

# EXPLORE!



## Family Egyptian Adventure

EGYPT - TRIP CODE FNF

FAMILY

### Why book this trip?

This Egyptian family adventure visits the Pyramids, Sphinx and the Egyptian Museum in Cairo where the famous Tutankhamun mask is housed. Heading south to Aswan, board a traditional felucca sailing boat towards Luxor where we visit the famous Karnak Temple and explore the underground tombs in the Valley of the Kings. The trip ends on the Red Sea.

- **Aswan** - Nubian Dinner; camel trek to St. Simeon's Monastery; optional visit to the temples at Abu Simbel
- **Luxor** - Tour of Karnak with transfer by 'calesh'; Valley of the Kings and Hatshepsut Temple
- **Safaga** - Full day boat trip and snorkelling in the Red Sea

**INCLUDED MEALS**

Breakfast: 9  
Lunch: 2  
Dinner: 4

**TRIP STAFF**

Explore Tour  
Leader  
Boat Crew  
Driver(s)

**TRANSPORT**

Bus  
Boat  
Train

**ACCOMMODATION**

2 nights simple  
felucca  
6 nights premium  
hotel  
1 nights simple  
overnight train

**TRIP PACE:**

Moderate

**GROUP SIZE:**

14 - 20

## Itinerary

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Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

### DAY 1 - Join tour Cairo

Arrive in Cairo and check-in at the hotel. Cairo is Africa's second largest capital city and is a vibrant, exhilarating and welcoming city. Home to the best Pharaonic, Coptic and Islamic sites in Egypt, there is an incredible amount to discover here. If you arrive early you may wish to catch your first glimpse of the mighty Nile River, visit the capital's medieval market at Khan el Khalili or walk down the Nile promenade. Alternatively our hotel has a lovely swimming pool so you may just like to relax after your flight.

**ACCOMMODATION:**

Pyramid Park Hotel (or similar)

**Grade: Premium Hotel**



**SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE**



**MEALS PROVIDED: NONE**

### DAY 2 - In Cairo; visit the Pyramids, Sphinx and Egyptian Museum; overnight train to Aswan

Cairo is situated mainly on the east bank of the Nile. This morning we take a short drive to Giza, to visit one of the seven ancient wonders of the world, the Pyramids, among the most impressive man-made

spectacles in the world. Here, you can opt to venture inside one of the main pyramids or take in the Solar Boat Museum, designed to transport the Pharaoh's soul to the afterlife. The complex includes the Sphinx, a crouching lion with a human head carved from solid rock and the splendid Granite Temple. In the afternoon, we move on to the Egyptian Museum, which amongst its 100,000 artefacts contains the extraordinary treasures of Tutankhamun, complete with his Golden Mask. The scale of the exhibit is truly incredible and it is mind boggling to comprehend they were all discovered in his tomb at the Valley of the Kings. There are also two fascinating Mummies Rooms to explore at the museum (extra charge payable).

Later this afternoon we will transfer to the station to catch the overnight sleeper train to Aswan. The individual compartments contain a bench seat which converts into bunk beds. The carriage steward sets this up and provides bed linen, blankets and pillows. Each cabin is lockable and has a night light and cupboard that houses a small sink, shelf, mirror, towel and power socket plus there is a removable table top that folds into the wall. Dinner and breakfast are provided by the carriage steward who delivers the meals directly to you. Two western style toilets are located at the end of each carriage and there are is a communal lounge carriage with a bar serving soft drinks. Some cabins have inter connecting doors so families have access to each other.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Overnight Train: Cairo to Aswan

Grade: Simple Overnight Train



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST AND DINNER

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### **DAY 3 - Arrive in Aswan, free afternoon and Nubian dinner**

We arrive early morning in Aswan, Egypt's most southerly city, traditionally regarded as the frontier post of Upper Egypt. Sited on the east bank, just below the First Cataract, it is the meeting point of Arab culture with Nubia and Black Africa. Due to our early arrival rooms may not be available immediately so we may take a walk around the town and along the Nile promenade with our Tour Leader, acquainting ourselves with the city.

