

# **Our 12th Exclusive Private Small Group Tour**

# **Fully Escorted from East Maitland**

# 21 Days departs 10 Feb 2025



**Day 1** | 10 Mar 2025 (D inflight)

# Fly from NSW to Cairo

Transfer from Greenhills Travel Centre to Newcastle (Williamtown Airport) or Sydney Airport and board to Cairo.

# Day 2 | 11 Mar 2025 (B inflight) Cairo

Arrive Cairo 10.25 am. On arrival I will get the visas. We will then go through immigration, collect our luggage and clear customs. Then the fun starts, we drive though Cairo to our hotel near the pyramids. You will never be a back seat driver again! We should arrive at the hotel around 1.00 pm and hopefully we can get into our rooms early.



Relax by the delightful swimming pool. Golf can also be arranged. Try not to go to bed too early, our hotel is one the closest to the Pyramids, just 400 m as the crow fly's. Have beer and watch the sunset over the Pyramids. Dinner is at your own arrangements.

Accommodation: Marriott Mena House 5\* Deluxe Giza Hotel.

# Day 3 | 12 Mar 2025 (B, L) Cairo

Today we meet our tour Guide. We begin with a visit to the Great Pyramids of Giza for our guided tour then on



to the Sphinx, the mystic creature with the head of a king and the body of a lion. Later we visit Saqqara and here you will see the famous step pyramid of King Zoser, which dates from 2686BC and is the world's oldest major stone structure. Continue on to Memphis, the ancient capital of the Old Kingdom to see the gigantic statue of Ramses II and the great Alabaster Sphinx. Accommodation: Marriott Mena House 5\* Deluxe hotel

Day 4 | 13 Mar 2025 (B, D)

#### Alexandria

Today we visit El Alamein, located in the Western Desert. It is the site of one of the largest battles of WWII. We visit the Commonwealth War Cemeteries, which contain over 7000 Tombstones overlooking the desert battlefield. We'll explore the El-Alamein Museum, which hosts four main halls representing the countries that participated in the El-Alamein Battle; Germany, England, Italy, and Egypt. Outside, you can see exhibits of weapons and tanks which were used in the conflict. Next, we head to Alexandria and visit the National History Museum. Accommodation: Windsor Palace Luxury Heritage Hotel or Cecil Steigenberger, both of which are iconic 4\* hotels in Alexandria.

# Day 5 | 14 Mar 2025 (B)

# Alexandria

Situated on the Mediterranean coast, Alexandria exudes a European air and sophistication with Greek and Italian influences. We stat the day visiting the Catacomb of Kom El Shoqafa, burial places of early Alexandrian Christians which merge old and new Egyptian culture and art. Next we explore the Roman Amphitheatre and Montazah Gardens which surround the Montazah Palace, once the home of Egyptian royalty. Followed by the New Library of Alexandria, an architectural masterpiece, housing an extensive collection of international manuscripts.

Accommodation: Windsor Palace Luxury Heritage Hotel or Cecil Steigenberger.

# Day 6 | 15 Mar 2025 (B) Luxor

We depart Alexandria 8.00 am and drive to Cairo via Wadi el Natrun to visit the Monastery of St. Macarius. Originally there were 50 monasteries but only four have survived to modern times. This afternoon, fly to Luxor from Cairo. In the morning watch the balloons land while having breakfast. Accommodation: Sonesta St, George Luxor. Fantastic Hotel 4.5\* overlooking the Nile.

# Day 7 | 16 Feb 2025 (B) Luxor

After breakfast visit Karnak Temple built over 2000 years ago and a place of worship for 4000 years. Hear tales of ancient Thebes and the lives of the pharaohs who built the necropolis, seeking to make their mark on the country's most important temple. With its endless courts, halls and huge sacred lake, the scale and complexity of this sprawling temple is overwhelming. After lunch we visit Luxor Temple. This temple is dedicated to the great God Amun-Re, his wife Mut and their son Khons, the moon God, all of whom together represent the Theban triad. Accommodation: Sonesta St, George Luxor 4.5\* hotel.



