

Cruise Lake Nasser

11 days | Starts/Ends: Cairo



PREMIUM PRIVATE TOUR: Cross the Tropic of Cancer, cruising Lake Nasser from the spectacular temple of Abu Simbel to Aswan, on board a decadent cruise ship. Also discover the hidden gems of the Temple of Amada and the ancient wonders of Luxor on this 11 day tour of Egypt which starts and ends in Cairo, home to the legendary Pyramids of Giza.

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
- Lake Nasser cruising - Relax onboard your luxury cruise boat and enjoy the stunning scenery along the way

- Lake Nasser sightseeing - Discover a number of temples, including Kaser Ibrim, the temple of Amada and the temple of Wadi El Seboua
- 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

- Economy class flight Cairo to Abu Simbel and Luxor to Cairo
- Breakfast daily and all meals aboard the Nile Cruiser
- 7 nights DELUXE hotels, 3 nights DELUXE Lake Nasser Cruiser (en suite cabin) including daily sightseeing excursions and evening entertainment. SUPERIOR hotels available upon request. Accommodation rating – See Trip Notes for details
- Qualified Egyptologist guide at all sites of antiquity
- Touring - Cairo, Aswan, Kom Ombo and Luxor
- Entrance fees for all included sightseeing
- An airport arrival transfer on day 1 and a departure transfer on day 11

- 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 : Welcome to Egypt

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 (B)**

Day 2 : Pyramids & Saqqara

We begin our journey with a tour of the impressive Pyramids at Giza, the planet's oldest tourist attraction. The largest is Khufu (Cheops), constructed from 2.5 million quarried limestone blocks, weighing in at a mammoth 6 million tonnes. We continue to the famous Egyptian Museum to view the immaculately preserved treasures of King Tutankhamun and his legendary funerary mask.

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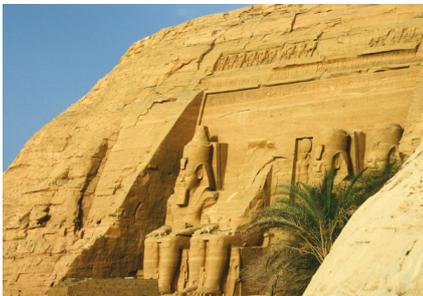
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This afternoon, we continue to The Citadel. This monumental Islamic-era fortification, in the heart of Cairo, was once the seat of government from the 13th to the 19th centuries. Here, we'll visit the beautiful Mosque of Muhammed Ali, built in the 1830's this remarkable structure is made from alabaster stone and is a smaller version of the Blue Mosque, found in Istanbul.

Later today, we visit 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, though an official date has yet to be released. If travelling prior to the opening of the new facility we'll visit the Egyptian Museum this morning instead.

Overnight - Cairo

Day 3 : Abu Simbel



Cairo – Abu Simbel. This morning we'll take a short domestic flight to Abu Simbel, possibly the most awe-inspiring temple of all ancient Egypt, built to revere the mighty King Ramses II. Here, we'll board our 5 star cruiser and have lunch on board before embarking on a guided tour of the mighty temples of Abu Simbel. Afternoon tea is served back on the sundeck watching the sunset, before watching an Abu Simbel Sound & Light show this evening.

Overnight - Onboard Cruiser - Abu Simbel (B, L, D)

Day 4 : Lake Nasser cruising

Abu Simbel – Lake Nasser. A modern feat of engineering, the High Dam contains 18

times the amount of material used in the construction of Cheops, the largest pyramid at Giza. The by-product for this awesome construction is Lake Nasser – the world's largest artificial lake. This morning we set sail on Lake Nasser. The first of many hidden gems you'll see is Kasr Ibrim, an ancient Nubian citadel. Information about the site is provided from the ship's sundeck as entrance to the site is not permitted. En route to Wadi El Seboua, we'll explore the Temple of Amada, the oldest of Lake Nasser's monuments and home to some of the most fine and vibrant reliefs.

Spend the remainder of the day relaxing, you might wish to enjoy a cocktail or listen to the live music performances in the lounge bar onboard.

Overnight - Onboard Cruiser - Wadi El Seboua (B, L, D)

Day 5 : Wadi el Seboua



This morning we explore the temple of Wadi El Seboua, which was dedicated by Ramses II to the two Gods Amon Ra and Ra Harmakis. The temple features a sphinx-lined avenue and was once converted to a church by early Christians.

Returning to our ship, relax as we glide along the water, crossing the Tropic of Cancer, bound for the Nubian city of Aswan.

Overnight - Onboard Cruiser - Aswan (B, L, D)

Day 6 : Philae Temple

Lake Nasser – Aswan. Early this morning we make a stop at the Temple of Kalabsha. Originally built in 30BC and dedicated to the Nubian sun god Mandulis, it was moved in 1970 to its current location due to rising water levels. Reaching Aswan, we disembark and later today enjoy a trip to the mighty High

Dam and Philae Temple. Philae was originally the site of an ancient temple complex that had to be dismantled and relocated to Agilkia Island, after flooding caused by the High Dam project. **Overnight - Aswan (B)**

Day 7 : Kom Ombo Temple

Aswan – Luxor. Today we depart Aswan and travel onwards to Luxor. We'll stop en route to visit the unique double Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to the crocodile-headed god Sobek and the falcon-headed god Horus.

Overnight - Luxor (B)

Days 8-9 : Karnak Temple & the Valley of the Kings



We'll start day 8 with a visit to Karnak Temple, a spectacular complex of sanctuaries, pylons, chapels, halls and obelisks, all dedicated to the Theban gods. Our next stop is Luxor Temple – built by Pharaoh Amenophis III.

On day 9, we'll tour the Valley of the Kings, where we explore the myriad of tombs. We'll also visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, often considered one of the impressive architectural achievements of the ancient world. We'll end our touring today with a visit to the Colossi of Memnon, two huge statues of Amenhotep II.

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

Day 10 : Return to Cairo & free time...

Luxor – Cairo. We fly back to Cairo today. You'll have some free time for a spot of last minute souvenir shopping or perhaps

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consider a city tour of old Islamic Cairo.
Overnight - Cairo (B)

Day 11 : Cairo

After a hearty breakfast your incredible journey through the land of the Pharaoh's has come to an end. A transfer will be provided to the airport for your onward flight. (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 M/S Prince Abbas

The Mövenpick MS Prince Abbas offers a great chance to enjoy the beautiful scenery of Lake Nasser. Discover magnificent temples and tombs of the ancient world on your cruise down ancient Egyptian history. 65 cabins, incorporating junior suites and Royal suites are furnished to make your stay comfortable. Work out in the gym or just take in the view from your room or outside areas. Cruises leave from either Aswan or Abu Simbel.



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.



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.



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.



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

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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 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

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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 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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