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## Essential Egypt Tour Notes

**Mar 25, 2023 - Apr 6, 2023**

Encompassing Egypt's greatest highlights and a three-day Nile cruise, this adventure enhances a wide variety of included activities with the expertise of our tour guides, through whom you'll gain a greater appreciation of the region's history and archaeological finds. Discover the secrets of the Great Pyramids and explore the Valley of the Kings, then meet local people and share a traditional meal. A combination of air-conditioned transport and domestic flights will get you to the sights (and your comfortable accommodations) quickly and conveniently. From ancient history to bustling modern Cairo, embark on an incredible journey to the very heart of Egypt.

## Trip Summary

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————— **March 25 - Pre-tour day**  
2:00 PM Pre-night accommodation at Safir Hotel Cairo

————— **March 26 - Day 1**  
Welcome to Egypt  
Safir Hotel Cairo

————— **March 27 - Day 2**  
Cairo to Alexandria  
Breakfast  
Cherry Maryski Hotel

————— **March 28 - Day 3**  
Alexandria  
Breakfast  
Cherry Maryski Hotel

————— **March 29 - Day 4**  
Alexandria to Cairo  
Breakfast  
Safir Hotel Cairo

————— **March 30 - Day 5**  
Cairo to Aswan  
Breakfast, Dinner  
Citymax Hotel Aswan

————— **March 31 - Day 6**  
Aswan - Nile Cruise Embarkation  
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
Iberotel Crown Empress Nile Cruise

————— **April 1 - Day 7**  
Aswan - Kom Ombo  
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
Iberotel Crown Empress Nile Cruise

————— **April 2 - Day 8**  
Kom Ombo - Luxor  
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
Iberotel Crown Empress Nile Cruise

————— **April 3 - Day 9**  
Luxor  
Breakfast, Lunch  
Steigenberger Resort Aichti

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**April 4 - Day 10**

Luxor

Breakfast

Steigenberger Resort Achi

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**April 5 - Day 11**

Luxor - Cairo

Breakfast

Safir Hotel Cairo

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**April 6 - Day 12**

Depart Cairo

Breakfast

2:00 PM

Post-night accommodation at Safir Hotel Cairo

## March 25 - Pre-tour day

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**2:00 PM**

### Pre-night accommodation at Safir Hotel Cairo

22 Al Mesaha,  
Sq. Dokki,  
Giza Governorate 3750303,  
Egypt

+20 2 37482424

## March 26 - Day 1

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### Welcome to Egypt

Upon arrival at the airport today you will be met by a local guide and transfer to your hotel. The adventure begins tonight. Feel free to explore before your welcome meeting, but make sure you're back in time to meet the group. After introductions, your tour leader will review the details of your tour. Please note that normal check-in times apply at our start hotels, but you can usually store your luggage for the day if you arrive early.

After a brief introduction meeting we will enjoy a welcome dinner together (not included). If you arrive early there are plenty of things to see and do in this amazing city. Visit the Saladin Citadel of Cairo one of the most popular attractions in the city, or to really get a feel for the place, get lost in the bazaars and join the locals for a coffee in a local cafe.



### Safir Hotel Cairo

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## March 27 - Day 2

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### Cairo to Alexandria

Embark on a guided tour of the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx. Continue to the historic Mediterranean city of Alexandria.

We begin with one of the key highlights of any visit to Egypt, the Great Pyramids of Giza. While once located in remote desert, they now touch the suburbs of modern Cairo. Also visit the mysterious Sphinx, with its lion's body and man's face. In the afternoon we drive to Alexandria, where we will spend the next two evenings.



### Breakfast



### Cherry Maryski Hotel

9 Mohammed Farid,  
Al Mesallah Gharb WA Sharif Basha,  
Al Attarin, Alexandria Governorate 21528, Egypt

+20 3 4881111

## March 28 - Day 3

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### Alexandria

Spend the day exploring this ancient seaside city, including Pompey's Pillar, the catacombs, and the new Alexandria Library. In the afternoon opt to explore the city further on a guided tour, or see the sights at your own pace. It's up to you!

We have plenty of time to explore all the incredible sites this ancient city has to offer. Founded by Alexander the Great around 331BC, Egypt's only Mediterranean city is characterized by a distinctly European atmosphere and a refreshing sea breeze. Don't miss the chance to enjoy an optional seafood dinner at one of the city's many outdoor seaside restaurants this evening.



### Breakfast



### Cherry Maryski Hotel

## March 29 - Day 4



### Alexandria to Cairo

Head back to Cairo, and stop for a tour inside the monasteries of Wadi Natrun en route. In the afternoon explore the treasures of the Egyptian Museum.

Take a tour with a local monk at the the monasteries of Wadi Natrun. The history of the Wadi and its importance to Coptic Christians dates back to the 4th century AD and they constitute some of the earliest Christian monasteries in the world.

