

# Egypt Uncovered

## 11 days | Starts/Ends: Cairo



*Take in the best of ancient Egypt, from the Pyramids of Giza to the exquisite temple of Dendera and Luxor's tomb strewn Valley of the Kings, combined with three days of blissful Red Sea relaxation by the beach in Hurghada.*

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Cairo - marvel at the legendary Pyramids of Giza and explore the Necropolis of Saqqara
- The Egyptian Museum - discover the treasures of King Tutankhamun
- Luxor - roam around the colossal Temple of Karnak and take an optional tour of the beautifully illuminated Luxor Temple at night
- Luxor West Bank - discover exquisite tombs in the Valley of the Kings, the towering Colossi of Memnon and the beautiful Temple of Queen Hatshepsut
- Dendera - explore the beautifully preserved Temple of Hathor, with its exquisitely decorated ceiling
- Hurghada - spend three nights at the Red Sea. Relax by the beach, swim and opt to snorkel or scuba dive in the clear coastal waters

#### What's Included

- Breakfast daily
- 9 nights 4 - 5 star hotels
- 1 overnight train: Cairo to Luxor (Private 2 berth sleeper cabin)
- Touring of Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Luxor, Dendera and Hurghada
- Airport arrival and departure transfer, day 1 and day 11
- Services of an Egyptian tour guide degree qualified in Egyptology
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles
- 3 days in Hurghada - Red Sea Stay

#### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$40-60pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$70-90pp, 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

### DETAILED ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Cairo

Sunday. Welcome to Egypt and the start of your holiday! Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative from On The Go Tours. 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!

Enjoy a free day in Cairo before the rest of your Egyptian adventure. Perhaps relax by the hotel pool or for those that are arriving before 8.30am, join our optional Backstreets of Cairo tour which departs the hotel at 10am (best booked prior with your travel consultant). 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, Garbage City and the incredible Cave Church of St. Simon.

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

For those arriving a day or two earlier than Day One of the tour, one of our staff will be on hand to advise on where best to enjoy your extra time in Cairo in advance of the tour commencing. We also have an Alexandria Day Trip available to book for the Saturday before your tour starts, or on the final day of the tour and we can book pre/post tour accommodation upon request. **Overnight - Cairo**

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updated on 22-01-2020 09:14:20

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## Day 2 : Pyramids of Giza



After a good night's rest, we have a full day of touring planned for today. Our first stop this morning is the famous pyramids and the iconic Sphinx at the Giza Plateau. Sole survivors from the ancient Greek listed 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 stone cutters carried out the job of building the pyramids. 100,000 workers were used to carry out the backbreaking task of moving and laying the stones of the largest pyramid-Cheops and about 2.5 million limestone blocks, quarried locally and weighing in excess of 6 million tonnes, were used to construct it. 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. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

## Day 3 : Egyptian Museum

Cairo - Luxor. We take a guided tour of the vast new Grand Egyptian Museum in Giza this morning. In this incredible 490,000 sq.m complex we'll discover a mind-boggling array of relics and antiquities from almost every period of ancient Egyptian history, including the treasures of King Tutankhamun. The afternoon is free to relax at the hotel or independently explore before we board the overnight sleeper train to Luxor this evening.

Note: The Grand Egyptian Museum is set to open in 2020. An official date has yet to be released. If travelling prior to the opening of the new facility we'll visit the Egyptian Museum this morning. **Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)**

## Day 4 : Luxor & Dendera



We arrive into Luxor this morning and drop our bags off at the hotel. There's time to freshen up in the hotel lobby before we drive to Dendera which is one of Egypt's best preserved temple complexes, located 60km north of Luxor. This vast complex covers 40,000 square meters and its temples, chapels and shrines were gradually built over thousands of years. Dendera's crowning glory is the 2000 year old Temple of Hathor with its exquisitely decorated ceiling, adorned with astronomical representations. After our guided tour of this incredible site we return to Luxor where you can spend the afternoon at leisure, relaxing by the pool.

This evening at 5.30pm there is an optional visit is available to the Temple of Luxor. The excursion is booked/pay locally at approx USD\$25 including entrance fees and buffet dinner. The Luxor Temple, a strikingly beautiful 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 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. At night the temple is beautifully illuminated with powerful lights, making the temple 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 for dinner. 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 5 : Valley of the Kings



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

A short stop will also be made at an Alabaster workshop. Stone carving is a trade that has existed on the West Bank since pharaonic times. Carving the stone is a trade passed on generation after generation, for most residents of the west bank and is their sole trade and income.

