Egypt & Gallipoli for ANZAC Day 2023
13 days | Cairo to Istanbul

ANZAC Day Gallipoli 2023. Starts: 14th April. Combine the wonders of ancient Egypt with ANZAC Day in Turkey in 13 days. From the legendary Pyramids of Giza, Nubian Aswan and Luxor’s tomb strewn Valley of the Kings, to Istanbul’s enchanting Old Town and the Gallipoli Peninsula. End your adventure with the ANZAC Eve vigil and evocative Dawn Service.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS
Trip Highlights
• Cairo – gaze in awe at the ancient Pyramids of Giza, explore the Necropolis of Saqqara and see King Tut’s treasures at the new Egyptian Museum
• Aswan – Take a leisurely boat trip to Agilkia Island to explore Romantic Philae Temple and wander around the colourful souqs
• Nile felucca cruising – Sail the River Nile on board a traditional felucca and spend two nights sleeping under a blanket of stars (or upgrade to a 5 star Nile Cruise)
• Kom Ombo – Visit the Nile side Temple of Kom Ombo
• Istanbul – Independently explore this captivating city, home to the iconic Blue Mosque and the bustling Grand Bazaar
• Luxor – roam around the colossal Temple of Karnak and take an optional tour of the beautifully illuminated Luxor Temple at night
• Gallipoli Peninsula – Pay your respects at the Lone Pine or Chunuk Bair memorial site
• Luxor West Bank – discover exquisite tombs in the Valley of the Kings, the towering Colossi of Memnon and the beautiful Temple of Queen Hatshepsut
• ANZAC Service Site – Attend the ANZAC eve vigil on the Gallipoli Peninsula and commemorate at the Dawn Service
• The Bosphorus Strait – Cruise the Bosphorus, taking in views of the city skyline, Ottoman architecture and waterside palaces

What’s Included
• 11 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
• 7 nights 4-5 star hotels, 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck). If booking our Nile Cruise Upgrader: 6 nights 4-5 star hotels and 3 nights 5 star Nile Cruiser (en suite cabin)
• 2 overnight trains from Cairo to Aswan and Luxor to Cairo (Private 2 berth sleeper cabin)
• 1 night at the Dawn Service site
• Cairo airport arrival and departure transfers on day 1 and day 10. Istanbul International Airport arrival transfer on day 10 at any time of day or from Sabiha Gokcen Airport at 11am and 3pm – you must provide your flight details from Cairo
• Egypt – guided sightseeing in Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan and Luxor
• Morning Cruise along the Bosphorus in Istanbul
• Escorted by an degree qualified Egyptologist in Egypt. Services of an English speaking tour organiser in Turkey
• All relevant transfers and transportation in modern air-conditioned touring coaches/vehicles

What’s Not Included
• Tipping Kitty: USD$55-75pp to be paid locally
• Entrance Fees: USD$90-110pp to be paid locally
• Flight from Cairo to Istanbul, all other international flights and visas
• Tip for your tour guide in Egypt – we recommend you allow $3 – 5 USD per day, per traveller. Tip for your tour
organiser and driver in Turkey: we recommend you budget USD $3 - 5 per day, per traveller for your tour organiser and USD $2 per day, per traveller for your driver. These tips are an entirely personal gesture • Attendance Pass for ANZAC. Please see the Trip Notes for information on how to obtain your attendance pass - these are free of charge but need to be registered for in advance.

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1 : Cairo**
Fri 14 April 2023. Welcome to Egypt. Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is free to relax by the hotel pool, or those arriving early, opt to join our unique Backstreets tour of Cairo which departs the hotel at 10am today. This optional tour takes you off the beaten track in Egypt’s bustling capital, visiting Downtown Cairo, the exquisite mosques and monuments of El Moez Street in Islamic Cairo.

At 7pm this evening meet your guide and the rest of the group at a Welcome Meeting.

Note: If you would like to extend your stay we offer an Alexandria Day Trip on the Saturday before your tour starts, and we can arrange pre tour accommodation for you. **Overnight - Cairo**

**Day 2 : Pyramids of Giza**

Discover Egypt’s main attraction today as we visit the incredible Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx. The largest of the pyramids, Cheops, was the tallest man-made building on Earth for 3,800 years. Experts still can’t agree how the ancient Egyptians constructed the pyramids with their limited technology - it remains a mystery. We then enjoy a short stop at a government supervised papyrus emporium before continuing to the necropolis of Saqqara, home to Zhoser’s Step Pyramid. This ancient monument dates back to around 2700BC and is surrounded by countless tombs and burial sites. After our tour, we return to Cairo for the evening. **Overnight - Cairo**

**Day 3 : Grand Egyptian Museum**

Cairo – Aswan. Today we visit the new Grand Egyptian Museum, which houses a giant exhibition containing the treasures of King Tutankhamun. In this incredible 490,000 sq.m complex many of the exhibits are being displayed for the first time and artefacts have been brought together from across Egypt and the world. The museum also makes use of new technology including virtual reality.