#### Day 8 | 17 Feb 2025 (B, L, D)

#### Luxor – Nile Cruise

Have the morning free to explore the hotel gardens before we check out of our hotel by 11.00 am and join our Cruise Ship M/S Tamr Henna for lunch. Enjoy the afternoon free to explore the ship. Accommodation: M/S Tamr Henna

# Day 9 | 18 Mar 2025 (B, L, D)

#### Edfu – Nile Cruise

Enjoy a free morning at your own pace. You have the option to: Take a Hot Air Ballon Flight, visit the local markets in Luxor, or join me visiting ACE (Animal Care in Egypt) <u>http://www.ace-</u>

<u>egypt.org.uk</u>. Return for lunch and the cruise sets sail for the incredible Esna lock and Edfu.

Accommodation: M/S Tamr Henna



#### Day 10 | 19 Mar 2025 (B, L, D)

#### Kom Ombo – Nile Cruise

This morning you disembark for a visit to the magnificently preserved Temple of Horus, the falcon God, which dates from the Ptolemaic period. Unique amongst the temples of Upper Egypt, Edfu is located on the west bank of the Nile, normally dedicated to the afterlife. Continue on to Kom Ombo where your boat moors this evening. Entertainment show in the evening (Egyptian Galabia Party). *Please note: Due to local laws and regulations, the preferred mode of transport available to visit the Temple of Horus in Edfu is by horse and carriage. Unfortunately, some neglectful owners cruelly mistreat their animals. Our guides always endeavour to arrange healthy, well-treated horses with responsible owners for our transport in Edfu, ultimately it is your decision if you wish to partake in the included transportation or we can arrange a taxi at an extra cost. Accommodation: M/S Tamr Henna* 

#### Day 11 | 20 Mar 2025 (B, L, D)

#### Aswan - Nile Cruise

After a relaxing cruise upstream to picturesque Aswan, you will disembark from your cruise boat and take a motorboat to the Temple of Isis at Philae. Built in the third century BC and known as the 'Jewel of the Nile', this lovely temple complex is located on an island in the Nile and was dedicated to the goddess Isis. It features well preserved temple buildings, courtyards, reliefs and murals. We then continue on to the High Dam, the ancient granite quarries and the unfinished obelisk. We will also visit a Papyrus shop to see the art of papyrus making. The process is simple and remains virtually unchanged since ancient times. There are many original paintings for sale which are a great souvenir. Accommodation: M/S Tamr Henna

# Day 12 | 21 Mar 2025 (B, L, D) Aswan – Nile Cruise

This morning take an early morning 45 minute flight to the incredible Temples of Ramses II and Queen Nefertari at Abu Simbel in ancient Nubia, arguably the greatest indulgence of any Pharaoh. After lunch on board, you will enjoy a traditional felucca ride to Aswan's botanical gardens located on Elephantine Island. Entertainment show in the evening (Nubian Show). Accommodation: M/S Tamr Henna



#### Day 13 | 22 Mar 2025 (B, L, D)

#### Kom Ombo – Nile Cruise

Set sail early this morning to Kom Ombo, where you will disembark to visit Kom Ombo temple with its unique floor plan, the result of the unification of two temples, each dedicated to a distinct divinity: the crocodile-headed Sobek, god of fertility and Horus, the solar war god. This explains why Kom Ombo is known both as 'House of the Crocodile' and 'Castle of the Falcon'. Accommodation: M/S Tamr Henna

#### Day 14 | 23 Mar 2025 (B, L, D)

#### Luxor - Nile Cruise

After breakfast you will cross to the west bank of the Nile for the first stop at the Colossi of Memnon. These massive quartzite statues once flanked the entrance to Amenhotep III's Mortuary Temple and now stand alone in a field on the way to the Valley of the Kings. You will then visit Deir El Bahari, the incredible Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, the longest ruling female pharaoh whose temple is perhaps the most imposing feature on the West Bank. Finally, the Valley of the Kings, where your entry includes visits to three tombs. Afterwards we will visit an Athabasca factory. Entertainment show in the evening (Belly Dancer & Tanura).

