Home & Afar Travel

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INSPIRING VACATIONS



21 DAY EGYPT & JORDAN UNCOVERED PREMIUM SMALL GROUP TOUR

CAIRO
EL ALAMEIN
ALEXANDRIA
ASWAN
ABU SIMBEL
KOM OMBO
EDFU
LUXOR
HURGHADA
AMMAN
PETRA
JERASH
WADI RUM

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21 Day Egypt & Jordan With Nile Cruise

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PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE

Tick off two bucket list destinations in one and experience the cradle of civilisation in Egypt and Jordan. From the spectacular deserts to green oases, there is little you won't be completely enchanted by as you follow the Nile or walk in the foot steps of Lawrence of Arabia.

Book Now

TOUR ITINERARY



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Itinerary

DAY 1

Destination	Cairo
Meals included	No meals
Hotel	5 ★ Hyatt Regency Cairo West, or similar

Salaam Alaikum! Welcome to Egypt.

A buzzing metropolis, home to at least 19 million people, Cairo gives you a great feel for Egyptian streetlife. It's busy – almost frantic – and among the hustle and bustle, it's an exciting blend of old world and new. Arabs call this city Umm al-Dunya (the mother of the world). There are many beautiful mosques to visit, like the Mohammed Ali Mosque in the Citadel. Or head to the oldest part of Cairo, the Babylon Fortress, to see ancient ruins. For stunning panoramic views of the capital, go up the 187-metre-high Cairo Tower.

Try some street food – lamb shawarma, anyone? – or get a taste of Egyptian street life by visiting a cafe. Sit in an ahwa and sip traditional mint tea. The shisha pipe can be found in many ahwas and restaurants across Cairo.

Special Information

Arrival airport transfers are included as part of your package. You will be met upon arrival at the airport and transferred to your hotel.

If Inspiring Vacations has not provided your international airfares, please ensure you provide your flight details via your Traveller Hub portal no later than 90 days prior to travel so that your transfers can be confirmed.

If you are arriving early and have made your own arrangements prior to your tour commencing, airport transfers will not be included. However, if you are purchasing pre-nights accommodation as part of your Inspiring Vacations package, airport transfers will still be provided to the starting hotel.

DAY 2

Destination	Cairo
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Hyatt Regency Cairo West, or similar

After breakfast, meet your guide for a welcome briefing before heading out to see some of the world's most iconic sights – the Pyramids of Giza and the Great Sphinx. Explore these structures that have stood tall for some 4,500 years and learn about the ancient history of the monuments. The oldest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the only one to remain largely intact, the pyramids are a sight to behold.

Afterwards, you will visit the Grand Egyptian Museum. Rising beside the Giza Pyramids, the breathtaking Grand Egyptian Museum is a monumental tribute to ancient Egypt. This ultra-modern masterpiece unveils over 100,000 treasures, including Tutankhamun's full collection, in dazzling galleries filled with light, glass, and history. It's the world's largest museum of a single civilisation.

Following your visit you will return to your hotel where the remainder of the day is at leisure.

Inspiring Highlights

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- Pyramids of Giza
- Great Sphinx
- Grand Egyptian Museum

DAY 3

Destination	Cairo 🚌 El Alamein 🚌 Alexandria
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Sunrise Alex Avenue, or similar

After breakfast we'll drive to the port city of Alexandria, along what is known as the 'desert road'.

Enroute, we'll visit the Commonwealth War Graves of El Alamein. It is here that two extended battles were fought during World War II. The first began on July 1, 1942, and lasted for 27 days, ending as a stalemate. After three months of holding back the enemy, the allies launched a second attack which lasted for 13 days. The importance of El Alamein was highlighted by Winston Churchill, who said: "Before Alamein we never had a victory."

Afterwards, we'll continue on to Alexandria to check-in to our hotel and enjoy some free time in this seaside city.

Inspiring Highlights

- El Alamein

Special Information

Your travel time today will be approximately 4.5 hours.

DAY 4

Destination	Alexandria 🚌 Cairo
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Sonesta Hotel, Tower & Casino Cairo, or similar

Today your guide will take you on a tour of the city, known for its broad beaches and corniche (seafront promenade) dotted with sun loungers and cafes.

Afterwards, prepare to delve into the catacombs of Kom el Shoqafa. Heading underground, you'll get to view the largest known Roman burial site in Egypt, complete with burial chambers, labyrinth alleyways and entertaining rooms for families coming to visit the dead.

The crypts are 20 metres below street level and date back to the Greco Roman period. What likely started as a small family tomb grew into a large number of graves that could accommodate more than 300 bodies. The tombs are organised around a central spiral staircase that leads down through several levels.

We then drive back to Cairo. On arrival, check into your hotel located close by the airport in preparation for your flight to Aswan in the morning.

Inspiring Highlights

- Alexandria

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- Catacombs of Kom el Shoqafa

Special Information

Your travel time today will be approximately 3.5 hours.

DAY 5

Destination	Cairo ✈ Aswan
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Hotel Tolip Aswan, or similar

This morning, take an early flight from Cairo to Aswan.

On arrival in Aswan, you will be transferred to the port where you will board a boat to take you to the Philae Temple complex, home to the Temple of Isis which was rescued from the rising waters of the Nile and relocated on Philae Island in the 1960s. It's a marvel of decorative pylons featuring some of Egypt's finest carvings – definitely one of the real gems of Upper Egypt.

Philae Temple is situated on an island just south of Aswan. It was built by the last dynasty of ancient Egypt, the Ptolemaic. The temple is dedicated to Isis - the goddess of healing, magic and birth, her husband Osiris and their son Horus.

Following our visit, we check into our hotel with time to relax before we enjoy sailing the Nile in a traditional wooden boat (felucca) in the afternoon followed by an authentic dinner at one of the Nubian houses.

This evening, enjoy your Inspiring Taste as we experience modern Nubian culture first-hand with a visit to Elephantine Island. On your visit you'll join a Nubian family for dinner and experience true traditional Nubian hospitality. Here, you will encounter Nubian homes, traditional food and an unforgettable insight into the daily life of a Nubian. This is a rare and memorable experience, giving you the chance to become fully immersed in the local culture.

Inspiring Highlights

- Philae Temple complex
- Nile River felucca sailing
- Traditional Nubian dinner

Special Information

Your flying time today will be approximately 1.5 hours.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on.

Your internal flight for this day is arranged by our local partner. Specific flight details will be provided by your Tour Leader upon arrival and cannot be provided in advance. Please note that these group flights cannot be upgraded, amended, or checked in online. Your Tour Leader will manage the check-in process for the group.

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DAY 6

Destination	Aswan
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Hotel Tolip Aswan, or similar

Today we set out to explore some of Aswan's other landmarks. We begin with the unfinished obelisk, the largest known ancient obelisk – more than 3,500 years old – located in an ancient quarry in Aswan.

It was left incomplete and now provides a fascinating look at how these great monuments were constructed.

We'll then continue to the Nubian Museum, which showcases the history, art and culture of the Nubians. This museum enables visitors to understand the complex history of the local area and its people.

Afterwards, we'll visit the Aswan High Dam, which sits behind the mighty Lake Nasser. At the time it was made (the 1960s), it was the largest dam project in the world. The creation of the reservoir necessitated the costly relocation of the ancient Egyptian temple complex of Abu Simbel, which would otherwise have been submerged.

Inspiring Highlights

- Unfinished obelisk
- Nubian Museum
- Aswan High Dam

DAY 7

Destination	Aswan 🚌 Abu Simbel 🚌 Aswan 🚢 Embark on Nile cruise
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	M/S Tower Prestige Nile cruise, or similar

Today you will awake before sunrise for an early morning start.

Sit back and relax as you drive to the ancient Abu Simbel temples, near the southern Egyptian border. You will have an early arrival into Abu Simbel to view this incredible sight. The complex is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site known as the Nubian Monuments.

The two enormous sandstone structures were built in the 1200s BCE by Ramses II to commemorate himself and his favourite wife Nefertari. The larger temple, dedicated to three major Egyptian deities, features four large statues of Ramses II on its façade, while the smaller temple is dedicated to the goddess of love, Hathor, with statues designed to embody Nefertari.

