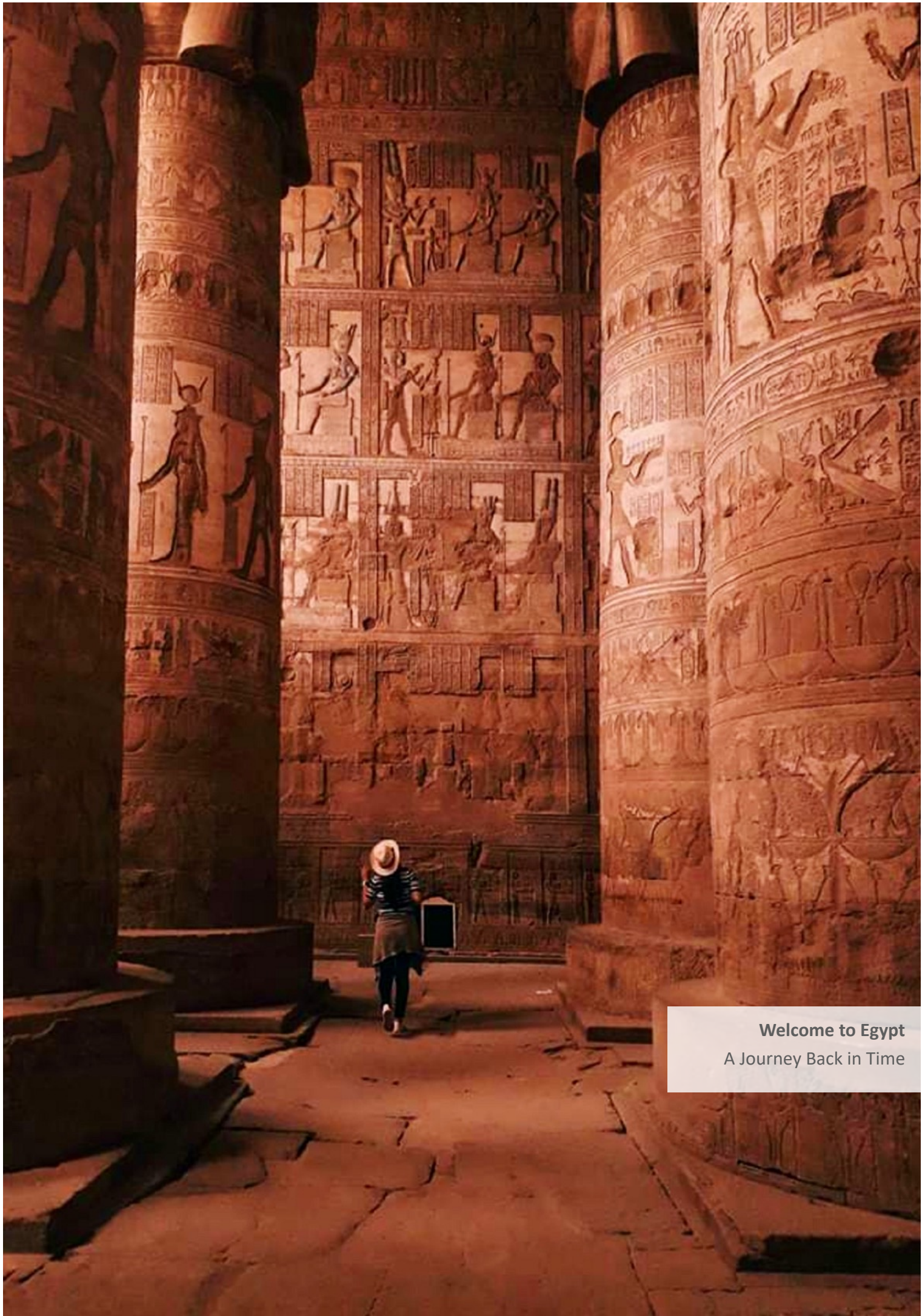


**EGYPT**



**Welcome to Egypt**  
A Journey Back in Time

## Table of Content

---

The Story	1
Egypt	2
Luxury Hotels	3 - 12
Destinations	13 - 30
- Nile Valley	13 - 16
- Red Sea	17 - 22
- White Med	23 - 25
- Western Desert	27 - 30
Tourist Attractions	31 - 40
Nile River Cruise	41 - 42
General Information	44
Elegance of Egypt	46
Elegance of the Nile	48
Elegance of the Pharaohs	50
The Best of Egypt	52
Pyramids & Nile by Train	54
Cairo, Nile Cruise & Hurghada	56
Frequently Asked Questions	59 - 60
Tips - On the Go	61 - 62

## ***Sanyog Gupta Voyages***

Luxury Destination Management Company

As we have evolved as a company, we have come to realise that our love lies not in booking tour packages, but in showcasing the unique experiences across the nations we serve. We realised that there are many secret corners of our world, rare moments, mysteries and stories.

Our company owned by a family, but run professionally. We have hierarchical systems which are driven by our core family values. We have come to understand we do not want to be the largest company globally. We have never tried to be the richest or the most influential. I say, we just want to be the bestest in what we do.

We are a family tradition for over three decades that have been highlighting this part of the planet. All over Indian sub-continent, we have grown to become a popular, valued and autonomous DMC providing the finest cultural experiences, personal immersions and natural wonders. We are here to build stories for our clients, tales of love, of wonderful excitement. We are proud of our past and its legacy.

*'We are real voyagers and love varying voyager's life!'*

### **THE LUXURY TRAVEL EXPERTS.**

YESTERDAY, TODAY, ALWAYS.

Sanyog Gupta Voyages brings to you finest luxury holidays in Egypt and Asia. Indulge your passion, arrive in a private jet, travel in a limousine or a yacht, the Opulent Routes Concierge services will weave magic in your holiday experience.

[www.sanyog.travel](http://www.sanyog.travel)



Sanyog Gupta  
President - Sales & Marketing

---

THIS IS THE TIME  
THIS IS THE PLACE  
**THIS IS EGYPT**

---

# EGYPT

The background image shows the interior of an ancient Egyptian tomb. The walls and ceiling are covered in intricate hieroglyphs and painted scenes. On the left, there are large, carved statues of figures, possibly deities or royalty, in a traditional Egyptian style. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures and colors of the stone and paint.

Egypt is one of the most remarkable travel destinations in the world given its spell-binding history. Captivating ancient civilisation and famous sites like Pyramids of Giza, Karnak Temple and the tombs at the Valley of the Kings. It's also a relaxation mecca with luxury Nile cruises.

## IT ALL STARTS WITH MARHABAAN

Egypt has always captured the imagination. It offers a winning combination of culture, history, Mediterranean beauty and stark desert scenery. It's the perfect destination for couples on the hunt for a luxury adventure, or newlyweds who want an interesting and relaxing honeymoon.

Egypt welcomes families with exciting, child-friendly excursions and a plethora of fantastic hotels. Most journeys start in Cairo with a trip to the mystifying Pyramids of Giza.

You can base yourself in their shadow, or select a centrally-located property which is perfect for the capital's museums and souks; one of our favourite pastimes is enjoying a drink with the Cairenes in one of the fabulous teahouses.

A Nile cruise is our recommendation for the best way to travel between the ancient cities of Luxor and Aswan, both of which are rich with temples and monuments.



## The Nile Ritz - Carlton

The Nile Ritz-Carlton, Cairo carries a rich legacy of tradition and luxury. Overlooking the Nile River lies the iconic luxury hotel, offering leisure and business travellers an opulent retreat in the heart of Cairo.

## Concorde El Salam Hotel

The Royal Tulip Concorde El Salam Hotel Cairo has a beautiful classical Georgian style but with modern furnitures. Come and enjoy our modern facilities of our 5-star hotel.



## The Fairmont Hotel

On the banks of the river Nile, Fairmont Nile City brings superb style with authentically local touches to the heart of Cairo, a destination with a long, rich history to explore.



## The Oberoi Sahl Hasheesh

Egypt's Red Sea is teeming with colourful sea life and unspoilt coral reefs. Spanning 48 acres on the Red Sea shore, our 5 star hotel in Sahl Hasheesh has been carefully designed to allow you space.



## Kempinski Hotels

Let us welcome you to Kempinski, a haven of tranquillity in Egypt. The 5 star hotels features the finest facilities coupled with the highest levels of service.

## Four Seasons Hotels

Our Hotel opens the door to discovering Egypt's 5,000-year-old ancient mysteries. Just a short drive away, set out to explore the majestic pyramids, the 1,000-year old market, the 12th-century citadel and the ancient Egyptian museum.





## Intercontinental CityStars

InterContinental Cairo Citystars offers luxury in the buzzing hub of Citystars Heliopolis, next to Stars Centre Mall. Whether you are in Cairo for business or leisure, the hotel puts everything at your fingertips,

## Sofitel Legend Old Cataract

French luxury and local cuisine in the world's most exciting country. Discover the sumptuous history of a hotel that's hosted royalty and celebrities.



## Marriott Mena House Hotel

Experience the wondrous beauty of the Pyramids from Marriott Mena House, Cairo. A frequent stop for dignitaries and celebrities, this 5-star hotel offers travelers a taste of modern luxury.



## Cleopatra Luxury Resort

Enjoy unexpected luxuries with local inspiration at Cleopatra Luxury Hotels & Resorts in Egypt. Cleopatra Resorts designed with passion and care to reflect the local culture and legacy.



## Movenpick Resort

Explore Egypt with Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts. A collection of 8 contemporary hotels located in Egypt's most stunning locations, allowing guests the opportunity to discover every aspect of this beautifully historic country.

## Monte Carlo Hotel

Experience the best of Egypt during your stay at Monte-Carlo Resort with critically-acclaimed food and drink, world-class entertainment and nightlife, & an award winning international pubs & lounges all within the resort confines.





## Jaz Hotels

Upbeat. In tune. Moving to the rhythm of today's global traveller. Jaz Hotel Group plays classic holiday experiences in a fresh and vibrant key. Sunny resorts. Snazzy lifestyle.

## Dusit Thani Lakeview

With a heartfelt belief and commitment to Thai hospitality, high-style surroundings and discreet, personalised service, each Dusit hotel offers guests a uniquely special stay. We are proud to run hotels and resorts around the world and across five sub-brands, all united by service that is warm, attentive and above



## Premier Le Reve Hotel

Opening our doors for the first time in 2009, we have strived to become Luxury Adult Only Resort who is providing upscale hospitality from the heart. Through authenticity and care, we created unique memorable experiences for our guests that will be treasured for a lifetime.

## Hyatt Regency

Hyatt Regency Cairo West boasts spectacular views over one of the world's greatest wonders, the Giza Pyramids. Located in the midst of Cairo's cultural and commercial hub, our hotel is a timeless infusion of culture and modernity.



## JW Marriott Hotel

The luxury JW Marriott Hotel Cairo offers a truly unforgettable experience to its guests, with five stars accommodation, award-winning service and a prime location in the city's Heliopolis district.



## Titanic Royal Hotel

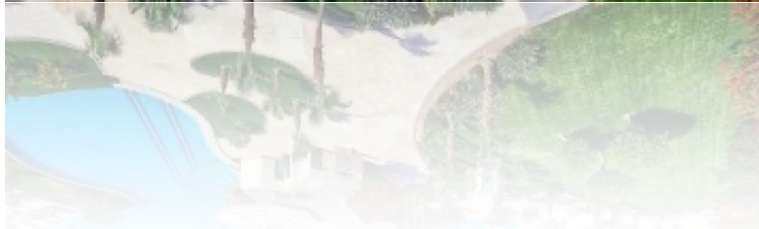
Titanic Resorts & Spa offers two worlds in one along Red Sea coast. Designed to please all ages, incredibly all-inclusive resort is Titanic Resorts' best value for singles, families or couples.





## Steigenberger Hotels

Experience a unique philosophy of hospitality – interpreted individually over fifty times. Whether it's in a historic building steeped in tradition or a modern designer hotel, whether it's in the heart of a fascinating city or surrounded by idyllic countryside – you can look forward to a very special sense of wellbeing in the establishments of the Steigenberger Hotels & Resorts.



## Al Alamein Hotel

Al Alamein Hotel is a refreshingly different upscale lifestyle hotel and residences brand for the new generation of business executives, entrepreneurs and leisure travellers.



## Coral Sea Holiday Resort

Sitting in the most beautiful vacation spots in Egypt, Coral sea hotels & resorts offer a wide range of selections with unmatched facilities to choose between five hotels & resorts and two Nile river cruise ships.

## Baron Hotels Egypt

Baron Hotels and Resorts is an independent hotel chain in Egypt operating since 1980 where you can experience luxury, elegance and comfort during your stay. Our hotels and resorts operate in the most outstanding destinations in Egypt.



## Reef Oasis Resorts

We've hand-selected the most extraordinary locations, ready to be discovered by you. Escape to a place where family and friends come first. Celebrate, explore and relax in Reef Oasis luxury family hotels, for the ultimate time spent together.

## Stella Di Mare Hotels

The April 2000 opening of the Grand Hotel in Ain Soukhna witnessed the birth of the Stella Di Mare Hotels & Resorts brand, heralding a new luxury hotel destination in Egypt.





## SUNRISE Resorts

Our dedication to the highest levels of quality, comfort, and customer satisfaction has been recognised and praised by several world-wide leading companies. We have received dozens of awards and certificates of excellence that serve as a testament to our devotion to quality.

## Novotel Hotels

Whether in city center or near to the station or airport, Novotel hotels are ideally situated. Novotel offers a 24-hour reception with a buffet breakfast, Wi-Fi, a large room with a bathtub and a sofa bed for children, who stay for free in their parents' room if they are under 16.



## Iberotel Palace

The five star "Iberotel Palace" is a premium, luxury resort destination at Egypt's fabled Sharm El-Sheikh laying on one of the longest stretches of waterfront overlooking "Sharm El Maya" Bay, only a few minutes' walk from the old town.

