

Egyptian Family Adventure & Red Sea

13 days | Starts/Ends: Cairo



Enjoy a fun and educational family adventure in ancient Egypt. Explore the iconic Pyramids of Giza and the tomb strewn Valley of the Kings in Luxor, camel ride across the dunes in Aswan, sail on a felucca and visit a local school, before heading to the beach on the beautiful Red Sea Riviera. This tour welcomes children aged 5 years and over.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Cairo – discover the treasures of Tutankhamun at the Egyptian Museum and browse the bustling Khan el-Khalili bazaar
- The Great Pyramids – enjoy a tour of this legendary Ancient Wonder of the World and gaze at the iconic Sphinx
- Aswan – sail the Nile to Elephantine Island aboard a traditional felucca sailboat and visit a local school
- Monastery of St Simeon - ride a camel across the rolling desert sands to this 7th century monastery
- Luxor - uncover the tombs of pharaohs in the Valley of the Kings and explore the vast Karnak Temple complex

- Hurghada – relax on the beach and enjoy an optional snorkelling adventure in the tranquil Red Sea
- Kom Ombo - visit the perfectly symmetrical Nile side Temple of Kom Ombo and see a mummified crocodile

What's Included

- Breakfast daily, 1 lunch and 2 dinners
- 2 nights 4 star hotels, 9 nights 5 star hotels - all with swimming pools
- 1 overnight train: Cairo - Aswan (Private 2 berth sleeper cabin) including meals
- Economy class flight: Hurghada to Cairo
- Aswan - camel ride to St Simeon's Monastery
- Aswan - felucca sailing on the Nile and visit to Elephantine Island
- Airport arrival and departure transfer day 1 and day 13
- Touring of Cairo, Giza, Aswan, Luxor and Hurghada
- 4 night Hurghada Red Sea stay - swim, sun and sand
- Escorted by an Egyptian tour guide degree qualified in Egyptology (days 1 - 10)
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: Adult / Child USD\$40-50pp, paid in local currency

- Entrance Fees: Adult USD\$80-100pp / Child USD\$40-50pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Gratuity for your tour guide. We suggest USD\$20-30 per adult. Tipping your tour guide is an entirely personal gesture

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Cairo

Welcome to Egypt! Upon 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. 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, 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 : The Egyptian Museum

After our Welcome Meeting, we visit the world-famous Egyptian Museum where over

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updated on 22-02-2020 12:50:06

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100,000 relics from almost every period of ancient Egyptian history are housed. Arguably the most famous exhibit is the solid gold funerary mask of King Tutankhamun. 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. In addition, there are King Tut's dazzling worldly possessions on display, which were found by Howard Carter in the king's tomb.

At a small additional cost you also view the Royal Mummies. The Royal Mummy Room houses the mummified bodies of some of Egypt's most illustrious kings and queens, who ruled Egypt between 1552 and 1069 BC. They include King Ramses II, his father Seti I, Tuthmosis II and Queen Meret Amun (wife of Amenhotep I). Some of the mummies are so well preserved, they still have thick locks of hair, visible finger nails and smooth, if blackened skin.

In the afternoon we visit the UNESCO Listed Islamic Citadel of Saladin and the city's vibrant Khan al-Khalili bazaar, where you can shop for pharaonic souvenirs, belly-dancing costumes, spices and more. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

Day 3 : Pyramids of Giza & Sphinx



Cairo - Aswan. Visit Egypt's most iconic attraction today as we discover the legendary Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx at the Giza Plateau. Sole survivors of the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World, they were constructed from over 2.5million limestone blocks, taking more than 20 years to build. We enjoy a guided tour of the site and there is also the opportunity to enter one of the pyramids itself. Spend the afternoon exploring Cairo at leisure or relaxing by the hotel pool with your family.

We later journey to Aswan by overnight sleeper train with a basic dinner served on board. At the train station, there will be the opportunity to buy more water and snacks for the trip ahead. **Overnight - Sleeper Train (B, D)**

Day 4 : Philae Temple



On arrival in Aswan we visit the scenic Philae Temple, on Agilika Island in the Nile.

Upon returning to Aswan we visit a perfume oil emporium. The use of essential and perfumed oils in Egypt dates back to 2700BC. Perfumed oils were used by women, pharaohs and by temple priests for worship who offered a melange of 6 perfumes called Kyphi to the Sun God at dawn, noon and dusk. At the perfumery, there's a million and one exquisite glass bottles filled with perfumed oils that make for a truly authentic Egyptian gift. For those that are not interested there is a supermarket nearby where you can use the opportunity to purchase snacks and incidentals.

