

# Frequently answered Questions (FAQ)

**Destination** : Egypt

**Duration** : 10 days trip by Domestic trains

## On arrival in Egypt

**1) How am I received at the airport in Cairo?**

A) Our Guest Relations Executive will be waiting for you with a name board before Immigration for flights arriving in Terminal 1 and Terminal II. For flights arriving in Terminal III the Guest Relations Executive will be waiting with a name board outside Immigration. He/she will assist you in Immigration, customs and baggage and transfer you to the private car to the hotel

**2) How long it would take for me to clear the formalities at the airport and how long it would take me to reach the hotel?**

A) We estimate that it would take about 45 minutes to clear the formalities at the airport and an additional 45 minutes to reach the hotel.

## On my itinerary on Day 1- Belly dancing show with dinner served on board

**3) How does my 1st day be after I check in to the hotel?**

A) You can take about a few hours to freshen up at the hotel. Your personal guide would be waiting for you in the lobby around 6.30 PM and transfer you in the private car to the Nile boat. Normally the boat sails at around 7.15 PM and the program last about 1 hour and 45 minutes. Then after that you are dropped back to the hotel in a private car. Over night at the hotel in Cairo

**4) What sort of dinner do I expect at the Nile boat?**

A) The normal dinner served is a 3 course meal either a standard buffet or fixed meal plan. If you any preference on meal like vegetarian etc, please inform us or the guide who will ensure that your request is adhered to for dinner. Beverages are not included in the dinner and should you consume any, then you can settle it directly.

## On my Itinerary on Day 2: Memphis, Saqqara, Dahshur, Giza and Sound and Light show

**5) How will my day 2 be in Cairo?**

A) We recommend that you leave the hotel by around 8.00 AM after breakfast at the hotel. Your private guide and driver will be waiting for you in the lobby. The first stop is Memphis which about 45 minutes drive from Cairo. You can budget about 30 minutes to see the Open Air Museum. Saqqara is just 10 minutes drive and you may require about an hour. You will take about 20 minutes to reach Dahshur. Again you may have to spend about 1 hour in Dahshur to see the Red & Bent Pyramids. After lunch in a local restaurant you can proceed to Giza for a guided tour of the 3 Pyramids, Sphinx and Solar boat museum to which you may need about 2 hours. You could end the day with the sound & light show in English depending on the timings and show last about 1 hour. After that stop over in a restaurant near the Pyramids and transfer back to the hotel.

**6) Are the entrance inside the Khufu's Pyramids included?**

A) Yes, we are one of the very few companies where entrance inside the Khufu's Great Pyramid is included. Since only about 300 tickets are issued every day with restricted entry. For your assistance we will purchase the tickets in advance so that you are guaranteed entry inside the pyramids. In some unlikely case for some reasons beyond our control, if the tickets are not available then the cost towards the entry inside Khufu's great pyramids will be refunded to you. We even purchase the main tickets for Pyramids and other sights to that you can save that precious time for the tickets to be purchased.

**7) Are entries inside Khafre's pyramid & Menkaure Pyramid included in my tour package?**

A) No, it is not included mainly due to want of time. However if you wish to enter inside Khafre's pyramid you can ask your private guide to purchase the tickets and the cost of the tickets inside Khafre's pyramid is extra and you can pay directly there. Visitors are no longer allowed inside Pyramid of Menkaure to see the Step Pyramid of Pyramid of Teti.

**8) I have heard & read that there are other sights in Saqqara, why is it missed out in the program?**

A) Yes your itinerary for the day is carefully planned to see the most important sites with an ample time. I am sure that you would agree that is quite impossible to cover every thing in such short span of time, considering the distance, closing time of each sites etc. Rest assured we have ensured that you see more than any body else.