Once at the hotel we have several hours free to relax and enjoy the swimming pool which lies almost directly on the banks of the Nile offering great views of boats and local life. Or you may wish to explore the vibrant local bazaar just a short walk away. Packed full of exotic spices, leather goods and richly decorated crafts it's an ideal place to spend a couple of hours. Alternatively we offer an interesting excursion to the High Dam, Philae Temple and Unfinished Obelisk on this day (please refer to the optional excursion section for details).

Later this afternoon we take a boat and sail to the Nubian Village. Here we meet with a family, learn about their lifestyle and enjoy a traditional dinner in their home, a real highlight for parents and children alike. You may like to bring some small gifts for the children in the village such as notebooks and pencils. This evening we return back to our hotel by boat along the Nile.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Isis Corniche Hotel (or similar)

**Grade: Premium Hotel**



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST AND DINNER

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**DAY 4 - Optional early morning visit to Abu Simbel. Board traditional felucca boat sail towards Kom Ombo**

This morning there is the option to drive through the desert to the fabulous rock-hewn temple of Abu Simbel, a major highlight for many who visit Aswan. Cut into the rock face, this enormous structure was raised 61m to save it from being flooded by the artificial lake that was created by the building of the Aswan High Dam. The 20m high statues represent Ramses II, known as the Great Builder and one of the most powerful Pharaohs of the New Kingdom. For those choosing this option we will need to leave early (around 4.30) , returning to Aswan around 13.30.

For those not opting to travel to Abu Simbel there is the option of visiting St Simeon's monastery by camel. After breakfast transfer by boat across to the West Bank and meet our camel train, our very own 'ships of the desert' and head out to St Simeon's. One of the largest Coptic monasteries in Egypt, St Simeon's was built in the 7th century and finally abandoned in the 13th century. It now sits in splendid isolation at the end of a desert valley, an impressive sight, looking more like a desert fortress than a place of worship. The camel ride is around 45 minutes long before we reach the monastery. After the visit we remount and ride a similar distance further along the bank to our boat which has repositioned to meet us.

On returning to Aswan we board our feluccas straight from the hotel and set sail downstream, travelling through the timeless landscape of the Nile Valley, in the time honoured fashion of the ancient Egyptians themselves. As we sail we see the intensive cultivation of the Nile Valley and at intermittent points there are small villages that depend upon the river for their livelihood. As the golden colours of the late afternoon cast their glow over the land of the Pharaohs we will dock and set up camp beside the river bank. Sleeping on the deck of the feluccas, beneath a blanket of stars, we are rocked to sleep by the gentle waters of the Nile lapping against our boats.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Aboard Felucca (or similar)

**Grade: Simple Felucca**



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST AND DINNER

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## DAY 5 - Full day sailing on the Nile River towards Kom Ombo

This morning we continue our journey slowly down river on our traditional lateen rigged felucca boat, following the fertile green ribbon of the Nile Valley, as it winds through parched desert lands. There is ample time to sit back and enjoy the easy pace watching rural life in front of you. At night we tie up to the riverbank at night and listening to Nubian songs and drums around the campfire.

Traditional felucca additional information:

A felucca is a traditional sailboat used in Egypt, the primary mode of transport on the mighty Nile river and unchanged over the centuries. Feluccas rely entirely on the breeze to make their way up the Nile, typically the breeze picks up during the day and tails off at night, making for a relaxing and tranquil way to travel as we watch life unfold along the river banks.

Sleeping arrangements are on deck, please note sleeping bags are not provided, you can either bring your own or hire locally for £10 per sleeping bag. During the summer months a sleeping bag may not be needed, consider bringing a sleeping bag liner. The maximum capacity is around 7 or 8 people per felucca plus 2 crew, for bigger groups we use two boats.

