



RAINBOW EDUCATIONAL TOURS

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Proposed Itinerary for Egypt 14 Days/12 Nights

DAY 01: Departure from Canada

Our exciting journey begins today as we check in for an overnight flight to Egypt.

DAY 02: Cairo

On arrival at the airport we are met by our guide and transported to our hotel in Cairo, the capital of Egypt. Time to settle in and start soaking up the atmosphere of this exciting city. Dinner and overnight in Cairo

DAY 03: Memphis, Sakkara, Gila pyramids

Today we have a full day touring the wonders of the ancient world. We start with the the pyramids-one of the Seven Wonders of the World and the only wonder to have withstood the ravages of time almost intact. The pyramid of Cheops, with an original height of 496 feet, is the largest pyramid of this group, with around 2.3 million limestone blocks each weighing an average of 2.75 tons. Then to the Sphinx called Abu 'I-Hol in Arabic (the Father of Terror) , which sums up the mysterious aura surrounding this strange figure with a lions body, a human face and a royal beard. Memphis, founded around 3,100 BC., is just a short drive away. Memphis is the legendary city of King Menes, the King who united Upper and Lower Egypt While in Memphis we will view a very large and well preserved statue of Ramses II. Next, Sakkara, 3.5 miles west of Memphis, and one of the most extensive archaeological sites in Egypt! Sakkara is dominated by the Step Pyramid of King Zoser, dating back to 2700 BC. It is one of the oldest stone structures in the world! Enjoy a stop to see how local Egyptian carpets are made before a short drive to Faiyum, the region created by the divinely inspired wisdom of Joseph. Here you will find ancient storehouses and a man-made lake created by a canal, the construction which was ordered by Joseph. It was this lake that provided irrigation for a desert land and supplied the food needed to survive the prophesied seven year famine. Dinner and overnight in Cairo.

DAY 04: Coptic Cairo, Hanging Church & Alabaster Mosque

We start with a visit to the Hanging Church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and so named because it was built by the Nile River over the bastions of the Roman gate of Babylon. This is the most famous Coptic Church in Cairo. This church is still in use. During a walking tour, our guide will point out that this section of the old city was the route taken

by Abraham, Joseph, Moses and the family of Jesus - an inspiring thought. Drive to Alexandria for dinner and overnight.

DAY 05: Alexandria

Breakfast and a day touring the ancient seaport of Alexandria, known as "The Pearl of the Mediterranean," now a cosmopolitan city of 5 million. Here we see the Greco-Roman influence in Egypt giving Alexandria an ambiance and cultural heritage distinct from the rest of the country- an atmosphere that is more Mediterranean than Middle Eastern. First stop, the Fort at Quit Bay, followed with a visit to the ancient Catacombs of Kom and Pompey's Pillar. Before returning to Cairo we relax with the breath-taking views of the Montaza Palaces. Cairo for dinner and overnight

DAY 06: Egyptian Museum, Citadel, Mohamed Ali Mosque

After breakfast we start our tour with a visit to the Egyptian Museum. The Egyptian Museum is packed to the point of overflowing with more than 100,000 relics and antiquities. The Museum is a fantastic collection of rooms *packed* with thousands of big and small statues, figurines, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, rings, coffins and sarcophagi, boats, weapons, glassware objects, wood and metal tools, masks, coins, seals, mummies, cloth, papyrus drawings, stone and clay tablets with hieroglyphics, jugs, amulets, models, photographs- a feast for the eyes it would take nine months to see everything if you spent only one minute at each exhibit. Our guide will show us the highlights. We then continue, to what many consider the most spectacular part of Islamic Cairo. The Citadel is a medieval fortress located on a spur of limestone that has been detached from its parent Moqattam Hills by quarrying. The Citadel is one of the world's greatest monuments to medieval warfare and overlooks the entire Nile valley. Islamic Cairo is characterized by a large number of medieval mosques that tower over the area. Though certainly not one of the most ancient mosques in Cairo, nor even one of the most historic, because of its grandeur and its location in the Citadel, the Mosque of Muhammad Ali is the most popular Islamic mosque among tourists. This mosque is also sometimes referred to as the Alabaster Mosque due to its extensive use of that stone. Its great dome and towering minarets give the Citadel a romantic, oriental quality that makes up for any shortcomings in its detail. Dinner and overnight in Cairo.

