



**CAPTIVATING
EGYPT** 

Custom Egypt Tour

Cairo, Aswan, Abu Simbel, Luxor with Nile Cruise

9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS

Hotel Category 5* Hotels & 5* Nile cruise



DAY 1 (Friday) Arrive CAIRO

Welcome to Cairo, the second largest city on the African continent! Our representative will meet you and provide assistance with custom procedures at Cairo International Airport. You will then be comfortably transferred to your hotel.

Overnight Steignberger Pyramids Hotel or similar
No meals

DAY 2 (Saturday) CAIRO (The Pyramids, Saqqara) + Fly to Aswan

This morning we visit the Pyramids and Sphinx. Built around four and a half thousand years ago, the **Pyramids** are the only monuments of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World which are largely intact today. We include the opportunity to climb up inside the Great Pyramid to the **burial chamber** of King Cheops. Later this morning we see the enigmatic **Sphinx** (optional camel ride at the Pyramids). This afternoon we visit the Old Kingdom burial site of **Saqqara** and go inside the **Step Pyramid of King Zoser** which has been opened for visitors at the beginning of 2020, constructed in 2648 BC. At Saqqara we explore the 4,300-year-old **Tomb of Mehu** which was discovered in the 1940s but only opened to the public in December 2018, after extensive restoration, Imhotep Museum the greatest engineer ever and serapeum, it was a burial place of Apis bulls. This afternoon we fly from Cairo to **Aswan**, deep in the south of Egypt, where the graceful Felucca sailboats glide among the islands of the Nile.

First of 2 nights in Movenpick Resort Aswan or similar
Breakfast & Lunch



DAY 3 (Sunday) Philae Temple + Nubian Village By Felucca

This morning we take a **motorboat** out across a lake for a guided tour of the beautiful island **Temple of Philae**. From the very earliest times, Aswan has been the source of a special pink granite used in statues for thousands of years. This afternoon we take a **Felucca ride** to visit the local **Nubian people** to see how the ordinary people of today's Egypt live in their simple villages.

Second of 2 nights in Movenpick Resort Aswan or similar
Breakfast



DAY 4 (Monday) Included Trip to the Massive Temple Rock Abu Simbel - Nile Cruise

This morning we get up early and drive from Aswan through the desert to **Abu Simbel**. At Abu Simbel, we see two huge temples which were built in the 13th Century B.C. and dedicated to **Ramses II** and his favourite wife, Nefertari. The four enormous seated statues of Ramses are among the most famous images of ancient Egypt. The interior of the Ramses temple is also fascinating, being decorated with images of the Battle of Kadesh fought between the Egyptians and the Hittites of what today is Turkey in 1274 BC. The two temples are carved out of the solid hillside and so the task of cutting them up, moving them piece by piece and reassembling them in the 1960s is considered one of the marvels of modern engineering. We drive back to Aswan and board our luxurious cruise ship in time for lunch. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to relax by the Nile or explore Aswan's lively markets.

**First of 3 nights on our 5-Star cruise ship
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

DAY 5 (Tuesday) Nile Cruise + KomOmbo Temple + Edfu Temple

Leaving Aswan early this morning, we make our way down the Nile to the famous temple of **KomOmbo**. This is an unusual temple in that it is dedicated to two Egyptian gods - Horus the falcon god and Sobek the crocodile god. One interesting frieze shows ancient birthing and other medical techniques. Our guided tour also includes the **Nilometer**, a well-like structure used to measure the bounty of the Nile and as a way of setting tax levels. Reboarding our cruise ship we set sail again, enjoying breakfast and lunch as we glide by the riverbank villages that have changed very little since Pharaonic times. This afternoon we take **horse-drawn carriages** for a guided tour of the gigantic **Temple of Edfu**, the most perfectly-preserved temple in Egypt. Although built by the Greek-speaking Ptolemies between 237 BC and 57 AD, the temple building and decorations are in the ancient Egyptian style. This evening we pass through the **locks at Esna** and continue **cruising down the Nile**, with the lights of the villages twinkling all around us, to Luxor.

**Second of 3 nights on our 5-Star cruise ship
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

DAY 6 (Wednesday) Valley of the Kings + Queen Hatshepsut Temple

Starting out early this morning, we travel across the Nile to the **West Bank**, the location of the tombs of the great pharaohs of the New Kingdom. We take a guided tour of several of the most important tombs in the **Valley of the Kings**, including the **Tomb of Tutankhamun** – which caused a worldwide sensation in 1922 when it was discovered by archaeologist **Howard Carter**. We also have a guided tour of the funerary temple of the first woman to rule as a pharaoh, **Queen Hatshepsut**. Some of the most interesting **painted scenes** in the temple are of a trading expedition she mounted to the Land of Punt on the Red Sea coast. On our way back to the Nile we stop to view the gigantic **Colossi of Memnon** statues, where new excavations have discovered the remains of vast funeral temples. We return to our cruise ship for lunch.