Set on the banks of the artificial Lake Nasser, the structures were once in danger of being flooded with the construction of the Aswan High Dam but were saved via an extensive project to cut the temples into pieces and move them to higher ground, where they are seen today.

On our return to Aswan the rest of the day is free for you to make your own discoveries.

Later we'll check in to our Nile cruise – our floating home for the next three nights.

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Inspiring Highlights

- Abu Simbel

Special Information

Your travel time today will be approximately 8 hours.

Please note that as the sailing distance between Aswan and Luxor is approximately 200km, that it is typical for all cruises operated along the Nile to be docked for majority of the time to conduct sightseeing, with the sailing to occur in the evening. The vessel will be docked either in Aswan or Luxor. Depending on the time of year and number of vessels operating at the same time, you will also find that all vessels are docked beside one another, which is beyond our control.

To ensure that our customers have appropriate expectations prior to their journey, it is important not to compare this experience to that of a European River Cruise, which tends to cover a greater distance and on larger vessels. Instead, you will experience a deluxe stay onboard your vessel, offering a great chance to enjoy the beautiful scenery of the banks of the Nile while you sit back and relax. Your cruise schedule will be provided once onboard.

OPTIONAL TOUR - SUNSET FELUCCA SAILING

Sunsets in Aswan are truly magical and there is no better way to experience them than on a traditional felucca. Embark the felucca and cruise for approximately 2 hours on the Nile River. Sail around the enchanting islands of Aswan. As the sun begins its descent, the sky will transform into a canvas of mesmerising hues, painting the Nile River in shades of gold, orange and crimson. Relax and soak in the breathtaking scenery while enjoying refreshing drinks on board.

Meeting Point: Hotel reception
How to get there: Short walk from hotel
Includes: Cruise and drinks onboard
Start Time: 4:00pm
End Time: 6:30pm

DAY 8

Destination	Kom Ombo Temple
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	M/S Tower Prestige Nile cruise, or similar

Today we'll journey ashore to visit Kom Ombo Temple. Dedicated to the gods Sobek and Haroeris, this unusual double temple was constructed during the Ptolemaic period, which lasted from 108 to 47 BC.

Set dramatically on the banks of the Nile, 47km north of Aswan and 168km south of Luxor, the soaring, chunky columns of the Great Temple of Kom Ombo are a magnificent sight as you arrive from the river.

The temple is well preserved, especially the detail on the murals and columns. One unique engraving is thought to be among the first representations of medical and surgical instruments.

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Today, Kom Ombo may be a sleepy agricultural backwater surrounded by sugar cane fields, but its prime position along the Nile once made it one of Upper Egypt's most important centres. Wander through the temple's colonnades, gazing up at scenes of kingly propaganda, and you'll catch a feel of this glorious history for yourself.

Returning to the cruise boat, we'll continue travelling upriver, with free time relaxing on the sundeck and taking in the surrounding sights. Dinner is served onboard as we sail toward Edfu.

Inspiring Highlights

- Kom Ombo Temple

OPTIONAL TOUR - ENTRANCE TO THE MONASTERY OF ST SIMEON

Visit the atmospheric remains of a 7th-century monastery, later rebuilt in the 10th century, set high on the hills overlooking Aswan and the Nile. Enjoy a scenic 30-minute boat ride to the West Bank before a guided camel ride to the site, where you can explore the historic complex at your own pace.

Meeting Point: Hotel Reception
How to get there: Short walk to the dock
Includes: Boat ride, 30 minute camel ride
Start Time: 2:30pm
End Time: 5:30pm

DAY 9

Destination	Edfu 🚂 Luxor
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	M/S Tower Prestige Nile cruise, or similar

This morning we will moor near Edfu – home to ancient settlements and temples, as well as a bustling town centre and a bazaar.

We will continue cruising toward Luxor, passing through the historic lock at Esna as you continue along the Nile's tranquil waters.

Enjoy lunch and dinner onboard and an evening Egyptian Belly Dancer Show.

Inspiring Highlights

- Edfu

Special Information

Please note: the only mode of transport available to visit the Temple of Edfu is by locally managed horse and carriages. As a responsible travel-focused business, animal welfare is extremely important to us and we want to ensure that we are not promoting any activities where the working animals are not properly cared for. Unfortunately,

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some operators of the horse and carriages have been found to be in breach of our animal welfare guidelines and it is, for this reason, we will no longer include the visit to the Temple of Edfu.

In addition to the animal welfare concerns, we have had a substantial amount of feedback suggesting that the experience itself is quite uncomfortable due to the pushy nature of the vendors and local suppliers outside the site. While we recommend that you do not use the horse and carriage to visit the Temple, the decision is ultimately up to you. Edfu is an included port stop on the Nile River cruise schedule.

DAY 10

Destination	Luxor
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Steigenberger Resort Achti - Luxor, or similar

Your Nile cruise comes to an end in the open-air museum of Luxor – from the spectacular temple complex of Karnak to the Valley of the Kings, Luxor is full of wonderfully-preserved reminders of the pharaohs.

After breakfast onboard and disembarkation from the cruise we'll explore the magnificent Karnak Temple, which is perhaps the most impressive of all the ancient pharaohs' monumental works. One of the world's most celebrated temple complexes, Karnak was built over some 200 years and was once known as the 'Chosen of Places'. Your guided tour of this vast temple of impressive pylons, obelisks and chapels will reveal its finest sections, such as the Avenue of Sphinxes and the Great Temple of Amun.

The rest of the day is yours: relax, shop in the excellent bazaar, or perhaps experience the atmosphere of a local teahouse.

Inspiring Highlights

- Karnak Temple

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OPTIONAL TOUR - WEST BANK & FUNTASIA COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Spend your afternoon in Luxor on the West Bank, starting at the Tombs of the Nobles, where officials' tombs are painted with lively scenes of everyday ancient Egyptian life. Continue to Medinet Habu, the mortuary temple of Ramesses III, known for its deep reliefs and well-preserved colour.

Then join Funtasia, a nonprofit supporting youth education and employment in local communities. Cycle or walk with a youth-led guide through West Bank villages and farmland, then visit the community centre to meet the team and young participants over a refreshment. Funtasia's Luxor Bike Centre was set up to create employment for local youth, and your participation directly supports its programs.

Includes

- Guided visit to the Tombs of the Nobles and Medinet Habu Temple (guide and entrance fees included)
- Guided community bike ride or walk (15 to 30 minutes)
- Visit to the Funtasia community centre with juice or water
- Return transfers from your Luxor hotel

Meeting Point: Hotel reception
Includes: Hotel transfers, Entrance fees
Start Time: Approximately 4:00pm
End Time: Approximately 6:00pm

*Please note - times can change depending on the time of year

DAY 11

Destination	Luxor
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Steigenberger Resort Achti - Luxor, or similar

After breakfast we'll discover some of the many wonders of ancient Thebes. Our first stop is the Colossi of Memnon, two 17-metre-high statues on Luxor's west bank. Carved from granite blocks, they represent the Pharaoh Amenhotep III and were once part of an impressive colonnade.

We'll continue onto the spectacular royal burial site of the Valley of the Kings. Buried under the arid hills here are the tombs of more than 60 pharaohs, many richly decorated with reliefs and paintings. Explore this sprawling and spectacular place with your guide, where the pharaohs of the New Kingdom (16th to 11th century BCE) were secretly interred for all eternity, and where archaeological discoveries are still being made. Your guide will explain the history of and legends surrounding these remarkable people, their funerary rites, and the significance of the many paintings and hieroglyphics, still well-preserved in the deepest tombs.

You will visit three of the most interesting royal tombs and then continue to the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, a stunning colonnaded building set against high cliffs that create a spectacular natural amphitheatre. One of Egypt's greatest queens, she built this temple to prove her importance – the scale and elegance of her temple certainly

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proves a point!

The afternoon is yours to explore – perhaps you'd like to shop in the market or visit the world's first Mummification Museum to discover the secrets of pharaonic preservation.

Inspiring Highlights

- Colossi of Memnon
- Valley of the Kings
- Temple of Queen Hatshepsut

Special Information

Please note: Entry to the Tomb of King Tutankhamun is not included in today's scheduled activities. Tickets cost approximately USD $20 and can be purchased on-site with assistance from your tour leader. Be aware that there may be long queues, so plan accordingly to allow enough time for your visit.

