



# Festive King Ramses

13 days | Starts/Ends: Cairo



**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TOUR:** *Escape to sunny Egypt this festive season - explore pyramids and temples, sail down the Nile, discover the Valley of the Kings, plus spend three days relaxing at a Red Sea retreat. Choose between Xmas day at the pyramids or on the Nile and ring in the New Year by the Red Sea in Hurghada!*

## HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

### Trip Highlights

- Hurghada - Relax at the Red Sea, swim and opt to snorkel or scuba dive in the clear coastal waters
- Cairo - Marvel at the legendary Pyramids of Giza, explore the Necropolis of Saqqara and see King Tut's treasures at the Egyptian Museum
- 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 - Roam around the colossal Temple of Karnak and take an optional tour of the beautifully illuminated Luxor Temple at night

- Aswan - Take a leisurely boat trip to Agilika Island to explore romantic Philae Temple and wander around the colourful souqs
- Nile felucca sailing - Sail the River Nile on board a traditional felucca and spend two nights sleeping under a blanket of stars (or upgrade to a 5 star Nile Cruise)
- Kom Ombo - Visit the Nile side Temple of Kom Ombo

### What's Included

- Breakfast daily, 2 lunches and 2 dinners
- 9 nights 4-5 star hotels, 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck). If booking our Nile Cruise Upgrade, 8 nights 4-5 star hotels and 3 nights Nile Cruiser (en suite cabin)
- 3 days in coastal Hurghada, Red Sea stay - Swim, sun and sand
- 1 overnight train from Cairo to Aswan (Private 2 berth sleeper cabin)
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on day 1 and day 13
- Touring - Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan, Luxor and Hurghada
- Escorted by an Egyptian tour guide degree qualified in Egyptology
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$60-80pp, paid in local currency

- Entrance Fees: USD\$80-100pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$5-7 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

## ITINERARY

### Day 1: Welcome to your Egyptian adventure

Saturday. Welcome to Cairo, Egypt's bustling capital. You will be met at Cairo Airport and transferred to our start hotel. Spend the rest of the day at leisure, or those arriving early may wish to book our **Backstreets of Cairo** tour which visits lesser known highlights of the capital including Tahrir Square, the hub of the 2011 Egyptian Revolution.

You may also extend your stay in Cairo with our pre or post tour accommodation or **tour add-ons** like our **Alexandria Day Trip**.

### Overnight - Cairo

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## Day 2 : Pyramids & Saqqara



Get ready for a memorable day! Today we explore the legendary Pyramids of Giza and the iconic Sphinx at the Giza Plateau. Sole survivors from the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World, the pyramids are the planet's oldest tourist attraction! A stop will be made at a government supervised papyrus emporium, and then we travel on to explore the sand-strewn tombs and temples of the ancient necropolis of Saqqara, home to the Zoser's Step Pyramid. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

## Day 3 : The Egyptian Museum

Cairo - Aswan. This morning we'll travel to 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 instead.

There is time to relax before we board the overnight train to Aswan this evening.

**Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)**

## Day 4 : Beautiful Philae Temple



After arrival to Aswan and hotel check-in, we enjoy a boat trip to Agilika Island where we'll discover the Temple of Philae, dedicated to the goddess Isis. On return to Aswan we'll make a stop at a perfume oil emporium. Spend the remainder of the evening at your own leisure - shop in the colourful souqs or simply kick back and relax. **Overnight - Aswan (B)**

## Day 5 : Optional excursion to Abu Simbel & Felucca sailing



Aswan - Nile felucca sailing. Optional early morning excursion to the magnificent rock-cut **Temples of Abu Simbel**, built by mighty King Ramses II. This afternoon, we board our Nile felucca for a 2 night voyage downstream on the River Nile. Relax and chat with new friends as the felucca gently plies its route. Stops are made en route for swimming and visiting local villages.

If sailing by **felucca** is not your style, consider upgrading to a **5 star luxury Nile Cruise**, please see 'Cruise Upgrade Prices & Dates' tab above for details.

**Overnight - Felucca Cruise (B, L, D)**

## Day 6 : Felucca sailing & Kom Ombo



Nile felucca sailing - Kom Ombo. Relax, go for a swim or just chill out in the sun on deck. Let your troubles melt away, as the felucca plies its route. In the afternoon we dock near Kom Ombo and take a motorboat to visit the temple before returning to the felucca for the night. **Overnight - Felucca Cruise (B, L, D)**

## Day 7 : Luxor & optional visit to the Temple of Luxor



Kom Ombo - Luxor. This morning we disembark and drive to Luxor. Home of the legendary Valley of the Kings and Temple of Karnak, 4000 year-old Luxor is ancient Egypt at its best! Enjoy some rest and relaxation and then tonight, we have the opportunity to visit Luxor Temple with dinner afterwards. Luxor Temple was built by Amenhotep III and looks stunning at night when it's illuminated by hundreds of lights (book/pay locally), alternatively simply enjoy the facilities of our hotel. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

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## Day 8 : Valley of the Kings



Today we discover the West Bank of the Nile and the legendary Valley of the Kings and some of its many tombs. Marvel at Colossi of Memnon, the massive stone remains of the Temple of Amenophis III, before exploring the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and surrounding tombs.

After lunch, we visit the Temple of Karnak, a spectacular religious complex built on a gigantic scale, where you get lost wandering around the stone papyrus columns. The rest of the evening is at leisure.

