

# Pharaohs Adventure - 6 days

# go guide

don't leave home without it



A World Of Discovery



A compact breakaway that showcases the very best of ancient Egypt. Taking in the major highlights of Cairo and Luxor. From the legendary Pyramids of Giza and Egyptian Museum, to the tomb strewn Valley of the Kings in Luxor.



## WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET

### Trip Highlights

- Cairo - Pyramids & Sphinx at Giza Plateau
- Necropolis of Saqqara
- Egyptian Museum
- Luxor - Temple of Karnak
- Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut

### What's Included

- Breakfast daily
- 3 nights 4 - 5 star hotels
- 2 nights train: Cairo - Luxor - Cairo (seater train). Upgrade possible!
- Touring of Cairo, Giza, Saqqara and Luxor
- Airport arrival and departure transfer day 1 and day 6
- Egyptian tour leader/guide degree qualified in Egyptology

- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: \$25-40 USD
- Entrance Fees: \$60-80 USD
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow \$3 - 5 USD per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

## DETAILED ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Cairo

Tuesday. Welcome to Egypt and the start of your holiday! Arrival at Cairo Airport, you will be met by a representative from on the go. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative. Cairo International Airport can appear to be a little chaotic to the uninitiated. This is normal! Upon exiting the airport you will be escorted to our awaiting transportation and transferred to your hotel. Here, your Egyptian adventure begins!

For those arriving a day or two earlier than day one of the tour, one of our team will be on hand to advise on where best to enjoy your extra time in Cairo in advance of the tour commencing. Day One is designed to be an arrival day for all passengers, so there are no formal arrangements on this first day. **Overnight - Cairo**

### Day 2 : Pyramids of Giza & Saqqara

Cairo – Luxor. After a good nights rest, we have a full day of touring planned for today. You'll need to have your bags packed as we'll be travelling down to Luxor in southern Egypt tonight.

Our first stop this morning is the famous pyramids and lion-headed Sphinx at Giza Plateau. Sole survivors from the ancient Greeklisted Seven Wonders of the World, the pyramids are the planet's oldest tourist attraction! Known as Cheops, Chephren and Mycerinus, the pyramids were already more than 2,000 years old when Herodotus

the Greek historian visited them (5th century BC). A highly skilled corps of mathematicians, masons, surveyors and stonecutters did the job of building the Pyramids. 100,000 slaves were used to carry out the backbreaking task of moving and laying the stones of the largest pyramid-Cheops. About 2.5 million limestone blocks, quarried locally and weighing in excess of 6 million tonnes, were used in the construction of Cheops. Leaving the Pyramids of Giza, we'll sometimes drop into a Government supervised papyrus emporium. Here, you can buy genuine papyrus at quite reasonable prices.

Continuing to the necropolis of Saqqara, we can explore the myriad tombs and temples at this site and see Zoser's step pyramid- constructed by Imhotep, the pharaoh's chief architect in 2700 BC! We later journey to Luxor by overnight seater train. An option to upgrade to sleeper train cabin is available, please see our webiste or brochure for details. **Overnight - Train (B)**

### Day 3 : Luxor



Luxor. Arrive and check into our hotel. Home of the legendary Valley of the Kings and Temple of Karnak, 4000 year-old Luxor is ancient Egypt at it's best. Enjoy some rest and relaxation. Tonight, an optional visit is available to the Temple of Luxor. The excursion is payable locally. The Luxor Temple, a strikingly graceful piece of architecture built by the New Kingdom pharaoh Amenophis III, was originally joined to Karnak by an avenue of sphinxes. The temple comprises a striking array of great halls, courts and colonnades decorated with colossal statues of great pharaohs

## Pharaohs Adventure - 6 days

updated on 13-01-2012

www.onthegotours.com  
uk 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
aus 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
nz 0800 44 77 69 can 1 866 890 7038  
usa 1 866 377 6147 sa 0800 982 686

This Go Guide has been compiled with care and good faith. It gives an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. This document does not form part of a contract between the traveller and on the go and their affiliates. Any costs shown are subject to change though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of on the go



including Ramses II and splendid columns. An obelisk, one of a pair, remains at the temple. Its towering counterpart now stands in the Place de la Concorde in Paris, France. Visiting at night makes for a cooler visit weather-wise, though more importantly the temple is beautifully illuminated with powerful lights, making a visit all the more evocative as the artificial light creates an eerie spectacle as shadow and light play off the colossal statues and reliefs. For those not opting for the optional excursion, there is time to relax and go have something to eat. As we have an early start tomorrow, you might want to retire early-but if you have energy; there are plenty of bars and late night entertainment available at all the big hotels.  
**Overnight - Luxor (B)**

