



12 Night Magical Egyptian Escape
1 night in Luxor 4 nights Nile Cruise
and 7 nights in Hurghada

Arrive in Luxor for
your 1-night stay

Winter Palace
Luxor Hotel

Cruising
The River Nile

Embark around
9.00 am

7 Night stay in
Hurghada

Alf Leila Wa Leila
Resort

Where the Voyage never ends

Luxor



Merit Dahabiya



Winter Palace Hotel



Alf Leila Wa Leila Resort

Luxor's famous Winter Palace Hotel

In less than 20-minutes (Luxor Int'l Airport to Winter Palace) you will be arriving at your 5-star luxury hotel. The distance from the airport is just under 10km. Your first vacation begins with a night at the Winter Palace Luxor hotel before joining your Nile cruise the next morning, fit for a pharaoh. Built in 1886 on the banks of the Nile and surrounded by century-old Royal Gardens, the hotel overlooks the Nile and the West Bank Necropolis. It's an oasis of tranquility and a gateway to the splendour of pharaonic times. Each room appeals to a dream deep in your heart, calling on the allure of colonial charm, the distinction of fine woods, elegant materials, and harmonious décor with spectacular views. The hotel has a great dining facility, the Victorian Lounge, richly decorated with a majestic crystal chandelier and plush, pink oriental carpets, sip afternoon tea with delicate macarons and scones. King Farouk, the last King of Egypt, enjoyed the beloved tea ritual in this opulent salon. You will enjoy breakfast as part of your package at this wonderful hotel. The next morning after a fantastic breakfast you are off on your Nile cruise, a sensational and fascinating journey.

About Luxor

Luxor, once ancient Egypt's capital during the middle and new kingdoms, is a modern Egyptian city located on the Nile River 500km south of Cairo with a population of around 450,000. Its name is derived from the Arabic al-ukhsur (the fortification), the Greeks named it "Thebes", while the ancient Egyptians called it "Waset". Nearby lies an ancient city, once one of the most spectacular in Egypt at that time, dating back to 1500 to 1000BC. Luxor is considered an outdoor museum, having the largest collection of historical monuments in Egypt.



Welcome Aboard The Merit Dahabiya

You are ready to embark on your authentic Egyptian luxury floating boutique hotel, setting sail to journey up the longest river in the world towards Aswan. This voyage is somewhat different to conventional modern-day cruise vessels, as it is propelled by the winds of the mighty Nile. As you navigate the Nile in pure historical opulence, the breeze flapping the lateen sails, the river splashing and the faint noise of children on the riverbanks immerses you into an almost hypnotic feeling of tranquility. Your mind begins to drift, conjuring up thoughts of ancient times, you begin to feel like you are on a journey to meet a Pharaoh. The history of these types of yachts go back to the Pharaonic times, inscriptions of very similar boats have been found within the tombs of ancient Egyptian Kings and nobles. With no Aswan dam in those times, journeys through the Nile could take up to three months, and these trips were made in absolute decadence and style. This 50m long yacht has been restored to its historical charm with all the luxurious comforts you need, ensuring your voyage will be cemented in your memory for many years to come.

The yacht comprises of ten elegantly designed air-conditioned cabins of double and twin beds, fine Egyptian cotton bedding with en-suite bathrooms, high-quality towels and bathrobes, toiletries, hairdryer, in-cabin coffee and tea tray, safe, TV and large windows. There is a restaurant, bar, reading lounge, open-air jacuzzi, sundeck, free Wi-Fi and a doctor on-call 24-hours. There is also a marine satellite onboard with sat channels as well as laundry and pressing services. Staff are both charming and very attentive to your every need, while the Chef will conjure a selection of gourmet dishes to satisfy your taste-buds. All meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) as well as guided shore excursions are included in your fare.



