



INSPIRING
VACATIONS

23 Day Turkey, Jordan & Egypt

Istanbul

Cappadocia

Konya

Pamukkale

Ephesus

Izmir

Amman

Jerash

Petra

Wadi Rum

Dead Sea

Cairo

Luxor

Nile Cruise

Abu Simbel

www.inspiringvacations.com

Time to get excited

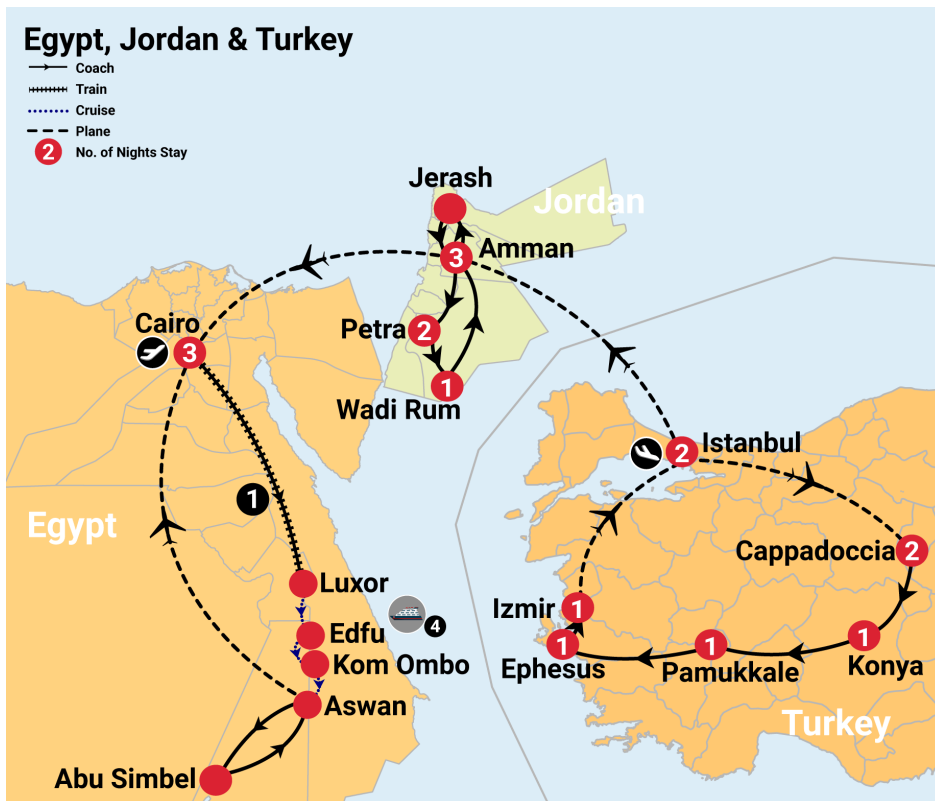
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PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE

Discover the rich treasures of this fascinating part of the world, starting with the sights and culture of vibrant Turkey – from grand icons like the Blue Mosque in Istanbul to the dreamy, fairytale landscapes of Cappadocia.

[Book Now](#)

TOUR ITINERARY



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TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1

Destination	Home ✈ Istanbul
Meals included	Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ The Galata Istanbul Hotel by MGallery , or similar

Hoşgeldiniz! Welcome to Istanbul. Upon arrival, you'll be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel.

This vast metropolis is home to a beguiling mix of different cultures and traditions, a blend of east and west influences. The only city in the world that straddles two continents, it's busy, vibrant and fascinating.

Tonight you'll join your guide and the rest of your group for your first Inspiring Taste, enjoying traditional Turkish fare in a local meyhane. It's not just about the wonderful food, it's an authentic way to socialise in Istanbul like the locals.

Please note: Some flights may depart the day before.

Check in: Passengers will be arriving at various times throughout the day from as early as 6am through to late evening. If arriving prior to standard check-in time, which is generally 3pm local time, you are welcome to leave your luggage with hotel reception and explore your surroundings until check-in becomes available, as there are generally 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.

