



Your passport to adventure

## ABU SIMBEL SUN FESTIVAL

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**Country(ies):** Egypt

**Tour type:** Small Group

**Transport:** A/C minibus/coach, sleeper train & felucca sailboat

**Group size:** Min: 2 | Max: 18

**Days:** 9

**Start location:** Cairo, Egypt

**End location:** Cairo, Egypt

**Departs On:** Variable to ensure Abu Simbel on the right day

**Meals:** 8 Breakfast(s), 2 Lunch(es), 3 Dinner(s)

**Highlights:** Abu Simbel Sun Festival, The Pyramids & Sphinx at Giza, Cairo's famous Egyptian museum, Philae Temple by boat, traditional felucca sailing, ancient Valley of the Kings, Karnak & Luxor temples

**Places Visited:** Cairo, Aswan, Abu Simbel & Luxor



[View this tour on our website](#)

## Itinerary

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This special Egypt tour features the amazing Sun Festival at the Abu Simbel temple to Ramses II on the 22nd Feb and 22nd Oct each year. We combine this with time in Cairo, Aswan and Luxor, discovering more of ancient Egypt.

### Day 1 : Welcome to Egypt! Airport to hotel transfers included

Once you arrive in Cairo, one of our staff members will be there to meet you at the airport before transporting you to your hotel located near the pyramids. You'll have some time to settle in before being introduced to the local area and we'll arrange a time to collect you tomorrow.

You have the rest of the day free to explore Cairo independently. In fact, if you've arrived early, you have the chance to enjoy an evening dinner cruise on the Nile, or enjoy a spectacular sound and light show at the pyramids (both available to book locally on arrival).

**OVERNIGHT :** Cairo hotel

**MEALS :** N/A

**EXTRAS :** Nile dinner cruise in Cairo, Single room supplement (EGSGDE)

## **Day 2 : Exploring the Pyramids and the Great Sphinx of Giza**

Today, we make our way to Giza situated just outside of Cairo to get up close and personal with the Great Sphinx of Giza and the three Great Pyramids of Egypt. Our guides have a wealth of knowledge about these monuments and their history, so feel free to pick their brains with any questions you may have.

The largest pyramid is the Great Pyramid of Khufu, made with massive stone blocks placed in a hard limestone casing. As years have gone by, the limestone casing has eroded to reveal the inner block structure. Alongside Khufu are the smaller pyramids of Khafre (Chephren) and Menkaure (Mycerinus), which also make for breathtaking viewing. If you'd like, you can climb inside the pyramids, however, your guide won't be able to join you as there are a limited amount of tickets available.

After exploring the pyramids, we'll head back to central Cairo to witness the Egyptian Museum and its magnificent Tutankhamun display and other ancient Egyptian artifacts.

Tonight, we'll head to the local station to board an overnight sleeper train to Aswan, which is approximately 12 hours away.

**OVERNIGHT :** On board train

**MEALS :** Breakfast, Dinner

**EXTRAS :** Internal flights upgrade

## **Day 3 : Philae Temple and Aswan Dam**

After your overnight train journey from Cairo to Aswan, you'll be transported to your hotel which overlooks the Nile River. Aswan is located at one of the most scenic parts of the Nile River, as it's dotted with lush green islands and its waters are filled with traditional felucca sailboats.

You have some free time today to explore its busy markets along the banks of the Nile River or if you'd like to learn more about its rich history, a visit to the Nubian Museum is a must.

Once afternoon comes around, we'll head via boat to the Philae Temple, a stunning island complex built to commemorate Isis. We'll also make our way to the massive Aswan Dam before heading back to the hotel, where you have the rest of the day to do as you please.

**OVERNIGHT :** Aswan hotel

**MEALS :** Breakfast

**EXTRAS :** N/A

## **Day 4 : Nubian Village, Museum and the Unfinished Obelisk**

The area around Aswan is part of the ancient region of Nubia, which comprised sections of present day southern Egypt and northern Sudan around the Nile rivers. Many descendants of the Nubian people still live here and we'll visit a local Nubian village today to see their colourful houses, simple way of life and to enjoy a traditional lunch. We'll also visit the Nubian Museum which provides a wealth of information on the Nubian people.

Our final visit today is to the site of the Unfinished Obelisk which provides a fascinating insight into how these massive stone columns were excavated.