We then check-in to the hotel, where the afternoon is at leisure. Perhaps take a stroll along the riverside corniche, visit the Aswan Botanical Gardens or enjoy an afternoon by the pool. This evening, we'll visit the bustling Aswan market and enjoy the smells of herbs and spices being sold by the local merchants.

Overnight - Aswan (B)

Day 5 : Felucca Sailing & Elephantine Island



Enjoy a sailing trip aboard a traditional felucca (small wooden sailing boat) as we cruise the mighty Nile to Elephantine Island. During our guided walk of the island discover many archaeological sites and pay a visit to a local school (if open) before enjoying lunch and some family time back on board. This afternoon is free for you to spend at leisure – why not participate in our optional excursion to the Nubian Museum. The museum is home to more than 3,000 artefacts and scale models from across Egypt's ancient history, from the Pharaohs to the Romans. **Overnight - Aswan (B, L)**

Day 6 : Camel Ride to St Simeon's Monastery

Aswan – Luxor. Today begins with a motorboat ride across the Nile where we enjoy an exciting camel ride across rolling sand dunes to the 7th century St Simeon's Monastery. Later today, we'll drive to Luxor, stopping en route at the famous double temple of Kom Ombo, which is perfectly symmetrical and dedicated to the crocodile headed god - Sobek. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

Day 7 : Luxor's Valley of the Kings



This morning we cross to the West Bank of the Nile for the day's touring. An early start

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allows us to avoid some of the fierce heat as we venture to the awesome 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.

The Valley of the Kings is studded with often highly decorated pharaoh's tombs, some of which you can enter. Some of the tombs are so well preserved; the colours of the incredible pharaonic friezes are still as vibrant as when they were first painted. The best known tombs are those of Ramses II, Seti I, Amenhotep II and of course, the tomb of King Tutankhamun.

After the Valley of the Kings we visit Deir al- Bahri, otherwise known as the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. Rising out of the desert plain, in a series of terraces, it is one of Egypt's finest and most photographed monuments.

We return to the East Bank around midday, where we have a chance to relax at the hotel pool. Later this 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.

The evening is free to spend at leisure with the family, or you may wish to join our optional tour of the beautiful Luxor Temple, brilliantly illuminated by hundreds of lights at night. Book and pay locally, cost approx USD\$28 per person including dinner.

Note: The Valley of the Kings ticket includes entry to 3 tombs. A subset of the 64 tombs at the site are open at any point in time and your guide will offer advice on the best ones to visit on the day. The tomb of King Tutankhamun is nearly always open and requires an additional entrance fee to visit. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

Day 8 : Hurghada Beach Stay



Luxor - Hurghada. Say goodbye to Luxor today as we drive to the popular resort of Hurghada, on the shore of the Red Sea. Enjoy a short orientation walk before spending the rest of today relaxing on the beach with your family. **Overnight - Hurghada (B, D)**

Day 9 : Optional snorkelling trip



Enjoy free time to relax in Hurghada today or join our optional snorkelling trip on the beautiful Red Sea. Sail to a nearby coral reef and swim alongside colourful fish, turtles and maybe even a friendly dolphin or two. Later, enjoy lunch and drinks onboard before we return to shore. **Overnight - Hurghada (B)**

Days 10-11 : Red Sea R&R



Spend days 10 and 11 independently in Hurghada, enjoying the vibrant resort with your family. Soak up some sun and swim in the turquoise waters, relax on the beach

or by the pool, and enjoy the many bars and restaurants that the city has to offer. **Overnight - Hurghada (B:2)**

Day 12 : Cairo

Hurghada - Cairo. This morning we transfer to the airport in Hurghada for a flight back to Cairo. Spend the rest of the day at leisure in the capital. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

Day 13 : Farwell

Our Egyptian adventure comes to an end today. Included transfer to airport for your flight home.(B)

HOTELS

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

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Oasis Hotel

Just a stone's throw from the Pyramids, the Oasis Hotel is a classic Egyptian hotel with beautiful expansive gardens. Rooms are very spacious with comfortable beds and fantastic en suite facilities. Wi-Fi is available and the buffet breakfast offers a good spread. In the evening the outdoor pool and fountains are lit up making the restaurant and bar the perfect place to spend an evening sipping on a cold glass of beer.



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

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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.



Le Meridien Heliopolis

Just a short drive from Cairo's Old Town and international airport, the 5-star Le Meridien Heliopolis combines comfort with convenience. The guest rooms are spacious and equipped with air-conditioning, satellite television and a minibar, plus there's complimentary WiFi throughout the property. Dining options include a choice of four on-site restaurants, serving Egyptian and international cuisine. Guests can also enjoy live entertainment and cocktails at The 51 Bar. During the warmer months hotel guests can take a dip in the outdoor pool or relax on a sun lounger on the terrace. There's also a fitness centre and tennis courts for those who like to stay active whilst on holiday.



