

11 Days/10 Nights

Departs Daily



Ancient Lands of Egypt: Cairo, Luxor & Aswan

Journey across three of Ancient Egypt's most important cities: Cairo, Luxor, and Aswan. This itinerary enables you to comb through the country's most significant historical and archaeological highlights and enjoy some time on the famous Nile without committing to a multi-day cruise. Packed with must-visit essentials - like the Great Pyramids of Giza, Valley of the Kings, and Philae Temple - you'll also get to explore notable sites between Luxor and Aswan such as Edfu and Kom Ombo. For fans of Egypt's legendary pharaonic period, this well-crafted recommended vacation delivers an unforgettable learning experience.

ACCOMMODATIONS

• 4 Nights Cairo

• 3 Nights Luxor

• 3 Nights Aswan

INCLUSIONS

- Private Pyramids, Sphinx, Memphis & Saqqara Tour with Lunch
- Private Citadel, Mohamed Ali Mosque & Bazaar Tour
- Private Egyptian Museum Tour
- Dinner Cruise on the Nile with Private Transfers

- Private East Bank Tour (Karnak & Luxor Temples)
- Private West Bank Tour (Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut's Temple & Memnon Tour)
- Private Esna, Edfu & Kom Ombo Tour from Luxor en route to Aswan with Lunch

- Private Philae Temple, High Dam & Obelisk Tour
- Private Nobles Tomb & St. Simeon Monastery Tour
- Private Felucca Tour to the Botanical Gardens
- Private Arrival & Departure Transfers Per City
- Daily Breakfast



ARRIVE CAIRO:

Arrive at Cairo International Airport and meet your driver for a private transfer to your hotel. After checking in, the remainder of the day is open, and you are free to relax or explore the city on your own.

(Accommodations, Cairo)



CAIRO:

After breakfast, meet up with your knowledgeable English-speaking Egyptologist at your hotel to begin a riveting full-day tour.

The experience starts with a visit to the iconic Pyramids and Sphinx of Giza, where you'll learn more about their fascinating history. You'll have time to explore the area and take in the enigmatic nature of these world-famous monuments from the ancient world. You'll also get the chance to check out the Papyrus Institute to learn more about the way the ancient Egyptians used the archaic material to make everything from paper to perfume.

After lunch, you'll proceed to Memphis which was once the ancient capital of Lower Egypt. These ruins are home to notable artifacts such as the statue of Ramesses II and a sphinx carved from a single piece of alabaster. You'll then explore the legendary necropolis of Saqqara which houses the Step Pyramid - the oldest stone pyramid in the world.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Cairo)



CAIRO:

Being the largest city in the Arab world, with a population that's 90% Muslim, Cairo definitely has a strong Islamic heritage. Today you'll learn more about Cairo's intriguing medieval history with a visit to the Citadel of Salah El Din. Known in the western world as Saladin, the prominent military leader and founder of the Ayyubid dynasty built this fortification during the Third Crusade. This symbol of Islamic Egypt also houses the impressive Mohamed Ali Mosque which was named after a 19th-century Ottoman ruler. You'll then wrap the half-day city excursion with a trip to the bustling Khan El Khalili bazaar, where you can shop for souvenirs and enjoy local mint tea.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Cairo)



CAIRO:

In the morning, head to the Egyptian Museum of Cairo to view and learn more about its impressive collection. With over 100,000 artifacts - which includes King Tutankhamen's magnificent golden face mask - the must-see items cover around 6,000 years of ancient Egyptian history and culture. The remainder of the afternoon is open, and you can choose to explore Cairo as you wish.

In the evening, board a steamer for a leisurely cruise along the Nile. Enjoy a night of great food, boisterous Egyptian folk music, and skillful belly dancing while taking in lovely views of Cairo's illuminated skyline.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Cairo)



CAIRO TO LUXOR:

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and transfer to the airport for a quick flight to Luxor. Upon arrival, meet your driver for a private transfer to your hotel. The remainder of the day is open.

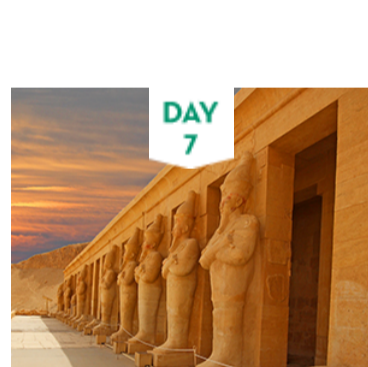
(Breakfast, Cairo; Accommodations, Luxor)



LUXOR:

Meet your expert guide at the hotel and head to one of the largest places of worship in the world - the famous Karnak Temple. Its construction incredibly encompassed the reign of approximately 30 pharaohs, including Ramesses III. You'll then cap the half-day tour with a visit to the spectacular Luxor Temple. Originally started under the reign of Amunhotep III, the temple made out of Nubian Sandstone was completed by Ramesses II and was dedicated to the great god Amun-Ra, his wife Mut, and their son Khonsu - who were known collectively as the Theban Triad. It featured two obelisks, one of which now resides at the Place de la Concorde in Paris.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Luxor)



LUXOR:

Today you'll be visiting a highly regarded destination that has been the epicenter of exhaustive archaeological and Egyptological study ever since the end of the 18th century: The Valley of the Kings. This location is home to the 1/4ber famous Tomb of Tutankhamen, which has been the subject of myths, speculation, and intrigue since its discovery in 1922 by Howard Carter. This particular area of the desert also contains the burial grounds of over 60 Egyptian pharaohs.

Proceed to the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut before capping your trip at the Valley of the Queens where you can visit the Colossi of Memnon - a set of two massive stone figures of Pharaoh Amenhotep III, which were built in 1,350 BCE. After getting significantly damaged during an earthquake in 27 BC, the remaining half of the northern statue was said to inexplicably give off a high-pitched sound - or "sing" - usually right at dawn.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Luxor)



LUXOR TO ASWAN:

It's time to depart Luxor and head to Aswan, but not before visiting three remarkable temples of the Greco-Roman era along the way. As you make your way towards Egypt's southernmost city, your first stop would be at the Temple of Esna, a well-preserved structure dedicated to the ram-headed god of temple named Khnum. The next destination would be Edfu Temple, the second largest temple in Egypt. Dedicated to the god Horus, this place of worship was built during the Ptolemaic Kingdom between 237 and 57 BC. The final stop would be at Kom Ombo, a temple and ancient medical center that is renowned for featuring depictions of surgical instruments on its walls. From here, you'll spend approximately one hour on the road before finally reaching your hotel in Aswan.

(Breakfast, Luxor; Accommodations, Aswan)

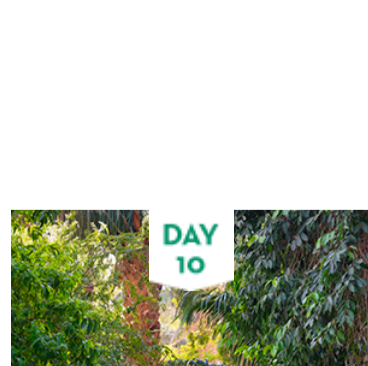


ASWAN:

Meet your expert English-speaking Egyptologist at the hotel then proceed to explore three of Aswan's most interesting sites.

The first destination is Aswan High Dam, a massive engineering marvel that separates the Nile from Lake Nasser. You'll then move on to the granite quarries that supplied many of Ancient Egypt's great monuments. Here you'll take a closer look at a famous unfinished Obelisk which was created from the largest piece of stone ever handled. You'll then travel via motorboat towards Agilkia Island, which is the present home of Philae Temple. Due to flooding related to the 1960s construction of the Aswan Dam, the ancient Egyptian temple complex of Philae was relocated as part of the UNESCO Nubia Campaign - a project to protect the important structures of the area.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Aswan)

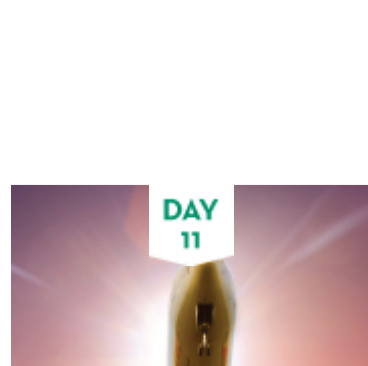


ASWAN:

In the morning, you'll take a motorboat to check out the cliffside burial place of Ancient Egypt's noblemen. Their tombs are awash with colorful paintings and hieroglyphics that depict the daily life of nobles back then. You'll then head to Qubbet el-Hawa shrine for some great panoramic views of the area before taking a memorable camel ride through the Sahara on your way towards St. Simeon Monastery - Aswan's oldest Coptic Christian monastery.

In the afternoon, you'll experience cruising along the Nile aboard a traditional felucca boat. Sail your way towards Kitchener's Island to visit the stunningly beautiful Aswan Botanical Gardens. Covering 16.8 acres, the riverside attraction features palms and plants that were imported from exotic regions like the Far East, India, and parts of Africa.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Aswan)



DEPART ASWAN:

After breakfast, meet your driver for a private transfer to Aswan International Airport for your flight home or to proceed to your next Avanti Destination!

(Breakfast, Aswan)

*** Itinerary and inclusions are subject to change*