

# EXPLORE!



## Felucca Sailing on the Nile + Red Sea Extension

EGYPT - TRIP CODE NFR

BOAT JOURNEYS

### Why book this trip?

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Pioneered by Explore over 35 years ago, this adventurous 10 day trip visits Egypt's most famous sites, including the Pyramids at Giza; the oldest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. An overnight train journey will be followed by sightseeing in Aswan before spending time sailing along the lifeline of the country; The Nile River. Travelling upriver in traditional, lateen-rigged feluccas, the experience will be a chance to unwind whilst watching the daily life that occurs on the river banks and to escape from normality by sleeping out on deck under a starlit sky. After time exploring Luxor's Valley of the Kings, travel to Safaga for three of relaxation and sunshine by the azure waters of the Red Sea.



**INCLUDED MEALS**  
Breakfast: 12  
Lunch: 3  
Dinner: 4



**TRIP STAFF**  
Explore Tour  
Leader



**TRANSPORT**  
Bus  
Boat  
On Foot  
Train



**ACCOMMODATION**



**TRIP PACE:**  
Full on



**GROUP SIZE:**  
10 - 16

## Itinerary

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

## Trip information

### 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

### 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 Egyptian 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 this.

#### Luxor -

Habu Temple and Workers Tomb USD \$60.00 per person

Villages calesh ride (2-hours) USD \$22.00 per person

Entry to Tutankhamun's Tomb at Valley of the Kings USD \$15.00 per person

Karnak Sound and Light Show USD \$13.00 per person

Donkey trek (2-hours) USD \$20.00 per person

Guided visit to Valley of the Queens and Deir al-Medina USD \$55.00 per person

Luxor Museum USD \$6.00 per person

Luxor Mummification Museum USD \$7.00 per person

#### Aswan -

Camel trek to St. Simeon's Monastery with boat crossings USD \$40.00 per person

Guided tour to Philae Temple, Obelisque and Aswan High Dam including bus and boat transfers USD \$55.00 per person

Felucca cruise USD \$15.00 per person

Dinner in a Nubian Village including return boat journey USD \$25.00 per person

Abu Simbel (from Aswan) -

Excursion from Aswan by bus USD \$110.00 per person or by air USD \$350.00 per person.

(The Abu Simbul excursion will be booked and payment take on the first day of the trip).

#### Cairo -

Saqqara and Unas Pyramids USD \$55.00 per person

Half day Islamic Cairo USD \$40.00 per person

Entrance to Solar Boat Museum USD \$6.00 per person

Mummies Rooms in Egyptian Museum USD \$14.00 per person

#### Safaga

Full day snorkelling boat trip USD \$40 per person

Scuba Diving USD \$85 per person

Please note that all optionals prices are in US Dollars, though local currency, sterling and US Dollars are accepted. There is a minimum requirement of 5 passengers on some of the optionals. The above prices include transportation and local guides where necessary.

## Clothing

Egypt has two seasons, a mild summer and a hot summer, so light, comfortable clothing is recommended for sightseeing and exploring the cities.

However, the nights and early mornings can get cold, so we'd suggest layering up and packing a jumper and/or scarf.

Don't forget swimwear if planning to use any hotel pools or to cool off in the Nile.

Please note, women are advised not to wear shorts or dresses that are too revealing as this can attract unwelcome attention in the streets of Muslim towns - loose fitting trousers or slacks are ideal. Women should also cover their head and shoulders when entering a mosque and men should wear long trousers.

## Footwear

Comfortable shoes and sandals are recommended.

## Luggage

20kg

## 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 person 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 £30.00 per person for group tipping

## 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, On Foot, Train

### **Accommodation notes**

This trip makes use of simple accommodation throughout. Our hotels in Cairo and Aswan are both centrally located in the busier urban areas and shops, restaurants and some attractions are easily accessible on foot. While in Luxor we will be staying on the quieter side of the river in a small family-run hotel, with a pool and a rooftop restaurant with views over the Nile, to make the most of the nearby location to the historic sites.

On the overnight train between Cairo and Aswan we use sleeper compartments, each containing 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 a small sink, shelf, mirror, towel and power socket plus there is a removable table top that folds into the wall. Dinner and breakfast is delivered directly to you. Two western style toilets are located at the end of each carriage and there is a communal lounge carriage with a bar serving soft drinks.

During our three nights on the Nile, depending on the group size we will have one or two feluccas manned by the local crew and captain. Sleeping arrangements are simple, sleeping on mattresses out on the deck of the boat with sleeping bags. Sleeping bags can be rented for £10 per person per night and to book this you must notify Explore at least 14 days prior to travel, otherwise we're unable to guarantee there will be a sleeping bag available.

During the daytime the boat will moor regularly giving the chance to find a private spot for comfort breaks, while each evening the felucca will be moored for the night and a camp toilet will be built by the crew for a little more privacy.

On the felucca, there will be three meals prepared per day. As an example, breakfast will be of eggs, bread and preservatives, lunch will be a picnic often including tuna or cheese with salad and bread, and evenings meals will be a barbecue of meat or fish in the evenings. Dietary issues can be catered for with advance notice. Complimentary tea and coffee will be available throughout the time on the felucca and all other drinks will be paid for on-board using a honesty bar system.

Luggage will be stored in the bottom of the boat and will be accessible twice per day, so we recommend having a day pack where you can store the things you need during the day. The next few days are subject to change in timings and running order because our pace will be decided by weather conditions and the river's current.

Our hotel in Safaga is larger resort style hotel of a premium grade. The hotel has excellent facilities, including a bar and a pool with direct access to the beach.

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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 you are 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.

## **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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## **Additional Information**



## Why book this trip

As well as a chance to see Egypt's world-famous highlights, including the pyramids and Valley of the Kings, a three night felucca sailing is an opportunity to experience the other Egypt: the quieter, more traditional and natural side. Be rocked to sleep by the river and woken by the sunrise, and spend the time between reading and taking in the views. Explore the ancient sites of Luxor before a four-day extension on the Red Sea Coast to relax, snorkel and make the most of the tropical beaches.



**AWARD WINNING  
EXPLORE LEADERS**



**PRICE GUARANTEE  
PROMISE**



**AIRPORT  
TRANSFERS**