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 Helwan 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.



Aracan Hotel

Offering a prime location in the centre of Luxor, this 4-star hotel is close to top attractions including the Luxor Museum and Luxor Temple. Surrounded by manicured gardens, the contemporary-style guestrooms are well-equipped with air conditioning, a minibar and a balcony overlooking the garden or River Nile. Guests can enjoy a rich breakfast, lunch and dinner in the sun-lit restaurant or outdoors by the resort style pool. There you'll also find a poolside bar and sun deck, so you can enjoy a cocktail or two as you soak up the rays.



Hilton Hurghada Resort

Set in tropical gardens, the Hilton Hurghada Resort is a comfortable, charming hotel with a private beach and water sport centre. The

rooms have a balcony or terrace with views of the garden, pools or sea.



Continental Hotel

Tucked into Hurghada Bay, right on its scenic promenade, the Continental is a delightful beachfront resort boasting fantastic terraced rooms (many with seaviews) and excellent facilities. Watersports are in abundance here with swimming pools, scuba diving and snorkelling all readily available. A leisure club offers a sauna and spa treatments to relax after the day's activities. You can also wine and dine at one of the many great restaurants and bars.



Tours Departing Before 19 July 2019 & on 21 Sep 2019

Please note that this itinerary relates to tours departing from 19 July 2019 onwards. If you are travelling before this date or on 21 September 2019 departure, the itinerary is different.

The main differences are: includes a camel ride at the pyramids not St Simeon's Monastery, different order of touring in Cairo and Luxor, spends an additional night in Luxor, visits Sahal Island not Elephantine in Aswan, excludes St Simeon's Monastery, Philae Temple and Kom Ombo, spends 3 nights in Hurghada not 4 and travels by road from Hurghada to Cairo, not by flight.

Tour departing before 19 Jul 19 and on 21 Sep 19 - the itinerary in brief is:

Day 1 - Arrive Cairo, transfer to hotel. Welcome meeting 7pm. Overnight Cairo

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Day 2 - Pyramids and camel riding. Overnight Cairo (B)

Day 3 - Egyptian museum & Khan el Khalili Markets. Overnight sleeper train to Aswan (B, D)

Day 4 - Aswan guided walk of the local market and souq. Free time. Overnight Aswan (B)

Day 5 - Optional Abu Simbel by Road. Overnight Aswan (B)

Day 6 - Boat cruise to Sahal Island to visit a local village. Afternoon train to Luxor. Overnight Luxor (B, L)

Day 7 - Karnak Temple and Luxor Temple. Overnight Luxor (B)

Day 8 - Valley of the Kings. Overnight Luxor (B)

Days 9 - 11 - Drive to Hurghada. Free time by the Red Sea. Overnight Hurghada (3) (B:3/D:3)

Day 12 - Travel by road back to Cairo. Overnight Cairo (B)

Day 13 - Transfer to airport

Please contact us for a copy of the relevant trip notes.

Groups & Guides

Groups: The longest Family Tour we offer in Egypt is our Egyptian Family Adventure & Red Sea – 13 day tour. All other family tours in Egypt are sectors or parts of this larger tour. As such on your holiday you will not be with the exact same group of people from start to end. There will also be travellers who end their tour when you continue on.

Guides: We believe the best way to see a country is through the eyes of a local and as such we only employ tour guides native to the country you are visiting. Our guides are passionate, caring, knowledgeable and fun, and by travelling with a local you get to see the wonders of the country through their eyes. All arrangements in Egypt are conducted by qualified Egyptologist tour guides and it's likely that you will have 2 tour guides within the duration of your holiday.

Optional Add-ons

If you have opted to extend your stay or enhance your holiday with one of our add-ons, please note:

Alexandria day trip - departs approx. 7am and returns to Cairo at between 5 - 7pm.

Entrance fees are payable locally by you, budget approx USD\$18.

Alexandria & El Alamein - 4 days - departs approx. 7am and returns to Cairo at between 5 - 7pm. Entrance fees are payable locally by you, budget approx USD\$18.

For further information about Add-ons, please refer to our website: www.onthegotours.com/Egypt/Tour-Add-ons

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Entrance Fees & Local Payment

Entry fees to sites of antiquity are not included, although reasonably priced. In Egypt, we collect entrance fees on Day 2 of the tour (the amount is noted under exclusions). A breakdown of the entrance fee total is provided upon arrival. Entrance fees and optional excursions that you may wish to undertake are payable in local currency - Egyptian Pounds (EGP).

