

# Egypt from the Pyramid Age

Cairo > Minya > Abydos > Luxor >  
 Aswan > Alexandria > Cairo



## Itinerary 2026

**18 days, 18 nights**

Egypt from the Pyramid Age will provide you with the most comprehensive experience of this ancient land, exploring sites rarely visited by other tours. This tour provides you with the chronological history of Egypt, from the construction of the monumental pyramids of the Old Kingdom, the tombs of the Middle Kingdom, through the temples of the New Kingdom to the Greek, Roman and Islamic influences leading to modern Egypt we see today.

We journey chronologically through Egypt, starting with the Pyramids of the Old Kingdom at Saqqara, Giza and Dashur. Then we travel south to explore the beautiful Middle Kingdom tombs of Beni Hassan. Our journey into the New Kingdom starts at Amarna, the location of the capital city of Tutankhamun's father, Akhenaten. We stop at Abydos, now dominated by the New Kingdom temple of Seti I, but also one of the most ancient sites in Egypt dating back to the Early and Predynastic periods. As we head towards Luxor, we stop at Dendera to see the temple of Hathor and the inscriptions of Cleopatra. In Luxor we immerse ourselves in the New Kingdom sites of Karnak and the Valley of the Kings and Queens, before sailing to Aswan and visiting the temples at Abu Simbel. We fly to Alexandria to experience the Greek and Roman history of Egypt and taste some wonderful seafood.

Along our journey we will experience the delicious food of modern Egypt and even attempt some cooking of our own. This comprehensive tour is tailored for those passionate about Egyptian history, allowing you to learn, experience, and relax in the wonders of this ancient land.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- In-depth tour of some of the major monuments of Egyptian history, led by a trained archaeologist
- Visit the newly open Grand Egyptian Museum and the treasures of Tutankhamun
- Visit the pyramids of Netjerikhet (Djoser), Khufu and Khafre at Saqqara and Giza including the sphinx
- Visit the Red and Bent Pyramids at Dashur built by Seneferu
- Experience Coptic Cairo and the Khan el-Khalili Markets
- Tour the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square and visit the royal mummies at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilisation (NMEC)
- Visit the Middle Kingdom sites of Beni Hassan and Meir
- Explore one of the few ancient city sites in Egypt at Amarna including the royal tomb of Akhenaten
- Visit the New Kingdom temple of Seti I at Abydos and learn about the earliest royal burials
- Visit the temple of Hathor at Dendera, recently cleaned and conserved
- Explore Karnak and Luxor Temples and the temples of Ramesses the Great at Abu Simbel
- Relax on a 4-night cruise along the Nile on our private dahabeya visiting the temples at Edfu and Kom Ombo
- Visit the relocated temples at Philae with a boat ride on Lake Nasser

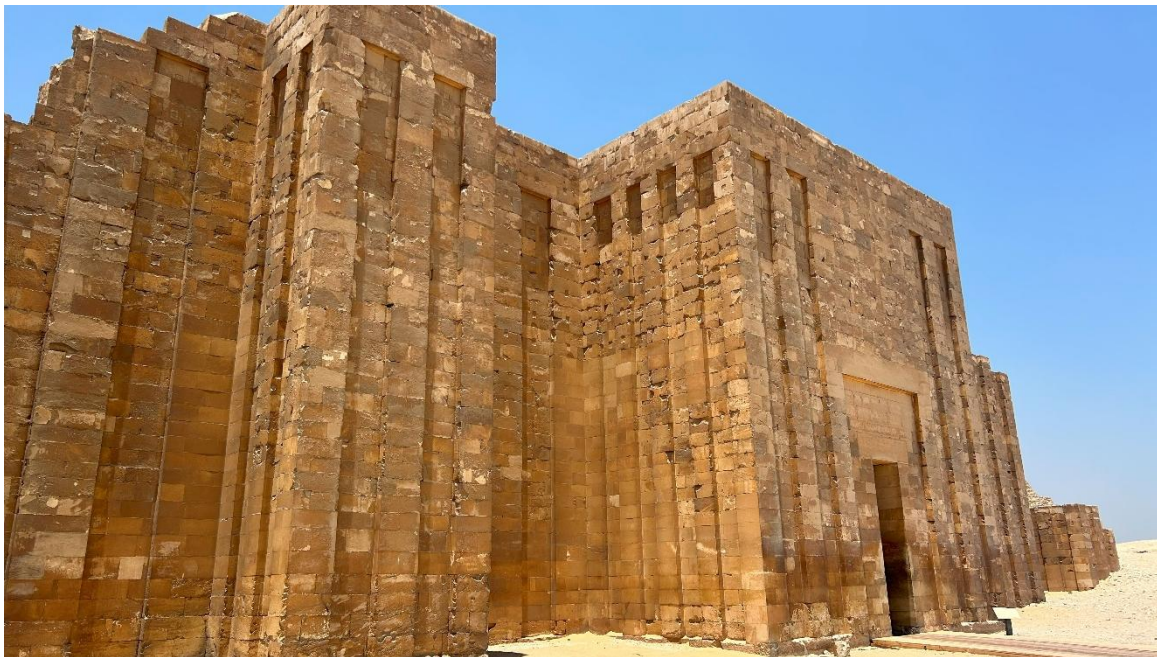
## ITINERARY

### *Day 1 (D):*

Arrive in Cairo and be greeted at the airport by our staff who will assist you and transfer you to our hotel overlooking the pyramids. We will meet in the hotel that evening for a welcome drink and dinner. Please contact us if you would like to arrive earlier and we can arrange additional nights' accommodation and tour options.