Toilet facilities: During day it is free style behind a tree; once docked for overnight a toilet tent is set up with a deep hole & toilet seat/chair. Tent is approx two meters high. Toilet paper is provided and burnt prior to leaving the next morning.



### ACCOMMODATION:

Aboard Felucca (or similar)



**Grade: Simple Felucca**



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER

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## DAY 6 - Drive to Kom Ombo temple. Continue to Luxor on the banks of the Nile.

We disembark our felucca after breakfast and transfer by road to the magnificent ruins of the Ptolemaic temple at Kom Ombo. The temple is unique in that it is dedicated to not one, but two gods: Horus, the falcon headed god and Sobek the crocodile god, a useful deity to have on your side given that this stretch of the river was inundated with crocodiles until the early years of the last century! We can use the facilities here before driving on to Luxor, site of the ancient city of Thebes. The drive is approximately 4 hours and we should arrive around mid-afternoon in time to enjoy our hotel pool for a few hours before dinner.



### ACCOMMODATION:

Eatabe Luxor Hotel (or similar)

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## Grade: Premium Hotel



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### **DAY 7 - Visit to Hatshepsut Temple and the Valley of the Kings; afternoon free**

This morning, we cross the Nile and travel by bus to the extraordinary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, Egypt's only female Pharaoh, who usurped the throne from her son, the future Tuthmoses III. The scale of the temple and its magnificent setting are breathtaking, but perhaps even more remarkable are the details; look out for the fine carving of the 'Expedition to the Land of Punt'. We then take a short bus ride to the Valley of the Kings' to explore some of the more important sites made famous in 1922 by the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun by Howard Carter. The tomb entrances are surprisingly large and light, the hieroglyphics an absolute wonder and still so colourful and vivid. We visit three tombs here before returning back across the Nile to our hotel. The afternoon is then free for you to enjoy your time by the pool, enjoy an (optional) donkey trek or wander through Luxor's bazaar.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Eatabe Luxor Hotel (or similar)

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## Grade: Premium Hotel



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### **DAY 8 - Drive to Safaga, visting Karnak Temple en route**

We check out of our hotel and take an early morning excursion to the stunning Temple of Karnak by horse drawn calesh. Dating from around 2000 BC, the scale and grandeur of Karnak is amazing. It covers an area the size of 10 European cathedrals and the 134 pillars of its Hypostyle Hall are a wonder to behold. After our visit here we depart the Nile Valley and head east to the shores of the Red Sea. Crossing the barren mountains of the Eastern Desert we drive to the small town of Safaga, where we will enjoy the delights of a marine wonderland in stark contrast to the desert scenery that surrounds it. There is time to relax and enjoy the dazzling waters immediately outside our hotel. The journey time today is

approximately four hours.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Lotus Bay Hotel (or similar)

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**Grade: Premium Hotel**



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### **DAY 9 - Full day boat trip on the Red Sea**

With over 400 varieties of corals and 1500 species of fish, the Red Sea is a hard act for anyone to follow. There are reef fish of every shade and hue, living amongst the corals, and turtles, rays and small sharks abound in these rich waters. We include a full day's boat trip to the coral reefs around Safaga - it's just like swimming in a tropical fish tank! With a light lunch taken on-board, we will enjoy some leisurely hours swimming, snorkelling or just relaxing, before returning to our hotel for the evening.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Lotus Bay Hotel (or similar)

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**Grade: Premium Hotel**



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

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### **DAY 10 - Tour ends Safaga**

Tour ends in Safaga after breakfast.





MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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## Trip information

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### Country information

#### Egypt

##### Climate

Egypt's climate is hot and dry, typical of a desert environment. In summer it can be very hot and remains hot overnight whereas winter days are milder by comparison and temperatures can drop considerably at night. The mildest area is along the Mediterranean coast with temperatures ranging from 23-31°C in summer and 10-17°C in winter. In the desert region temperatures fluctuate in summer dropping as low as 7°C at night and up to 40°C during the day and in winter it can vary from 0°C at night to 18°C in the day. Aswan is one of the hottest cities with Cairo and Alexandria generally slightly cooler. Egypt receives very little rainfall annually and rainfall in summer is very rare.

