



Combines touring at some of Egypt's best-loved sights and the chance for you to contribute to the environment and people of Egypt, with special initiatives such as spring-cleaning the Nile and lending a helping hand in Cairo.



WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET

Trip Highlights

- Cairo - Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza Plateau, Necropolis of Saqqara, Egyptian Museum, interactive visit to children's orphanage, orientation visit to Women's Co-operative
- Aswan - High Dam, Philae Temple, River Nile
- Nile felucca cruising - islands en route and Nile clean up
- 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

What's Included

- Breakfast daily
- All meals aboard felucca cruise
- 5 nights 4 - 5 star hotels
- 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck)

- 2 nights train: Cairo - Aswan and Luxor - Cairo (seater train). Sleeper cabin upgrade possible!
- # Opportunity to clean the Nile, lend a helping hand at a Cairo orphanage and visit a women's co-op
- Airport arrival and departure transfer, day 1 and day 9
- Touring of Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan, Edfu & Luxor
- Egyptian tour leader/guide degree qualified in Egyptology
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: \$30-50 USD
- Entrance Fees: \$90-110 USD
- Tip for your tour guide. 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
- International flights and visa

later it is in the day, the smoother the traffic flow. For those arriving a day or two earlier than Day One of the tour, one of our staff will be on hand to advise on where best to enjoy your extra time in Cairo in advance of the eco tour commencing. There are plenty of attractions in Cairo. Our comfortable Cairo pre-tour hotel is centrally located to all attractions including restaurants, shops and city attractions. Day One is designed to be an arrival day for all passengers, so there are no formal arrangements on this first day. **Overnight - Cairo**

Day 2 : Children's home

Cairo. Throughout the tour, you'll be fully briefed by your tour leader regarding tour arrangements. Today, we undertake an orientation at a children's home in Cairo. The centre offers warm and safe shelter to homeless and disabled children. We'll spend some time interacting with the children, whether it be assisting with their daily activities or sharing a little love and attention. Later, we'll be handing over much needed items purchased with proceeds from your eco tour. These items might include clothing, shoes, bedding and educational materials. What is purchased will be dependent on what is deemed to be a priority for the children. We also welcome and encourage individual donations of goods that are easily portable in your luggage from your home port. If you would like to make a personal donation, we ask that you consider goods only (not cash).

Useful and needed items to consider include:
 Children's Home: Lined note books, lead and coloured pencils, sharpeners and cases, erasers, biro's, rulers, hairbrushes and combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap. Quantity is better than quality for these items. Woman's Co-operative: textile scraps, cotton, felt, sewing yarn and needles, old buttons and zippers, velcro, elastic, haberdashers scissors. Felucca journey: Pack solid shoes, a pair of worker/heavy duty gardening gloves, anti-bacterial spray and wipes for your personal use. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Cairo

Welcome to Egypt and the start of your eco holiday! It's a fantastic opportunity to do something good for Egypt's environment and segments of the local community. Arrival at Cairo, where after you have attended to customs and immigration formalities, you will be met by a representative from on the go. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative. Cairo International Airport can appear to be a little chaotic to the uninitiated. This is normal! Our capable airport representative will streamline your arrival. You will then transferred to your hotel in central Cairo. Your Egyptian adventure will start from the moment you leave the airport! Dependent upon the hour of your arrival, Cairo traffic can be quite heavy and slow going. Roads can be crowded with cars, trucks, motorbikes, bicycles, donkeys, horses and people. The cacophony of constantly sounding horns has to be heard to be believed! The



Day 3 : Pyramids of Giza & Saqqara



Cairo – Aswan - breakfast. Today, we'll enjoy a visit to the famous pyramids and lion-headed Sphinx at Giza Plateau. The planet's oldest tourist attraction, the pyramids are one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World. Cheops (Khufu) - a behemoth constructed with in excess of 2.5 million handcut limestone blocks is thought to have taken more than 20 years to construct and is the biggest of the three great pyramids. The other two in order of size are called Chephren and Mycerinus. Whilst here, perhaps haggle for a camel ride and have yourself a ride across the desert beyond the pyramids. Continuing to the necropolis of 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, the step pyramid which rises in six steps served as the prototype for ancient Egypt's most enduring architectural legacy. Later there will be a chance to have dinner. We then journey to Aswa by overnight train. At the train station, there'll be the opportunity to buy more water and snacks for the trip ahead. Option to upgrade to sleeper train cabins. See brochure or website for details. **Overnight - Seater Train (B)**

