu Simbel, renowned for its world-famous temples, is a must-visit destination located in the southern region of Aswan, Egypt. Prepare to be captivated as you immerse yourself in the ancient world of the Pharaohs and soak in the awe-inspiring atmosphere of this remarkable historical site.

Don't miss the chance to explore the intricate temple carvings, marvel at the colossal statues, and discover the fascinating stories of Egypt's rich history. A visit to Abu Simbel is an unforgettable journey back in time.



DAY 9: NILE CRUISE

The river cruiser will gracefully sail northward, retracing its path along the mesmerizing river. Along the way, enchanting sites like Kom Ombo and Edfu will unfold before you, captivating your senses with their historical allure.

As the journey approaches its conclusion, the cruiser will dock in Luxor for the final night of your unforgettable experience.

ACCOMMODATION: Sonesta Nile Goddess or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 10: LUXOR

After breakfast, it's time to bid farewell to the breath-taking sights of Luxor. Make your way to Luxor Airport and catch your early morning flight back to Cairo.

Upon arrival, head to your hotel and patiently await the readiness of your rooms, typically around noon. If you're seeking an extraordinary experience, consider booking an optional trip to the amazing Fayoum Oasis, located just 150 km outside of Cairo. This excursion is like the perfect finishing touch to your incredible Egyptian adventure (time permitting).

But our adventure doesn't end there. We continue our journey with a desert safari to the enchanting Wadi Hitan, also known as the Whale Valley. Get ready to be captivated by the otherworldly landscapes, where the presence of magical lakes and cascading waterfalls in Wadi El Rayan adds to the breathtaking beauty. And as we embark on our day trip to El Fayoum, we'll have ample time to create cherished memories that will forever hold a special place in our hearts.

ACCOMMODATION: Hotel Baron or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast

FAYOUM OASIS & THE WHALE VALLEY (OPTIONAL AT A CHARGE)

Today, we venture just 150 km outside of Cairo to the captivating Tunis Village, where the power of sustainability has shaped lives. This once-impooverished community witnessed a remarkable turnaround when a determined Swiss lady named Evelien arrived and established the village's first pottery school, providing education and hope to its children.

Over time, the village's handmade products gained international recognition, becoming a shining example of how a sustainable approach can create positive change. Although Evelien has passed away, her enduring legacy lives on through the village, serving as a testament to her profound impact as a mother figure to all.



DAY 11: HOME

After breakfast, it's time to say goodbye to Egypt and catch your flight back to the UK, cherishing the memories of your unforgettable journey.

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast

FAQs

WHAT TO PACK

- Warm clothes in case of cold weather, a scarf/shawl for religious sites
- Sun cream, a hat and insect repellent
- Comfortable shoes such as trainers
- Sunglasses and reusable bags
- Ruck sack or light bag per person
- Personal toiletries and first aid kit
- Travel plug adapter (2 round pin) – the electricity supply on board the boat is 220V.

TIPPING

While tipping isn't mandatory, a small gesture of generosity is always appreciated, especially given the modest wages many workers receive. Setting aside a little extra for porters, guides, and drivers can make a big difference. Leaving some spare change at restaurants is also a kind way to show your appreciation for their hard work.

Onboard a Nile Cruise tips are \$5 pp per day and will be collected at check-out.

SHOPS

Within the itinerary there are some stops to the local shops. Please inform the guide if you do not wish to stop. The stops will be made to shops that, although slightly more expensive, they guarantee you can return the goods, even after coming back home.

VISAS

A visa is required for entry into Egypt. British passport holders need a visa for visits of up to 30 days. You can obtain a visa on arrival by making payment in Sterling, US Dollars, or Euros. The visa fee is US\$25. You can purchase the visa on your own from the bank kiosks within the airport arrival halls before reaching the immigration counters. Alternatively, our representative can provide a full visa service and assistance for \$30 per person. Please note that your passport should be valid for a minimum period of 6 months from the date of entry into Egypt. Visa requirements are subject to change, and obtaining a visa is the responsibility of the traveller. We recommend checking with your destination's tourist board or embassy prior to departure for the most up-to-date guidelines on visas and passport validity.

HEALTH AND VACCINATIONS

It is your responsibility to check any health and vaccination requirements applicable to your booked arrangements. We can only provide general information about this. Health and hygiene facilities and disease risks vary from country to country. You should take health advice about your own needs as early as possible and in good time before your departure.

Sources of information include: www.fco.gov.uk, www.travelhealthpro.org.uk, www.hpa.org.uk, your General Practitioner or a specialist clinic.

PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY

This tour is accessible to most people with a good level of fitness and normal mobility. It involves the climbing of steep stairs and uneven ground during the excursions, and getting on and off coaches/vehicles and boats. In Cairo, where the excursions are private, they can be taken at a slower pace but the excursions onboard the Nile Cruiser are with other passengers, so cannot be modified, although passengers can always take the option of staying onboard.

CURRENCY

The currency in Egypt is the Egyptian pound but USD is the favourite currency. We recommend that you exchange your currency before you leave the UK. However, cash machines are available in all the major cities to withdraw money in the local currency.