

ACACIA HOLIDAYS

History Comes Alive

Small Group Journeys
2021

ITINERARY

History Comes Alive • Small Group Journeys • 2021

DAY 1

ARRIVAL & WELCOME

You will be met upon arrival at Cairo International Airport by an Acacia Holidays representative who will transfer you to your hotel. Purchase your Egyptian visa upon arrival. Few places in the world loom as large in the imaginations of the adventurous as Egypt. Who among us has not dreamed about looking up in awe at the Great Pyramid of Giza or gazing upon the enigmatic Great Sphinx? A favorite chapter of world history, Egypt is home not only to the Pyramids of Giza but a wealth of temples, fortresses, tombs, villages, and cities whose history stretches back nearly five millennia. The Cairo Marriott Hotel is located on Zamalek Island in the heart of Cairo and is built around a Nineteenth Century palace. Marvel at the wonderfully preserved interiors and take refuge from bustling Cairo in the hotel's lush grounds while gazing out upon the Nile from your balcony.



OVERNIGHT: CAIRO MARIOTT HOTEL

MEALS: UNDER OWN ARRANGEMENTS

DAY 2

PYRAMID / SPHINX

This morning, your Egyptologist will escort you to the Great Pyramids of Giza. The only present-day survivors of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, they are among the world's greatest tourist attractions and never lose their ability to inspire and overwhelm visitors. You will be able to enter inside one of these fabulous monuments and explore the mysteries of its ancient past for yourself. Later, you'll head north along the Nile to Memphis and its necropolis of Sakkara.

Sphinx: Enter the temple of the mysterious Sphinx, an ancient figure shrouded in legend and mystery. Your Egyptologist will enthrall you with the tales told of this fascinating figure.

Pyramids of Sakkara & Memphis: Saqqara is one of the most extensive archaeological sites in Egypt. It was the cemetery for Memphis, the capital of the Old Kingdom, yet it is still one of the country's most productive archaeological sites, even though so much has already been found here. The open-air Museum at Memphis is one of the "must see" sites in Egypt and features a massive reclining Ramses II statue.



OVERNIGHT: CAIRO MARIOTT HOTEL

MEALS: B

DAY 3**ASWAN**

After breakfast, you will be transferred back to the airport for your domestic flight up river to Aswan. You'll be greeted upon arrival and transferred to your deluxe Nile River cruise ship, where you'll enjoy lunch on board and meet your cruise director before heading out for an afternoon of sightseeing at the Aswan High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk, and the Philae Temple. End the day with entertainment or an onboard lecture.

Optional Excursion: Abu Simbel, the temples of King Ramses and Queen Nefertari. These irreplaceable temples were raised from the valley floor to avoid the floodwaters of the Aswan Dam. Later, your representative transfers you to the airport for your flight to Cairo via Aswan. The Abu Simbel Temples are two massive rock temples at Abu Simbel, a village in Nubia, southern Egypt, near the border with Sudan. The complex is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site known as the "Nubian Monuments", which run from Abu Simbel downriver to Philae (near Aswan). The twin temples were originally carved out of the mountainside in the 13th century BC, during the 19th dynasty reign of the Pharaoh Ramesses II. They serve as a lasting monument to the king and his queen Nefertari and commemorate his victory at the Battle of Kadesh. Their huge external rock relief figures have become iconic.



OVERNIGHT: ONBOARD CROWN EMPRESS OR SIMILAR

MEALS: B/L/D

DAY 4**KOM OMBO - EDFU**

Begin the day with a sail to Kom Ombo to visit the double temple of the crocodile god Sobek and sun god Haroeris. You will later sail to Edfu and by a horse-drawn carriage, visit the temple of Horus. You will also have time to visit the colorful local bazaars and bargain for mementos of your stay. Lunch will be served on board the cruise. Later, you will sail to Esna where you will overnight while enjoying an Egyptian Galabeya Party.



OVERNIGHT: ONBOARD CROWN EMPRESS OR SIMILAR

MEALS: B/L/D

DAY 5**LUXOR**

After breakfast, you set off to the west bank of Luxor, tour Tutankhamen's tomb in the Valley of the Kings and the Temple of Hatshepsut, the first female pharaoh. The afternoon is spent on the east bank walking among the pillars of Amun Ra Temple the sphinx at Karnark and the Luxor temple.

The **Valley of the Kings** is a valley in Egypt where, for a period of nearly 500 years from the 16th to 11th century BC, rock cut tombs were excavated for the Pharaohs and powerful nobles of the New Kingdom (the Eighteenth to the Twentieth Dynasties of Ancient Egypt). The West Valley has only one open tomb—that of Ay—and a separate ticket is needed to visit this tomb

Tutankhamen's tomb also known as KV62 is the standard Egyptological designation for the tomb of the young pharaoh Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings, now renowned for the wealth of valuable antiquities it contained. The tomb was discovered in 1922 by Howard Carter, underneath the remains of workmen's huts built during the Ramesside Period; this explains why it was largely spared from desecration and from the tomb clearances at the end of the 20th Dynasty. The tomb is open for visitors, at an additional charge above that of the price of general access to the Valley of the Kings.

