

Egypt Private Tour

Please note that all of the itineraries listed in our web site are actual private tour itineraries we have prepared for clients over the past 12-18 months. By the very nature of what we do, each private tour itinerary is custom, exclusive and unique unto itself. Our over-riding goal is to create lifelong memories that you and your family will forever carry deep within your hearts.

Overview

Regarded as the as the gift of the Nile by the Greek historian Herodotus, Egypt's ancient history is as profuse as its fertile delta that has contributed to this ancient and modern civilization. Towering pyramids, labyrinth-like tombs, and intimidating Pharaoh temples create a landscape unlike anywhere else in the world. As a civilization that dates back to 7,000 B.C., Egypt has played host to legendary figures in history like Cleopatra, Alexander the Great, Nefertiti, and Ptolemy. Here you can journey through the Valley of the Kings to see the Tomb of Tutankhamen, pass the pyramids of Giza on a camel, and embark on the "Sun Boat IV" for four nights to visit the remote Dendrah, which has arguably the best-preserved temple complex in all of Egypt. Egypt is the preeminent civilization of the Mediterranean and cannot be missed.

Egypt

Temperature Range

Highs: Low 50's

Lows: High 80's

Area

1.01 Million SQ KM

390,121 SQ MILES

Population

97.55 Million

Language

Arabic

Capital

Cairo

Currency

Egyptian Pound (EGP)

Day 1

Fly to Cairo

Through our sister company, premium air provider TRAVNET, we may assist with your international airfare, as well as with mileage points conversion.

Day 2

Arrive Cairo

Upon arrival in Cairo, you will be privately transferred to the Four Seasons Nile Plaza Hotel (with views of the Nile River!) and treated to a "welcome dinner" at the hotel.

Four Seasons Nile Plaza Hotel

Located in the Garden City neighborhood, a quiet and upscale district in the heart of Cairo's social and business scenes, the Four Seasons Nile Plaza Hotel is the best luxury, 5-star property in the country's capital. All rooms feature elegant, bright decor and design with a private terrace, perfect for enjoying the gorgeous view! In

addition to a poolside grill, a café, two lounges, and a bar, the hotel also features three noteworthy restaurants, our favorite being Zitouni, their 24-hour restaurant serving authentic Egyptian fare. Enjoy!

Meals: --

Accommodations: Four Seasons Nile Plaza Hotel

Day 3

Cairo Private Tour

Following breakfast, you will be met by your private guide to begin your private tour of Cairo. Stopovers will include the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, home to the largest collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts, including treasures from Tutankhamun and items dating to 4,000 BC. During your visit, you will see the famous Mummy Room, featuring the remains of ancient Egypt's pharaohs and nobility, including Ramses II, one of

Egypt's most powerful pharaohs. Following your tour, you will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before being returned to your hotel.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodations: Four Seasons Nile Plaza Hotel

Day 4

Giza Private Tour

Following breakfast, you will be met by your private guide for your private tour of Giza, beginning at the site of the ancient pyramids Mycerinus, Chefren, and the Great Pyramid of Cheops in the Giza Plateau. Archaeologists believe that Egyptians built the Giza Pyramids between roughly 4,500 years ago over the span of 85 years. Remarkably, they have endured beyond Egypt's Old Kingdom era. Following a visit to the iconic image and site of the Sphinx, carved from a single ridge of limestone, you will have a lunch at the local Mena House. Following lunch, you will continue to the Solar Boat Museum. Ancient Egyptians used to build Solar Boats next to their pharaoh's tomb because they believed as transportation to the afterlife. In the afternoon you will be returned to your hotel.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodations: The Four Season Nile Plaza Hotel

Day 5

Fly Cairo/Luxor + Karnak Private Tour + Board Sun Boat IV

Following an early morning breakfast, you will fly to Luxor. Upon arrival in Luxor, you will be met by your private guide for your visit to the Temple of Karnak, where the Temple of Amun at Thebes is located. Here, you will walk through Great Hypostyle Hall, comprised of 134 giant sandstone columns adorned in Egyptian cartouches. Following your tour, you will be privately transferred to the Sun Boat IV for boarding. The Sun Boat IV will begin sailing down the west bank of the Nile River to the Necropolis of Thebes, the burial site of the Great Pharaohs of the New Kingdom and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Beginning in the 16th-century BC and for a period of 500 years to follow, these tombs were built along the valley for pharaohs and nobles. Here, you will have the opportunity to step inside the tomb of Tutankhamun "the boy king". You may also visit the tomb of Seti I, the father of Ramses II, one of the best-preserved tombs in the Valley of the Kings. Later, you will stop at the beautiful Temple of Hatshepsut, ancient Egypt's first female pharaoh and regarded today as one of among its most successful.