DAY 07 Transfer to Luxor, Nile Cruise

Early this morning we transfer to the airport for our flight to Luxor. Check in to your 5 star river cruise and then we are off to visit the Valley of the Kings (where many ancient pharaohs were buried) and the famous Temple of Hatshepsut, the princess who perhaps pulled baby Moses out of the Nile River. We visit a courtyard that was likely to be frequented by Moses during his days of princely training. Time will be allowed for those who wish to visit one of Luxor's famous perfume factory stores. We re-embark for lunch, enjoy the sundeck and pool before an evening tour of the famous Temple of Luxor, which was founded in the reign of Amenhotep III, grandson of the pharaoh of the Exodus. Nile Cruise Boat.

DAY 08: : Karnak. Esna to Edfu

After breakfast, visits include the Temple of Karnak (temple of the New Kingdom period) and the East Bank of the Nile. It was during this period that the bondage and Exodus occurred. Karnak is one of Egypt's most important Pharaonic sites. Re-board our ship for lunch and continue sailing towards Edfu, having dinner as we cross through the Esna lock. Overnight on board

DAY 09: Edfu, Kom Ombo, Aswan

This morning we visit Edfu, the location of one of the best preserved Egyptian Temples. This site was initially developed 1000 years before Abraham came to Egypt! Lunch and sailing to Kom Ombo, where we visit the remains of Kom Ombo Temple, situated on the riverside. Unlike most, this temple is dedicated to two gods - the crocodile god of Sebek and the solar god of war, Horus the Great. Overnight on board.

DAY 10: Aswan High Dam

Today is spent in and around the modern city of Aswan. Included will be a visit to the High Dam, built from 1960 - 1971 and a major factor in Egypt's agricultural success. Then time at Philae Temple on the Isi-Island. This complex was moved from up river due to the impending destruction upon the completion of the High Dam. This afternoon we disembark for free time to stroll through the city markets. Dinner and overnight in Aswan.

DAY 11: Abu Simbel

This morning we enjoy a tour to Abu Simbel, part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site known as the "Nubian Monuments." Our Egyptologist guide will discuss the relevance of this spectacular site in Egyptian history. We will also try to put in perspective the long history of Egypt. Here we will visit the massive temple of Pharaoh Rameses II, perhaps the greatest builder of temples in ancient Egypt (13th Century BC) and a second one of Queen Nafertari, Rameses's most beloved wife. A flight to Cairo and we will be transferred to St. Catherine and our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 12: Camel Ride

After our breakfast our bus will take us from St. Catherine to meet the Bedouin in order to start our camel ride in the desert for about 4 hours! Our first stop will be the Bedouin camp where we will have lunch. After lunch we will continue on our camels to St. Catherine for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 13: Camel ride

At 2 am our driver will take us to Mount Sinai for a 3 hours camel ride to reach the top of the mountain before sun rise! After sun rise we will go back to St. Catherine to visit city's monastery. Return to Cairo via Red Sea route. Free time on the beach. Dinner and overnight in Cairo.

DAY 14: **Departure**

After breakfast we will be transferred to the airport for our returned flight. Fly home full of wonderful memories of our unique trip to Egypt!

INCLUDED IN THE COST OF THIS TOUR (BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY):

- MEET AND ASSIST AT CAIRO AIRPORT
- ALL TRANSFERS FROM/TO CAIRO AIRPORT
- 02 FULL DAY VISITS IN CAIRO AS PER PROGRAM
- ALL VISITS AT ALEXANDRIA INCLUDE VISITS AT WADI EL NATROUN
- ALL TRANSFERS TO/FROM CRUISE SHIP AT LUXOR AND ASWAN
- 05 NIGHTS AT ZOSER HOTEL OR SIMILAR 4 STARS HOTEL ON HB BASIS
- 01 NIGHT AT GOOD 4 STARS HOTEL AT ALEXANDRIA ON H/B BASIS
- 03 NIGHTS AT NILE CRUISE ON FULL BOARD
- 01 NIGHT AT GOOD 4 STARS HOTEL AT ASWAN
- 02 Nights AT NEW MORGAN LAND VILLAGE AT St. CATHERINE ON HB BASIS
- CAIRO/LUXOR-ASWAN/CAIRO AIR TICKETS
- VISITS TO ABU SIMBEL PER PERSON BY AIR
- GUIDE THROUGH THE ENTIRE TOUR

TOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Expenses of a personal nature
- Extra beverages with meals
- Any additional taxes imposed by any authority before departure
- Optional tours, excursions and activities
- Single supplements for any single hotel room accommodation required
- **Any New Fuel surcharges imposed by airlines or any new taxes by airlines**
- **Price quoted is based on exchange rates Any drastic shift in the exchange rate will be reflected in the price**
- **VISAS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE RATES (COST: 20 USD PER PERSON)**

IMPORTANT! Documents Required:

Your passport must be valid at least six months when you exit Egypt.

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