

# Explore the amazing natural and historical sites from Portugal across the Nile.

**Price Starting From: \$650** 

4 Days / 3 Nights Aswan / Luxor Egypt One Country Two Cities

The history of Egypt spans thousands of years, marked by the rise and fall of powerful dynasties, monumental architecture, and profound contributions to art, science, and religion. From the early Pharaonic period to the Greco-Roman era, Egypt's history is characterized by its rich cultural heritage and the enduring legacy of its ancient civilization. This fascinating narrative includes the construction of the pyramids, the development of hieroglyphics, and the intricate social and political systems that shaped the lives of its people.

**Luxor**, often referred to as the "world's greatest open-air museum," is a city steeped in history and home to some of the most significant archaeological sites in Egypt. This remarkable destination boasts the magnificent Karnak Temple complex, the Valley of the Kings, and the Temple of Hatshepsut. Luxor serves as a living testament to Egypt's ancient glory, attracting travelers who seek to explore the architectural marvels and rich narratives of its past.

<u>Aswan</u> is a picturesque city located in southern Egypt, known for its stunning landscapes, vibrant culture, and historical significance. It serves as a gateway to important archaeological sites such as the Philae Temple and the High Dam. The city's charm lies in its blend of ancient history and modern life, making it a captivating starting point for Nile cruises. Aswan's strategic location along the Nile has historically made it a vital center for trade and cultural exchange.

<u>Nile Cruise Tours</u> offers travelers a unique way to explore the rich history and culture of Egypt while enjoying the scenic beauty of the Nile River. These tours provide a luxurious experience, combining comfortable accommodations, fine dining, and guided excursions to historical sites. As guests sail along the river, they immerse themselves in the wonders of ancient Egypt, experiencing firsthand the landmarks that have shaped the civilization over millennia.

**Egypt's history** is one of the oldest and most fascinating narratives in the world, spanning over 5,000 years. It encompasses the rise of the pharaohs, the construction of the pyramids, the development of hieroglyphics, and the influence of various cultures, including Greek and Roman. The study of Egypt's history reveals the complexities of its civilization and its impact on the world, making it a captivating subject for historians and travelers alike. Understanding Egypt's history allows us to appreciate the profound contributions this ancient civilization has made to human culture and knowledge.

## Overview

### Inclusion

- Assistance was provided by the Cairo Top Tours tour manager upon arrival at Aswan Airport and departure from Luxor.
- Expert customer care throughout the 4-day Nile cruise.
- Modern air-conditioned vehicle transportation during the MS Nile Dolphin Nile Cruise.
- Full board accommodation on the Egypt Nile River Cruise.
- Private Egypt tours as specified in the itinerary.
- All admission fees and tickets to sites are included.
- Snack stops are available upon request.
- A soft drink at a local café during Egypt Day Tours (if time allows).
- Accredited Egyptologist guide is provided for all Egypt Travel Packages.
- Taxes and service charges are included in the Nile cruise from Aswan to Luxor.
- Shopping tours are available during excursions in Luxor and Aswan Sightseeing Tours (upon request).

### **Exclusion**

- International airfare is not included.
- Personal spending is not covered.
- Optional tours are not included.
- Tipping is not included in the Egypt Tours Packages price.
- · Beverages during meals are not included

## **Itinerary**

# **Day 1: The Gateway to Ancient Wonders**

An **Egypt Nile Cruise Tour** offers a unique opportunity to explore ancient treasures along the Nile River, offering a blend of relaxation and cultural immersion. The journey from Aswan to Luxor takes you through breathtaking landscapes and historical sites that have shaped Egypt's rich heritage. **The story of Horus and Osiris**, a significant narrative in ancient Egyptian mythology, recounts the resurrection of Osiris by his wife Isis and the subsequent battle between his son Horus and his uncle Set. This tale encapsulates themes of death, rebirth, and the eternal struggle between good and evil, reflecting the profound spiritual beliefs that permeated ancient Egyptian culture.

The <u>High Dam</u>, completed in the 1970s, is a marvel of modern engineering that regulates the flow of the Nile, providing vital irrigation and hydroelectric power. It not only protects the surrounding areas from flooding but also plays a crucial role in Egypt's agricultural development. The <u>Unfinished</u>
<u>Obelisk</u>, a testament to ancient Egyptian craftsmanship, is located in the granite quarries of Aswan and provides valuable insights into the techniques and challenges faced by ancient artisans.

The <u>Temple of Philae</u>, dedicated to the goddess Isis, is a UNESCO World Heritage site that exemplifies the beauty and intricacy of ancient Egyptian architecture. The temple complex, set on an island in Lake Nasser, is a tribute to <u>Isis's</u> enduring legacy, where pilgrims once sought her blessings and guidance.