## The Three Corners Hotel

The intriguing story of The Three Corners Company starts in 1987 with the opening of the very first ice-cream parlour at the Red Sea in Hurghada. 31 years later the founding Belgian family Lambrecht is running 8 hotels, around the Red Sea in El Gouna, Hurghada & Marsa Alam.



## Rixos Hotels

At Rixos, all-inclusive is synonymous with luxury. Our unique All Inclusive – All Exclusive offering combines all-inclusive advantages with exclusive privileges. Rixos offers exceptional escapes that go beyond the imagination to open a new world of horizons for our

## Hilton Hotels

Hilton Hotels & Resorts is a global brand of full-service hotels and resorts and the flagship brand of American multinational hospitality company Hilton. The original company was founded by Conrad Hilton.



# NILE VALLEY



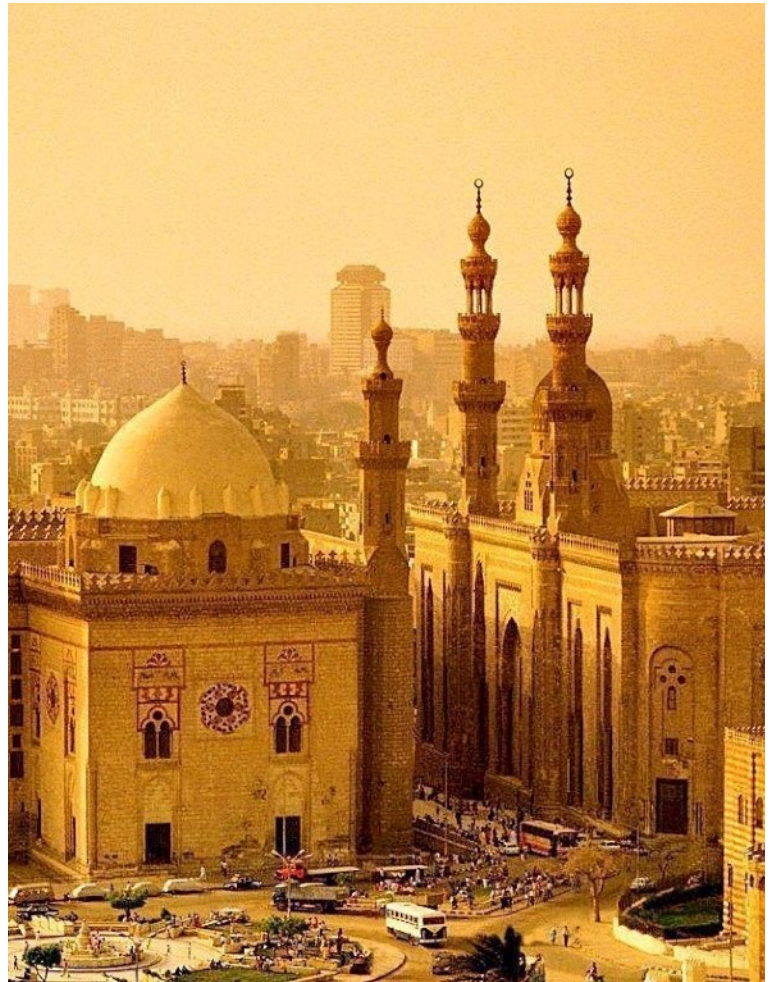


# CAIRO

This dusty capital city is one of the most sprawling cities on Earth, home to more than 17 million people. Built on the banks of the Nile River, Cairo is a medieval Islamic city with an eternally hazy horizon and beige-colored buildings topped with TV satellites.

Built near the ancient capital city of Memphis, modern Cairo is a popular starting point for cruises up the Nile and for explorations of the Pyramids at Giza just outside the city's limits. But there is so much to do within this enormous city itself.

The city's most historic mosques are worth a visit as well. Dating back to the 9th century when the Fatimids made the city their capital, the Ibn Tulun Mosque is the oldest in Cairo. The stunning Citadel and Mosque of Mohammed Ali Pasha, also known as the Alabaster Mosque for its gleaming white edifice, was named after the man who is regarded as the founder of modern Egypt.



# EL MENYA

A historical masterpiece illustrated through the evolution of ancient civilizations has produced one of Egypt's most remarkable destinations. Currently home to some 4 million Egyptians, El Menya is in many ways Egypt's geographical and historical nucleus, stretching out along the river Nile 230 km outside of Cairo.

This city was actually the capital of Egypt around 700 years ago when Ikhnaton and the beautiful queen Nefertiti inhabited the village of Tel El Amarana in the center of worship known as the Markez of Malawi.

This site can be visited alongside nearly a dozen other burial sites and museums, which still house the original sculptures, monuments and paintings that have survived to this day.

Having been a locale of significance during the era of the Pharaohs, the Romans and all the way to the time of the Abbasids, El Menya offers its visitors an orgy of discovery.



## LUXOR

One thousand years after the construction of the Great Pyramids, the New Kingdom arose in Egypt, and power shifted from the ancient capital of Memphis to Thebes in the south, the site of modern-day Luxor. Enriched by gold mines in the deserts of Nubia and transported to the city on the river Nile, Thebes became the country's cultural and political hub.

Today, the mid-sized city Luxor is known as the "world's largest open air museum" and is one of Egypt's most popular travel destinations. There's so much to see and do in Luxor – from temples to tombs and everything in between. You'll need to allow a couple of days to do it all justice.

The largest religious building ever built, the temple's pillared hall is a breathtaking stone forest of 134 columns that stand as high as 21 meters (69 feet). Stroll. Most of the Luxor attractions are located either on the East Bank or the West Bank of the Nile. The beautifully illuminated Luxor Temple is a particularly stunning temple to explore at night.

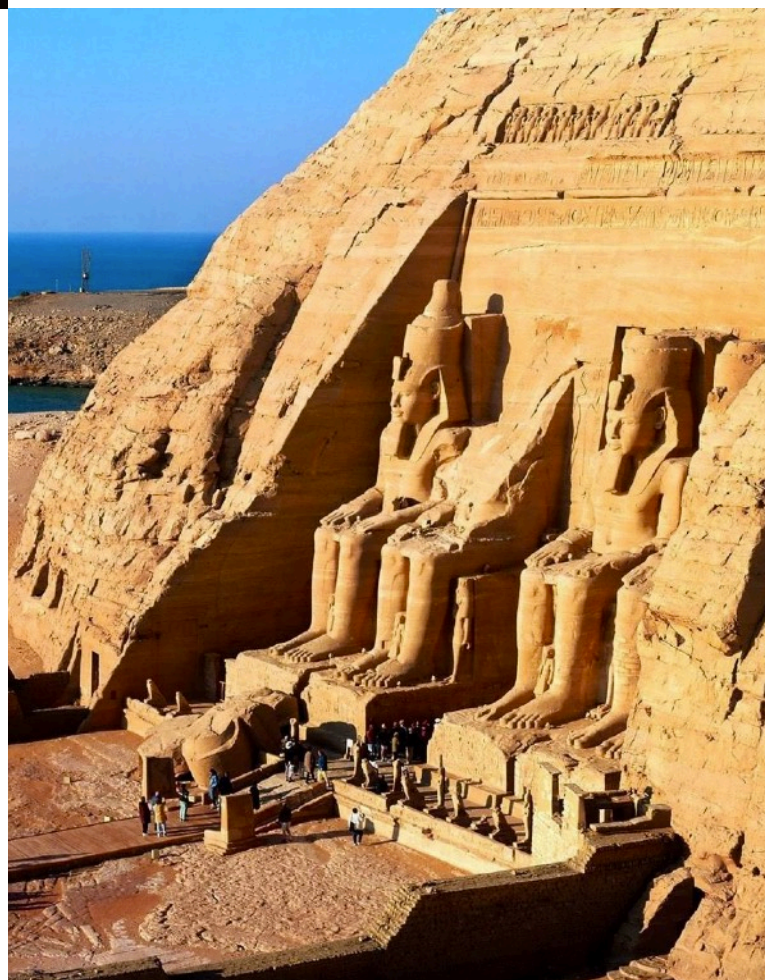
## ASWAN

Located about 899 km south from Cairo, Aswan is a serene Nile Valley destination where the Nile is more majestic than anywhere else, flowing through granite rocks, and round emerald islands covered in palm groves and tropical plants. It is considered as an all-time favourite winter destination.

Moreover, you'll be surprised to see how many monuments and sites this small city has to offer.

Aswan offers a splendid view of the Nile and is a great starting point for a Nile cruise. Aswan also offers a rich cultural experience; you will get to know Nubian culture and shop for spices, henna tattoos, souvenirs and African handmade goods at the Aswan souk. The word Aswan derives in fact from the Ancient Egyptian word Soun meaning souk or trade.

It has earned its name thanks to the city strategic position, on the trade route linking the North of Egypt to its South.

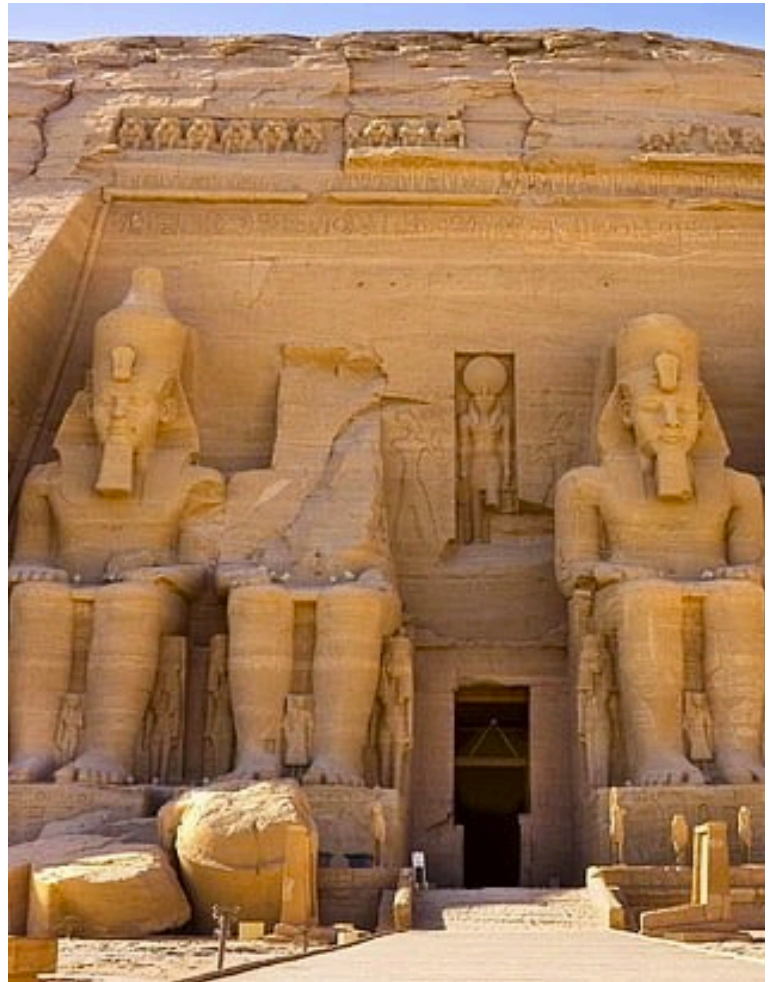


# ABU-SIMBEL TEMPLES

The very small village of Abu-Simbel lies 280 km south of Aswan, and only 40 km north of the Sudanese border. Even though it is home to several hotels, the small town is usually overlooked by tourists as a holiday destination. Most of them prefer to visit the Nubian town on a daytrip from Cairo or Aswan or as an extension to a Nile cruise or a Lake Nasser Cruise. Perched atop a hill overlooking the Nile, the majestic Abu-Simbel Temples are a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Dedicated to Ramses II & Nefertari, the world-famed temples will take your breath away. After a visit to this inspiring site, you can walk around the colourful touristic market, go bird watching on the Lake Nasser, and get back to the temples again in the evening for the amazingly inspiring sound & light show.

Staying in Abu-Simbel for a night or two will allow you to enjoy the peace and magic of this Nubian town at your own pace and discover the true spirit of Abu-Simbel.



# SOHAG

Sohag is one the important governorates of Upper Egypt with a capital city that holds the same name. Although the city and the government of Sohag have a long history in ancient Egypt, there is a little number of monuments situated there.

With a few number of remarkable historical sites and some magnificent views of the River Nile, maybe the city of Sohag should be added to the touristic tours of travelers visiting Egypt during the coming few years.

Sohag is relatively situated in Upper Egypt in comparison to other governorates located to the North like El Minya and governorates located to the South like Luxor and Aswan.

Divided by the River Nile to two sections; one on the West Bank of the Nile and the other on the East Bank, the governorate of Asyut occupies the Northern borders of Sohag, Qena occupies the Southern borders, the Red Sea Government is situated to its East, and the Governorate of the New Valley to its West.

# RED SEA



## DAHAB

Of all the Red Sea destinations, Dahab is probably the most appealing for those who want to soak up some sun in pristine beaches, relax in laid back atmosphere and try local restaurants.

There are also plenty of cozy local stores to go shopping. The beaches are public and the coral reefs are a few flipper strokes away from the shore.

From the coast of Dahab, you can see the incredible spectacle of Sinai mountains dropping right into the sea. It is located 90 km away from Sharm El Sheikh and 87 km away from Nuweiba. Dahab, meaning "gold" in Arabic

Once an isolated coastal village, Dahab turned into a hippie hangout in the 1980's and became something of an "alternative resort", mixing cheap accommodation with a laid back lifestyle. Activities such as wind surfing, snorkeling, scuba diving and camel and jeep trips make it one of the most popular destinations along the Red Sea.