OPTIONAL TOUR - LUXOR TEMPLE

Situated on the East Bank of the Nile River, in the city of Luxor, Luxor Temple was built approximately 1400 BC. The site is over 73 sq km and exhibits obelisks, giant statues, an Avenue of Sphinx statues, the Grand colonnade and the Barque Shrine of Theban Triad. Viewing is as majestic at night as it is during the day.

Meeting Point: Hotel reception
Includes: Hotel transfers, Entrance fees
Start Time: Approximately 4:00pm
End Time: Approximately 6:00pm

Please note: the start and duration times outlined are subject to change based on factors beyond our control such as traffic and weather conditions. Your Tour Guide will confirm operation times with you whilst on-tour and can answer any further questions you may have.

DAY 12

Destination	Luxor Hurghada
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 Marriott Hurghada Beach Resort, or similar

This morning we'll bid farewell to the Nile and drive east to the beachside town of Hurghada. The Nile valley's verdant landscape is soon replaced with the barren Eastern Desert. Passing through rocky hills, we'll begin to catch glimpses of the glittering waters of the Red Sea and the rugged bulk of the Sinai Peninsula looms through the haze on the opposite shore.

A vibrant beach resort, Hurghada is by no means a typical adventure destination. Known for its underwater reefs and marine life, it's a popular diving destination. After checking into your hotel, take a walking tour with your guide to get your bearings, and check out some of the local restaurants and eateries.

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You will have the remainder of the evening at leisure and enjoy a sumptuous buffet dinner tonight at your hotel.

Special Information

Your travel time today will be approximately 4.5 hours.

OPTIONAL TOUR - HURGHADA CITY TOUR

Spend the afternoon exploring the heart of Hurghada's old city. Visit a traditional shipbuilding workshop and the nearby dock, wander through the bustling fish market and local souk, and gain insight into the city's cultural heritage with visits to both a mosque and a church.

Meeting Point: Hotel Reception
Includes: Hotel Transfers, Guided tour
Start Time: 2:30pm
End Time: 5:30pm

Please note: the start and duration times outlined are subject to change based on factors beyond our control such as traffic and weather conditions. Your Tour Leader will confirm operation times with you whilst on-tour and can answer any further questions you may have.

DAY 13

Destination	Hurghada
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Marriott Hurghada Beach Resort, or similar

Today is yours to enjoy at leisure in the Red Sea resort town of Hurghada, whether you choose to unwind by the water, explore the local area, or take advantage of the optional activity.

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OPTIONAL TOUR - RED SEA SNORKELLING

Discover the Red Sea's remarkable marine life on a full-day snorkelling cruise from Hurghada. Sail across clear, turquoise waters and stop at three distinct snorkelling sites, each offering its own vibrant coral formations and colourful sea life. Use your own gear or the equipment provided as you explore at your leisure, with the chance to spot tropical fish, graceful rays, and even sea turtles.

Snorkelling areas will be similar to the below, but can change depending on weather conditions

Fanar Light House
Middle of the Red Sea
Magawish Island

Meeting Point: Hotel Reception
Includes: Hotel Transfers, Snorkelling gear, Lunch
Start Time: 9:00am
End Time: 3:30pm

DAY 14

Destination	Hurghada ✈ Cairo
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Sonesta Hotel, Tower & Casino Cairo, or similar

Today we'll leave Hurghada and take the short flight back to Cairo.

Upon our return to the capital we'll enjoy an essential Egyptian experience – a visit to Khan El-Khalili bazaar, a memorable shopping experience in the historic centre of Islamic Cairo. Even if you are not looking to buy, take a walk through the colourful winding alleys of this labyrinth district – you'll feel like you stepped back in time to an old Arab souk. Selling handicrafts, delicious spices, fabrics and clothes, it's been a shopping district for thousands of years.

We'll then continue to our hotel for free time.

Special Information

Your flying time today will be approximately 1.5 hours.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on.

Your internal flight for this day is arranged by our local partner. Specific flight details will be provided by your Tour Leader upon arrival and cannot be provided in advance. Please note that these group flights cannot be upgraded, amended, or checked in online. Your Tour Leader will manage the check-in process for the group.

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OPTIONAL TOUR - HOME COOKED DINNER WITH AN EGYPTIAN FAMILY IN CAIRO

Sit down for a home-cooked meal with a local family. During this experience, you'll get to visit a local family and learn about Egyptian culture and traditions but most importantly, enjoy a delicious and authentic home-cooked meal.

Starts: approx: To be confirmed on tour by your Tour Guide.

Duration: approx. 3 hours

Please note the start and duration times outlined are subject to change based on factors beyond our control such as traffic and weather conditions. Your Tour Guide will confirm operation times with you whilst on-tour and can answer any further questions you may have.

DAY 15

Destination	Cairo ✈ Amman
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	Signia by Hilton Amman, or similar

Today, say goodbye to your Egyptian tour leader and get ready for the next leg of your journey as you are transferred to the airport for your flight to Amman, Jordan.

Welcome to Jordan, cosmopolitan and contemporary, yet steeped in biblical history. On arrival at Amman's Queen Alia International Airport, you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel. You will meet your Jordanian tour leader today.

Special Information

Your flight time will be approximately 1.5 hours

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (50 lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour leaders will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

If you are eligible for a Jordanian visa on arrival, this will be included in your tour package. You will be met and assisted through immigration.

DAY 16

Destination	Amman 🚌 Jerash 🚌 Amman
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel	Signia by Hilton Amman, or similar

After breakfast, enjoy a tour of this capital city. Cosmopolitan and contemporary, yet steeped in ancient biblical history, Amman is a bit of a chameleon. Most of the city's historical sites are located downtown. Here we'll visit the Citadel, with remains from the Roman to the early Islamic period; the Jordan Archaeological Museum, which houses the oldest Neolithic statues dating from 8000 to 5000 NC, as well as other valuable artifacts; the souq, where we'll get an idea of everyday life; as well as the beautifully restored 2nd-century Roman Theatre.

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Next we'll take a short drive (approximately one-hour) north to Jerash. Once one of the grandest ancient Roman cities in the world, Jerash now boasts some of the best Greco-Roman ruins around. Admire this site's striking collection of crumbling archways, theatres, baths, public buildings and colonnaded streets. Grand columns encircle the city's centrepiece, the Oval Plaza, a wonderfully atmospheric place to linger after exploring this ruined city's lasting riches.

Inspiring Highlights

- Citadel
- Jordan Archaeological Museum
- Roman Theatre
- Jerash

Special Information

Your travel time today will be approximately 2 hours.

DAY 17

Destination	Amman Petra
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 Movenpick Petra Resort, or similar

Today marks the beginning of our journey towards the fabled site of Petra. En route we'll visit Madaba, an ancient market town that's home to a number of fine Byzantine mosaics, the most outstanding of which lies within Saint George's Greek Orthodox Church. Here, a map of the Holy Land once carpeted the whole floor, said to contain more than two million pieces. Crafted around 560 CE, a large swathe of this mosaic map can still be viewed, providing the oldest map of Palestine in existence.

Next we'll enjoy breathtaking scenery and stop off at the viewpoint overlooking the Dana Nature Reserve.

Later, we'll drive along the King's Highway, up to Shobak Castle, sometimes known as Montreal. Perched at the top of a hill in the desert, this ancient Crusader castle was originally built to protect the eastern flank of the Latin Kingdom and its trade routes to the sea before it fell to Muslim sultan Saladin in 1189. Stroll the site and discover a small chapel, original gatehouse, and find out where a long, dark secret passage leads.

Inspiring Highlights

- Madaba
- Dana Reserve viewpoint
- Shobak Castle

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Your travel time today will be approximately 5 hours.

DAY 18

Destination	Petra
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Movenpick Petra Resort, or similar

Get ready for Petra! A firm fixture on most bucket lists for good reason – the jewel of Jordan is an arresting sight. The so-called Rose City boasts an impressive series of tombs, caves and temples hidden behind ornate façades carved directly into the rock. No one knows the exact date of this desert kingdom's creation, but the lost city of the Nabateans is believed to date as far back as the 2nd century CE. The city has lain empty and unknown for centuries, only rediscovered in 1812 by a Swiss explorer.

