



# Ancient Egypt: Giza, Luxor & Cairo

### 9 days | 11 days with Cairo extension

With over 5,000 years of history to dig into, every day in Egypt brings about new discoveries. Walk like an Egyptian to pyramids, museums, and neighborhoods where stories of King Tut come to life and the local culture thrives. Then, when you've had your history fix, settle into a cafe where the coffee is strong and the koshary (a plate of rice, chicken, and saucy goodness!) is second to none.



#### Your tour package includes

7 nights in handpicked hotels
7 breakfasts
5 dinners with beer or wine
7 sightseeing tours
Egyptologist, who's also your Tour Director
Private deluxe motor coach
2 on-tour flights

#### Included highlights

Pyramids of Giza Great Sphinx Imhotep Museum Luxor Museum Temples of Karnak and Luxor Valley of the Kings Edfu's Temple of Horus Temple of Kom Ombo Temple of Philae Downtown Cairo

#### Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 3 hours daily across uneven terrain, including cobblestone streets and paved roads, with some hills and stairs.

#### Group size

15–38

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## **Overnight Flight** $\rightarrow$ 1 night

#### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Cairo today.

## $\textbf{Giza} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

#### Day 2: Arrival in Cairo & transfer to Giza

Included meals: dinner

Welcome to Egypt! Arrive in Cairo and transfer to Giza. This evening, enjoy an included dinner.

#### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Giza

Included meals: breakfast, welcome dinner Meet up with a professional Egyptologist, who's also your Tour Director, and set off on a guided tour of Giza.

- Uncover the Pyramids of Giza, the only Wonder of the Ancient World to have survived the modern era
- Visit the enigmatic Great Sphinx, the largest monolith statue in the world
- Continue to Saqqara, the pharaohs' royal graveyard for more than 3,000 years, and enter the Imhotep Museum in Memphis
- Visit a carpet factory to learn about the traditional Egyptian textile industry and enjoy a cup of tea

Please note: While the Imhotep Museum is currently closed for renovations, travelers will spend extra time at the Pyramids. Gather with your group for a welcome dinner this evening.

### $\textbf{Luxor} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

#### Day 4: Flight to Luxor & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Fly to Luxor and set off on a guided tour. You'll step inside the Luxor Museum to see one of the world's highest-quality collections of Egyptian artifacts, including a statue recovered from King Tutankhamun's tomb.

Then, transfer to the painstakingly excavated Temples of Karnak and Luxor, once connected by an avenue of sphinxes.

- Enter Karnak Temple for a walking tour through the complex to see the Precinct of Amun Re, walls of hieroglyphics, and the Temple of Khonsu
- Visit a papyrus shop to learn about traditional Egyptian paper and enjoy free time to shop
- Take an early evening walking tour through Luxor Temple, located on the banks of the Nile River
- View obelisks, statues, and the Abu Haggag Mosque

Tonight, sit down for an included dinner.

#### **Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Luxor's West Bank** Included meals: breakfast

Spend the day touring the Nile's West Bank with your Egyptologist as your guide.

- Explore the Valley of the Kings, a series of tombs hidden in the Theban Hills
- Tour the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, devoted to one of the few female pharaohs
- View the 64-foot-high Colossi of Memnon

# **Aswan** $\rightarrow$ 2 nights

#### Day 6: Aswan via Edfu & Kom Ombo

Included meals: breakfast, dinner En route to Aswan, make several stops to visit some of Egypt's most historic sites alongside your Egyptologist.

- Walk through Edfu's Temple of Horus, a wellpreserved temple and a 2,000-year old example of the architecture of its era
- Enter the Temple of Kom Ombo, built during the Greco-Roman period and noted for its twin deities, Sobek and Horus

This evening, enjoy an included dinner.

#### Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Aswan

Included meals: breakfast

Set off on a sightseeing tour of Aswan led by your Egyptologist.

- See the Aswan High Dam, one of the crowning achievements of modern Egypt
- Board a boat and visit the temples at Philae, located on an island in the Nile River
- Walk through the local market and stop at a perfume oil shop to learn about Frankincense and other natural remedies

Spend free time in Aswan or add an excursion. + Aswan Sunset Felucca Ride & Dinner

# $\textbf{Cairo} \rightarrow 1 \, night$

#### Day 8: Flight to Cairo & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner Fly to Cairo this morning. Then, explore downtown Cairo on a walking tour led by your Egyptologist.

- View Tahrir Square and learn about how it served as the backdrop for the Arab Spring and other political demonstrations
- See Abdeen Palace, a former royal home that's now the President of Egypt's residence and workplace
- Travel down Al Muizz street, an ancient road running through Cairo's Islamic center that's home to many impressive monuments, thousands of artisans, and several architectural wonders

Celebrate your trip with your fellow travelers during tonight's farewell dinner.

# Flight Home

#### Day 9: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures) Transfer to the airport to board your flight home, or continue exploring Cairo.

# + Cairo extension

Haven't gotten your fill of Egypt's history and charm? Cairo has plenty more to offer. Explore the largest collection of pharaonic antiquities, mingle with locals as you try authentic dishes, and get to know Old Cairo—your Tour Director will make sure you don't miss a thing.

# $\textbf{Cairo} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

# Day 9: Guided tour of the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities

Included meals: breakfast

Enter the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities, which houses the famous masks of Tutankhamun, and explore the exhibits alongside your Egyptologist. *Please note: Travelers will not be able to enter the mummy room as it's moved to a different museum. Additionally, the visit to the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities will be replaced with a visit to the new Grand Egyptian Museum once it opens.* 

Enjoy free time in Cairo or add an excursion. + Food of Cairo Walking Tour

#### Day 10: Sightseeing tour of Old Cairo

Included meals: breakfast, dinner Set off on a guided tour of Old Cairo. You'll explore the labyrinthine alleys, ancient churches, and ornate mosques as you learn more about Egypt's history from your Egyptologist.

- Visit the citadel, which was built in the 12th century by mighty Salah el-Din, and was originally used as a fortress before it became the residence of the Sultans until 1850
- Enter the Mohammed Ali Mosque, also known as the Alabaster Mosque
- Step inside the Ben Ezra Synagogue and view its ornate Turkish style interior, which is a place of pilgrimage for North African Jews
- Enter the Hanging Church, one of the oldest churches dating back to the 3rd century

Please note: While the Ben Ezra Synagogue is currently closed for renovations, the Tour Director will provide commentary from outside the site. Sit down for an included dinner at a local restaurant.

# **Flight Home**

#### Day 11: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures) Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: **goaheadtours.com/EGT | 1-800-597-0350** 

#### Day 7: Aswan Sunset Felucca Ride & Dinner

\$89/\$99\* (4 hours, departs in the afternoon, dinner included)

Board a felucca, a traditional Egyptian sailboat, in Aswan and relax as you float down the Nile River. You'll view the east and west banks of the river and soak in views of Elephantine Island as you learn about the local lifestyle in this region. Then, head back to the boat to watch the sun dip below the horizon before disembarking for a meal at a local restaurant. You'll dine on traditional Egyptian cuisine paired with tea.

#### **Extension excursion options**

#### Day 9: Food of Cairo Walking Tour

\$79/\$89\* (3 hours, departs in the evening) Meet up with a local guide for a culinary-themed walking tour of downtown Cairo. You'll learn about the history and cultural significance of authentic, traditional Egyptian dishes as you taste your way through markets and connect with locals. After getting your fill of incredible eats from six to seven local spots, you'll feel like a real Egyptian.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/terms