



Egypt & Nile River Cruise for Solo Travelers

9 days | 12 days with Alexandria & Cairo extension

The perfect day in Egypt involves forkfuls of falafel, a sensorial stroll through a busy souk, and a whole lot of ancient history. With fellow solo travelers by your side, you'll decipher hieroglyphics carved into towering temples, stand in the shadows of the Great Pyramid of Giza, and take to the Nile by boat—because no trip to Egypt is complete until you discover the wonders of the world's longest, and most storied, river. Extend your trip to Alexandria, where ancient wisdom flows along the Mediterranean coast.



Your tour package includes

- 4 nights in a private room at handpicked hotels
- 3 nights in a private room aboard a Nile River cruise ship
- 7 breakfasts
- 3 lunches
- 6 dinners with beer or wine
- 6 sightseeing tours
- Egyptologist, who's also your Tour Director
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 2 on-tour flights

Included highlights

- Pyramids of Giza
- Great Sphinx
- Grand Egyptian Museum
- Temple of Philae
- Temple of Kom Ombo
- Temple of Khnum
- Temples of Karnak and Luxor
- Tomb of Tutankhamun

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across uneven terrain, including cobblestone streets and paved roads, with some hills and stairs.

Group size

15–20

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Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Cairo today.

Cairo → 2 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Cairo

Included meals: dinner

Welcome to Egypt! This evening, enjoy an included dinner at your hotel on your own.

Day 3: Pyramids of Giza & the Grand Egyptian Museum

Included meals: breakfast, welcome dinner

Meet up with your Tour Director—a trained Egyptologist—and set off on a guided tour of Giza's pyramid complex, located in Egypt's third-largest city (and home to some of the world's most enduring ancient monuments).

- Come face to face with the Great Pyramid of Giza, the only Wonder of the Ancient World to have survived into the modern era. Standing as tall as 480 feet (146 meters) when it was built, the structure continues to amaze with its size and the precision with which it was constructed.
- Visit the enigmatic, 4,500-year-old Great Sphinx—the largest monolithic statue in the world, carved from a single limestone bedrock.
- Transfer to Cairo and enter the Grand Egyptian Museum, said to be the world's largest museum, and explore its vast collection of ancient artifacts alongside your Egyptologist.
- Enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant.

Please note: If the Grand Egyptian Museum is not yet open to the public, a visit to Saqqara & the Imhotep Museum will take its place.

Later, gather with your Tour Director and fellow group members at a mixer before enjoying a welcome dinner, served with beer or wine.

Aswan → 1 night

Day 4: Flight to Aswan

Included meals: breakfast

Fly to Aswan this morning and enjoy free time for the rest of the day (put your bargaining skills to the test at the Aswan Souk, perhaps?), or add an unforgettable experience aboard a felucca, a traditional Egyptian sailboat. You'll float down the Nile before dusk, watching the sun slowly melt beneath the horizon and set the sky ablaze.
+ Aswan Sunset Felucca Ride & Dinner

Nile River Cruise → 3 nights

Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Aswan & cruise embarkation

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Enjoy a free morning in Aswan—ask your Tour Director for a recommendation and partner up with one (or more!) of your fellow travelers to go exploring. For a unique adventure, join our optional day trip to Abu Simbel to visit the temples of Ramses II and his wife Nefertari. Originally carved into a mountainside, they were painstakingly relocated to save them from being submerged by the damming of the Nile in the 1960s.

This afternoon, board your cruise ship and enjoy an included lunch, served with beer or wine, while basking in views of the Nile River. Afterward, set off on a sightseeing tour of Aswan led by your Egyptologist.

- Board a boat and visit the island temples at Philae. Watch in awe as columns and imposing facades, emblazoned with hieroglyphics, rise from the water.
- Walk through the colorful local market, where you'll find perfumes, spices, traditional talismans, and souvenirs.

Sit down for an included dinner, served with beer or wine, aboard the ship this evening.

Please note: On some departures, the sightseeing tour of Aswan may take place on day 4.

+ Abu Simbel

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of the Temple of Kom Ombo & Edfu

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Set sail for Edfu and Kom Ombo this morning and disembark your ship for guided tours of some of the best-preserved temples in Egypt.