You'll feel just like Indiana Jones, as you meander through the narrow canyon known as the Siq; at times the path measures only a few metres wide, with walls soaring up to 180 metres on either side of you. It's easy to imagine the armies and merchants who made their way here many years ago, and the sense of awe they too must have felt upon reaching this ancient rock-hewn kingdom, surrounded by such a stark landscape. The Siq is the main entranceway to The Treasury – perhaps Petra's most iconic sight, and one of its most elaborate temples.

Petra's greatest surprise, however, is its size. With our guide we'll explore the old Roman road, the amphitheatre and several tombs. We'll also climb up to the beautiful façade of the Monastery, from where you will have a magnificent view of the entire site.

Exploring this truly extraordinary destination is sure to be a highlight of your trip.

Inspiring Highlights

- Petra

DAY 19

Destination	Petra 🚌 Wadi Rum
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	Saraya Rum Camp - Wadi Rum, or similar

We continue to Wadi Rum and browse around the excellent and informative visitor's centre. We'll visit several of Wadi Rum's distinctive rock formations and soak in the vast silence, towering sandstone mountains and spectacular desert landscapes of this surreal 'Valley of the Moon', where the wind-sculpted rock formations change in hue throughout the day.

We'll also meet with local Bedouins, who live in scattered camps throughout the area. We'll enjoy an evening with them at one of their camps, savouring the hospitality of these nomadic peoples and the uninterrupted desert panoramas.

Wadi Rum is probably best known for its connection with the enigmatic British army officer TE Lawrence, who was based here during the Great Arab Revolt of 1917-18. Much of David Lean's movie on his exploits, Lawrence of Arabia, was actually filmed in this very region.

Inspiring Highlights

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- Wadi Rum
- Valley of the Moon
- Bedouin Camp

Special Information

Your travel time today will be approximately 2 hours.

Please note - While we are sure that this experience will inspire you, please be aware that your stay will differ from that of a traditional hotel. There are no hotels in or near Wadi Rum: the only places to sleep are the numerous bedouin-run camps dotted around the desert. The camps that we use are quoted as being 'luxury' because their locations differ from other styles of camps and your tent will have its own ensuite. Even at the best and more 'luxurious' camps, bathroom facilities within the tents are somewhat rudimentary and the bedding can also be quite basic, however still offering you a comfortable nights' accommodation. All of your meals are included and will be served in a common social area. While we may not make it sound glamorous, it will be a unique and memorable experience.

DAY 20

Destination	Wadi Rum 🚌 Dead Sea 🚌 Amman
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel	Signia by Hilton Amman, or similar

After waking up in the unique environment of the luxury camp this morning, we'll enjoy a walk around the area before scaling one of the large dunes to enjoy sensational views of the surrounding area; keen photographers will be delighted. We'll then ride camels back across the Wadi Rum desert. *(For those who prefer not to ride a camel, there is the option of travelling by 4WD)*

Later, we'll drive for approximately two hours to reach a radically different landscape – the Dead Sea. We'll spend the afternoon on the shores of this famous body of water, named for the dearth of life in its waters. The saline water has a high density that keeps bathers buoyant and makes getting underneath the surface very difficult. Floating on the surface without any sort of lilo makes for a once in a lifetime experience. Afterwards we'll return to Amman for the evening.

Inspiring Highlights

- Wadi Rum desert camel ride
- The Dead Sea

Special Information

Your travel time today will be approximately 5.5 hours

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NOT FINAL DOCUMENTATION

DAY 21

Destination	Amman
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Unfortunately, today marks the end of your incredible tour through Egypt and Jordan.
Thank you for travelling with Inspiring Vacations. We hope you had a memorable experience.

Special Information

Departure transfers are included as part of your package. You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport to meet your flight.

If you choose to extend your stay (e.g., departing after the final tour date) and have booked your additional accommodation independently, this included service will be forfeited and no refund will be issued.

If Inspiring Vacations has not provided your international airfares, please ensure you provide your flight details via your Traveller Hub portal no later than 90 days prior to travel so that your transfers can be confirmed.

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NOT FINAL DOCUMENTATION

Inclusions

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Incredible sightseeing, get up close to the Pyramids of Giza and the Great Sphinx, marvel at the ancient Abu Simbel temples, float in the Dead Sea and see the ancient city of Petra
- 16 nights in 5 star accommodation
- Experience an overnight stay in a private tent in the Wadi Rum desert, gazing at the stars
- 3 night Nile Cruise
- 20 Breakfasts, 5 lunches, 8 dinners
- Airport transfers included on the first and last day of your tour
- Jordanian Visa*
- All internal flights, coach and boat transportation
- Fully escorted by English-speaking guides (excluding on internal flights)
- Sightseeing including entry fees as per itinerary

* A Jordanian visa is included for travellers holding passports from eligible visa-on-arrival countries, including Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada and India. Travellers of other nationalities should check visa requirements in advance and may need to obtain a visa prior to departure; in these cases, the visa fee is not included in your package price.

SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

- Cairo - Pyramids of Giza and Sphinx
- Cairo - Egyptian Museum
- Luxor - Karnak Temple
- Luxor - Colossi of Memnon
- Luxor - Valley of the Kings
- Luxor - Temple of Queen Hatsephut
- Nile River - Nile Cruise
- Edfu - Temples and Bazaar
- Kom Ombo - Kom Ombo Temple
- Abu Simbel - Abu Simbel Temples
- Abu Simbel - Felucca Ride
- Amman - City Tour
- Jerash - Oval Plaza & Tour
- Madaba - Madaba Visit
- Dana - Dana Visit
- Petra - Full Day Petra Walking Tour
- Wadi Rum - Camel Safari & Overnight Bedouin Camp
- Dead Sea - Dead Sea Visit
- Amman - City Tour
- Jerash - Oval Plaza & Tour
- Madaba - Madaba Visit
- Dana - Dana Visit
- Petra - Full Day Petra Walking Tour
- Wadi Rum - Camel Safari & Overnight Bedouin Camp
- Dead Sea - Dead Sea Visit

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NOT FINAL DOCUMENTATION

CRUISE DETAILS

The **Tower Prestige Nile Cruise** is a contemporary deluxe vessel offering a spacious and elegant setting for journeys along the Nile between Aswan and Luxor. Modern design, panoramic river views and thoughtful comforts create an effortless and memorable way to experience Egypt's legendary waterway.

Cabins are elegantly appointed with panoramic Nile views and contemporary touches such as a flat-screen TV, individually controlled air-conditioning, minibar, in-room safe, and en-suite shower.

Dining and leisure are central to the onboard experience. Guests can enjoy generous buffet meals featuring both local and international cuisine in the main restaurant, or unwind with refreshments in the stylish lounge bar. The sun deck offers an informal bar, shaded seating and loungers for sunseekers, along with a swimming pool and two Jacuzzis. Additional facilities include a gym, sauna, massage rooms and a gift shop.

ADD-ONS, UPGRADES AND ROOM CONFIGURATION

Optional Tours
To enhance your journey, we are offering guests a choice of the following optional activities (prices are per person):

- West Bank & Funtasia Community Activity (Day 10) - $135 per person
- Sunset felucca sailing (Day 7) - $69 per person
- Entrance to the Monastery of St Simeon (Day 8) - $69 per person
- Luxor Temple (Day 11) - $57 per person
- Hurghada City Tour (Day 12) - $59 per person
- Red Sea snorkelling (Day 13) - $79 per person
- Home Cooked Dinner with an Egyptian Family in Cairo (Day 14) - $79 per person

Optional tours can be selected once you have finalised your tour purchase and paid your deposit. When completing your Passenger Booking Form, you will be asked if you would like to add Optional Tours, where any applicable cost will be added to your final balance. If you choose not to select them at this time, you can choose to add them later by logging in to your Account online.

Please note that you must select your Optional Tours no later than 70 days before departure, after which you will be required to purchase them on tour. Please keep in mind that anything purchased on-tour is subject to availability and prices may vary as you will be paying in local currency. We appreciate your understanding.

Pre/post accommodation
You can enhance your holiday by arriving or departing before or after the tour. On this tour you can choose from the following options:

Pre Tour Accommodation

- $504.00 per room, per night for double and twin share
- $484.00 per room, per night for solo travellers

Post Tour Accommodation

- $444.00 per room, per night for double and twin share
- $385.00 per room, per night for solo travellers

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Please select the number of extra nights required in the 'Additional Nights Accommodation' field when making your purchase. The additional cost for these arrangements will be added to your final payment invoice and are subject to availability.