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion	Language
+2	2 Pin Round	Islamic, Christian	Arabic

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### Budgeting and packing

#### Optional activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

A selection of optional activities are listed below to help you budget for your Family adventure. Whilst the basic tour price you pay before you travel includes a great selection of highlights, we have also built in free time to allow you the flexibility to choose from a carefully selected range of additional excursions and activities or take time to relax, the choice is yours. At certain destinations along the way there may be several options to choose from and it may not be possible to fit all the activities in; your Explore Leader will be able to give advice on which are the most suitable for your family.

##### Cairo:

For those opting to join the tour earlier and extend your stay in Cairo there are two excursions to consider, Saqqara and Unas Pyramids US\$55 per person and a half Day Islamic Cairo tour US\$40 per person. There isn't time to fit these in during the tour itself.



Aswan:

Day 3: Afternoon excursion by bus and boat to the Philae Temple, Unfinished Obelisk and Aswan High Dam with local guide US\$55 per person.

Day 4: Excursion from Aswan to Abu Simbel by air with local guide US\$350 per person or by bus US\$110 per person,

Day 4: Camel trek to St. Simeon's Monastery with boat crossings US\$40 per person.

Day 4: Aswan Museum US\$5 per person

Luxor:

Day 7: Entry to Tutankhamun's Tomb at Valley of the Kings US\$15 per person

Day 7: Sound & Light Show at Karnak Temple US\$13 per person

Day 7: Afternoon guided visit to Habu Temple and Deir al-Medina US\$60 per person alternatively a non-guided visit to Valley of the Queens US\$40 per person (there isn't enough time to do both excursions)

Day 7: Extended calesh ride into the countryside including a visit to a local bazar (approx 1.5 hours)

US\$22 per person or a donkey ride on the west bank of the Nile US\$20 per person

Day 7: Luxor Museum US\$6 per person

Day 7: Luxor Mummification Museum US\$7 per person

Please note that all optional prices are in US Dollars, though local currency or US Dollars will be accepted. There may be a minimum requirement of passengers on certain optional excursions; your Explore leader will be able to advise.

## Clothing

Egypt is a Muslim country and it is important to dress with respect for local customs. Brief shorts and skirts should be avoided in towns and you should cover your head when entering a mosque. In more traditional towns and market areas we advise women and older girls to wear long loose fitting trousers or skirts and have shoulders covered to avoid unwanted attention. Men should also be aware that shorts are not generally worn by Egyptians.

## Footwear

Comfortable shoes or trainers for sightseeing and donkey/camel rides; plus sandals.

## Luggage

20kg

## Luggage: On tour

One main piece of luggage and a daysac. During the felucca journey, the main baggage is stowed away beneath deck, but is accessible twice a day.

## Equipment

For use on the felucca sailtrek, a 2 season (temperature 0°C to 5°C) sleeping bag is necessary between April and October, 4 season for colder nights between December and February, and a 3 season (temperature -5°C to 0°C) for November and March. It is possible to hire a sleeping bag locally at a cost

of £5.00 if you prefer. You should also bring a mosquito net, this can be hung up over your sleeping area. In addition you also require a water bottle, towel, insect repellent and small torch. Mattresses are provided. There are no shower or toilet facilities on board, a toilet tent will be erected on the river bank. You may also want to bring wet wipes. Please note that on the donkey trek and the camel trek we cannot supply hard hats - if head protection is felt to be necessary please bring your own hat. Ear plugs are recommended for the overnight train from Cairo to Aswan.

## Tipping

### Explore leader

Tipping isn't compulsory, and we work hard to ensure that our leaders all receive a fair wage. However, you might want to recognise a leader that's done a great job or really added to your trip by giving them a tip. We're often asked about the recommended amount. It's a tricky one, and down to personal preference, but we'd recommend between £15 to £20 per family member per week as a guideline.