If travelling on a Budget tour, a Local Payment of cash GBP150pp (or USD equivalent as per the Egyptian bank rate of the day), if applicable to your tour and noted under the exclusions is also payable on day 2.

On tours that also travel to Jordan, entrance fees in Jordan are payable in Jordanian Dinar (JD). In Israel (on our Pyramids Petra Promised Lands tour) entrance fees are included.

Tip Kitty

At the start of your tour we will collect a tip kitty (the amount is noted under exclusions) from all tour participants to cover tips throughout your holiday. This saves you the hassle of knowing when and how much to tip bellhops, luggage luggers, bus drivers, antiquity guards, train conductors and other support staff throughout the tour.

This amount does not include a tip for your tour guide. For a job well done, we would suggest USD\$5 - 7 per day for your tour guide. Tipping your guide and crew is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

Your tip kitty in Egypt is collected in Egyptian Pounds (EGP). If you are travelling to Jordan, the tip kitty for this part of your holiday is collected in Jordanian Dinar (JD).

In Israel we do not collect a tipping kitty. As a guideline we recommend that you budget USD\$5-7 per day per traveller for your guide and USD\$2-3 per day per traveller for your driver.

Travelling By Overnight Train

For journeys between Cairo and Aswan and/or Luxor on our Signature tours, and from Luxor to Cairo on our Budget tours, we utilise the overnight 1st class sleeper train service (excluding Treasures of the Nile). On the train cabins are equipped with two beds (one above the other), a basin, electric points, air conditioning and are lockable. Freshly laundered bedding is provided and in the early evening an attendant will come round and make up your bed for you. A simple dinner and breakfast is included on the service. Dinner, served within an hour of your boarding is of a very average standard and we recommend that you eat dinner prior to boarding the train. A basis breakfast is served in the morning and tea and coffee is offered complimentary. Toilets are located at the end of each carriage and a bar carriage is located toward the centre of the train where hot and cold beverages can be purchased, and sometimes alcohol. The sleeper train is the highest class of rail travel available in Egypt, though by western standards it would be considered of a moderate standard.

We always request our cabins to be side by side in the same carriage, though ultimately the location of our cabins, and whether they are together rests with the rail authority.

If you are a solo traveller and have opted to share a room for your tour and not pay the single supplement you will be sharing a cabin with another On The Go traveller, or if this isn't possible, a member of the public (of the same sex).

Arrival Transfers

A complimentary airport arrival transfer is included in your tour. Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative

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from On The Go Tours PRIOR to immigration. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative who will fast track you through the immigration queue. Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative. Our representative will assist you with your luggage and escort you to our vehicle, where you will wave goodbye and be transferred to your hotel.

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 (standard text message, not messenger or what's app) to the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

Egypt Country Guide

Visas - Egypt

Visa requirements are subject to change and visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Egypt.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book trains and flights tickets, if included within your holiday.

Visas are required by all visitors to Egypt.

E-Visa. You can obtain an e-Visa for tourism purposes prior to travel by completing an application and making payment online. The e-Visa can be obtained up to 3 months prior to travel and is valid for 30 days from the date of entry. The e-Visa is available to a long list of eligible countries and the Government of Egypt is constantly adding to the list. The current cost of a single entry e-Visa for tourism purposes is USD25 or equivalent. The visa cost is set to rise to USD60 and this may happen at any time. We recommend you secure an e-Visa prior to travel as it will speed up and smooth the immigration process upon your arrival.

Online applications can be completed at: visa2egypt.gov.eg

Visa upon arrival.

It still remains possible for nationals of some countries to procure their tourist visa upon arrival at Cairo International Airport. Please contact your nearest Egyptian Embassy or Consulate to see if this is available to you. The current cost of the visa is USD25 and is payable in USD CASH ONLY. The visa upon arrival cost is also set to rise to USD60. Although not official a visa can near always also be paid in equivalent GBP or Euro CASH ONLY according to the exchange rate of the day. Please note that in the event of visa refusal at port of entry, On The Go Tours cannot be held responsible.

Important: RSA, Chinese and passport holders from a number of other countries cannot obtain an e-Visa or Visa upon arrival. Citizens of these countries must obtain an Egyptian Tourist Visa prior to travel. Please contact your nearest Egyptian Embassy or Consulate for further details.