DAY 2

Destination	Istanbul ✈ Cappadocia
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	Exedra Hotel Cappadocia (Boutique) , or similar

We'll start with a welcome meeting at 9am to discuss some tour logistics and to give you a chance to meet your fellow travellers.

After the meeting, you'll transfer to the airport for your flight to Kayseri. On arrival, your driver will greet you at the airport and you'll head to Goreme Open-Air Museum.

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This cave city of ancient churches and monasteries is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It's a must-visit in Cappadocia and sits in the very centre of the region; easily accessible. It contains the finest of the rock-cut churches, and beautiful frescoes (wall paintings) with colours that are still fresh and vibrant.

Step back in time as you spend two nights in your boutique cave hotel, an Inspiring Stay, staying in rooms carved into the rock.

DAY 3

Destination	Cappadocia
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	Exedra Hotel Cappadocia (Boutique) , or similar

Cappadocia is famous for its unique landforms; deep valleys, swirling volcanic-rock landscapes, fairy chimneys that change colour with the sunset. It's an enchanting, peculiar land.

It's no wonder this area is renowned for its magical hot air balloon flights – early birds have the option of taking to the sky over the surreal Cappadocian landscape. The scene at sunrise is sure to take your breath away. Please note, this activity can only be booked locally. Please speak to your tour guide on day one to organise this.

It's also known for its labyrinthine underground cities. Today your tour will start with the Derinkuyu, one of the 36 underground cities in Cappadocia. These underground cities first started in the Bronze Age Hittite era. There are about 600 outside doors to the city, hidden in the courtyards of surface dwellings. This underground city is about 60 metres deep and could accommodate up to 20,000 people.

It contains all the usual rooms found in an underground city, like stables, cellars, churches and wineries. On the second floor, you'll find a large room with a barrel-vaulted ceiling that was a missionary school.

We'll then visit the magnificent Ihlara Valley, near the two volcanoes of Mount Hasan and Mount Melendiz. This vast canyon, with a depth of about 100 metres, was formed by the Melendiz River thousands of years ago. It begins at Ihlara village and makes 26 bends along 14 kilometres, ending at Selime Monastery in Selime village. Around 80,000 people once lived in Ihlara Valley and it's believed the valley housed more than 4000 dwellings and cave churches decorated with frescoes.

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Tonight you'll be hosted by a local family for your next Inspiring Taste – a home-cooked dinner in their home, a truly memorable experience. Enjoy!

DAY 4

Destination Cappadocia 🚗 Konya

Meals included Breakfast

Hotel 5 ★ Ramada Plaza Konya, or similar

Extra optional activity (Can only be booked locally) - Hot Air Ballooning over Cappadocia - approx. EUR 150 per person

This morning we'll head to Konya, a journey of about three hours. When you arrive you'll have some free time to relax.

In the evening, your guide will take you to the Dervish Lodge to experience the Whirling Dervish Ritual.

The Mevlevi Sema Ceremony is a Sufi ceremony that symbolises stages on the path to accessing God. It is a journey through man's spiritual ascent to 'perfection' through mind and love – a truly unmissable and astonishing experience of music and movement. It contains religious elements and themes with detailed rules and characteristics. The ceremony consists of the noble eulogy to the Prophet Mohammed, flute solo, prelude, the Circling of Veled and four segments (selam), which contain different Sufi meanings.

The ceremony is performed with traditional Mevlevi music, beginning with the Noble Eulogy (naat-ı şerif), which is the score composed by İttri and has been played since the late 17th century. Hymns written by composers such as Pir Adil Çelebi are sung by a trained chorus, which is accompanied by instruments such as the ney (flute), kettledrum and oud. The works of Rumi written in Persian are the basic source of the compositions.