## Day 4 : Valley of the Kings

Luxor - Cairo. An early start allows us to avoid some of the fierce heat as we venture to the awesome Valley of the Kings. Sightseeing on the West Bank is far more enjoyable if undertaken in the cooler temperatures of the morning. After breakfast, we meet at reception early before our drive to the mighty West Bank. Even in the morning, the temperatures start to increase at the Valley of the Kings. For this reason we suggest that you take a large bottle of drinking water to satiate your inevitable thirst. Stopping to buy tickets for the attractions of the West Bank, we proceed to the Valley of the Kings. The first monument you'll see on the West Bank is the imposing 18m-high Colossi of Memnon, which represent the remains of the temple of the hedonistic Amenophis III. Further highlights include the legendary Valley of the Kings and the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.

The Valley of the Kings is studded with often highly decorated tombs. Attempting to confound thieves and graverobbers, the New Kingdom pharaohs awaiting their passage into the after-life were secretly entombed with their worldly wealth in the cliffs of the valley. The cliffs, bereft of vegetation are home to a vast necropolis of tombs, some of which you can enter and visit. Some of the tombs are so well preserved; the colors of some of the incredible pharaonic friezes are still as vibrantly coloured as when first painted. Some of the best known tombs are those of Ramses II, Seti I, Amenhotep II and of course, the tomb of King Tutankhamen. Discovered intact in 1922 by Howard Carter, it represented possibly one of the most dazzling archaeological finds ever.

King Tutankhamen's solid gold funerary mask and his priceless cache of treasures entombed with him for his journey to the afterlife, are now on display at the world famous Egyptian Museum in Cairo.

In all, more than 60 tombs have been excavated, though possibly the greatest find since the tomb of King Tutankhamen, is that of the largest tomb believed to be the burial place of more than 50 sons of Ramses II. So far more than 110 chambers and corridors have been discovered, coupled with 4 mummies. It'll be a few years yet before the tomb is open. Its proof though that the ancient Egyptian's are still confounding us!

Beyond the Valley of the Kings is Deir al-Bahri, otherwise known as the famous Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. Rising out of the desert plain, in a series of terraces partly rock-cut, partly freestanding, it is one of Egypt's finest and most photographed monuments. Hatshepsut, the 3rd Queen ever to rule ancient Egypt eventually declared herself pharaoh! We return to the east bank around midday, where we have a chance to relax awhile. Meeting up mid afternoon, we visit the colossal Temple of Karnak.

More than a temple, Karnak is a spectacular complex of sanctuaries, pylons, chapels, halls and obelisks, all dedicated to the Theban gods and to the greater glory of Egypt's Middle and New Kingdom rulers. Gigantic in proportion, at over 1.5km by 800m and the fact that almost every pharaoh left his (or her) mark here with evolving artistic and architectural styles, wandering through the temple is one of the highlights of a visit to Egypt. The further into the complex you venture the further back in time you go. See it for yourself in full technicolour. Later this evening, we return to Cairo by train. Do purchase some water and snacks for the journey ahead of our departure to the railway station. **Overnight - Train (B)**

## Day 5 : Egyptian Museum



Cairo. Arrive Cairo. Afternoon guided visit to the Egyptian Museum. A mind-boggling array of relics and antiquities from almost every period of ancient Egyptian history are housed in the museum, making it one of the foremost in the world. Arguably the most famous exhibit is the solid gold funerary mask of King Tutankhamen. Made of solid gold and weighing 11kg, the mask was found covering the head of mummy, where it lay inside a series of 3 sarcophagi. Opt to see also the Royal Mummies, if you wish. Remainder of the day free to relax, shop and explore Cairo - Africa's largest city. Perhaps head to Khan el-Khalili bazaar and pick up a few souvenirs. An optional Cairo city tour is also available locally. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

## Day 6 : Cairo

Sunday. Cairo. Hotel check out and included onward transfer to airport.(B)

### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

#### Visas

Visas are required by all visitors to Egypt. Visa forms are available from us. The Embassy of

Egypt advises all travellers to procure their visa prior to entry into Egypt. However it still remains possible for nationals of some countries to procure their tourist visa upon arrival at Cairo International Airport.

Please note that in the event of visa refusal at port of entry, on the go cannot be held responsible.

All RSA passport holders must procure their Egyptian visa prior to departure.

