

8 Days Desert Safari Tour to El Gilf El Kebir

Price Starting From : \$0

8 Days
Egypt
Western Desert

These Egypt tours are designed to captivate both thrill-seekers and history enthusiasts as you traverse the same routes once used by ancient civilizations. The Gilf Kebir, meaning "The Great Barrier," is a vast 7,770-square-kilometre plateau of limestone and sandstone that rises 1,000 meters above the desert, even larger than the Great Sand Sea.

Early explorers only sketched its peripheries until 1930, when they ventured into its valleys and discovered that the Gilf comprises two distinct rock masses. Through our Egypt Desert Safari tours to El Gilf El Kebir, you can uncover these hidden valleys and glimpse the prehistoric civilisation that inhabited this remote region 10,000 years ago.

For an extraordinary and memorable holiday, our meticulously planned Egypt Travel Packages offer an unparalleled chance to experience the desert's wonders. Alternatively, Egypt Shore Excursions provide a unique opportunity to explore Egypt's stunning desert landscapes and visit some of the world's most iconic historical sites.

[Overview](#)

[Inclusion](#)

- Assistance from Cairo Top Tours representatives throughout all Egypt Travel Packages.
- Transport provided by private air-conditioned vehicles.
- One night's accommodation in Dakhla Oasis, including breakfast and dinner.
- Six nights of desert camping with three meals per day.
- All necessary camping equipment supplied.
- Entrance fees to all sites listed in the itinerary.
- Internal desert transport arranged via a 4x4 jeep.
- All Egypt tours are private.
- Stops for snacks or rest available upon request.
- All meals as specified in the itinerary.
- Bottled water provided on board during all Egypt safari trips.
- All service charges and taxes included.
- Shopping tours available in Cairo.

[Exclusion](#)

- International flight tickets.
- Entry visa for Egypt.
- Beverages with meals.
- Tipping is not included in the Desert Safari Trip to El Gilf El Kebir.

[Itinerary](#)

Day 1: Cairo to Dakhla Oasis

Our representative will meet you and transfer you to Dakhla Oasis in a Jeep vehicle. We'll start by visiting the Roman Temple of Deir El Hagar, one of Egypt's smallest temples, located about 15 km from Al Qasr and 47 km from Mut.

Next, we'll explore the beautiful rock-cut tombs at the Roman burial site of Muzzawaqa. After lunch, we'll tour the historic Islamic village of Al Qasr.

It's then time to relax. In the afternoon, unwind by the pool, and then visit the lush surroundings of Dakhla to enjoy its clear blue skies and golden sand dunes. Watch the sunset on the edge of the Great Sand Sea while sipping tasty Bedouin tea.

You'll spend the night at the Desert Lodge in Dakhla, perched atop a cliff with views of the verdant village and the stunning pink rose mountains that Dakhla Oasis is known for. Check into your hotel and overnight.

We recommend wearing white, cotton clothing to stay comfortable and protected from the sun during the tour.

Included Meals: Lunch, Dinner.

Day 2: Sugar Loaf, Mud Lions

After a hearty breakfast, we'll get ready for our exploration of Gilf El Kebir. Millions of years ago, at the end of the Tertiary period, Gilf served as a watershed from which water flowed in all directions. Over the past 100,000 years, its wadis have been shaped by both water and wind. The highest cliffs are found on the south and southwest sides.

Our first stop will be the Sugar Loaf area, a notable landmark in El Gilf El Kebir featuring the iconic Sugar Loaf hill and arch. We'll then visit the Mud Lions area, which was once a vast lake but is now dry. Erosion and atmospheric changes have sculpted the rocks into shapes resembling lions, hence the name.

In the evening, enjoy stargazing, savour a delicious dinner, and spend the night at our camp.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Gilf El Kebir Safari Adventure

After waking up and having breakfast, we'll set off in a 4x4 vehicle for an adventurous safari trip in El Gilf El Kebir. We'll navigate the sand dunes and pass through Wadi Mashi, continuing until we reach the Central Gilf Kebir area, where the hill divides into two sections offering stunning views of sand dunes and rock formations.

Our journey will then take us to Wadi Assib, where we'll set up camp in the desert. Enjoy the captivating atmosphere, stargaze, savour a delicious dinner, and relax for the night.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: Aqaba Path, Swimmer's Cave, and Wadi Sura

We'll continue our journey as we reach the Aqaba path to explore the western hills of Gilf El Kebir.

Our first stop will be the Swimmer's Cave, located in Wadi Sura (Valley of Pictures), which was discovered by Almasi in October 1933. Frobenius's expedition had previously searched for rock art in Uweinat and the western valleys of Gilf, areas explored by Patrick Clayton two years earlier. While Clayton's son believes his father was the first to find the wadi and its caves, it was Almasi who uncovered and named the Swimmer's Cave.

The cave is a small depression at the start of the wadi, open to the elements. Inside, you'll find over a thousand figures in various styles. The famous swimmers, painted red and measuring about 10 centimetres long, feature small, round heads on stem-like and tadpole-like bodies, with spider-like arms and legs.

Next, we'll visit the Mestekawi Cave, discovered in 2002 by an Egyptian-Italian tourist group led by Massimo Foggini (an Italian tourist) and Ahmed Mistikaoui (an Egyptian tourist). This cave is renowned for its well-preserved ancient rock drawings.

Later, we'll set up camp in Wadi Sura, where we'll enjoy the enchanting surroundings, stargaze, have a delicious dinner, and spend the night in our comfortable camp.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Wadi Abd El Malik

Each day, breakfast will be prepared and served at the camp. We'll then set off in the jeep to Wadi Abd El Malik, an area also discovered by Al Masi. Here, you'll explore the stunning acacia forest and capture some amazing photos.

We'll end the day by camping in Wadi Abd El Malik, where we'll relax with the local Bedouins, enjoying tea and dinner in the peaceful desert.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: Silica Glass Area

After breakfast at the camp, we'll continue our amazing Desert Safari Trip to El Gilf El Kebir. Our first stop is the Silica Glass Area, formed 26 million years ago. This remarkable site features large patches of stunningly clear yellow and green silica glass scattered across the landscape, creating a truly mysterious and breathtaking view.

We'll then set up camp in the Silica Glass area and spend the rest of the day with the local Bedouins, enjoying tea and dinner in the tranquil desert.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: Ain Dalla

Have breakfast at the camp before continuing your scenic safari to Ain Dalla water spring, one of Egypt's most beautiful and calming natural springs, surrounded by palm trees on all sides. Enjoy a refreshing dip in the warm water or take some time to meditate.

Afterwards, we'll set up camp in the same area and spend the evening with the local Bedouins, drinking tea and enjoying dinner in the peaceful desert setting.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8: Back to Cairo

Today, following our early breakfast, we'll set off for Cairo after spending 7 fantastic days on our safari trip to El Gilf El Kebir.

Meals: Breakfast