

EGYPT

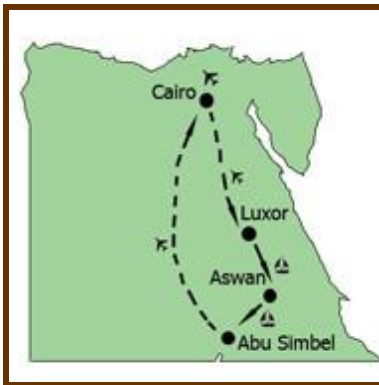
All Gay Egyptian Discovery Tour

9 Days

October 2–10, 2010

Cairo to Cairo

From \$2495 USD



Great pyramids reach to the heavens. Ancient tombs lie buried deep in the earth. A mighty river slices through an uninhabitable land, and gives rise to civilization itself. This is Egypt, and we'll unearth its secrets in our small group of just 25, for the most authentic experience. And along the way, we'll bask in a luxury that befits a pharaoh in 5-star accommodations, including a quality Nile cruise ship for 4 remarkable nights. Join us, and discover why this is our most popular trip.



Hermes Highlights

- **Giza Tour**, including the Great Pyramids, Sphinx, and Sakkara
- **Camel Ride** in the desert
- **Luxor Tour**, including Karnak Temple, Valley of the Kings, and Temple of Hatshepsut
- **4-night Nile cruise aboard a 5-star ship**, including tours of Edfu and the Temple of Horus, Temple of Sobek & Haroeris at Kom Ombo
- **Aswan City Tour**, including Aswan High Dam and Philae Temple
- **Abu Simbel Tour**
- Accommodations for 4 nights in 5-star hotels
- Services of a Hermes Tours escort
- Services of an expert, local guide in all cities
- Professional local Egyptologist
- Optional Hot air balloon ride over Luxor
- **\$100 per person savings if you reserve 5 months before departure!**
- **Extension to Petra:** Enjoy a guided tour of this historic city

Itinerary in Brief

Day 1 – Saturday, October 2 – Arrive in Cairo

You'll be met at the airport and transferred to your 5-star hotel. The afternoon is yours to relax after your flight.

Day 2 – Sunday – Pyramids of Giza, Sphinx, Sakkara (B, L, D)

We journey to the desert outskirts of Cairo and the remarkable Great Pyramids of Giza, which some scholars believe were built to align with constellations. While here, we embark on a camel ride like explorers of old. We also explore the temple of the mysterious Sphinx. We continue to Sakkara, the very first pyramid. Tonight, join us for our Hermes welcome dinner.

Day 3 – Monday – Cairo to Luxor (B, L, D)

We fly to Luxor today and embark our 5-star cruise ship. This afternoon our Egyptologist guide leads a comprehensive tour of Luxor's East Bank, featuring Karnak, Egypt's most elaborate temple built over generations by countless pharaohs.

Day 4 – Tuesday – West Bank/Luxor to Esna & Edfu (B, L, D)

We cross the Nile to the West Bank and the Valley of the Kings, where pharaohs were buried deep underground in elaborate tombs. We also visit the terraced Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, the only female pharaoh. This afternoon we set sail to Esna and Edfu.

Day 5 – Wednesday – Edfu to Kom Ombo to Aswan (B, L, D)

Today we visit the Temple of Horus in Edfu, the largest and best preserved pharaonic temple in Egypt. We then sail to Kom Ombo to explore the fascinating dual temple dedicated to Sobek & Haroeris. Later, we sail to Aswan.

Day 6 – Thursday – Aswan to Abu Simbel to Aswan (B, L, D)

This morning we join our short flight to Abu Simbel. As the waters of Lake Nasser rose with the building of the High Dam, each stone of this imposing temple was reassembled on this higher ground to avoid submersion. First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy was a driving force in that huge engineering feat. Afterwards we return by flight to Aswan.

Day 7 – Friday – Aswan to Cairo (B, L)

Discover Aswan with our Egyptologist guide, including the Aswan High Dam and Philae Temple. This evening we fly to Cairo.

Day 8 – Saturday – Cairo (B, D)

Explore the greatest collection of Egyptian artifacts at the Egyptian Museum, including the contents of the tomb of the boy-king Tutankhamen, unearthed by Howard Carter in 1922. We also discover Islamic Cairo and the Khan El Khalili Bazaar, one of the world's greatest and largest outdoor markets. Bid farewell at our Hermes farewell dinner tonight.

Day 9 – Sunday, October 10 – Depart or extend to Jordan (B)

Continue your discovery on our post-tour extensions to Jordan's Petra. Otherwise, your Hermes tour ends today.

Trip Info

Dates: October 2–10, 2010

Group Size: Maximum of 20.

Grade: Moderate

Transport: Aircon car, mini-bus, 3 internal flights & cruise ship.

Accommodation: 4 nights in 5 star hotels and 4 nights on a 5-star cruise ship.

Meals: Breakfast daily, 6 lunches (L) and 6 dinners (D).

Prices (USD):

October 2–10, 2010: \$2495

Single supplement: \$600. Or Hermes Tours can match you with another traveller and waive the single supplement.

Includes: 3 internal flights within Egypt, all accommodations as listed, all port taxes, activities and meals as listed. Transfers to/from airport on designated days, customary tips to your local drivers, cruise and restaurant staff.

Not Included: International air to/from Cairo, visas to Egypt, meals and activities not specifically listed in itinerary. Any items of a personal nature such as telephone, laundry, alcohol as well as customary tips to your Hermes Tours escort & local guides.

Hotels:

Cairo: Sofitel Sphinx Hotel 5* (Oct 2-4)

Nile: MS Amarco 5* deluxe

Cairo: Safair Hotel 5* (Oct 8–10)

Further Info: See our website:

www.hermestours.com



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