DAY 5

Destination Konya 🚗 Pamukkale

Meals included Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel 5 ★ Doğa Thermal Hotel , or similar

After an early breakfast this morning, you'll have a five-hour journey to Pamukkale, part of the UNESCO-listed larger ancient city of Hierapolis. It's a trip of about three and a half hours.

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Nicknamed the 'cotton castle', Pamukkale's famous white travertines and blue mineral pools make for an enchanting sight. The calcite-laden waters from the hot springs overlooking the plain have created a magical landscape, with petrified waterfalls and a series of step-like terraced basins with a dazzling white coating.

We'll then visit the nearby ancient Roman spa city of Hierapolis. We'll see the ruins of the baths, temples and the Antique Pool with its submerged Roman columns, the result of an earthquake in the seventh century.

DAY 6

Destination	Pamukkale 🚗 Ephesus 🚗 Izmir
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Swissôtel Büyük Efes İzmir, or similar

It's about a three-hour trip this morning to Ephesus, Europe's most complete ancient city and arguably the greatest Greco-Roman site in the world.

Built during 10th century BC during the Classical Greek era, this great city began to flourish under Roman control in 129 BC. It's estimated that in its heyday, the city's population was between 33,000 and 56,000 people.

Tour the amphitheatre, stroll the marble streets once walked by Cleopatra and Mark Antony and marvel at the gymnasium, baths and beautifully-restored Library of Celsus.

The centrepiece of this prosperous city, the marble Temple of Artemis, was once the biggest temple on earth and one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. It's a shadow of its former glory – after being completely rebuilt three times, it was eventually destroyed during a raid by an East Germanic tribe in 401 AD.

Then, we'll drive to the quaint village of Şirince before heading to Izmir to spend the night.

DAY 7

Destination	Izmir ✈️ Istanbul
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ The Galata Istanbul Hotel by MGallery, or similar

It's an early transfer to the airport this morning to fly to Istanbul. Upon arrival, you'll be taken to your hotel.

Later in the afternoon, we'll see the main sights of Istanbul, most of which are central to Sultanahmet Square, previously

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the famous Hippodrome of Constantinople. We'll take an orientation walk around this historic area. Once upon a time it was home to gladiator games, official ceremonies, celebrations and protests. It's been in use since Roman times and was used as a square by the Ottomans, too. Construction during the 16th and 17th centuries damaged it and by the mid-18th century it was abandoned. You'll enjoy Turkish tea.

We'll visit the Blue Mosque, also known as the Sultan Ahmet Camii (or Sultan Ahmed Mosque), one of the most majestic Ottoman mosques in Turkey. It's a striking display of classical Turkish architecture. Built between 1609 and 1616, it was designed as an imperial show of strength to complement the imposing Hagia Sophia across the square. It owes its name to more than 20,000 handmade ceramic Iznik tiles that decorate the interior, with many different tulip, rose, carnation and lily designs. It's still used as a place for daily prayer and worship.

You'll visit the Hagia Sophia (Ayasofya) Museum, one of Istanbul's most impressive sights, famous for its massive dome and other daring engineering feats. Now a museum, it was previously a church for more than a thousand years and later a mosque.

The last stop is the Grand Bazaar, one of the largest and oldest covered markets in the world. It takes up a whole city quarter. With over 4,000 shops, it's a tourist favourite and a great place to practise your haggling skills.

DAY 8

Destination	Istanbul ✈ Amman
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Amman Marriott Hotel, or similar

At the appropriate time, you'll be taken to the airport to board your flight to Amman.

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.

DAY 9

Destination	Amman 🚌 Jerash 🚌 Amman
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel	5 ★ Amman Marriott Hotel, 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

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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.

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.

DAY 10

Destination	Amman  Petra
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Marriott Hotel Petra, 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 continue to the ancient village at Dana, on the edge of the Dana Biosphere Reserve, where local artisans sell silver jewellery.

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.

DAY 11

Destination	Petra
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Marriott Hotel Petra, or similar

Great 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

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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.

