

# Rotary

## Club Of Cairo South

### EXPLORE EGYPT

# Day-by-Day Programme

*Two itineraries · Illustrated*

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<b>I. Classic Egypt</b>	8 days / 7 nights	USD 1,750
<b>II. Cairo, Fayoum &amp; Alexandria</b>	8 days / 7 nights	USD 1,450

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I. CLASSIC EGYPT

# Cairo to Aswan, by river

## DAY 1 — CAIRO · ARRIVAL



Salaam Aleikum and welcome to Egypt. You will be met on arrival at Cairo International Airport and transferred to your hotel, where your Egyptian journey begins with a welcome meeting at 18:00. Cairo is one of the great cities of antiquity — if you arrive with time to spare, explore the busy streets or visit the Citadel of Saladin, which has stood guard over the city since 1176.

**Meals:** None included

## DAY 2 — CAIRO · PYRAMIDS & GRAND MUSEUM



This morning, after breakfast, you visit two of the world's most iconic sights — the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx. Structures that have stood for over 4,500 years; you will hear their history from a true local. For an additional charge, you may be able to enter the Great Pyramid of Khufu. Your adventure continues to the Grand Egyptian Museum, home to one of the world's greatest collections of ancient artefacts — including the jewellery, golden death mask, and gilded sarcophagi recovered from the tomb of Tutankhamun. Freshen up at the hotel before boarding the overnight sleeper train to Luxor.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Dinner

**Included activities:** Pyramids of Giza & the Sphinx · Grand Egyptian Museum

## DAY 3 — NILE CRUISE · KARNAK



An early start as you pull into Luxor around 06:00. Take advantage of the morning peace by visiting Karnak Temple — a spectacular collection of temples, chapels, and pylons that ranks among the most impressive of the Pharaohs' monumental works. Your leader walks you through the Avenue of Sphinxes and the Great Temple of Amun. You then board your Nile river cruise and settle into your cabin. In the afternoon, an optional walking tour of Luxor and its bazaar.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch · Dinner

**Included activities:** Karnak Temple

**Optional:** Karnak Sound & Light Show — USD 50 (minimum 2 people)

## DAY 4 — NILE CRUISE · VALLEY OF THE KINGS



Today you cross to ancient Thebes by private minivan. First stop: the Colossi of Memnon, two 17-metre statues on Luxor's west bank. Continue to the Valley of the Kings, where over sixty pharaoh tombs lie buried beneath the arid hills, many richly decorated with reliefs and paintings. You visit three royal tombs, then continue to the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut — a columned building set against high cliffs that form a spectacular natural amphitheatre. This evening, the boat sets sail towards Edfu.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch · Dinner

**Included activities:** Colossi of Memnon · Valley of the Kings (3 tombs) · Tomb of Tutankhamun · Hatshepsut Temple

**Optional:** Hot-air balloon over the Valley of the Kings — USD 120 per person

## DAY 5 — NILE CRUISE · EDFU & KOM OMBO



After breakfast, visit Edfu Temple by horse carriage — one of the best-preserved shrines in Egypt, built in the Ptolemaic Kingdom between 237 and 57 BC. The inscriptions on its walls provide important information on language, myth, and religion during the Hellenistic period. Return on board, then sail towards Kom Ombo. The temple of Kom Ombo is an unusual double temple on the bank of the Nile — unique for its mirror-image design, with one half dedicated to Sobek, the crocodile-headed god of fertility, and the other to Haroeris (Horus the falcon god). Lunch is aboard the ship as you sail onwards to Aswan.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch · Dinner

**Included activities:** Edfu Temple · Kom Ombo Temple

## DAY 6 — ASWAN · FELUCCA ON THE NILE



The morning is yours to explore or relax. Your leader can recommend optional excursions — perhaps the High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk, or the Nubian Museum. You may wish to visit the breathtaking Abu Simbel, built by Ramses II — its four gargantuan statues guarding the Great Temple, carved directly out of the mountain on the west bank of the Nile, make it one of Egypt's most memorable sights. Late in the afternoon, a leisurely sail on a traditional felucca before dinner aboard.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch · Dinner

**Included activities:** Aswan Felucca Sail

**Optional:** Abu Simbel by car — USD 110 · Abu Simbel by flight — from USD 596 · Philae Sound & Light Show — USD 60

## DAY 7 — ASWAN → CAIRO · PHILAE & KHAN EL KHALILI



After breakfast you say goodbye to the Nile. Visit Philae Temple — an island-based complex built during the reign of Ptolemy II around 280 BC, whose walls show hieroglyphic scenes from the Isis-Osiris myth. A short flight (approximately 90 minutes) returns you to Cairo. In the evening, your leader takes you through Khan El Khalili — one of the oldest and largest markets in the world, a warren of alleys and stalls. To celebrate your time in Egypt, you join dinner at a local Cairo restaurant.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Dinner