Sun Boat IV

Though we are not huge fans of cruises, we feel this is the best way to experience all that Egypt and the Nile River has to offer. As the longest river in the world (4,132 miles!) and considered to be the "source of life" by ancient Egyptians, a journey on an expedition vessel cannot be missed! With 36 cabins and four suites, we feel the Sun Boat IV is the only cruise on the Nile to visit the Temple of Hathor at Denderah on a four-night itinerary. The boat's aesthetic was strongly influenced by art-deco design but still has several traditional Egyptian touches, never lacking for the comforts of modern amenities. On the sun deck, the teak-wood flooring used throughout is combined with Egyptian marble around the heated swimming pool, giving it an eclectic look, whereas the dining room, featuring hand-painted images depicting everyday life in Nubia, has deep leather chairs that perfectly compliment the overall art deco feel of the boat. Each spacious en-suite cabin room has air conditioning, a mini bar, and LCD television with satellite, as well as views of the Nile!

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Sun Boat IV

Day 6

Sailing on the Nile: Luxor to Esna

Following breakfast aboard the Sun Boat IV, you will once more stop to visit to the east bank of the Nile, this time visiting the city of Thebes and the striking Temple of Luxor. Here, you will see the three large statues of Ramses II, the Courtyard of Ramses II, and the Colonnade of Amenhotep III, with its 14 papyrus-headed columns (some standing 50 feet tall!). In the afternoon, you will continue to sail to Esna for a visit to the Temple of Khnum.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Sun Boat IV

Day 7

Sailing on the Nile: Edfu to Kom Ombo

Following breakfast aboard the Sun Boat IV, you will sail to Edfu for a tour of the Temple of Horus, the falcon-headed god of the sky. Built in 230 BC by Ptolemy III and once buried in sand and debris, this well-preserved and colorful structure reveals what temple worship in ancient Egypt was truly like. In the afternoon, you will join your chef back on board for a local-inspired cooking lesson. Later, you will disembark at Kom Ombo "Hill of Gold" to visit the Greco-Roman temple dedicated to Haroeris, the Sun God, and Sobek, the Crocodile God, considered by some ancient Egyptians to be the creator of the world.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Sun Boat IV

Day 8

Sailing on the Nile: Aswan & Philae Temple

Following breakfast aboard the Sun Boat IV, you will disembark at Aswan and ride a motorized boat to Philae Temple on the island of Agilika. This sacred complex was dedicated to the goddess Isis and reflects a fusion of three great civilizations — Egyptian, Greek, and Roman. The dams here provide irrigation and hydro-electric power to much of Egypt, and the reservoir that formed behind it, Lake Nasser, is 340 miles long. You will continue to the impressive granite quarries and site of the Unfinished Obelisk. Illustrating the skills of Egypt's stonemasons, this monolith is one-third taller than any other ancient Egyptian obelisk. Later, you will take a ride around the Aswan islands in a felucca (small sailing vessel and traditional mode of transportation on the Nile by locals), weather permitting.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Sun Boat IV

Day 9

Disembark + Fly to Abu Simbel + Abu Simbel Private Tour

Following breakfast, you will disembark the Sun Boat IV and be privately transferred to the airport for your flight to Abu Simbel. Upon arrival, you will be met by your private guide for your tour of one of the most recognizable sites in all of Egypt, the twin temples of Ramses II and his wife, Queen Nefertari. The entrances

were built in such a way that, every year, on October 22nd and February 22nd the sun perfectly lights the three seated statues inside the sanctuary. Historians believe that these dates mark both coronation and birth. Following your tour, you will be privately transferred back to Cairo.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Four Seasons Nile Plaza Hotel

Day 10

Islamic Cairo & Souks Private Tour

Following breakfast, you will be met by your private guide and taken on an exploration of the Mosque and Madrasa of Sultan Hassan, built in AD 1356 and among the finest examples of early Mamluk architecture. You will then continue from the twin-towered Bab el-Foutouh, a fortified gate in Cairo's Old City walls, to Khan el-Khalili Bazaar, one of the city's major souks (open-air marketplaces). Here, you may browse the tightly packed stalls that display everything from spices and leather goods to jewelry and vegetables on a street that has hardly changed for centuries. Bargaining is expected here, so be prepared to negotiate. After lunch, you may choose to visit Coptic Cairo or return to your hotel for an afternoon at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Four Seasons Hotel Cairo

Day 11

Fly Cairo/Home

Meals: Breakfast