



## ANCIENT EGYPT

10 nights – May 2026

### Day 1 – Fri 08 May

GIZA

(D)

On arrival in Cairo, you will be met by our friendly local representative prior to immigration to assist with your included Egyptian visa. You will then be transferred in a private vehicle to hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure. A welcome dinner is included this evening, where you will meet your guide and fellow travellers. *(Note: please plan to arrive in Cairo **by 2pm** to allow time for immigration and transfer to the hotel in time to join the welcome dinner).*

**Accommodation 2 nights – Hyatt Regency Cairo West Hotel, Giza**

### Day 2 – Sat 09 May

GIZA

(BD)

We kick off our adventure with a visit to Egypt's most iconic site – The Pyramids. Construction began in 2690 BC, and the Pyramids of Mycerinus, Chefren & the Great Pyramid of Cheops, are the only survivors of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Face the mystical Sphinx, reputedly used as target practice by Napoleon's troops. Lunch is in your own time. Continue to the ancient capital of Memphis and visit the Step Pyramids of Sakkara – the oldest surviving Egyptian pyramid. Dinner this evening, is in a special restaurant, on the roof top bar, overlooking the pyramids.

### Day 3 – Sun 10 May

CAIRO – LUXOR

(BD)

This morning we visit the nearby GEM, Grand Egyptian Museum, dedicated to the boy king Tutankhamun. The museum is currently in a “soft opening” phase. See the grand statue of Ramses II, relocated from Tahrir Square dominating the foyer, plus many other ancient Egyptian wonders. Later we will transfer to Cairo Airport and fly to Luxor. On arrival you will be assisted by our local Luxor Airport team and transferred to our accommodation - it was this hotel that Howard Carter announced from the grand staircase, that he had discovered the tomb of boy king Tutankhamun. Dinner is included this evening.

## **Accommodation 1 night - Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa**

**Day 4 - Mon 11 May**

**LUXOR**

**(BLD)**

**Optional visit** (surcharge applies): This morning visit the Mummification Museum, dedicated to the ancient art of embalming applied to humans and animals. The process is believed to have taken 70 days and involved a careful process. You will have the chance to view ancient mummies, including that of General Amun el Thebes.

Later this morning we board our luxury cruise ship. This afternoon, visit the magnificent Luxor Temple, built in the 14th century BC by two Kings – Amenophis III and Ramses II. Follow the Avenue of the Sphinx to the Karnak Temple complex and gaze in awe at this imposing monument housing precious relics of Ancient Egyptian dynasties. This evening's entertainment includes a belly dancing show.

Your deluxe five-star cruise ship offers an unparalleled experience between Luxor and Aswan. Featuring 56 elegant deluxe cabins (approx. 22 sq. metres), and 4 exquisite Royal Suites (approx. 42 sq. metres) complete with a jacuzzi bathtub and generous amenities. *Facilities include Outdoor pool with sun deck & bar, restaurant, bar, fitness centre, onboard spa featuring a dedicated massage room and sauna for relaxation, library & business centre, Wi-Fi. Deluxe cabins feature panoramic windows offering wide, unobstructed views of the changing scenery, satellite TV, mini-bar, toiletries, bathtub, Wi-Fi, tea/coffee making facilities, electronic safe. **Option available to upgrade to a Royal Suite (surcharge applies).***

## **Accommodation 4 nights - Movenpick MS Royal Lily cruise ship**

**Day 5 - Tue 12 May**

**LUXOR - ESNA**

**(BLD)**

Early this morning cross to the West Bank and visit Thebes Necropolis and the burial ground of the Pharaohs – the Valley of the Kings – where Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922. Proceed to the nearby Valley of the Queens, the mortuary temple of Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon facing the Nile. Explore the myriad of tombs and temples before cruising via Esna lock to Edfu. Your visit today includes a special upgraded ticket to include access to the boy king Tutankhamun and the special tomb of Pharaoh Seti 1, from the 19th Dynasty. Rediscovered in 1817, it is one of the most colourful and best-preserved tombs on the West Bank. The last stop this morning is at the Habibi Cotton factory, located on the West Bank and providing employment for local women. Here high-quality Egyptian cotton garments, scarves, and beautiful art works, along with many other goods are produced, the opportunity to purchase is available. Return to the ship and enjoy lunch onboard as we cruise towards Esna.

Whilst crossing through the Esna Lock, entrepreneurial local families arrive by boat and cheerfully throw various handmade local ware up to the boat for inspection. We encourage our clients to support this local initiative, a key form of income for local families. Be ready with some local Egyptian cash on hand.

