



## **Journeys: Discover Egypt**

10 days, Cairo to Cairo

Trip code DPRNG

### **What's included**

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Nawayá Project Visit, Cairo
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Meet with an Archaeologist, Luxor

- Your G for Good Moment: Funtasia Project Visit, Luxor
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group
- Your Local Living Moment: Boat ride to Nubian Village with Traditional Meal, Aswān
- Your Local Living Moment: Local Family Home Hosted Lunch, Luxor
- Your Foodie Moment: Cairo Food Tour, Cairo
- Arrival transfer
- Guided visit to the Pyramids of Giza and Sphinx
- Guided visit to Sakkara and the Step Pyramid of Zoser
- Guided visit of Philae Temple in Aswan
- Visit to the Abu Simbel temple
- Guided visit of the Valley of the Kings and Temple of Queen Hatshepsut
- Guided visit to the temples of Edfu and Kom Ombo
- Guided visit to the temples of Karnak and Luxor
- Visit the Grand Egyptian Museum
- Visit the Hanging church, St Sergius church & Ben Ezra Synagogue
- Explore the Khan El Khalili market and Muiz Islamic street
- Departure transfer
- Internal flights on tour and all transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing September 5th, 2023 and onwards

# Itinerary



## Itinerary Notes

Please note that the Grand Egyptian Museum will not be opening until the final months of 2025. As a result, for departures between now and winter 2025 the group will visit the existing museum in Tahrir Square instead.

**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Cairo

Arrive at any time. Your arrival transfer is included.

Enjoy a welcome meeting at the hotel in the evening, where you will receive more details about the coming adventure. Before you go, make sure to catch the National Geographic documentary series "Lost Treasures of Egypt" which features many of the archaeological sites you will explore throughout this adventure.

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### Accommodation

Safir Hotel Cairo (or similar)

Hotel

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### Today's Activities

Arrival Transfer

Cairo International Airport - Cairo

Sit back and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle during your included arrival transport from the airport to your start hotel in Cairo.

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your National Geographic Expedition Leader and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

In the morning, enjoy a visit to the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx. No matter how many photos or documentaries you have seen, the first glimpse of these marvels of the ancient world will take your breath away. As a qualified Egyptologist certified by the Ministry of Antiquities, your Expedition Leader will share their knowledge about these massive structures. From here, visit a local farm supported by Nawaya, a community-led project which helps small scale farming families generate new income streams in the tourism industry. Embark on a farm-to-table experience learning about sustainable cultivation practices and traditional food-cultural preservation work being carried out on nearby farms before a cheese making demonstration and a hands-on bread baking experience in a female-led community kitchen followed by lunch. After, travel through barren desert and fertile farmlands to Sakkara, the site of Egypt's first pyramids where you'll dig deep into the history of this important archaeological site. The rest of the evening is on your own.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



## Accommodation

Safir Hotel Cairo (or similar)

Hotel



## Today's Activities

Great Pyramid of Giza and Sphinx Tour

Cairo

Enjoy a tour of the magnificent great pyramid of Giza and the Sphinx. No matter how many photos or documentaries you have seen, the first glimpse of these marvels of the ancient world will take your breath away. As a qualified Egyptologist, your Expedition Leader has all the facts about these massive structures.

### ACTIVITY

Nawaya's Community Kitchen is a communal space where rural women cooks host visitors for hands-on culinary and farm experiences rooted in local heritage. Located in Abusir, the kitchen was first established as a training space to build women's skills in professional kitchen operations, food safety and hygiene. Today, it is a vibrant hub where a network of 20 rural cooks design seasonal menus, lead cooking workshops and cater traditional meals for gastrotours, schools and private groups. Through

Nawaya's trainings, they have learned food safety, hygiene and presentation skills, turning inherited recipes into dignified and respected paid work. Experiences are designed as farm-to-fork journeys. Guests may begin with a farm walk to see crops in season, meet farmers and participate in planting or harvesting. Back at the community kitchen, women demonstrate how to prepare dishes featuring local grains and products such as deshish stews, kishk sa'idi, fereek, roqaaq, bekhero and arish cheese, wild plants like regla, and a variety of pickles and breads. Visitors roll dough, stir pots and shape cheeses using traditional tools like the reed mat (hasira), before sharing a communal meal. Programs are tailored for adults, families and school groups, with special children's activities that encourage younger generations to appreciate and enjoy traditional foods. Menus can also accommodate dietary needs, including vegan and gluten-free options. Through these 5 experiences, participants gain a deeper understanding of local food systems, while rural women and farmers gain income, confidence and recognition for their knowledge and skills.

