



# Pyramids, Abu Simbel, Nile and Red Sea by Train

## 10 Night Small Group Tour

Want to discover the best of Egypt but without the carbon emissions caused by internal flights? Then this tour is for you.

Our 10 night Pyramids, Abu Simbel, Nile and Red Sea by Train tour takes you on an epic trip through this historical country in the greenest way possible. You'll visit the iconic Pyramids and Valley of the Kings, explore Luxor, visit a successful sustainable community project, and so much more.

Your Egyptian adventure starts here.

### 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
- Discover the awe-inspiring temples of Abu Simbel
- Explore the Valley of the Kings, the Valley of the Queens, Hatshepsut temple & Memnon Colosso
- Aswan Dam & Philae Temple
- Relax on a felucca ride
- Discover Luxor and its Temple
- Relax on the Red Sea beaches

### What's included:

- Getting there: Return flights to Cairo
- Meet & greet at airports in Egypt to help with the visa/check in - excluding Sphinx International Airport
- Transport: Private air-conditioned vehicles or buses, day train and sleeper train
- Accommodation: 10 nights total duration - 3 nights Cairo, 1 night sleeper train, 1 night Aswan, 2 nights Luxor, 3 nights El Gouna
- Meals included: 10 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 1 dinner
- Local English speaking tour guides in each location
- Tours as mentioned in small groups with a private guide (min 2 max 10)
- 1 bottle of water per day
- Certified Carbon Neutralization certificate for the land itinerary

### Not included:

- Any meals (other than the one mentioned in the itinerary), drinks, tips, expenses of personal nature.
- 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.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Baron Hotel, Cairo 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 time permitting, 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.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Baron Hotel, Cairo or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, lunch



### Day 3: Cairo Full Day Not in the 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, you will head to Ramses Railway Station and board your Sleeper Train to Aswan.

ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper train

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, lunch, dinner



## Day 4: Philae Temple, Aswan Dam and Felucca Ride

Today, discover 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.

ACCOMMODATION: Lodge Nub Inn, Aswan or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast



## Day 5: Abu Simbel, Aswan and Luxor Temple

This morning, embark on a journey into Egypt's ancient past with an included guided tour of Abu Simbel.

Carved into the mountainside, these magnificent temples showcase the architectural brilliance of Ramses II and the devotion to the goddess Hathor. Rediscovered in the 19th century after centuries hidden by desert sands, they stand as iconic symbols of Egypt, renowned for their grandeur and historical significance.

Explore the intricately decorated interiors and immerse yourself in the rich heritage of this extraordinary site. A visit to Abu Simbel offers an unforgettable glimpse into the wonders of ancient Egypt.

Afterwards, head to the train station and take a short train ride to Luxor, which is about 2 hours long. When you arrive in Luxor, you will be transferred to your hotel. Upon arrival at your hotel, check in to your rooms and begin exploring Luxor by visiting the illuminated Luxor Temple. This temple offers an unforgettable experience and is considered one of the largest open-air museums in the world.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Iberotel, Luxor or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast

## Day 6: Exploring West Bank - Valley of the Kings and Queens, Memnon Colosso and Karnak Temple

After breakfast, embark on a journey to ancient wonders as you explore the West Bank of the Nile. Step foot on the West Bank of the Nile as you venture to the renowned Valley of the Kings. Marvel at the intricate treasures and awe-inspiring hieroglyphics that adorn these ancient burial grounds.

Next, immerse yourself in the captivating legacy of Hatshepsut, a female Pharaoh, as you visit her majestic temple. Stand in reverence before the colossal statues of Memnon, guardians of the past, and let their imposing presence transport you to a bygone era.

After a busy morning of exploring, it's time to head back to your hotel but not before exploring Karnak Temple, which happens to be one of the largest temple complexes in the world.

Please note:

Your visit to the Valley of the Kings includes access to the following tombs (subject to site regulations on the day) - Ramesses VII, Ramesses III, Merneptah, Ramesses IV, Ramesses IX, Ramesses I, Siptah, Tausret.

Access to the following tombs is not included in the standard ticket and can be added at an additional cost: Tutankhamun, Seti I and Ramesses VI

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Iberotel, Luxor or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast



## Day 7: Red Sea

Early in the morning, right after breakfast, you will head to the Red Sea.

Upon arrival, you will check in to your charming hotel, where you can unwind and relax on the sandy beaches of the Red Sea. Enjoy swimming and snorkelling for a few days, immersing yourself in the beauty of the crystal-clear waters.

The distance from Luxor to El Gouna is approximately 260 km, which can be covered in about 3 hours of driving with a professional driver and an air-conditioned car.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Ali Pasha, El Gouna or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast



## Days 8 and 9: Red Sea

Spend today leisurely enjoying the beach, swimming, and snorkelling. If you're looking for more excitement, you can book daily activities such as water sports, diving, or even a desert safari with a Bedouin dinner. Alternatively, you can opt for a submarine excursion or a glass-bottom boat tour to explore the wonders of the underwater world.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Ali Pasha, El Gouna or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast

## Day 10: Red Sea to Cairo

Early this morning, you will be heading back to Cairo. As part of our commitment to providing you with a sustainable trip, the transportation included is an air-conditioned bus. However, if you prefer to fly back to Cairo, it is possible, for an extra charge, just speak to our Tailormade team. The bus journey from Hurghada to Cairo takes approximately 4-5 hours, offering comfort with its spacious seats.

Upon arriving in Cairo, whether you choose to continue the trip by bus or opt for a flight, our representative will be waiting to assist you. he will take you to your hotel, where you can relax for the day and explore Cairo at your own pace.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Baron Hotel, Cairo or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast



## 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
- Insect repellent, sun cream, sunglasses and reusable bags and a hat
- Comfortable shoes such as trainers
- Ruck sack or light bag per person
- Personal toiletries and first aid kit
- Travel plug adapter – the electricity supply on board the boat is 220 V. You will need a 2-round pin plug adapter.

## TIPPING

While tipping isn't mandatory, it's a thoughtful way to show appreciation, especially considering the modest wages many workers receive. A small gesture can go a long way, so setting aside a little extra for porters, guides, and drivers is always appreciated. Leaving some spare change at restaurants is also a kind way to recognise good service.

## SLEEPER TRAIN

The cabin has 2 bunk beds and a sink. The toilet is at the end of each carriage.

## SHOPS

Throughout the itinerary, there will be some stops at local shops. If you'd prefer not to participate, please let your guide know. While these shops may be slightly more expensive, they offer the reassurance of guaranteed returns, even after you've returned home.

## VISAS

British passport holders require a visa for travel to Egypt.

You can apply online for an e-visa, which is valid for up to 3 months, or you can obtain a visa on arrival at the airport before immigration. Please note that your passport should also be valid for at least 6 months from arrival into Egypt. Please check the FCDO website for more information.

## HEALTH AND VACCINATIONS

Please note that there are no mandatory vaccinations required to enter Egypt. However, we recommend consulting your GP or a travel health clinic before you travel to ensure your routine vaccinations are up to date and to receive any personalised health advice.

## PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY

This tour is accessible to most people with a good level of fitness and normal mobility. It involves climbing steep stairs and uneven ground during the excursions and getting on and off coaches/vehicles and trains.

## CURRENCY

The official currency in Egypt is the Egyptian Pound (EGP), but USD is widely accepted. We recommend exchanging some currency before leaving the UK for convenience. However, cash machines are readily available in all major cities, allowing you to withdraw money in the local currency if needed.