Upgrades
Not available

Airport Transfers
Some of our packages will include airport transfers in either one or both directions when arriving or departing from your destination. To know if transfers are included please view the 'inclusions' section of your selected package. If airport transfers are stated, transfers will be included as advised.

If transfers are not included, we also offer the option to book your airport transfers using our online portal. Access to this portal is available through your Traveller Hub once your booking is confirmed. Transfers are readily available and do not need to be booked until your final hotel list has been confirmed. Once you have made a transfer booking, please refer to your confirmation email for all transfer details including a local contact number for the transfer company.

If you book pre and/or post-tour accommodation on your arrangement, and the tour includes transfers, note that these will be forfeited. The transfers are only provided in line with the tour dates and pre and/or post-tour accommodation purchased through Inspiring Vacations when available.

Bedding Configuration
Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences, but we can not guarantee your request will be available at all properties.

Single travellers
When booking this tour, solo travellers will be presented with two options:

1 - Single Supplement
By paying an additional **$2,895.00** per person, in addition to the twin-share price, you guarantee the privacy of your room throughout the entire tour.

Please note when choosing Single Supplement for this tour, your room will generally consist of a double or semi-double bed. Occasionally there may be a hotel that will provide a single bedded room for single travellers.

2- Shared Room with a known friend
If travelling together with a friend, you can opt to share your room with him/her and avoid paying a single supplement.

You and your friend can create a unique booking each. Creating a unique booking, gives each of you the flexibility of making different travel arrangements (such as adding extra accommodation, flights, etc), making separate payments and having individual access to our Traveller Hub

During the purchase path, you will need to provide your friend's booking ID (if known) or at a minimum, your friend's full name.

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3- Shared Room with a fellow traveller
In this tour you can opt to share a room with a fellow traveller of the same gender – as specified in your passport - and avoid paying a single supplement.

If you believe you may prevent your travelling companion from enjoying a peaceful night's rest, please refrain from selecting this option.

You will meet your rooming companion at the beginning of your tour.

Should you wish to change from a shared room to a solo room, this would be at the cost of the traveller who has requested to change the room type. Changes to room configuration during the trip must be organised by travellers directly with the hotel, subject to availability and additional charges.

This option is not available on additional accommodation booked before or after

Triple Share
Not available

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Fine Print

BOOKING & PAYMENT TERMS

Payment Information
Secure your trip with a $99.00 deposit per person.

Once we receive your deposit, we will send you an invoice with your remaining balance and payment options.

Instalment Schedule:

1. At the time of booking pay a $99.00 deposit per person.
2. Pay a 1st installment of $2,861.00 per person within 7 days.
3. Pay a 2nd installment of $5,150.00 per person within 60 days.
4. You will then be invoiced for final payment 120 days prior to departure.

Cooling Off Period
A refund will be available within the 7-day cooling-off period unless otherwise restricted by the purchased product.

Where 'last minute' bookings are available within 71 days of departure, the cooling-off period does not apply and bookings are immediately non-refundable.

Terms and conditions
Please review our terms and conditions here:
https://www.inspiringvacations.com/au/page/terms-and-conditions

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE DETAILS

Starting Point

Your starting hotel may differ from the original itinerary. Please refer to your final documentation which will be provided approximately 14-30 days before departure for your confirmed hotel list. If you need to book pre-tour accommodation independently, we suggest you do this only once you have received your final hotel list for your tour. If you would like to book something sooner, we recommend that you book using a flexible rate that can be cancelled through your chosen third-party provider without penalty.

Travellers will arrive at various times throughout the day depending on flights booked. If arriving before standard check-in time, which is generally 3pm, you are welcome to leave your luggage at hotel reception and explore your surroundings until check-in becomes available as there are no scheduled activities on day 1 of the itinerary. The hotel may grant early check-in, however this is strictly subject to availability and at the hotel's discretion.

Note: if you need to apply for a tourist visa before departure, we recommend using the details of the suggested hotel on the tour itinerary if you wish to fulfil this before the release of your final tour documentation. Please refer to our visa section for more information on whether or not a visa is required for your destination.

Arrival Details

Airport transfers are **included** as part of your package, so long as you are arriving as per the purchased itinerary. If you have purchased an extension, either pre or post-tour, the applicable transfer service will be forfeited from your package and you will need to make

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your arrangements to the starting hotel.

Where the service remains included, on arrival look out for a representative holding an "Inspiring Vacations" sign after you have collected your baggage and exited customs. If you cannot find them, try to avoid wandering around and instead stay in one place and call the emergency contact number on your documentation.

Where the service has been forfeited due to an early arrival and extended stay, we do offer airport transfers at an additional cost which can be booked via your Traveller Hub. We recommend you wait until you receive your final documentation to book transfers as your start and end hotels will only be confirmed at this point. Please note that if you are choosing to book an independent airport transfer service, your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader cannot be held responsible for any unforeseen circumstances that may arise, nor can they resolve any concerns that you may have with your transfer service.

To make your way to your hotel from the airport, there are various connections by train or limousine bus. The airport information desks can provide helpful advice, too. Most destinations offer ride-share services, such as Uber or Didi.

If you're having any problems finding the hotel, please ring the hotel directly or you can phone our customer support team for on-tour assistance.

Welcome Meeting Instructions

On the morning of day 2, meet your tour guide and fellow travellers before heading out to see the Pyramids of Giza and Sphinx.

You are welcome to arrive at any time on Day 1 of your tour and the day is at your leisure. Upon checking in at the hotel, you will receive a letter containing meeting instructions for the following morning. If you do not automatically receive these details, please ask for them. Generally, you must meet at the lobby the following morning (on the day that sightseeing commences) as early as 0815 am local time. Please ensure that you are on time.

In Case of Emergency

Although we strive to deliver exceptional holiday experiences, unforeseen circumstances can occasionally arise during travel. If any issues arise during your tour, it's essential to promptly communicate them to your tour leader or local representative. This ensures they can take immediate action to address the problem and mitigate any negative impact on the remainder of your journey.

We understand that there may be instances where your tour leader or local representative is unable to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. In such cases, we encourage you to request that the tour leader or local representative escalate the matter to their direct manager for further assistance.

When your final tour documentation is released, this will include an emergency contact for our local travel partner while you are on tour. If this is not included in your documentation, you will receive this on arrival during your welcome meeting.

Finishing Point

Your finishing hotel may differ from the original itinerary. Please refer to your final documentation which will be provided approximately 14-30 days before departure for your confirmed hotel list. If you need to book additional post-tour accommodation, please do so once you have the final hotel list. We recommend booking a flexible rate that can be changed or cancelled without penalty should there be any unforeseen changes to your booking.

Travellers will depart at various times throughout the day depending on flights booked. Check-out time is generally from 10am-12pm. You are welcome to leave your luggage at the hotel reception and spend your final moments of free time exploring the area or please speak with hotel staff if you would like to extend your check-out time. This service is subject to availability and will likely come at an additional cost payable directly.

Departure Details

Airport transfers are **included** as part of your package, so long as you are departing as per the purchased itinerary. If you have purchased an extension, either pre or post-tour, the applicable transfer service will be forfeited from your package and you will need to make your arrangements to the starting hotel.

Where the service remains included, your tour leader will confirm the pick-up time from your hotel to the airport and this will depend on the flight that you have booked. Generally, you will be required to be at the airport approximately 3 hours before your scheduled departure.

Where the service has been forfeited due to an extended stay, we do offer airport transfers at an additional cost which can be booked via your Traveller Hub. We recommend you wait until you receive your final documentation to book transfers as your start and end hotels will only be confirmed at this point. Please note that if you are choosing to book an independent airport transfer service, your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader cannot be held responsible for any unforeseen circumstances that may arise, nor can they resolve any concerns that you may have with your transfer service.

To make your way to your hotel from the airport, there are various connections by train or limousine bus. The airport information desks can provide helpful advice, too. Most destinations offer ride-share services, such as Uber or Didi. If you're having any problems, you can speak to hotel reception before your departure.