Your Cruise itinerary

Day 1 Luxor – Embarkation

Upon checking onboard in the morning and settling into the luxurious comfort of your cabin, you can freshen up prior to a sumptuous lunch being served. After which you will visit the Luxor and Karnak Temples. Nothing in the world compares to the sheer scale and grandeur of this breathtaking architectural wonder of ancient Egypt. As you approach the first pylon (entrance) of the Luxor Temple, you are immediately transfixed to the days of the Pharaohs. Built by Amenhotep III (1390-52BC), the ninth king of the 18th dynasty of Egypt, the temple dedicated to Amun, the king of gods was completed by Tutankhamen (1336-27BC) and Horemheb (1323-1295BC) and then added to by Rameses II (1279-13BC). It is one of the best-preserved ancient monuments with copious amounts of the structure, statuary and relief carvings still intact. The central chamber contains the Barque Shrine of Amun, rebuilt by Alexander the Great (332-305BC), portraying him as an Egyptian pharaoh. The temple of Karnak, known as Ipet-Isu by ancient Egyptians, is a city of temples constructed over 2,000 years (2055BC to 100AD), dedicated to the Theban triad of Amun, Khonsu and Mut. Covering 200 acres, with its great Hypostyle Hall spanning 5,000m², featuring 134 columns, is the largest religious building ever built. There are smaller temples and a lake where the sacred barges of Theban Triad once floated during the ancient annual Opet festival. The Opet lasted for 27-days, celebrating the link between the pharaoh and the god Amun, and was believed by the Egyptians to regenerate the land post the end of an agricultural cycle.

Day 2 Luxor and Esna

After fueling up with a wonderful hearty breakfast onboard while chatting with other passengers about the amazing things you had seen yesterday, it's off to another incredible location "The Valley of the Kings", then onto Hatshepsut Temple and the Colossi of Memnon. When we think of Egyptian pharaohs tombs, the Pyramids of Giza springs to mind, which was the case in the Old Kingdom, however the New Kingdom pharaohs who ruled between 1539-1075BC chose to be buried in the Valley of the Kings. The valley became the royal burial ground for pharaohs Tutankhamun (the boy king), Seti I, and Ramses II, as well as queens, high priests, and other elites of the 18th, 19th, and 20th dynasties. Mummification was used to preserve the body so that their eternal soul would awaken in the afterlife, expecting to become one of the gods. Their tombs were stocked with a vast selection of material goods including clothes, jewelry, food, wine, beer as well as sacred objects they may require for their next world arrival. Still remaining undiscovered is the pharaoh's tomb of Ramses VIII, which many believe may be found within the valley.

Day 3 Esna and Edfu

While enjoying breakfast on the sundeck, you are crossing the Esna Lock, passing peaceful countryside where charming hamlets made of mud bricks crouch the river, a sight that looks like it's hardly changed since the pharaonic times. This a wonderful time chill on the sundeck sharing stories with other fellow passengers over some drinks. As you sail towards Edfu a traditional lunch is served, before you off on your land excursion to the Temple of Edfu. The second largest temple in Egypt, Edfu also known as the Temple of Horus (the falcon-headed god) is the most well-preserved Egyptian temple and believed by locals to have been built on top of the infamous Horus and Seth battle site. The wall inscriptions depict the Greco-Roman period in ancient Egypt. Built by Ptolemy III began its construction in 237 BC; however, it was not completed until about 57 BC under Ptolemy XII. Lying just to the east of the temple is a ruined pylon with inscriptions archaeologists evidenced a building program under the New Kingdom rulers Ramesses I, Seti I and Ramesses II. Now it's back to the yacht making sail for Al Ramady Island where dinner will be served and afterwards you can relax and enjoy drinks at the bar.

Day 4 El Sheikh Fadi Island

Today is a wonderful relaxing day onboard. Early morning you set sail to Gebel El Silsila, an extremely narrow riverbed hemmed in by sandstone hills, and then while having a sumptuous breakfast, sailing onto Kom Ombo. An unusual double temple constructed during the Ptolemaic period. Lunch is served during your sail onto El Sheikh Fadi Island, where dinner will be served on the island. After dinner the yacht will set sail for Aswan, time to enjoy the Nile as you sail.

Day 5 Aswan & Disembark

Early morning around 6am, you will arrive in Aswan and after a hearty breakfast you are off on an excursion to Philae Temple and the High dam. Philae Island used to be a rocky island and was called in Hieroglyphic "Apo" which means Ivory and known by the Greek "Elephantine", most likely because it was an important centre of trade, especially for ivory. This magnificent temple was built for the Goddess Isis but became submerged after the first Aswan dam was built in 1906, and it was not until the 1970s that many nations attempted to save it. These countries, together with UNESCO, selected a suitable place, but had to wait until the completion of the High Dam, in 1971, which would stabilize the level of the water. The new island, Egitica (also called Agilika) was completely reshaped to imitate Philae Island as closely as possible.