Hatshepsut's temple is considered the closest Egypt came to Classical architecture. Representative of New Kingdom funerary architecture, it both aggrandizes the pharaoh and includes sanctuaries to honor the gods relevant to her afterlife. The relief sculpture within Hatshepsut's temple recites the tale of the divine birth of a female pharaoh – the first of its kind. The text and pictorial cycle also tell of an expedition to the Land of Punt, an exotic country on the Red Sea coast.

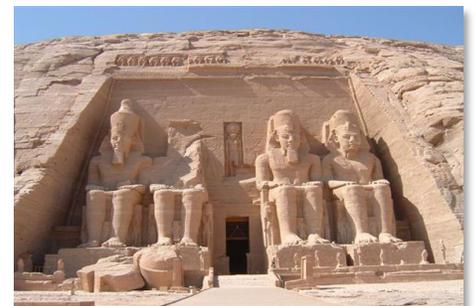


OVERNIGHT: ONBOARD CROWN EMPRESS OR SIMILAR

MEALS: B/L/D

DAY 6**LUXOR - CAIRO**

Today morning spend the morning at leisure within the Nile valley before you check out and are transferred to the airport for your late morning flight to Cairo. Spend the afternoon at leisure to catch up on your postcard writing or souvenir shopping.



OVERNIGHT: CAIRO MARIOTT HOTEL

MEALS: B

DAY 7**CAIRO**

Enjoy a full day Cairo tour with stops the Egyptian National Museum where seven millennia of history comes alive. After lunch (under own account) we head to the medieval Cairo Citadel of Saladin and Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

The **Saladin Citadel of Cairo** is a medieval Islamic fortification in Cairo, Egypt. The location, on Mokattam hill near the center of Cairo, was once famous for its fresh breeze and grand views of the city. It is now a preserved historic site, with mosques and museums. In 1976, it was proclaimed by UNESCO as a part of the World Heritage Site Historic Cairo which was the new center of the Islamic world, reaching its golden age in the 14th century.

The **Egyptian Museum of Antiquities** contains many important pieces of ancient Egyptian history. It houses the world's largest collection of Pharaonic antiquities. The Egyptian government established the museum built in 1835 near the Ezbekeyah Garden and later moved to the Cairo Citadel

The **site of Khan el-Khalili** was originally the site of the mausoleum known as the Saffron Tomb which was the burial site of the Fatimid caliphs. The mausoleum was part of the Fatimid Great Eastern Palace complex, begun in 970 AD by Gawhar al-Siqilli, the general who conquered Egypt for the Fatimid dynasty and founded Cairo that same year. Today, it is mainly occupied by Egyptian shop holders, significantly geared towards tourists buying souvenirs, antiques and jewelry.



OVERNIGHT: CAIRO MARIOTT HOTEL

MEALS: B/L/D

DAY 8**FAREWELL**

A private transfer after breakfast to the Cairo International Airport follows for your scheduled flight back home from. Sadly, the African safari comes to an end but the memories will definitely live forever.

**** END OF ACACIA HOLIDAYS ARRANGEMENTS ****

S U M M A R Y

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ITINERARY: Cairo | Aswan | Kom Ombo | Edfu | Luxor | Cairo Excursions

DURATION: 8 days / 7 nights safari

LAND ONLY (USD)

	05 JAN – 28 FEB	01 MAR – 30 APR	01MAY-30AUG	01 SEP – 15 DEC
Per Person Sharing	\$2,965	\$2,965	\$2,475	\$2,975
Single Room Supplement	\$945	\$945	\$955	\$1,250
Optional Supplement	Abu Simbel Excursions: \$345 per person			

Add 3.5% to all Credit Card payments

Accommodations listed are subject to availability.

A supplemental holiday surcharge of \$45 per person per night will apply for travel over Easter & Christmas holidays.

Costs Include

- Domestic flights: CAI>ASW | LXR>CAI
- English-speaking drivers & guides
- All airport and activity transfers
- All temple and archaeological site general entrance fees
- Entrance fee to access inside of Great Pyramid of Giza
- Entrance fee to access inside Second or Third Giza Pyramids
- Entrance fee to mummy room at Egyptian Museum
- Overnight accommodation and breakfast at Cairo Marriott Hotel
- Overnight accommodation and all meals on board cruise ship
- All Egyptian government taxes and fees
- Flying Doctors evacuation service

Costs Exclude

- **International flights to/from Cairo (CAI)**
- All items of a personal nature
- Laundry
- Tips and gratuities
- Telephone calls
- Egypt entry visa
- Travel insurance
- Camel ride
- Abu Simbel excursion (incl. flights, guides, fees, transfers)
- All other items not mentioned in inclusions

