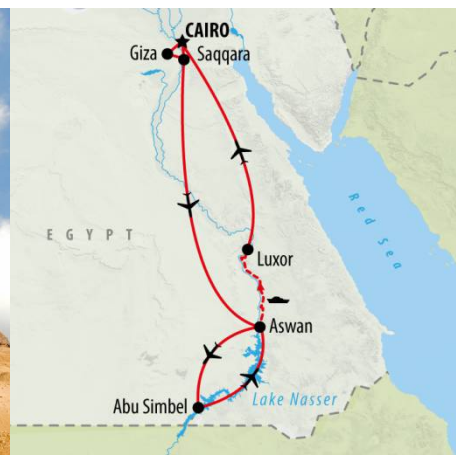


Classical Egypt

9 Days | Starts/Ends: Cairo



PREMIUM PRIVATE TOUR: Discover the incredible wonders of ancient Egypt in nine exhilarating days - From the Pyramids of Giza, the only remaining ancient wonder of the world, to the tomb strewn Valley of the Kings. You'll visit the impressive Abu Simbel and enjoy a relaxing cruise, meandering the River Nile onboard a five star Nile Cruiser.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Cairo - Marvel at the legendary Pyramids of Giza and explore the Necropolis of Saqqara
- Cairo - Discover the Citadel, Mohamed Ali Mosque, Khan el Khalili Bazaar and the Egyptian Museum
- Abu Simbel - Visit this awe-inspiring temple, one of the most impressive in all of Egypt
- Aswan - Take a leisurely boat trip to Agilika Island to explore romantic Philae Temple
- Nile cruising - Cruise from Aswan to Luxor, spending 3 nights on board a 5 star Nile cruiser

- Kom Ombo - Visit the unique double Temple of Kom Ombo located on the banks of the Nile
- Luxor West Bank - Discover exquisite tombs at the Valley of the Kings, see the towering Colossi of Memnon and explore the beautiful Temple of Queen Hatshepsut
- Luxor - Explore Luxor Temple and the vast Karnak Temple complex

What's Included

- Breakfast daily and all meals aboard the Nile Cruiser
- 5 nights DELUXE hotels and 3 nights DELUXE Nile Cruiser. SUPERIOR hotel options are also available upon request. Accommodation rating – See Trip Notes for details
- Qualified Egyptologist guide at all sites of antiquity
- Touring - Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan, Abu Simbel and Luxor
- Entrance fees for all included sightseeing
- Domestic flights from Cairo to Aswan, Aswan to Abu Simbel, Abu Simbel to Aswan, and Luxor to Cairo
- An airport arrival transfer day 1 and a departure transfer day 9
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- International flights and visa
- Tipping - An entirely personal gesture

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Cairo

Welcome to Egypt and the start of your holiday! Arrival Cairo and included transfer to your hotel. The remainder of today is at your leisure to relax or explore Cairo your way. Consider heading out for dinner at one of the restaurants offering views over the Nile River and city, or head to the sound and light show at the pyramids this evening. **Overnight - Cairo**

Day 2 : Pyramids & Saqqara

Today we visit the only remaining ancient wonder of the world, the impressive Pyramids at Giza Plateau. Gaze in awe at Cheops (Khufu) - the largest of the three great pyramids. Constructed from over 2.5 million limestone blocks, it is thought to have taken more than 20 years to construct. The other two - Chephren and Mycerinus are equally breathtaking, and all three Pyramids are truly a sight that can only be fully appreciated in person. Our tour continues to Memphis, where get to see the colossal statue of Ramses II. Afterward, we'll then tour the tomb-strewn necropolis of Saqqara, featuring King Zoser's Step Pyramid. Constructed by Imhotep, the pharaoh's chief architect in 2700

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BC, this was the template for all future pyramid construction. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

Day 3 : Egyptian Museum



Today we explore the new Grand Egyptian Museum, which houses a giant exhibition containing the treasures of King Tutankhamun. Many pieces on show are being displayed for the first time and artefacts have been brought together from across Egypt and the world to this one location. The museum also makes use of new technology including virtual reality. Note: the Grand Egyptian Museum is set to open in 2020. An official date has yet to be released. If travelling prior to the opening of the new facility we'll visit the Egyptian Museum instead.

