

Festive King Tut

9 days | Starts/Ends: Cairo



Classic Egypt at its best - ancient temples, tombs, Nile river cruising, topped off with plenty of festive cheer! With four festive tour dates to choose from, the hardest decision you'll need to make is where you want to spend Xmas & New Years - sailing the Nile, at the legendary pyramids or discovering Cairo!

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Cairo - marvel at the legendary Pyramids of Giza, explore the Necropolis of Saqqara and see King Tut's treasures at the Egyptian Museum
- Luxor West Bank - discover exquisite tombs in the Valley of the Kings, the towering Colossi of Memnon and 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 leisurely boat trip to Agilkia Island to explore the romantic Philae Temple and wander around the colourful souqs

- Nile felucca sailing - 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, 2 dinners
- 4 nights 4 - 5 star hotels, 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck). If booking our Nile Cruise Upgrade, 3 nights 4 - 5 star hotels and 3 nights Nile Cruiser (en suite cabin)
- 2 overnight trains: Cairo - Aswan and Luxor - Cairo (Private 2 berth sleeper cabin)
- Airport arrival and departure transfer day 1 and day 9
- Touring of Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan and Luxor
- Escorted by an Egyptian tour guide degree qualified in Egyptology
- All relevant transfer and transportation

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$50-70pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$80-100pp, paid in local currency
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$5 - 7 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

- International flights and visa

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Cairo

Welcome to Egypt and the start of a great festive Egyptian adventure. Arrive Cairo airport and included transfer to our hotel.

Overnight - Cairo

Day 2 : Pyramids & Saqqara



Cairo - Aswan. A big day out with a visit to the famous pyramids of Giza, sole survivors from the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World. Later we continue to Saqqara to tour King Zoser's step pyramid - the first known pyramid ever built. Later there is time for dinner before travelling on the overnight sleeper train to Aswan. **Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)**

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Day 3 : Philae Temple



Arrive into Aswan and check into our hotel. We take a leisurely boat trip to the romantic Temple of Philae, dedicated to the goddess Isis and rescued under an enormous UNESCO effort in the 1970s to save the temple from the rising waters of the High Dam. Upon returning to Aswan we visit a perfume oil emporium. As night falls, free time to shop in the colourful souqs or simply relax and watch an amazing sunset. **Overnight - Aswan (B)**

Day 4 : Sailing the Nile & Optional excursion to Abu Simbel



Aswan - Nile Felucca cruise. Optional early morning excursion to the magnificent rock-cut Temples of Abu Simbel, built by mighty King Ramses II optional excursion is undertaken by road. This afternoon, we board our Nile felucca for a 2 night voyage downstream on the River Nile. Relax, top up your tan and chat with new friends as the felucca gently plies its route. Stops are made en route for swimming and visiting local villages.

If sailing by felucca is not your style, consider upgrading to a 5 star luxury Nile Cruise, please see the tab above for more information. **Overnight - Felucca Cruise (B, L, D)**

Day 5 : Felucca Sailing & Kom Ombo



Nile Felucca Sailing - Kom Ombo. 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. 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 6 : Luxor



Kom Ombo - Luxor. This morning we disembark and drive to Luxor. Checking into our 5 star hotel the afternoon is free for swimming or relaxing by the pool. Home of the legendary Valley of the Kings and Queens and the gigantic Temple of Karnak, 4000 year old Luxor is ancient Egypt at its best. Tonight, we have the opportunity to visit Luxor Temple with dinner afterwards. Built by Amenophis III, Luxor Temple looks stunning at night when it's illuminated by hundreds of lights. Book/pay locally. Remainder of the evening is at leisure.

Overnight - Luxor (B)

Day 7 : Valley of the Kings



Luxor - Cairo. This morning we venture to the tomb strewn Valley of the Kings. Highlights of the visit include the Colossi of Memnon, a massive pair of statues that stand silent against the backdrop of history, the Valleys of the Kings and the awesome ramped and colonnaded Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.

The Valley of the Kings is studded with often highly decorated tombs, constructed to once house the regal sarcophagi enclosed mummies of the mighty pharaohs awaiting passage into the after-life. This afternoon after lunch and time to relax we visit the colossal Temple of Karnak. Lose yourself in the stone-columned Hypostyle Hall and go crazy with your camera. This is ancient Egypt. Tonight we return by overnight sleeper train to Cairo.

Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)

Day 8 : Egyptian Museum

This morning we arrive into Cairo and check into our hotel. Later we enjoy a guided tour of the famous Egyptian Museum. See the priceless funerary treasures of King Tutankhamun, including his legendary solid gold death mask. Enjoy the remains of the day shopping and exploring Cairo. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

Day 9 : Cairo

Our tour concludes after breakfast and onward departure transfer to the airport. (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.

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Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel 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 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.



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.



Mercure Cairo Le Sphinx

In a great location for the Pyramids, the Mercure Cairo Le Sphinx is a contemporary hotel with excellent amenities. Guest rooms

are well furnished with modern interiors and en suite facilities. Wi-fi is available in the lobby and there is a beautiful outdoor pool, which is perfect for relaxing by. Why not head to the restaurant on the roof for a delicious meal and impressive views of the Pyramids.



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.



Steigenberger Nile Palace

The Steigenberger 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.



PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a

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minimum of 2 persons. Prices shown are per person travelling when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same gender, this can be arranged, thus avoiding the single person supplement. Departure dates noted with a 'S' allow Solo travellers the comfort of a single room on this tour at no additional cost.

PRICES / DATES 2019

Date	Twin Share	Single
20 Dec	AUD 2,145	AUD 2,925
21 Dec	AUD 2,145	AUD 2,925
24 Dec	AUD 2,145	AUD 2,925
28 Dec	AUD 2,145	AUD 2,925

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
18 Dec	AUD 2,145	AUD 2,925
20 Dec	AUD 2,145	AUD 2,925
22 Dec	AUD 2,145	AUD 2,925
27 Dec	AUD 2,145	AUD 2,925

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