**OVERNIGHT** : Aswan hotel

**MEALS** : Breakfast, Lunch

**EXTRAS** : N/A

## **Day 5 : Abu Simbel Festival. Nile felucca cruise**

We start early this morning as we visit the Abu Simbel temples constructed by Ramses II. Abu Simbel is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and we'll head out early to listen to historical explanations by our Egyptologist guide, before going inside the temple while the sun is rising to see how 3 out of the 4 statues at the end of the tunnel are lit up, leaving Ptah, the god of Darkness in shadow. It can be very busy at Abu Simbel on this day so be prepared for a bit of a procession straight in and out to see the statues.

After returning to Aswan, we'll board a traditional Nile felucca as we float away on its waters, relaxing and watching rural Egyptian life on the banks of the Nile River. Our Nubian crew who navigate the felucca will be there to entertain and feed you, with a separate facilities boat joining up with us every now and then, which boasts a toilet, showers and a hygienic kitchen.

We'll overnight on the felucca, with mattresses, blankets and mosquito nets provided or as an optional extra, you can upgrade your felucca trip with an additional night in the Aswan hotel and rejoin the group in the morning as we head to Luxor.

**OVERNIGHT** : On board felucca

**MEALS** : Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**EXTRAS** : Upgrade from felucca to hotel in Aswan

## **Day 6 : Exploring Edfu & Luxor Temples**

After a hearty breakfast, we'll say goodbye to the felucca and head north to possibly the best preserved temple in the whole of Egypt at Edfu before carrying on to Luxor. Located in and around the ancient site of Thebes, Luxor is home to the biggest collection of ancient ruins in the Nile Valley.

In the west, you'll find the City of the Dead, it's Mortuary Temples and rocky tombs and in the east you'll find the Temples of Luxor and Karnak.

This evening we'll take a walking tour of the smaller Luxor Temple which is right in the middle of town and beautifully lit up at night.

**OVERNIGHT** : Luxor hotel

**MEALS** : Breakfast

**EXTRAS** : N/A

## **Day 7 : Exploring the West Bank of the Nile and Karnak temple**

We'll cross the waters of the Nile River this morning as we make our way to Luxor's West Bank towards the Valley of the Kings, an ancient burial site and one of the most important archaeological destinations on the planet. We'll explore its pharaonic tombs as well as Queen Hatchepsut temple and Deir El-Medina, the Valley of the Artisans. As an optional extra, you can choose to experience a breathtaking sunrise hot air

balloon flight over the West Bank this morning.

This afternoon we'll explore the towering Karnak Temple complex, walking through its huge pillars, towering columns, massive avenues of sphinxes, and an obelisk that stands 97-feet tall and weighs 323-tons. Dedicated to the gods Amun, Khous and Mut, Luxor Temples huge Hypostyle Hall has 134 towering columns, adorned with scenes of gods and pharaohs, and hieroglyphic inscriptions engraved on the walls.

Later this evening we transfer to the station for the overnight sleeper train back to Cairo (approx. 9 hours).

**OVERNIGHT :** On board sleeper train

**MEALS :** Breakfast, Dinner

**EXTRAS :** Hot air balloon in Luxor, Internal flights upgrade

## **Day 8 : Cairo, Free time, Khan-el-Khalili bazaar walk**

We arrive back into Cairo this morning and transfer to our hotel. Most of the day is then free to explore Cairo as you choose or you may take an optional tour. These include a city tour in Cairo which visits Coptic Cairo, the Citadel and Mohamed Ali Mosque, or a half day tour to Saqqara, Dashour and Memphis to learn more about the history and evolution of pyramid building.

In the late afternoon we take a guided walk through the back streets and bazaars in central Cairo. We'll walk through the huge Bab al-Futuh gateway and explore streets dedicated to metalwork, spices, pottery, fabric, jewelery and anything else you can imagine as we gradually enter the more touristy Khan-el-Khalili bazaar. We'll have time for a break to try some tea and a shisha pipe and perhaps enjoy an early dinner of Egypt's unofficial national dish, Kushari.

**OVERNIGHT :** Cairo hotel

**MEALS :** Breakfast

**EXTRAS :** Cairo city tour, Nile dinner cruise in Cairo, Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis

## **Day 9 : Free time in Cairo. Hotel to airport transfers included**

You have day free to do some last minute shopping and sightseeing before being transported to the airport for your flight back home.

