

SECRETS OF EGYPT

Day 01: Arrival at Luxor airport, meet and assist through formalities transfer to the hotel. Enjoy a night visit to the stunning monuments of **Luxor Temple**. Return back to the hotel for overnight.



Day 02: Early Morning, Focus on west bank of the Nile to visit the **Valley of the Kings, Habu Temple, and the Ramseum Temple**. Stop for pictures at the two **Clossi of Memnon** guarding the valley. Transfer back to your hotel for freshen-up. At the afternoon, **Board horse-drawn carriages** for a drive through Luxor city with an Egyptian traditional lunch and opportunity to enjoy the sun set on the Nile river side. Transfer to the rail station to take the train to Cairo. Dinner & Overnight on board of the train. (Train could be **Sleeping train or 1st class seating one**)

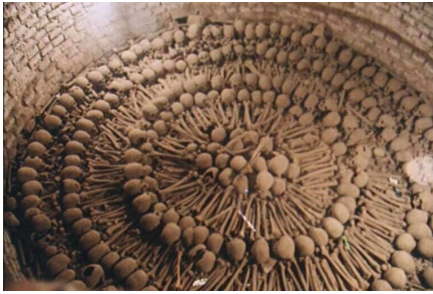


Day 03: Breakfast on board, Arrival at Giza rail station, then visiting one of the most unusual pyramids in Egypt built by **Snefru** (2613-2589 BC), first

Pharaoh of the Fourth Dynasty, who would take monument-building to a new level; **The Bent Pyramid** was probably the first planned from the outset to be a true pyramid, with smooth sides. This represents a glorious period in the evolution of the pyramids also sometimes called the Rhomboidal, False, or Blunt Pyramid. The ancient Egyptians called it "Snefru Shines - South (pyramid)". As, as well as one of the best preserved (much of its casing remains), it has attracted considerable attention over the centuries, Drive to the **Pyramids of Giza**. **Cheops** Pyramid, the largest of the three, was built in the 4th dynasty about 2690 BC. One of the seven wonders of the ancient world .In front of the pyramid of **Chephren**, there stands the **Sphinx** a lion with a Pharaoh's head thought to be a portrait of the pharaoh **Chephren**. Continue our tour to **Memphis** at the edge of the western desert, the capital of the ancient kingdom, and one of the most important monuments throughout the history of ancient **Egypt**, from here we drive to **Sakkara** the vast necropolis of ancient **Memphis**. Visit the **Step Pyramid of Zoser** (3rd dynasty, 2668 BC – 2649 BC) **Memphis and Sakkara**. Dinner and overnight in Cairo.



Day 04: Early Morning drive to Alexandria. Visit the **New Bibliotheque of Alexandria, Greco-Roman Museum**. Then continue to the **Pompey's** huge red granite pillar and the intriguingly decorated **Catacombs**. Then proceed to **Montazah Palace** gardens. Drive back to **Cairo**. Arrive, Dinner and overnight



Day 05: Early morning departure to Bahariya oasis. Set in a depression covering over 2000 sq. Km. Bahariya oasis is surrounded by black hills made up of ferruginous quartzite and dolorite. Most of the villages and cultivated land can be viewed from the top of the 50-Meter high Jabal Al Miysrah, together with the massive dunes, which threaten to engulf some of the older settlements. Dinner & Overnight at hotel



Day 06: Continue with our visit to Bahariya oasis. Bawiti is the largest Village in the oasis, its picturesque hillside quarter overlooks lush palm groves irrigated by the Ain al-Bishmo, a natural spring hewn from the rock in Roman times, which gushes water at 30oC. Bahariya oasis is famous for its mineral and sulfur springs, including Bier Matter and Bier Al Ghaba. Drive from Bahariya to white desert, a unique landscape of surreal wind - eroded rock formations, which are particularly magical at sunrise or sunset. Time to photograph the rock formations, then proceed to Dakhla with short visit to the most isolated of the new valley oasis it is renowned for its strong traditions and piety .As in other oasis many of Farafra's houses are painted blue (to ward off the Evil Eye) but here some are

also decorated with landscapes, birds and animals. Dinner & Overnight at hotel



Day 07: Visiting the handwork of local artist, Badr. A combination House, Museum and Studio exhibiting his paintings and Ceramics is situated in a garden full of sculptures made from objects found in the surrounding desert. Continue to Dakhla oasis. Visit to Al Qasr, about 35 Km from Mut, was originally a Roman settlement, which later became the medieval capital of Dakhla oasis. The old town is a labyrinth of Mut - walled alleys narrowly separating houses with elaborately carved wooden lintels; there is also an Ayyubid mosque , (El Mezawaka cemeteries) Dinner & Overnight at hotel.



Day 08: Dakhla oasis is a collection of fourteen different settlements, dominated on its northern horizon by a wall

of rose – colored rock. Fertile cultivated areas growing rice; peanuts and fruits are dotted between sand dunes along the roads from Farafra oasis and Kharga oasis in this area of outstanding natural beauty. The capital Mut ‘ named after the ancient goddess of the Theban Triad, houses the museum of the inheritance ‘a traditional house, with an intricate wooden combination lock. Rooms, with sculpted clay figures, are arranged to show different aspects of Dakhlan culture and family life. At nearby Balaat village, a trading post with ancient Nubian, archeologists are still uncovering dozens of 6th dynasty mastabas. Proceed to Kharga oasis. Kharga used to be the last but one stop on the Forty Days Road, the infamous slave - trade route between North Africa and the tropical south. Today, it is the biggest New Valley oasis and it is modern city houses 70.000 people, including 1.000 Nubians who moved here after the creation of Lake Nasser. Visit to Hibis temple, built on the site of an 18th Dynasty settlement of Saïtes, Persians and Ptolemies. One of the few Persian monuments in Egypt, the 6th century B.C temple is well – preserved with painted vultures and huge relief of Darius greeting Egyptian Gods on the outer walls. Ten kilometers away, the necropolis of al- Bagawat contains 263 mud – brick chapels with Coptic murals, including the Chapel of Peace with images of Adam and Eve and the Ark on its dome. And the Chapel of the Exodus with frescoes of Pharaonic troops pursuing the Jews, led by Moses out of Egypt. Dinner & Overnight in Kharga oasis.



Day 09: Drive to Luxor. Arrival. Visiting Karnak temple in the afternoon Transfer to the rail station to get the train to Aswan, arrive Aswan, Transfer to your hotel for dinner and overnight.



Day 10: Enjoy an excursion to Abu Simbel temple by Bus, return back to Aswan visiting **Old Dam** and the gigantic **Aswan High Dam** en route. Check-in on board of motor boat on Nasser Lake to start our motor boat excursion, visiting Kalabsha and Phiale temples.



Day 11 – Day 14: On board of Motor boat.



Day 14: Return back to Luxor by bus, visiting Kom Ombo and Edfu temples. Proceed to your hotel for dinner and overnight.



Day 15: Transfer to Luxor airport for final departure.