Wonders of Ancient Egypt

tour.duration

12 day

tour.overview

The enduring buzz of Cairo's bustling city streets and imposing Great Pyramids of Giza launch your discovery of ancient Egypt, cruising down the life-source of this land to the Graeco-Roman double temple at Kom-Ombo, past the temples and tombs of Luxor, and exploring the Valley of the Kings.

City tour in Luxor and Cairo

Sail in a felucca across the Nile

See the Ramses II statue and Alabaster Sphinx in Memphis and view the Step Pyramid in Sakkara, the Great Pyramids, and Sphinx at Giza.

Explore the High Dam and the Unfinished Obelisk in Aswan, the Botanical Gardens on Kitchener's Island, and the Temple of Isis on the island of Philae.

the Citadel, Alabaster Mosque in Cairo

During your Egypt tours, you will visit the temples of Karnak, Luxor Temple, the temple dedicated to Goddess Hathor at Dendera, the Temple of Horus, the temple at Kom-Ombo, Queen Hatshepsut's temple, and the Colossi of Memnon in Luxor, the Valley of the Kings, the Egyptian Museum in Cairo.

tour.itinerary

Day 1

Welcome

Our representative will meet and assist you when you arrive at Cairo International Airport. He will help you handle all your procedures through passport control, customs formalities, and in the luggage area. Following this, you will be driven to your 5-star hotel on a private airconditioned vehicle for drop-off. Overnight in Cairo.

Day 2

Giza Pyramids, Memphis & Saqqara

After breakfast at your hotel, you will go on a tour of the Giza Plateau, which is about 30 minutes from Cairo. Once in Giza, your Egyptologist guide will introduce each of the three Giza pyramids: Cheops, Khafre, and Menakaure, the only survivor of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. You will have free time to enter the burial chambers of the pyramids (optional, for an additional cost); however, your guide is not allowed to enter with you to avoid overcrowding. You may also ride a camel in the pyramids area (optional, for an additional cost). After visiting the pyramids, you will continue across the plateau for a photo opportunity of the three pyramids rising from the sands with the Cairo skyline in the background. A short drive to the city side of the plateau finds you standing at the feet of the Sphinx, for thousands of years the enigmatic symbol of Egypt. The Great Sphinx, measuring 190 feet in length and 65 feet high, still stands as centurion over these magnificent royal tombs. This monumental landmark was carved out of a single piece of rock in the shape of a lion with a pharaoh's head. After your tour of the Giza Pyramids, you will drive to Saggara, which was built in 2650 B.C. and is home to Egypt's oldest pyramid. Your

guide will provide a brief history of the famous Step Pyramid and you will have free time to walk around. Your final stop is Memphis, the ancient capital of Egypt. Here you will see artifacts from many of the great rulers of Egypt, including the fallen statue of Ramses II. After touring Memphis, you will have a chance to visit a Papyrus Institute to see how this famous artwork is made and have the chance to purchase genuine items if you wish. After the conclusion of your tour, you will drive back to your hotel for drop-off

Day 3

Luxor (Karnak Temple)

This morning we fly to Luxor where we will enjoy a guided tour of the Karnak Temple complex and wonder at its colossal columns and then explore the Great Temple of Luxor, which dominates the city. We will board our cruise ship and settle into our home for the next seven nights.

Day 4

Dendera Temple

We travel north to Dendera where we spend the morning exploring the beautifully preserved <u>Dendera Temple</u>, dedicated to the Goddess Hathor. We return later to our ship, to cruise via the Esna Lock to Edfu.

Day 5

mammoth pylon

Walk through Ptolemy XII's mammoth pylon and into the house of Horus, the beloved falcon god who has worshipped at the <u>Temple of Edfu</u>. Tonight, we don traditional galabeas for a memorable evening celebrating Egyptian culture and cuisine as we cruise along the Nile to

Day 6

Aswan (High Dam & Island of Philae)

At the impressive High Dam in Aswan, we view the <u>Unfinished Obelisk</u>, today still set within the rock from which it was partially carved. We will visit the <u>Temple of Isis</u> on the Island of Philae before a relaxing rest of the day is spent on board our cruise ship.

Day 7

Abu Simbel

A leisurely morning sees us ease into tranquil river life, or consider joining a once-in-a-lifetime excursion to <u>Abu Simbel</u>. Later, we visit the roofless <u>Temple of Kom-Ombo</u> and pay tribute to Egypt's ancient falcon and crocodile gods.

Day 8

Nile to Luxor

Spend a full day cruising on the Nile, the lifeblood of Egypt. Enjoy the onboard facilities and admire the beautiful scenery as you meander along the Nile to Luxor

Day 9

Queen Hatshepsut

We disembark at Luxor and travel to the West Bank, journeying back in time to explore the fascinating complex of mortuary temples and tombs, including Queen Hatshepsut Temple, the Colossi of Memnon, and the Valley of the Kings. We take a return flight to Cairo where we will enjoy an evening at leisure to soak up the buzzing atmosphere for

which the city is famous. This evening consider an evening meal on board a floating restaurant with some lively Egyptian entertainment

Day 10

Islamic Cairo

On our final day of exploration, you will visit the Alabaster Mosque in the ancient <u>citadel of Salah El Din</u>, and the <u>Hanging Church</u> of St. Mary, suspended above the Babylon Fortress in Old Cairo. Delve into the historic treasures of ancient Egypt later, viewing thousands of artifacts from various dynasties displayed at the <u>Egyptian Museum</u>

Day 11

Bid farewell

Our tour ends after breakfast and hotel checkout. A departure transfer will take you to the airport for your onward travel

tour.included

Meet-and-assist services upon arrival and departure.

Transportation on private air-conditioned vehicles.

Accommodation in Cairo at 5-star hotel, including breakfast.

8 days, 7 nights on board a 5-star Nile cruise, on full board basis.

All sightseeing tours in Cairo, Luxor, Abu Simbel, and Aswan including English-speaking Egyptologist guides, all entrance fees, and transfers.

Internal flights (Cairo-Luxor; Luxor-Cairo). • when needed.

All service charge and taxes.

Exclusion

International Airfare. Gratuities/Tipping (Recommended). Entry to the pyramids chambers. Entry inside the step pyramid at Sakkara Camel ride Entry to the tomb of Tut Ankh Amun in Luxor. Drinks and any personal expenses. Entry visa to Egypt. Optional tours not included as part of the itinerary. 1 Person **4600\$** Per Person 2-4 Persons **3750**\$ Per Person

5-8 Persons

3500\$ Per Person

9-16 Persons

3200\$ Per Person

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3200\$ /Per Person