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Day 1: Arrival to Cairo

Upon your arrival in Egypt, a representative from Cairo Top Tours will be waiting for you at <u>Cairo</u> International Airport, holding a signboard with your name.

You will be comfortably transferred to your hotel in a private, air-conditioned modern vehicle. Upon reaching the Cairo Pyramids Hotel or a similar accommodation, your <u>Cairo Top Tours</u> guide will facilitate a seamless check-in process and go over the details of your Egypt Christmas and New Year Tours itinerary with you, confirming the pick-up times for each tour. As a warm welcome, you'll be treated to a refreshing welcome drink at the hotel.

Take the rest of the day to relax and prepare for the exciting Christmas tours that await you in Egypt!

Enjoy your overnight stay in Cairo.

Day 2: Pyramids & Cairo Tour / Train

Start your day with a hearty breakfast at the main restaurant of your Cairo hotel as you prepare for an unforgettable day of Egypt luxury tours.

You'll meet your knowledgeable Egyptologist guide to commence your exploration of the Giza Plateau, a place of immense historical significance. Here, you will behold the awe-inspiring <u>Giza pyramids</u>, including the ancient Pyramid of Cheops, a marvel dating back 4,500 years and counted among the Seven Wonders of the World. You'll also marvel at the Pyramid of King Chephren and the Pyramid of King Mycerinus. Don't miss the opportunity to visit the enigmatic Great Sphinx, a colossal statue with the head of a man and the body of a lion. Your journey will take you to explore the Valley Temple of King Chephren, dedicated to the mummification of the king's body.

Around noon, you'll savor a delicious lunch at a local restaurant before continuing your adventure to The <u>Egyptian Museum</u> in Tahrir Square. This world-renowned museum houses a priceless collection of Egyptian artifacts, including the treasured possessions of Pharaoh Tutankhamun.

Your explorations will then lead you to the Roman fortress of Babylon, followed by visits to the <u>Hanging Church</u>, the Church of St. Sergius (also known as the Holy Family Church), and the Ben Ezra Synagogue. These sites in Coptic Cairo offer rich cultural experiences.

Following your Coptic Cairo tour, you'll transition to an exploration of Islamic Cairo, where you'll wander through the bustling Khan El Khalili market, the world's oldest bazaar. Enjoy a delightful shopping excursion in Cairo before taking a moment to unwind with some tea at one of the local cafes, immersing yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of this historic district.

As the day comes to a close, you'll be transferred to Giza train station to embark on an extraordinary train journey to Luxor. Here, dinner and breakfast will be served onboard as you settle into your comfortable compartment.

Stay overnight in your well-appointed compartment.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 3: Arrival to Luxor-Luxor East Bank Tours

Your breakfast will be served on the train during your journey.

Upon your arrival in Luxor, a Cairo Top Tours representative will be there to greet you and assist with your transfer to the luxurious 5-star MS Royal Lily <u>Egypt Nile Cruise</u>. After a delightful lunch onboard the cruise ship, your <u>Luxor day tours</u> will commence on the East Bank.

Your first stop will be the impressive <u>Karnak Temple</u> complex, renowned as the largest man-made religious complex globally, followed by a visit to the beautiful Temple of Luxor.

As the day draws to a close, you'll have the opportunity to relish a breathtaking sunset from the deck of your Nile cruise, providing a serene and relaxing moment before dinner. Enjoy an onboard dinner accompanied by entertaining shows, adding a delightful touch to your evening on the Nile aboard the MS Royal Lily Egypt Nile River Cruise.

With Luxor East Bank Tours completed, this peaceful sunset and enjoyable dinner will be the perfect way to conclude your first day aboard the Nile River cruise.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 4: Sightseeing tour to the West Bank of Luxor and sailing to Edfu

Indulge in a delightful breakfast buffet before embarking on a captivating tour of Luxor's West Bank, guided by your accredited tour guide. Your Nile journey will lead you to the iconic <u>Colossi of Memnon</u>, two imposing statues of Amenophis III, a sight that never fails to amaze.

Prepare to be mesmerized as you explore the <u>Valley of the Kings</u>, a necropolis renowned for its awe-inspiring rock-cut tombs. Here lie the final resting places of over 60 pharaohs, including legendary rulers like

Tutankhamun and Ramses II. The tombs are a visual feast, adorned with intricate paintings and vibrant colors. In their discovery, these tombs were brimming with gold and treasures, carefully prepared by the Pharaohs for their journey into eternity.