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We return to the east bank around midday, where we have a chance to relax by the hotel pool. 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.

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 6 : Free day in Luxor

Today is free for you to spend at leisure in Luxor. Relax and soak up the sunshine by the hotel pool or explore Luxor on foot, following the waterside corniche and maybe stopping for drink and a bite to eat at one of the many Nile side cafes and tea houses. Alternatively, there is an optional tour of the Luxor Museum that can be booked locally. The Luxor Museum is located on the corniche and contains a fascinating array of Egyptian antiquities. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

## Days 7-9 : Hurghada



Luxor - Hurghada. Departing Luxor we head east to Hurghada on the beautiful Red Sea Riviera for three nights by the beach. The next two days are free for you to explore Hurghada or simply relax. There's an optional day trip to Giftun Island for swimming and snorkelling, which can be booked locally.

Hurghada is one of the Red Sea's most popular resorts and it is easy to see why. Hotels and expanded infrastructure provide holidaymakers with excellent aquatic facilities

for sail boarding, yachting, deep-sea fishing, SCUBA diving and snorkeling. Hurghada's central location provides a gateway to prime offshore reefs, which are some of the finest in the world. Hurghada also has plenty of restaurants and late night bars for evening entertainment.

Snorkelling Trip – 700 EGP (approx) per person payable locally.

Join a day trip snorkelling and swimming at Giftun Island. You'll be transferred by motor boat to across the blue water of the Red Sea to Giftun Island, the journey is approximately an hour. The boat will moor up and there is an opportunity to jump into the warm waters (mask and snorkel provided) to swim and marvel at the amazing marine life. Look out for parrot fish, butterfly fish, trumpet fish and angel fish – some times of the year it is also possible to see turtles and even dolphins. After snorkelling the boat continues on to the island for a lunch stop (including soft drink or mineral water). If time allows you can also laze by the beach catching some rays before heading back to shore. Departs 08:15 returning 16:30 approx.

Please note that this is not operated by On The Go and the arrangements on the day are at the captain's discretion. It is also a shared excursion so there could well be other people not part of your group on the boat. **Overnight - Hurghada (B:3)**

## Day 10 : Return to Cairo



Hurghada - Cairo. This morning we depart Hurghada and drive back to Cairo. The rest of the day is free for you to relax by the pool or explore.

Later this afternoon there is an optional excursion to Khan el Khalili Market and a perfumed oil emporium. Khan el Khalili is

great for last minute souvenir shopping and at the perfumery there's a million and one exquisite glass bottles filled with perfumed oils that make for a truly authentic Egyptian gift. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

## Day 11 : Cairo

Wednesday. Hotel check out and included onward transfer to 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.

**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.



### 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

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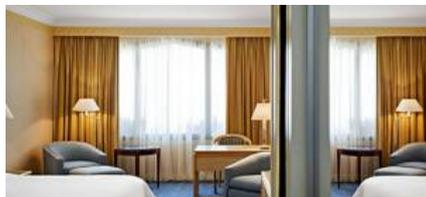
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car which serves snacks and beverages. In the morning a very basic breakfast is provided.



## 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.



## Renaissance Cairo Mirage City Hotel

This 5-star hotel is situated in New Cairo approx. 50 min from the downtown/ Egyptian Museum area but only a 10 minute drive from Cairo International Airport and Heliopolis shopping area. The elegantly decorated air-conditioned rooms each offer views of the Mirage City or on-site swimming pool and are equipped with WiFi, minibar, and all other modern amenities. Work up a sweat in the fitness centre, take a dip in the heated outdoor pool or relax poolside with a cocktail in hand before heading to one of the two on-site restaurants which offer a mix of local and international cuisine. Alternatively, take advantage of the hotel's complimentary

shuttle bus to Cairo Festival City Mall, which has an outdoor dining hub with a choice of 50 restaurants.



## 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.



## 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.



## 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.



## 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.

**Backstreets of Cairo** - departs 10am, day 1 and returns to your hotel at 5pm. Entrance fees included.

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

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## Groups & Guides

**Groups:** The longest Signature Tour we offer in the Middle East is our Pyramids, Petra, Promised Land – 19 day tour. All other tours in the region 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. Travellers may join you part way through your tour i.e. for Cairo sightseeing, by the beach in Hurghada, upon arrival to Amman or Petra in Jordan or for your final leg in Israel. 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. In Egypt it is likely you will have 2 tour guides (both Egyptologists) for the duration of your tour.

### 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 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

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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](http://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 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

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- 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.

## Egypt Uncovered - 11 days

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updated on 22-01-2020 09:14:20

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.