## EL GOUNA

Here you will find countless interconnected islands, beautiful turquoise lagoons, state of the art golf courses, luxurious beach-front resorts and an endless range of water activities. El-Gouna is an environmentally friendly destination complete with world class accommodations for all family members that offers a myriad of services and activities to suit everyone.

It is located 22 km away from Hurghada and 470 km away from Cairo. With its state of the art spas, gourmet restaurants, golf courses, tennis courts, & Olympic pools this trendy cosmopolitan holiday getaway combines the best of a relaxation experience and extreme water activities.

It is thus the perfect honeymoon destination on the Red Sea Riviera and even better: a dreamlike location for your wedding celebration. Imagine yourself walking hand in hand with your loved one among lush green gardens, crystal clear lagoons, before joining your guests to a stylish open-air dinner party in one of the world's most luxurious venues.



## HURGHADA CITY

Spanning over 40 km of pristine coastline, Hurghada City has year-round sunshine, incredibly beautiful coral reefs and dozens of exciting attractions in a laid back, relaxed atmosphere.

Even though it's known as a top-three diving destination on the planet, it still has something for everyone, even the non-divers: beach fun, extreme water sports, clubbing and golfing are only some of the options you have to choose from. You can also enjoy an amazingly relaxing holiday by booking a treatment or two at one of Hurghada's best Spas.

Hurghada is a luxury resort town divided by Sigala, El-Dahar and El-Memsha. Sigala is where you find many seaside resorts, mid-range hotels and plenty of restaurants. South of Sigala, you find luxury resorts. El-Dahar is the older charming part of town with its bountiful bazaar. El Memsha, which means the village road, is the modern part of the city.

## MAKADI BAY

Come to the turquoise waters and beautiful desert landscape of Makadi Bay on the Red Sea. Set in a beautiful natural bay, the luxurious resort town of Makadi offers you tranquillity and peace of mind like no other town in Egypt.

Let go of your stress at the state-of-the-art Indian inspired Spa, or play a round of golf with friends while enjoying the amazing scenery. With diving and water sports also high on the list of things to do in Makadi, the bay is a wonderful beach getaway destination on the Red Sea Riviera.

You can laze on the beach or by your resort pool, enjoy the luxury of the provided services, visit Souk Makadi, dance in the bars and night clubs, and head to close by Hurghada.

The Red Sea Riviera is a wonderful place to visit, the water is warm and rich with coral and undersea life, the sand is pure and white and the weather is perfect all year round. Makadi is also surrounded by Egyptian Eastern Desert, with its wealth of natural beauty and things to see.



# MARSA ALAM

Since the opening of its international airport in 2001, Marsa Alam has become a great Red Sea destination for diving enthusiasts.

Nestled between sea and desert, the town offers all kinds of accommodations, ranging from upscale comfort establishments with complete Western amenities to Bedouin-inspired eco-lodges.

Dive sites accessible from Marsa Alam number among the most attractive in the Red Sea for experienced divers. Healthy coral reefs and the wide range of underwater wildlife such as dugongs and dolphins are the principal draw factors of Marsa Alam.

For less experienced divers, in-shore coral reefs are the ideal location for hours of marine wildlife watching. So whether it is the beach, the desert, the reefs or a combination of sightseeing and activities you are interested in, you will love Marsa Alam.



# NUWEIBA

Overwhelming views of Saudi Arabia soaring mountains beyond the Gulf of Aqaba, the inspiring Sinai Mountains as a backdrop, endless stretches of white powdery sand, secluded bays, crystal clear waters, incredible diving and a genuine natural feel that you might miss in other parts of the Egyptian Red Sea coast: welcome to Nuweiba, Sinai largest oasis, where fine-sand beaches are peppered with Bedouin beach tourist camps.

Although it seems to be slowly shifting from the hippy-style isolated desert oasis status to the prominent beach resort city reality, Nuweiba is still a destination where you can unwind and relax away from the usual mass tourism hustle and bustle.

It is also a perfect destination to go on exploration tours into the depths of the Sinai desert: explore St. Catherine Monastery, experience Mount Sinai trekking or explore the nearby Red Sea destinations such as Taba, Dahab and Sharm El-Sheikh.



## SAFAGA

Astounding reefs to explore, amazing kite and wind surfing conditions, never-ending beaches of black and gold sand dunes, a cultural day trip to Mons Claudianus where lie the remnants of a Roman quarry, the peace and serenity of a start-up touristic destination... that what Safaga is all about.

Once a small port town, exporting its abundant phosphate to the rest of the world, Port Safaga has grown into a major touristic hot-spot on the Red Sea! People come to Safaga from all around the world to enjoy the sun, the sea, and the exciting water activities on offer which include diving the Abu Kafan Reef, the Panorama Reef, Ras Umm Hesiwa and Sharm El-Naga but they also come for the curative properties of this paradisaical Red Sea destination.

Safaga is said to be one of the best locations in the world for curing psoriasis. Book a wellness holiday at the Menaville Resort & Spa in Safaga to experience the curative properties of the town environment.

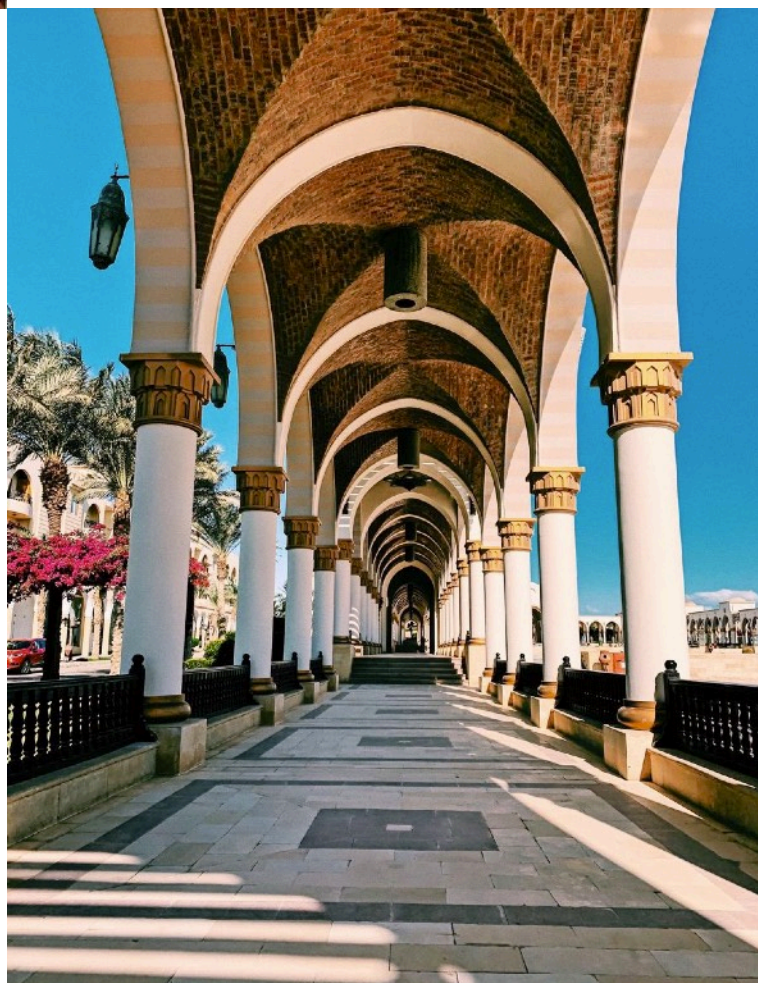
## SAHL HASHEESH

Located 18 km south of Hurghada City and boasting no less than 12.5 km of sandy Red Sea beach front, the Sahl Hasheesh International Resort Community is a booming fully integrated and luxurious resort community on the Egyptian Red Sea Coast.

Surrounded by the amazing Red Sea Mountains from the west and the infinite crystal clear waters of the Red Sea from the east, the Resort covers a total area of 41 sq km, 4100 hectares.

Walk through the elegant neighborhood alleys of this modern resort town, which are kept immaculate and evergreen thanks to the efforts of an army of gardeners and workers.

Stroll down on the wooden pier to the beautiful sandy white beach, where comfortable sun loungers and beach huts await you. As soon as you settle in, waiters will flock around offering you a towel, refreshments and sun-screen, to make your stay as pleasant as possible.





# SHARM EL SHEIKH

With sunshine and warm waters all year round, Sharm El Sheikh is the closest destination to Europe where you can soak up sun, dive amazing corals reefs, and enjoy the sea any time you need a break from routine.

Sharm El Sheikh boasts the widest array of fun, exciting and even crazy water and extreme sports: besides diving, snorkeling, sailing, wind and kite-surfing, you can even try sky diving or parachuting from a helicopter on your next holiday in Sharm El Sheikh.

Moreover, from Sharm El Sheikh, you can easily book trips and safaris into the nearby Sinai desert and discover the amazing St Catherine Monastery, or the majestic Sinai Mountains.

Sharm El Sheikh has it all to make your holiday an unforgettable experience. Sharm El Sheikh is located on the Gulf of Aqaba, about 300 km from Suez and 19 km from Ras Mohammed National Park.



# SOMA BAY

Located on the Red Sea, the very exclusive Red Sea resort of Soma Bay is an ode to relaxation and recreation, a haven of upscale pampering and leisure only 45 kilometres south from Hurghada International Airport.

With year round sunshine and pleasant temperatures, the 10 sq km Soma Bay development boasts all the amenities, activities and options you would want to have on your dream Red Sea Holiday in Egypt.

The resort is surrounded from all sides by the pristine waters of the Red Sea, the beautiful long sandy beaches are a call to relaxation, and amazing mountains and desert landscapes give the location a dramatic backdrop.

Additionally, the resort boasts top of the range luxury hotels, a championship golf course, the Cascades Golf Resort, a diving and kitesurfing centre and a leading thalasso-therapy spa, soma bay Thalasso & spa, which is in fact the largest on the Red Sea Riviera.

# WHITE MED



# ALEXANDRIA

The second-largest city and leading seaport in Egypt, Alexandria has a prime location on the edge of the Mediterranean. Founded in 331 BC by Alexander the Great, the city was once considered the crossroads of the world. Several of Egypt's pharaohs, including Cleopatra, ruled the country from Alexandria until the nation fell to Rome in 30 BC. Under Roman rule, the city earned a reputation as a center for arts and literature. The city's Roman Theatre, which features stunning mosaic flooring and marble seating, is a remnant of Alexandria's Roman occupation.

Today's Alexandria is a dusty seaside city with an over-inflated population of 5 million, that is badly in need of a lick of paint. It's a faded shade of its former glorious cosmopolitan self, but still worth a visit for its many cultural attractions and glimpses of its past. In ancient Alexandria, the most prominent feature was the Lighthouse of Alexandria, a towering structure that was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.



# EL-ALAMEIN

Famed for the decisive victory of the Allies over the Axis forces in the WWII North Africa campaign, El-Alamein is located half-way between Alexandria and Marsa Matrouh on the Egyptian North Coast. Today, it is home to war memorials, the British Memorial, the German Memorial and the Italian Memorial, as well as cemeteries, and landmarks reminiscent of this important part of the town history.

What's not to forget is that El-Alamein was also once described by Churchill himself as having the best climate in the world! It has thus normally become the favorite sun and sand upscale destination of Egyptian tourists on the White Med, and foreigners are following the trend and invading the upscale resorts that are growing like mushrooms on this stretch of coastal paradise.

Today, you can bask in total luxury on the sandy white beaches of El-Alamein. Frequent charter flights operate from main European cities to the fairly newly built El-Alamein International Airport.



## MARSA MATROUH

Nestled inside a big circular bay and protected from the high seas by a series of rocks forming a natural breakwater, Marsa Matrouh is a relatively secluded destination on Egypt's Mediterranean shore.

It is the capital of the Matrouh Governorate, which extends from the 61st km of the Alexandria-Matrouh highway to the Egypt-Libyan border (450 km of coast), from East to West, and from the coast 350 km deep into the western desert of Egypt, including Siwa Oasis.

With long sandy white beaches and crystal clear waters, such as Agiba Beach and Gharam Beach, described by many as one of the most beautiful seashore landscapes in the world, many believe that Cleopatra herself bathed in the tranquil waters of Marsa Matrouh. The water's colour ranges from blue to green, due to the depths differences in Matrouh's bay. The irregular sea ground forms an amazing underwater world of mountains, valleys and colourful fish species.

## NORTH COAST

Once only considered as a favored destination of Cairene vacationers, the North Coast of Egypt has succeeded over the past few years in earning the reputation of a world-class sea resort, by catering to more exclusive lifestyles through beautiful and upscale tourist villages.

Guests are flocking in from Europe and the Arab countries to this stretch of pristine coastline where the weather is a lot milder than it is in the top Red Sea coast destinations during summer. The area is dotted with five-star very luxurious resorts and villas, waiting to welcome those who want to escape the hustle and bustle of overcrowded mass tourism favorites.

Moreover, the area offers all the needed facilities for you to practice your favorite water sports and spend some quality time on the Mediterranean Sea.

In 1986, a Hellenistic-Roman town was discovered when the construction of the Marina Town in El-Alamein started. The area has been converted into an open-air museum.





سازمان اسفند و روغن

نقش  
للمساجد

ASLO

موسم  
۳۸۷

موسم  
۳۸۷

# WESTERN DESERT



## BAHARIYA OASIS

Spanning over 2000 sq. km. the Bahariya Oasis is a lush haven set in the midst of an unforgiving desert and surrounded by black hills made of quartz. The Oasis is home to amazing ruins, such as the Temple of Alexander the Great, beautifully painted Ptolemaic tombs and very old churches. The recent discovery of the golden mummies, the pride of Bawiti Museum today, turned the oasis' main town, into a tourist magnet, and its proximity to the Black Desert have earned Bahariya a high rank on the tourist map of Egypt.