**Third of 3 nights on our 5-star cruise ship
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**



DAY 7 (Thursday) HOT AIR BALLOON + Karnak + Luxor Temple

This morning we have a guided tour of the **Temple of Karnak**. This is a vast complex of buildings added to and rebuilt over thirteen centuries but reaching its apex during the New Kingdom period when the capital of Egypt was located in **Thebes** (today's Luxor) and the temple's main god, Amun-Ra, was made the state god. One of the most impressive sections of the temple is the **Great Hypostyle Hall** with its 137 huge columns.

After our sightseeing we transfer to our hotel in Luxor.

This evening we have a guided tour of **Luxor Temple** by night. As with most Egyptian temples, this temple is really a series of buildings begun by one pharaoh (in this case the 13th century BC Pharaoh Amenhotep III) and added to by several subsequent rulers.

Overnight in Luxor Steigenberger Nile Palace Hotel or similar
Breakfast

DAY 8 (Friday) Fly to Cairo & Egyptian Museum + Old Cairo Tour



This morning we arrive to Cairo and visit the **Egyptian Museum** with its collection of thousands of priceless artifacts from Ancient Egypt. Of course, the most famous pieces in the museum are those which were found in the tomb of the boy king **Tutankhamun**, including his solid gold death mask. Later this morning we visit **Old Cairo** (also known as **Coptic Cairo**) where we explore the narrow streets and visit some of the Coptic (Egyptian Orthodox) churches found within the city walls. One of these churches, El Muallaqa (the "**Hanging Church**"), was constructed into the walls of the Roman fortress of Babylon. Another of the churches, **Saint Sergius**, is reputed to be built over a cave where the Holy Family rested during their flight to Egypt.

We will then go to the famous "Street of the Tentmakers" and then Kheymiya Market and end our day in the old walled section of Cairo.

Overnight in Cairo Sheraton Cairo Hotel or similar
Breakfast

DAY 9 (Saturday) Fly Cairo - Home

It's time to bid farewell to beautiful Egypt. Escorted transfer to Cairo International Airport for the final departure will be provided.

Breakfast



TOUR INCLUDES:

Accommodations in 5-Star hotels in Egypt, where we stay at the best available hotel. All our hotels have in-suite bathrooms.

- ✓ 3 nights on our Deluxe Nile cruise ship.
- ✓ Land and water transport by coach, motor boat, cruise ship, horse-drawn carriage, and ferry.
- ✓ Flights: Cairo – Aswan and Luxor – Cairo.
- ✓ Sightseeing and entrance fees as mentioned in the itinerary.
- ✓ All tips for group activities **EXCEPT** for your tour leader/guide.
- ✓ All the tour itinerary mentioned meals.
- ✓ Porterage for one piece of luggage per person. Please make sure your luggage has wheels so you can move your own luggage for short distances when necessary.
- ✓ Unlimited bottled water while travelling on our buses. Water at the hotels and on the cruise ship is as provided by them according to their own policies.
- ✓ Arrival & departure transfers.
- ✓ Entry fee to go inside the great Pyramid of Giza.
- ✓ Entry fee to visit Meho's tomb at Saqqara + Serapeum + Imhotep Museum + going inside the step Pyramid.
- ✓ Entry fee to visit King Tut at the Valley of the Kings.
- ✓ Abu Simbel Temple Tour.
- ✓ Hot Air Balloon in Luxor.

NOT INCLUDED:

- X Visa fee. American passport holders require a visa for Egypt (currently \$25/person. Your passport must be valid for 6 months beyond the date you leave Egypt.
- X Trip Cancellation / Interruption and Medical Insurance. Please buy this yourself before leaving home.
- X Personal Expenses such as souvenirs, laundry, all drinks at meals.
- X International flights.
- X **Egyptologist guide gratuity of \$25.00 per person/day.**

SINGLE TRAVELERS: Our price is based on two people sharing a room. If you wish to be **guaranteed** a single room, there is a Single Supplement. **The number of Single rooms is very limited.** To have a chance of a Single room, you must book early.

Offered Hotels& Nile Cruise OR SIMILAR (Standard Room):

Based on availability by time of booking

Destinations	5*Hotels & 5* Nile Cruise	Category	No. of Nights
Cairo	Steignberger Pyramids Hotel or similar	B.B Pyramids view premium Room	1 Night
Cairo	Sheraton Cairo Hotel or similar	B.B Standard room	1 Night
Aswan	Movenpick Resort Aswan or similar	B.B Standard Room	2 Nights
Luxor	Steignberger Nile palace Luxor or similar	B.B Standard Room	1 Night
5* Nile Cruise	5*Deluxe Nile Cruise " The exact boat name will be according to availability on the day of the booking"	Standard Cabin Full board	3 Nights

SPECIAL NOTES:

Please consult your local travel health clinic about any immunizations you may need.

This tour not suitable for those people who need walking/mobility assistance in the form of walking sticks or canes, as we walk on a lot of uneven surfaces.

The timing of our excursions from our cruise ship is dependent on sailing conditions and the number of other cruise ships visiting the sites when we wish to visit.