



MEJDI TOURS

Ancient & Modern Egypt

(Scheduled Group Departure)

Dates & Pricing:

February 13 - 23, 2025 (\$4,490 per person, + \$890 single room supplement)
Extension Tour: February 23-25, 2025 (\$945 per person, +\$250 single sup.)

October 15 - 25, 2025 (\$4,490 per person, + \$890 single supplement)
Extension Tour: October 25 - 27, 2025 (\$995 per person, +\$265 single sup.)

Feb 5-15, 2026 (\$4,890 per person, + \$950 single supplement)
Extension Tour: Feb 15-17, 2026 (\$1,040 per person, +\$280 single sup.)

Included:

- 10 nights' accommodation at the following hotels or similar (double occupancy): 4 nights Villa Belle Epoque Boutique Hotel, 2 nights Pavillion Hotel, 4 nights private Dahabiya
- 1 Egyptologist guide for 9 days
- 1 MEJDI expert throughout
- Meals listed in the itinerary: 10 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 6 dinners
- Private transportation throughout the trip
- Arrival assistance and transportation to the hotel on tour start date
- 2 domestic flights from Cairo to Luxor and Aswan to Cairo
- Entrance fees, site visits, and honorariums for speakers
- Water on bus throughout tour
- Dedicated pre-trip customer service and on-ground support

Not Included:

- International airfare
- Travel insurance - highly recommended
- Single occupancy supplement
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Customary tips for drivers, guides, and Nile cruise staff
- Porterage fees and gratuities at hotels and cruises
- Individual airport transfers outside of the group transfer
- Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section



MEJDI TOURS

Overview:

From ancient wonders to modern cities, uncover Egypt on a journey through its past and present. This trip takes you into one of the world's oldest civilizations by land, desert, and a private four-day Nile River cruise. You'll travel past the Great Pyramids of Giza and the country's many famed temples. Through MEJDI's established relationships, your Egypt experience is deepened by intimate discussions with professional historians, private meetings with local organizations, and shared meals with Egyptian families. This is Egypt as it was and as it is.

Itinerary:

Day 1: Arrival - Cairo

Arrive at Cairo International Airport. A representative with a MEJDI sign will meet you before passport control to assist with the visa process. Then meet your driver to transfer to the hotel. Enjoy a group welcome dinner this evening.

If arriving prior to the tour start date, individual arrival transfers and accommodations can be arranged upon request.

Hotel: Villa Belle Epoque Boutique Hotel, Cairo (dinner included)

Day 2: Pyramids and Grand Egyptian Museum

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then begin the day at the Great Pyramids of Giza with a camel ride and a solar boat ride. Visit the iconic Great Sphinx of Giza. After lunch, tour the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum and spend a couple of hours exploring its artifacts and treasures. Return to your for a free night out. Your guide will share recommendations in the area.

Hotel: Villa Belle Epoque Boutique Hotel, Cairo (breakfast and lunch included)

Day 3: Christian Cairo and Historic Cairo

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. This afternoon, explore Coptic Cairo, including the Hanging Church. Visit the Ben Ezra Synagogue, the Coptic Museum, and St. Samaan Church. Later, we will tour Manshiyat Naser with a local Christian resident. Known as "Garbage City," inhabitants at this underserved settlement outside of Cairo are trying to create a sustainable economy out of a garbage dump. Continue to Khan Al Khalili and Al-Moez st for a walking tour, shopping, and dinner.

This evening, meet with a **local social sciences expert** to hear about the 2011 **Tahrir Revolution**, part of the Arab Spring.

Hotel: Villa Belle Epoque Boutique Hotel, Cairo (breakfast and lunch included)



Day 4: Islamic Cairo and Luxor

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Take a private tour of historic Cairo and visit some of the recently rehabilitated mosques and sites. Take a group flight to Luxor that evening, and visit the Luxor Temple—beautifully lit up at night.

Hotel: Pavilion Hotel, Luxor (breakfast and lunch included)

Day 5: Luxor West Bank

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. We'll tour the West Bank, which includes the Valley of the Kings, Queen Hatshepsut temple and the giant Colossi of Memnon including Ramesses V and VI tombs. Enjoy a meeting with a local archaeologist to talk about Egypt's past and present archeology at one of the archaeological sites. For lunch, we visit with a local family to have a conversation about life in Luxor. Afterward, we explore a local art gallery and will meet with its curator or one of its artists. Enjoy dinner on your own this evening.

