

Festive King Tut

10 days | Starts/Ends: Cairo



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TOUR: *Classic Egypt at its best - ancient temples, tombs, Nile river cruising, topped off with plenty of festive cheer! With a number of festive tour dates to choose from, the hardest decision you'll need to make is where you want to spend Xmas and New Years - sailing the Nile, exploring Kom Ombo or Philae Temple, at the legendary pyramids or discovering Cairo!*

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- 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
- 5 nights 4-5 star hotels, 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck). If booking our Nile Cruise Upgrade, 4 nights 4-5 star hotels and 3 nights Nile Cruiser (en suite cabin)
- 2 overnight trains from Cairo to Aswan and Luxor to Cairo (Private 2 berth sleeper cabin)
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on day 1 and day 10
- Touring - Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan and Luxor
- Escorted by an Egyptian tour guide degree qualified in Egyptology
- All relevant transfer and transportation

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$50-70pp, 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 : Cairo

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

Day 2 : Pyramids & Saqqara



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Today we visit to the legendary Pyramids of Giza, sole survivors from the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World followed by the iconic Sphinx nearby. We continue to a government supervised papyrus emporium, followed by Saqqara to see King Zoser's Step Pyramid - the first known pyramid ever built. After the tour we return to Cairo and spend the rest of the day at leisure. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

Day 3 : Egyptian Museum

Cairo - Aswan. 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 instead.

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

Overnight - Sleeper train (B)

Day 4 : Philae Temple



Arrive into Aswan and check into our hotel. We then take a leisurely boat trip to romantic Temple of Philae, dedicated to the goddess Isis and rescued under an enormous UNESCO effort in the 1970s to save the temple from the rising waters of the High Dam. Upon returning to Aswan we visit a perfume oil emporium and as night falls, there is free time to shop in the colourful souqs or simply relax and watch an amazing sunset. **Overnight - Aswan (B)**

Day 5 : Sailing the Nile & optional excursion to Abu Simbel



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



Kom Ombo - Luxor. This morning we disembark and drive to Luxor for check-in to our 5 star hotel. The afternoon is free for swimming or relaxing by the pool. Home of the legendary Valley of the Kings and Queens and the gigantic Temple of Karnak, 4000 year old Luxor is ancient Egypt at its best. Tonight, we have the opportunity to visit Luxor Temple with dinner afterwards. Built by Amenhotep III, Luxor Temple looks stunning at night when it's illuminated by hundreds of lights (book/pay locally). Remainder of the evening is at leisure.

Overnight - Luxor (B)

Day 8 : Valley of the Kings



Luxor - Cairo. This morning we venture to the tomb strewn Valley of the Kings. Highlights of the visit include the Colossi of Memnon, a massive pair of statues that stand silent against the backdrop of history, the Valleys of the Kings and the awesome ramped and colonnaded Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.

The Valley of the Kings is studded with often highly decorated tombs, constructed to once house the regal sarcophagi enclosed mummies of the mighty pharaohs awaiting passage into the after-life. This afternoon after lunch and time to relax we visit the colossal Temple of Karnak. Lose yourself in the stone-columned Hypostyle Hall and go crazy with

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your camera. This is ancient Egypt! Tonight we return by overnight sleeper train to Cairo.

Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)

Day 9 : Free time in Cairo

This morning we arrive into Cairo and check into our hotel. The rest of the day is free to explore Egypt's bustling capital your way. Consider visiting the famous Khan el Khalili Bazaar to pick up some souvenirs or admire the imposing Citadel of Saladin. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

Day 10 : Cairo

Our amazing 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.



Steigenberger Hotel el Tahrir

Ideally located in the heart of downtown Cairo, the Steigenberger Hotel El Tahrir is right by the lively Tahrir Square. Guestrooms offer peace and quiet away from the high-energy of the city, with contemporary decor and sound-proofed windows overlooking views of Cairo. The wellness facilities are state-of-the-art, including a fitness centre, outdoor pool and sauna and massage rooms. Be sure to take advantage of the poolside bar and delicious hotel restaurant, or enjoy the option of 24-hour in-room dining.



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

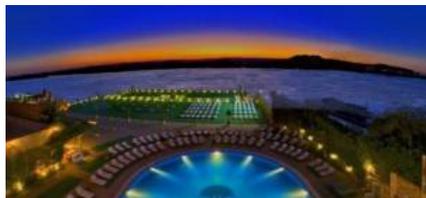
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Karnak, home to two of ancient Egypt's most famed sanctuaries.



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.



PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
17 Dec	USD 1,307	USD 1,953
24 Dec	USD 1,307	USD 1,953
28 Dec	USD 1,307	USD 1,953

PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
16 Dec	USD 1,307	USD 1,953
23 Dec	USD 1,307	USD 1,953
30 Dec	USD 1,307	USD 1,953

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 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 1,307	USD 1,953
22 Dec	USD 1,307	USD 1,953

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