**OVERNIGHT :** N/A

**MEALS :** Breakfast

**EXTRAS :** Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - post-tour

## **Included**

- 5 nights accommodation in 5-star hotels
- 2 nights on sleeper train in private twin-berth cabins (flight & hotel upgrades available)
- 1 night on felucca sailboat cruise with accompanying support boat (hotel upgrade available)
- All transport and transfers in private AC vehicles
- 24-hour airport arrival & departure transfer service
- Sightseeing tours as detailed in the itinerary including Abu Simbel
- Services of a local Egyptologist guide for all sightseeing tours
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

## Excluded:

- International flights (available on request)
- Visa fees (available on arrival for most nationalities)
- Travel insurance (compulsory, available on request)
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Entrance fees (allow approx. US\$141)
- Tipping kitty (allow US\$60)
- Drinks, snacks, guide tips and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Hotel gala dinners (see Tour notes)
- Any other items not mentioned above

Notes:

## Accommodation

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The hotels and accommodations listed below are the ones we use most often on this tour. From time to time we may exchange these for similar properties at the same level. In general, specific hotels cannot be guaranteed on our group tours, but you may select your preferred options if you are booking a tailor-made trip.

### Egypt - Steigenberger Cairo Pyramids Hotel, Cairo

It features two pools, several restaurants and bars, free WiFi, a spa and fitness centre, and both classic and family rooms. The rooms overlook the gardens and feature air-conditioning, TVs, safes, and minibars. The hotel offers an airport shuttle.

Website: [Steigenberger Cairo Pyramids Hotel](#)

Tripadvisor: [Steigenberger Cairo Pyramids Hotel trip advisor rating](#)

### Egypt - Sleeper train, Cairo, Luxor & Aswan

On the sleeper train you have a private twin-berthed cabin, which features two large seats; fold down beds with mattress, sheets, pillow, blanket; storage locker and wash basin. An airline style evening meal and breakfast are included.

Website: [Sleeper train](#)

Tripadvisor: [Sleeper train trip advisor rating](#)

### Egypt - Tolip Aswan Hotel, Aswan

Tolip Aswan Hotel overlooks the Nile and sits close to several tourist sites. Rooms have en-suite bathrooms, TVs, minibars, WiFi, and balconies with river views. Facilities include a pool, bar, gym, and sauna.

Website: [Tolip Aswan Hotel](#)

Tripadvisor: [Tolip Aswan Hotel trip advisor rating](#)

## Egypt - Felucca Sailboat, Aswan

Feluccas are very basic traditional Nile sailboats and make for an extremely relaxing and enjoyable way to travel down the river.

## Egypt - Steigenberger Nile Palace Hotel, Luxor

This hotel, formerly Le Meridien Luxor, is a modern hotel built in 2001. It is ideally situated right on the banks of the Nile and is within easy reach of all the major sites of Luxor.

Website: [Steigenberger Nile Palace Hotel](#)

Tripadvisor: [Steigenberger Nile Palace Hotel trip advisor rating](#)

## Options

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Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you're visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

All accommodation based options (e.g. Single supplements, extra nights, cruise upgrades) should be booked and paid for in advance so that we can make the appropriate arrangements. Other options may either be booked and paid for in advance or while you are on the tour, though we recommend booking in advance to ensure there are no issues with availability.

Many options are priced the same throughout the year, but some may incur single or high season supplements - full details are given on the tour reservation form or on request.

### Single room supplement (EGSGDE)

**Min numbers:** 1 person

**Price From:** US\$465 per person

This option books a single room in all the accommodation throughout the tour. If you are a single traveller and would be happy to share a room, let us know and we will aim to pair you up with another traveller of the same sex. If a room share is available, you will not need to pay the supplement.

**Note:** The price shown is a low season price. Slightly higher prices may apply during high and peak seasons - the exact price for your dates will be shown on the online booking form and is always available on request.

### Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - pre-tour

**Min numbers:** 1 person

**Price From:** US\$60 per person

This option adds an extra day to the start of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport arrival transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

**Note:** Single room and peak season supplements apply.

## Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - post-tour

**Min numbers:** 1 person

**Price From:** US\$100 per person

This option adds an extra day to the end of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport departure transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

**Note:** Single room and peak season supplements apply.

## Internal flights upgrade

**Min numbers:** 1 person

**Price From:** US\$280 per person

This option provides an upgrade from the overnight train to an internal flight with Egypt Air for the journeys from Cairo/Aswan and Luxor/Cairo. Two extra nights in the hotel are included in place of the overnight train. Flight times vary and are subject to availability. Single room supplements apply.

**Note:** *If the overnight sitting train is not available for any reason (eg. local regulations or government travel advice) then you will need to pay to upgrade to either the sleeper train or internal flights.*

## Upgrade from felucca to hotel in Aswan

**Min numbers:** 1 person

**Price From:** US\$70 per person

Although our overnight felucca journey is an amazing experience and often a highlight of the tour, the basic overnight accommodation is not for everyone. This upgrade is designed for those who would like a little more comfort in place of the overnight felucca sailboat trip, where you sleep on the deck of the boat.

You will leave the main group after they leave Aswan on the felucca, and remain there with some free time in the afternoon to explore the city and its markets a little more, before spending the night in a 5-star hotel. The next morning we will transfer you to rejoin the group after they leave the felucca, and the rest of your tour will continue as normal from there on. Prices shown are based on travelling in low season (April to September) and staying in a shared twin/double room. High season and single room supplements apply.

## Hot air balloon in Luxor

**Min numbers:**1 person

**Price From:** US\$130 per person

This popular optional tour starts early in the morning so that you experience the sunrise over the Valleys of the Kings & Queens, temples and desert. We endeavour to use the earliest flights of the day as they are timed to fit with the rising sun, this means that times may vary. You get around 1 hour in the air.

## Cairo city tour

**Min numbers:**1 person

**Price From:** US\$65 per person

This half day guided tour of Cairo tour begins with Islamic areas including the Citadel of Saladdin, boasting the famous Alabaster Mosque of Mohammed Ali. Then we head onto the Coptic area of Cairo where the Romans constructed the fortress of Babylon. The church of St. Mary was built over the ruins of two towers of the fortress whilst it is more commonly known as the Hanging Church next stop is St. Sergius which is said to be the resting place of the Holy Family. The tour finishes with time exploring the Khan-el-Khalili bazaar.

## Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis

**Min numbers:**1 person

**Price From:** US\$100 per person

This half day guided tour on the outskirts of Cairo tour provides more insight into the history and evolution of pyramid building, and of the Egyptian civilisation. Our tours are based in the area of ancient Memphis, a former capital of Egypt. First we'll visit Saqqara, a huge desert necropolis which was built for the kings and nobles of the Old Kingdom. Here we see Zoser's 'step' pyramid and the adjacent Imhotep museum where we learn more about Memphis and the history of the region. Next we head to Dashour to see one of the next attempts at pyramid building. Dashour's moniker of the 'bent pyramid' shows they still had a bit to learn, but this is a fascinating site and the pyramid still has much of its original limestone cladding. We'll then return you to your hotel.

## Alexandria day trip

**Min numbers:**1 person

**Price From:** US\$155 per person

Alexandria is about 2.5 hours north of Cairo on the Mediterranean coast of Egypt. This city is the second largest in Egypt and this full day tour will include the Roman amphitheatre with its twelve semi-circular marble tiers, the Catacombs of Kom al-Shoqafa which is the largest Roman cemetery in Alexandria, Pompey's Pillar, Fort Qaitbey (from outside), the famous modern library before returning to Cairo. If time allows you can tour inside Fort Qaitbey (entrance fee extra) and we may also visit the Montazah Palace gardens. Lunch at a seafood restaurant is included.



## Nile dinner cruise in Cairo

**Min numbers:** 1 person

**Price From:** US\$75 per person

This option offers an evening of cruising up and down the Nile through the centre of Cairo on a 5-star riverboat while enjoying some middle eastern cuisine as well as a traditional Egyptian Sufi and Belly Dancing show. A great way to spend a free evening in Cairo and see some more of the city. Transfers to and from your hotel are included.

## Tour Notes

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### Abu Simbel Sun Festival tour notes

The detailed Tour Notes below have been written to give you some more detailed information about how the tour runs, what to expect, and how to prepare for your holiday. We recommend downloading an up to date copy of these shortly before you travel in case of any changes.