**Overnight - Luxor (B)**

## Day 9 : Red Sea Riviera

Luxor - Hurghada. Today we drive to the coastal town of Hurghada, which will be our base for the next few days. Hurghada is one of the Red Sea's most popular resorts and it is easy to see why. Hotels and expanded infrastructure provide holidaymakers with excellent aquatic facilities for sail boarding, yachting, deep-sea fishing, SCUBA diving and snorkelling. **Overnight - Hurghada (B)**

## Days 10-11 : Sun, sea & sand



The next 2 days are free to explore Hurghada or simply relax. There's an optional day trip to Giftun Island for swimming and snorkelling, which can be booked locally.

Hurghada's central location provides a gateway to prime offshore reefs, which are some of the finest in the world. Hurghada also has plenty of restaurants and late night bars for evening entertainment. Just outside Hurghada is an ancient Roman quarry called Mons Porphyrites and Port Safage – a famously windy place which is ideal for windsurfing.

**Overnight - Hurghada (B:2)**

## Day 12 : Travel back to Cairo



Hurghada - Cairo. This morning we drive to Cairo where the remainder of today is free for you to relax or explore Egypt's capital at leisure. Or you can opt to join us on an excursion to Khan el Khalili Bazaar, the ideal place for some last minute souvenir shopping.

**Overnight - Cairo (B)**

## Day 13 : Cairo

Our holiday comes to an end and we bid farewell to our guide and fellow travellers. Included airport departure transfer.

For information about visas, top travel tips and much more, take a look through our **travel guide (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.**

### Holiday Inn Cairo Maadi

Overlooking the Nile and offering distant views of the Great Pyramids of Giza, this Holiday Inn provides the perfect location for

your stay in Cairo. Each guestroom features a balcony (not Nile View as standard) and is well-equipped with modern amenities including free WiFi. Evenings can be spent enjoying international or Egyptian cuisine and unwinding with a cocktail at one of the hotel's bars. Thanks to the friendly hotel staff, you'll soon feel at home. And with panoramic views of the city from the rooftop lounge and pool, there's no better place to base yourself for exploring Egypt's ancient wonders.



### Sleeper Train

When travelling on an overnight train in Egypt, sleeper carriages offer the highest level of comfort. Cabins are equipped with two beds (one above the other), a basin, electric points and air conditioning. Freshly laundered bedding is provided and in the early evening an attendant will come round and make up your bed for you. The carriages have toilets at each end and there is a club car which serves snacks and beverages. In the morning a very basic breakfast is provided.



### Le Meridien Heliopolis

Just a short drive from Cairo's Old Town and international airport, the 5-star Le Meridien Heliopolis combines comfort with convenience. The guest rooms are spacious and equipped with air-conditioning, satellite television and a minibar, plus there's complimentary WiFi throughout the property. Dining options include a choice of four on-site restaurants, serving Egyptian and international cuisine. Guests can also enjoy live entertainment and cocktails at The 51

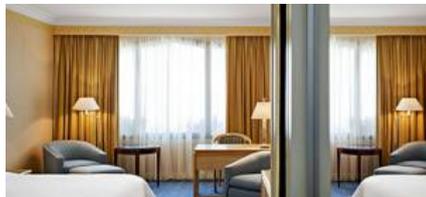
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Bar. During the warmer months hotel guests can take a dip in the outdoor pool or relax on a sun lounger on the terrace. There's also a fitness centre and tennis courts for those who like to stay active whilst on holiday.



## 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.



## Tolip Hotel

Set in manicured gardens, the Helnan Aswan is an elegant hotel with impressive views of the Nile. Guest rooms are spacious with modern interiors and located next to the beautiful pool. Wi-fi is available in the lobby and by the pool. There are also two restaurants and bars, a bowling alley, a swimming pool and a cinema. Why not relax by the pool before exploring the rest of Aswan.



## Felucca Sailboat

Feluccas are simple, traditional Egyptian sailboats that have plied the Nile since ancient times. Feluccas carry between 10

- 12 passengers comfortably. The boat's deck is draped with soft colourful cushions that serve as your lounging area during the day and as your sleeping area at night. A support boat travels alongside your felucca and is on hand if you need to use the toilet. The support boat is also where your meals are prepared and eaten. You'll need to bring a sleeping bag/sheet (or hire for a nominal cost) and a towel with you. The crew, as well as being experienced sailors, are responsible for the preparation of the included meals.



## 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.



## Hilton Hurghada Resort

Set in tropical gardens, the Hilton Hurghada Resort is a comfortable, charming hotel with a private beach and water sport centre. The rooms have a balcony or terrace with views of the garden, pools or sea. Guests can work out in the onsite fitness centre, enjoy a game of tennis on the court or simply relax with a drink in the 321 Bar & Lounge.



## Continental Hotel

Tucked into Hurghada Bay, right on its scenic promenade, the Continental is a delightful beachfront resort boasting fantastic terraced rooms (many with seaviews) and excellent facilities. Watersports are in abundance here with swimming pools, scuba diving and snorkelling all readily available. A leisure club offers a sauna and spa treatments to relax after the day's activities. You can also wine and dine at one of the many great restaurants and bars.



## PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 4 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons

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sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' is compulsory for solo travellers or if your booking party cannot reach the minimum of 2 persons in a room and the amount needs to be added to the per person price. The single supplement offers the comfort of your own room and is also available to any other person wanting their own room.

## PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
20 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546
22 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546
27 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546

## PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
17 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546
24 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546
28 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546

## PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
16 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546
23 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546
30 Dec	USD 1,807	USD 2,546

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