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Unlike most travel company's itineraries, entry to all the main sites of antiquities and places of interest are included in the price – they are **not** offered as chargeable excursions.

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CAIRO



Cairo, the capital of Egypt has been described as the city with a thousand minarets. This city – the crossroads of the ancient world – is where old and modern, religious and secular meet in a seething populace that makes Cairo the original city that never sleeps.

From Cairo you will be able to visit the Pyramids of Giza – the Great Pyramid of Khufu, the Pyramids of Khafra and Menkaura, the Giza Necropolis and the Majestic Sphinx with its unwavering gaze towards the sunrises of the last four and half thousand years.

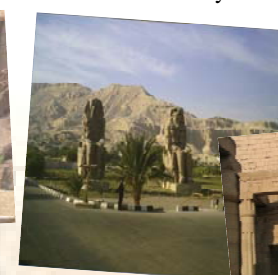
The Egyptian museum at Cairo is a must, even if you only see Tutankhamen's treasure. Then see history brought to life at the Pharaonic Village where actors perform scenes from everyday life in settings provided by reproductions of ancient monuments, buildings and tombs. The Pyramid Complex of Djoser is just a short journey away at Sakkara and you can see some of the earliest buildings ever constructed from stone, including the Stepped Pyramid designed by the famous architect - Imhotep.



LUXOR



Thebes – the city of a hundred gates – was the ancient capital of Egypt during the New Kingdom. Today the city carries the name of Luxor and here you can see on the East Bank, inscribed into the walls of Karnak and Luxor Temples, how the Pharaohs lived their lives in service to the gods. Then visit the West Bank and the Valley of the Kings to see how their tombs were prepared to ensure their immortality in the afterlife.



You should also visit the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut and the gigantic Colossi of Memnon.

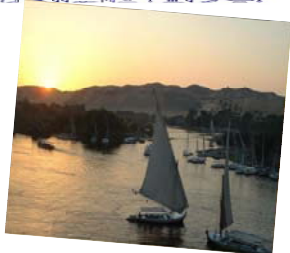
Whilst on the West Bank you can visit the Tombs of the Nobles, the Valley of the Queens, Medinet Habu Temple of Ramesis III, and choose from a whole host of other tombs, temples and sites of antiquities to satisfy your quest for adventure and history.

Luxor life passes by at a far more sedate pace than Cairo and after your visits you can relax as you watch life go by virtually unchanged since Pharaonic times.

No visit to Luxor would be complete, however, without a hot-air balloon ride at dawn over the Great Theban Necropolis.



ASWAN

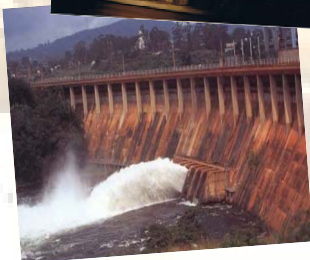
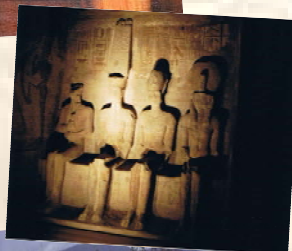


Aswan offers the ideal base to enjoy a different side of Egypt. Strongly influenced by the Nubian way of life the area is rich in history and culture. Take the fantastic opportunity to fly out across the desert and witness the spectacular sunrise at the fabulous Temple at Abu Simbel where Ramesis II deified himself and where his statue can be seen in the inner sanctuary in communion with three of the main gods of the New Kingdom – Ra-Horakhty, Ptah and Amun-Ra.

A fascinating insight into the quarrying methods of the Ancient Egyptians can be seen in a visit to the Unfinished Obelisk, where you will marvel at how such megaliths were cut and lifted from the quarry face.

As well as visiting the sites of antiquities, a visit to one of the wonders of modern Egypt – the Aswan High Dam – is a must. This incredible feat of engineering holds back the waters of the mighty Nile which gather behind this formidable construction and form Lake Nasser. For a more relaxing way to visit some of the more inaccessible sites why not take a three day luxury cruise on the vast waters of this lake.

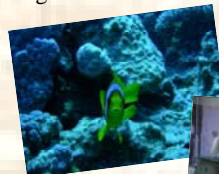
You shouldn't miss the chance to take a relaxing felucca or motorboat cruise on the Nile that takes you on a meandering journey through the massive boulders of the first cataract and onwards through the lush foliage to visit a Nubian Village.



RED SEA AREA



For the holiday adventurer who is looking for something different then the Red Sea Resorts can offer you every type of water sports you can imagine. Or if relaxing by the beach is your idea of a holiday then you can find no better. The Red Sea provides some of the best areas in the northern hemisphere to see marine life in its unspoilt environment. You can take part in Scuba diving, snorkelling or just enjoy the incredible beauty as you gaze in wonder from a glass-bottomed boat.



For the young and the young at heart, you can party the night away in one of the many clubs and night spots that line the main thoroughfares or enjoy a quiet drink in a beach front bar and watch the moon rise over the Red Sea.

If action is your thing then look no further than a five hour quad-bike excursion that takes you into the Eastern Desert to enjoy a Bedouin barbeque and camel ride.



SUGGESTED ITINERARY

Day 1: Flights to Egypt and Transfer to Hotel.

Day 2: Visit to the **Giza Plateau** – The **Great Pyramid of Khufu** and pyramids of **Khafra & Menkaura**, the **Giza Necropolis and the Sphinx**. Lunch, then visit to the **Egyptian Museum, Cairo**. See the treasures of **Tutankhamen** as well as a host of other splendours from Ancient Egypt. The bravest of adventurers can even visit the Mummy room.

Day 3: Visit to **Sakkara** – The **Stepped Pyramid of Djoser** and the **Tombs of the Nobles**, including that of **Merreru**. Travel to Luxor, overnight on Sleeper-train.

Day 4: Board our **luxury 5* cruise ship** for a **Four-day Nile Cruise** to Aswan on a Full Board basis. Visit **Karnak and Luxor Temples**.

Day 5: Visit the **West Bank** and **The Valley of the Kings**, The **Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut** or **The Tombs of the Nobles**, **The Colossi of Memnon** (Amenhotep III), and then sail to Edfu.

Day 6: Visit **Edfu Temple**, dedicated to the Egyptian god Horus and sail on to **Kom Ombo Temple**, dedicated to the god Sobek.

Day 7: Aswan - the **Aswan High Dam** and visit to the **Unfinished Obelisk**.

Day 8: The opportunity (as an optional excursion) to take a flight and visit the famous temple of **Abu Simbel**. There is also the lesser or smaller temple dedicated to his wife – **Nefertari**.

Day 9: Flight back to Cairo and onwards to the UK.

In either Cairo or Luxor there will be visits to a papyrus institute and a perfumery, where you will have the opportunity to see how papyrus is made and witness the expertise of the Egyptian Perfumers as they blend any fragrance of perfume or aftershave you can imagine. There is no obligation to buy anything during these visits but they are very interesting and informative.

There will also be opportunities to take part in a number of optional excursions, including: A Hot-air Balloon ride at dawn over the Valley of the Kings and the Theban Necropolis (you can even see Howard Carter's house); A camel ride at the pyramids at Giza; The Sound and Light show at the Pyramids or at Karnak Temple; The Pharaonic Village at Cairo.

[* Prices starting from £399 based on two sharing - excluding flights]