### Local crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, your leader may organise a group's tips kitty for included activities and meals and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.

Accordingly, you should allow £25.00 per family member.

For all non-included services and meals on your trip please tip independently at your discretion.

## Egypt

### Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price	Dinner price	Beer price	Water price
£6	£8	£1.7	£0.75

### Foreign Exchange

#### Local currency

Egyptian Pound

#### Recommended Currency For Exchange

We recommend that you bring your money in cash, £GBP, US\$ or Euros which are readily changeable.

#### Where To Exchange

Most major towns - your tour leader will advise you on arrival.

### **ATM Availability**

You may also bring an ATM card, as these are available in main towns. Please contact your bank prior to travelling to determine if your card will work in Egypt.

### **Credit Card Acceptance**

Credit cards are rarely accepted. Please contact your bank prior to travelling to determine if your card will work in Egypt.

### **Travellers Cheques**

You may find it useful to bring some Travellers Cheques as a back up.

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## **Transport, Accommodation & Meals**

### **Transport Information**

Bus, Boat, Train

### **Accommodation notes**

**Cairo:** Located on the outskirts of the hectic city of Cairo, the four star Pyramid Park resort hotel is located just ten minutes away from the Great Pyramids of Giza and within walking distance of the new Egyptian Museum opening in late 2018. The hotel features a large reception area with a choice of bars and four restaurants, a modern gym and extensive gardens and terrace area. There is a lovely pool with the hotel rooms located around it. Free Wi fi is available for hotel guests.

**Luxor:** The Isis Cornich hotel is located right on the banks of the Nile River, on the main promenade running through Aswan. This hotel has an excellent swimming pool, ideal for cooling off and relaxing after the train journey from Cairo. All bungalow style rooms overlook the hotel gardens and have air conditioning and cable TV. There is a riverside terrace to have breakfast enjoy a coffee and look out onto the bustling river traffic on the Nile. Complimentary wi-fi is available in the lobby.

**Aswan:** Situated on the East bank of the Nile, the four star Eatabe Luxor Hotel is ideal for families, located in the heart of Luxor with easy access to all the main sights. The hotel has a fantastic swimming pool as well as extensive facilities including an ATM, tennis courts, free wi-fi and large terrace area overlooking the Nile promenade and river beyond.

**Red Sea, Abu Souma Bay in Safaga.** The Lotus Bay resort lies along a sandy beach on the Red Sea and has extensive gardens and a vast swimming pool to relax and soak the sunshine. The hotel boasts a host of water sport activities, snorkelling and extensive health club.

Traditional felucca additional information:

**Toilet facilities:** During day it is free style behind a tree; once docked for overnight a toilet tent is set up with a deep hole & toilet seat/chair. Tent is approx 2m high. Toilet paper is provided & this is burnt prior to leaving the next morning.

**Sleeping bags:** please note sleeping bags are not provided, you can either bring your own or hire locally for £10 per sleeping bag, if you wish to hire a sleeping back please notify us at least 14 days prior to

travel.

Sleeping arrangements: We sleep on deck.

Crew normally sleep inside a small room at the front of the boat.

Meals provided are similar to the below:

Breakfast: Omlett, OR boiled egg, Jam, Honey, bread, fava beans, tea & biscuits, white feta cheese, fried bread....

Lunch: picnic lunch of Salad, Tuna, bread, cheese, fava beans, shakshouka,

Dinner: grilled chicken OR Kofta OR fried fish with rice, cooked vegetables, bread, and fruits

Tea and coffee is free during sail, felucca supplies other drinks like Mineral water (small bottles) beer, juice, soft drinks. Honesty tab is set up for these & customer settles their bill later.

Luggage:

Big bags with valuable belongings and passport go deep under felucca racks with access to them twice a day, once in the morning just after wake up and once when docking for the night just before sunset. Daily bags with things needed during the day (book, glasses, camera, sun cream, towel ...etc.) are stored close to hand under racks and customers have access to these at all times. Bags are secured and safe during day and night.