This afternoon, we'll head to the world famous Khan El Khalili Bazaar, with trinkets and delights to be found amongst the many shops and stalls located here. We'll then continue to The Citadel, this monumental Islamic-era fortification in the heart of Cairo, was once the seat of government from the 13th to the 19th centuries. Here, we'll visit the beautiful Mosque of Muhammed Ali, built in the 1830's this impressive structure is made from alabaster stone and is a smaller version of the Blue Mosque, found in Istanbul.

Overnight - Cairo (B)

Day 4 : Philae Temple & High Dam

Cairo - Aswan. After breakfast, we take a short flight south to Aswan and transfer to our hotel. This afternoon we visit Philae Temple and Aswan High Dam. Philae Temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis, was rescued in an enormous UNESCO effort in the 1970s. Due to high water levels in the reservoir created by the Old Aswan Dam, and further aquatic drama due to the creation of the mighty High

Dam, Philae Temple was relocated stone by stone on higher ground on nearby Agilika Island. **Overnight - Aswan (B)**

Day 5 : Abu Simbel



Aswan - Abu Simbel - Aswan. It's an early start today as we board a short flight down south to explore the temples of Abu Simbel, created to revere the mighty pharaonic ruler King Ramses II. Guarding the entrance to the temple (built between 1290 and 1224 BC) hewn into the side of a mountain are four famous colossal statues of the pharaoh himself. In a fit of architectural wisdom, Ramses II had the entire temple carefully angled and oriented in order that the sun's rays would align twice a year on his date of ascension to the throne (in February) and on his birthday (in October) and illuminate the inner sanctum of the temple. The other rock cut temple at Abu Simbel is the Temple of Hathor, which is fronted by six massive standing statues. Four of them represent King Ramses II, the other two are of his beloved wife - Queen Nefertari. Famously, both temples were re-located in a multi-million dollar operation in 1972, further up from the shoreline of Lake Nasser.

Returning to Aswan, you will have some free time to perhaps do some shopping in the colourful souqs and markets or simply relax in this attractive town which straddles the River Nile. This afternoon, we board our **luxury Nile cruiser** for our 3 night journey up the River Nile.

Overnight - Nile Cruiser (B, L, D)

Days 6-7 : Nile Cruising



Nile Cruising. Spend the next two days relaxing aboard our luxury Nile Cruiser, taking in the riverside village views from the top deck, as well as exploring some of the exciting historical sites located along this stretch of the Nile. On day 6 we'll moor up at the riverside and enjoy a visit to the waterside Temple of Kom Ombo. Consisting of two temples, one dedicated to the Crocodile-headed god Sobek and the other dedicated to the falcon god Horus. On Day 7, we will reach the west bank of Luxor and explore the best of Ancient Thebes; the tomb strewn Valley of the Kings, the Temple of Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon.

Note: The Valley of the Kings ticket includes entry to 3 tombs. A subset of the 64 tombs at the site are open at any point in time and your guide will offer advice on the best ones to visit on the day. The tomb of King Tutankhamun is nearly always open and requires an additional entrance fee to visit it if you like. **Overnight - Nile Cruiser (B:2, L:2, D:2)**

Day 8 : Karnak & Luxor Temple's

After a leisurely breakfast we'll disembark our cruiser this morning to visit Karnak Temple. Karnak is a spectacular myriad of sanctuaries, pylons, chapels, halls and obelisks, all dedicated to the Theban gods and to the greater glory of Egypt's Middle and New Kingdom rulers. Later, we'll visit Luxor Temple, dedicated to Amun, construction work on the temple began during the reign of Amenhotep III in the 14th century BC. We'll continue to your hotel later today, where the rest of the day is at leisure. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

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Day 9 : Flight to Cairo

Today marks the end of your incredible journey through Egypt. A transfer will be provided to take you to Luxor Airport to meet your flight to Cairo, where your tour ends.(B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Sonesta Hotel Cairo

The Sonesta Hotel & Casino is a sophisticated and luxurious hotel offering spacious, en-suite rooms with opulent furnishings. Enjoy a cocktail at the poolside bar or indulge in a relaxing massage or Turkish steam bath at the full-service spa. With 5 restaurants located within the hotel you'll be spoilt for choice over dining options.



