

# EXPLORE!



## Nile Felucca Saitrek + Red Sea Extension

EGYPT - TRIP CODE NFR

BOAT JOURNEYS

### Why book this trip?

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Pioneered 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**  
 3 nights simple  
 felucca  
 5 nights standard  
 hotel  
 3 nights premium  
 hotel  
 1 nights simple  
 overnight train



**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.

### DAY 1 - Join trip in Cairo

Arrive in Cairo and check-in at our hotel. As flights will be arriving throughout the day, the official welcome meeting will take place on the morning of day two but your local guide will be around to greet you and help with any queries this evening.

As one of the largest cities on the African continent, there is plenty to explore if you arrive earlier in the day. Find a seat at one of the riverside cafes alongside the locals and sip on a strong Egyptian coffee while watching the hubbub of life going on along the water, or perhaps find a hole-in-the-wall eatery that serves traditional hawawshi - Arabic bread stuffed with mince meat and spices . Alternatively, take some time to relax before the trip kicks off tomorrow.



**ACCOMMODATION:**  
 Santana Hotel - NF tour (or similar)

**Grade: Standard Hotel**



**SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE**



**MEALS PROVIDED: NONE**

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## DAY 2 - Explore the Pyramids and Egyptian Museum in Cairo

After breakfast and our welcome meeting, we will start a very busy day visiting some of Egypt's most famous sites. This morning we depart Cairo on a short drive to Giza, where we'll spend around three hours exploring the Pyramids and Sphinx complex; home to one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World. Our local guide will talk us through the ancient and recent history of this world-famous site, followed by some free time to wander around the complex. Later on we make a brief visit to the papyrus institute, where we will be guided through the detailed process of ancient paper making, before taking a break for a well-deserved lunch.

This afternoon we explore the Egyptian Museum, which displays over 100,000 Egyptian artefacts, including the mask of Tutankhamun. The collection began in 1835 when the ruler of that period, Muhammad Ali, banned all export of antiquities upon realisation of their cultural (and monetary!) value. The museum will bring Egypt's ancient history to life and will offer a great introduction ahead of our journey.

This evening we'll make our way to Giza railway station to catch the overnight train to Aswan. We'll be travelling in sleeper cabins made up with two single beds in a bunk-bed style and a small hand basin. Bedding is supplied and dinner is served on the train. There are two communal toilets in each carriage.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Overnight Train: Cairo to Aswan

Grade: Simple Overnight Train



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST AND DINNER

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## DAY 3 - Free day to explore Aswan; choose to visit Philae Temple

We arrive into Aswan around 8am and have plenty of time to explore. Once the gateway to Nubia and the last frontier of Ancient Egypt, Aswan is sited on the First Cataract of the Nile and offers a noticeable change in pace from Cairo. Here the river shallows and runs lazily northbound past palm trees, meandering around large boulders and small islands. On the East Bank the urban area of Aswan is bustling much like any other Egyptian city albeit a little more low-key, while on the West Bank traditional, Nubian village life carries on as the boats sail past.

A 30 minute walk along the river from our hotel, The Nubian Museum is worth a visit to learn more about the colourful culture that is believed to have stemmed from one of the first civilisations on the African continent or take a relaxed wander along the Nile to watch life playing out on the water and fishing boats.

This afternoon there is the option to visit the High Dam, Philae Temple, also known as the Temple of Isis,

and the Unfinished Obelisk. The High Dam is a controversial piece of engineering created to prevent high and low flooding along the Nile, but sadly it's construction led to many archaeological sites being lost under the waters of Lake Nasser. The Temple of Isis on Philae island was one of the sites saved during the flooding, and now stands proudly on the small neighbouring island of Agilkia after being broken down into 50,000 pieces and reassembled. The Ancient Egyptians are world-renowned for being advanced when it comes to ancient architecture and a giant example of this is the ancient stone Unfinished Obelisk.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Marhaba Hotel (or similar)



**Grade: Standard Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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#### **DAY 4 - Explore Aswan at leisure; chance to visit Abu Simbel**

Today will be free to continue exploring of Aswan or to visit Abu Simbel.