### *Day 2 (B/L/D): Saqqara, Memphis and Dashur*

Today we start our tour at Saqqara visiting the first pyramid of ancient Egypt, the Step Pyramid of Netjerikhet (Djoser). We also visit the Serapeum and other tombs around the Saqqara plateau. After lunch, we journey to nearby Dashur to see the Fourth Dynasty pyramids and to the site of Memphis, the ancient capital. Upon returning to the hotel to freshen up, we head to a wonderful Egyptian dinner.



### *Day 3 (B/L/D): Giza and the GEM*

Today we visit the only remaining wonder of the ancient world, the Great Pyramid of Khufu at Giza as well as the pyramids of Khafre and Menkare. We visit the sphinx with opportunities to take your picture. After lunch, we visit the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum to see many of the wonderful objects from all Egyptian history. We finish with dinner overlooking the pyramids.

### *Day 4 (B/L/D): Cairo and Beni Hassan*

Our morning starts with a visit to the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square, which still holds over 50,000 objects. We will explore some of the most important objects from the earliest parts of ancient Egypt through to the Late and Roman Periods. After a quick lunch, we start our journey south towards Beni Hassan. We visit the rock cut tombs of the regional governors of Middle Egypt with their beautifully painted walls. We stay overnight in Minya.







*Day 5 (B/L/D): Amarna, Abydos and Dendera*

We visit one of the few ancient city sites in Egypt, Amarna, founded by Tutankhamun's father, Akhenaten. We visit his royal tomb and the remains of the temples and palaces surrounded by contemporary houses. We continue south to Abydos where we stop for lunch before exploring the Temples of Seti I and Ramesses II and the other nearby sites, some dating back to the Early Dynastic period before the pyramids. We visit the Temple of Hathor at Dendera before continuing to Luxor for a late dinner.

*Day 6 (B/L/D): Luxor*

Today we explore one of the largest temple sites in the world, Karnak, dedicated to the god Amun. This ancient temple site dates from at least the Middle Kingdom with the preserved architecture mainly dating to the New Kingdom. Features include the obelisk of Hatshepsut, the Sacred Lake, the Hypostyle Hall, and the temple of the Ankh-menu. After lunch we explore the Luxor Museum which contains blocks from the constructions of Akhenaten at Karnak. We take in a sunset visit to Luxor Temple and the Avenue of Sphinx. After dinner we visit the nearby markets for souvenir shopping or pick up some archaeology books at Aboudi's, a favourite haunt of Egyptologists.

*Day 7 (B/L/D): Luxor*

Our morning starts early with a visit to Deir el-Bahri, the funerary temple of Hatshepsut. We then head to the Valley of the Kings, where you can visit the beautiful tombs of Seti I and Tutankhamun (extra fees). We enjoy a traditional Egyptian lunch before visiting the Ramesseum, the Tombs of the Nobles and the Colossi of Memnon. Before dinner, we explore a local craft shop which support local artisans. Dinner is on the west bank followed by a short river cruise across the Nile back to our hotel.



*Day 8 (B/L/D): Luxor*

Today we visit the Valley of the Queens, with a chance to visit the beautiful tomb of Nefertari (extra fee and dependant on seasonal opening). We visit Deir el-Medina, the workers village for the royal tombs and see some of the beautifully decorated tombs the workers made for themselves. After lunch we visit the temple of Medinet Habu, built by Ramesses III and often not visited by many tour groups. In the afternoon there is time to relax at the hotel before dinner nearby.

*Day 9 (B/L/D): Luxor and Esna*

Today we checkout of our hotel, ready to transfer to our private dahabeya sailing boat. We start the day visiting Carter House, where Howard Carter resided while excavating the tomb of Tutankhamun. There is a chance to visit the replica of the tomb of Tutankhamun located in the grounds of Carter House. We then journey south towards Esna and visit the temple dedicated to the god Khnum as well as visit the local village and market. We lunch aboard our private luxury dahabeya which will be our home for the next four nights. In the evening we visit the village of El Hegz and have dinner with a local family.

*Day 10 (B/L/D): El Kab and Edfu*

Today we continue sailing south, stopping at El Kab to explore this ancient site of early Egypt as well as the Temple of Horus at Edfu. We will ride in a horse drawn kaleesh to Edfu Temple and see the sites of the local village along the way.



*Day 11 (B/L/D): Gebel el-Silsila*

With plenty of time to relax on board our private dahabeya, we stop at the ancient quarry of Gebel el-Silsila where stone was mined for many ancient monuments throughout Egypt. We will also visit Bisaw Island and village for a relaxing meal.