### 1 FELUCCA SAILBOAT

This tour features an overnight felucca cruise. Feluccas are very basic traditional Nile sailboats and are a fun and relaxing way to travel down the river. You sleep on the deck of the boat (mattresses and some blankets are provided, but we suggest that you bring a sleeping sheet, blanket or light sleeping bag during the winter months of November-February). There are no toilet facilities on board, but you will be joined several times each day and at night by our support boat where a toilet and warm showers will be available. Mosquito nets are provided for use while you are sleeping but you should bring mosquito repellent for the evenings and early mornings. Your Nubian boat crew will cook all your meals while on board and entertain you in the evenings.

### 2 TRANSPORT

Our trips feature a mix of different transport options. We want you to feel like you're really experiencing the country you're travelling through, but at the same time we want you to finish journeys refreshed enough to enjoy the next stage of the tour. In Egypt we do not use any public tourist buses or overnight coach journeys as we know that people don't sleep on board and end up very tired for the following few days. All the vehicles we use are air-conditioned, many are fitted with speed limiters, and all are inspected and checked daily. Some 4WD vehicles used on desert safaris may not always have air conditioning where they are only used for short periods.

For the overnight train journeys from Cairo to Aswan (approx. 12 hrs) and Luxor to Cairo (approx. 9 hrs) this tour uses the overnight sleeper train. This train has private twin berth cabins with large seats and fold-down beds with sheets, pillow & blanket. The lockable cabins also have a washbasin and storage cupboard, and an airline tray-style evening meal and breakfast is included. If you wish you may upgrade these journeys to internal flights.

### 3 HEALTH AND VACCINATIONS

You should ensure you are fully insured for medical emergencies including emergency evacuation and repatriation.

Recommended vaccinations and other health protection measures vary according to the country you are visiting and where you are travelling from. We recommend you contact your GP/medical practitioner or a travel clinic for current information on vaccinations needed for your destination. You should ensure that you are up to date with vaccines and boosters recommended for your normal life at home, including for example, vaccines required for occupational risk of exposure, lifestyle risks and underlying medical conditions.

In addition, additional courses or boosters normally recommended for the countries in this region are:

Egypt: Tetanus, Typhoid, Hepatitis A

Jordan: Tetanus, Hepatitis A

Israel: Hepatitis A, Poliomyelitis

Lebanon: Diphtheria, Hepatitis A

Malaria is not generally present unless it has been contracted abroad; you do not need to take malaria prophylactics.

More information is available here: [Egypt](#), [Jordan](#), [Israel](#), [Lebanon](#)

Note: We are aware of some places in Egypt using 'black henna' instead of pure brown henna. Black henna contains a chemical dye PPD (paraphenylenediamine) which can result in severe allergic reactions and resultant scarring. To be safe we recommend avoiding any henna tattoos while in Egypt unless you are certain they are using pure brown henna.

## 4 PASSPORTS AND VISAS - EGYPT

Passports should be valid for at least six months after your departure from the country. Please do not bring an almost full or almost expired passport. Visa arrangements are the responsibility of the traveller, and requirements are subject to change by the local authorities.

We recommend that you contact your closest Egyptian consulate or embassy for current information for your nationality.

In general official advice is that all nationalities obtain their Egypt visas in advance, as we cannot guarantee that you can get them in the airport. An online e-visa is available through <https://visa2egypt.gov.eg/eVisa/>. Please do not use any other website as there are many scam sites offering Egypt e-visas.

In practice however, many nationalities (including British and European, Australian, New Zealand, USA, Canadian) can and do obtain their visas on arrival in Cairo airport. The process is much quicker and simpler, the cost is currently **US\$25 p/p** and must be paid in hard currency (i.e. GBP, USD or EUR) - you'll be given change in local currency if necessary. There are no forms to fill in and you don't need to bring passport photos. Visas are issued at one of the bank desks in the immigration hall, before you get to passport control. Our representative will have met you by this stage and will assist with the process.

All African and Indian nationals, and some others, will need to obtain their visas in advance.

For further information on your visa requirements, please either contact us or your local Egyptian embassy/consulate.