Your journey continues to the magnificent Queen <u>Hatshepsut Temple</u>, a marvel of ancient architecture constructed by her famed architect. Queen Hatshepsut, the first female ruler documented in history, left behind this astounding testament to her reign, known as El Deir El Bahari.

Following this, you'll return to the cruise ship to savor a high-quality lunch as you set sail for Edfu. During tea time, enjoy the picturesque landscapes unfolding along the Nile, providing a perfect backdrop for relaxation.

As the Nile cruise glides along, relish an onboard dinner complemented by captivating music, dancing shows, and entertainment, ensuring an evening of delightful experiences.

Retire for the night aboard the Nile Cruise, enveloped in comfort and the memories of an extraordinary day.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.

Day 5 : Edfu Temple & Kom Ombo Temple

Savor a delectable breakfast before commencing your <u>Aswan day tours</u>. Embark on a unique adventure as you are taken by horse carriages to explore the remarkably well-preserved Ptolemaic Temple dedicated to the falcon God Horus, <u>the Temple of Edfu</u>. After an insightful visit to this ancient temple, your carriage will return you to the ship for the journey towards Aswan, with a stop at Kom Ombo.

At Kom Ombo, disembark the boat to visit the imposing <u>Temple of Kom Ombo</u>, dedicated to the crocodile God Sobek and Haroeris. Your guide will accompany you back to the MS Royal Lily Nile Cruise, where you can relish a delicious lunch onboard. In the afternoon, the cruise will set sail for Aswan, offering scenic views of the Nile.

As the day winds down, enjoy an exquisite dinner served onboard amidst the tranquil ambiance of Aswan.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.

Sixth Day: Tours in Aswan

Relish your favorite breakfast while soaking in the captivating views of the Nile. Your Aswan excursions will kick off with a visit to the renowned <u>High Dam</u>, a pivotal development project in Egypt. Next, you'll journey to the magnificent Philae Temple, a tribute to the Goddess Isis, dating back to 280 B.C. It is beautifully nestled on an island, and you'll reach it via an enchanting boat ride.

Continuing your tour, you'll explore the granite quarries in Aswan, where you'll encounter the colossal Unfinished Obelisk, the largest known obelisk. Left incomplete, it continues to inspire scientists with its sheer size, offering insight into the monumental scale of granite monoliths extracted from the quarry. It is believed that Queen Hatshepsut played a role in its creation.

Following these enriching experiences, you'll return to your Egypt <u>Nile River Cruise</u>. A sumptuous dinner will be served, creating the perfect atmosphere for your final night aboard this magical Nile cruise.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.

Seventh day: Your Train back to Cairo

After enjoying a delicious breakfast, you will disembark from the MS Royal Lily Nile cruise to experience a fantastic day in Aswan. You have the option to explore the city at your leisure, savoring the sights and sounds of this beautiful destination. Alternatively, you can choose from a selection of optional tours to enhance your experience.

One enticing option is the <u>Abu Simbel</u> Tour, where you can marvel at the Great Temple of Abu Simbel, a remarkable tribute to Ramses II, as well as the charming small temple of Nefertari. These extraordinary temples were meticulously carved into the solid rock of a mountain, showcasing the incredible craftsmanship of ancient Egypt.

Another appealing choice is the Nubian Village Tour, which offers a glimpse into the unique culture and traditions of the Nubian people. Alternatively, you can opt for a serene Felucca Ride on the tranquil waters of the Nile, allowing you to soak in the picturesque scenery.

As the day comes to a close, your <u>Cairo Top Tours</u> guide will accompany you to the Aswan railway station, where you will board the Sleeper Train for your return journey to Cairo. You'll be treated to a light dinner served onboard, and you'll rest comfortably in your private compartment as you travel overnight.

Meals included for the day: Breakfast and Dinner.

Day 8: Back to Cairo

A light breakfast will be provided on the train before you disembark at Giza railway station. Upon arrival, a guide from <u>Cairo Top Tours</u> will meet you and assist you in transferring to your hotel for an early check-in. This will allow you to settle in as soon as possible, giving you the opportunity to make the most of your day by selecting and enjoying one of our exceptional optional <u>Cairo excursions</u>.

Meal included: Breakfast

Day 9: Final Departure \ The End of your Egypt Christmas holidays all inclusive.

Your early breakfast will be served at approximately 8 am at your hotel in Cairo. You can enjoy our optional Cairo day tours if you want or just rest until the time of your flight and then you will be transported to the Cairo International Airport for your final departure.

Included Meals: Breakfast