

# Nile Valley to Siwa Oasis 15 days



Explore the best of ancient Egypt, from the legendary pyramids, to the Valley of the Kings, sail the Nile on a felucca, visit coastal Alexandria. Then get off the beaten track & discover Siwa, with its centuries old customs & traditions.

## TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: Cairo / Ends in: Cairo
- Departs: Saturdays - year round
- No local payment required
- Breakfast: 14, Lunch: 4, Dinner: 4
- Hotel Rating: 3 - 5 star (+ Siwan style hotel)
- Tour Guide: Yes

## ONLINE RESOURCES:

- For a detailed GO GUIDE - [click here](#)
- To book this trip - [click here](#)
- To enquire about this trip - [click here](#)

## TOUR MAP:



## QUICK WEB LINKS

[Egypt Prices](#) ::: [Why Us for Egypt?](#) ::: [Egypt Reviews](#) ::: [Our Egypt Blog](#) ::: [Top Spots in Egypt](#) ::: [Hotels in Egypt](#) ::: [Festivals & Events](#) ::: [Egypt - Useful Info](#) ::: [Feluccas Sailing](#) ::: [FAQs on Egypt](#) ::: [Egypt Visas](#) ::: [Egypt Gallery](#)

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## Day 1: Cairo

Saturday. Welcome to Egypt and the start of your holiday! We meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel. Overnight - [Cairo](#)

## Day 2: Pyramids & Saqqara

Cairo - Aswan. Visit to the famous pyramids and lion-headed Sphinx at Giza Plateau. Sole survivors from the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World, the pyramids are the planet's oldest tourist attraction! Gaze in awe at Cheops (Khufu) - the largest of the three great pyramids. Constructed from over 2.5 million limestone blocks it is thought to have taken more than 20 years to construct. Continuing to Saqqara, we can explore the myriad tombs and temples at this site and see Zoser's step pyramid - constructed by Imhotep, the pharaoh's chief architect in 2700 BC! Later we will have chance to have dinner before our overnight train to Aswan. Sleeper cabin upgrade available. Overnight - Train

## Day 3: Philae Temple

Arrive and check into our hotel. A visit out of town takes us to the mighty High Dam - a modern feat of engineering - creating the world's largest artificial lake, Lake Nasser! This afternoon's highlight is a leisurely boat trip to Agilika Island for Philae Temple for a guided tour of the romantic Philae Temple - dedicated to the goddess Isis. As the sun sets, free time to shop in the colourful souqs and markets or simply relax and watch an amazing sunset in Egypt's southern most town straddling the River Nile. Overnight - Aswan. Overnight - [Aswan](#)



## Day 4: Felucca Cruise

Aswan - Nile felucca cruise. Optional early morning air excursion to famous Abu Simbel, the rock-cut temple of King Ramses II, the Great Builder. This afternoon, we board our Nile felucca for a 2 night voyage downstream on the River Nile. If sailing by felucca is not for you, consider upgrading to a 5 star luxury Nile Cruise with our Nile Cruise Upgrade. Overnight - [Felucca Cruise](#)



## Day 5: Sail away....

Relax, go for a swim or just chill out in the sun on deck. Let your troubles melt away, as the felucca plies its route. Overnight - onboard Felucca

## Day 6: Kom Ombo Temple & Luxor

Kom Ombo - Edfu - Luxor. Disembarking in Kom Ombo, we enjoy a guided tour of the Temple of Kom Ombo - dedicated to the crocodile headed god - Sobek and the Temple of Horus at Edfu, before driving north to Luxor. Home of the legendary Valley of the Kings and Temple of Karnak, 4000 year-old Luxor is ancient Egypt at it's best. Enjoy some rest and relaxation. Tonight, an optional visit is available to the Temple of Luxor, spectacularly illuminated at night (book and pay locally) alternatively, spend the evening at leisure. Overnight - [Luxor](#)



## Day 7: Valley of the Kings

Luxor - Cairo. An early start allows us to avoid some of the fierce midday heat as we venture to the tomb strewn Valley of the Kings. Consider opting to join our hot air ballooning excursion over ancient Thebes - fabulous at sunrise! Highlights of the visit include the Colossi of Memnon - a massive pair of statues that stand silent against the backdrop of history, the Valleys of the Kings and the awesome ramped and colonnaded Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.

