

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



April 29-May 9, 2023 Schedule

Day 1: Saturday, April 29, 2023 (Cairo)

Upon arrival at the Cairo airport, our staff will meet, assist, and transfer you to the hotel. Check in and overnight.

Day 2: Sunday, April 30 (Cairo)

After breakfast, you will start a full day tour with your Egyptologist tour guide. You 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. We will also visit **Sakkara Necropolis** on this day and stop by for shopping. Lunch will be at a local restaurant. Dinner will be at a local restaurant and then we'll return to the hotel and overnight.

Day 3: Monday, May 1 (Cairo)

After breakfast, we'll visit Mukkattam area to 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! Then we visit the **Cave Church** in the same area and have lunch at a local restaurant.

Next, we will visit famous **Citadel**, overlooking Old Cairo, and on a good day, catching a view of the Pyramids in the distance.

We then visit Old Cairo churches in the **Old Coptic quarter** and mosques in **Islamic Cairo** (Sultan Hassan and Ibn Toulon mosques.) We will have dinner and a shopping opportunity in the **Khan el-Khalili bazaar** then return to the hotel for the night.

Day 4: Tuesday, May 2

After breakfast we will visit the **National Museum of Egyptian Civilization** (or the **Grand Egyptian Museum** if it is open by then), which presents an overview of Egyptian civilization from prehistory to the present day. After lunch, we'll visit **Cairo Tower**, then enjoy the sunset on **Felluca** ride, go for shopping and dinner at local restaurant and return to the hotel.

Day 5: Wednesday, May 3 (Nile Cruise)

After breakfast, we will check out from the hotel and head to the airport, where we will take a flight to Answan. 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**. If there is sufficient time, we might visit a **Nubian village** (or this visit might be done on the following day). We will have dinner on the cruise ship, where we will also spend the night.

Day 6: Thursday, May 4 (Nile Cruise)

We sail to **Kom Ombo** and visit the double temple shared by Horus, the falcon god, and Sobek,

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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**.

Day 7: Thursday, May 5 (Nile Cruise)

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**.

In the afternoon, we will visit **Karnak Temple** in Luxor.

Day 8: Friday, May 6 (Hurghada/Soma Bay)

We will leave the ship after breakfast and transfer to **Soma Bay** on the **Red Sea** in an airconditioned bus. We'll check in to the resort and spend the rest of the day there.

Day 9: Saturday, May 7 (Hurghada/Soma Bay)

We'll enjoy a free leisure day. You can enjoy the beauty of the **Red Sea** and have the opportunity to swim, snorkel, dive, and/or fish.

Day 10: Sunday, May 8 (Hurgada)

We'll enjoy a free leisure day. You can enjoy the beauty of the **Red Sea** and have the opportunity to swim, snorkel, dive, and/or fish. Optional excursion to the desert or Hurgada city at night for shopping.

Day 11: Monday, May 9 (Cairo) and Departures

After breakfast, we will enjoy some time at the beach/resort, and then check out and transfer to the Hurghada airport for an afternoon flight to Cairo. At the airport, further transfers will be made for passengers to catch their international return flights. (Usually West-bound flights leave between midnight and 4 am, but depending on the individual flights for passengers, further arrangements can be made, including booking hotel stays for those passengers who have return tickets to depart the following day, May 10.)

Pricing

This once-in-a-lifetime adventure costs only **\$3,800** per person for a shared room or **\$4,500** per person for a single room.

This price includes:

- four nights in Cairo at Kempinski Nile Hotel Garden City Cairo, a highly reviewed boutique 5* hotel or similar
- three nights at the Sheraton Soma Bay resort or a similar 5* hotel
- three nights on a Nile cruise Jaz Crown Jewel or similar 5* boat
- three meals per day (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Hands Along the Nile Development Services, Inc.

www.handsalongthenile.org

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- an English-speaking guide
- accompaniment by a tour leader at all times
- 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
- airport and fuel taxes
- optional excursions