Go for a short hike up to the mountains of Bahariya for an aerial view of the oasis, dunes and great sunsets. Visit ancient Egyptian and Grace-Roman sites, such as the Tomb of Banentiu, haggle with the locals for a scarf or a rug, enjoy a moment of solitude among wildlife, or relax in the hot waters of the Bir Sigam hot spring. Your options in Bahariya are wider than you can imagine. People from Arab countries come to the area of the Western Desert in summer for treatment. Temperatures in bahariya can reach up to 35-45 C in summer.



## DAKHLA OASIS

The Dakhla Oasis is considered to be one of the most attractive oases in Egypt. The oasis boasts over 500 hot springs, including Bir Tarfawi and Bir Al-Gebel Hot Spring, as well as charming mud-brick housing and ruins in the medieval town and village of Al-Qasr and Balat.

Dakhla is organized around the main town of Mut, a settlement that dates back to pharaonic times. Although Mut has evolved into a modern touristic hub, you can still see today the remnants of the old town.

Stroll along the narrow streets and alleyways of the old town with a guide, haggle with local traders or go cycling in Mut and tour the area at your own pace.

In Dakhla, you can also indulge in total luxury and relaxation at Al Tarfa Luxury Lodge and Spa, a desert sanctuary dedicated to wellbeing and opulence. People visit Dakhla oasis for a relaxation spa holiday at Al Tarfa Lodge or treatment in the western desert. Temperatures in summer can reach up to 35-45 C.



## FARAFRA OASIS

The most isolated oasis in the Western Desert, Farafra is the closest oasis to the White Desert, a desert dreamscape populated with unusual chalky rock formations. A safari in the White Desert is a must-do on your Western Desert exploration trail.

While in Farafra, you can also visit the unusual Badr Museum or take a short ride from the oasis' only town, Qasr Al-Farafra, to reach the Bir Sitta hot springs and the El-Mufid Lake.

During your stay, you'll also have the chance to see local arts and crafts and buy items like; sweaters, socks and scarves knitted out of camel and sheep wool from locals.

Temperatures in Farafra are cool from October to April and can reach 35-45 C in summer.

## GILF EL-KEBIR

If you ever dreamt of experiencing the story of *The English Patient*, the acclaimed movie based on the 1992 novel, visit Gilf El-Kebir. A round trip between Cairo and Gilf El-Kebir is about 2000 km; you'll need plenty of fuel, snacks and water!

Follow the steps of Almasry, the Hungarian explorer whose story is narrated in *The English Patient* by exploring the Regenfeld and the Swimmers Cave. Go deeper into the Gilf El-Kebir National Park to discover more of the hidden secrets of this barren land.

The Gilf El-Kebir is a sandstone plateau located in the southwest corner of the Western Desert. The rocky surface slopes south-eastward are partially covered by sand because the Great Sand Sea to the north is gradually encroaching on the plateau. The area is extremely arid but it supports the Barbary Sheep, and several species of reptiles as well as small birds, among the latter is the ubiquitous White-crowned Black Wheatear. You'll find ancient rock art in Shaw's cave, and El-Mestikawi cave depicting several types of cattle that attest to a wetter period in prehistoric times.



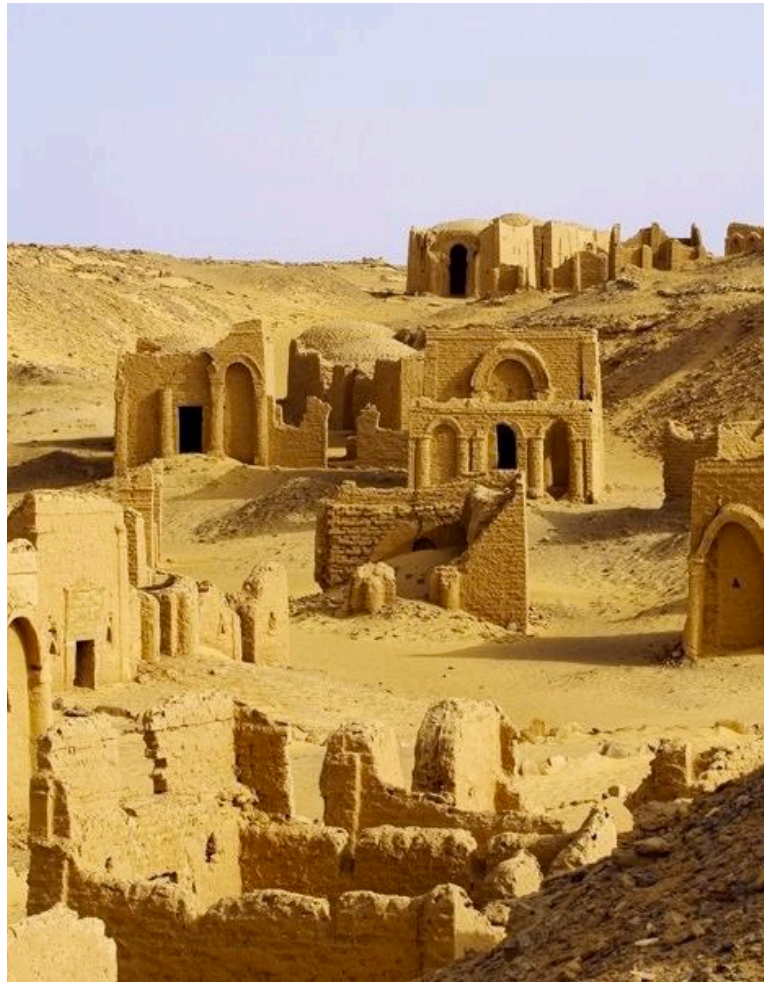


# KHARGA OASIS

Kharga Oasis is the largest and most populated oasis in the Western Desert. It is also the most developed oasis thanks to the governmental efforts supporting the modernization of the Western Desert oases.

Kharga can thus be considered as an ideal base for an exciting safari into the Western Desert. In and around town, you can visit Ancient Egyptian and Greco-Roman sites, such as the Temple of Hibis, and buy from local traders at the simple souk for pottery in the southern part of Qasr town, the oasis' main town, before heading to the interesting Kharga Museum of Antiquities.

Not far from Kharga, you'll have the opportunity to explore very old Coptic landmarks such as the Necropolis of Al-Bagawat and Deir Al-Kashef Monastery. Temperatures in Kharga are cool from October to April and can reach up to 35-45 C in summer.



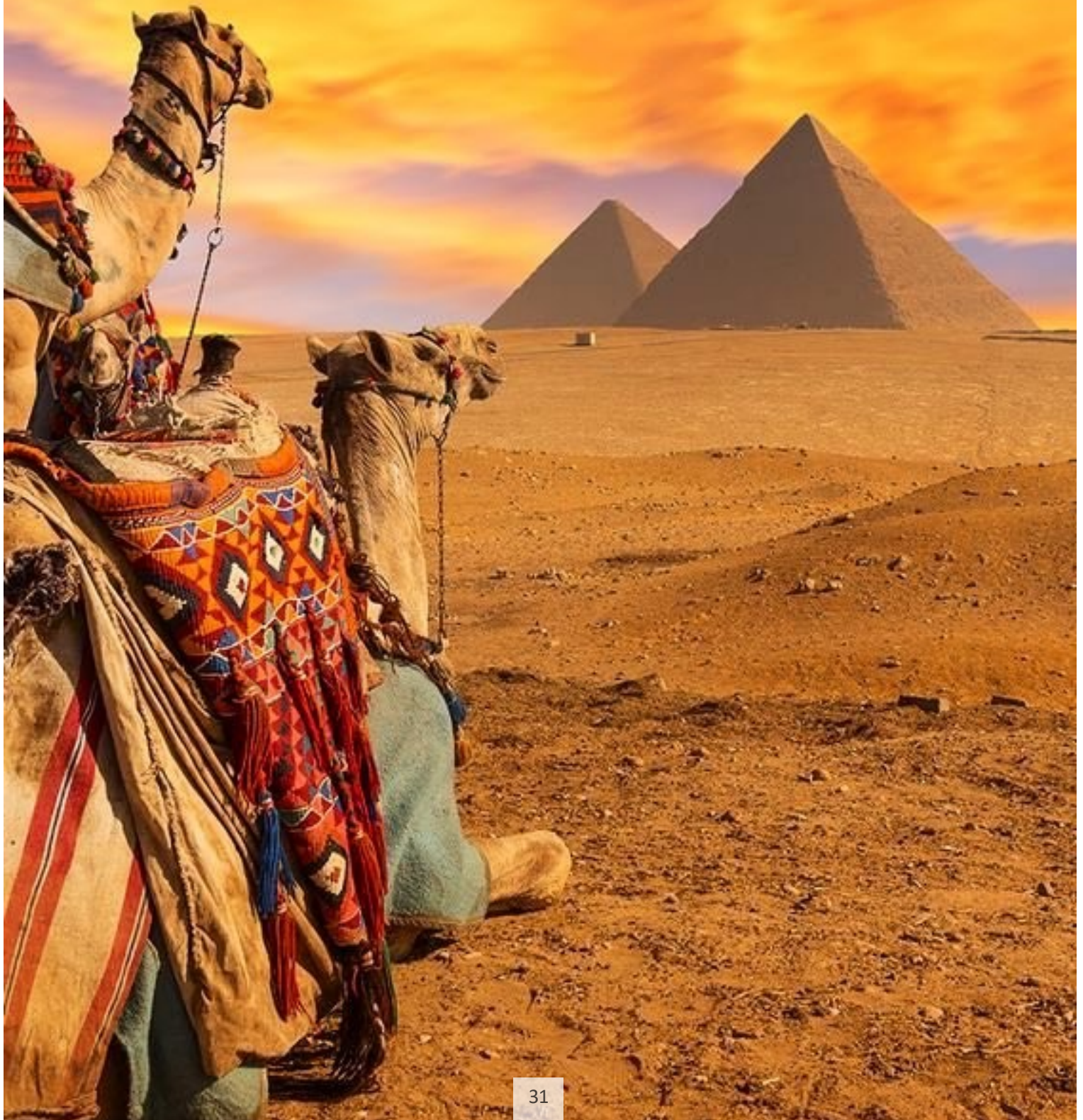
# SIWA OASIS

After a long drive through the barren landscape of the Western Desert, you won't believe your eyes when you reach Siwa for the first time. See an edenic island full of mineral springs, salt lakes and endless Olive and Palm groves.

For a cultural tour in Shali, the oasis' main town, check out the strange ruins of the Shali Fortress which dominate the town center and walk along sandy paths to find the Temple of the Oracle, once visited by Alexander the Great himself to consult the Oracle of Siwa. Finish your day by taking a dip at Cleopatra's Pool, where the legendary queen herself is believed to have once swum. Don't forget to buy some Siwan Crafts on your way, and spare an hour or two for a visit to the charming Siwa House Museum.

Adventurous travelers will also get their fix of fun and excitement by heading for a safari into the great sand sea or trying out quad biking in the Western Desert of Egypt. It is advisable to visit Siwa and any other Western Desert destination in the cooler months of the year, from October to April that is. Temperatures in summer can reach up to 35-45 C.

# ATTRACTIONS



## Pyramids & Sphinx at Giza

Lying on the outskirts of Greater Cairo is one of humankind's most astonishing architectural achievements – the Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza. Built between 2580 to 2510 BC are three phenomenal pyramids, with the enormous Great Sphinx and its human-like features set beside them. Exploring the Giza Pyramid Complex on foot or camelback is an experience like no other as you pass by some of the oldest buildings on Earth with the desert stretching out all around you.

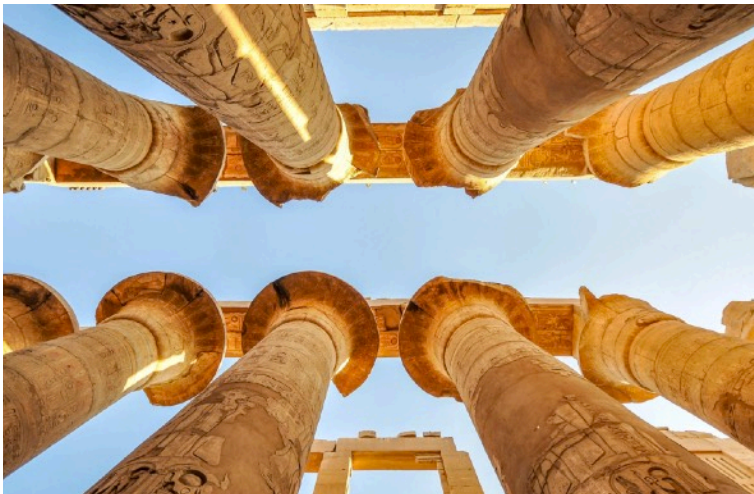


## Temples of Abu-Simbel

Set in the deep south of Egypt, not far from the border with Sudan, the Temples of Abu Simbel look out over the shimmering waters of Lake Nasser. Carved out of the mountainside in the 13th century BC, the twin temples are one of the most iconic sights in Egypt thanks to the enormous rock relief figures flanking their entrance. While the famed facades attract the most attention, their interiors are just as delightful to explore, with statues, reliefs, and pillared halls all on show.

## Valley of the Kings

One of the most remarkable archaeological sites on Earth, the Valley of the Kings lies on the west bank of the river Nile, facing Luxor. Cut into the surrounding cliffs, valleys, and mountains are an incredible 63 royal tombs, with pharaohs such as Tutankhamun and Ramesses buried here from the 16th to 11th century BC. Most of these chambers are sumptuously decorated with religious texts and resplendent reliefs, although their glittering treasures and sarcophagi have long since been removed.



## Karnak Temple

Renowned for its staggering size, scale, and splendor, the Karnak Temple complex covers a vast area and is one of Luxor's most popular attractions. While work first began on the site around 2000 BC, approximately 30 pharaohs contributed to its dazzling and decadent design, with each ruler adding their own temples and sanctuaries, chapels and obelisks. Wandering around the temple really does feel like stepping back in time as you pass by colossal colonnades, human-headed sphinxes, and astounding architecture.