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The Valley of the Kings is studded with often highly decorated tombs, constructed to once house the regal sarcophagi enclosed mummies of the mighty pharaohs awaiting passage into the after-life. This afternoon after lunch and time to relax we visit the colossal Temple of Karnak. Tonight, we return by overnight train to Cairo. Overnight - Train



## Day 8: Egyptian Museum

Arrival and hotel check-in. Later, we visit the famous Egyptian Museum, famed for the treasures of King Tutankhamen and his famous solid gold funerary mask. This afternoon is free - perhaps spend the remainder of the day exploring Cairo your way. Overnight - Cairo. Overnight - [Cairo](#)

## Day 9: Cairo

Sunday. Cairo – El Alamein – Siwa. Starting early (7:00am) we drive North-west toward the Mediterranean coastline, to the World War II cemeteries of El Alamein. In 1942 the Allies under Britain's field Marshal Montgomery halted the German- Italian advance towards the River Nile. Marked as a major victory for the Allies, though not without loss of life, with some 11,000 killed and 60,000 wounded. We visit the Commonwealth cemetery and recently erected memorials funded by the Australian and New Zealand governments. Through the arches and beyond the gardens, 7,000 white headstones commemorate the Australian, New Zealand and British soldiers who fought and died. Stopping for a light lunch in Marsa Matrouh we continue onward to Siwa. Evening walk and opportunity for dinner in a typical Siwan style restaurant. Overnight - [Siwa Oasis](#)



## Day 10: bike ride & Temple of the Oracle

This morning we take a leisurely bicycle ride through the verdant date palm groves, visiting the local sights en-route. Our first stop is the Temple of the Oracle, dating back to near 570BC, whose most famous petitioner was Alexander the Great. Alexander visited the Siwa in the spring of 331BC, seeking confirmation from the Oracle that he was the son of Zeus (whom the Greek's identified with Amun – the sun god and creator of all life in Pharaonic history). We cycle to Cleopatra Spring for a dip in the pool as the spring fed warm water bubbles to the surface. Afternoon at leisure or optional (book/pay locally) sunset dinner, swim and campfire at the 'Great Saltwater Lake'. Overnight - [Siwa Oasis](#)

## Day 11: Mountain of the Dead & 4x4 Safari

Today we visit Mountain of the Dead and explore Old Shali. Old Shali is the old city abandoned in 1926 after 3 days of rain that literally melted the mud brick city. A hermetic labyrinth of secret corridors, homes, shops, granaries and mosques are all waiting to be explored. Afternoon - Desert Safari. 4x4 through the massive sand dunes of the Great Sand Sea, stopping off at an amazing natural spring fed lake surrounded by miles of sandy desert. We also visit the site of an ancient ocean abundant with marine fossils and finish the day at the hot spring of Bir Wahed for swimming and sunset dinner. Overnight - [Siwa Oasis](#)



## Day 12: Libyan market

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Siwa – Marsa Matrouh – Alexandria. An early start, we drive along the north coast to Marsa Matrouh . The city has a large Libyan/Berber population distinctive in custom and dress. We stop for lunch, swim in the Med and have time to explore the Libyan souq (if open) before driving onward to Alexandria . Total - 9hrs drive. Overnight - [Alexandria](#)

## Day 13: Alexandria

A free morning to relax, afternoon sightseeing of Montazzah Palace, home to King Farouk – the last monarch of the Mohamed Ali dynasty who abdicated and fled to Italy and Quat Bay Fort, the site of the Pharos – Alexandria 's great lighthouse. Evening tram ride into the downtown to shop followed by famous Alexandrian Fateer for dinner. Overnight - [Alexandria](#)



## Day 14: Roman Catacombs

Alexandria - Cairo. Today sightseeing is undertaken with a qualified Egyptologist, visiting the Alexandria's best loved sights - the Catacombs, Pompeii's Pillar, National Museum and later a stop at the Library of Alexandria. After lunch, we return to Cairo. Overnight - Cairo. Overnight - [Cairo](#)

## Day 15: Cairo

Saturday. Our tour concludes after breakfast and onward departure transfer to the airport.

### WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET:

Below is a list of key highlights and what is included on this tour. Further, where appropriate, we have listed the items that are not included in the tour price.

### Trip Highlights

- Cairo - Pyramids & Sphinx at Giza Plateau
- Necropolis of Saqqara
- Egyptian Museum

- Aswan - High Dam, Philae Temple, River Nile
- Nile felucca cruising - islands on route
- Kom Ombo - Temple of Kom Ombo
- Edfu - Temple of Horus
- Luxor - Temple of Karnak
- Valley of the Kings
- Colossi of Memnon & Temple of Queen Hatshepsut
- El Alamein – World War II, Commonwealth War Cemetery
- Siwa oasis and village walking tour
- Siwa sights - Temple of the Oracle, Amun Temple and Cleopatra Spring
- Jeep safari – Great Sand Sea, golden sand dunes, cold lake, hot springs, fossil ocean and Bir Wahed
- Marsa Matrouh – Mediterranean seaside - beach & swim
- Libyan market – Marsa Matrouh
- Alexandria – sightseeing, Quat Bay Fort, Montazzah Palace, Library of Alexandria - forecourt, Catacombs, Pompey's Pillar, National Museum