Note: 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 either of the following addresses:

Holiday Inn Cairo Maadi.
Corniche El Nil, Maadi, Cairo 11431
Tel + 202 25260601

Steigenberger Cairo Pyramids Hotel
Alexandria Road, Pyramids - Giza, Cairo, Egypt
Tel +202 33772555

Le Meridien Pyramids
El Remaya Square, Pyramids, Cairo, 12561, Egypt
Tel: +202 33777070

Mecure Cairo Le Sphinx Hotel
1 Alexandria Desert Road, Pyramids, Cairo, 12556, Egypt
Tel: +202 33776444

Oasis Hotel
Cairo-Alexandria Desert Road, Pyramids 12556 - Cairo / Egypt
Tel: +202 38387333 & +202 38387666

Currency

The currency of Egypt is the Egyptian Pound (EGP).

Pound Sterling, US Dollars, Euro and other major currencies can be exchanged in Egypt. Exchange facilities are available at most hotels and all major towns have ATMs. It's advisable to request notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities. Traveller's Cheques are not recommended as they are difficult to exchange.

Health Requirements

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Egypt from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As tap water is not safe to drink in Egypt, only drink bottled mineral water which is readily available.

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 cold - so take a jacket, long-sleeved tops and trousers. The south remains warm during this time (t-shirt & shorts) but again, temperatures do drop at night. Rainfall is negligible with the most falling along Egypt's Mediterranean coastline.

Time & Voltage

Egypt is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Standard voltage is 220 volts. Primary sockets require the European, 2 pronged variety. We recommend that you pack a universal travel adaptor. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adaptor in order to use U.S. appliances.

Camera Fees

At some sites there is an additional fee for use of a camera or video. Camera/video (not professional) fees range between USD \$3 – 30 per site. There is no fee for taking photographs at the Pyramids of Giza and Saqqara. The cost for using camera inside Valley of the Kings (though not permitted

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inside the tombs) is approx. USD\$20. The cost for photographing the treasures inside the Egyptian Museum is USD\$6

Essential Packing

- Towel for the felucca (if applicable to your chosen tour)
- Lightweight cotton garments
- Comfortable walking shoes. Pack flip flops/thongs/jandals to wear aboard the Nile felucca or Nile Cruiser
- DEET based mosquito repellent and antihistamine cream
- 2 pin, European electrical adaptor
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch
- Sleep sheet or sleeping bag if travelling on the felucca, or if travelling onto Jordan. If travelling by felucca you can opt to only bring a sleep sheet and hire a freshly laundered winter warmth blanket for USD\$15 (total) for the 2 night stay from our felucca crew
- If doing a felucca cruise or travelling between November and March, pack warm clothes (i.e. – fleece, jacket, trousers, jeans, hat and scarf) as temperatures plummet at night.

Troubleshooting

These things will most likely never happen, but it's good to be prepared if they ever do. Crime in Egypt is no worse than anywhere else in the world. Here are a few tips to keep your trip hassle-free:

- Leave valuables in the hotel safe or better still, at home
- Keep bags locked at all times with a combination/padlock. Bags should also be locked when being transferred in vehicles, on-board the train, felucca or when taking a flight.
- Carry your passport on your person
- Bring spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- Carry your bag close to your person rather than over your shoulder
- Travel in a group or pair, especially if you are female

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

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
- The standard form of greeting is a handshake. Men and women do not kiss at any time as a form of greeting.

Ramadan

The majority of the Egyptian population is Muslim (approx 86%), with a small minority of Jews and Christians. Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims in Egypt and 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 and itineraries will be slightly altered to ensure we visit all attractions, leisure time will be offered in the late afternoon. Non-Muslims are not expected to fast over Ramadan, but it is considered impolite to eat food or drink on the street.

Note: Traffic is exceptionally heavy during Ramadan, especially toward the time of breaking the fast. Forthcoming Ramadan dates are as follows, (approximate) -

23 April – 23 May 2020

12 April – 11 May 2021

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.

Shopping

Egypt is a virtual Aladdin's Cave. While Cairo's Khan al-Khalili bazaar is cavernous and full of unusual and everyday objects, smaller souqs and bazaars abound in other towns, too. Top buys include - perfume concentrate, carpets and rugs in innumerable hand-loomed designs, backgammon boards, hand-crafted shisha pipes, Pharaonic objects fashioned in marble and alabaster, Egyptian cotton clothing and of course - authentic papyrus.

IMPORTANT: Set your budget and don't be swayed, remember the caveat – 'Let the buyer beware'. Any purchases made whilst on holiday with us, irrespective of whether the store is recommended by us or other, are at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with the product you are purchasing and the delivery arrangements (we would recommend you take away with you any purchases rather than rely on shipping services). On The Go cannot be held responsible or accountable for items bought in country or shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.

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 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

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