



The Wonders of Egypt Above and Below the Sea 16 Days/14 Nights

Day 1 – Friday – Departure

Depart New York this evening for Egypt.

Day 2 – Saturday - 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 – Sunday - Cairo

Today you will visit to 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 into one of the pyramids will be 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. 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 you will visit the remains in Memphis, the first capital of United Upper and Lower Egypt.

Day 4 – Monday - Cairo

This morning you will be 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 Tutankahmun's tomb and other important pieces of Egypt's history. There will be time to shop at 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.

Day 5 – Tuesday – Cairo/Aswan – Optional Abu Simbel/Nile Cruise

This morning a short flight will bring you to Aswan to board your Nile Cruise or you may select the optional pre cruise 3 -hour Abu Simbel excursion to visit the great Temples of Ramses II and his wife Nefertari. After your excursion and upon your return to Aswan you will embark your Nile cruise. Visit

2470 North Jerusalem Road Suite # 15, North Bellmore, NY 11710,

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Aswan's High Dam, Granite Quarries and Unfinished Obelisk, then continue by felucca to visit Kitchener's Island with its beautiful gardens and to view the mausoleum of the Agha Khan.

Day 6 – Nile Cruise Aswan/Kom Ombo/Edfu

Sail in a small boat to the Philae Temple, situated on the island of Agilika. This afternoon set sail for the city of Kom Ombo, known as "Ombos" in ancient times. Sail onto Edfu, midway between Aswan and Luxor.

Day 7 – Thursday - Nile Cruise Edfu/Luxor

Begin the day by visiting the magnificently preserved temple of Edfu. Sail to Esna, pass the lock and arrive in Luxor, ancient Thebes. This afternoon explore the East Bank of the Nile including the Temple of Luxor. 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.

Day 8 – Friday – Luxor

Cross the West Bank to explore the Valley of the Kings including the famous tomb of King Tutankhamen. Afterwards continue to Deir El Bahri to visit the mortuary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.

Day 10 – Saturday - Luxor/Sharm El Sheikh

A short flight will take you to Sharm El Sheikh the "Land of Turquoise" where rock meets coral reefs and the desert stops at the sea.

Day 10 – Saturday - Sharm El Sheikh – Ras Mohammed Diving

Your dive experience begins at the "masterpiece" of wall dives Ras Mohammed. The wall extends from the eel garden in the north to a large rock formation in the south called the Shark Observatory. Above the surface is a sheer limestone cliff with a fringing reef below. Colorful soft corals grow from overhangs, surrounded by Anthias, which flutter around the wall like butterflies. A few areas are dark and devoid of life, while others are brilliantly colorful and alive with activity. Caves provide refuge for soldier fish, hatchet fish, and silver sweepers. If you look upward, you may notice schools of jacks or tunas, a shark or eagle ray.

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Day 11 – Monday – Sharm El Sheikh - Straits of Tiran Diving

Today you dive one of the Sinai's most spectacular areas the Straits of Tiran. Starting from the north the first reef is Jackson Reef and on its edge rests the wreck of a freighter. The southeastern end is the perfect mooring place for all kinds of diving vessels. Starting your dive towards the north, you come across a forest of awesome Gorgonian fan corals dancing in the current at about 20 to 30 metres as well as a wide variety of reef fish.

Day 12 – Tuesday - Sharm El Sheikh - Thistlegorm

There is no area in the world comparable to the site that you dive today, the wreck of the SS Thistlegorm. Sunk by German bomber planes in World War II it rests at the bottom of the sea for over sixty years. Located in the Straits of Gubal, Northern Red Sea this famous vessel has been the subject of much activity and drama during its life as a merchant ship and now as an excellent dive site. In 1956, Jacques Cousteau found the Thistlegorm and kept it a secret until the early 1990's when a group of divers happened to discover her. Despite extensive damage aft of the Bridge, the main section is upright and on an even keel.

Day 13 – Wednesday - Sharm El Sheikh

Today you return to the magnificent Ras Mohammed National Park for another day of diving. There are over 1,000 species of fish found in this area. The coral reefs here are not just shelter and food for the different reef and pelagic fish they are in fact living creatures, which breathe, eat, and reproduce. See them in many different forms, shapes, and colors, from the largest colonies of hard corals to the tiniest swaying soft ones.

Day 14 – Thursday -Sharm El Sheikh

Your final day in Sharm El Sheikh is at your leisure. You may choose to take the optional tour to St. Catherine's Monastery and climb Mount Moses. This evening as the sun sets, take a camel ride out into the desert for tea and pastry at a Bedouin camp.

Day 15 – Friday – Sharm El Sheikh/Cairo

Return to Cairo today. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner.

Day 16 – Saturday – 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.

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- International air New York/Cairo/New York
- Domestic Air Cairo/Aswan-Luxor/Sharm El Sheikh-Cairo
- 3 nights accommodation in Cairo at the Marriott Palace Hotel or similar
- 4 days/3 nights 5-star deluxe Nile Cruise
- 6 nights accommodation in Sharm El Sheikh at the Sheraton Hotel and Resort or similar
- 1 night accommodation in Cairo at the Heliopolis Fairmont Hotel or similar
- All transfers: Cairo/Aswan/Luxor/Sharm El Sheikh
- Sightseeing and transfers by deluxe motor coach
- English speaking guide throughout Egypt
- Full day sightseeing Pyramids (entrance into 1 pyramid)/sphinx –Memphis/Sakkara
- Full day sightseeing Egyptian Museum of Antiquities including entrance into the Mummy Room-Citadel, Mosque & Bazaar
- 4 ½ days of dive excursions
- All entrance fees and shore excursions on Nile Cruise
- 14 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 11 dinners
- Hotel taxes and service charges and portorage
- Luggage Tags, Travel Bag, Passport Wallet and 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, soft drinks, coffee, tea (except at breakfast), mineral water, alcoholic beverages, passport fees, gratuities for drivers, guides, transfer personnel, travel insurance, etc...

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

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2009 Tour Costs

	TWIN	SINGLE
April 3-17	\$5595.00	\$6795.00
May 15 – 22	\$5595.00	\$6795.00
May 22- June 5	\$5595.00	\$6795.00
June 5 -19	\$5875.00	\$7075.00
June 19 – July 3	\$5875.00	\$7075.00
July 3 – 17	\$5875.00	\$7075.00
August 7 – 21	\$ 5365.00	\$6565.00
August 21 – September 4	\$ 5365.00	\$6565.00
August 28 – Sep 11	\$ 5365.00	\$6565.00
September 4- 18	\$5315.00	\$6515.00
September 18 – Oct 2	\$5355.00	\$6555.00
September 25 – Oct 9	\$5355.00	\$6555.00
October 9– 23	\$5595.00	\$6765.00
October 23- Nov 6	\$5565.00	\$6555.00
November 6 – 20	\$5475.00	\$6675.00
November 20 –Dec 4	\$5415.00	\$6615.00

Optional Abu Simbel \$215.00

Optional St. Catherine's Monastery \$ 135.00

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