This evening join the Captain's welcome cocktail party followed by dinner and overnight at Esna.

**Early morning optional Hot Air Balloon Trip** (surcharge applies)

**Day 6 - Wed 13 May**

**ESNA - EDFU - KOM OMBO**

**(BLD)**

After breakfast onboard, we visit the Temple of Horus, one of the best-preserved temples of the Greco - Roman era. Continue cruising to Kom Ombo and visit this Temple shared by two Gods – Sobek & Horus. The temple is perfectly symmetrical, ensuring neither God was offended. The collection of crocodile mummies held here is fascinating. Overnight in Kom Ombo, with the opportunity to view the sun setting over this spectacular temple.

**Day 7 - Thu 14 May**

**KOM OMBO – ASWAN**

**(BLD)**

Early morning sailing to Aswan where you will take a local boat across to the Philae Temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis and rescued from the rising waters of Lake Nasser at the time of the High Dam's construction. Later visit the High Dam. Return for lunch on board and time to relax. Later this afternoon we'll visit the gorgeous Sofitel Old Cataract Hotel which was once the base for Agatha Christie as she penned "Death on the Nile". Savour a High Tea whilst sitting on this famous terrace overlooking the Nile. Later return to the ship for dinner this evening, followed by a colourful Nubian Show.

## **Day 8 - Fri 15 May**

## **ASWAN – CAIRO**

**(BD)**

Disembark this morning, with time to explore Aswan or you might prefer one of these optional tours (*surcharge applies*):

### **Option 1: Nubian Museum** (*minimum of 2 required*)

After disembarkation meet your guide and transfer to the International Nubian Museum. The kings of Nubia ultimately conquered and ruled Egypt for a century. Known for its rich deposits of gold, Nubia was also the gateway for the incense trade, their rulers building cities, temples and their own royal pyramids. After your tour, time free to explore Aswan in your own time, before departing to the airport for your flight to Cairo.

### **Option 2: Abu Simbel Tour**

An early morning transfer from the cruise boat to Abu Simbel Airport. Depart on EgyptAir to Abu Simbel. On arrival be met by a local Egyptologist and join a small group tour to one of the most impressive archaeological sites in all of Egypt, not only for its historical significance, but for the great engineering success in moving these temples to their present location.

Of all the temples of Egyptian antiquity, amongst the most spectacular and best preserved are the Temples of Abu Simbel. The master builder was Ramses II, one of Egypt's greatest Pharaohs. The larger temple celebrates the Pharaoh himself while the smaller one honours his wife, Queen Nefertari. When the new Lake Nasser Dam was built in the 1960s, the temples were moved to save them from a watery grave. In an amazing feat of engineering, the temples were hewn into huge blocks of thirty tonnes each and relocated 180m further inland. Please wear sturdy footwear today, pack some snacks and water bottle. At the conclusion of your tour, transfer to Abu Simbel Airport, for your flight to Aswan, connecting to Cairo.

This afternoon transfer to Aswan Airport and fly to Cairo. On arrival our Cairo Airport team will meet and assist. Transfer to hotel. Dinner this evening is at our hotel overlooking the Nile River and the sparkling city lights.

### **Accommodation 3 nights – Sofitel Cairo Nile El Gezira Hotel**

## **Day 9 - Sat 16 May**

## **CAIRO**

**(B)**

Today you will explore this modern cosmopolitan capital with a rich heritage of cultural influences and echoes of ancient civilisations. This morning visit the magnificently curated National Museum of Ancient Civilizations. The Museum's vision is to bring the rich tapestry of tangible and intangible Egyptian heritage to life within a vibrant cultural, artistic and scientific context. After your visit which spans many millennia, move downstairs to the Mummy Room, to view their spectacular Mummy exhibits, in your own time. Time for a coffee break before departing to Mohammed Ali Mosque, and the Citadel which dominates Cairo's skyline. Continue to the Khan El Khalili Bazaar, open since the 1382, with time for shopping. Conclude your day on a rooftop bar, watching the sun set over Cairo's skyline, with a local drink of wine, beer or juice included. Dinner this evening own arrangements, perhaps dine at one of the many hotel restaurants, or dine locally. Your guide can provide recommendations.