Accommodation: M/S Tamr Henna

# Day 15 | 24 Mar 2025 (B)

#### Cairo

After disembarking from your cruise ship, transfer to Luxor airport, your flight takes you back to Cairo. Visit to the incredible New Grand Egyptian Museum, home of the greatest collection of Egyptian antiquities in the world, where all that you've seen in Upper Egypt will be brought into perspective. This evening, back to the



Pyramids for a spectacular Sound and Light show. Here you will share in tales of the early Pharaohs, who built the sole survivor of the ancient Seven Wonders of the World. Accommodation: Marriott Mena House 5\* Deluxe Giza Hotel.

#### Day 16 | 25 Mar 2025 (B)

#### Cairo

Today we'll start with a visit to the hanging church, St Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church, before heading to Salah el Din's Citadel. Enjoy the breathtaking views of the entire city and across to the pyramids, then explore Mohammed Ali's great Mosque built in a wholly Turkish style between 1830 and 1857. We continue to discover Cairo visiting the world-famous Khan el Khalili bazaar, the labyrinth of bustling alleys is an opportunity to pick up some unique last minute bargains. Accommodation: Marriott Mena House 5\* Deluxe Giza Hotel.

Day 17 | 26 Feb 2025 (B) Cairo

Rest Day in Cairo. Take it easy around the pool at the hotel, opt for a second visit to Grand Egyptian Museum or revisit the Khan el Khalili bazaar. Alternatively, golf can be arranged. Accommodation: Marriott Mena House 5\* Deluxe Giza Hotel.

Day 18 | 27 Feb 2025 (B)

# Dubai

After breakfast transfer to the airport for our flight to Dubai. On arrival in Dubai clear immigration and customs and transfer to our hotel.

Accommodation: The Arabian Courtyard Hotel & Spa 4\* hotel

Day 19 | 28 Feb 2025 (B)

# Dubai

After breakfast enjoy a city tour, including a visit to Dubai Museum, an abra ride and the Gold Souks, followed by an afternoon free to be spent at your leisure.

Day 20 | 1 Mar 2025 (B, D inflight)

#### Sydney

After an early breakfast transfer to the airport for our flight home.

Day 21 | 2 March 2025 (B inflight)

# Sydney

Time to return home as we land on home soil.

# \$16,800 per person twin share \$21,250 per single

#### Inclusions:

- Fully Escorted from Maitland by Warick (Curly) Gladman
- Return private transfers to Sydney or Newcastle Airport from Maitland
- All economy class airfares, taxes & fuel surcharges
- Fully inclusive tour of Egypt, including Abu Simbel by air.
- 7-night All-inclusive Nile Cruise. Nile View Cabins
- Entrance fees to all attractions as per itinerary
- Meals: 20 Breakfast. 8 Lunches. 10 Dinners.
- 5 nights in Cairo see Pyramids of Giza, the Sphinx, El Alamein.
- 2 nights in Alexandria
- 2 nights in Luxor
- 2 nights Dubai with City Tour.
- Air-conditioned bus/coach for all land arrangements.
- Personal Egyptologist/Tour Guide Day 3 to 16 Inclusive
- Gratuities for Egyptologist, tour guides, drivers, cruise staff, porters.

ACE (Animal Care in Egypt) URGENT APPEAL – duct (aka duck) tape urgently required Old towels or sheets - any size is useful Vet wrap 10 cm - this is a stretchy bandage that sticks to itself Dog collars – all sizes (Used is fine) Flea or worm treatments – for cats and dogs Natural Cotton triangular bandage Crepe Bandage - any size but the larger 15 cm size is more useful Elastoplast - any size but the larger 15 cm size is more useful Animalintex Poultice, Sudocrem



Corner Garnet Road and Mitchell Drive EAST MAITLAND NSW 2323 TEL 61 2 4931 0300 EMAIL: travel@greenhillstravelcentre.com.au

Doubtfire Pty Ltd t/a Greenhills Travel Centre. ABN 65063747938.