### What's Included

- Breakfast daily, 4 lunches, 4 dinners
- 4 nights 4 - 5 star hotels, 3 nights 4 star Siwan style hotel, 3 nights 3 star hotels, 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck)
- 2 nights seater: Cairo - Luxor - Cairo (seater train). Upgrade possible!
- Touring of Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan, Luxor, El Alamein, Siwa, Marsa Matrouh & Alexandria
- 4x4 jeep safari into the Great Sand Sea
- Bike ride tour of Siwa & swimming in natural springs
- Airport arrival and departure transfer, day 1 and day 15
- Qualified Egyptologist guide days 1 - 8 and at Alexandrian sights of antiquity
- Escorted by an English speaking tour leader day 9 - 15
- Siwa - specialist local jeep drivers and local commentary
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

### What's Not Included

- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide and tour leaders. We recommend you allow \$3 - 5 USD per day, per traveller. Tip for your Felucca Crew/ Nile Cruise staff, we recommend you allow \$10 USD. Tipping your guide and crew is an entirely personal gesture
- Entrance Fees: \$110-120 USD
- Tipping Kitty: \$60-70 USD

### BOLT-ONS:

Make the most of your time away! Listed below are the optional activities that are available on this trip. Please note that you will need to book these prior to travel as we cannot always guarantee availability of these activities once you are on holiday.

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## Abu Simbel - USD \$259

Abu Simbel by flight. The massive rock-cut temple of Abu Simbel never fails to impress. It's possibly the most awe-inspiring temple of all ancient Egypt, with its gargantuan intricately carved facade, created to revere the mighty pharaonic ruler King Ramses II. Guarding the entrance to the temple, the 4 colossal statues of Ramses II sit majestically staring out across the desert, seemingly since time began. This excursion is offered on all tours visiting Aswan.

## Hot Air Ballooning - USD \$199

An aerial adventure awaits in Luxor! Imagine drifting silently over temples, ancient sites, ruins and villages in the early morning sun. See ancient Thebes from a different angle as you float above the River Nile and wave down at the locals as you drift a few metres from their open rooftops!

## Nile Cruise Upgrade - USD \$339

Upgrade from the included Nile felucca cruise from Aswan to Luxor and cruise in style aboard a luxury Nile cruiser. Our 5 star cruiser has a bar and restaurant, whilst your well-appointed, air-conditioned cabin offers a private bathroom. The boat deck offers plenty of space for relaxation and a swimming pool. Sightseeing stops are made en-route. All meals included, buffet style during your onboard stay.

## Sleeper Train Upgrade - one way - USD \$89

On our Jewel of the Nile, Family tours and many tailor-made itineraries we include the Sleeper Cabin Train as part of your journey. On all other tours (taking the Nefertiti Seater Train) we offer the option to upgrade to a sleeper cabin on the Sleeper train. Cabins are lockable, equipped with 2 bunk beds, linen, washbasin and towel, allowing passengers to relax and stretch out.

### PRICES AND DATES: from USD \$1,999

Prices shown are per person travelling. 'Twin/Double' prices per person apply when there are 2 people travelling, sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the 'Twin/Double' price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same sex on your tour, this can be arranged, (if another solo traveller of the same sex is already booked upon the tour), thus avoiding the single person supplement. All our scheduled tour departures are guaranteed subject to a minimum of 2 travellers.

#### 2012

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
26 MAY - 09 JUN	USD \$2,119	USD \$499

30 JUN - 14 JUL	USD \$1,999	USD \$499
21 JUL - 04 AUG	USD \$1,999	USD \$499
04 AUG - 18 AUG	USD \$1,999	USD \$499
25 AUG - 08 SEP	USD \$1,999	USD \$499
08 SEP - 22 SEP	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
22 SEP - 06 OCT	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
06 OCT - 20 OCT	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
20 OCT - 03 NOV	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
03 NOV - 17 NOV	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
01 DEC - 15 DEC	USD \$2,119	USD \$499

#### 2013

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
26 JAN - 09 FEB	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
23 FEB - 09 MAR	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
09 MAR - 23 MAR	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
30 MAR - 13 APR	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
27 APR - 11 MAY	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
18 MAY - 01 JUN	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
15 JUN - 29 JUN	USD \$1,999	USD \$499
13 JUL - 27 JUL	USD \$1,999	USD \$499
10 AUG - 24 AUG	USD \$1,999	USD \$499
31 AUG - 14 SEP	USD \$1,999	USD \$499
14 SEP - 28 SEP	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
28 SEP - 12 OCT	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
12 OCT - 26 OCT	USD \$2,119	USD \$499
26 OCT - 09 NOV	USD \$2,119	USD \$499

#### Supplementary Prices

	Price/Person	Single Supp.
Pre Accom - Cairo	USD \$79	USD \$20
Post Accom Cairo	USD \$79	USD \$20