One of the greatest structures in Egypt, the Temple of Isis occupies about a quarter of the island. King Ptolemy II imitated the construction and then other Ptolemaic Kings (Ptolemy's IV, V, VI, VII, and XI) contributed by adding more parts to the main Temple. The 1st Pylon, which is a great traditional pylon with two towers, and an open forecourt, which leads to the 2nd pylon which leads to a Hypostyle Hall with 10 columns, and then 3 vestibules leading to a sanctuary. The High Dam is a rock-fill dam located at the northern border between Egypt and Sudan, fed by the River Nile with the reservoir forms Lake Nasser. The High Dam provides water for around 33,600km² of irrigation land, serving the irrigation needs of both Egypt and Sudan. It controls flooding, generates power, and helps improve navigation across the Nile.

Merit Dahabiya Aswan Cruise

Included on your trip:

Meet and assist service upon arrival & departure

Assistance of our personal during your stay and excursions

All transfers by a modern air-conditioned deluxe vehicle

Accommodation on board 5-star Dahabiya on full board basis

All Nile Cruise excursions as mentioned in the itinerary

Entrance fees to all sights between Luxor and Aswan

Egyptologist guide during your excursions

All service charges and taxes

Not Included:

Entry Visa to Egypt

Any Flight booking

Border or Port Taxes or Fees

Optional tour

Any Kind of Insurance

Personal expenses

Nile River Cruise

(7-Nights)

Merit Dahabiya is a Luxury Traditional Dahabiya Boat.

Ten Deluxe Cabins with Dimensions: 50m (Length) X 7.5m (Width) X 0.8m (Draft).

Also offer Dining Facilities, Bars And Reading Lounge, Open-Air Jacuzzi. Doctor On Call 24 Hours, Same Day Laundry Service With Express Pressing Service, Sprinkling System, Anti-Fire Treatment And Full Fire Safety Measures, First Aid Kit And Medical Attention Available Upon Request, Emergency Handling And Fire Trained Staff, Marine Satellite (Nile Sat Channels) and Free Wi-Fi.

The accommodation has a TV with satellite channels. Each unit comes with a private bathroom with free toiletries. Towels and bed linen are available.



About Hurghada

The last ten years has seen amazing development, it has a vibrant nightlife and plenty of shopping promenades such as Village Road (El Memsha in Arabic), with more than 5 km long promenade with lined with restaurants, bars, malls, and many shops. Being located on the Red Sea has its advantages, for one its home to the top 10 list of world's largest coral reefs and top 3 longest, stretching 2,000km. With 1,400 endemic species, its perfect for snorkeling or diving fans. Winds are constant, so if you are into water sports such a kite-skiing or windsurfing this is an ideal place. There are great food choices with many restaurants offering fresh Red Sea fish or shellfish as well as local cuisine offering pigeons, lamb, beans, or famous Egyptian rice dishes. There are also several international chic restaurants such as Thai, Indian, and Italian. Navigating Hurghada is quite easy as Taxi's are cheap, a short distance will cost less than one US dollar.