Şaqqārah Visit

Cairo

2h

Travel through desert and farm lands to visit Şaqqārah, the necropolis of the old kingdom of Ancient Egypt. The main attraction here is the Step Pyramid of King Zoser, the very first constructed in human history. It dates back to 2750 BC! Delve into the history of one of Egypt's most important archeological sites.

Day 3

## Cairo/Aswān

Board an early flight from Cairo to Aswan. Upon arrival, visit Philae Temple, built as a dedication to the Goddess Isis and the temple walls are adorned with scenes from Egyptian mythology. Philae Temple complex was moved from its original location on the Island of Philae after Lake Nasser flooded. Learn about the temple's architecture, history and important place in Egypt's culture. This evening embark on a sunset felucca ride on the Nile to a Nubian Village. Walk through the village, learning about local customs while listening to the Nubian Peoples' own distinct language, which does not have an alphabet and was thus never written down. Afterwards, sit down for dinner in the home of a local family.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Accommodation

Basma Hotel (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Plane

Cairo - Aswān

1h15m-1h30m

874km

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Philae Temple Visit

Aswān

3h

Sail across the Nile to the beautiful island of Agilkia and explore the Greco Roman history of the Temple of Philae, built as a dedication to the Goddess Isis. This temple complex was moved from its original location on the Island of Philae after the flooding of Lake Nasser, the word "philae" meaning "the end" in reference to this island's placement on what was once the southernmost border of Egypt.

#### ACTIVITY

Board a local boat, to take a trip along the magnificent Nile, with views of the Aga Khan Mausoleum and Kitchener Island. Stop on one of the inhabited Nile islands in this area, to tour a local Nubian village. Walk through the village and fields and learn more about the life of the Nubian people before enjoying a delicious traditional dinner at a local home.

Day 4

## Aswān

In the morning, board a flight to Abu Simbel where you will explore the two rock-cut temples built by and dedicated to famed King Ramses II and Queen Nefertari. A true testament to innovation, the temple was saved from the waters of Lake Nasser by a massive global mobilization led by UNESCO in the 1960s. Fly back to Aswan to enjoy lunch and an afternoon at leisure. In the free evening choose to experience one of the best sound and light shows in Egypt at Philae Temple.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Basma Hotel (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Plane

Aswān - Abu Simbel

45m

262km

Sit back and enjoy the views from above on a short flight between Aswān and Abu Simbel.

Temple of Abu Simbel Visit

Aswān

6h

Part historic monument and part modern marvel, Abu Simbel is one of Egypt's grandest temples. Built during the rule of Ramses the II this structure was almost swallowed by the Nile, but now stands safe and sound thanks to some crafty archaeologists and UNESCO. Travel through Egypt's rugged landscapes and the towering figures of Ramses himself, Ra-Horakhty, Amun, and Ptah will all be waiting to welcome you.

\*Please be aware this optional activity lasts for about 6hrs including the roundtrip bus transport to/ from Abu Simbel. Around 2 hours are spent exploring the site itself.

Plane

Abu Simbel - Aswān

45m

262km

Sit back and enjoy the scenery on the short flight between Abu Simbel and Aswān.

Free Time

Aswān

Enjoy a free afternoon at your leisure in Aswān.

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## Optional Activities - Day 4

Philae Temple Sound and Light Show

Aswān

70USD

As the sun sets, sail across the Nile to Philae island. Watch the Philae Temple turn into a time machine through a magnificent sound and light display.

Day 5

## Aswān/Luxor

After breakfast, drive north along the Nile passing local villages and farmland as you make your way to the top of the Temple of Kom Ombo. Built along the riverbank, the temple is dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek. Continue your journey north towards Luxor and stop to explore the temple of Edfu, it took nearly 200 years to build and was dedicated to the God of War and Sky, Horus. Enjoy lunch before continuing the scenic drive to Luxor.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Sonesta St. George Hotel Luxor (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Kom Ombo Temple Visit

Kom Ombo

1h-2h

Enjoy a visit to this temple located in a scenic spot, right on the banks of the Nile. It was dedicated to the crocodile god, and you can still see the remains of an ancient mummified crocodile that was worshipped here thousands of years ago.