- Visit the Temple of Kom Ombo. Noted for its dedication to two deities, Sobek and Horus, it was initially constructed in the Ptolemaic

period as two symmetrical temples aligned parallel to one another. They were expanded after the Roman conquest of Egypt, resulting in a single temple that marries Egyptian and Greco-Roman architectural styles.

- Enjoy an included lunch aboard the ship as you cruise to Edfu.

Spend a free afternoon in Edfu or add a walk through the Temple of Horus, a classic example of Ptolemaic architecture with massive stone walls and towering pylons. It's also one of the few temples in Egypt where inscriptions on its walls describe how it was built and used in ancient times.

Sit down for an included dinner aboard the ship this evening, served with beer or wine.
+ Edfu & the Temple of Horus

Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Karnak & Luxor

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Enjoy a morning walking tour through Luxor Temple, located on the banks of the Nile River. With your Egyptologist, you'll see one of the world's highest-quality collections of Egyptian artifacts, including a statue recovered from King Tutankhamun's tomb.

- Enter the painstakingly excavated Temple of Karnak. It's said that 30 pharaohs presided over the building of the temple over the course of 1,500 years—a sprawling and vast ancient site. You'll feel a palpable connection to the ancient world as you walk in the footsteps of priests and worshippers who came here over thousands of years.
- Venture off on a walking tour through the complex to see the Precinct of Amun-Re, whose mudbrick walls stretch over more than 1.5 miles in circumference. Gaze over extensive hieroglyphic inscriptions marking moments in history, and end at the Temple of Khonsu—a smaller, more intimate structure dedicated to the god of time and the moon.
- Walk through Luxor Temple, where an avenue of human-headed sphinxes creates a dramatic and awe-inspiring entrance. The temple unfolds with a series of striking architectural elements that include massive columns, colossal statues, and timeworn hieroglyphs.
- View the 13th-century Abu Haggag Mosque

early this evening. Built on the site of several churches that stood before it, the mosque is an active place of worship, continuing a spiritual tradition that has lasted for 35 centuries.

This evening, sit down with your fellow solo travelers for an included dinner aboard the ship, served with beer or wine.

Cairo → 1 night

Day 8: West Bank, Valley of the Kings & flight to Cairo

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Spend the morning relaxing and catching up on sleep, or brave an early start for an optional—but certainly once-in-a-lifetime—hot-air-balloon ride over the Valley of the Kings.

Later, head out to tour the Nile's West Bank with your Egyptologist. Compared to the lush greenery of the East Bank, it's rocky and barren—but its terrain holds countless secrets.

- Explore the Valley of the Kings, a series of tombs nestled between rugged limestone mountains in the Theban Hills.
- Enter the Tomb of Tutankhamun, famous for containing the ancient Egyptian treasures a ruler would need in the afterlife, such as clothing, food, chariots, games, and ceremonial items.

Disembark from your cruise this afternoon and fly to Cairo.

Celebrate your trip with your fellow travelers during tonight's farewell dinner, served with beer or wine.

+ Nile River Hot-Air-Balloon Ride

Flight Home

Day 9: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home. Or, extend your stay and answer the siren call of Alexandria, where echoes of the Great Library, once the hub of learning and wisdom, still resonate in the air. The temptation to uncover mysteries of the past waits around every turn.

+ Alexandria & Cairo extension

Extend your trip and travel to Egypt's second-largest city, Alexandria. There, you'll explore the

Bibliotheca Alexandrina—the modern successor to the famous Library of Alexandria that was destroyed centuries ago. Then, return to the sights and sounds of Cairo's busy streets to explore the medieval Islamic area of the city with your Tour Director.

Alexandria → 2 nights

Day 9: Transfer to Alexandria & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Get to know Alexandria and explore centuries-old ruins. Founded by Alexander the Great in 331 B.C., the city became a major center for Hellenistic culture. Expect a lush Mediterranean coastline, historical sites, and a thriving contemporary art scene in this cultural and educational hub.