DAY 12

Destination	Petra 🚌 Wadi Rum
Meals included	Breakfast, dinner
Hotel	Memories Aicha Luxury Camp, 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, and ride camels to our traditional Bedouin tent, situated deep within the valley. 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.

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DAY 13

Destination	Wadi Rum 🚗 Dead Sea 🚗 Amman
Meals included	Breakfast, lunch
Hotel	5 ★ Amman Marriott Hotel, 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.

Later, we'll drive for approximately an hour and a half 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.

DAY 14

Destination	Amman ✈️ Cairo
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Le Méridien Pyramids Hotel, or similar

After breakfast this morning, we head to the airport for our flight to Cairo.

On arrival, you'll check into your **Inspiring Stay**, the deluxe 5-star Le Meridien Pyramids – in a pyramid view room overlooking the captivating Great Pyramids of Giza. Magical.

DAY 15

Destination	Cairo
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	5 ★ Le Méridien Pyramids Hotel, or similar

This morning, head 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.

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Afterwards, make your way to the Egyptian Museum, home to one of the world's great collections of antiquities. Wander the treasure-filled halls of the museum, and make sure to check out the Royal Mummies Hall for a close encounter with some of the country's most important queens and pharaohs. The masses of gleaming artefacts recovered from the tomb of Tutankhamun are quite something.

DAY 16

Destination	Cairo 🚆 Luxor
Meals included	Breakfast, dinner
Hotel	Watania Sleeping train, or similar

Today, enjoy a free day at leisure. Later this afternoon you'll be transferred to the station to board your overnight sleeper train to Luxor.

(Please note: accommodation onboard the overnight train is in two-berth cabins, which convert into bunk beds. All bedding is provided onboard and Western-style toilets are in each carriage. Your bags will be stored in your cabin, where an airline-style dinner and breakfast will be served, however, it may be worth bringing additional snacks, especially if you are vegetarian or have any dietary requirements; your tour leader can help you to arrange this. Despite being a 'tourist class' train the facilities onboard are basic but comfortable.)

OPTIONAL INSPIRING SIGHT - CAIRO CITY TOUR

Join a local guide to get in touch with Cairo's Islamic heart. From backstreet bazaars to minaret-topped mosques, and neighbourhood coffee houses, these are the places that make Egypt's sprawling capital what it is. Enjoy time at Khan el-Khalili market. A labyrinth of narrow streets and passageways, Khan el-Khalili is one of the world's largest bazaars, and offers a truly authentic local Cairo experience.

DAY 17

Destination	Luxor 🚆 Embark on Nile cruise 🚢
Meals included	Breakfast, lunch, dinner
Hotel	SHIP: Movenpick Royal Lotus, or similar

Welcome to Luxor! After an early breakfast onboard the Watania Sleeping Train, the train rolls into Luxor. From the spectacular temple complex of Karnak to the Valley of the Kings, Luxor is full of wonderfully preserved reminders of the pharaohs.

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Today 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.

Later you will be transferred to your Nile cruise boat, which will be your home for the next four nights. You can relax by the pool on the boat or explore the town.

OPTIONAL INSPIRING SIGHT - TEMPLE OF ISIS

Visit the beautiful Temple of Isis (the Goddess of health marriage and wisdom), which was rescued from the rising waters of the Nile and relocated on Igelka Island. It's a marvel of decorative pylons featuring some of Egypt's finest carvings – definitely one of the real gems of Upper Egypt.

DAY 18

Destination	 Luxor  Valley of the Kings  Luxor  Edfu
Meals included	Breakfast, lunch, dinner
Hotel	SHIP: Movenpick Royal Lotus, or similar

Today 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.

Continue on to 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.

After paying a visit to three of the most interesting royal tombs we'll continue to the Mortuary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, a stunning colonnaded building of sharp lines that contrasts beautifully against the craggy high cliffs behind it, creating a spectacular natural amphitheatre. One of Egypt's greatest queens, this temple was built to prove her importance among the ancestors.