Free Time

Luxor

Enjoy yourselves on a free evening in Luxor.

Private Vehicle

Aswān - Luxor

3h-4h

200km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle on the very scenic drive north from Aswān to Luxor with stops along the way to visit Kom Ombo and Edfu Temples.

Edfu Temple Visit

Edfu

1h-2h

Enjoy a visit to the Edfu Temple, which is located in the middle of a bustling village. It is the most completely preserved temple in Egypt.

Today, head to the West Bank of Luxor. Start the morning with a visit to Funtasia, a G for Good project. Enjoy a short bike ride led by a student guide before stopping for tea and a discussion about the project and community. Continue to explore the famed Valley of the Kings—a UNESCO World Heritage Site and active archaeological site of over 63 tombs—many still in excavation. Descend inside a few tombs with the option to visit Tutankhamen’s resting site.

Afterward, meet an archaeologist at the temple of Hatshepsut, dedicated to the powerful Queen that ruled for 21 years. During your visit, you’ll learn about the archaeologist’s dig site and continuing work in cataloging new discoveries. Finally, visit the colossi of Memnon, which guarded the entrance to King Amenhotep III’s massive temple. Enjoy a late lunch in the home of a local family that has been hosting travellers through G Adventures for 15 years, before heading back to Luxor.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



## Accommodation

Sonesta St. George Hotel Luxor (or similar)

Hotel



## Today’s Activities

### ACTIVITY

After breakfast the group will travel to the West Bank to meet our student-guide. Together we will bike through the village and visit the Funtasia Project Center where the group will learn about the Planeterra project at this location over tea with our guide.

Funtasia is a local nonprofit that works with young people in the West Bank of Luxor to develop life skills and social consciousness. They work with youth in after school programs that teach art, communication, and social skills.

Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut Temple and Colossi of Memnon Visit

Luxor

6h-7h

Rise early to cross the Nile to the west bank, passing through farmers fields on your way to the Valley of the Kings.

Descend the narrow, rock-hewn corridors and take in the magnificent decoration and designs of the tombs of the pharaohs. While the treasure has now all gone, the tombs contain the incredible paintings of the life of their incumbent and stories from the Book of the Dead.

Continue on to visit to the impressive Funerary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, which seems to rise out of the surrounding limestone outcrops - a reminder of the power women held in the Ancient Kingdom. End the day with a stop at the two mammoth statues of Amenophis II at the Colossi of Memnon. Please note, there is an additional 300 EGP fee to take photos in the Valley Of Kings.

#### ACTIVITY

During your visit to the Valley of the Kings proceed to Hatshepsut temple and meet with an archaeologist who is a member of the excavation team doing research while working on the West Bank. Learn about some of their findings and get more acquainted with the work they're doing. Hatshepsut was the first woman to rule Egypt as king after her husband died and her stepson tried to eradicate all evidence of her rule after her death. According to an interesting article on National Geographic's website titled, "How did this female pharaoh survive being erased from history?" It's believed her likeness was chiseled away from monuments and her statues destroyed to secure the tradition of males serving as ultimate rulers. Celebrate her un-erasable legacy and memory on this visit to her temple.

#### ACTIVITY

Enjoy a fabulous community connection moment during a delicious home-cooked lunch hosted by a local family outside of the Valley of the Kings. In a village where most of the tourist buses speed by heading to the sites Egypt is known for, we will stop and visit a family's home and witness true hospitality from locals. Learn about the family who live here, hear about the importance of their garden, and about how they cook the food the group is about to eat. For 15 years this family has been hosting groups of G Adventures travellers and the support they have received has helped four generations (close to 50 people) thrive, as well as provided education opportunities for the family's children, nieces, and nephews. Sit down, smell the delicious flavours of the special dishes prepared, and relax in the home and hospitality of a truly local Egyptian family.

Free Time

A purple rounded square button with the word "Luxor" written in white text.

Arrive back to your hotel in Luxor in the late afternoon and freshen up before a night to yourself.

Day 7

## Luxor

Start your day exploring Luxor with a visit to Karnak Temple. The temple is known as the house of Amon Ra, the King of Gods. The Temple was the largest religious complex of its time and took 2,000 years to complete, as each subsequent king has added something to the temple. Lunch will be on your own before an afternoon of free time. In the evening meet back up with the group for a visit to Luxor Temple after dark to witness the monuments lit up in their glory. Dinner will be on your own.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Sonesta St. George Hotel Luxor (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Karnak Temple Visit

Luxor

2h-4h

Enjoy a visit to the Karnak Temple, which was once the centre of all religious life in ancient Egypt. Built and extended by successive generations of rulers, admire the amazing architecture, massive columns, and painted hieroglyphs.

