



LAGUNA  
PRESBYTERIAN



## Laguna Presbyterian Church – Egypt Tour February 16-26, 2024

### Included:

10 nights' accommodation (double occupancy) at following hotels, or **similar**, including breakfast:

- 2 nights- *Cairo Pyramids Steigenberger Hotel (Pyramids View)*;
- 2 nights- *Tolip Hotel (Nile View rooms), Aswan*;
- 2 nights- *Sofitel Winter Palace, Luxor*;
- 1 night- *Albatros Royal Grand Sharm, Sharm El-Sheikh*;
- 3 nights- *Steigenberger Hotel El Tahrir, Cairo*

1 MEJDI-Trained Guide for the tour

8 Days of Private Bus Transportation

3 Internal Egypt flights (Cairo-Aswan/Luxor-Sharm/Sharm-Cairo)

Arrival and departure group transfers

Meet & Assist upon arrival in Cairo Airport- through visa process

9 Additional meals listed in itinerary

Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers

Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff

Dedicated pre-trip customer service and on-ground support

### Not Included:

International airfare

Travel insurance- **Highly Recommended**

Single Supplement Costs - **\$1,050**

Any required COVID testing costs

Meals not mentioned in the itinerary

Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

### Pricing:

**\$4,470 per person** x 15-19

**\$4,365 per person** x 20-24

**\$4,165 per person** x 25-29





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## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Friday, February 16, 2024 - Arrival** **[Airport transfer]**

Upon arrival into Cairo International Airport, you will be greeted by **Meet and Assist** to help with the visa process. Take a transfer to the hotel.

This evening, join together for a Welcome dinner.

*Hotel: Cairo Pyramids Steigenberger Hotel (Pyramids View), Cairo [Dinner included]*

### **Day 2: Saturday, February 17, 2024 – Giza** **[Guide, Bus]**

We begin with—what else?-- the **Great Pyramids** of Giza, one of the Wonders of the World, with views from an included **Camel Ride**, if desired. After an authentic Egyptian lunch, we continue on to the **New Egyptian Museum**.

In the evening, take time on your own for dinner.

*Hotel: Cairo Pyramids Steigenberger Hotel (Pyramids View), Cairo [Breakfast & Lunch included]*

### **Day 3: Sunday, February 18, 2024 – Aswan** **[Guide, Bus, Flight]**

After breakfast and hotel check out, we head to the airport to take a flight to Aswan. Upon arrival, we set off to visit the **High Dam** and **Temple of Philae**. Enjoy lunch together before a visit a **Nubian Village** to learn about the culture and people.

*Hotel: Tolip Hotel (Nile View rooms), Aswan [Breakfast & Lunch included]*





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**Day 4: Monday, February 19, 2024 – Abu Simbel (Day excursion)**

**[Guide, Bus]**

In the morning, we travel to **Abu Simbel** with its World Heritage “**Nubian Monuments.**” In the 1960s, to avoid flooding from the construction of the Aswan Dam, the site was dismantled,

moved, and reassembled at this site. In the afternoon, travel back to Aswan. This evening, board a traditional **Felucca** sailboat on the Nile to watch the sun set. Enjoy free time for dinner and exploration.

*Hotel: Tolip Hotel (Nile View rooms), Aswan [Breakfast included]*

**Day 5: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 – Luxor**

**[Guide, bus]**

In the morning after breakfast and check out, travel to Luxor where we will visit the **Karnak Temple**. After lunch together, enjoy some time to explore the area and the markets or to relax. We regather for a tour of the **Luxor Temple** in the stunning evening light. Dinner on your own.

*Hotel: Sofitel Winter Palace, Luxor [Breakfast & Lunch included]*

**Day 6: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 –Luxor & the West Bank**

**[Guide, Bus]**

After breakfast, we cross to the West Bank of the Nile to meet with a **top archeologist** in the region to learn about new sites they are excavating. Visit the **Valley of Kings** and Hatshepsut temple. We will also **visit a local family** - see their farm, learn how they bake bread, and then sit down with them together over lunch. This afternoon, we meet with a calligraphy artist to learn about **Arabic calligraphy** and to try it out for ourselves. The evening is free to explore, eat dinner on your own, and get to bed early.

*Hotel: Sofitel Winter Palace, Luxor [Breakfast & Lunch included]*





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**Day 7: Thursday, February 22, 2024 – Sharm El-Sheikh**  
**[Guide, Bus, Flights]**

Today, we fly to Sharm El-Sheikh. Upon arrival take some down time to relax and spend time at the beach. If you plan to climb Mt. Sinai tomorrow, you will want to get some sleep in the afternoon/ early evening. At 1am, the hikers will be bussed from Sharm El-Sheikh for Mt. Sinai. Non-hikers will depart for Sinai later after breakfast.

*Hotel: Albatros Royal Grand Sharm, Sharm El-Sheikh [Breakfast included]*

**Day 8: Friday, February 23, 2024 – Mt. Sinai**  
**[Guide, Bus, Flights]**

Upon arrival into **Mt. Sinai**, the hikers will start to climb the Mount to reach the summit at sunrise, at around 5:30-6 am. Then they will descend. Meanwhile, non-hikers will leave for Mt. Sinai after breakfast at the Sharm El-Sheikh hotel. All of us will visit St. Catherine's Monastery and its famous icons at the base of Mt. Sinai. In the afternoon, our bus will return us all to Sharm El-Sheikh to fly to Cairo for an early night.

*Hotel: Steigenberger Hotel El Tahrir, Cairo [Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included]*

**Day 9: Saturday, February 24, 2024 – Old Cairo - Islamic Cairo**  
**[Guide, Bus]**

In the morning, we learn about conservation in **Old Cairo** with the Agha Khan Foundation, and we visit newly opened, recently rehabilitated sites, including ancient mosques and houses. After lunch we visit the **Citadel Salah Eldin** and **Mohamed Ali mosque**. We tour a **local music school** for kids in an under-privileged community and learn about how music has helped transform the neighborhood. We also meet with a **Henna artist**, learn about its importance for Egyptians, and get a chance to get some henna on our hands

This evening, enjoy a Sufi performance. What a day!

*Hotel: Steigenberger Hotel El Tahrir, Cairo [Breakfast & Lunch included]*





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**Day 10: Sunday, February 25, 2024 – Christian Cairo**  
**[Guide, Bus]**

This morning we head to the heart of Cairo to visit the **Coptic Quarter**, the **Hanging Church**, **Ben Ezra Synagogue**, and **Coptic Museum**. In the afternoon, visit the **Garbage Collectors City** (a Christian city) where we will meet a local guide from the Christian community and learn about their work in recycling and the Coptic and nondenominational churches in Egypt. This evening, join together for the farewell meal before departure the next day.

*Hotel: Steigenberger Hotel El Tahrir, Cairo [Breakfast and Dinner included]*

**Day 11: Monday, February 26, 2024 - Departure**  
**[Transfer only]**

Check out of your hotel and transfer to the airport for your departing flight.

*[Breakfast included]*