- Enter the waterside Bibliotheca Alexandrina, a major library and cultural center that pays homage to and recaptures the spirit of the bygone Great Library of Alexandria.
- Drive along the Corniche—Alexandria's scenic coastal promenade—to the 15th-century Citadel of Qaitbay, a fortress built on the former site of the Lighthouse of Alexandria.
- Climb the towering limestone ramparts of the Citadel and take in panoramic views of the city and its boat-dotted harbor.

Day 10: Catacombs of Kom el Shoqafa & Royal Jewelry Museum

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Spend the morning discovering what secrets lie beneath Alexandria before learning more about the Egyptian royal family.

- Visit the Catacombs of Kom el Shoqafa, an ancient necropolis that dates to the second century. You'll be able to spot a unique blend of cultural influences: The carved burial chambers, tunnels, and shafts exhibit a fusion of Egyptian burial traditions (like the use of sarcophagi) and Hellenistic and Roman cultural motifs (like Doric columns and Corinthian capitals). The site was accidentally rediscovered in 1900 when a donkey fell into a concealed shaft, revealing the entrance to the underground chambers.
- View the recently excavated Roman amphitheater at Kom el-Dikka, former home to theatrical performances and gladiator

contests, and Pompey's Pillar. The latter, a single block of red granite imported from Aswan, is an iconic symbol of Alexandria (but has no connection to the Roman general, Pompey the Great).

- Head to the Royal Jewelry Museum, a grand former palace where pieces of the collection of the Muhammad Ali Dynasty are displayed, giving a fascinating glimpse into the opulent lifestyle of the country's former monarchy.
 - Explore the museum's immense exhibits as you watch light dance across a dazzling collection of diamonds, emeralds, rubies, and sapphires, as well as ceremonial swords and other royal regalia.
 - Enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant.
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Cairo → 1 night

Day 11: Transfer to Cairo & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Travel back to Cairo this morning, then visit the Gayer-Anderson Museum. Set in a 17th-century structure that's considered one of the most remarkable examples of Muslim domestic architecture in Cairo, it houses Egyptian art, furniture, and curios. Explore it all with your Tour Director.

Celebrate your trip with your fellow travelers during tonight's farewell dinner, served with beer or wine.

Flight Home

Day 12: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: goaheadtours.com/EG6 | 1-800-597-0350

Day 4: Aswan Sunset Felucca Ride & Dinner

\$89/\$99* (4 hours, departs in the afternoon, dinner included)

Board a felucca, a traditional Egyptian sailboat, in Aswan and relax as you float down the Nile River. You'll view the east and west banks of the river and soak in views of Elephantine Island as you learn about the local lifestyle in this region. Then, head back to the boat to watch the sun dip below the horizon before disembarking for a meal at a local restaurant. You'll dine on traditional Egyptian cuisine paired with tea.

Day 5: Abu Simbel

\$389 (6 hours, departs in the morning)

Fly from Aswan to Abu Simbel, where you'll visit the temples of Ramses II and his wife Nefertari, relocated block by block to the shores of Lake Nasser after the construction of the Aswan High Dam. The temples' statues now stand 680 feet from their original site but their grandeur endures. Please note: This excursion involves extensive walking on rugged terrain, so sturdy footwear is advised. Headwear and extra sunscreen are also recommended. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 70 days prior to departure.

Day 6: Edfu & the Temple of Horus

\$75/\$85* (3 hours, departure time varies)

Preserved by layers of sand for millennia, the Temple of Horus in Edfu is striking thanks to its size and completeness. Dedicated to the falcon god Horus, this grand temple complex was a center of religious life before non-Christian worship was banned in the Roman Empire. Disembark your cruise this morning in Edfu and spend time exploring the temple alongside your Tour Director. Visit the court of offerings, the inner and outer hypostyle halls, the offering chamber, and the sanctuary of Horus, all of which date back to between 237 and 57 BC.

Day 8: Nile River Hot-Air-Balloon Ride

\$169/\$179* (2 hours, departs in the early morning)

This morning, rise with the sun and float above ancient temples, the Nile, and the Valley of Kings. Begin with crossing the Nile by ferry to the West Bank where you'll then transfer by bus before taking to the skies aboard your balloon. After watching the balloon inflation, you'll gently soar into the air and get a truly impressive view of Egypt's archaeological history. Please note: This activity is weather-dependent. We recommend wearing layers for the cooler morning weather.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/terms