TOUR & DESTINATION INFORMATION

Tour Suitability

- Many ancient sites in Egypt and Jordan have uneven, rocky, and dusty walkways. Places like the Valley of the Kings, Petra, and Jerash involve extended periods on foot, often in exposed areas. Comfortable walking shoes are a must, along with adequate sun protection such as hats, sunscreen, and sunglasses.
- Some hotels in Egypt and Jordan don't have lifts, so you may need to carry your luggage up stairs to reach your room.
- Egypt and Jordan's weather can be extreme, with temperatures ranging from intense heat to surprisingly cold conditions depending on the season. Packing layers is a good idea for both sun protection and staying warm. Sometimes daily itineraries may be altered in order to maximise sightseeing while taking into account extreme weather conditions.
- Ramadan is a month-long annual festival that offers a unique cultural experience. However, some services like restaurants and cafes may be

unavailable during the day, and travel can occasionally be disrupted by events. Your leader will adjust the itinerary as needed, but please consider this when choosing your travel dates. Ramadan is a unique time to travel in Egypt and Jordan, and can still be a wonderful experience.
- This tour is a combination of two smaller journeys. Not all of your fellow passengers will be travelling onward with you to Jordan. Some travellers may be finishing their time in Egypt early. If you'd like more information on alternative tour options or extensions, please feel free to contact us.

Travel Safety

While the Middle East can occasionally experience periods of unrest, we remain vigilant and follow official guidance at all times. Please be assured that your safety is our top priority. We continuously monitor the Australian Government's travel advice on www.Smartraveller.gov.au for all destinations and work closely with our trusted local partners to ensure your safety at all times. If any situation arises that may impact your travel plans, we'll be in touch with updates and next steps.

Visas & Entry Requirements

Many countries require a visa and obtaining the correct visa for your tour and any countries you may transit through is your responsibility. We recommend you check your visa requirements as soon as you have booked your tour. This will ensure you have time to prepare your documents and for your visa application to be processed. You can check the visa entry requirements for your nationality via our page here: https://inspiringvacations-8357211.hs-sites.com/visa-information

You'll need a valid passport to travel internationally and most countries require your passport to have a minimum of 6 months validity, so remember to check the expiry date.

We need your passport information to get everything ready for your tour so the information on your booking must match your passport exactly. Please take care to provide the correct details. We recommend carrying a copy of the photo page of your passport while travelling and leaving a copy at home with family or friends.

Child Policy

Children must be 5 years old or above and share a room with parents at all times. Children are charged the same price as adults.

Pace

This tour category is **Steady**

Our **Steady** tours offer a good mix of guided sightseeing and personal free time. With a combination of 2-3 night stays and occasional 1 night stops in key locations, this pace allows for deeper exploration while minimising long travel days.

Activity and Mobility

This tour is categorised as: **3 out of 5 - Balanced**

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Our **Balanced tours** involve a moderate level of physical activity and are designed to suit the majority of travellers. Be prepared for walking on varied surfaces, which may include cobblestones, gravel paths, and noticeable inclines common in historic towns and natural areas. You must be confident on your feet and capable of navigating multiple flights of stairs and uneven ground without assistance to fully participate.

Activity snapshot

- **Activity:** Balanced to active sightseeing across Egypt & Jordan, with a mix of city touring, museums, bazaars and major ancient sites. Expect stop , start walking, some stairs, and uneven footing at key attractions. Frequent resting points are available throughout the itinerary.
- **Typical walking distances:** Around 3–5 km on sightseeing days. Days with more walking include the Pyramids, Museum day, the West Bank of Luxor and Petra day.

Mobility requirements

- **Mobility:** Best suited to travellers comfortable with moderate walking, uneven ground, and stairs at some sites. You'll also need to be able to step up into the bus/coach and manage steps on the Nile River cruise.
- **Walking surfaces:** Cobblestones, stone pavements, dirt and gravel paths, loose rock, and unpaved roads.

- **Wheelchairs:** Vehicles and hotels can accommodate wheelchairs, but many sites, and the Nile Cruise presents significant stair access or sandy/gravel paths between areas with no ramp or lift access. Please reach out to Inspiring Vacations directly to discuss wheelchair use.

Hotels, climate and peak periods

- **Hotels:** All main tour hotels have lifts, and many offer accessible rooms, subject to room category and availability. The Nile Cruise and the Wadi Rum Camp do not have lift access, the cruise involves significant stairs (two flights between floors), including stairs to areas such as the restaurant and up to the sundeck.
- **Climate:** June, July, and August can be very hot, especially in Luxor, Aswan and Wadi Rum.
- **Peak travel periods:** During March/April and September–December there can be large crowds and significant waiting times at popular tourist areas, the itinerary may use earlier start times than usual to manage conditions and crowding.

Any physical ailments you may have must be disclosed at the time of booking to determine your suitability and where required, supporting documentation may be requested to ensure that we are comfortable that you will enjoy your tour.

Group Size

Minimum: 4 people, Maximum: 20 people

Escorted Style

This tour is **fully escorted** by a dedicated tour leader who will accompany you throughout the tour.

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Tour Type

Our expertly crafted **Small Group Tours** take you to iconic landmarks and hidden treasures, ensuring a rich blend of must-see sights. Unwind in premium accommodations after each day filled with sightseeing alongside your dedicated tour leader, leaving you free to explore at your own pace during designated free time. Benefit from smaller group sizes, creating a truly unforgettable travel experience.

Exclusions

- International airfares
- Egypt Visa
- Travel insurance
- Tipping
- Optional activities
- Personal expenses
- Anything not mentioned in the itinerary

Getting Around

This tour will use a private coach, internal Domestic flights, International flight between Egypt and Jordan and cruise. For coach journeys, where applicable there will be comfort stops along the way where you can freshen up, stretch your legs, use the bathroom and often, purchase refreshments. Generally, lunch stops will be taken at rest stops as they can easily accommodate our large groups.

For further information on your cruise, please see Cruise Details above.

Your flight between Cairo and Amman will be unescorted, however your tour leaders will assist you on either side.

Hotel Ratings

Star ratings can differ between countries, reflecting diverse standards and amenities. To give you the most accurate picture possible, we don't just rely on a single source for hotel ratings. We go beyond by researching various trusted travel websites like Tripadvisor and Booking.com. This allows us to analyse a wider range of genuine customer reviews and experiences, giving you a well-rounded understanding of the hotel's typical star rating.

This means you can book with confidence, knowing the hotel has a strong track record of satisfied guests.

Accommodation Details

We have carefully selected 5 star hotels to ensure your comfort and enjoyment. Our accommodations reflect the best available options, tailored to our style of travel.

For more information on your cruise accommodation, please see Cruise Details above.

Packing Essentials

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We recommend you pack as lightly as possible, ensuring that you can carry and lift your luggage, and walk with it for short distances or up or down a flight of stairs.

A small lockable suitcase with wheels is ideal for this tour. This tour includes internal flights, which have luggage weight restrictions, also space for luggage storage on your coach may be limited so it is recommended that you keep your main luggage weight no more than 20kg.

- Small day pack: For carrying essentials such as water, camera, snacks, a jacket, and other necessities while exploring.
- Clothing: Pack a mix of lightweight and modest clothing suitable for hot days and cooler evenings. Long sleeves and trousers are useful for sun protection, visiting religious sites, and avoiding insect bites. Choose fabrics that are breathable and easy to wash and dry in the heat. Evenings, desert regions, and Nile cruises can get surprisingly cool, especially outside of summer. A warm layer or light jacket is recommended.
- Comfortable, closed-in walking shoes are essential for exploring ancient sites with uneven, rocky paths. Sandals or flip-flops can also be useful for hotel stays or cruise decks.
- Wind and waterproof jacket
- Sun protection: Bring a hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, and lip balm.
- Electrical travel adapter plug
- Inner sleep sheet or sleeping bag: Useful for overnight train journeys or yurt stays.
- Money belt
- Torch or flashlight
- Hand sanitizer
- Earplugs: Helpful for blocking out street noise or snoring.
- Entertainment for long journeys: Consider bringing a book, journal, or music player for train rides and extended drives.

Whenever possible, avoid bringing valuables. Use your hotel safe, and we recommend photocopying important documents like tickets, passport, and vaccination certificates, keeping the copies separate from the originals. Though not official, copies make it easier to obtain replacements if needed.