Movenpick Hotel, Aswan

Situated on Elephantine Island, the Movenpick is a luxurious hotel with stunning views of the Nile River. There is a range of spacious and luxurious rooms with stylish furnishings, private balconies or terraces and a great selection of amenities including WiFi, satellite TV and tea/coffee making facilities. The Movenpick offers three restaurants as well as the Lounge Bar and Panorama Bar. Guests can also make use of the outdoor swimming pool and tennis courts.



Deluxe Cruise

Deluxe Nile cruise boats are elegant, luxurious boats with spacious cabins and an excellent range of facilities. You'll have the opportunity to relax as your cruise boat meanders along this famous river. Enjoy delicious dining experiences coupled with incredible views of the villages and vistas that dot the river bank.



Steigenberger Nile Palace

The Steigenberger Nile Palace is a grand hotel and stylishly furnished, with many rooms overlooking the Nile River. The hotel has a health club with massage rooms, sauna, steam room and fitness room, and a tennis court on the roof, not to mention a riverside pool. Its four restaurants offer a choice between Nubian, Lebanese, Italian, and Thai cuisine.



Sonesta St. George Hotel

An elegant and luxurious classical hotel, the Sonesta's sophistication will ensure you a comfortable stay. The hotel has a sweeping terrace with fantastic views of the Nile, a grand entrance of polished marble and handsomely appointed furnishings with exquisite detail and a beautiful health spa. All its rooms offer views of the city or the river, complemented by a wide range of restaurants and cafes. Just minutes away you will find the temples at Luxor and Karnak, home to two of ancient Egypt's most famed sanctuaries.



Tipping

Tipping is an essential part of the culture. For a job well done, we would suggest for your tour guide: USD\$5-6 per traveller, for each day of sightseeing.

For your driver and On The Go Representative we'd recommend USD\$2-3 per traveller for each day of service. Tipping is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

Accommodation ratings

On our Private trips, you can often choose your style of accommodation. The price quoted on our website is reflective of the included accommodation, please see the "included" section on the first page of this document for details. Should you opt for an alternative hotel category, this will be confirmed in writing with the respective price on your invoice.

For further details about the indicative hotels, please see the "hotels" tab on our website. Here we rank hotel's in their respective country (REGIONAL CATEGORY) - but we also tell you how it ranks by Western standards (OUR CATEGORY).

STANDARD - Equates to a Western 3-star standard, always featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant.

SUPERIOR - Equates to a Western 4-star standard, featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant and often a swimming pool and/or a fitness centre.

DELUXE - Equates to a Western 5-star standard, usually featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, excellent service and customer care.

LUXURY - Equates to a Western 5-star plus standard - the creme de la creme. Featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an

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array of amenities, this accommodation is a cut above the rest. Sheer opulence!

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Egypt Country Guide

Welcome to Egypt - Arrival transfer

A complimentary airport arrival transfer is included. Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative from On The Go Tours PRIOR to immigration. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative who will fast track you through the immigration queue. Please have your Tour Voucher handy and make it available to our representative. Our representative will assist you with your luggage and escort you to our vehicle, where you will wave goodbye and be transferred to your hotel.

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes in the arrival hall) or your flight to Egypt is delayed, please call or send a text message (standard text message, not Messenger or WhatsApp) to the emergency contact number as stated on your Tour Voucher.

