

# Abu Simbel Sun Festival Oct 2022

11 days | Starts/Ends: Cairo



*SUN FESTIVAL TOUR: Add an extra special element to your Egyptian holiday by combining it with the magical Abu Simbel Sun Festival. The legendary Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx, felucca sailing on the Nile, the tomb laden Valley of the Kings and energetic Cairo all in 11 unforgettable days!*

## HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

### Trip Highlights

- Abu Simbel - Visit this awe-inspiring temple at sunrise to witness the incredible phenomenon of the Abu Simbel Sun Festival
- Cairo - Marvel at the legendary Pyramids of Giza, explore the Necropolis of Saqqara and see King Tut's treasures at the Grand Egyptian Museum
- Luxor West Bank - Discover exquisite tombs at the Valley of the Kings, see the towering Colossi of Memnon and explore the beautiful Temple of Queen Hatshepsut
- Luxor - Roam around the colossal Temple of Karnak and take an optional tour of the beautifully illuminated Luxor Temple at night

- Aswan - Take a leisurely boat trip to Agilika 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

### What's Included

- Breakfast daily, 2 lunches and 2 dinners
- 6 nights 4-5 star hotels, 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck). If booking our Nile Cruise Upgrade, 4 nights 4-5 star hotels and 3 nights Nile Cruiser (en suite cabin)
- Overnight bus journey from Aswan to Abu Simbel (3.5 hrs) with 4 star hotel before hand to freshen up and rest prior to the festival event
- 2 overnight trains from Cairo to Aswan and Luxor and Cairo (Private 2 berth sleeper cabin)
- Airport arrival and departure transfers on day 1 and day 11
- Touring - Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan and Luxor
- Guided visit to Abu Simbel at sunrise for the Sun Festival of King Ramses

- Including Abu Simbel and Sun Festival entrance fee
- Escorted by an Egyptian tour guide degree qualified in Egyptology
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$60-80pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$100-120pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$8 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Cairo

Tuesday 18 Oct 2022. Welcome to Egypt! Arrive Cairo, included transfer to hotel. Spend the rest of the day at leisure or those arriving early can opt to join our optional Backstreets of Cairo tour which departs the hotel at 10am. Tonight your Welcome Meeting will be held at 7pm.

### Overnight - Cairo

## Abu Simbel Sun Festival Oct 2022 - 11 days

updated on 07-10-2022 03:35:43

www.onthegotours.com - info@onthegotours.com  
UK 020 4571 1381 USA 866 616 5394  
IRE 1800 936 885 CAN 866 890 7038  
AUS 1300 855 684 SA 0800 990 337  
NZ 0800 44 77 69

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 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 Tours.

# Abu Simbel Sun Festival Oct 2022

## Day 2 : Pyramids & Saqqara



Today visit to the stunning pyramids and the Sphinx at Giza Plateau. Sole survivors from the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World, the pyramids are the planet's oldest tourist attraction. Gaze in awe at Cheops (Khufu) - the largest of the three great pyramids. Constructed from over 2.5 million limestone blocks it is thought to have taken more than 20 years to construct. Continuing to 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. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

## Day 3 : Grand Egyptian Museum

Cairo - Aswan. Today we have a guided tour of 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. Then we head over to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization to visit the fascinating Royal Mummies' Hall, where the mummies of ancient Egyptian kings and queens are now on display. This incredible hall contains 20 mummies in total and some are so well preserved that they still have thick locks of hair, visible finger nails and smooth blackened skin.

Returning to the hotel, there's time to relax by the pool before we board the overnight train to Aswan this evening.

Please Note: the Grand Egyptian Museum is scheduled to open in late 2022, though an official opening date has yet to be released. If travelling prior to the opening of the new facility we'll visit the Egyptian Museum instead.

**Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)**

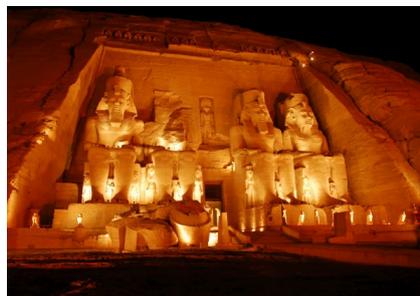
## Day 4 : Philae Temple



Aswan - Abu Simbel. After arrival in Aswan and hotel check-in, we visit the Temples of Philae, dedicated to the goddess Isis. Upon returning to Aswan we visit a perfume oil emporium. Spend the rest of the day at leisure; shop in the colourful souqs or simply kick back and relax.

Back at the hotel there will be time to rest before we depart at around midnight on our coach journey to the Temples of Abu Simbel. Here, we await the first rays of sunlight to touch the temple gate signifying the start of the Sun Festival of the mighty King Ramses II. **Overnight - Hotel/Coach Journey to Abu Simbel (B)**

## Day 5 : ABU SIMBEL SUN FESTIVAL



22 October. Abu Simbel - Aswan - Nile Felucca Cruise. Possibly the most awe-inspiring temple of all ancient Egypt, with its gargantuan rock-cut façade, the great Sun Temple of King

Ramses II at Abu Simbel was created to revere the mighty pharaonic ruler King Ramses II. Guarding the entrance to the temple (built between 1290 and 1224 BC) hewn into the side of a mountain are four famous colossal statues of the pharaoh himself, which sit majestically staring out across the desert.