The <u>Aswan to Luxor Nile Cruise</u> connects you to the heart of Egypt's history, showcasing the stunning beauty of the Nile and connecting you to the ancient wonders of Luxor. The mortuary temple in Luxor stands as a testament to <u>Queen Hatshepsut's</u> legacy, inspiring future generations to

recognize the strength and influence of women in history.

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

# Day 2: Journey Through Time and Myth

On the second day of your adventure, immerse yourself in the wonders of **Egypt Day Tours**. These expertly guided excursions allow you to explore the rich history and culture of the Nile Valley, providing insights into the ancient civilization that flourished along its banks. With each stop, you will discover the stories and secrets of a land steeped in myth and legend.

Your journey begins with a visit to the magnificent **Kom Ombo Temple**, an architectural marvel dedicated to two deities: Sobek and Haroeris. This unique double temple, situated on elevated ground overlooking the Nile, offers stunning views and intricate carvings that tell the story of its divine patrons. As you explore the temple's chambers, you'll gain a deeper understanding of its significance in ancient Egyptian worship.

**Sobek**, the crocodile god, was revered in ancient Egypt for his association with fertility, protection, and the Nile's life-giving waters. As you walk through Kom Ombo Temple, you will encounter various depictions of Sobek, highlighting his importance in the Ptolemaic Kingdom. Worshipped as a powerful deity, Sobek was believed to safeguard the pharaohs and ensure the prosperity of the land, embodying the duality of creation and destruction.

The <u>Ptolemaic Kingdom</u>, established after the conquest of Alexander the Great, marked a significant period in Egypt's history. This era saw the fusion of Greek and Egyptian cultures, leading to advancements in art, science, and architecture. The Ptolemies, who ruled from Alexandria, were known for their ambitious projects, including the construction of grand temples like Kom Ombo. Understanding this historical context enriches your appreciation of the sites you visit, revealing the complexities of Egypt's cultural evolution.

**Haroeris**, also known as Horus the Elder, was a significant deity in ancient Egyptian mythology, often depicted as a falcon. He was associated with the sky, kingship, and protection, embodying the pharaoh's divine right to rule. In Kom Ombo Temple, the duality of Sobek and Haroeris represents the balance between chaos and order, a theme central to ancient Egyptian belief. As you explore the temple, you'll encounter various inscriptions and reliefs that celebrate the power and influence of Haroeris in the pantheon of gods.

With each stop on this enriching day, you will deepen your connection to Egypt's ancient narratives and the divine figures that shaped its history.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

# **Day 3: Majestic Monuments and Sacred Sites**

Begin your third day with a visit to <u>Edfu</u>, home to one of the best-preserved temples in Egypt. The <u>Temple of Horus</u>, dedicated to the falcon-headed god, stands as a monumental testament to the ancient Egyptians' architectural prowess and religious devotion. As you approach this grand structure, the towering walls adorned with intricate carvings invite you to explore the rich mythology

surrounding Horus and his significance in the ancient world.

Next, journey to the awe-inspiring <u>Colossi of Memnon</u>, two massive stone statues that once guarded the mortuary temple of Pharaoh Amenhotep III. These iconic figures, standing at over 18 meters tall, evoke a sense of wonder and reverence. As you stand before these ancient giants, you can almost hear the whispers of history, reflecting the grandeur of the pharaoh's reign and the artistry of ancient Egyptian sculptors.

Your day culminates with a visit to the majestic **Karnak Temple in Luxor**, a sprawling temple complex dedicated to the Theban triad of Amun, Mut, and Khonsu. This vast site is one of the largest religious complexes in the world, showcasing a series of impressive halls, obelisks, and sacred lakes. As you wander through the Great Hypostyle Hall, with its towering columns and intricate hieroglyphics, you'll gain insight into the religious practices and architectural innovations that defined ancient Egyptian civilization.

Each moment spent at these remarkable sites deepens your appreciation for the cultural and spiritual legacy of ancient Egypt, connecting you to the timeless stories that have shaped this extraordinary land.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

## Day 4: The Last day in the adventure

Your final breakfast will be served on board before you disembark the Nile cruise. You'll then meet your guide for day trips in Luxor, beginning with a visit to the <u>Valley of the Kings</u>, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its royal tombs from the <u>New Kingdom</u>. These impressive tombs were expertly carved into the mountains by the finest craftsmen of ancient Egypt.

Next, explore the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, also known as **El Deir El Bahari**. As the fifth pharaoh of the eighteenth dynasty and the second female pharaoh, Hatshepsut's temple is a remarkable architectural feat. Your excursion will also include a visit to the Colossi of Memnon, two enormous statues dedicated to the pharaoh Amenhotep III. Afterward, you will be dropped off at **Luxor Airport** or the railway station, depending on your preference. We hope you have enjoyed the MS Nile Dolphin Nile Cruise from Aswan to Luxor.

Meals: Breakfast.