

# Family Egypt Adventure Holiday

Trip Code: FEA

Version: FEA Family Egypt Adventure



**MULTI ACTIVITY** 



**FAMILY** 





#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Visit the Sphinx, the Great Pyramid, and discover the Egyptian Museum's incredible artefacts
- Travel by overnight sleeper train to Aswan and visit a Nubian Village
- Kayak and sail a felucca on the River Nile
- Explore Karnak Temple and hunt for hidden Pharaoh tombs in the Valley of the Kings
- Enjoy a snorkelling boat trip in the Red Sea

#### AT A GLANCE

- 9 days sightseeing and adventure
- Kayaking on the Nile
- Sailing on a felucca
- Red Sea boat ride
- Visit famous Egyptian sites
- Join at Cairo, ends Hurghada

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS**

- 8 Breakfasts
- 3 Lunches
- 5 Dinners
- 7 nights Hotel with swimming pool
- 1 nights Sleeper Train

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

## Introduction

The world-renowned history and culture of Egypt brings classroom history alive on this family holiday! We'll experience all the sounds and sites, and have time to relax on the famous River Nile and at the Red Sea. We begin in Cairo with the Great Pyramids, the Sphinx and a visit to the incredible Egyptian Museum, home to Tutankhamun's iconic golden deathmask. We then trundle to Aswan on the overnight sleeper train to meet Nubian villagers, kayak on the River Nile and enjoy a peaceful sail on a traditional felucca boat.

At Luxor we are back with the ancient Egyptians seeing their incredible temples and structures which are around 4000 years old. Karnak Temple, the Avenue of the Sphinxes, the Great Temple of Amun and the Valley of the Kings will inspire the young and old alike. After stopping at the vast Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, one of Egypt's greatest female Pharaohs, our special itinerary ends in Hurghada, at the Red Sea, giving you a couple of days to relax and for the children to unwind and enjoy the swimming pool and sea. This is a perfect end and contrast to this holiday where the start is jam packed with the incredible sights and ancient history that this fascinating country has to offer.

## Is this holiday for you?

#### Suitable for children from 6yrs old

This holiday stays in good tourist class hotels with swimming pools. There is one night when on a sleeper train (see accommodation for further information).

Many days will be walking/sightseeing at ancient Egyptian sites which could be hot and dusty in the summer months. These visits are usually just half a day and utilise the hotel facilities to cool off in the afternoon.

The kayaking is suitable for beginners and all safety equipment is provided. Single and double kayaks are available. For any activities which involve going on the water all participants should be able to swim. For the short 30 minute cycle ride, helmets are provided and there will be a selection of sized bikes. The

vehicle will stay with the group if participants don't wish to cycle.

For the transfers we shall use comfortable air-conditioned minibuses.

## **Itinerary**

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DAY 1

## Arrive Cairo. Single transfer to the hotel.

A single transfer is provided from Cairo Airport to the hotel in Cairo. Your Egyptian guide for the holiday will either do a briefing this evening or in the morning, depending when the group arrives. The hotel is situated midway between the airport and Giza on the banks of the River Nile. If you arrive earlier in the day there are plenty of things to see and do in this interesting city which is steeped in ancient history and mixed with the modern.



#### Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 2

## The Pyramids, the Sphinx, the Egyptian Museum and overnight train to Aswan.

For parents and adults alike the sights you will see today you will never forget. The Pyramids are so famous and iconic. The first impression will be just the vast scale of them and the Sphinx. We will learn from our guide about how they were build and why it was important to transport the Pharaoh's souls to the afterlife. There is the opportunity to see inside the Great Pyramid or the small pyramid (not included). This afternoon we visit the Egyptian Museum. The rooms here contain one of the world's largest collections of antiquities and incredible treasures of the ancient Egyptian world. It is fascinating. We see the treasures of Tutankhamun tomb including his Golden Death Mask. In the early evening today's adventure continues as we arrive at the train station for our overnight sleeper train experience. Our 2 person compartments are converted by the steward into bunk beds at night time, after serving dinner at your seat. The beds are made up with bed linen, blankets and pillows. The train journey takes 13-15 hours, and we arrive into Aswan at dawn. Journeying through the night on the train is a tremendously exciting way to travel.