Ramses II had the entire temple precisely positioned in order for the sun's rays to align just twice a year, on the date of his ascension to the throne (21 February) and on his birthday (21 October) to illuminate the inner sanctum of the temple. This incredible natural phenomenon provides for a most spectacular sight, which has come to be referred to as the **Sun Festival of King Ramses II**. The temple was re-located further up from the shoreline of Lake Nasser in 1972 in order to avoid erosion. For this reason, the sun now strikes a day later than Ramses had originally planned, though the event this morning itself is no less stunning.

Gathering in the temple before sunrise watch the shafts of light slowly creeping through the rock hewn inner Hypostyle Hall (replete with further statues of the King) and through to the Sanctuary. As we are lead through the temple there will be time to pause for a moment to watch the sun illuminating the statues of Amun-Re, Re-Herakhte and Ramses the god, whilst the statue of Ptah - the god of darkness - remains in the shadows. After the event, there will be plenty of time to explore the Sun Temple of King Ramses II, the Temple of Hathor and take plenty of pictures.

Returning to Aswan around noon we board a **[[traditional Nile felucca 122461]]** for our 2 night voyage downstream on the River Nile.

If sailing by felucca is not your style, consider our Nile Cruise upgrade and stay aboard a **[[5 star luxury**

## Abu Simbel Sun Festival Oct 2022 - 11 days

updated on 07-10-2022 03:35:43

www.onthegotours.com - info@onthegotours.com  
UK 020 4571 1381 USA 866 616 5394  
IRE 1800 936 885 CAN 866 890 7038  
AUS 1300 855 684 SA 0800 990 337  
NZ 0800 44 77 69

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 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 Tours.

# Abu Simbel Sun Festival Oct 2022

**Nile Cruiser[130530]]** in place of the **[[ felucca[122461]]**, please see the Nile Cruise Upgrade Prices & Dates tab above and the Nile Cruise Upgrade Trip Notes for details.

**Overnight - Felucca Cruise** (B, L, D)

## Day 6 : Felucca Sailing & Kom Ombo



Nile Felucca Sailing. Relax, go for a swim or just chill out in the sun on deck. Let your troubles melt away, as the felucca plies its route and Egyptian life carries on all around you. In the afternoon, we dock near Kom Ombo and take a motorboat to visit the temple before returning to the felucca for the night.

**Overnight - Felucca Cruise** (B, L, D)

## Day 7 : Luxor

We disembark this morning and drive a few hours north to Luxor, home of the legendary Valley of the Kings and Temple of Karnak, 4000 year-old Luxor is ancient Egypt at its best. Enjoy some rest and relaxation. Tonight, an optional visit to the Temple of Luxor beautifully illuminated at night, alternatively enjoy the facilities of our hotel. **Overnight - Luxor** (B)

## Days 8-9 : Valley of the Kings



Luxor - Cairo. On day 8, we explore the West Bank of the Nile and the legendary Valley of the Kings. Marvel at Colossi of Memnon, the massive stone remains of the Temple of Amenophis III, and explore the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and surrounding tombs. After lunch, we visit the Temple of Karnak, a spectacular religious complex built on a gigantic scale, where you get lost wandering around the stone papyrus columns.

Day 9 is a free day for you to explore the wonders of Luxor independently or take advantage of the facilities at the hotel that include a relaxing pool with swim up bar and health and fitness facilities. Tonight, we return by overnight train to Cairo. **Overnight - Luxor (1) & Sleeper Train (1)** (B:2)

## Day 10 : Day at leisure in Cairo

This morning we arrive back into Cairo and transfer to our hotel. Today is at your leisure to independently explore Cairo, or you could book locally our optional visit to the exotic Khan el Khalili Bazaar where you can pick up a few souvenirs. **Overnight - Cairo** (B)

## Day 11 : Cairo



Friday 28 Oct 2022. Our Egyptian adventure comes to an end today. Included departure transfer to the airport later today in time for your international flight. **Overnight - Cairo** (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 your 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.



## Holiday Inn City Stars

# Abu Simbel Sun Festival Oct 2022

The Holiday Inn Cairo City Stars Hotel is an ideal base for exploring the modern and historic attractions of Egypt's capital.



## 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.



## 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.



## PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates marked with a 'G' are operating. All 2023 dates are guaranteed to operate when there are 2 persons booked on the tour. In 2022 a departure is guaranteed with 4 persons. 'Twin Share' prices are per person when there are 2 people sharing a room. 'Single Room' prices are applicable to solo travellers or anyone wanting the privacy of a single room.

## PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
18 Oct	USD 1,495	USD 2,045

## Abu Simbel Sun Festival Oct 2022 – 11 days

updated on 07-10-2022 03:35:43

www.onthegotours.com - info@onthegotours.com  
 UK 020 4571 1381 USA 866 616 5394  
 IRE 1800 936 885 CAN 866 890 7038  
 AUS 1300 855 684 SA 0800 990 337  
 NZ 0800 44 77 69

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 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 Tours.