

Insight Trip to Egypt with Hands Along the Nile Development Services (HANDS)



February 6-16, 2023 Schedule

Day 1: Monday, February 6, 2023 (Cairo)

Upon arrival at the Cairo airport, our travel agency will meet, assist, and transfer you to the hotel. As people arrive, we will meet for dinner and spend the night at the hotel.

Day 2: Tuesday, February 7 (Cairo)

After breakfast, we will start a full day tour with your Egyptologist tour guide. We will visit the 4500 year-old **Giza Pyramids**, the only remaining wonders of the ancient world, and also see the **Sphinx**, carved from a single stone, representing a creature with a Pharaoh's head and a lion's body. Lunch will be at a local restaurant. Then we continue to visit the ruins of the ancient city of **Memphis** and see the **Step Pyramid of Sakkara**, the oldest ever man-made construction in hard rock. Dinner will be at a local restaurant and then we'll return to the hotel for the night.

Day 3: Wednesday, February 8 (Cairo)

After breakfast, we will start a full day tour with an Egyptologist. We will visit the **National Museum of Egyptian Civilization**, which presents an overview of Egyptian civilization from prehistory to the present day. (If the **Grand Egyptian Museum** is open by then, we will visit it instead.) Then we will visit the **Sultan Hassan and Ibn Touloun mosques** and **Gayer Anderson House** in Islamic Cairo. We will have some time for shopping in the **Khan el Khalili bazaar** in the evening.

Day 4: Thursday, February 9 (Alexandria)

After breakfast, we will drive to the city of Alexandria, located on the Mediterranean Sea, where we will visit a **Roman amphitheater, catacombs, and Pompey's Pillar**. We'll enjoy our meals by the sea and return to Cairo in the evening.

Day 5: Friday, February 10 (Nile Cruise)

In the morning, we will visit some **HANDS microloan recipients**. Then, we will transfer to the airport to take our flight to Aswan. Upon arrival, we will visit the **High Dam**, built in the 1960's to save Egypt from floods and droughts, and the beautiful temple of the goddess Isis, known as **Philae Temple**. We will have dinner on the cruise ship, where we will also spend the night.

Day 6: Saturday, February 11 (Nile Cruise)

We sail to **Kom Ombo** and visit the double temple shared by Horus, the falcon god, and Sobek, the crocodile god. From there, we will sail to Edfu, where we'll visit the most complete and entirely Greek **Temple of Horus**. We will then sail to **Esna**, pass through the lock, and sail to **Luxor**.

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Day 7: Sunday, February 12 (Luxor)

After breakfast, we will cross over to the west bank, visit the necropolis of Thebes, where we see the tombs of the ancient pharaohs in the **Valley of the Kings**. Then, we'll continue to the **temple of Hatshepsut** and the **Colossi of Memnon**. We'll spend the night on the boat.

Day 8: Monday, February 13 (Red Sea)

After breakfast, we will check out of the boat and drive to the ruins of **Abydos**, one of the most important but rarely visited archaeological sites in Egypt, known for its ancient temples which serve as the burial grounds for pharaohs. Here, we hope to have a private tour with an archaeologist of the site he is excavating. Afterwards, we will drive on to a **Red Sea resort**, where we'll check in and have the day free to enjoy the beach.

Day 9: Tuesday, February 14 (Red Sea)

At the Red Sea Resort, we'll enjoy a free leisure day at the beach. You can swim, snorkel, dive, and/or fish. In the evening, we will fly back to Cairo.

Day 10: Wednesday, February 15 (Cairo)

In the morning, we will visit the Association for the Protection of the Environment, a **HANDS-sponsored job-skills training program** for women in Cairo's garbage recycling community. This is also a fun shopping opportunity! Afterwards, we'll visit the **churches of Old Cairo** and enjoy a meal together in Al Azhar Park, overlooking the city. Then, we will prepare for our flights back to the U.S.

Day 11: Thursday, February 16 (departure)

We will check out of our hotel and transfer to Cairo airport for our return flights to the U.S.

Note: There is the possibility that some elements of the itinerary might be changed or the timing shuffled due to circumstances beyond our control.

Pricing

This once-in-a-lifetime adventure costs only \$3,200 per person for a shared room or \$3,700 per person for a single room.

This price includes:

- six nights in Hilton Cairo Zamalek Residence or a similar four-star hotel
- one night in Hurgada at the Marriott Beach Resort or a similar five-star hotel on an all-inclusive basis
- three nights on a Nile cruise on the Iberotel Crown Emperor or a similar five-star cruise ship

Hands Along the Nile Development Services, Inc.

www.handsalongthenile.org

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- three meals per day
- an English-speaking guide
- accompaniment by a tour leader and HANDS staff member
- entrance fees to sites on itinerary
- ground and air transport within Egypt

This price excludes:

- international airfare (to/from the US)
- alcoholic drinks
- personal expenses (laundry, phone calls, etc.)
- visa fee and personal travel insurance
- tips
- optional excursions

Note that the prices may increase slightly once the winter 2023 prices are released.

Bonus! \$500 of your payment is a tax-deductible donation to support HANDS' work in underserved communities in Egypt!

Rates for children:

- infants up to age six: free, share parents' room
- age six up to age 12: half the adult rate, share parents' room
- age 12 and over: full price

Next steps

To join this action-packed adventure, you can register here:

<https://handsclasses.wufoo.com/forms/klt2egs1fetzy3/>

Payment schedule:

- \$500 down-payment due November 4, 2022
- remainder of payment due December 19, 2022

Payments can be made at: <https://hands.networkforgood.com/events/47335-february-2023-insight-trip-to-egypt> or by check, made out to HANDS and mailed to us at:

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