Meals: **B D** 



#### Accommodation

Sleeper Train

DAY 3

## Aswan. Kayaking on the Nile, afternoon visit to a Nubian village.

On arrival into Aswan train station we are almost 900km south of Cairo and ready to start the next part of our adventure. We head to the Nile for a kayaking session. The waters here are clear and the air is cool and fresh at this time in the morning. Kayaking on the Nile is really special and allows us to experience a true sense of the way life works here. Our kayak trip is 1 hour and is suitable for beginners. There is an option to visit the Philae Temple today (not included). We then have some downtime at the hotel with swimming pool before our afternoon activity. This afternoon we visit a Nubian village. The central Nile Valley is thought to be one of the earliest cradles of civilisation and the Nubians are the indigenous people from this area. Modern day Nubian culture is interesting and we join a family for dinner and get an insight into the daily life. Here you see a different side of Egyptian life, try out some wonderful Nubian dishes.

Meals: BD



#### Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool



## Aswan, Nile Felucca boat trip.

After breakfast at the hotel we board our felucca for a 4 hour trip on this beautiful traditional wooden boat. No trip to Egypt would be complete without a journey on these iconic little boats with their large white sails which have been part of life on the Nile since ancient times. Used less and less by the locals for travelling along the river, these boats are now made comfy for holidaymakers with colourful cushions and a canvas shelter to provide shade from the sun. We enjoy lunch on the felucca as we drift peacefully down the river. We pass Elephantine Island with its ruins of the Ram god, Khnum's, temple and see plenty of people going about their daily life on the river banks including farmers with their Nile buffalo, cows, donkeys and of course the fishermen on the river. The rest of the afternoon is free to relax and make use of the swimming pool at the hotel. There is an option to visit Abu Simbel Temples today (not included).

Meals: B L



#### Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 5

### Luxor. Visit the vast and grand Karnak Temple.

We wave goodbye to Aswan and travel by road north to Luxor, approximately 4 hours away. Today we are once again absorbed in the immense history of Egypt with a visit to the Karnak Temple, dating from around 2000 BC. The site is vast and our passionate guide will fill us with stories and legends about the

obelisks, chapels, Avenue of Sphinxes and the Great Temple of Amun. The contrasts of ancient and modern are again revealed as we check into our comfortable hotel with swimming pool. Optional visit to Luxor Temple (not included).

Meals: B



#### Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 6

## Luxor, Valley of the Kings, Temple of Hatshepsut, Colossi of Memnon.

An early start today. We cross the river to the west bank and start our day with a short (30 mins) cycle ride before the weather gets hot (helmets and different sized bikes provided). We then drive the short distance to the Valley of the Kings and visit the three royal tombs to learn about the funerary rites of the ancient Egyptians and see the paintings and hieroglyphics. We then go to the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, arguably the most decorated queen of Egypt. Built around 1470 BC the aim was to show her grandeur, compared with male predecessors, and immortalise her name, which as you will see, it certainly has done. It is considered one of the worlds' greatest masterpieces of ancient architecture. Before we leave the area we visit the Colossi of Memnon, 17 m high statues used to flank the funerary temple of King Amenhotsep. We have lunch with a local family and take time to reflect on the otherworldly, magical places that we have visited. We will have a quieter afternoon where you may wish to explore independently, or spend a relaxing afternoon back at the hotel. This evening we settle in for our final night in our hotel in Luxor.

Meals: BLD



#### Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 7

# Transfer to Hurghada for sun, sea and relaxing at this waterside resort on the Red Sea.

After breakfast today, we embark on a four hour drive to the Red Sea coastal resort of Hurghada. Here we check into our hotel with swimming pool next to the beach for the next two nights. Dusting off our explorer clothes, we have the afternoon at leisure, to enjoy the waters of the beautiful and warm Red Sea, or perhaps to check in and simply relax by the pool. Both pool and beach provide great options for relaxing and unwinding, or for the active kids, plenty of opportunity to swim, jump and play.