Climate

- Summer (June to August) can be extremely hot in both countries — particularly in southern Egypt (like Aswan and Luxor) and the Jordan Valley — with temperatures often exceeding 35–40°C.
- Spring and autumn (March–May and September–November) offer warm days and cooler evenings, making these the most popular and comfortable seasons to travel.
- Winter (December to February) brings milder daytime temperatures, but evenings can be quite cold, especially in Amman, the desert regions, and even on Nile cruises. Snow is possible in higher elevations in Jordan.

Weather can vary between regions and throughout the day, so packing layers is the best way to stay comfortable across the journey.

Currency and ATMs

In Egypt, the local currency is the Egyptian Pound (EGP), and in Jordan, it's the Jordanian

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Dinar (JOD).
Both countries rely heavily on cash, especially in markets, smaller shops, and rural areas, so it's advisable to carry small denominations for tipping and everyday purchases.

ATMs are widely available in major cities and tourist areas in both countries, usually offering good exchange rates. However, machines in remote regions may be out of service, so don't rely on them exclusively.

Most hotels, restaurants, and larger stores accept credit and debit cards, with Visa and Mastercard being the most commonly accepted.

Tips:

- Notify your bank of your travel plans to avoid card blocks
- Bring a mix of cash and cards for flexibility
- Keep small notes handy for tipping and local shopping
- Both Egypt and Jordan are cash-friendly, so being prepared will help things go more smoothly

Food and Allergies

Travelling in Egypt and Jordan offers a diverse and delicious culinary experience, rooted in generosity, tradition, and local flavours.

In Jordan, don't miss mansaf, the national dish made of lamb, rice, and fermented yoghurt. You'll also find falafel, hummus, labneh, and fresh salads like tabbouleh and fattoush. Grilled meats like shish tawook and kebabs are widely available, often paired with rice or flatbread. For dessert, try knafeh or baklava, usually served with mint tea or Arabic coffee.

In Egypt, dishes like koshari (a mix of pasta, rice, lentils, and fried onions) and ful medames (a fava bean breakfast dish) are popular staples. Kofta, molokhia, and semolina-based sweets like basbousa are also widely enjoyed.

While travelling with Inspiring Vacations you'll enjoy iconic sightseeing, as well as experience the vast array of local cuisines. While many meals will be eaten together with your group, not all meals are included in your tour which gives you maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. If you have dietary requirements and/or food allergies, please let our Customer Support Team know before departure. Your Inspiring Vacations tour leader or local guide will also be able to give suggestions on which restaurants to try during your trip. For those with a particular food allergy, your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader will endeavour to advise the main ingredients in the dishes consumed. It is, however, still your responsibility to ensure that you do not ingest any problematic ingredients.

Local Customs

Egypt and Jordan are both predominantly Muslim countries, where local customs are shaped by religion, hospitality, and social respect. Modest dress, polite behaviour, and cultural awareness are appreciated throughout your journey.

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When visiting mosques, religious sites, or rural communities, it's respectful to cover your shoulders and knees, and to remove your shoes before entering a mosque. Women are not required to wear a headscarf except when entering a mosque, where covering the head, shoulders, and legs is expected. Men should also avoid wearing shorts in mosques.

Haggling is common in both countries' souks and markets, and while vendors can be persistent — especially in Egypt — a polite but firm "no, thank you" is usually effective. Respect, patience, and a sense of humour will go a long way when interacting with locals.

A friendly Arabic greeting like salaam alaikum ("peace be upon you") is often warmly received and helps foster respectful connections.

Understanding and embracing these customs will help you feel more confident and allow for more meaningful cultural interactions.

Dress Code

Throughout Egypt and Jordan, modest dress is recommended, particularly in conservative areas, rural towns, and religious sites. Both men and women should aim to cover shoulders and knees. Lightweight, breathable clothing is ideal — it keeps you cool in the heat while also aligning with local expectations.

Women are not required to wear a headscarf unless visiting a mosque, and men should wear long trousers when entering religious sites. In tourist beach areas such as the Dead Sea or Red Sea resorts, swimwear is acceptable, but it's not appropriate in public or non-tourist settings.

Dressing respectfully not only shows cultural awareness but also helps avoid unwanted attention and ensures smoother, more comfortable interactions throughout your trip.

Responsible Dining

Avoid consuming endangered species or items harvested unsustainably. Be respectful of local customs and food practices, and always tip fairly to support local workers. Responsible dining helps protect the environment and promotes the well-being of local communities.

Tipping

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. At the commencement of your tours in both Egypt and Jordan you will be asked to provide tipping to your guide towards a 'kitty', which is then used towards the guide tipping for the services of helpers, hotel staff, restaurants and airport porterage. We suggest USD$5 per person per day towards the kitty. Please note that this tipping is not for the guide, merely for the guide to tip the services of the driver and local workers during your tour. While not made compulsory, if you choose not to contribute to the kitty it means that the guide is tipping for these services out of their own pocket. Your cooperation in this instance is most appreciated.

Tipping for your guides will be collected at the conclusion of their services. To remove the uncertainty and stress of not knowing how much is appropriate to tip we recommend USD$6-8 per person per day. The amount you wish to contribute is dependent on the

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services received and at the complete discretion of the guest. Thank you for your understanding.

Peak Travel Times

The best time to visit Egypt and Jordan is generally from October to April, when the weather is cooler and more comfortable for exploring key sites like Petra, Wadi Rum, Jerash, the Pyramids of Giza, and the Valley of the Kings. This period is considered peak season, with especially pleasant conditions during spring (March–April) and autumn (October–November) — ideal for sightseeing, hiking, and desert adventures.

Summer (June to August) can bring intense heat, particularly in southern Egypt and desert areas of Jordan. While this season sees fewer tourists and lower prices, it requires good sun protection and heat tolerance.

Ramadan, the Islamic holy month, is observed in both countries and shifts dates each year. Travelling during Ramadan offers a unique cultural experience, but you may notice reduced opening hours at attractions, and restaurants and cafés may be closed during daylight hours. Your tour leader will adjust the itinerary as needed.

Being aware of seasonal conditions — both cultural and climatic — will help you get the most out of your journey through Egypt and Jordan.

Safety and Security

Most national governments provide regularly updated foreign travel advice on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your own government's advice for the most up-to-date travel information before departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all destinations and activities on your trip.

Your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader or local representative will accompany you on all included activities listed on the itinerary, however, you'll have some free time to explore on your own. While your Inspiring Vacations tour leader or local guide will assist you as best they can with your requests and the options available outside your itinerary, please note Inspiring Vacations makes no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running the activity. Please use your judgement when selecting an activity in your free time.

Please also note that your Inspiring Vacations tour leader or local guide has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the itinerary if it's deemed necessary due to safety concerns.

Tourist areas in Egypt and Jordan are generally safe, and the country is known for its hospitality and stability in the region. However, it’s still wise to take common-sense precautions. Petty crime like pickpocketing can occur in busy areas such as markets, tourist sites, and transport hubs, so keep your valuables secure and avoid displaying expensive items.

While vendors are generally polite, some may be persistent — it’s perfectly okay to politely decline and walk away. Be cautious of unsolicited offers or “guides” approaching you on the street, and stick to reputable transport services organised through your accommodation or guide, especially at night or in unfamiliar areas.

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Respecting local customs, including dressing modestly and asking permission before photographing people, goes a long way in ensuring a positive and safe experience. Most travellers find Jordan to be welcoming, friendly, and easy to explore with a bit of awareness.

Apps to Download

Some useful apps you may want to consider downloading before your tour include Google Translate, the lens function is especially useful when wanting to read product labels, signs, and menus. Google Maps with offline maps downloaded is great for easy navigation without being reliant on wifi.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Itinerary Changes

Sometimes, unexpected things can happen, like unpredictable weather or higher-than-usual crowds at attractions. In these situations, your tour leader might need to adjust the itinerary slightly to improve your overall experience.

This flexibility ensures you get the most out of your trip! Your tour leader will always keep you informed of any changes and explain the reasoning behind them. Remember, when travelling with a group, sometimes going with the flow can lead to even more amazing experiences.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is strongly recommended on all our trips. We require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency repatriation. It is also important to consider forced pre-trip cancellations and how your chosen insurance policy may cover such circumstances, so please keep this in mind when choosing your provider.