With over 10,000 pieces from every period of Egyptian history, including the treasures from the tomb of Tutankhamun, this massive museum is a fantastic place to learn about the country. There is plenty of free time for you to explore on your own.



### Breakfast



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## March 30 - Day 5



### Cairo to Aswan

Catch an early morning flight to Aswan. Opt to explore the busy Aswan market or visit the beautiful Philae Temple. Later, take a scenic felucca ride on the Nile to a Nubian village and enjoy a home cooked dinner with locals.

Aswan has a distinctively African feel to it. Small enough to walk around and graced with the most beautiful setting on the Nile, the pace of life is slow and relaxing.

Late in the afternoon, board a local boat, known as a felucca, to take a trip along the Nile. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the river in this busy port city. Our final stop is on the largest of the Nile islands in this area to enjoy a traditional dinner at a local home.



### Breakfast, Dinner



### Citymax Hotel Aswan

Kornish Al Nile,  
Sheyakhah Thalethah,  
Qism Aswan, Aswan Governorate 1242803, Egypt

+20 97 2492023

## March 31 - Day 6

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### Aswan - Nile Cruise Embarkation

Early in the morning, drive to the famed temples of Abu Simbel for a guided tour. Later, board our river cruise ship for the night. Part historic monument and part modern marvel, Abu Simbel is one of Egypt's grandest temples.

Built during the rule of Ramses the II this structure was almost swallowed by the Nile, but now stands safe and sound thanks to some crafty archaeologists and UNESCO. Travel through Egypt's rugged landscapes and the towering figures of Ramses himself, Ra-Horakhty, Amun, and Ptah will all be waiting to welcome you.

Enjoy floating down the Nile on a luxury river boat with a guided tour of Kom Ombo Temple en route. In between excursions, relax on the outside decks with a drink, watching the passing desert sands.



### Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



### Iberotel Crown Empress Nile Cruise

## April 1 - Day 7

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### Aswan - Kom Ombo

Spend your day floating down the Nile on a luxury river boat with a guided tour of Kom Ombo Temple en route. Relax on the outside decks with a drink, watching the passing desert sands and enjoying the scenery. Following breakfast, we set sail. Before too long it is time for our first shore excursion, with a visit to Kom Ombo, a temple dedicated to Sobek the crocodile god. It still contains an ancient mummified crocodile.



### Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



### Iberotel Crown Empress Nile Cruise

## April 2 - Day 8

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### Kom Ombo - Luxor

Continuing cruising the Nile, relaxing and taking in the desert scenery while observing daily life along the river. Arrive to Luxor in the evening.



### Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



### Iberotel Crown Empress Nile Cruise

## April 3 - Day 9

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### Luxor

Enjoy a guided visit to the Valley of the Kings, the Temple of Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon. Enjoy lunch with a local family on the West Bank of the Nile. After checking in to our hotel, our day starts with a visit to the exciting ancient sites located on Luxor's West Bank and the famed Valley of the Kings. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional lunch in a local family home.

Descend the narrow, rock-hewn corridors and take in the magnificent decoration and designs of the tombs of the pharaohs. While the treasure has now all gone, the tombs contain the incredible paintings of the life of their incumbent and stories from the Book of the Dead. Continue on to visit to the impressive Funerary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, which seems to rise out of the surrounding limestone outcrops – a reminder of the power women held in the Ancient Kingdom. End the day with a stop at the two mammoth statues of Amenophis II at the Colossi of Memnon.



### Breakfast, Lunch



### Steigenberger Resort Achi

Khaled Ibn El Waleed,  
Gazirat Al Awameyah, Luxor,  
Luxor Governorate 85951, Egypt

+20 95 2274544

## April 4 - Day 10



### Luxor

Enjoy an excursion to the magnificent temples of Karnak and Luxor. In the afternoon, use free time to explore the bazaar, museums or opt to take a guided tour of the temples of Habu, Ramsseum and Deir El Medina.

Take in the beauty of the Luxor temple, an architectural splendour located near the Nile and right in the centre of downtown Luxor. One of Egypt's most impressive temples, Luxor has been used as a place of worship all the way from its conception in 1390 BC to present day. Evidence of ancient worship, Coptic Christianity and Islamic architecture are found throughout the temple, illustrating how the regional culture has evolved over several thousand years.



### Breakfast



### Steigenberger Resort Achi

## April 5 - Day 11



### Luxor - Cairo

Catch a flight back to Cairo and enjoy another day exploring this wonderful city. Visit the bazaar, any museums you missed or opt to explore nearby Sakkara and Memphis on a guided tour.



### Breakfast



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## April 6 - Day 12

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### Depart Cairo

Time to say good-bye to this amazing destination and fabulous friends you have made along the way. Transfer to the airport for your flight home as needed.



### Breakfast



**2:00 PM**

### Post-night accommodation at Safir Hotel Cairo

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