

Egypt - Land of the Pharaohs

Thursday, February 29 - Monday, March 11, 2024

<u>Itinerary</u>

Day 1: Arrival - Thursday, February 29 [Guide, Bus]

Upon arrival in Cairo International Airport, you are greeted with Meet and Assist service to help you through the visa process. Together with your group, transfer to the hotel. This evening, join together for a Welcome dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Mena House [Dinner included]

Day 2: Cairo & Giza - Friday, March 1 [Guide, Bus]

This morning you visit a World wonder- the Great Pyramids of Giza, including views from a camel ride. Afterwards check out the Sphinx and other archaeological monuments in the area. Enjoy an authentic Egyptian lunch, then continue to the Sakkara pyramids to discuss Egypt's latest findings. Speaker TBD for the evening.

Overnight: Mena House [Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner included]

Day 3: Cairo & Luxor - Saturday, March 2 [Guide, Bus]

In the morning, visit the New Egyptian Museum or the GEM (pending grand opening). Afterwards, head to the airport for your flight to Luxor. There you visit the Karnak Temple, then enjoy plenty of time to explore the area. In the late afternoon, meet to tour the Luxor Temple in the stunning evening light.

Overnight: Private Nile Cruise [Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included]



Day 4: Luxor & the West Bank's Local Communities - Sunday, March 3 [*Guide, Bus*]

After breakfast, start the day with a visit to the Luxor Museum. Meet with an Egyptian Archaeologist at one of the archaeological sites. Next cross to the West Bank of the Nile and visit a local family - see their farm, learn how they bake bread, then sit down with them over lunch. Afterwards, visit a local art gallery and meet with an Egyptian artist.

Overnight: Private Nile Cruise [Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included]

Days 5-9: Sail from Luxor to Aswan - Monday, March 4 - Saturday, March 8 [*Guide, Bus*]

Cruise the Nile, stopping to visit the Valley of Kings, Ramsis V & VI tombs, Valley of Queens, explore the impressive Queen Nefertari tomb, Hatshepsut Temple, Edfu Temple, and Kom-Ombo Temple, among the other great sites of ancient Egypt. Disembark your cruise for a flight to and from Abu Simbel, the World Heritage site. There you visit a Nubian village and meet with a Nubian speaker before flying back to your cruise vessel for the evening. Tonight you are treated to a *felucca* ride.

Overnight: Private Nile Cruise [Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included]

Day 9: Aswan & Cairo - Sunday, March 9 [Guide, Bus]

After breakfast, disembark your ship in Aswan. Set off to visit the Temple of Philae and the High Dam. Then fly back to Cairo where your afternoon is spent at your leisure.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Cairo [Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included]

Day 10: Historic Cairo District - Off the Beaten Path - Monday, March 10 [*Guide, Bus*]

Today you tour the Garbage Collectors City, a Christian neighborhood in Cairo, and meet with a local representative to learn about their recycling program for all of Cairo.



Enjoy a private visit of Historic Cairo with the Agha Khan Foundation. Stop by a local music school to hear from the school staff about life in Historic Cairo.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Cairo [Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included]

Day 11: Old Cairo - Tuesday, March 11 [Guide, Bus]

Head to the heart of Cairo to visit the Coptic quarter, the Hanging Church, Ben Ezra Synagogue, and the Coptic Museum. After lunch stop by the Citadel Salah Eldin and Mohamed Ali mosque. Then explore the famous Khan El Khalil bazaar and walk through lively Moez Street. This evening, gather for a fun farewell dinner together & say goodbye to Egypt.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Cairo [Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included]

Day 12: Departure - Wednesday, March 12 [Guide, Bus]

Take your final look at the city before departing with the group as you transfer to the airport to board your flight home.