*Day 12 (B/L/D): Kom Ombo*

Our last full day on our luxury dahabeya, we will visit Kom Ombo temple and the crocodile museum containing mummified crocodiles dedicated to the god Sobek. A visit to a local Nubian village will finish our journey before our farewell dahabeya dinner.





*Day 13 (B/L/D): Aswan and Philae*

In Aswan, we depart our dahabeya and explore the sites of Upper Egypt starting with the unfinished obelisk in the ancient granite quarry. We take a boat out to Philae Island to see the ancient temples that were relocated due to the construction of the Aswan High Dam. After lunch we visit the Nubian Museum and the Aswan High dam to see how this ancient landscape has changed. We finish with a traditional Nubian dinner.



*Day 14 (B/L/D): Aswan and Abu Simbel*

Today we visit Elephantine Island, located in the middle of the Nile, covered with many ancient temples and an Early Dynastic fortress. After a quick lunch we start our bus journey south to Abu Simbel to see the temples of Rameses II and Nefertari, relocated to the banks of Lake Nassar. We stay overnight in Abu Simbel to enjoy a local meal and return to the temples at Abu Simbel for the sound and light show.



*Day 15 (B/L/D): Alexandria*

This morning we head to the airport for our flight back to Cairo and bus transfer to Alexandria. After lunch we explore the Library of Alexandria and the Citadel of Qaitbay overlooking the bay. Dinner is a wonderful seafood meal tasting the Greek influences of this Mediterranean seaside city.

### *Day 16 (B/L/D): Alexandria*

We continue to explore the Greek and Roman sites of Alexandria starting with the ruins at Kom el-Dikka, including the Serapeum and Pompey's Pillar. After lunch we take in a visit to the newly renovated Greek and Roman Museum. In the afternoon we visit the catacombs of Kom el-Shawqafa.



### *Day 17 (B/L/D): Cairo*

This morning we return to Cairo by bus with a visit to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC) to see the royal mummies as well as the textile collection and artefacts showing the various periods of Egyptian history. We visit the Citadel of Salah ad-Din and the Mohammed Ali Mosque taking in the views over Cairo. This is followed by a relaxing lunch at Al Azhar Park overlooking the Citadel. In the afternoon we stroll along el Moez street in old Coptic Cairo exploring the Mamluk houses and architecture within the old city walls. We finish at Khan el-Khalili markets for some final shopping and a visit to the oldest tea house in Egypt, el-Fishawy. Our farewell Egyptian dinner is nearby the markets overlooking Cairo.



### *Day 18 (B/L): Cairo*

Our last day we visit the Museum of Islamic Art and the Nilometer at the Museum of Umm Kulthum. We take in lunch at Zamalek with an optional visit to some fair-trade craft stores for any last-minute souvenirs.

We can arrange your transfer to the airport for this afternoon, this evening, or tomorrow morning depending on your flights and schedule. Tonight's accommodation is included.



## YOUR GUIDE

Archaeology History Tours offers planned and private tours to Egypt led by Scott Allan. Scott is a trained archaeologist and hospitality professional who has been fascinated with world history from a young age. Scott has excavated at many sites across Egypt including Amarna, Luxor, and in the Nile Delta. He studied at Macquarie University and the Australian National University, specialising in archaeology and the earliest periods of Egyptian history. Scott has travelled extensively throughout Egypt and Europe, applying his skills as a hospitality professional to experience the best food and culture each country has to offer. He has over 20 years' experience in hotel management, and hospitality training at some of the best hotels in Australia.

Based in Australia, Archaeology History Tours caters to customers from around the world. Our aim is to provide study tours that allow travellers to learn about the long history of Egypt while enjoying a comfortable and enjoyable travel experience. Our tours are led by trained archaeologists, historians, and local guides to ensure you learn and experience all Egypt has to offer. We specialise in tours for the LGBTQIA+ community, their friends, and allies.



We can cater a tour to suit your needs, from budget to luxury and everything in between. Join us on a journey to discover the wonders of Egypt!

## TOUR PRICE AND INCLUSIONS

AUD\$17574 per person, twin share

AUD\$6528 single supplement

### *Includes:*

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 4-5 star hotels
- 4-night cruise on the Nile on our private luxury dahabeya including breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- All meals and non-alcoholic drinks including unlimited bottled water for all site excursions
- Airport transfers and coaches
- Entrance fees to museums, sites, and monuments (excludes addition fee items such as specific royal tombs at the Valleys of the Kings and Queens)
- Tips for local site guides, coach drivers, cruise staff, and restaurants

### *Does not include:*

- Return airfare to Egypt
- Personal spending money
- Travel Insurance
- Visa (can be purchased on arrival for USD25/GBP25/EUR25, or prearrange an e-visa)
- Excess luggage
- Drinks on the cruise and with most meals
- Optional extras

*NB. Itinerary may be changed or reordered depending on availability or changing conditions. Suitable alternatives will be sourced, and a final itinerary provided with confirmation of the tour.*