## 5 TIME

The time in Egypt, Jordan and Israel is GMT plus 2 hours. Daylight saving adjustments have historically been applied in some years but not others. At present it appears that there will be no daylight saving changes in Egypt 2016 and beyond, though this may change at short notice (with a resulting impact on flight times and schedules). In Jordan and Israel, daylight saving of one hour is generally applied between the end of March and the end of October, making it GMT plus 3 hours. Exact dates vary from year to year and sometimes the changes may be scrapped altogether.

## 6 VOLTAGE

Sockets are two round pronged and 220 volts (Type C). Universal adaptors are available in most airport shops if you don't have one already. Standard European adapters will work fine, though sometimes they may feel a little loose in the sockets. All hotel rooms have electrical sockets where you can re-charge cameras, phones etc. Hair dryers are normally available on request from the hotel reception if not in your room already. If you have US appliances (110 volts) you will need a voltage converter as well as a plug adapter.

## 7 MONEY - EGYPT

The local currency in Egypt is the Egyptian Pound, often denoted 'LE'. The Egyptian Pound can vary significantly in value against the British Pound, but sticks fairly close to the value of the US Dollar. You do not need to arrange to bring any Egyptian Pounds with you to Egypt, as change facilities are available in all the hotels, airports and banks. You should try to obtain and keep hold of small denomination notes or coins on you during the tour as these are useful for toilets, tips and small purchases. ATMs are readily available in major towns and many local shops will accept VISA/Mastercard or Amex, but may charge fees of up to 10% - check before you pay. Travellers cheques are not recommended as they can not be changed in many places now, and can incur high fees.

While in Egypt you will need sufficient funds to cover meals not included in the itinerary, drinks, snacks, souvenirs and personal expenses such as laundry. These should generally all be paid for in Egyptian Pounds. You may also need to pay for the tour Tipping Kitty and site Entrance Fees while you are in Egypt. Payments for these may be made to your tour guide in hard currency (USD, GBP, EUR) at the start of your tour. Please see your tour Included/Excluded details for more information and guideline amounts for these.

It is difficult to recommend a level of personal spending money which will suit everyone as this can differ greatly, but as a guideline, we would suggest allowing USD 15-25 per person per day as a minimum. Allow more if you plan on doing lots of shopping, or buying many alcoholic drinks.

## 8 DATES & PRICES

This tour runs twice a year with departures timed so that we are in Abu Simbel on the right day for the Sun Festival (22nd February and 22nd October). All departures are guaranteed to run with a minimum of 2 travellers and unlike many operators we maintain our small group size on this very popular date with a maximum of 18 people to each guide. We may share a large coach with another of our groups for the drive between Aswan and Abu Simbel, but otherwise your group runs independently throughout.

## 9 BOOKING & PAYMENT

If you would like to book a place on this tour, please complete the online reservation form on our website (via the Dates & Prices tab on the tour page). You can pay your deposit or full balance online, or just hold a reservation if you prefer. We will then contact you with more details about how to complete your booking. Payments may be made by debit or credit card (subject to a card processing fee), or by making a bank transfer or posting us a cheque/bank draft. Full details will be provided in your booking confirmation email. Please [contact us](#) if you would like any more information or have any questions before making a booking.

## 10 TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is compulsory on all of our tours and needs to cover personal accident & liability, medical expenses and repatriation, travel delay & abandonment. We also strongly recommend that you take out cover against cancellation and lost/stolen baggage. Personal medical insurance does not normally provide sufficient cover and is generally not suitable for travel on our tours. You will not be able to join your tour if you have not provided us with details of your insurance or if you arrive without cover in place (no refunds will be due in this event). [More information...](#)

You may arrange your own insurance, or you can take advantage of a comprehensive policy that we can arrange for you through Endsleigh Insurance which has been designed to be suitable for our tours. The policy is available to travellers of all nationalities and you do not need to live in the UK to take out the policy. For full details of cover provided, prices and to apply for one of our policies, please complete [travel insurance application form](#).

Note: Any country that borders the Mediterranean is considered as 'Europe' for the purposes of travel insurance (including Turkey, Israel, Egypt and Morocco). If you are doing a tour that visits one country in 'Europe' and one that is 'Worldwide' (for example, an Egypt and Jordan tour), then you need a 'Worldwide' policy. When completing the form you should enter your travel dates including any extra days involved in overnight flights or connecting travel between your home and the tour. Our policies are not able to cover any extra time or activities other than your tour and options booked with us and your travel to & from home.