### White Desert National Park

Boasting some of the most unique, unusual, and incredible landscapes in Egypt, White Desert National Park lies in the west of the country, not far from Farafra. Here, you'll find sparkling white chalk rock formations, outcrops of glinting quartz, and the magically named Crystal Mountain. Sculpted over millennia by the desert winds and sands of the Sahara, their surreal shapes and colors are mesmerizing to gaze upon, with the best views to be had from atop the two towering Twin Peaks.

### Ras Mohammed

Lying right in the south of the Sinai Peninsula, the small and scenic peninsula of Ras Mohammed juts into the warm waters of the Red Sea. Now a national park, its desolate landscapes contrast delightfully with the colors and life found beneath its waves. As such, it is one of the famous places in Egypt to go scuba diving and snorkeling, with the famous Shark and Yolanda Reef sites being the pick of the lot. Besides its gorgeous coral reefs and shimmering shoals of fish, Ras Mohammed also has beautiful beaches.



### Egyptian Museum

Full of glittering jewels, marvelous mummies, and stupendous statues, the Egyptian Museum is home to one of the world's most extensive collections of ancient artifacts. First opened in 1902, the large pinkish-red building can be found in Downtown Cairo overlooking Tahrir Square. Wedged within its grand galleries are over 100,000 objects, with sublime stone sculptures and tantalizing treasures wherever you look.

### Pyramid of Djoser

Out of all of Egypt's astonishing and awe-inspiring archaeological sites, the Pyramid of Djoser stands alone as the first colossal stone monument constructed in the world. Due to the amount of labor and level of societal organizing needed, its construction represented an astounding leap from previous architectural styles and norms. Dating all the way back to the 27th century BC, the stunning step pyramid was built to house the burial chamber of Pharaoh Djoser, and many tunnels and galleries can be found inside it.



## St. Catherine's Monastery

Set in the center of the Sinai Peninsula, St Catherine's Monastery lies not far from the small town of the same name, beneath the wonderfully weathered Willow Peak.

Sacred to Christians, Muslims, and Jews, it is one of the oldest monasteries in the world, having been established in the year 324. Enclosed within its ancient walls, you can find a lovely church, mosque, and library, as well as innumerable important icons and mosaics.



## Al Azhar Mosque

The first mosque founded in the city, Al Azhar was built by the Fatimids in 972 in their newly established capital of Cairo. Located in its mesmerizing medieval quarter, the mosque exhibits exquisite architecture, with majestic minarets and madrasas lying alongside divinely decorated prayer halls and marble-coated courtyards. In addition to the fine features and flourishes that date to the Mamluks and Ottomans, among others, Al Azhar is also one of the oldest seats of learning in the world.

## Blue Hole (Dahab)

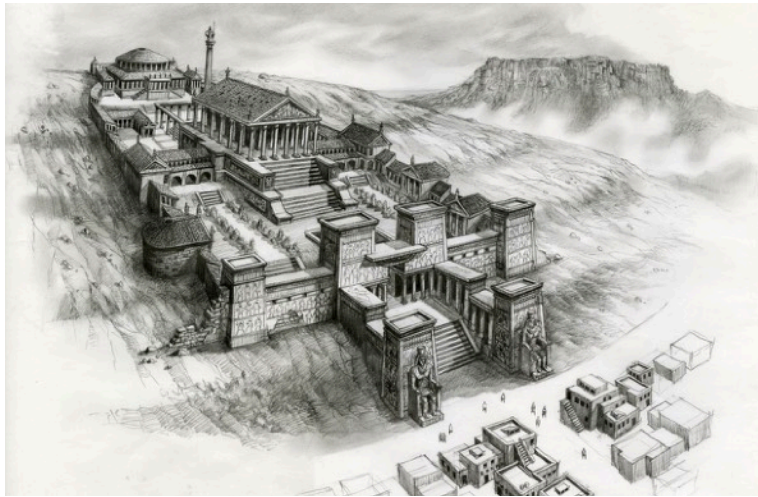
One of Egypt's most popular dive sites, the Blue Hole, lies just north of Dahab on the southeast of the Sinai Peninsula. Dropping straight down for over a hundred meters, the sinkhole is brimming with colorful coral reefs and shimmering shoals of fish.

Due to the abundance of marine life and shoreline accessibility, recreational scuba divers line up to explore its underwater riches every day.



## Red Pyramid

Surrounded by the endless sands of the Sahara, the Red Pyramid is located some 40 kilometers to the south of Cairo at the Dahshur necropolis. Widely believed to be the first successful smooth-sided pyramid ever built, it dates to 2590 BCE and lies next to the Bent Pyramid, an earlier and unique but ultimately unsuccessful attempt. Once encased in white limestone, the 105-meter-high pyramid is now a ruddy red – residents of Cairo carted off its outer layer and used it to erect buildings.



## Bibliotheca Alexandria

One of the most important centers of learning and culture in the country, Bibliotheca Alexandria is located in Egypt's second-largest city of Alexandria, on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

Opened in 2002, it attempts to replicate, commemorate, and celebrate the knowledge and learning that once took place in the Great Library of Alexandria – one of the ancient world's greatest institutions. It certainly achieves its goal.

## Temple of Edfu

Boasting an extraordinary entrance, the Temple of Edfu lies on the banks of the river Nile, between Luxor and Aswan. Built between 237 and 57 BC, the Ptolemaic temple is dedicated to Horus; one of the most important ancient Egyptian deities. Very well-preserved, it showcases remarkable reliefs and delightfully detailed carvings and hieroglyphs; even its roof is intact. Surrounding its sanctuary are nine chapels, and large stone columns line its divinely decorated halls.



## Abydos

An impressive archaeological sites in Egypt, the ancient city of Abydos lies in the center of the country, just a couple of hours north of Luxor. Home to an astounding array of temples, tombs, and tantalizing treasures, it was here that the early pharaohs were buried, with the royal necropolis of Seti I being the undoubted highlight. Wandering around the extensive yet largely unexcavated site is an awe-inspiring experience as massive monuments and cavernous chapels, chambers and courts lie all around.

## Temple of Isis at Philae

Located in southern Egypt, the Temple of Isis lies on a small island in a reservoir of the Aswan Low Dam, surrounded by the swift-flowing waters of the river Nile. Originally located on Philae, it was dismantled and then relocated and reconstructed on Agilkia Island in the 1970s to protect and preserve the ancient complex from flooding. Impressively, the temple is the oldest built in the classical Egyptian style and dates back to the third century BC.



## Red Sea Reef

The Red Sea, off the coast of Egypt, is one of the most beautiful places in the world to go diving. The waters of the Red Sea are renowned for their spectacular visibility and features some of the most exotic seascapes. With its wide expanse of coral formation on the reefs, it is home to thousands of different sea creatures. Red Sea beach resorts are located on both sides of the sea, on the east side and part of the Sinai peninsula is the long established Sharm el Sheikh and its neo-hippy counterpart, Dahab.



## Mosque of Ibn Tulun

Built between 876 and 879 AD, the Mosque of Ibn Tulun is one of the oldest mosques in Cairo. It was commissioned by Ahmad ibn Tūlūn, the Abbassid governor of Egypt. The mosque is constructed around a courtyard, with one covered hall on each of the four sides. The minaret, which features a helical outer staircase similar to that of the famous minaret in Samarra, was probably built several centuries later. Parts of the James Bond film *The Spy Who Loved Me* were filmed at the Mosque of Ibn Tulun.

## Tomb of the Nobles

A network of ancient Egyptian tombs built into the cliff face along the Nile. Rising up along the west bank of the Nile is a relatively little-visited archaeological gem, the Tombs of the Nobles, also called Qubbet el-Hawa, where ancient carvings and hieroglyphics still exist alongside Christian murals and Muslim monuments. This sand-swept cliffside necropolis is located a short ferry ride across the river from Aswan, and can be seen from all around the city.



## Castle Zaman

Gracefully perched atop a desert cliff between the cities of Taba and Nuweiba, Castle Zaman is a unique attraction on the serene stretch of Sinai.

In this newly built medieval-like castle, you'll be in a luxurious eco-friendly atmosphere with attractions ranging from swimming and diving to upscale dining, yoga and massaging. Access to the castle's private beach, with its pristine sand and crystal clear waters, the only virgin beach left in the Taba-Nuweiba area. Some of the best corals on the coast are within a short swimming distance from the shoreline.



### The Hanging Church

Take the steps that lead to one of the most beautiful churches in the Middle East known as the Hanging Church. Built on top of the Roman fortress gatehouse called Babylon, the nave of the Hanging Church is suspended over the passageway. Located just south of the Coptic Museum in Cairo, the Hanging Church boasts 13 magnificent pillars in its interior, representing Jesus and his 12 apostles. Listen in on the ancient liturgical Coptic language used in service and witness a living vestige of Ancient Egyptian history.

### Pharaohs Island

After a short ferry ride from Taba's coast, you'll reach the Island of the Pharaoh, also known as the Coral Island, a small granite atoll surrounded by coral reefs and amazing dive sites. The island is also known for its citadel, originally built by crusaders and later conquered and reconstructed by Saladin. The citadel is listed today as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The diving sites surrounding the island include the Picasso Reef; an underwater mountain that leads down 24 metres to huge table corals.



### The Fjord

Located just 15 km south of Taba, the Fjord is a spectacular diving spot housed by a stunningly beautiful and protected bay with dazzling coral reefs and unforgettable scenery. If you're an experienced diver, you'll be tempted by the 'Fjord hole': a site you will reach after following a huge coral bed at 16 m of depth, you'll find a huge hole that goes down to a depth of 24 m. After entering the hole, you'll witness an amazing marine life scene: fish from the open sea coming to feed on plenty of tiny Glass Fish and Silver Fish.

### Yacht Dinner Cruise

If you're looking for an unbeatable romantic or totally crazy night in Egypt, try the glamour of a Red Sea dinner yacht cruise. Departing from Sharm's marina, the upscale dinner cruises have become a hit over the past few years. Some of Sharm el-Sheikh's upscale hotels, such as the Ritz-Carlton and the Dominia Coral Bay have initiated this new trend. Imagine the candlelit gourmet dinner you'll enjoy with your tender one on deck, or the crazy party you'll throw with your friends, miles away from the shore.





## Coloured Canyon

One of the natural wonders of the Sinai, the Coloured Canyon, can be visited from Taba. It's a maze of sandstone rocks in hues of yellow, purple, red, magenta and gold reaching up in some places a height of 40 meters. The uneven forms and height of the rocks sometimes make climbing necessary, so be prepared and try to get there as early as possible, not only because of the weather, but also to avoid the crowds. After visit, you will agree that the magic of the place is best enjoyed when you're on your own.



## Mausoleum of the Aga Khan

At first sight, the Mausoleum of the Agha Khan in Aswan may appear to you as an austere and isolated building, on the west bank of the Nile River. Inspired by the architecture of the Cairo Fatimids, the structure is recognisable by its elegance and by its special use of pink granite. It was built at the request of the begum, wife of the Aga Khan III who died in 1957. Nevertheless, the spot is more than worth a visit, be it for the serenity of the place or the amazing panoramas of the Nile and the villa below.

## The Gayer Anderson Museum

The Gayer Anderson Museum in Cairo is a must-see on your exploration tour of Islamic Cairo. It consists of an amazing patchwork of Islamic styles and artefacts packed into two wonderful ancient residences: Beit el-Kiridiliya (1632) and Beit Amna Bent Salim (1540). The museum was founded by a British major, John Gayer-Anderson, an army doctor who restored and furnished the two residences between 1935 and 1942, filling them with antiquities, artwork, furniture, glassware, crystal, carpets & silks.



## Salah El-Din Citadel in Cairo

When in Cairo, it is basically impossible to miss the Salah El-Din Citadel, one of the world's greatest monuments to medieval warfare. Resembling a typical early medieval fortress, with large imposing gateways, towers and high defending walls, the Citadel is one of Cairo's main attractions and probably the most popular non-pharaonic monument in the Egyptian capital. The citadel is also home to the impressive Gawhara Palace (the Jewel Palace), named after Gawhara Hanem, Mohamed Ali's last wife.



### Taba Heights Golf Resort

Nestled between the clear blue waters of the Red Sea and the spectacular Sinai Mountains, with views over the Gulf of Aqaba, the Taba Heights Golf Resort offers an exciting 18-hole golf course with raised fairways and numerous bunkers. A course that is well suited to both beginners and more advanced players.

The course has been designed by John Sanford, a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architect.

### Marina Boulevard

A stroll along the Hurghada Marina Boulevard is a must-do: watch multi-million dollar yachts floating on the majestic Red Sea before settling down in one of the upscale cafés, bars or pubs of the Marina. Lying on the west coast of the red sea with surface of over 150 000 sq. Meters. The Hurghada Marina project is considered to be one of the biggest and most splendid projects in Hurghada, Egypt.



### Shopping in Abu Tig

Compared to the downtown area, the resplendent Abu Tig Marina is a "classier" shopping venue in El Gouna housing a multitude of boats and yachts and offering a fine selection of fashionable boutiques. Intimate restaurants, cafes and bars add to the refined atmosphere of the location. In addition to the beautiful yachts and amazing sea trips on offer at the marina in El Gouna, every Friday a festival is held at the seafront.

### Sunset Camel Rides

Hotels and restaurants offer brief camel rides that reach past the southern end of Mut. Let the guide know if you want to stop over a majestic dune. Go ahead, roll down the sandbank. We know you want to. Move to experience a camel riding at Giza Pyramids at sunset. While experiencing the camel riding, you will enjoy the fascinating view of the pyramids of Cheops, Chephren and Mykerinus from outside. After that, move to enjoy a BBQ dinner at the desert of the Pyramids with various options of grilled food.