**9) How will my day 3 be? Day trip to Alexandria & overnight train to Aswan**

A) Since Alexandria is about 3 hours away from Cairo and with the bustling traffic we recommend that you check out from the hotel around 7.30 AM after breakfast, the guide will be waiting for you in the lobby. The total sightseeing in Alexandria would be about 5 hours and you drive back to Cairo, arrive late evening and after dinner you are dropped back to the railway station for over overnight train to Aswan. Lunch of course is in a local restaurant in Alexandria.

**10) There are more sights to see in Alexandria? Why am I shown only these sites?**

A) Again if you wish to explore Alexandria, you would require atleast 3 full days on a bare minimum. Hence for one day trip, we have chosen the best sites, Of course if you still have time the your private guide can assist you and take you to the places. The entrance tickets and other costs are of course will be extra and you can pay it directly there.

**11) What time is my train to Aswan?**

A) Normally the trains leave Aswan at around 20:00 and you arrive in Aswan the next day at around 8.00 am. The tickets will be purchased by our partner in Cairo and the train tickets for both Cairo to Aswan and from Luxor to Cairo will be handed over to you in person.

**12) How long before should I reach the railway station?**

A) You can reach the station comfortably 30 minutes before the train departs.

**13) What sort of train is it and what can I expect in the train?**

A) We book only 1st class AC train sleeper train from Cairo to Aswan and similarly from Luxor to Cairo. The trains are quite luxurious with 2 sleeper beds per cabin ( like a coupe) with inter connecting doors, wash basins. Bedding and towels will also be provided to you. Dinner and the breakfast next day is provide in the train too. The dinner and breakfast in the train is a fixed meal plan.

**14) How am I received at the Aswan railway station? At Day 4**

A) Our representative will be holding a name board with your name on it near the exit and will transfer you to the hotel in a private car and will assist you in check in/

**15) How will my day 4 look like? Trip to Abu Simbel.**

A) You will depart from the hotel to join the police convoy to Abu Simbel which leaves at 11.00 AM. The timings of course could change. It is mandatory for all foreigners to travel to Abu Simbel in the police convoy. You can carry packed lunch specially ordered for you from the hotel.

Abu Simbel lies 280 KM south of Aswan close to Sudan Border. The journey time is little excess 4 hours and you need atleast about 2-3 hours to explore these glorious temples. After the guided tour you return back to Aswan. Overnight at the hotel in Aswan

**16) I heard about the sound & Light show at Abu Simbel. Why is it not included in the package?**

A) Yes there is apart from other sound & Light show in Egypt. It is not practical to visit the sound & light show in Abu Simbel unless you stay overnight in a hotel since the sound & light show starts at 7.00 PM or 8.00 and lasts for more than an hour.

**17) I have read that instead of driving down to Abu Simbel, I could actually take a flight?**

A) Yes, you can take a flight from Aswan to Abu Simbel directly and we don't offer this option as there are limited flights with limited seats. Moreover driving through the desert to reach Abu Simbel is a great experience

**18) I was told by many tour operators that I can make a trip as part of the 3 night cruise, so why are you allocating one full day for Abu Simbel?**

A) It is not as simple as it sounds. All cruises don't offer Abu Simbel as part of its tour. There are 2 police convoys that leave for Abu Simbel every day viz 4.00 am and 11.00 am. Just imagine your self getting up at 3.00 am to take the convoy to Abu Simbel and the drive back. Since the cruises have different sailing timings and will not wait for you for the cruise to sail. Even if you do you will certainly miss the sights in Aswan or other places.

**19) How will my day 5 be? Aswan tour and Nile cruise**

A) You can plan to check out of the hotel by 8.00 am, the guide will waiting for you in the lobby and sightseeing will include the famous Nubia museum, Aswan High dam & the unfinished Obelix. You can check in to the Nile cruise at 12.00 PM. After lunch and leisure you can a take a felucca ride and in the evening you are picked up from the cruise to watch the sound & light show at the Philae temple. Overnight in the cruise