Meals: **B D** 



#### Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 8

# Beneath the waves off the coast of Hurghada for snorkelling session in the offshore reefs.

Today we are treated to a snorkelling boat trip. We head out from Hurghada to an offshore coral reef. You'll have four hours to immerse yourself in this underwater paradise, filled with fish and coral of all sorts of shapes, sizes and colours. We will have lunch on the boat before returning to port with heads filled with the memory of incredible tropical fish encounters. The rest of the day will be spent at leisure.

Meals: BLD



#### Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 9

## Departure Day. A single transfer to Hurghada Airport.

Your holiday to this incredible destination ends after breakfast. A single transfer to Hurghada Airport is provided.

Meals: B

## **Holiday Information**

### What's Included

- A professional and qualified tour leader
- Single timed airport transfers on arrival and departure
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- All land transport required by the itinerary
- All activities/excursions/entrance fees mentioned unless specified as 'optional'

#### What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Visas (if applicable)
- Airport transfers other than group transfers
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional
- Tips
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure drinks and souvenirs etc

## **Joining Arrangements & Transfers**

The group will meet at the hotel in Cairo.

A single transfer from Cairo Airport to the group hotel is provided in the evening of Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, there will be a single transfer to Hurghada Airport for flights departing at lunchtime.

Flight times can vary for different departures, please contact the office for exact details.

Anyone may join the group transfers by prior arrangement. Travelling as a group or on public transport saves energy. If this is not practical, we can provide private transfers at an additional cost.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

#### Meal Plan

From dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 9: All breakfasts, 3 lunches and 5 dinners are included. You will have to purchase 4 lunches and 3 dinners.

#### Food & Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. You should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a <u>Water-To-Go bottle</u>) to treat your water. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Egyptian food has a Middle Eastern feel to it. You can expect dishes including falafel, kebabs, chicken, lamb, fish, pitta bread, beans and dips such as hummus and vegetables. Many western dishes are also easy to find, especially at hotels. A famous traditional dish is koshari which mixes pasta, rice and lentils! The Egyptians also have a sweet tooth, so expect to see lots of delicious baklava stuffed with nuts and covered in honey. Vegetarian dishes are sometimes limited for dinner when on the overnight train. You may wish to take an extra snack or two with you. Otherwise vegetarians are generally catered for with ease.

## **Special Diets**

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your diet with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

#### Accommodation

For 7 nights you will be in comfortable hotels with swimming pools. The resort at the Red Sea is the Mercure Hotel.

You have 1 night on the overnight sleeper train from Cairo to Aswan. We have 2 person compartments which are converted by the steward into bunk beds and the beds are made up with bed linen, blankets and pillows. If you are a family of 3 then one person will share with someone else. Single cabins are available at an additional cost and subject to availability (please contact us for further information). Dinner and breakfast is served at your seats. There is place to store your luggage and the cabin is lockable. There are western-style toilets in each carriage, but they can be basic.

Generally, children under the age of 11yrs share with their parents, relatives or guardians. This can range from a triple for a family of 3, to a double with extra beds or two separate rooms for families of 4. Smaller families, or single parents with 1 child, as a group of 2 will be in a twin room. If you are travelling with children over the age of 12yrs, you could be sharing a triple or quad room or staying in two separate rooms. We will do everything to ensure that you are happy with your rooming allocation.

## **Group Leader & Support Staff**

The group will be led by a professional and qualified tour leader.

## **Spending Money**

Approximately £200 per person (or equivalent in US dollars or Euros) should be allowed for tips, soft drinks, non-included meals, snacks and miscellaneous expenses. Alcoholic drinks, souvenirs and optional activities are additional so you may wish to budget for these.

We recommend around USD 10-15 per person for each non-included meal.

We recommend USD 40 per person for the tipping kitty and USD \$40 per person for leaders tips.

Some sites that you visit will have a 'camera charge'. This is 5-15 USD.

You can withdraw money in local currency from ATM's on arrival at the airport in arrivals or in Cairo and the other cities that you visit. Or you can take cash in pounds sterling, dollars or euros to exchange. Credit cards are useful and it is a good idea to carry one in case of emergency.

## Optional activity costs:

Please note that these prices are correct at time of writing, but are subject to change without warning. All prices are in USD. Optional activities taken outside the KE holiday are at your own risk.