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Enjoy lunch upon your return to the boat. There is time to relax on deck, or in your cabin, before we set sail for Edfu. Generally the journey from Luxor to Edfu takes place between 1pm and 11 pm, though the departure time may vary, depending on river traffic. En route to Edfu we pass through the Esna Lock and head upstream.

DAY 19

Destination	 Edfu  Kom Ombo  Aswan
Meals included	Breakfast, lunch, dinner
Hotel	SHIP: Movenpick Royal Lotus, or similar

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

Later we'll return to the boat where we'll continue travelling upriver, with plenty of free time for relaxing on the sundeck and taking in the surrounding sights – from fishermen casting nets and farmers working their land to the desert hills that frame the lush riverbanks.

This afternoon we'll arrive at Kom Ombo Temple. Set dramatically on the bank of the Nile, 47 kilometres north of Aswan and 168 kilometres south of Luxor, the soaring, chunky columns of the double temple are a magnificent sight to behold as you arrive from the river.

Dedicated to the gods Sobek and Haroeris, the temple's finely carved reliefs give a sense of this area's prominence as capital over the surrounding region during the Ptolemaic era. Today, Kom Ombo may be a sleepy agricultural backwater surrounded by sugar cane fields, but its prime position along the Nile meant it was once one of Upper Egypt's most important centres. Wander through the temple's colonnades, gazing up at scenes of kingly propaganda, and you'll get a sense of this rich history for yourself.




Return to the cruise boat where you'll continue travelling upriver towards Aswan. (Please note: the only mode of transport available to visit the Temple of Edfu is by locally managed horses and carriages. As a business that seeks to promote responsible travel, animal welfare is extremely important to us at Inspiring Vacations, and unfortunately, some operators of the horse and carriages have been found to be in breach of our animal welfare guidelines. It is for this reason we do not include the visit the Edfu Temple. While we recommend that you do not use the horse and carriage to visit the Temple, the decision is ultimately up to you and your guide can help arrange transport and ensure the best horses are used.)

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TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 20

Destination  Aswan  Abu Simbel  Aswan

Meals included Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Hotel SHIP: Movenpick Royal Lotus, or similar

Today we drive to the ancient Abu Simbel temples, near the southern Egyptian border. The two enormous sandstone structures were built in the 1200s BCE by Ramses II to serve as lasting monuments to 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 enjoy free time to make your own discoveries.

This afternoon, we'll enjoy a sailboat ride around the Nile River islands in a traditional *felucca* (a small, traditional Egyptian sailboat).

OPTIONAL INSPIRING SIGHT - LUXOR TEMPLE

You may choose to include 2 optional Inspiring Sights throughout your tour, free as part of your package.

Visit Luxor temple. The temple has been in almost continuous use as a place of worship right up to the present day. Today, remains of this vast complex include the colossal Great Colonnade Hall, almost 61 meters long, with 28 twenty-one-foot-high columns, its decoration largely undertaken by Tutankhamun around 1330 B.C.

DAY 21

Destination Aswan  Cairo

Meals included Breakfast

Hotel 5 ★ Le Méridien Pyramids Hotel, or similar

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Today we will leave Aswan and make the short flight back to Cairo. On our return to Cairo enjoy your free time relaxing or doing some last-minute sightseeing.

OPTIONAL INSPIRING SIGHT - HOME COOKED MEAL 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 Middle Eastern traditions, Egyptian culture and tasty food but most importantly, enjoy a delicious and authentic home cooked meal.

DAY 22

Destination	Cairo ✈ Home
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	N/A

Unfortunately, today marks the end of your incredible tour. At the appropriate time, you will be transferred to the airport to board your flight home.

We hope you have enjoyed a very memorable experience and will return home with many lovely stories and photos.