Day 4 : Philae Temple



Aswan. Arrive and check into our hotel. A visit out of town takes us to the mighty High Dam. A modern feat of engineering, the High Dam contains 18 times the amount of material used in the construction of Cheops, the largest pyramid at Giza. The by-product for this awesome construction is Lake Nasser – the world's largest artificial lake! Cultivable land has increased considerably and the High Dam's hydroelectric station has doubled Egypt's power supply. Continuing, we enjoy a short boat trip to Agilika Island and Philae Temple. Dedicated to the goddess Isis, Philae Temple was rescued in an enormous UNESCO effort in the

1970s. Due to high water levels in the reservoir created by the Old Aswan Dam and further aquatic drama due with the creation of the mighty High Dam, Philae Temple was relocated stone by stone on higher ground on nearby Agilika Island. The oldest part of Philae Temple dates from the 4th century BC but most of it was built by the Ptolomies and Christians up to the 3rd century AD. Later, free time to perhaps do some shopping in the colourful souks and markets or simply relax in this attractive town which straddles the River Nile. **Overnight - Aswan (B)**

Day 5 : Felucca Cruise



Aswan – Nile felucca cruise – all meals. Optional early morning air excursion to famous Abu Simbel - the gargantuan rock-cut temple of King Ramses II, the Great Builder (details of this optional excursion are featured in our brochure and online). Possibly the most awe-inspiring temple of all ancient Egypt, with its gargantuan rock-cut façade, Abu Simbel was created to reverse the mighty pharaonic ruler King Ramses II. Guarding the entrance to the temple, the four famous colossal statues of Ramses II sit majestically, staring out across the desert, seemingly since time began. Famously, the temple was re-located in a multi-million dollar operation in 1972, further up from the shoreline of Lake Nasser, which had threatened to erode the foundations of this monolithic temple complex. If you choose not to embark upon this optional excursion, there is plenty to do in Aswan, before our early afternoon departure on our Nile felucca cruise. You can relax at the hotel, explore corniche or perhaps do a spot of shopping. This afternoon, we board our wind-powered Nile felucca for a 2-night voyage on the River Nile upstream to Kom Ombo. Felucca's are simple sailboats based on a unique design and have plied the mighty Nile since ancient times. Our feluccas are proudly owned and crewed by friendly local sailors and they have been adapted to comfortably carry our travellers.

NOTE: As feluccas are wind-powered, our itinerary cannot be rigidly defined. However, during our cruise, we'll make a number of stops. The felucca sails during the day, and prior to sundown, the anchor is dropped and we moor at the riverside for the night. The craft carries between 5-10 passengers comfortably and the deck is strewn with soft colorful cushions and rugs and equipped with a canopy that offers shade and protection from the elements. Nothing beats the experience of sleeping under a blanket of stars, though you'll need to bring a sleeping bag/ sleeping sheet and also a towel with you. Soft drinks, water and beer can be purchased aboard. **THE NILE FELUCCA CRUISE:**

Before boarding the felucca, it is important you prepare a day bag - taking care to pack things you feel you'll need during the cruise including solid shoes, gloves and old clothes to wear during the clean-up effort, as your large bag will be placed below in below deck storage. If unable to swim, you must advise the tour leader before boarding the felucca. **Overnight - Felucca Cruise (B, L, D)**

Day 6 : Nile Cleaning

Nile Felucca Cruise. Today, armed with large waste bags and attired in protective gloves (see website and brochure for packing suggestions), we cruise upstream stopping at all the regular felucca stops and commence our effort to clean-up sections of the Nile, paying particular attention to any detritus along the shoreline. In addition to this eco effort, further initiatives may be introduced. A stop will be made at the Temple of Kom Ombo. Overnight onboard the felucca. **Overnight - Felucca (B, L, D)**

Day 7 : Edfu Temple & Luxor Temple by night

Nile Felucca Cruise - Kom Ombo - Edfu - Luxor. Disembarking, we enjoy a visit to 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. The excursion is payable locally. Rest of evening free. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

Day 8 : Valley of the Kings



Luxor - Cairo. An early start today to the mighty West Bank. We visit and explore the Valley of the Kings, Deir al-Bahri (Temple of Queen Hatshepsut) and the Colossi of Memnon - all that remains of the temple of Amenophis III. Time then to relax, before our afternoon visit to the Temple of Karnak. Tonight, we return to Cairo by train. **Overnight - Seater Train (B)**

