



## **DISCOVER EGYPT AND THE RED SEA**

### **14 Days/12 Nights**

#### **Day 1 – Monday – Departure**

Depart New York today for Egypt.

#### **Day 2 – Tuesday – Cairo**

Ahlan Wa Sahlan! Welcome to Egypt, Land of the Pharaohs! Upon arrival at Cairo International Airport, your tour representative will greet you, and assist with the transfer to your hotel. After check-in and time to freshen up, meet with a Learning Through Travel representative to discuss the exciting days ahead. A welcome dinner this evening will introduce you to Egyptian cuisine.

#### **Day 3 – Wednesday - Cairo**

Today visit the Giza Plateau where there are three Pyramids, the greatest being that of Cheops. It took 100,000 workers more than 20 years to construct. Entrance to one of the pyramids is included. Southeast of the Great Pyramids is the Sphinx, carved out of solid natural rock in about 2650 BC, a magnificent monument with the head of the Pharaoh and the body of a lion. Continue to visit the first Pyramid ever built, the Step Pyramid of Zoser, in the Sakkara Complex. When Memphis was the capital of Egypt, during the Old Kingdom period, Sakkara was its necropolis. Spread over seven kilometers of desert, Sakkara is one of the most important archaeological sites in the world. Before returning to the hotel, stop to visit the remains in Memphis, the first capital of United Upper and Lower Egypt.

#### **Day 4 – Thursday – Cairo**

This morning you are being introduced to the masterpieces of ancient art in the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, including the Mummy Room. The museum is home to the vast findings of King Tutankhamen's tomb and other important pieces of Egypt's history. There will be time to visit the Khan El Khalili Bazaar, known for its narrow alleys. Hundreds of shops are selling all types of Egyptian handicrafts, silver and gold jewelry, cottons, copperware and perfumes.

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### **Day 5 – 11 - Friday – Thursday – Cairo/Hurghada**

Today take a flight to Hurghada to embark your one week live aboard dive boat following the Classic Cruise. Starting from Hurghada sailing north, offers a perfect combination of reef diving and wreck diving. The famous horseshoe shaped reef of Shaab El Erg is a perfect example of reefs full of beautiful hard coral garden and the chance to see dolphins. Abu Nuhas has four well-known wrecks, Giannis D, Carnatic, The Lentil Wreck and The Tile Wreck; all are offering spectacular dives and plenty of fish life. Night dives can be superb in this area, as Gubal Island offers protected anchoring for the night. A small wreck at 8-10 meters makes for a spectacular night dive with lionfish, scorpion fish and its resident giant moray eel. A short ride across the straits of Gubal and you see the most famous wreck of the Red Sea, the Thistlegorm! An awe-inspiring World War II British vessel, with a cargo full of armaments, (Bedford trucks and BSA motorbikes) destined for the British troops in North Africa. Sunk by the German Luftwaffe now rests in 30 meters of water. Depending on divers' experience, weather and current conditions, we offer a night dive here. Close by is the Ras Mohamed National Park, offering a morning dive at the 'Shark Reef', a sheer wall falling into the blue. The Ras Mohamed Park is usually the 'border', from here the boat heads back towards Hurghada.

### **Day 12 – Friday – Hurghada/Luxor**

You just completed the under water discovery of the Red Sea, now it is time to visit the wonders of Luxor. Leave Hurghada for Luxor. This afternoon explore the East Bank of the Nile including the Temple of Luxor. Here, the Avenue of Sphinxes, famous for its artistic degree of uniformity, leads to the entrance of the temple where a seated colossus of Ramses II and a towering Obelisk are situated. Continue to the Karnak Temple, one of the most impressive monuments of ancient art and architecture in the world. The carvings, which adorn all the walls, depict the history and conquests of many of Egypt's Pharaohs. This evening you may join an optional excursion to the Karnak Temple for a spectacular Sound and Light Show.

### **Day 13– Saturday – Luxor/Cairo**

This morning cross the West Bank to explore the Valley of the Kings, housing 63 tombs belonging to the Pharaohs of the New Kingdom, including the famous tomb of King Tutankhamen. Many of the tombs, carved out of the bedrock, retain their original bright colors and fine relief's and scenes. Afterwards, continue to Deir El Bahri to visit the mortuary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, considered being one of the

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finest buildings in Egypt. Hatshepsut ruled Egypt as King for 20 years. Return to Cairo this afternoon.

#### **Day 14 – Sunday – Departure**

Farewell to Egypt as you transfer to the airport for your return flight to New York. Arrive home, your hearts and minds filled with happy memories of ancient and modern day Egypt.

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- International air New York/Cairo/New York
- Domestic Air Cairo/Hurghada-Luxor/Cairo
- 3 nights accommodation in Cairo at the Marriott Palace Hotel or similar
- 7 nights Live Aboard Private Charter –Classic Cruise program
- 1 night accommodation in Cairo at the Heliopolis Fairmont Hotel or similar
- 1 night accommodation in Luxor at the Sonesta St. George Hotel or similar
- All transfers: Cairo/Luxor/Hurghada
- Transfer of dive equipment from Cairo to Hurghada
- Sightseeing and transfers by deluxe motor coach
- English speaking guide throughout Egypt
- Full day sightseeing Pyramids (entrance into 1 Pyramid)/Sphinx – Memphis/Sakkara
- All entrance fees and shore excursions on Nile Cruise
- 12breakfasts, 9 lunches and 10 dinners
- Hotel taxes and service charges and portorage
- Luggage Tags, Travel Bag, Passport Wallet, First Aid Kit

#### **NOT INCLUDED**

- U.S. Departure Taxes, Airport Security, Fuel surcharges (approx. \$325.00 subject to change), charges for oversized/overweight and extra baggage.
- Domestic air within the U.S.
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, inter-net services, dive equipment, National Park fees ( if applicable), soft drinks, coffee, tea (except at breakfast), mineral water, alcoholic beverages, Egypt visa, passport fees, gratuities for drivers, guides, transfer personnel, travel insurance, etc.....

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**Please Note: Itinerary sequence subject to change without prior notice due to government regulations and hotel/cruise confirmation. Other cruise itineraries are available upon request.**

### **2009 Tour Costs**

	<b>TWIN</b>	<b>SINGLE</b>
April 13 – 26	\$4355.00	\$5355.00
May 11- 24	\$4355.00	\$5355.00
June 1 – 14	\$4735.00	\$5735.00
June 15- 28	\$4895.00	\$5895.00
June 22 – July 5	\$4895.00	\$5895.00
July 20 – August 2	\$4945.00	\$5945.00
August 3 – 16	\$4395.00	\$5395.00
August 24 – Sep 6	\$4395.00	\$5395.00
September 7 – 20	\$4395.00	\$5395.00
October 12 – 25	\$4475.00	\$5475.00
November 23 – Dec 6	\$4095.00	\$5095.00

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