**20) Tell me more about the Nile cruise, the facilities available in the cruise, accommodation, food etc.**

A) We compiled a detailed information on the Nile cruise & Feluccas and it is part of our 365 Egypt Destination Guide book. For a comprehensive understanding on the information on the Nile cruise, please consult our office for a free copy. There are basically 4 types of Nile cruises- 4 star, 5 star & 5 star Deluxe. Our company caters to only 5 star Deluxe Nile cruises and please note that the cruises depart from Aswan every Wednesdays & Fridays

**21) How will my day 6 be? Nile Cruise, kom omdo and Edfu.**

A) Cruise sailing timings which are subject to change without notice and differs from one cruise to another. But you will be briefed and informed well in advance. Normally the cruise sails very early morning from Aswan to Kom Ombo which is your 1st stop. You need to disembark from the cruise and visit the temple of Kom Ombo. It halts in Kom Ombo for an hour so so. By lunch time it reaches Edfu where you again get down for a visit to the temple of Horus. Then it sails to Luxor via Esna lock and will reach Luxor late in the night or early morning. Then the cruise docks in Luxor for the next 2 days.

**22) Will I have a private guide for the 3 nights/ 4 days cruise? Other tour operators offer a common guide as part of the cruise?**

A) Others might but not us, You will have a private guide right through out your tour exclusively for you. Your private guide apart from meeting you in Aswan, will travel by road and meet you in the cruise lobby at each port of call. Similarly you will have a personal guide in Luxor till you are dropped back to the airport for your flight to Cairo

**23) How will my day 7 be?-Luxor West Bank tour**

A) The guide will wait for you in the lobby and you can leave for full day tour to West Bank and back t the cruise by evening. You can either come back to the cruise for lunch and continue with your tour of the West Bank & carry a packed lunch from the cruise to save time commuting to the cruise and instead spend quality time at the sights.

**24) What are the sights covered by you in Luxor- West Bank?**

A) We offer your more sightseeing in Luxor West Bank than any body else. The tour covers Colossi of Menmon, Valley of Kings including the entrance to the Tomb of Tutankhumun, Valley of Queens, Tomb of Nobles, Temple of Queen Hatsheput and Temple at Medinat Habu.

**25) Some tour operators offer the Sound & Light show at Karnak temple. Why are you not taking me there?**

A) Since you will be covering Karnak temple on Day 8 and Karnak temple is imposing in the day time and moreover we have covered 2 sound & light shows as part of your trip. In case if you still wish to visit the sound and light show at the temple of Karnak, you could do so on your own and not part of the trip

**26) How will my day 8 be in Luxor? Luxor-East Bank**

A) You need to check out of the cruise at 11.00 am or little earlier after breakfast. So after you check out the luggage can be kept in the private vehicle. The tour for the day covers the stunning Karnak temple, Luxor temple and the interesting Luxor Mummification museum. Lunch in a local restaurant in Luxor and later you are transferred to the railway station for your train to Cairo

**27) What time is my train to Cairo?**

A) The train to Cairo leaves at 19:30 and arrives in Cairo the next day morning at 07:30 and dinner and breakfast is served in the train

**28) How am I received at the railway station?**

A) The driver will be holding a name board at the exit of the railway station who will in turn transfer you to the hotel in a private car and assist you in the check in at the hotel.

**29) How will my day 3 be? Egyptian museum, Citadel & Khan El Khalili market?**

A) After you freshen up you can leave to the Egyptian museum first as it opens by 9.00 and it is best that you are there early so that you can avoid the rush inside. While again it is impossible to see the Egyptian museum properly in 1 day for that matter any museum in the world. Your guided tour would take about 3 hours again more than any body else. Then after lunch visit the Citadel which you would need about 1 hour to see and then drive down to Khan El Khalili market for shopping. After dinner in a restaurant you are transferred back to the hotel.

**30) Is entrance to the mummies section included in the Egyptian museum?**

A) Yes, again we are the very few companies where the entrance inside the mummies section is included as part of the package cost.