## Gharam Beach

The Largest of Marsa Matrouh's Beaches, Gharam Beach, meaning "The Shore of Love" in Arabic, is only 17 kilometres away from town. This paradisiacal location is a perfect romantic beach getaway. Come feel the calm waves caressing the fine and soft sand. Do not fight the temptation of sinking your toes into it and diving into the infinite blue. And although "Gharam" is more secluded than most of the Egyptian White Med beaches.



## Cairo Tower

From its 187 meters, the Cairo tower offers the most amazing panoramic views of the Egyptian capital. It is advised to go up to the tower's circular observation deck in the late morning or late afternoon for the clearest views of the city. You'll also find a restaurant at the top of the tower.

Occasionally, the restaurant revolves around the tower's main axis. The tower was designed by the Egyptian architect, Naoum Chebib.

## High Dam

Prepare yourself for a particularly overwhelming sightseeing experience: the Aswan High Dam is truly impressive. The Dam is 3600 metres long, 980 metres thick at base and 111 metres tall (at its highest point).

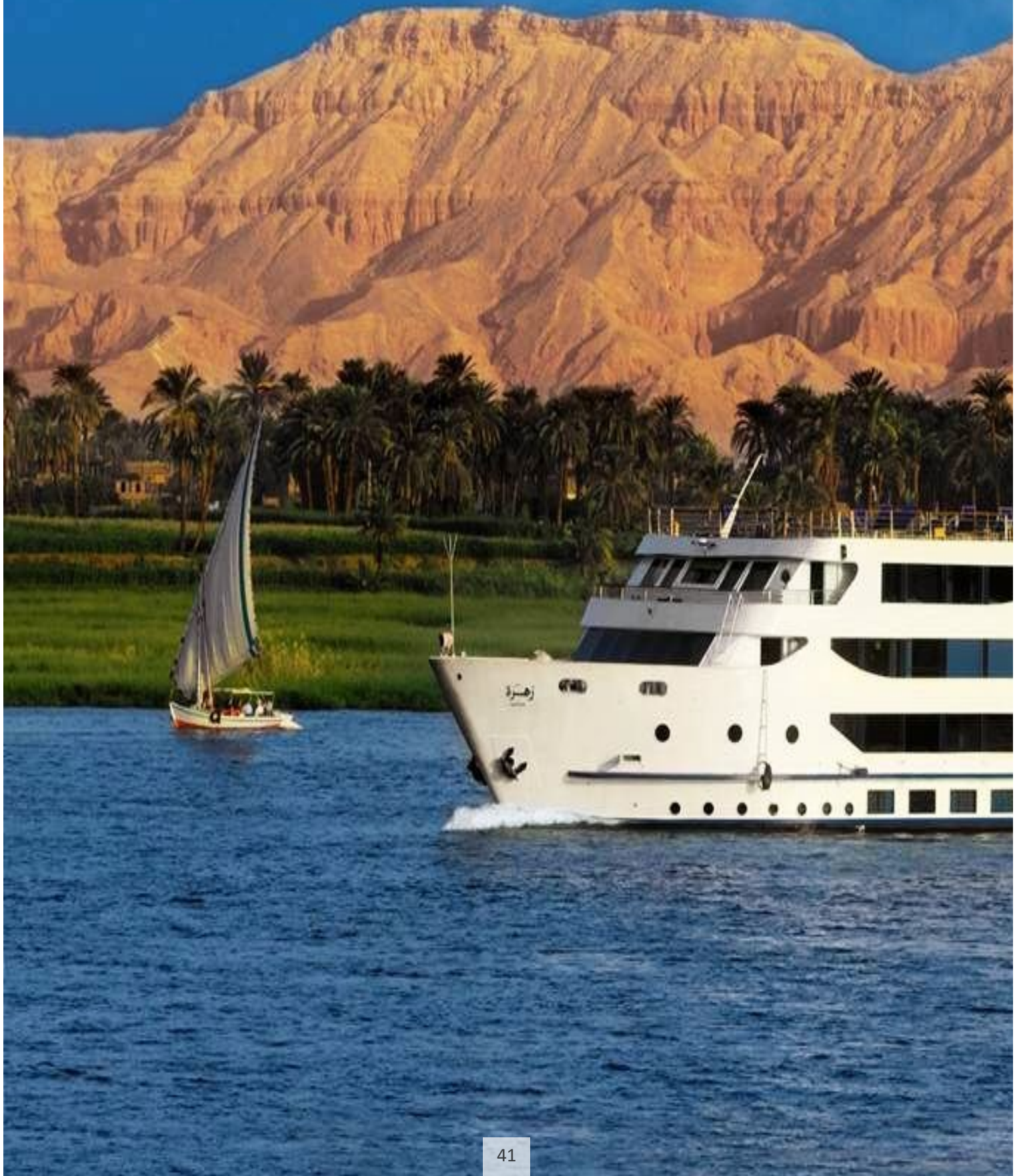
The waters of Lake Nasser, the world's largest man-made lake, have amassed behind it. It provides irrigation water and electricity for the whole of Egypt. Located 13 km south of Aswan, the High Dam is usually included on south Aswan daytrips itineraries.



## Agiba Beach

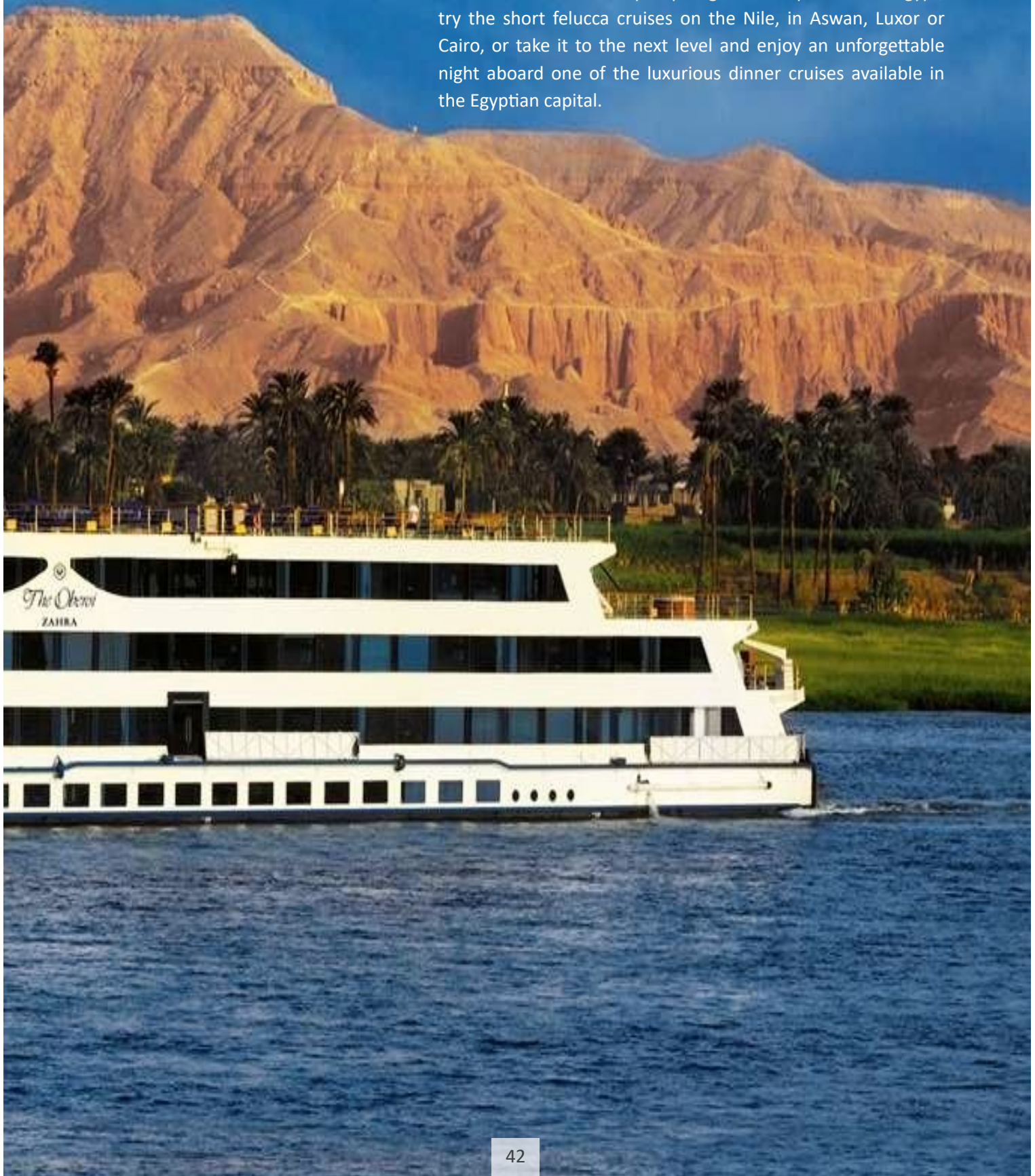
Visit one of the most beautiful virgin beaches in the world, the pride of Marsa el-Sharif. Roughly 40 metre long, the clean sand and cool waters of the beach are snuggled between cliffs. Climb up one of the cliffs for an astonishing view of the impossible blue greens of the Mediterranean contrasted with the light shades of the shore, or follow the narrow path leading to the beach for a revitalizing swim in the cool waters of the Mediterranean. Atop one of the high cliffs, there is a small cafe where you can enjoy a refreshing drink.

# NILE RIVER CRUISE



Sailing the Nile along the lush Nile Valley surrounded by golden dunes and sightseeing Ancient Egyptian monuments such as Kom Ombo and Abu Simbel is tourism at its best. Wake to the soft light of the morning sun, take in the heat and cool off in the pool on the deck of a cruiser; watch fishermen cast their nets, farmers take to their fields, a flight of birds, and water buffalos staring back at you. Book a Nile cruise and you just might unravel another layer of the mystery that is Ancient Egypt.

For a softer but still very inspiring cruise experience in Egypt, try the short felucca cruises on the Nile, in Aswan, Luxor or Cairo, or take it to the next level and enjoy an unforgettable night aboard one of the luxurious dinner cruises available in the Egyptian capital.





# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Welcome to Egypt

For centuries, Egypt has captured every travellers' imagination, with its pyramids, legendary pharaohs, and myths of the mummies' curse. But there's even more to this diverse nation than you expect.

Here, you can party all night in Cairo, and run your fingers over hieroglyphs carved onto ancient temple walls. You can explore an unearthly White Desert, go scuba diving in the Red Sea, or climb into the heart of the Great Pyramid itself. No matter where you go in Egypt, what you choose to do, which Egypt trip packages you pick, a treasure trove of discovery and delight awaits you in this timeless holiday destination.

## Location

This transcontinental country stretches from the north-eastern end of Africa up to the south-western end of the Middle East and is bordered by Jordan, Greece and Saudi Arabia. Its convenient location makes last minute holidays to Egypt possible, whether its a weekend getaway, romantic retreat or family vacation.

Non-stop flights from India to Egypt take you to Cairo in about 7 hours, and flights from Europe are usually less than 6 hours.

## Currency & Exchange

The domestic currency is Egyptian Pound. Foreign currency of all kinds may be exchanged at the airport, banks, most hotels or licensed exchange agencies in large cities. Cash withdrawals can be easily made from the many widespread ATMs via International credit or debit cards.

## Language

Although Arabic is the official language, English is widely spoken and used in business transactions in Egypt.

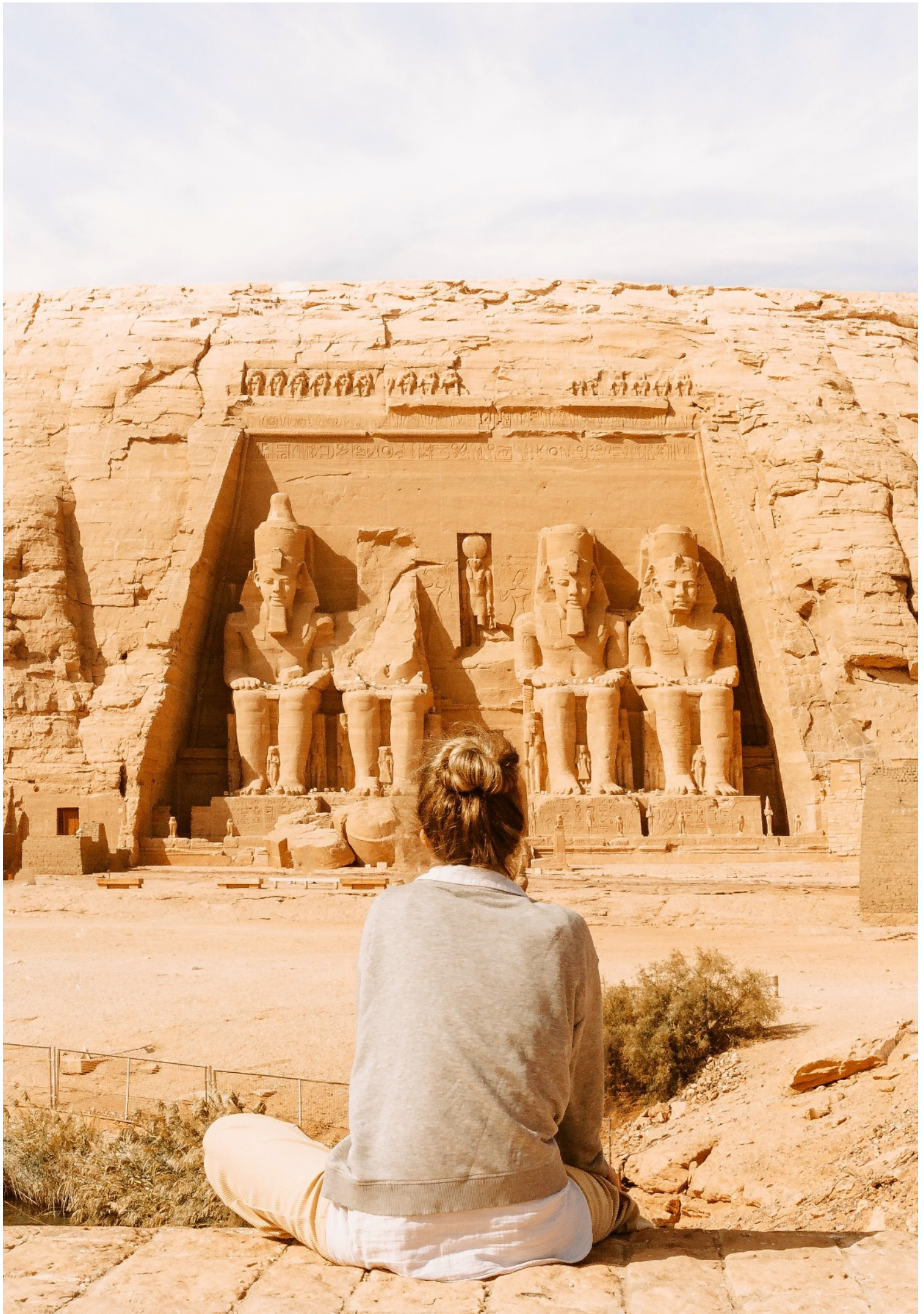
## When to go

Egypt is a favoured holiday destination year-round. During the summer months (between May and August), temperatures can heat up, especially in the south of the country; However, this means that there will be fewer travellers around.