When filling in an Egyptian visa form, you will be asked to provide your address in Egypt. For the purposes of this form, please use the following address: 68 Merghany St, Abou Ghaly Building Heliopolis, Cairo. Telephone: +2 02 241821 65

If your holiday incorporates a stay in Jordan, followed by further arrangements in Egypt (ie you travel to Jordan and then return to Egypt) you will need to procure a Multiple Entry Egyptian Tourist Visa that is only available before travelling to Egypt.

Please note that visa requirements are subject to change. Visa procurement is solely the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go Tours.

If travelling with us from Egypt to Jordan via Aqaba Seaport (the Jordanian port of entry if arriving from Egypt) a Jordanian Tourist Visa is obtainable upon arrival, free of charge for UK, EU, AUS, NZ, CAN and USA passport holders. For all other nationalities please check with your local Jordanian Embassy. On departure from Jordan, via land or sea, a 5JD departure tax of is applied to all visitors.

#### Etiquette

Despite the inevitable ups and downs of travelling abroad, you will generally be shown great hospitality in Egypt. In return, please demonstrate sensitivity and respect for the local customs. Egypt is a Muslim country; so care should be taken to dress respectfully in large cities and towns, for example, when at markets and in public places.

- Ladies should avoid wearing 'clingy, tight or suggestive' attire, and stick to cool, flowing, cottons in busy city areas and markets
- Take care to dress conservatively and ensure that limbs are covered and remove footwear prior to entering a mosque.
- Ex-military style clothing should not be worn
- Ask permission before taking photographs of people.
- Beach attire is fine on board felucca cruises, at beach resorts or touristic areas i.e. at the Pyramids.
- Particular respect should be shown to Muslim women.
- The standard form of greeting is a handshake. Men and women do not kiss at any time as a form of greeting.

#### Mosques, Religion & Ramadan

90% of the population are Muslim. Others are Coptic Christians or followers of other faiths. All mosques (with the exception of Sayyida Zeinab



and Al-Hussein in Cairo) are open to non-Muslims but cannot be visited during prayer times. For Egypt's best mosques, go to Islamic Cairo. Dress conservatively. Ensure limbs are covered and shoes removed when entering any Mosque. Men must refrain from wearing shorts, as must women.

### RAMADAN

Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world and adherents of the Muslim faith fast during daylight hours and break their fast with lavish meals and lively celebrations in the evening. Ramadan culminates a month later in a 3 day celebration called Eid al - Fitr. Many shops (excluding those which cater mainly to tourists) and attractions close earlier during Ramadan. As such we will start our tour earlier during this period to make the best use of time, leisure time will be offered in the late afternoon. Note: Traffic is exceptionally heavy during Ramadan, especially toward the time of breaking the fast.. Forthcoming Ramadan dates are as follows, (approximate) - 21 July - 20 August 2012  
09 July - 07 August 2013

Many shops (excluding those which cater mainly to tourists) and attractions close earlier during Ramadan, so our itinerary is slightly altered to ensure we visit all itinerary attractions. Non Muslims are not expected to fast over Ramadan, but it is considered impolite to eat food or drink on the street. Ramadan

### Trouble Shooting

These things will most likely never happen, but it's good to be prepared if they ever do. Here are a few tips to keep your trip hassle-free. Egypt is no worse than anywhere else when it comes to crime. The biggest problem seems to be petty theft, including pick-pocketing and bag snatching. Minimise your chances of being robbed with these tips:

- Leave valuables in the hotel safe deposit or better still, at home
- Carry your passport on your person or a photocopy as ID
- Carry your bag close to your person rather than over your shoulder
- Travel in a group or pair, especially if you are female
- Don't catch cabs late at night on your own
- Never drink anything offered to you in the street, unless you opened it yourself

Please note On The Go Tours will not be held liable for loss or damage to personal property under any circumstances.

### It's not like home

Travel to far - flung corners of the earth involves lifestyles and conditions that are sometimes very different from what you are used to back home. You must come prepared to cope with unusual situations, local inadequacies and unpredictable events as and when they occur. Foreign travel is definitely not suitable for people who expect or demand everything to go exactly as planned. With the greatest respect and in the interest of

your ultimate enjoyment you must understand this. Things can and do change in foreign countries.

### Climate

Temperatures in Egypt are generally high (25 - 30 degrees) and even hotter in the summer months from May to September, when the sun can be fierce and temperatures soar, so pack light comfortable clothing, sunscreen and a hat.