## Day 10 - Sun 17 May

## CAIRO

(BD)

Morning at leisure or join the optional morning tour (min. 2 passengers - surcharge applies):

### Coptic Cairo (optional tour - surcharge applies)

Visit old Cairo's Coptic Churches. It was in this area that Jesus, Mary and Joseph stayed, and Christianity flourished, prior to the Islamic invasion. The area encompasses the Babylon Fortress the Coptic Museum, the Hanging Church, the Greek Church of St George amidst many other historical sites.

This afternoon embark on a **Women of Egypt Food & Shopping Tour**. The Women of Egypt Food and Shopping Tour celebrates diversity by exploring culinary delights and shopping, offering a leisurely experience that fosters deep connections with the inspiring stories of the remarkable women behind Downtown Cairo's vibrant food scene. Through curated visits to female-owned restaurants, the tour highlights the personal and professional journeys of culinary pioneers from diverse ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds. This experience goes beyond food, inviting you to discover female-owned local brands that showcase Egyptian culture and traditions while contributing to the economic empowerment of women and the preservation of Egypt's rich cultural heritage.

Dinner is included this evening at your hotel.

## Day 11 - Mon 18 May

## END CAIRO

(B)

Two departure transfers are available to the airport, including one early and one mid-morning. Alternative transfers can be arranged if required.

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### Price

NZ\$9,350 per person twin share

NZ\$10,390 single

If you are travelling solo and would like to twin share, let us know and we will aim to find you a room-mate.

Price is subject to change until confirmed and paid in full.

**Book by 30/10/25 and save \$500!**

### Inclusions:

- Meet and assistance on arrival, prior to Immigration
- Egyptian visa on arrival (offer valid for NZ, Australian, UK, USA & Canadian passport holders). Other nationalities on application
- Personally hosted by Egyptologist Amira, whilst in Egypt
- Return Airport to hotel transfers
- Local representative airport assistance in Cairo, Luxor & Aswan
- Check in assistance on Day 1 into Cairo hotel
- 6-nights accommodation in Deluxe class hotels with daily buffet breakfasts
- 4-nights Nile cruise on a Deluxe ship - all meals on the cruise (4, breakfasts, 4 lunches & 4 dinners)
- Meals as specified (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner)
- Welcome bottle of wine on cruise
- All touring and transfers in Air-conditioned transportation
- Private English-speaking female Egyptologist in Cairo and Luxor
- Visit the Pyramids & Sphinx, Memphis & Sakkara
- Upgraded VIP Valley of the Kings ticket to include the tombs of Tutankhamun and Seti I
- Sightseeing on the Cruise with your Egyptologist guide
- Activities & entrance fees as per the itinerary



- Your choice of one optional tour to the Mummification Museum in Luxor, or the Nubian Museum in Aswan
- Domestic flights (Cairo/Luxor and Awan/Cairo)
- Porterage
- All Tipping and gratuities for guides, drivers and transfers included for all included activities

## Excludes

- International airfares
- Travel insurance (compulsory)
- Personal expenses
- Meals not specified or hotel / cruise minibar
- Optional sightseeing or activities & tipping on these optional tours
- Afternoon transfer on Day 11 to Cairo Airport
- Check in prior to 2pm
- Any other services not clearly mentioned in the inclusions above

## Group Size

Min 8 / Max 16

## Optional Tours - Cost per person (minimum of 2 required)

• Mummification Museum in Luxor:	NZD 122
• Hot Air Balloon over West Bank ex Luxor	NZD 290
• Nubian Museum in Aswan:	NZD 130
• Abu Simbel excursion ex Aswan including Return flights, transfers, and small group tour with a local Egyptologist guide:	NZD 859
• Half day Coptic Cairo :	NZD 170
• Cheops Pyramids Entrance :	NZD 99

**NOTE: A choice of either the Mummification Museum or the Nubian Museum is included in the tour price.**

## Your Local Guide

Amira has a Bachelor of Arts and English Literature from Cairo University and has many years' experiences guiding private groups. Amira looks forward to personally welcoming you in Cairo and sharing her insights into both modern and ancient Egypt.



## Payment

A deposit of NZ\$2000 is required at confirmation. The balance is payable on 10 February 2026.

Cancellation fees: After deposit until 01 Dec 25: \$750 per person; 02 Dec 25-15 Feb 26 \$2,000 per person; 16 Feb – 16 Mar 26: 30%; 17 -31 Mar 26: 50%; 01 April – departure 100%. Travel insurance is essential to be purchased at the time of deposit to cover cancellation due to any unforeseen circumstances.



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