**31) Any other basic things I need to know before I enter the Egyptian museum?**

A) Cameras are not allowed inside the museum and it is best that you leave in the car which is very safe as the driver will take care of your belongings. It is no point carrying the cameras as it will be confiscated any way at the entrance and you must deposit it at the entrance. Inside the museum please do not touch any exhibits and please follow the instructions of your private guide for an overall good experience of the Egyptian museum.

**32) In Khan El Khalili market will my private guide assist me in shopping?**

A) Yes of course the private guide will brief you on the shopping that can be done before hand. But he will not assist you in any bargaining with the shop keeper, will not try and influence you in purchasing anything or carry back your shopping bags back to the car

**33) What are the things I can buy in Khan El Khalili market?**

A) Our Egypt Destination Guide book contains a section on shopping which gives you a good idea on things to purchase in Egypt. Please contact our office on FREE copy of this useful book.

**34) Is the private car & guide are for the full day?**

A) Yes, the private guide and the car is available to you from the time they pick up at the appropriate or agreed upon time and ends with dinner and you are dropped back to the hotel

**35) I might be free some evenings? Will you provide me a car?**

A) Yes, it would be at additional costs. Should you wish to do that, kindly contact our local partner who will intimate you the additional cost and will organize for a car for you. You can pay directly there.

**36) What do I do on the last day?**

A) In the last day after breakfast you can check out of the hotel and transfer to the airport, enroute you can stop over for a guided tour of Coptic museum which would take about an hour. Then a drive to the airport will be additional 1 hour. Normal check in time is 2 hours before departure. So based on your flight departure you can plan and accordingly inform your local guide. The meals for the 5 day package starts with dinner on Day 1 and end with breakfast on Day 5.

**37) What are the other basic services I can expect from my private guide?**

A) Your private guide is basically provided to take you to the sights and explain to you about each sites and take you to the appropriate restaurants. He will provide assistance to you in terms of converting currencies, purchase of telephone cards. He is certainly not available for any errands.

**38) If I want cover some additional sights on my own, can I do it?**

A) Yes, you can do it, should you require a car and or guide, please contact our local partner who will be glad assist you. In case you wish to travel by local taxi or public transport, then please consult your private guide who will provide you all assistance.

**39) I am beginning to wonder, is my 10 day trip to hectic & tiring?**

A) We have tried and ensure that you see maximum sights and time to relax. Our itinerary is carefully designed keeping all the factors in mind. So in your own interest it is best to leave on time and stick to the itinerary and plan as suggested by us. It is fairly hectic but the Egypt is a country that there is lots of things to see and do and time will always be a constraint, and yes you will not visit Egypt soon just to cover places that you might have missed.

**40) Is mineral water or beverages included in my package?**

A) We are afraid it is not included. Normally the hotels provide complimentary limited bottles in the room. But you can always purchase it at any shop enroute. Please inform your driver who will stop by and purchase it on your behalf. Similarly during lunch or dinner at the restaurants, any alcoholic or non alcoholic beverages are not included in the package

**41) Are my belongings safe in the car and or in the hotel rooms?**

A) In the hotels it is best to deposit valuables and documents like passport, tickets etc in the safe deposit lockers. In the car since it is under the supervision of the driver it is safe. Of course please ensure that your luggage are locked. In an unforeseen circumstance should there be any damage or theft neither us or our partner will be held responsible.

**42) On departure to Cairo International airport?**

A) Our partners are aware of the your return journey with regard to Flt #, Airline, ETD etc and you will be dropped at the appropriate terminal in a private car. They will ensure that your flights & meal request are reconfirmed atleast 72 hours before departure as we would be sending them a copy of your air ticket. On arrival in Cairo international airport, check in, immigration, customs and security are pretty smooth. For more information on Cairo International airport's facilities please visit their web site: [www.cairo-airport.com](http://www.cairo-airport.com)



11/1 Mahalinga Chetty Street Mahalingapuram Chennai 600034

Ph:044 - 42321964 / 42139342

365tours@gmail.com | [www.365tours.in](http://www.365tours.in)