Situated a short walk from our hotel, a visit to Aswan's old souk, known locally as Sharia el Souq, is recommended. Be a part of the busy, daily goings-on in the colourful market place where everything from spices to cotton and perfumes to colourful Nubian baskets are sold. Be prepared to bargain and for a more authentic market experience visit later in the afternoon or early evening when the locals tend to shop.

Alternatively, today you may choose to visit Temples of Abu Simbel. Sitting near the border with Sudan, there will be an option to join a coach excursion or take a short internal flight to the small Nubian Town of Abu Simbel, home to two of Egypt's most famous archaeological sites; Ramesses II and The Small Temple of Nefertari. These giant structures were carved into the limestone cliffs at the instruction of the Egyptian King Ramesses II himself to mark his alleged win at the Battle of Kadesh. Hidden in the sand for hundreds of years, it is said that Abu Simbel is the name of a young Nubian boy that led European explorers to the temples in the early 1800s, where they had stood for 3,000 years before being famously moved to make way for Lake Nasser and the High Dam in the 1960s.



ACCOMMODATION:

Marhaba Hotel (or similar)

**Grade: Standard Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### **DAY 5 - Opportunity to visit to St Simeon's Monastery; sleep on a traditional felucca**

Early this morning there will be an option to ride a camel through the desert to St Simeon's Monastery for a guided tour. This 7th century monastery was said to be home to over 1,000 monks, who travelled from here into Nubia to convert the inhabitants to Christianity. Fortress-like in its style, the structure is a mix of stone and mud-brick and is said to have been built around a pillar which St Simeon once stood upon to hear divine instructions and advice from above. The monastery was later abandoned due to lack of drinking water and repeated raids by Muslim tribes.

Later this morning we will board our home for the next three nights; a traditional felucca sailing boat. We will spend the afternoon sailing down the Nile and it will be a chance to absorb just how important this river is to the Egyptians. After sunset, we'll enjoy a barbecue with the crew before our first night sleeping under the stars. This felucca experience is a simple one but will reward us with a chance to travel towards Luxor as many Egyptians have before, as well as providing the perfect opportunity to see the more rural side of Egypt, listening to children singing along the riverbank by sunset and falling asleep to the gentle rock of the river.

Depending on the group size we will have one or two feluccas manned by the local crew and captain. There will be shaded areas on the deck to escape the midday sun and at night everyone will sleep out on the deck in sleeping bags (bring your own or you can arrange to hire one at the time of booking this trip). 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. Our crew will make three meals a day; breakfast, a picnic lunch, and often a barbecue of meat or fish in the evenings. These are just examples of the style of food and 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 an 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.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Aboard Felucca (or similar)



Grade: Simple Felucca



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER

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### **DAY 6 - Visit Kom Ombo Temple; continue sailing downriver**

Wake up to the sun rising over the river this morning and enjoy a breakfast prepared by the crew. Breakfast will often be a section of eggs, jam, honey, cheese and bread with a side of fava beans for an Egyptian twist.

Today we will set sail to Kom Ombo Temple, unusual because of its double design, this once symmetrical temple was dedicated to two different Gods. One of these Gods was Sobek, the 'crocodile God', which explains why 300 mummified crocodiles were found at the site, some of which can still be seen. Since being constructed over 2,000 years ago the temple has been impacted by floods, earthquakes and materials being stolen but the ruins still exhibit great craftsmanship. Most recently, in September 2018 a sandstone sphinx was discovered and the search continues.

The rest of the day will be spent on the felucca, with occasional stops to visit small riverside communities or for a swim to cool off. Each day, timings will be flexible depending on the current of the river, so your local guide will give regular information.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Aboard Felucca (or similar)



Grade: Simple Felucca



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER

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### **DAY 7 - Full free day on the felucca with swimming stops**

Today will be truly relaxing. A full free day on the felucca as we continue north towards Luxor, only broken up by stops at small villages or to have a dip in the Nile. From the felucca we will be able to see how much of life in Egypt hasn't changed for thousands of years and timeless traditions carry on untouched by tourism and the modern western culture we are attuned to. Donkeys and goats walk along the banks, children wave excitedly, and elder generations sit in the shade wearing traditional gallibiyahs and head scarfs to protect themselves from the warm sunshine.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Aboard Felucca (or similar)

Grade: Simple Felucca



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER

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### DAY 8 - Sailing towards Luxor; afternoon visit to Karnak Temple by calesh