In Cairo and the Nile Delta region, winter (October to February) can be cooler - so take a jacket, long-sleeved tops and trousers for the cooler evenings. The south remains warm during this time but again, temperatures do drop in the evenings. Rainfall is negligible with the most falling along Egypt's Mediterranean coastline.

### Health Requirements

It is recommended that you be vaccinated for Tetanus and Polio, if you haven't had a booster in the last ten years. Food and waterborne diseases are more common, so we recommend vaccinations for typhoid (valid 3 years) and Hepatitis A (validity varies). Vaccination requirements can change so please check with your local health care provider before travel.

### Currency

Egyptian Pounds (EGP or LE). Pounds Sterling, US Dollars and Euros are easily exchanged. You can obtain Egyptian Pounds (LE) at any major bank or your hotel. Exchange rates are subject to fluctuations.

- USD 1 = EGP 6.0
- GBP 1 = EGP 9.3
- AUD 1 = EGP 6.0
- EURO 1 = EGP 7.70

### Holiday Money

All funds collected in Egypt for entrance fees or optional excursion that you may wish to undertake are payable in local currency (EGP).

### Time

Egypt is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)

### Essential Packing

- Sleeping bag for the felucca or for camping in the White Desert (if applicable to your tour).
- Lightweight cotton garments.
- Comfortable walking shoes for the Pyramids and Valley of the Kings Pack flip flops/thongs/jandals to wear aboard the Nile felucca or Nile Cruiser
- DEET based mosquito repellent & antihistamine cream
- 2 pin, European electrical adaptor.
- Two spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch
- Neck pillow, sleeping bag and eye mask, if travelling on the overnight seater train.

- Sleep sheet or sleeping bag if travelling with us to Jordan and staying at our Wadi Rum camp.

If doing a felucca cruise, undertaking the Mt Sinai excursion in Dahab or travelling between November and March, pack warm clothes (i.e. - fleece, jacket, trousers, jeans, hat and scarf) as temperatures plummet at night. Due to sometimes icy conditions at the summit of Mt Sinai, hiking boots and thermal clothing are a sensible consideration if undertaking the optional climb in winter (November - March).

### Arrival Transfers

A complimentary airport arrival transfer is included in your tour. Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative from On The Go Tours either just before immigration or in the baggage hall near the luggage belt of your respective arriving flight. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative. Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative. After collecting your luggage you will be escorted to our awaiting transportation.

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes in the arrival hall) or your flight to Egypt is delayed, please call or send a text message to the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

### Travelling by overnight train

SEATER TRAIN: On many of our group tours journeying south from Cairo to Aswan and/or Luxor, we utilise the overnight SEATER train service. This style of train offer basic and a modest level of comfort. Seating is reserved in air-conditioned Nefertiti Class or 1st Class Reserved seater wagons. Nefertiti style seats are located within 6 person, semi enclosed cabins. Whilst seats don't recline, the lights can be switched off inside your cabin. While 1st Class Reserved wagons are open, lights can not be turned off though the seats are wide and do recline. It is suggested you bring some ear plugs and also an eye mask for personal comfort. A neck pillow is also good idea, for a little added comfort. Rest rooms (which are very basic in standard) are located at the end of each wagon.

It is possible to upgrade to a sleeper cabin, reservations need to be made PRIOR to departure. Please ask your reservation consultant for more information.

Occasionally, the Nefertiti Class and the 1st Class Reserve train service are cancelled, in which case we would need to revert to a sleeper service at an additional cost to the passenger. You would be advised in Egypt, as although this occurrence is rare, there would be little notice offered.

SLEEPER TRAIN SERVICE, SLEEPER CABIN UPGRADE: On our Jewel of the Nile and Family tours we include the Sleeper Cabin Train as part of your journey. If you book our SLEEPER TRAIN UPGRADE this is also the service that you will be travelling on. Sleeper Train Cabins are equipped with 2 bunk beds with linen provided. Cabins are

## Pharaohs Adventure - 6 days



lockable, A/C and lighting are also controlled from the inside. Each cabin has a washbasin and small towel and western style bathrooms are located at the end of the carriage. Dinner and breakfast (of an average standard) are served throughout the journey.

---

## Pharaohs Adventure - 6 days

updated on 13-01-2012

www.onthegotours.com  
uk 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
aus 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
nz 0800 44 77 69 can 1 866 890 7038  
usa 1 866 377 6147 sa 0800 982 686

This Go Guide has been compiled with care and good faith. It gives an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. This document does not form part of a contract between the traveller and on the go and their affiliates. Any costs shown are subject to change though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of on the go