Alf Leila Wa Leila Resort

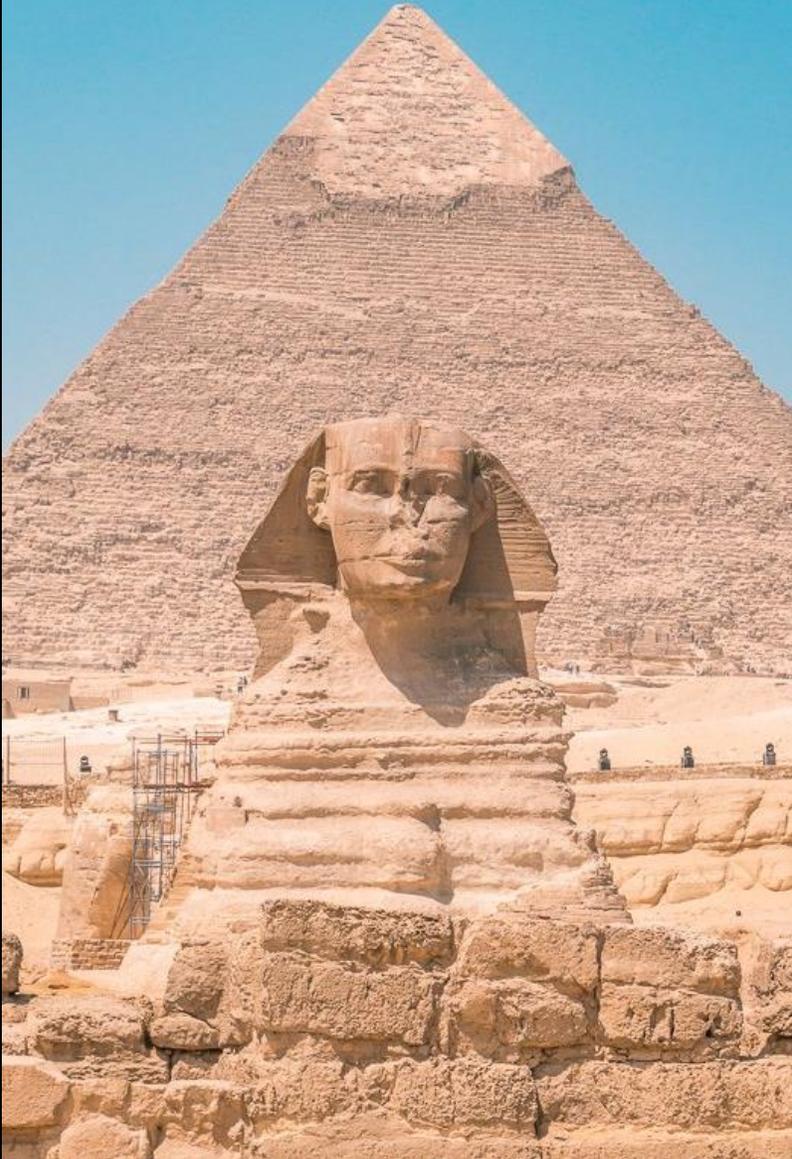
Embracing typical Arabian architecture Alf Leila Wa Leila resort combines style with entertainment while providing the ultimate Egyptian hospitality. Located 25-minutes from Hurghada international Airport, 25-minutes from the city centre and only 900m from the beach, your stay will be a relaxed and unforgettable experience. The rooms are tastefully designed and come equipped with air conditioning, minibar, safe, TV with premium satellite channels, free movie channels, en-suite bathroom with complimentary toiletries, hairdryer, pool or garden view balconies and daily housekeeping.

The resort as a wide range of dining possibilities ranging from Le Marche offering culinary creations from all around the world, La Casa for great Italian cuisine and wines, L'Asiatique offers a mix of Asian cuisine with Oriental, Tangine offers a wide variety of Arabian classics, and Club MC with a wide range of high-quality food and drinks.

You have a wide range of bars and café's onsite such as Tamraya Café offering a wide range of coffees, Jazz Café offering an extensive range of drinks in the daytime while at night turns into a fabulous entertainment venue. Columbus Café is a modern café to indulge yourself with coffee, Afandena Oriental Café which is a stylish, chic unique place where you can listen to Arabic music and enjoy a shisha. Il Gelato offers a range of delicious ice creams. Aladdin Pool Bar for refreshing cocktails and delicious snacks, La Veranda offers a comfortable informal setting, Oasis Bar offer a vibrant and lively atmosphere, Beach Bar offering a variety of snacks, soft drinks, cocktails and locally made spirits. ok City and 10 km from Pacio Shopping Arcade. Seacon Square Shopping Centre is 20 km from the hotel.

The resort is family-friendly, offering a supervised Kids Club for your little ones. While you relax and enjoy the tranquil surroundings, your children can play and engage in exciting activities and make new friends. You can enjoy your day, knowing that your children are in safe and friendly hands. Alf Leila Wa Leila's Oriental architecture with colourful domes, high pillars and towers, huge gates, fountains, marble paths, and the never-ending fantasy of Egyptian charm. You can find out more about the life of Pharaohs and Bedouins as well as customs and traditions of the region.

Egypt



The River Nile
(2 people)

1-night Staying at The Winter Palace
(Luxor)
(Room with Breakfast)

4-night cruise on The Nile
(Merit Dahabiya)
(All Inclusive)

7-night stay at Alf Leila Wa Leila Resort
(Hurghada)
(Room with Breakfast)

Fares are in points for 2 persons travelling, based on double occupancy. Fares shown in this view may not be current. Changing the dates may change fares. Fares include Taxes, Fees & Port Expenses. Pricing and availability subject to change without notice. Stateroom availability varies by ship and category. Images shown are representative of a stateroom in that category. Room measurements are approximated, and rooms in the same category may vary in size and/or have different furniture placement, windows or fixtures from those pictured. Please be aware flights are not included. Properties on land are subject to availability*(GVC have the right to change properties to fit in with sailing dates).

GVC Points
From 9,400

Tutankhamun

