

## Egypt – Express

Cairo > Luxor > Aswan > Cairo



## Itinerary 2026

**7 days, 7 nights**

Short on time, but you have always wanted to see Egypt? Then this is the tour for you. An express trip to Cairo and Luxor to see all the must-see sites of this ancient land including the pyramids at Giza and Saqqara, the new Grand Egyptian Museum, the temples and monuments around Luxor as well as a river cruise along the Nile.

See the main highlights of Egypt with this express tour of Egypt, allowing you to combine it as part of a large holiday or a stop off on your way to another destination. This tour is designed for people short on time or as part of a larger itinerary, allowing you to visit other destinations, while seeing the best that Egypt has to offer.

We start our tour in Cairo, visiting the first pyramid of Egypt at Saqqara and the great pyramids at Giza. We visit the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) as well as the Egyptian Museum at Tahrir Square. Take in the view over modern Cairo from the Citadel of Salah ad-Din (Saladin) before visiting the royal mummies at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC).

We then head south, either to join our Nile Cruise between Luxor and Aswan which will stop at the Temple of Horus at Edfu and the temple at Kom Ombo. While in Luxor we visit the temples of Karnak and Luxor, and head over to the west bank to see the royal tombs at the Valley of the Kings and Queens.

Additional day can be added if you would like to visit the temples of Ramesses II at Abu Simbel or spend more time in Luxor or Cairo.

### 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.
- Visit the pyramids of Netjerikhet (Djoser), Khufu and Khafre at Saqqara and Giza including the sphinx.
- 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 Civilization (NMEC).
- Explore Karnak and Luxor Temples.
- Visit the temples of Deir el-Bahri (Hatshepsut) and Medinet Habu (Ramesses III).
- Relax on a 3-night cruise along the Nile visiting the temples at Edfu and Kom Ombo.
- Visit the relocated temples at Philae with a boat ride on Lake Nasser.
- Taste Egyptian cuisine such as homemade falafel, koshari and the refreshing Egyptian lemon juice.

## ITINERARY

### *Arrival Day (D):*

You will be greeted at the airport by one of our team and transferred to our hotel for 2 nights in Cairo. Our tour starts at 4pm in the lobby of our hotel, the Steigenberger Pyramids Cairo. We will enjoy a welcome drink and talk before dinner in the hotel.

### *Day 1 (B/L/D): Saqqara, Giza and the GEM*

Our day starts early with included breakfast before heading to Saqqara to visit the earliest pyramid, the Step Pyramid of Netjerikhet (Djoser). We also explore the surrounding tombs and the later pyramids of Unas and Pepi I, as well as walking past the entrance to the oldest royal tomb in the area, the tomb of Hetepsekhemwy – first ruler of the Second Dynasty. We then head to Giza to visit the Great Pyramid and sphinx before enjoying a traditional Egyptian meal. We finish the day exploring the newly open Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) and the wonders of this ancient culture. We have dinner overlooking the pyramids before returning to our hotel.



### *Day 2 (B/L/D): Cairo and the NMEC*

Day two we explore old Islamic Cairo and the Citadel overlooking the city. After breakfast we proceed to the Citadel of Salah ad-Din and Mohammad Ali Mosque, previously the royal palace for over 700 years and now home to the military museum. We then visit the new museum built to house the royal mummies, the National Museum of Egyptian Civilisation (NMEC). In addition to the royal mummies, the museum houses artefacts from throughout Egyptian history – providing a comprehensive snapshot of ancient to modern times. Lunch is at Al Azar Park, with views towards the Citadel, where we enjoy an Egyptian meal of shish meats, salads and vegetables. In the evening we explore some shops with items not found at the tourist sites throughout Egypt. We finish with a light meal back at the hotel.

### *Day 3 (B/L/D): Luxor*

Today we wake up early and fly to Luxor, ready to explore the ancient wonders of the city. We head to Karnak Temple to explore one of the largest temple complexes in Egypt. Dated to the New Kingdom, we see the newly cleaned hypostyle hall, wander around the sacred lake and visit the Temple of Mut. After lunch we visit the Luxor Museum and then sunset at Luxor Temple and markets. We then take a boat across the river to the west bank where we explore the local village and dinner at the El Fayrouz Hotel, a home away from home for many archaeologists.



*Day 4 (B/L/D): Luxor and the west bank*

Day four we start to explore the west bank, starting with the mortuary temple of Hatshepsut at Dier el-Bahari, then on to the Valley of the Kings and the tomb of Tutankhamun. We briefly stop at the Colossi of Memnon, before heading to a traditional Egyptian meal. In the afternoon we visit the funerary temple of Ramesses III known as Medinet Habu, before checking into our cruise for the journey to Aswan the following day.



*Day 5 (B/L/D): Luxor and Nile Cruise*

Our last day in Luxor we head to the Valley of the Queens to explore the royal tombs and then to Deir el-Medina to see the workmen's village and the associated tombs, some of the most beautiful tombs in all Egypt. We then return to the cruise for lunch and to start our journey south towards Aswan. There is time in the afternoon to relax and watch the life along the Nile pass by.

*Day 6 (B/L/D): Edfu and Kom Ombo*

Our relaxing time continues along the Nile. We stop off to explore the temple of Horus at Edfu, catching a horse drawn karesh from the boat. Later we stop at the temple at Kom Ombo and visit the crocodile museum. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are onboard.



*Day 7 (B/L): Aswan and Philae*

We wake up in Aswan and checkout of the cruise for our last day exploring Egypt. We visit the island temple of Philae which was moved when the Aswan High Dam was built. We also visit the unfinished obelisk at the ancient granite quarry. After lunch we transfer to Aswan airport for our flight to Cairo. You may choose to spend more time in Aswan, Luxor or Cairo or continue your journey home.

## 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\$5861 per person, twin share

AUD\$2125 single supplement

### *Includes:*

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 4-5 star hotels
- 3-night cruise on the Nile including breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- All other 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 guides, coach driver, 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.*