Day 9 : Women's Co-operative

Cairo. Arrive and check into hotel. Later, we visit the famous Egyptian Museum. We then continue to one of the poorest communities in Cairo, where we undertake an orientation visit to a Women's co-operative. The women who work here from around 12 years of age, live in an area locally known as 'rubbish city' owing to the fact that all of Cairo's trash is dumped here for sorting and recycling. Sorting through the waste, the women salvage any textiles, old buttons and zippers



and return to the co-operative, from where these materials are laundered and used to create the most amazing handicrafts. The proceeds from the sale of these items and a tended garden which sells nurtured plants goes directly back into the community, benefitting these industrious and hardworking women and their families, who are some of the most impoverished souls in Egypt. It is suggested you fill a daypack with textile scraps, cotton, sewing yarn and needles and other goods suitable for use by these shining seamstresses.
Overnight - Cairo (B)

Day 10 : Cairo

Cairo. Hotel check out and included onward transfer to airport. We thank you for participating our eco tour.(B)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Visas

Visas are required by all visitors to Egypt. Visa forms are available from us. The Embassy of Egypt advises all travellers to procure their visa prior to entry into Egypt. However it still remains possible for nationals of some countries to procure their tourist visa upon arrival at Cairo International Airport.

Please note that in the event of visa refusal at port of entry, on the go cannot be held responsible.

All RSA passport holders must procure their Egyptian visa prior to departure.

When filling in an Egyptian visa form, you will be asked to provide your address in Egypt. For the purposes of this form, please use the following address: 68 Merghany St, Abou Ghaly Building Heliopolis, Cairo. Telephone: +2 02 241821 65

If your holiday incorporates a stay in Jordan, followed by further arrangements in Egypt (ie you travel to Jordan and then return to Egypt) you will need to procure a Multiple Entry Egyptian Tourist Visa that is only available before travelling to Egypt.

Please note that visa requirements are subject to change. Visa procurement is solely the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go Tours.

If travelling with us from Egypt to Jordan via Aqaba Seaport (the Jordanian port of entry if arriving from Egypt) a Jordanian Tourist Visa is obtainable upon arrival, free of charge for UK, EU, AUS, NZ, CAN and USA passport holders. For all other nationalities please check with your local Jordanian Embassy. On departure from Jordan, via land or sea, a 5JD departure tax of is applied to all visitors.

Climate

Temperatures in Egypt are generally high (25 - 30 degrees) and even hotter in the summer months from May to September, when the sun can be fierce and temperatures soar, so pack light comfortable clothing, sunscreen and a hat.

In Cairo and the Nile Delta region, winter (October to February) can be cooler - so take a jacket, long-sleeved tops and trousers for the cooler evenings. The south remains warm during this time but again, temperatures do drop in the evenings. Rainfall is negligible with the most falling along Egypt's Mediterranean coastline.

Health Requirements

It is recommended that you be vaccinated for Tetanus and Polio, if you haven't had a booster in the last ten years. Food and waterborne diseases are more common, so we recommend vaccinations for typhoid (valid 3 years) and Hepatitis A (validity varies). Vaccination requirements can change so please check with your local health care provider before travel.

Currency

Egyptian Pounds (EGP or LE). Pounds Sterling, US Dollars and Euros are easily exchanged. You can obtain Egyptian Pounds (LE) at any major bank or your hotel. Exchange rates are subject to fluctuations.

- USD 1 = EGP 6.0
- GBP 1 = EGP 9.3
- AUD 1 = EGP 6.0
- EURO 1 = EGP 7.70

Funds collected in Egypt for entrance fees or optional excursion that you may wish to undertake are payable in local currency (EGP).

Time

Egypt is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)

Essential Packing

- Sleeping bag for the felucca or for camping in the White Desert (if applicable to your tour).
- Lightweight cotton garments.
- Comfortable walking shoes for the Pyramids and Valley of the Kings
- DEET based mosquito repellent & antihistamine cream
- 2 pin, European electrical adaptor.
- Two spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch
- Sleep sheet or sleeping bag if travelling with us to Jordan and staying at our Wadi Rum camp.

Arrival Transfers

A complimentary airport arrival transfer is included in your tour. Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative from On The Go Tours either just before immigration or in the baggage hall near the luggage belt of your respective arriving flight. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative. Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative. After collecting your luggage you will be escorted to our awaiting transportation.

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes in the arrival hall) or your flight to Egypt is delayed, please call or send a text message to the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

Eco Egypt - 10 Days