Free Time

Luxor

Spend the afternoon on your own in Luxor before meeting back up with the group in the early evening.

Luxor Temple After Dark

Luxor

1h

Take in the beauty of the Luxor temple, an architectural splendour located near the Nile and right in the centre of downtown Luxor. One of Egypt's most impressive temples, Luxor has been used as a place of worship all the way from its conception in 1390 BC to present day. Evidence of ancient worship, Coptic Christianity and Islamic architecture are found throughout the temple, illustrating how the regional culture has evolved over several thousand years. Your visit will take place after dark to allow you to witness the temple lit up in all of its glory.

Day 8

## Luxor/Cairo

In the morning, fly from Luxor to Cairo. Head to ancient Coptic Cairo and enjoy visits to the Hanging Church, St. Sergius Church and Ben Ezra Synagogue. The remainder of the afternoon is at your leisure to explore Cairo on your own. In the evening, travel to Tahrir Square to meet a local food expert for an Egyptian foodie experience. Visit urban local food counters and small specialty restaurants while learning about traditional dishes and their connection to Egyptian culture.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Accommodation

Safir Hotel Cairo (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Plane

Luxor Airport – Cairo

1h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Coptic Cairo Tour

Cairo

1h15m

Explore Cairo's fascinating architectural, cultural, and historical contrasts on a tour of Coptic Cairo. Visit the iconic Hanging Church, St. Sergius Church, and Ben Ezra Synagogue on a full sampling of Cairo's religious buildings.

Free Time

Cairo

Enjoy a free afternoon in the lively city of Cairo.

#### ACTIVITY

Visit the famous Tahrir square in the heart of Cairo where the 2011 revolution was centred. The square became very important after the revolution as a symbol of freedom; it was recently renovated and an Obelisk surrounded by Sphinx has been installed in the middle of the square.

Here we start our walking tour along some of Cairo's busiest streets while enjoying the taste of popular Egyptian food and exposing yourself to new flavours. Enjoy Koshari which is Egypt's national dish, consisting of rice, lentils, macaroni, tomato sauce, onions, hummus and garlic. Take the opportunity to try an Egyptian falafel sandwich as well as sugar cane juice.

Day 9

## Cairo

Drive to the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum for a morning visit on a tour that will take you through the kingdoms of Ancient Egypt. From there, proceed to Khan El Khalili, the largest bazaar in Egypt. The iconic market was established in 1382 and contains hundreds of stalls with a treasure trove of souvenirs, spices, and more. Enjoy lunch at a restaurant in the market, then walk along Muiz Islamic Street as you continue to explore the lively stalls.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Safir Hotel Cairo (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

The Grand Egyptian Museum Guided Tour

Cairo

The Grand Egyptian Museum is the world's largest archaeological museum dedicated to the single civilization of ancient Egypt. Here you will find vast collections of over 100,000 artifacts, many of which have never been displayed before. Wander the grand halls and take a journey through Egypt's ancient heritage and modern design.

Khan el-Khalili Bazaar Orientation Walk

Cairo

2h-4h

Head to the Khan el-Khalili bazaar in downtown Cairo for a walk through with the Expedition Leader. Learn the best places to buy various things, and opt to enjoy a cup of tea in a cafe. Take advantage of free time to stroll and shop the narrow pathways. The iconic market was established in 1382 and contains hundreds of stalls with a treasure trove of souvenirs, spices and more. Lunch will be had at a local restaurant in the market.

Depart at any time. Your departure transfer from the hotel to the Cairo International Airport is included.



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Today's Activities

Departure Transfer

Cairo - Cairo International Airport

22km

You will be met at your hotel and transferred to the airport at the end of your adventure.

## What's included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Nawaya Project Visit, Cairo
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## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Marvel at the breathtaking pyramids of Giza the oldest and last remaining of the original Seven Wonders of the World, Tour the majestic site of Abu Simbel and relish in the striking rock-cut temples built by Pharaoh Ramses II, Sample traditional Egyptian fare with a special dinner served in the home of a local Nubian family, Join an archaeologist and learn about the ongoing excavations of some of Egypt's most famed archeological sites – including the West Bank at Luxor.