During the winter months, temperatures are cooler (easily conquered with a warm jacket). But this is peak season in Egypt, attracting more travellers than other parts of the year. The in-between months (March-May, and September) often make for the best time to visit Egypt, especially those who want to sunbathe at the Red Sea and go swimming.

## Where to go

There is no shortage of must-see sights, from ancient royal temples to beautiful golden treasures, and a variety of natural wonders spanning the palm-freckled banks of the River Nile to the bright coral gardens of the Red Sea. Cairo is usually the entry city for most travellers. From here, you can reach Alexandria, Luxor, Aswan and other cities by domestic flights, trains and buses.





# Elegance of Egypt

## Experience Exceptional Egypt During a 1-Week Private Tour & Nile Cruise

CAIRO - GIZA - ASWAN - KOM OMBO - EDFU - ESNA - LUXOR - KARNAK - CAIRO  
06 NIGHTS / 07 DAYS

Stand in awe of Egypt on this 1-week private guided tour. Just outside of Cairo, see the wondrous Pyramids of Giza with an Egyptologist, who will guide you inside and up close to the Sphinx. Sail the Nile to the preserved Philae, a maze of towering temples along the water and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

After gazing at the Aswan Dam — one of the world's largest embankment dams — spend an afternoon your way: cruise the Nile on a traditional felucca, a wooden boat with billowing sails, or visit the lively Aswan Market where you can buy unique souvenirs. See the unique Kom Ombo temple, dedicated to a falcon-headed Horus and crocodile god Sobek — then don traditional galabeyas for a flavorful feast in Edfu.

---



# Elegance of the Nile

## See the Elegance of Egypt During an 11-Days Private Tour & Nile Cruise

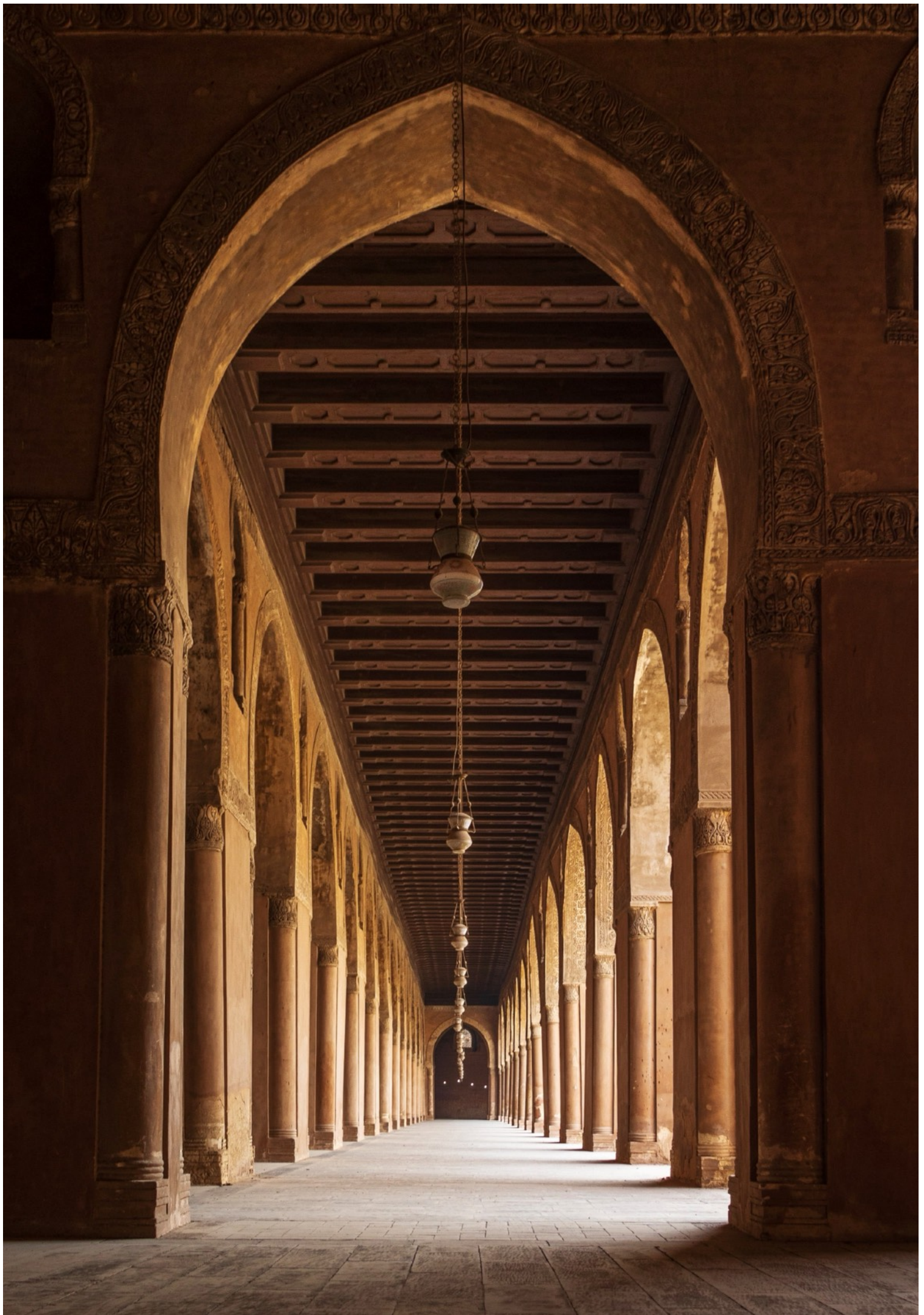
CAIRO - GIZA - LUXOR - KARNAK COLOSSI OF MEMNON — KITCHENER'S ISLAND - ASWAN - PHILAE ISLAND - EDFU - ESNA - LUXOR - CAIRO  
10 NIGHTS / 11 DAYS

See the best of Egypt on this 11-day guided tour. Enjoy an afternoon in Cairo before joining an Egyptologist for an exclusive visit to the Pyramids of Giza, where you'll walk inside one of its caverns and see the Sphinx.

At the Egyptian Museum, gaze upon priceless treasures taken from the tomb of the country's most famous pharaoh, Tutankhamun. See the Temple of Luxor during a VIP, after-hours visit, exploring the UNESCO World Heritage Site free from other tour groups.

See the Valley of the Kings, where Tutankhamun is buried. Choose to sail the Nile on a felucca, a traditional wooden boat, or visit Aswan Market for a shopping spree. Sip on tea at the Cataract Hotel, where Winston Churchill once dined. And visit the Esna Temple, a striking waterfront structure.

---



# Elegance of the Pharaohs

## Follow in the Footsteps of the Pharaohs During a 10-Days Private Tour and Nile Cruise of Egypt

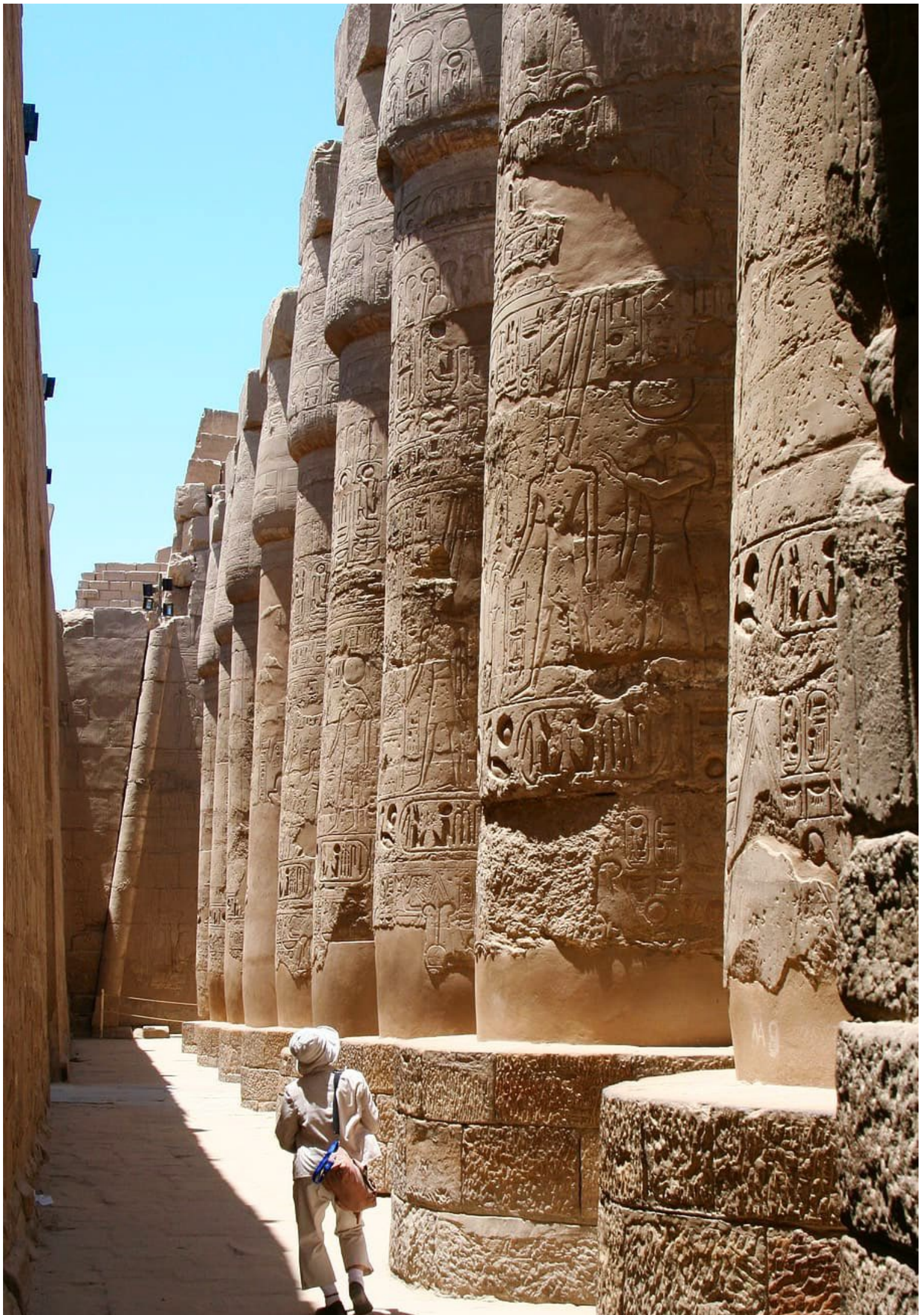
CAIRO - GIZA - LUXOR - COLOSSI OF MEMNON — KITCHENER'S ISLAND - ASWAN - CAIRO  
09 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS

Explore amazing Egypt on this 10-day guided tour. Join an Egyptologist at the Pyramids of Giza, for an insider's look at one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Enjoy a VIP, after-hours visit to the Temple of Luxor; you'll be able to explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site free from other tour groups.

Later, choose to relax in Luxor your way: learn about the powerful women in Egypt's past, such as Queen Cleopatra, from an Egyptologist, or watch a cocktail demonstration as you relax on a sundeck. At the Valley of the Kings, see where Tutankhamun, or the infamous King Tut, is buried.

Enjoy high tea on the terrace of the Cataract Hotel, where Winston Churchill once relaxed. And in Cairo, visit the Egyptian Museum, where you can see treasures taken from the Tomb of Tutankhamun.

---



# The Best of Egypt

Follow in the Footsteps of the Cairo, Nile Cruise & Sharm El Sheikh During a 12-Days Private Tour and Nile Cruise of Egypt

CAIRO - GIZA - LUXOR - EDFU - KOM OMBO - ASWAN - SHARM EL SHEIKH - CAIRO  
11 NIGHTS / 12 DAYS

Enjoy the perfect combination of Egyptian culture and relaxation. This trip is ideal for those who want to have a taste of Egypt's wonderful sites, as well as a good time to relax in Sharm El Sheikh.

Experience the best of Egypt and indulge yourself in a vacation to Egypt visiting Pyramids of Giza, Sakkara and the Egyptian Museum.

Fly to Luxor afterwards to explore top sights cruising the Nile from Luxor to Aswan. Then, loose yourself and relax on the beach of the Red Sea in Sharm El Sheikh. Plenty of activities and tours into the desert and mountains of Sinai await you.