After our guided tour of the Grand Egyptian Museum we head over to National Museum of Egyptian Civilization to visit the fascinating Royal Mummies’ Hall, where the mummies of ancient Egyptian kings and queens are on display. Then there’s time to relax back at the hotel before we board the night train to Luxor this evening. **Overnight - Sleeper Train**

**Day 4 : Aswan & the Philae Temple**

Aswan - Nile felucca cruise. This morning there’s an optional excursion to Abu Simbel. This famous temple of King Ramses II is guarded by 4 colossal statues of the great pharaoh himself. Later, we board our traditional felucca for a 2 night cruise down the mighty Nile. If sailing by felucca is not your style, consider upgrading to a 5 star luxury Nile Cruise, please see the tab above for prices. For more information about Nile Cruising please click [[here](#)].

Later, we board our traditional felucca to Kom Ombo. We’ll explore the famous symmetrical temple, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and the falcon god Horus before we return to the felucca and continue our journey downriver. **Overnight - Felucca Cruise**

**Day 5 : Felucca Sailing & Kom Ombo**

Nile felucca cruise – Kom Ombo. Relax and sunbathe on deck or go for a swim as our felucca sails to Kom Ombo. We’ll explore the famous symmetrical temple, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and the falcon god Horus before we return to the felucca and continue our journey downriver. **Overnight - Felucca Cruise**

**Day 6 : Felucca Sailing & Kom Ombo**

Nile felucca cruise – Kom Ombo. Relax and sunbathe on deck or go for a swim as our felucca sails to Kom Ombo. We’ll explore the famous symmetrical temple, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and the falcon god Horus before we return to the felucca and continue our journey downriver. **Overnight - Felucca Cruise**
Day 7 : Luxor

Kom Ombo - Luxor. This morning we disembark our felucca and drive to ancient Luxor, where the rest of today is at leisure. There’s an optional excursion to Luxor Temple tonight, when the site is beautifully illuminated by hundreds of lights. Overnight – Luxor (B)

Day 8 : Valley of the Kings

Luxor - Cairo. 4000 year-old Luxor is ancient Egypt at its very best and this morning we visit Luxor’s famous West Bank. Our first stop is the famous Valley of the Kings, which is studded with beautifully decorated tombs, including the tombs of Ramses II, Seti I, Amenhotep II and of course, King Tutankhamen. After exploring this incredible site we walk on to visit the beautiful limestone, colonnaded Temple of Hatshepsut, who was one of only three Egyptian ruling queens. On the West Bank we also see the imposing 18m-high Colossi of Memnon, which are all that remains of the temple of the hedonistic Amenophis III.

Returning to the hotel at around midday, there’s time to have lunch and relax by the pool before we visit the colossal Temple of Karnak later this afternoon. 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. Overnight – Karnak (B)

Day 9 : Free time in Cairo

Day 10 : Cairo to Istanbul - free time

Day 11 : ANZAC Eve - Gallipoli

Istanbul - Gallipoli. Spend the morning at leisure in Istanbul. This afternoon we drive to Gallipoli. En route to the peninsula we’ll stop for a bite to eat, stretch our legs and stock up on supplies for the evening ahead. Upon arrival (exact time subject to Dawn Service Site opening hours) you will be given instructions about where to meet with your coach on 25 April, after the services have concluded. Once we’re in Anzac Cove you are free to visit the memorials and trenches that dot the area before taking our places amongst the many at the Dawn Service site for the atmosphere-charged ANZAC Eve vigil. Overnight – Dawn Service Site (Anzac Cove) (B)

Day 12 : ANZAC Day - Gallipoli

Gallipoli - Istanbul. A poignant bugle call along with first light heralds the start of the Dawn Service. Lasting around an hour, the service is a special and moving experience and it’s possible to lay a wreath at ANZAC Memorial site after the service has concluded. Later this morning Australians have the opportunity to pay their respects at the Lone Pine Memorial Service, while New Zealanders can attend the service at Chunuk Bair. After the Chunuk Bair service we anticipate...
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an early afternoon departure time from Gallipoli, for our return journey to Istanbul. **Please note:** the 2023 national memorial services at Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair are subject to confirmation.

**Overnight - Istanbul**

**Day 13 : 26 April – Istanbul**

Wed 26 Apr 2023. After breakfast (9:00am), you’re welcome to join us on a 2 hour cruise along the Bosphorus, the strait that divides European from Asian Istanbul. Returning to the hotel before 12 noon, hotel check-out. This marks the end of a memorable 4 day ANZAC experience.