## Itinerary Notes

Please note that the Grand Egyptian Museum will not be opening until the final months of 2025. As a result, for departures between now and winter 2025 the group will visit the existing museum in Tahrir Square instead.

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## Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## **Is there an itinerary Disclaimer?**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## **Are there Itinerary notes?**

Please note that the Grand Egyptian Museum will not be opening until the final months of 2025. As a result, for departures between now and winter 2025 the group will visit the existing museum in Tahrir Square instead.

# What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

## 1. ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

## 2. EXCURSION RECOMMENDATIONS

If you arrive a day or two early in Cairo and wish to do some excursions, we recommend that you wait until you get to the joining hotel and contact our local staff for more information on available tours and excursions. Tourists are frequently over-charged for excursions bought from vendors on the street or at the airport.

## 3. TIPPING NOTE:

Tipping is a way of life in the Middle East. Locals themselves will usually tip anyone who provides them with services. Due to this expectation, your Expedition Leader will collect a Tipping Kitty at the start of the tour. For more details see the Tipping section below.

## 4. TRAVEL DAYS

Please be aware that there are some long driving days on this tour. You can refer to the detailed trip itinerary for more information on estimated travel times. Please note that any times mentioned are approximations only to give you an idea of the journey lengths and the actual time taken will depend on factors such as public transport timetables and road conditions. A mix of private and public transport is used throughout this trip.

## 5. OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Please note all optional activities and entrance fees will need to be paid by card only as per a new change implemented by the ministry of tourism in Egypt.

## 6. RAMADAN

According to the lunar cycle, Ramadan will fall between Feb 17th - Mar 19th 2026. Please note that Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world, during which time the followers of Islam should not eat or drink between sunrise and sunset. There may be some limitations to services and disruptions to schedules during Ramadan, but generally our tours still operate effectively during this period and food is available to non-Muslims throughout the day. It is very important to display increased cultural sensitivity during Ramadan. Please wear loose fitting clothes, that cover knees and shoulders, and try to avoid eating, drinking or smoking in public out of respect for those who can't at that time.

## 7. MONEY

US Dollars that are series 1996 or earlier are not accepted and very difficult to change in regions of East and Southern Africa, as there are a lot of forgeries in circulation.

## 8. EXTRAS

Looking to add to your experience? Check out our Extras! Specially designed for travellers with unique interests, Extras are optional add-ons to your G adventures trip that make your adventure more you-centric. Extras must be booked prior to departure, please see details in our optional activities field and ask your sales GCO or travel agent about booking.

## 9. AID AL-ADHA

During your visit to this country, we would like to inform you about an important celebration called Aid Al-Adha. This holiday may impact your travel experience, as most shops and restaurants are closed during the celebration. Some of

the historical places we visit might also be closed during this time. There will be a shorter number of staff at the hotels and less crowded streets on the day of the celebration. Aid Al-Adha will fall between May 27th-28th 2026, and May 17th-18th 2027.

## **What is the group leader like?**

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders, otherwise known as the National Geographic Expedition Leader. The aim of the Expedition Leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects.

We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

## **How large will the group be?**

Max 16

## **What meals are included in this trip?**

9 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners

## **What are the meals like on this trip?**

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your Expedition Leader will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## **What are the modes of transportation on my trip?**

Private vehicle, plane, bicycle, walking, felucca, motorboat.

## **What transportation will we take on this trip?**

On this trip we will use a mixture of felucca, private van, motorized boat, and plane. For more information see the detailed itinerary.

## **Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?**

All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

Domestic carriers for internal flights in Egypt will be Egypt Air or Nile Air. Flight information will not be available until a couple of days prior to the tour departure.

The domestic flight maximum weight allowance is 20 kg.

## **Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?**

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Hotels - 9 nts.

## **Will I get my own room?**

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

## **What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?**

On this trip you can expect to stay in local hotels or pensions (with the exception of the start and finish hotels, which are often larger city hotels), which will vary a little in standard and facilities: some may not have elevators, air-conditioning or English-speaking staff, but most importantly all are in excellent central locations to give you maximum time for exploring the sights.