---





# Pyramids & Nile by Train

Follow in the Footsteps of Egyptian Railway & Nile Cruise  
During a 08-Days Private Tour

CAIRO - GIZA - NILE CRUISE - CAIRO  
07 NIGHTS / 08 DAYS

Discover Egypt's top highlights through exciting tour across the country. It is a tailor-made tour over Nile river and railways. This is a cheaper alternative to our popular Pyramids & Nile by Air. You'll be traveling to Aswan via sleeper train.

At first, in Cairo, you'll visit the Great Pyramids of Giza. This is the place where you witness the greatness of the last standing monument of ancient seven wonders of the world.

Then, travel by the sleeper train to Aswan where a luxurious cruise ship awaits you to spend three days sailing on the Nile. Be ready to explore and enjoy the sightseeing between Aswan and Luxor.

---



# Cairo, Nile Cruise & Hurghada

Follow in the Footsteps of the Cairo, Nile Cruise & Hurghada During a 12-Day Private Tour and Nile Cruise of Egypt

CAIRO - ASWAN - EDFU - LUXOR - HURGHADA - CAIRO  
11 NIGHTS / 12 DAYS

Through our Luxury Egypt Holidays package, enjoy Egypt's long and varied 12-day history of Egypt . Enjoy your stay in Cairo, Luxor, Aswan, and Hurghada.

You will visit the most beautiful archaeological sites like Pyramids of Giza, Egyptian Museum, Valley of the Kings, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, Luxor Temple, Karnak Temple and having a delightful time to relax at the luxurious hotel in Hurghada.

---





# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Do I need a visa to visit Egypt?**

All visitors to Egypt are required to have both a passport and a visa unless you come from one of the visa exempt countries or territories, which include Bahrain, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Lebanon, Macao, Malaysia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Egypt (as of May 2018). Citizens from some countries in the North Africa and the Middle East can also visit Egypt visa-free under certain conditions.

## **Can I obtain a visa upon arrival at Egypt?**

Egypt visa on arrival policy applies to the following countries: the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Canada, all European Union countries, Norway, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Serbia, Malaysia, Macedonia, Japan, South Korea, China (as of May 2018).

If you are a citizen of one of these countries, you can obtain a visa with your passport information, personal information and details about your travel plans upon arrival at an Egyptian port of entry. The visa on arrival is usually valid for 30 days.

## **How can I get an Egyptian tourist visa in advance?**

If your country is not listed above, you need to apply for the visa at an Egyptian embassy or consulate in your country either in person or by post.

Your passport must have at least six months of validity and one blank page. Other documents required for visa application vary depending on the applicant's nationality. Please consult an Egyptian consulate in your country for more details.

## **What's the best currency to take to Egypt?**

US dollar, pound sterling, and euro are accepted mainly in tourist areas and major cities. So generally you are expected to pay in Egyptian pounds, especially for trinkets or tipping, or in remote areas. The Egyptian pound is the official currency in Egypt and is commonly abbreviated as EGP, LE or E£.

## **How to enjoy Egypt during Ramadan as a tourist?**

Ramadan is the ninth month of Islamic Calendar with the beginning and end marked by the astronomical new moon, so it always falls on the same day of the Islamic Calendar (a lunar calendar), but the date on Gregorian Calendar (a solar calendar) varies from year to year. It is a month of fasting, prayer, and introspection, so Muslims abstain from eating, drinking, smoking and immoral behaviors from sunrise to sunset every day. They also appreciate that non-Muslim don't eat, drink or smoke in the public.

During Ramadan, the general pace of life in Egypt slows down compared to that in normal days. Shops, museums, and historical attractions officially close earlier before sunset. Almost all Muslims try to get home or restaurant in time for the iftar (meal to break the fast) with family or friends.

Some restaurants and cafés open only after sunset and may stop serving alcoholic beverages. While almost all tourist hotels will be completely operational, including their restaurants and bars serving meals and alcoholic drinks as usual, because many tourists love to explore this amazing country during this special month.

Thought a little inconvenient as it may be, visiting Egypt during Ramadan is truly a fantastic way to discover an important part of the Egyptian culture and enjoy the special atmosphere pervading throughout the country. The culture, the prayer and the sharing of food, everything here makes it a very rewarding experience.

## **Is it safe to travel to Egypt?**

Egypt's security situation is frequently exaggerated by many media, it is generally a safe country to travel. Though traveling Egypt is quite safe, you cannot be too careful as for personal security. Planning your trip with a reputable tour operator can be a wise choice, as they know the updated security situations and thus customise your itinerary accordingly.

### **What to wear when I travel Egypt?**

With Islam being its established religion and roughly 90% of the population being Muslims, Egypt is a predominantly Muslim country. The dress code is naturally conservative, especially for women. Some women wear a hijab (a headscarf covering the head and neck but not the face), some wear a niqab (a veil covering the face but leaving the eye area clear), and few don't cover their heads at all.

Female tourists are not required by law to follow the dress code. But dressing conservatively and modestly is a way to show your respect to their religion and may deflect unwanted attention from Egyptian men.

Clothes recommended are high-necked and sleeved blouse, loose trousers or below knee skirt perfectly made of cotton or linen. Tight or transparent clothes shall be avoided. For formal occasions, smart clothes with a shawl covering bare shoulders may be an excellent choice.

While for men, normal long trousers, sleeved shirts and T-shirts are fine. Sleeveless tops and short shorts may not be acceptable in most areas, but they are ok in beach areas and resorts.

Strong and comfortable closed-toe shoes are wise choices to keep your feet from sand, dust or mud. Sandals are not good options, except for beach areas.

The temperature difference between day and night may be large in most areas, so packing a casual coat or shawl can be a smart idea.

### **Is alcohol available in Egypt?**

As noted previously, Egypt is a Muslim country, therefore alcohol is not readily available outside of tourist areas and western-style hotels/resorts.

### **What is the difference between a 5 star and a 5-star deluxe hotel/cruise?**

The star ratings get higher as the facilities and overall standard of the accommodation gets better and so it is easier to imagine 5 star deluxe (or any suffix added to 5 stars) as being 6 stars; something that those who fix the star ratings seem feared to utilise.

### **Is it safe to drive in Egypt?**

Unless you are used to the way that Egyptians drive, it is not advised to attempt this. Lane etiquette is unknown, cars will cut you to make a turn, and the use of lights during the night is very seldom done.

Though some road signs are in English and Arabic, the majority are in Arabic alone and there are simply not any good road maps, especially town ones.

### **Are there any special customs I should observe?**

Yes, most Egyptian customs differ from the Western customs due to the cultural and religious differences, as shown below:

1. Most women in Egypt behave conservatively with strangers.
2. Normal contact is quite acceptable, but intimate actions in the public such as kissing and fondling may irritate most Muslims.
3. Most mosques require visitors to remove their shoes before entering.
4. Use the right hand to eat and give gifts.
5. It is inappropriate to discuss religions with Egyptians from an atheistic or similar perspective.
6. It is inapt to take photos of soldiers, tanks or any other military property.

### **Will I have easy internet access?**

Most hotels in Egypt have Wi-Fi available for hotel guests at customary prices. Many cafes and restaurants offer a complementary Wi-Fi service.

### **Will I be able to use my cell phone in Egypt?**

If you have an international plan, your cell phone may work in Egypt, please check with your local provider.

### **Can I rent a cellular phone in Egypt?**

Certainly, you can rent a phone when you arrive at any time during your visit.

### **What is the country code to dial to Egypt?**

+ 20

### **Is tipping common in Egypt?**

As with most European and North American countries, tipping is graciously accepted in Egypt. A 10% tip at restaurants and to guides and drivers is standard. Unfortunately, at major tourist sites like the Pyramids of Giza or the tombs of the Valley of the Kings, touts aggressively hustle for tips by allowing you to take photos in areas where it's clearly posted as prohibited (such as inside the tombs). Please refrain from perpetuating this problem by not paying to take pictures.

### **What electrical plugs and voltage are used in Egypt?**

Egypt has a voltage supply of 220V and the plugs are the 2-round pin type that are common throughout Europe.

# Tips - On the go

## **BAGGAGE REGULATIONS & SOME RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Make sure you check the baggage allowance on your international / internal flights.
- We recommend to travel light especially when there is internal flight involved in the program due to baggage weight limitation.
- We suggest that you carry one set of clothes along with your daily utility items and other accessories in your hand baggage. This is just a precautionary measure in case your baggage is misplaced.
- We advice that you travel as light as possible, since portorage is not included in your holiday price and carrying heavy luggage would be inconvenient. Take bags with wheels and sturdy handles, as they are more convenient and easy to pull.
- Please note that airlines do not permit items like loose batteries, razor blades, nail cutter, scissors, knives, gels any form of liquid, cigarette lighter in your hand baggage. If required carry such items in your check –in bag.
- Please ensure that you do not place any valuables in your check – in bag. Carry foreign currency /travel documents / jewellery / insurance in your hand bag.

## **COACH**

- Since travelling distances are comparatively long, we have carefully chosen air conditioned luxurious coaches for your convenience luxurious coaches for your convenience and comfort. It is very important to maintain a pleasant environment on board the coach and keep it clean.
- Drinking, Smoking and eating is not allowed in the coach.

## **MEALS**

- You have a choice of local and international cuisine meals. The menus, however are fixed in advance and a la carte is also possible upon request.

- Most lunches and dinner are unlimited buffets, but it is requested that you do not waste food.
- If there is any early morning departure to the airport a box breakfast may be provided.
- Some cities you may be served local meals.

## **CLIMATE**

- The climate is as varied as its countries, but it is mostly temperate.
- Frequent changes of weather make forecasting difficult. To be on the safe side, be sure to bring a sweater and an umbrella with you.

## **HOTELS & ROOMS**

- Most hotels offer the facility of complimentary safe deposit lockers (few hotels charge a refundable deposit. we advice that you keep all your valuable like money, passport, tickets and jewellery in the locker, in case you are staying for more than one day at the hotel.
- Please make sure that no damages are done to your hotel room during the stay, as the same would be charged to you directly by the hotel.
- Hotel rooms may have facilities like mini bar, pay television channels, telephones, etc. please note that these facilities are not complimentary and will be charged as per actual usage.
- Most of the hotels do not have a tea/ coffee kettle in the rooms.
- Please note that we will try our best to provide you with adjacent rooms asked by you at the time of booking, but the same will be subject to availability at the time of check –in. It is also difficult to provide interconnecting rooms, however the tour manager and the hotel will try their best to ensure that you are provided with adjacent rooms wherever possible.
- The standard check in time at hotels is after 14:00 HRS and standard check –out time is 10:00 HRS.



### **TIME MANAGEMENT**

· It's very important to be on time and punctual on your holiday, since your itinerary has been designed and planned to offer you the most on your holiday.

· Every sightseeing trip where you get off has an allotted time, please make sure you remain with the group return at the allotted time. Any delay would actually deprive the entire group of their sightseeing time.

### **ON ARRIVAL**

· ALL passengers will be met by our tour manager / local representative outside the arrival hall at the airport.

· All joining direct passengers will have to reach the respective hotel/ airport, on their own and check in.

### **CLOTHING**

· Carry 4/5 pairs of comfortable clothes like jeans/ trousers, shirts/t-shirts, pants and necessary undergarments.

· Warm clothing like sweaters, jackets, woolen, thermals is essential. You must carry a cap, sunglasses, a folding umbrella, comfortable footwear preferably walking shoes.

### **ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO BE CARRIED**

· Your passport, air tickets, original insurance policy, tour confirmation voucher & necessary foreign exchange for personal use.

· Carry a photocopy of your passport including valid visas & keep them separately from the original.

· Please do not forget to carry an additional pair of spectacles if you are using one, digital camera chips with higher GB, extra batteries, charges for digital camera and mobile.

· Carry your mobile phone's charger if you are taking your cell phone with global roaming. Also carry multipurpose adapter as sockets are different.

· Required medicines, with doctor's prescription.

### **MONEY AND CURRENCY**

· EURO and USD are widely accepted and can be exchanged to any major currency exchange counter. it is better to carry USD before you start your trip.

### **TIPPING POLICY**

· Tipping is something that is expected of anyone providing you a service, e.g. coach driver local guides, etc. it is mandatory to tip a nominal amount of EUR 3 / USD 5 / GBP 2 per person per day.

· Public toilet attendants need to be tipped nominally after use.

### **ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE TRANSFERS**

· As other members of your group would be flying from different cities/towns/countries, you would be required to wait for some time so that they can join you at the arrival area as common airport pick- up facility is provided for the entire group.

· Also in view of the common airport drop facility provided for your group, you would be required to travel to the airport along with other group members even though your flight time is later than other members of your group.

When will  
you Travel?







## SANYOG GUPTA VOYAGES

Luxury Destination Management Company

Made with  by *Sanyog*

**Opulent Routes**  
The Luxury Experiences

[opulentroutes.com](http://opulentroutes.com)

*Adventure  
sense*  
Expedition (LIVE)

[adventure-sense.com](http://adventure-sense.com)

  
**IMEC PLANET**  
Incentives - Meetings - Events - Conferences

[imecplanet.com](http://imecplanet.com)

**Charity Tours**  
It's a Challenge

[charity-tours.com](http://charity-tours.com)

+91 890 100 4567 | [info@sgvoyages.com](mailto:info@sgvoyages.com) | [sanyog.travel](http://sanyog.travel)

SCO - 83, Sector - 22, Palam Vihar Road, Delhi NCR, Gurgaon - 122002, Haryana, India

India: New Delhi, Gurgaon, Kolkata, Mumbai, Goa, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Cochin

International: Sri Lanka, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Thailand, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Greece and Mexico

Recognitions: TAAI :: PATA :: IATO :: IATA :: TAFI :: ADTOI :: ASTA :: ATOAI :: ATTOI :: SITE

---