A slow start this morning to make the most of our final few hours on the Nile before we moor for the last time to meet our vehicle to head into Luxor. Built upon the ruins of the once powerful Greek city of Thebes, there is evidence of Luxor's rich past whichever way you turn. Like Aswan, Luxor is a city of two halves split by the river. The east side is more urbanised with a great selection of shops and restaurants including well-recognised western brands, while the west is quieter with fewer restaurants serving more traditional fare. During our time in the city we will be staying on the more tranquil West Bank in a small, family-run hotel and crossing the Nile to the busier East Bank is easy, cheap and possible at all times of the day and night. Our hotel offers transfers across the river free of charge at set times.

This afternoon we'll make our way by traditional horse-drawn carriages, known locally as a calesh, to the Karnak Temple Complex. Once there we will spend a couple of hours exploring what was once Egypt's most important place of worship and depending on which research you read dates back somewhere between 1,500 - 4,000 years depending. The complex is made up of temples, the most important being The Temple of Amun Ra, houses of royalty and large sphinx lined avenues, and although many of the structures are in varying levels of ruin it only takes a while of wandering around to imagine the bustling community it once was. It is believed that during its peak there were some 80,000 servants working here, pillars were brightly and ornately painted and lush gardens covered much of the grounds.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Nile Valley Hotel (or similar)

Grade: Standard Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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## DAY 9 - Temple of Hatshepsut and the Valley of the Kings

Arguably Egypt's most well known site, this morning we will visit the Temple of Hatshepsut and the Valley of the Kings. Pharaoh Hatshepsut is believed to be the most successful reigning female power of Egypt, no mean feat during Ancient Egyptian times, and was buried alongside her male counterparts in the Valley of the Kings. Historians throughout modern history offer contrasting information about her reign but walking into the shadow of Hatshepsut's immense temple, which is built into the limestone rock face on Luxor's West Bank, is a key symbol of her achievements. The structure has been carved into the rocks under rugged cliffs and is unexpectedly modern by design, it was once linked directly with Karnak Temple on the East Bank and was approached by a 30 metre wide avenue.

We will later transfer to the world-famous Valley of the Kings, most well known as the burial site of Tutankhamun discovered in 1922 by British Egyptology Howard Carter, along with another 62 royal tombs. Our visit includes entrance to three of the tombs which will be decided on the day, as many are periodically closed for resting and renovation to protect them. After the three, there will be an option to pay a supplement to visit Tutankhamun's.

Returning to our hotel the rest of the afternoon will be free to continue exploring. The West Bank offers a relaxed atmosphere, and visitors will often find themselves wandering down the dirt roads with few cars and past herds of goats grazing on the water's edge. Alternatively, make use of the hotel pool or rooftop bar with views across to the East Bank before our final group meal.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Nile Valley Hotel (or similar)



Grade: Standard Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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## DAY 10 - Transfer to Safaga by road

This morning say goodbye to our Explore leader and leave Luxor to make our way to Safaga on the Red Sea. The drive takes around 4 hours, so we will have the afternoon to relax when we reach the hotel.





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ACCOMMODATION:  
Lotus Bay Hotel (or similar)

Grade: Premium Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### DAY 11 - Optional snorkelling in the Red Sea

The Red Sea is famous for its superb coral reefs and multi-coloured fish. Schools of beautifully marked and iridescent species swim alongside barracudas and small sharks. There is the option to book a snorkelling trip by boat (6 to 8 hours) over the coral reefs around Safaga. Scuba diving is another possibility or you may prefer to simply laze on the beach or by the pool and enjoy the hotel facilities.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Lotus Bay Hotel (or similar)

Grade: Premium Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### DAY 12 - Free day relaxing in Safaga

Your time is your own; you can take it easy relaxing on the beach or by the pool and just enjoy your beautiful surroundings.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Lotus Bay Hotel (or similar)

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**Grade: Premium Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### **DAY 13 - Tour ends in Safaga**

Your trip ends after breakfast in Safaga.



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 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

#### 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

Abu Simbel (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).

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 you 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 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.



**AWARD WINNING  
EXPLORE LEADERS**



**PRICE GUARANTEE  
PROMISE**



**AIRPORT  
TRANSFERS**