Check out: Passengers will be departing at various times throughout the day. Standard hotel check-out times will apply no matter what time your flight is scheduled to depart. Check-out time is generally anywhere from 10am-12pm. You are welcome to leave your luggage at hotel reception and spend your final moments of free time exploring the area or alternatively please speak with hotel staff if you would like to extend your check-out time. Please note this service is subject to availability and will likely come at an additional cost. Your tour guide (or hotel staff) will confirm the time of your airport transfer with you directly.

DAY 23

Destination	Home
Meals included	
Hotel	N/A

Arrive home today, with memories to last a life-time.

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TOUR ITINERARY

Inclusions

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international Economy airfares with a full-service carrier
- All airport and port transfers with guide assistance
- All coach, rail and cruise transportation
- 15 nights in 5-star or boutique accommodation
- Cruise the Nile on your 5-star floating home for 4 nights
- 1 night under the desert stars in a comfortable camp in Wadi Rum
- Overnight sleeper train experience from Cairo to Luxor
- Meals: Daily breakfast, 6 lunches and 9 dinners
- Small group of 4-16 people: 1 English speaking tour leader – Will accompany the group throughout
- All accommodation as listed
- All entrance fees to the sites listed (except optionals)
- All activities listed in the itinerary unless a paid optional
- Comfortable, dedicated private transportation throughout
- 24/7 customer service and your own Dedicated Support Agent

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TOUR ITINERARY

SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

- Cappadocia - Explore the out-of-this-world landscape of Cappadocia, walking among the fabled region's incredible fairy chimneys
- Cappadocia – Delve underground to discover one of the fascinating underground cities
- Cappadocia – See the magnificent, vast canyon Ihlara Valley
- Konya – Witness a spectacular Whirling Dervish ritual, a fascinating Sufi ceremony
- Pamukkale – Experience this magical landscape, with its famous white travertines, white-coated step-like terraced basins and healing mineral pools
- Hierapolis – Visit the ruins of this great city and the ancient Roman baths that are said to date back to 190 AD
- Ephesus – Explore this ancient city, arguably the greatest Greco-Roman site in the world, featuring the iconic Library of Celsus and a huge amphitheatre
- Istanbul – Uncover the grandeur of the incredible Blue Mosque
- Istanbul – Haggle with locals and tourists alike at the epic, bustling Grand Bazaar
- Istanbul – Discover historical delights, like the old Roman Hippodrome and iconic Hagia Sophia
- Amman – See the historic sights of Jordan's capital, like the Citadel and the Jordan Archaeological Museum
- Jerash – See the Greco-Roman ruins, once one of the grandest ancient Roman cities in the world
- Petra – Experience the jewel of Jordan; with its impressive, beautiful ruins
- Wadi Rum – Ride camels through the desert and spend the night at a traditional Bedouin desert camp
- Dead Sea – Float on the surface of this natural wonder
- Cairo – See the greatest iconic structures ever created by man, the spellbinding Pyramids and the Sphinx
- Cairo – Visit the Egyptian Museum to discover Egypt's rich and fascinating history
- Luxor – Discover wonderfully-preserved reminders of the Pharaohs, like Karnak Temple, the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon
- Luxor – Explore the spectacular royal burial site of the Valley of the Kings
- Kom Ombo – See the unusual double temple of Kom Ombo Temple
- Abu Simbel – Visit the imposing Temple of Ramses II, part of the UNESCO-listed Nubian Monuments
- Aswan – Enjoy a sailboat ride around the Nile River islands in a traditional felucca

CRUISE DETAILS

For further information on your Nile cruise, click [HERE](#).

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TOUR ITINERARY

INSPIRING FEATURES

Inspiring Stays

- Spend 2 nights in a boutique cave hotel in the Cappadocia region, staying in rooms carved into the rock.
- Stay 3 nights at the 5 star Le Meridien Pyramids in a Pyramid view room overlooking the Great Pyramids of Giza.
- Stay 1 night at a premium Wadi Rum desert camp under the stars.