We strongly recommend all travellers have a policy that also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage or personal effects. For international trips, you will be asked by your tour leader for your travel insurance details if they were not already added to your Traveller Hub account pre-departure.

If you have credit card insurance your Inspiring Vacations tour leader or local guide may require details of the participating insurer/underwriter, the level of coverage, policy number, and emergency contact number rather than the bank's name and your credit card details. Please contact your bank for these details before arriving in-country.

Before you depart, you will be asked to submit your Travel Insurance details through the booking holder's Traveller Hub account through the Inspiring Vacations website. This is to ensure that we have this information readily available should we ever need it.

Health, Wellness & Fitness Requirements

All travellers need to be in good physical health to participate fully on this trip. For the safety and wellbeing of yourself and others, if you are unwell before travelling, please stay at home and contact us to make alternative arrangements.

When selecting your trip please make sure you have read through the itinerary carefully to

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assess your ability to manage and enjoy our style of travel. If we find that you are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to yourself and/or the rest of the group, we reserve the right to exclude them from all or part of a trip without refund.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information or any necessary vaccinations before departure. We recommend that you carry a first aid kit as well as any personal medical requirements in their original packaging as they may not easily be obtained while travelling. If you are carrying medication, ensure you check your government's foreign travel advice for any local restrictions or requirements. For the safety and wellbeing of yourself and others, if you are unwell before travelling, please stay at home and contact us to make alternative arrangements and we would be more than happy to assist you.

Important Information for Customers with Mobility Limitations

We want to ensure everyone has a fantastic and inclusive experience on our tours. If you require the use of a mobility aid, such as a cane, walker, or wheelchair, please disclose this information at the time of booking.

To ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for the entire group, our tours are designed with a specific itinerary in mind. This may involve moderate walking, uneven terrain, or stairs. While some itinerary adjustments may not be possible, we'll do our best to find alternative solutions within the planned activities whenever possible.

Open communication helps us ensure your trip is a perfect fit and it allows your local guide or tour leader to assist you where possible.

Information for CPAP Users

If you use a CPAP machine, please let us know at the time of booking. Some portions of our itinerary, like overnight cruises or camping trips, may have limited access to power outlets. In such cases, we recommend travelling with portable battery packs.

Certain activities, like overnight journeys on board smaller vessels, may not be suitable for CPAP use due to space limitations or noise concerns. We can discuss these potential limitations upfront and help you make informed decisions about your trip.

Documentation

Tour documentation is typically emailed to the lead passenger or your travel agent between 14-30 days before your scheduled departure. This will include your final hotel list.

Official Travel Advice

To ensure a smooth and enjoyable journey, we recommend referring to the official travel advisory website of your home country for the latest updates on your chosen destination. These websites provide valuable information on:

- **Safety and Security:** Current risks and precautions for the country you'll be visiting.
- **Visa Requirements:** Ensure you have all the necessary documentation for entry.
- **Entry and Exit:** Up-to-date border regulations and health requirements.

Here are some helpful links to get you started:

- **Australia:** https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations
- **New Zealand:** https://www.safetravel.govt.nz/
- **America:** https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html
- **Canada:** https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories
- **India:** https://www.mea.gov.in/travel-advisories.htm

In the unlikely event of a situation that could potentially disrupt your tour, we want to assure you of the following:

- **Local Expertise:** We maintain regular communication with our trusted travel partners in your destination.
- **Constant Monitoring:** We continuously monitor official travel advisories from relevant government websites.
- **Flexibility and Safety:** Should it become necessary, we will make appropriate adjustments to your itinerary to prioritise your health and safety.

By staying informed and working together, we can ensure a fantastic travel experience for you. We will post our own travel updates to our website here.

Connect with fellow travellers on Facebook

During your booking journey, you might have received an email inviting you to join a special Facebook group dedicated to your chosen destination. These vibrant online communities are exclusively for Inspiring Vacations travellers headed to the same incredible place. Joining this group unlocks a wealth of information and connections. Swap travel tips, share packing insights, or even see if anyone's interested in travelling together.

We also regularly host insightful webinars featuring travel experts who share their tips and tricks for navigating your destination and maximising your itinerary. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to connect, learn, and get even more excited about your upcoming trip!

Travelling in a Group

Travelling in a group means you will experience both the pleasures and perhaps at times, some of the frustrations of travelling with people you don’t know. The good news is you all have at least one thing in common: a love of travel and exploration. Your fellow travellers will probably come from different parts of the world, and fall into different age groups. We ask you to be understanding of the various needs and preferences of your group—patience with your fellow travellers is sometimes required for the overall benefit of the group. If you are requested to be at a place at a certain time, please ensure that you respect this request from your tour leader or local guide. Due to privacy reasons, we are unable to provide you with contact details and any personal information about your fellow travellers booked on your trip before departure.

Community Guidelines

Inspiring Vacations does not tolerate any kind of violence, harassment (whether physical, verbal or sexual), or disrespect toward fellow travellers, our teams (Inspiring Vacations Tour Leaders and local expert guides) or local communities.

Any behaviour that prevents your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader from continuing the itinerary as planned, breaks local laws or opposes any of these guidelines, may result in Inspiring Vacations removing you from the tour.

If something concerns you during your travels, please speak to your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader immediately. Alternatively, when you are on-tour and require immediate support you can contact our Customer Support team and select the “On-Tour” option when listening to the options.

Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader vs Guide

While both tour leaders and local guides enrich your travel experience, their roles differ. Tour leaders, who often accompany you for the entire trip, handle logistics, ensure smooth sailing of the itinerary, and act as your point of contact for any concerns. They might provide general information about destinations, but in-depth historical or cultural knowledge often comes from local guides. Local guides, frequently native to the area, lead tours at specific sites or attractions, offering a deeper understanding of the local history, art, or way of life.

Coach Transportation

The size of your coach will comfortably accommodate your group. There's usually room for some extra seats, ensuring a relaxing journey. Your luggage will be safely stored either underneath the coach or in a dedicated trailer.

While the exact coach style may vary depending on the departure, all our coaches offer comfortable seating. Keep in mind that Wi-Fi and charging outlets might not always be available. To stay connected and avoid dead batteries, we recommend fully charging your devices beforehand or bringing a portable charger.

For longer journeys, we'll make sure to include ample restroom breaks along the way, so you can freshen up and recharge at your convenience, as facilities are not on-board the coach.

Staying Connected

If you want to stay connected and access reliable internet while on tour, there are a few options available. It is possible to purchase a virtual sim and we recommend contacting your mobile phone provider for assistance in doing so. You can add a roaming data plan to your existing phone contract is another option, albeit an expensive one. You will need to arrange this before departure. Purchasing a local SIM may be possible as a final option.

We also recommend downloading WhatsApp and using this to communicate with other group members while on tour, and of course, after the tour if you’d like to stay in touch. Our tour leaders may also use this as a means of communicating essential trip information with you, as well as if you choose to add-on transfers to your booking, as your driver may use this to confirm arrangements with you.

Post-Tour Feedback

Once your booking is confirmed, you will receive a link to a post-purchase survey, which is your opportunity to share your feedback with us on your booking experience and

interactions with our Sales and Customer Success teams. This feedback is invaluable to ensure that we are servicing our customers to the best of our ability.

Furthermore, towards the end of your travels and while you are in your destination, you will receive an email from us with a link to an in-depth trip survey. It is very important to us that we hear from our customers to ensure that we continue to meet and exceed customers' expectations, so this will be your opportunity to let us know how your trip has been, what has worked well and potentially what could be improved.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

This is a **land only** package.

This package does not include international airfares. If you would like to add airfares to your booking our flight portal will be available via your Traveller Hub. The flight portal will allow you to search for all available airfares to your destination. The function works like most general flight search engines allowing you to select your preferred airline, book different cabin classes (eg. Business class) and view flight durations and transit times to your destination.

The flight portal will be available via your Traveller Hub once the following criteria has been met:

- Your booking is confirmed
- Your departure date is within 11 months
- You have completed your passenger detail form

Visit our Flight Hub for more information on terms and conditions, amending your flights and information on luggage allowances.

Home & Afar Travel
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