**Included activities:** Philae Temple · Khan El Khalili · Farewell dinner

## DAY 8 — CAIRO · DEPARTURE



There are no scheduled activities on the final day. You are free to depart at any time, or to extend your stay in Cairo by arrangement with the club.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Cost per person (double occupancy) USD 1,750**

II. CAIRO, FAYOUM & ALEXANDRIA

# Pyramids, desert, Mediterranean

## DAY 1 — CAIRO · ARRIVAL



Salaam Aleikum and welcome. You will be met at Cairo International Airport and transferred to your hotel, where the journey opens with a welcome meeting at 18:00. Cairo is one of the great cities of antiquity. If time permits before then, explore the city streets or visit the Citadel of Saladin, dating to 1176.

**Meals:** None included

## DAY 2 — CAIRO · PYRAMIDS & GRAND MUSEUM



This morning you visit the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx — structures that have stood for more than 4,500 years. For an additional fee, you may be able to enter the Great Pyramid of Khufu. Your journey continues to the Grand Egyptian Museum, where the treasures of Tutankhamun are now displayed in their permanent home. Lunch follows; afternoon return to the hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch

**Included activities:** Pyramids of Giza & the Sphinx · Grand Egyptian Museum

**DAY 3 — FAYOUM · SAFARI & GEOLOGICAL WONDERS**



After leaving Cairo by private air-conditioned vehicle (about two hours), you transfer to a 4x4 Land Cruiser for a desert expedition. You arrive at Wadi Al-Hitan — the Valley of the Whales — a UNESCO World Heritage site holding the fossilised skeletons of forty-million-year-old whales, an open-air museum to the moment when whales lost their legs. You also visit the Climate Change Museum on site. The journey continues to the spectacular Wadi El-Rayan, with Egypt's largest waterfalls. Dinner and overnight at an ecolodge in Tunis Village.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Dinner

**Included activities:** Safari to Wadi Al-Hitan · Wadi El-Rayan

**DAY 4 — FAYOUM → CAIRO · LAKES & LOCAL CULTURE**



After breakfast, a short hike up Mount Mudawara — the peak offers panoramic views of the lakes below. Try sandboarding on the giant dunes near the Magic Lake. A scenic drive along Lake Qarun (Birket Qarun) is a fine spot for birdwatching. In Tunis Village you visit the pottery schools, artisan workshops, and galleries that have made the area famous; after lunch you can take a pottery class or simply shop for unique handmade pieces. Return to Cairo.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch

**Included activities:** Mount Mudawara · Magic Lake · Tunis Village pottery

## DAY 5 — CAIRO · COPTIC & ISLAMIC CAIRO



An 08:30 start. The day begins in Old Cairo — known as Coptic Cairo and one of the most important sites visited by the Holy Family on their flight into Egypt. You enter the Church of Abu Serga, the Church of St Barbara, the Hanging Church, and the ancient Ben Ezra Synagogue. You then ascend to the Citadel of Cairo, home to the famous Mohamed Ali (Alabaster) Mosque. The day closes in the bazaar of Khan El Khalili.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch

**Included activities:** Old Cairo churches · Mohamed Ali Mosque · Khan El Khalili

## DAY 6 — ALEXANDRIA · CATACOMBS & POMPEY'S PILLAR



Today you set out for the historic Mediterranean city of Alexandria — the only remaining Greco-Roman city still alive in Egypt. You visit the marble Roman amphitheatre of Kom El-Dikka, which once seated more than 800; then the Catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa, a second-century cemetery where Egyptian, Greek, and Roman architectural traditions meet, still considered one of the seven wonders of the medieval world. Pompey's Pillar follows. Lunch at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch

**Included activities:** Roman Amphitheatre Kom El-Dikka · Catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa · Pompey's Pillar

## DAY 7 — ALEXANDRIA → CAIRO · BIBLIOTHECA & MONTAZAH



Your first stop today is the modern Bibliotheca Alexandrina — the dramatic 21st-century successor to the ancient library that once held the learning of the Mediterranean world. You then visit the site of the Pharos Lighthouse, the Church of St Mark (the oldest church in Africa), and pass through Downtown Alexandria and the old harbour. After lunch, the Montazah Palace Gardens — where you can marvel at the presidential palaces of Salamlek and Al-Haramlik. On the return to Cairo, photo stops at Alexandria's most charming mosque and the memorial statue of Alexander the Great.

**Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch

**Included activities:** Bibliotheca Alexandrina · Montazah Palace Gardens

## DAY 8 — CAIRO · DEPARTURE



No scheduled activities on the final day. You are free to depart at any time, or to extend your stay by arrangement with the club.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Cost per person (double occupancy) USD 1,450**