**Optional Day 5 add-ons:*

- *Visit to the Valley of Queens and Nefertiti's Tomb, known as one of the best preserved and decorated in Egypt (\$80 USD per person).*
- *Take a hot-air balloon ride over Luxor (\$150 USD per person).*

Hotel: Pavilion Hotel, Luxor (breakfast and lunch included)

Days 6-9: Sailing on a Private Nile Cruise

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. This morning, we visit Karnak Temple, one of the most significant and extensive religious sites in ancient Egypt and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We'll then board our private Nile Cruise, called a "Dahabiya." Derived from the Arabic word "Dahab," which means gold, it reflects historical opulence and luxury associated with these elegant sailboats dating back to the 19th century.

Sites visited include:

- The Edfu Temple — the largest temple dedicated to Horus and Hathor of Dendera
- The Kom Ombo Temple — a unique temple that has a 'double' design for two sets of gods built by the Ptolemies.
- One of the small islands on the Nile
- The High Dam, which created Lake Nasser
- Temple of Philae, an ancient Egyptian temple complex located on Agilkia Island dedicated to the goddess Isis. The temple was originally situated on the island of Philae and was relocated due to the construction of the Aswan High Dam.
- A local Nubian village
- The Tombs of the Nobles and Elephantine Island as seen during a Felucca ride

Hotel: Dahabiya Cruise, Aswan (daily breakfast, lunch, and dinner included)



Day 10: Abu Simbel

Enjoy a buffet breakfast at the hotel. For those who want to rise early, there is the opportunity for an optional tour to Abu Simbel, which is accessible by a 3.5-hour drive. Your guide is available to arrange transportation and provide guiding service for those who wish to make the journey to the magnificent rock-cut temples that were originally carved out of the mountainside during the reign of Pharaoh Ramesses II in the 13th century BCE. If you prefer, you can speak to our sales team or your guide about a return flight. In the afternoon, transfer to Aswan Airport for your flight to Cairo. Tonight, stay at a hotel near the airport and enjoy a final group dinner before your departure tomorrow.

**Optional day 10 add-on: Take a flight to Abu Simbel instead of driving (cost approximately \$250-300 USD).*

Hotel: Villa Belle Epoque Boutique Hotel, Cairo (breakfast and dinner included)

Day 11: Departure or depart for Alexandria Extension Tour

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. before your departure transfer to Cairo Airport. If you are planning to stay longer our sales team can arrange additional accommodation and individual departure transfers.

Hotel: N/A (breakfast included)



MEJDI TOURS

Optional Extension

Alexandria

Included: 2 nights' accommodation at the following hotels or similar (double occupancy):

- Helnan Palace Hotel, Alexandria - standard rooms

1 Egyptologist guide for 2 days

Meals listed in the itinerary: 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches

Private transportation throughout the trip, including one group private departure airport transfer

Entrance fees and site visits

Water on bus throughout tour

Dedicated pre-trip customer service and on-ground support

Not

included: International airfare

Travel insurance - highly recommended

Single occupancy supplement

Meals not mentioned in the itinerary

Customary tips for drivers and guides

Porterage fees and gratuities at hotels

Individual airport transfers outside of the group transfer

Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

Tour Cost: \$745 per person (minimum of 4 travelers)



Itinerary:

Day 1: Start of Extension

Your journey continues along the Cairo–Alexandria road after breakfast, stopping in Wadi El Natrun. This area became a sanctuary for Christians after Saint Macarius the Great retreated here in AD360, and there were once some 60-odd monasteries in the Wadi though now only four remain. One of these is Anba Bishoy Monastery, named for Saint Bishoi who came to the site to live in solitude. Take a wander around the gardens and observe the resident monks as they go about their daily lives, then visit the church itself for expansive views over the desert. Continue this afternoon to the city of Alexandria, which was founded by Alexander the Great and is often referred to as the Pearl of the Mediterranean. Enjoy your evening at leisure.

Hotel: Helnan Hotel or Similar, Alexandria (lunch included)

Day 2: Alexandria

Enjoy a full day exploring Alexandria, Egypt's second-largest city. Visit Pompey's Pillar and the Catacombs of Kom El Shuqafa, a Roman burial site dating back to the 2nd century that wasn't discovered until 1900, allegedly when a donkey fell through a hole in the ground. The fascinating tombs were created during a transitional period in Alexandria's history and interestingly feature Greek, Egyptian, and Roman elements. Continue to the Great Library of Alexandria (now the Bibliotheca Alexandrina), which is where archaeologists believe the Library of Ptolemies once stood some 1700 years ago. Finish up with a stop at the Montazah Palace and Royal Gardens, a complex featuring beautifully maintained gardens and two royal palaces built during the 19th and 20th centuries. Spend the evening by the water wandering along The Corniche or relax back at your hotel.

Hotel: Helnan Hotel or Similar, Alexandria (breakfast and lunch included)

Day 3: Departure

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and transfer to the Alexandria airport for your departure flight or return to Cairo (one group transfer arranged in the morning).

Hotel: N/A (breakfast included)