- Philae temple on day 3. USD 35 per person, minimum 2 people. (done before or after kayaking)
  Abu Simbel temples by road on day 4. USD 110, minimum 4 people. (very early 4am start, 3.5hrs drive
- each way)
- Luxor temple on day 5. USD 27, minimum 2 people. (usually done in at sunset / evening when the temple is lit)

## **Guidance on Tipping**

Tipping is the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your leader and local team. In Egypt tipping is expected. At the start of the holiday the leader will gather a kitty together and he will tip all the people along the route with this (bus drivers, local guides etc). There is another amount that you should tip the leader at the end of the trip. We provide recommended amounts in the 'Spending Money' section. Tipping should be dependent on good service.

## **Baggage Allowance**

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Luggage with wheels is useful for this holiday. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

## **Group Size & Holiday Status**

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status and so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

## General Information

## **Passport & Visas**

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the <u>UK Government website</u>.

If you are a UK passport holder you need a visa to enter Egypt. This can be obtained online prior to departure via the <u>Egypt e-visa portal</u>. Visas are also available on arrival and cost \$25 from the approved bank kiosks within the airport arrival hall.

### **Health & Vaccinations**

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

#### **VACCINATIONS**

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella, along with hepatitis A and typhoid. A good online resource is <u>Travel Health Pro</u>.

## Currency

The unit of currency in Egypt is the Egyptian Pound (EGP).

#### Climate

On the whole there is little rain in Egypt. The summer months (June - September) are hot and dry with temperatures near 30 degrees Celsius. It is often around 5+ degrees Celsius hotter in Aswan. In the winter months it can get surprisingly cold, especially at night when it can drop just below 10 degrees Celsius.

#### **Travel Aware**

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's 'Travel Aware' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that prior to travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates direct from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## FAQ's about our family holidays

We welcome all family dynamics and we will try to accommodate you in the roomings of your choice. The only stipulation for joining a family group holiday is that 1 party member is 17yrs or under, and they are accompanied by an adult. An average group size is around 10 members in total. Further general information and FAQ's are available here: KE Family Adventure Holidays general information.

#### **Travel Insurance**

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our <u>Travel Insurance</u> page for further information and to get a quote.

## **Equipment Information**

## **Equipment List**

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

## You should bring the following items:

- Walking shoes or trainers
- Sandals
- Lightweight trousers / shorts / skirt
- T-shirts and/or casual shirts
- Loose-fitting, long-sleeved shirts with collar (for sun protection)
- Socks & Underwear
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Fleece jacket and/or warm fleece (both during the winter months)
- Gloves (for the winter months)
- Sunhat
- Warm hat (for the winter months)
- Sunglasses
- Scarf/buff or face protection (for sandy days!)
- Daypack 25-30 litres (depending on how much of the kids' stuff you want to carry)
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Insect repellent

Water bottles (approx 1 litre per person)

(we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)

- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash
- Swimwear
- Swim towel
- Torch and batteries

Basic First Aid Kit. Including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium),

painkillers, plasters and blister treatment, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite).

## The following items are optional:

- Pen-knife (note: always pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Camera
- Snorkel & mask (they are provided on the boat, but you may wish to bring your own)
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

#### **NOTEs:**

Much of Egypt is Islamic, modest dress is preferable in the towns and cities away from the tourist areas.

#### Cotswold Outdoor



Many of the Equipment items listed above are available from <u>Cotswold Outdoor</u> - our 'Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive 12.5% discount voucher from Cotswold Outdoor and other retailers.

## **Land Only Information**

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary, joining at the hotel in Cairo and ending Hurghada. A single transfer is included from Cairo Airport on Day 1, and to Hurghada Airport at the end of the holiday.

## Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Cairo and back from Hurghada. Outbound flights will usually depart from the UK in the afternoon, arriving in the evening. Return flights will depart Hurghada at lunchtime, via Cairo to arrive in London in the evening.

## Why Choose KE

## Why KE

Our Egyptian tour leaders are experts at guiding families and are master storytellers. They will ensure that even the youngest in the group will be captivated by Egypt's incredible architecture and history.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 15/05/2024 and the trip is subject to change