

Egypt Holy Land Pilgrimage

Day 1 Departure/ Arrival Cairo

Enjoy full meal service on your scheduled flight to Cairo. Your guide, who will accompany you to your hotel, will meet you at the airport.

Day 2 Cairo - Giza - Sakkara - Memphis

Our Egyptian adventure begins in Giza, where we will tour the world famous Great Pyramids, Solar Museum and the legendary Sphinx. There's even an opportunity for a camel ride included. We then travel to Sakkara, where we will see the Step Pyramid of King Zoser, history's first stone building. We will go on to visit Memphis, ancient capital city of Egypt. In the evening you will be attend a spectacular Sound and Light Show at the pyramids.

Day 3 Cairo - Old Cairo

The day begins at the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, home to the fabulous Treasures of King Tutankhamen; after which we proceed to medieval Old Cairo where we will visit a 1,000 year-old Coptic Church and Ben Ezra Synagogue. In the afternoon we will tour Saladin's Citadel Fortress, site of the magnificent Mohammed Ali Mosque and other Islamic architecture followed by a taste of Egyptian shopping at the exotic Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

Day 4 Coptic Cairo

Today we visit old Cairo down near the River Nile. Here we will visit the district of Harat Zuwaila, and the 4th century churches including one dedicated to St George. In this area of 'Coptic Cairo' there are a number of churches, convents, narrow cobbled streets and the Coptic museum. One of the places we will visit will be El Muallaquah, the hanging church, built on the roof of twin towers of the Fortress of Babylon. This is believed to be the oldest Christian church in the world, and has been in constant use since the 4th Century.

Day 5 Cairo - St Catherine - Mt Sinai

After breakfast we depart for the monastery of St Catherine and Mt Sinai (250 kms) via Suez admiring the spectacular scenery. The monastery is on the site where it is believed that Moses observed the burning bush, and Mt Sinai is where he received the Ten Commandments from God. The monastery was built in 527CE. The main attractions include the Basilica of Justinian, the Chapel of the Burning Bush, the old refectory covered with graffiti from the 14th to the 16th century, and the library with the richest monastic collection of Byzantine icons.

Day 6 Mt Sinai - Ain Sokhna, Red Sea

Today sees the opportunity to take an early morning climb up Mt Sinai to witness the sunrise. Return to breakfast and revisit the monastery.

This afternoon we travel to Ain Sokhna which overlooks the Red Sea.

Day 7 St. Anthony's Monastery - Cairo

Today we visit St. Anthony's Monastery which is the largest of the Coptic Monasteries, situated under the lee of Mt Kalalah at a height of 680 metres. A further 276 metres above the monastery is the cave where St Anthony spent much of his time in quiet contemplation. There will be an opportunity to climb up to the cave for those who wish to do so. The monastery is surrounded by high walls with trees and several churches decorated with frescos. The oldest structure is the church of St Anthony built over the saint's tomb by his disciples around 356CE after his death. We follow this with a visit to St. Paul's Monastery.

This afternoon we return to Cairo for dinner and overnight

Day 8 Departure

Your enjoyable and rewarding tour will come to an end as your guide accompanies you to the airport for the return flight home via Cairo.