If you plan to arrange a hot air balloon flight locally, or do some scuba diving during your tour, you should check the small print in your policy to make sure these are covered (these are covered in our policy). Please also check the maximum altitude that you will be reaching and that full cover including emergency evacuation is provided up to this altitude.

*IMPORTANT: We must have your travel insurance details (policy number and type of insurance) before you depart or you may not be allowed to join the tour. If you haven't told us already, please let us know the details when you can. You should take a paper copy of your insurance policy with you as you may be asked to show this at the start of the tour.*

## 11 FINANCIAL SECURITY

We are a UK registered company and an ABTA Member (Y4447) and you can be confident when booking with us that your money is safe and protected. Financial failure insurance is provided through Affirma to protect all customers for the land portion of their tour.

Please see [our website](#) or [booking conditions](#) for more information.

## 12 RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

It is impossible not to have an impact on the local environment, cultures and eco-systems when you travel. However, it is very possible to try and ensure that these impacts are as limited, or positive as possible. We are committed to ensuring that we try to leave our host countries in a better state than we found them and encourage and assist our travellers to help us with this.

The following are a few simple tips that require very little effort on your part but which will help ensure that any effect you have on the locations you visit is positive rather than negative.

- Don't prejudge: Things in different countries will almost certainly be different. That doesn't make them worse or inferior, just different.
- Communicate: Don't expect locals to speak your language. Take the trouble to learn a few words or phrases of the local language. Don't worry about sounding silly. Most locals are patient and accommodating and appreciate you making the effort to communicate in their language.
- Conserve energy: Be careful not to waste valuable resources. Use local resources sparingly. Switch off lights, air-conditioning and fans when you leave the hotel room and don't waste water. Remove superfluous packaging. Many countries have far less efficient waste disposal systems than ours. Remove packaging from newly acquired items before leaving home.
- Don't litter: No matter how untidy or dirty the country you're travelling in may look to you, avoid littering, as there is no need to add to the environment's stress. Many of the countries we visit have a tough challenge dealing with rubbish and waste. Please consider taking home as much plastic waste as you can (e.g. water bottles).
- Choose environmentally friendly products: By using environmentally friendly (bio degradable) sun creams, shampoos and detergents you can help reduce pollution.
- Respect local customs and traditions: As you are a guest in these countries, you should also comply with the local customs. If you are friendly and well mannered, the locals will reciprocate and it will only enhance your experience. It's important to follow dress and behaviour guidelines especially when visiting religious or sacred sites (your tour leader will advise you how best to do this).
- If a client commits an illegal act the client may be excluded from the tour and Egypt Uncovered shall cease to have responsibility to/for them. No refund will be given for any unused services.

All porters are employed and equipped following guidelines set by the International Porter Protection Group (IPPG).

## 13 FOLLOW US ONLINE

You can stay in touch with us online by following us on Facebook and Twitter. We post updates on relevant travel news in our destination countries, special offers and discounts and other interesting travel related news and information.

[www.facebook.com/EgyptUncovered](http://www.facebook.com/EgyptUncovered)

[www.twitter.com/encounterstravel](https://twitter.com/encounterstravel) (yes, without the 'e')

## 14 BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

It is important when considering and preparing to travel anywhere in the world that you have a good understanding of the country you are visiting, its laws and customs, and the possible risks and situations that may occur. This includes specific risks related to your itinerary (eg. does it involve water & can you swim, are you fit enough for the activities included), as well as more general risks such as terrorism and natural disasters.

General details and links to more information about health risks, visa requirements, money, and travel insurance are given in these tour notes. We recommend that you re-read all these before your departure as well as the small print of your travel insurance policy so you know exactly what is covered and what is not.

You should take copies of your important travel documents with you and ideally also store them online securely as a backup. Make sure that you have given us your emergency contact details and told that person where and when you are travelling. Ensure you take enough money with you and that you have access to emergency funds.

Finally, you should read through and stay updated with the current [official government travel advice](#) for your destination. We are registered partners with the UK Foreign Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign which provides further useful and invaluable information.



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**Downloaded:** 07 May 2024

**Note:** Please download an up-to-date copy of these tour notes shortly before you travel as itineraries and information does change from time to time.

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[www.egyptuncovered.co.uk](http://www.egyptuncovered.co.uk)



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