## What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a National Geographic Journeys sign. They will meet you inside the airport before immigration as they are all licensed airport representatives. If the National Geographic Journeys is not there at first, please wait up to 30 minutes, and then proceed to take a taxi, or call our local staff at +962 (6) 4642034 (office hours) or +962 79 5535879 (24 hours) who will assist you in getting to the start hotel.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Regional Office Emergency Contact Number: +212 662 312 072

Arrival or Departure Transfer Emergency Phone Number: +20 100 000 3945

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What should I take on my trip?

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage.

It is important to pack clothes for warm to hot days and cool evenings. A set of smart casual clothes is also advisable.

# What should be on my packing list?

## Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

**Health & Safety:**

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

**Smart Dress:**

- Smart outfit (For evenings out)

**Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear Note: For departures from Nov-Feb the weather can be cold, please bring warm clothing.

## When can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## What the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

## Where can I read detailed notes about this trip?

### REGIONAL INFORMATION

Local Currency: The official unit of currency in Egypt is the Egyptian pound (EGP)

Electricity: Egypt uses 220V, 50Hz and plugs are two-pronged rounded.

Language: Arabic (in Egyptian dialect) is the official language of Egypt.

Climate:

The winter months are from October to March and are characterized by cold nights and pleasant days. Summer is from April to September and is characterized by an increasing dry heat and dust. It rains generally only in short bursts in the period from the beginning of November until March.

## How much spending money do I need for my trip?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

The currency used in Egypt is the Egyptian Pound (EGP).

ATMs are found within main cities in Egypt and will generally accept cards on the Visa and Mastercard networks. It is a great idea to travel with both a Visa and Mastercard if at all possible as while there is no hard and fast rule, some banks seem to only work with one brand of card. Please note, your bank will charge a fee for overseas withdrawals.

Cash is recommended for times when ATMs are not accessible. Euros, British Pounds and US Dollars are all easy to exchange to the Local currency. Please note that you should bring some cash with you for emergency situations but carrying only cash is a high safety risk. ATM card/s and some cash is the ideal mix.

If you are bringing US Dollars, please make sure that the notes are new and in good condition. Notes older than 1996, or with any tears or blemishes may not be accepted. Be fussy with your bank when buying cash!

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates:  
[www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

## How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Do I need to pay a departure tax?

Departure tax is usually included in your air tickets. If you depart Egypt via Nuweiba Port, there is a departure tax of approximately 9 USD.

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

Tipping is a way of life in the Middle East. Locals themselves will usually tip anyone who provides them with services. In many cases, people depend on the tips they receive to supplement the low salary and wages of the Middle East region.

While on tour in the Middle East, it is customary and even expected to tip small service providers such as restaurant and bar waiters, hotel staff, reception, cleaning personnel, bell boys, taxis and van drivers. Tips are regarded as an essential means of supplementing income for those working in the tourism industry.

To make things as easy as possible and avoid embarrassing situations, G Adventures has developed a tipping kitty system where your Expedition Leader will collect a contribution from everybody at the start of your tour and use this kitty to tip anybody who has provided services to the group as a whole. On Day 1 of your tour, your Expedition Leader will be able to advise on the amount required from everybody to form the tipping kitty for your trip. Please plan approximately \$64.00 USD per person for the entirety of the tour (this does not include your Expedition Leader). You can pay in USD or the equivalent local currency (preferably USD). The Expedition Leader will be able to advise you on the exchange rate and the total required in either currency.

If at any time you feel that any service provider failed in maintaining or delivering good service, please bring it immediately to the attention of your Expedition Leader so a deduction of tips can take place.

At the end of your trip if you felt that your Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is also expected and appreciated. The precise amount is entirely a personal preference, however \$11-13 USD per person per day can be used as a general guideline.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Aswān

- Philae Temple Sound and Light Show (70USD per person)

## Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

DRINKING WATER: It is advisable to drink bottled water in Egypt.

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

There are no specific health requirements for this trip. However, we recommend protection against typhoid, tetanus, infectious hepatitis and polio. Though malaria does exist in Egypt, it is not normally found in the areas where we travel. You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes, as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities for some time during this trip, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc.

## What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Expedition Leader will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your Expedition Leader will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions. Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our Expedition Leaders to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s). Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

## What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our Expedition Leaders have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?

While visiting mosques and other religious monuments you should dress modestly, cover your shoulders and you shouldn't wear short shorts or skirts. Outside of capital cities and the more touristic centres, local dress is often more conservative and as a matter of respect we ask that both men and women are aware of this and recommend loose-fitting clothes with your shoulders covered. Ask your Expedition Leader for more specific advice.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.