Visas & passports

Visa requirements are subject to change and visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Egypt.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book all services. Please be advised visa requirements are subject to change, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. For information about Egyptian visas, head to www.onthegotours.com/Egypt/Visas

Health requirements & water

You should seek medical advice for vaccinations and about medications before travelling.

Tap water is not safe to drink in Egypt, only drink bottled mineral water which is readily available from hotels, shops and restaurants.

Essential packing

Please check local temperatures so you can pack accordingly. Visit www.worldclimate.com

- Towel for the felucca (if applicable to your chosen tour)
- Lightweight cotton garments
- Comfortable walking shoes. Pack flip flops/thongs/jandals to wear aboard the Nile felucca or Nile Cruiser
- DEET based mosquito repellent and antihistamine cream
- Tour Voucher and a copy of your travel insurance policy, spare passport photos and a photocopy of your passport
- Universal travel adaptor
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch
- Sleep sheet or sleeping bag if travelling on the felucca, or if travelling onto Jordan. If travelling by felucca you can opt to only bring a sleep sheet and hire a freshly laundered winter warmth blanket for USD\$15 (total) for the 2 night stay from our felucca crew
- If doing a felucca cruise or travelling between November and March, pack warm clothes (i.e. fleece, jacket, trousers, jeans, hat and scarf) as temperatures plummet at night

It's not like home, what to expect & Ramadan

Travel to far - flung corners of the earth involves lifestyles and conditions that are sometimes very different from what you are used to back home. You must come prepared to cope with unusual situations, local inadequacies and unpredictable events as and when they occur. Foreign travel is definitely not suitable for people who expect or demand everything to go exactly as planned. With the greatest respect and in the interest of your ultimate enjoyment you must understand this. Things can and do change in foreign countries.

Please visit www.onthegotours.com/Egypt/Travel-tips-and-useful-info for what to wear,

local customs, currency, WiFi, Ramadan and other helpful information to prepare you for your holiday.

RAMADAN

Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world and adherents of the Muslim faith fast during daylight hours and break their fast with lavish meals and lively celebrations in the evening. Many shops (excluding those which cater mainly to tourists) and attractions close earlier, as such we will start our tour earlier to make the best use of time and itineraries may be slightly altered to ensure we visit all attractions, leisure time will be offered in the afternoon. Non-Muslims are not expected to fast over Ramadan, but it is considered impolite to eat food or drink on the street. NOTE: Traffic is exceptionally heavy during Ramadan, especially toward the time of breaking the fast. Forthcoming Ramadan dates are: 12 Apr – 11 May 2021 (approx)

Shopping in Egypt

For those that enjoy shopping, Egypt is a virtual Aladdin's Cave. Top buys include - perfume concentrate, rugs, backgammon boards, shisha pipes, Egyptian cotton clothing and authentic papyrus. When bartering for goods, set your budget, don't be swayed and remember the caveat – 'let the buyer beware.'

In the tourism industry it's common practice for commission to be offered in exchange for recommending particular shops or suppliers. This can become an issue when clients feel obliged to purchase. We do our best to avoid this by monitoring all shopping experiences offered.

All shopping experiences on your tour have been noted in the itinerary and they have been carefully selected based upon positive feedback from On The Go travellers. You are under no obligation to partake in a listed shopping experience and you are most welcome to wait inside or outside the premises.

Although we only visit reputable retailers, please note that we cannot explicitly guarantee the quality of their products. All purchases made whilst on holiday with us are

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at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with your purchase. On The Go cannot be held responsible for any items that you buy if they fail to meet expectation, or any shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.

Camera fees

At some sites there is an additional fee for use of a camera or video. Camera/video (not professional) fees range between USD \$3–30 per site. There is no fee for taking photographs at the Pyramids of Giza and Saqqara. The cost for using camera inside Valley of the Kings (though not permitted inside the tombs) is approx. USD\$20. The cost for photographing the treasures inside the Egyptian Museum is generally USD\$6.

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