Capacity - Around 7 people per felucca plus 2 crew.

## **Family swimming**

All hotels have pools and we have the chance to swim in the Red Sea.

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## **Essential Information**

### **FCO Advice**

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

### **Under 18 immigration guidance**

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

### **Price Guarantee**

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

## **Visa and Passport Information**

**Egypt:** An entry visa is required by all nationalities. UK citizens can obtain a visa on arrival at the airport for the current cost of 25USD. Please note, you must purchase a visa stamp at one of the nearby banks before proceeding to the immigration desk.

Alternatively you can obtain a single entry E-visa prior to departure via the e-visa website:

<https://www.visa2egypt.gov.eg/eVisa>. You will need to print a copy of your e-visa approval letter and present this with your passport and final documents at immigration upon your arrival. The approval letter will take a minimum of 7 days to be processed so we strongly advise for you to apply within plenty of time before your departure. You will be permitted to stay within Egypt for up to 90 days. We strongly recommend for you to read the How to Apply and FAQ sections on the e-visa website before applying.

Please ensure you read the FCO advice if anyone in your family is travelling with prescribed medication.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See [www.travcour.com](http://www.travcour.com) to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

## **Booking conditions**

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and Booking Conditions.

## **Transfers**

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

### **Booking a land only package with Explore**

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

### **Joining Tour Abroad**

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The complimentary transfers will be arranged from the Explore designated airport or train station to your trips joining point, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. Generally the airport or station that Explore have selected will be the one that is closest to the town or city where the trip starts, or the one nearest to the joining point. It will be either an airport or train station but not both.

The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at

an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

## **Insurance**

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

## **Flight information**

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. Read more about them [here](#).

### **Flight Information**

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

### **Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore**

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

## **Ability to swim**

An ability to swim is essential for your safe enjoyment of the water based activities on this trip. If you wish to participate in these activities then we insist that you are able to swim.

## **Egypt**

### **Vaccinations**

Nothing compulsory but we recommend protection against typhoid, tetanus, infectious hepatitis and polio. Though malaria does exist in Egypt it is not normally found in the areas in which we travel. Please note that all travellers aged over 9 months old will be required to supply a yellow fever certificate if you have travelled from or have transited via a country with a risk of yellow fever transmission. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by

following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

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## Family information



Felucca on the banks of the River Nile



Our Explore Leader, Philae temple

### **Land of the Pharaohs, an Egyptian family adventure.**

Egypt holds a unique fascination for children. Inspired by learning about the ancient Egyptians in school, the country is purpose built for a family holiday packed full of highlights and only a short flight away from the UK. Experience 6000 years of history including the colossal Pyramids of Giza, the Valley of the Kings and ancient temples that are thousands of years old.

A highlight for many is the cruise down the Nile on a traditional lateen-rigged felucca boat. Sit back on board and watch the countryside slip by, when darkness descends our crew prepare a traditional meal and campfire on the banks of the Nile before we drift off

to sleep on deck under the stars.

*Is it a good time to travel to Egypt?* Caroline Haines from the Explore Product team travelled to Egypt in March 2018 and commented 'almost as soon as I arrived what became abundantly clear was how uncrowded all the sites were. On arriving at the Valley of the Kings we collected our ticket and walked straight to the entrance of the first tomb. Our Explore leader explained this would have been unheard of ten years ago. We had the same experience at the Giza Pyramids in Cairo, one of the great wonders of the world.'

**Triple Rooms:** This trip allows the option for triple rooms to be included within the booking on all nights of this trip except the felucca and overnight train. If you would like this option, please ask our Sales team for further information.

**Average Age:** As a guide we have identified the actual average age of the children who have travelled on this trip over the last 5 years, to help you decide whether it's the right one for your family. The average age on this trip is 11 years old; this trip is suitable for children of all ages, including younger children.