**(b)**

**ACCOMMODATION**

Highlighted below are some of the accommodation/hotels which we frequently use on this tour. We reserve the right to substitute these stays to ones of a similar standard.

**Please refer to your Tour Voucher for confirmed arrival hotel or start point and further arrival information.**

**Holiday Inn Cairo Maadi**

Overlooking the Nile and offering distant views of the Great Pyramids of Giza, this Holiday Inn provides the perfect location for your stay in Cairo. Each guestroom features a balcony (not Nile View as standard) and is well-equipped with modern amenities including free WiFi. Evenings can be spent enjoying international or Egyptian cuisine and unwinding with a cocktail at one of the hotel’s bars. Thanks to the friendly hotel staff, you’ll soon feel at home. And with panoramic views of the city from the rooftop lounge and pool, there’s no better place to base yourself for exploring Egypt’s ancient wonders.

**Sleeper Train**

When travelling on an overnight train in Egypt, sleeper carriages offer the highest level of comfort. Cabins are equipped with two beds (one above the other), a basin, electric points and air conditioning. Freshly laundered bedding is provided and in the early evening an attendant will come round and make up your bed for you. The carriages have toilets at each end and there is a club car which serves snacks and beverages. In the morning a very basic breakfast is provided.

**Steigenberger Hotel El Tahrir**

Ideally located in the heart of downtown Cairo, the Steigenberger Hotel El Tahrir is right by the lively Tahrir Square. Guestrooms offer peace and quiet away from the high-energy of the city, with contemporary decor and sound-proofed windows overlooking views of Cairo. The wellness facilities are state-of-the-art, including a fitness centre, outdoor pool and sauna and massage rooms. Be sure to take advantage of the poolside bar and delicious hotel restaurant, or enjoy the option of 24-hour in-room dining.

**Sonesta Hotel Cairo**

The Sonesta Hotel & Casino is a sophisticated and luxurious hotel offering spacious, en-suite rooms with opulent furnishings. Enjoy a cocktail at the poolside bar or indulge in a relaxing massage or Turkish steam bath at the full-service spa. With 5 restaurants located within the hotel you’ll be spoilt for choice over dining options.

**Tolip Hotel**

Set in manicured gardens, the Helnan Aswan is an elegant hotel with impressive views of the Nile. Guest rooms are spacious with modern interiors and located next to the beautiful pool. Wi-fi is available in the lobby and by the pool. There are also two restaurants and bars, a bowling alley, a swimming pool and a cinema. Why not relax by the pool before exploring the rest of Aswan.

**Felucca Sailboat**

Feluccas are simple, traditional Egyptian sailboats that have plied the Nile since ancient times. Feluccas carry between 10 – 12 passengers comfortably. The boat’s deck is draped with soft colourful cushions that serve as your lounging area during the day and as your sleeping area at night. A support boat travels alongside your felucca and is on hand if you need to use the toilet. The support boat is also where your meals are prepared and eaten. You’ll need to bring a sleeping bag/sheet (or hire for a nominal cost) and a towel with you. The crew, as well as being experienced sailors, are responsible for the preparation of the included meals.

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give 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. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of setting. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.
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Sonesta St. George Hotel
An elegant and luxurious classical hotel, the Sonesta’s sophistication will ensure you a comfortable stay. The hotel has a sweeping terrace with fantastic views of the Nile, a grand entrance of polished marble and handsomely appointed furnishings with exquisite detail and a beautiful health spa. All its rooms offer views of the city or the river, complemented by a wide range of restaurants and cafes. Just minutes away you will find the temples at Luxor and Karnak, home to two of ancient Egypt’s most famed sanctuaries.

Steigenberger Nile Palace
The Steigenburger Nile Palace is a grand hotel and stylishly furnished, with many rooms overlooking the Nile River. The hotel has a health club with massage rooms, sauna, steam room and fitness room, and a tennis court on the roof, not to mention a riverside pool. Its four restaurants offer a choice between Nubian, Lebanese, Italian, and Thai cuisine.

Ramada Old City
A member of the reputable Ramada chain, the Istanbul Old Town property is modern and comfortable with excellent amenities. Guestrooms are bright and spacious with contemporary amenities.

Two restaurants are on offer and our personal favourite is the wonderful roof top restaurant, serving delicious local cuisine coupled with a magnificent view of the City and Sea. The perfect way to end the day. Located in the heart of the Old City, near the Basilica Cistern and walking distance from all of the major monuments.

PRICES / DATES INFO
Departure dates marked with a ‘G’ are guaranteed to operate. All other departures are guaranteed with a minimum of 4 persons. ‘Twin Share’ prices are per person when there are 2 people sharing a room. ‘Single Room’ prices are applicable to those who don’t have anyone to share a room with or anyone wanting the privacy of a single room.

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