Inspiring Sights

You'll have the choice between 2 of 4 bonus sightseeing experiences to enhance your journey. You may choose to include 2 optional Inspiring Sights throughout your tour, free as part of your package (options listed under 'Optional Tours').

- Cairo City Tour - Explore backstreet bazaars and neighbourhood coffee houses for an authentic local Cairo experience with your local guide.
- Temple of Isis - Visit this gem of Upper Egypt, with its marvellous decorative pylons featuring some of Egypt's finest carvings.
- Luxor Temple - Discover the largest and most significant religious centre in ancient Egypt, which has been in almost continuous use as a place of worship right up until present day.
- Home-cooked Egyptian dinner in Cairo - Experience Egyptian culture with a local family in their home, sitting down for a delicious and authentic home-cooked meal.

Inspiring Tastes

- Welcome dinner - Enjoy traditional Turkish fare in a local 'Meyhane' in Istanbul, a social experience and foodie's delight in this vibrant city.
- Home-cooked meal in Cappadocia - Be welcomed into a local family's home and tuck into an authentic home-cooked dinner.

Fine Print

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TOUR ITINERARY

HOW TO BOOK & PAYMENTS

Deposit & Payments

- Book now and secure your package with only a \$100 deposit per person.
- Pay a 2nd instalment of \$3,499 per person within 28 days.
- You will then be invoiced for final payment 90 days prior to departure.

Booking Process

- Select the purple 'Reserve Your Seat' tab to begin your booking (you must 'Sign Up' first by entering your email and creating a password)
- Then select the purple 'Book now' tab of the tour you have selected
- Select your Departure Date, Departure City, Number of Passengers, Room Configuration, any Upgrade Options, and enter any Special Requests
- Click the purple 'Proceed to Secure Checkout' tab
- Enter your credit card or PayPal details to secure your deposit/payment. You may also pay via BPAY (not available within 70 days of departure)
- Once your order is complete, you will be prompted to complete a Booking Form so that we can fulfil your booking
- Your booking is confirmed once your Booking Form is submitted and you can begin the countdown to your Inspiring Vacation!
- You will then be allocated and contacted by one of our Dedicated Support Agent's (within 48 hours) who will support you right up until you return from your journey

FLIGHTS, UPGRADES & EXTENSIONS

Airfare Information

- Full service airline used will be Emirates, Etihad or Turkish Airways (or similar if unavailable)
- Flights will require a minimum of 1 transit (maximum 2)
- All tickets will include 20 kilos checked baggage per person, along with 7 kilos of hand luggage.
- Despite the airlines baggage allowance, we recommend travelling with 20 kilos per person due to restrictions with internal flights (where applicable), as well as coach and train transportation. Also, you will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters is not included. If travelling over this amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable direct.
- Once ticketed, flights are non-refundable; any changes will be subject to the airline rules and change fees

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TOUR ITINERARY

- Full names as per passport (including all middle names) are required
- Any airline schedule changes or cancellations are beyond our control

Premium Economy or Business Class upgrades

- Premium Economy upgrade - not available.
- Business Class upgrade available from an additional \$6,500 per person (subject to availability).

Please specify this as a 'Special Request' when completing your booking and you will be quoted for the additional fare. In the event your selection is unavailable, or that you are dissatisfied with the quote, you will be provided with a full refund.

Land Only discount

A reduction of \$1,500 per person applies if you wish to arrange your own airfares. To purchase a land-only fare, please select this option in the booking process under 'Departure City'.

Please note, if you are not arriving or departing as per the group itinerary, airport transfers are also no longer included. If you would like us to arrange this service for you, please refer to the 'Extra services' section for pricing.

How to extend your stay

Some customers like to enhance their holiday by extending their stay pre- and/or post-tour. If you wish to do so, please follow these steps:

1. Follow the 'Book Now' prompts after signing up, until you reach the 'Special Requests' field
2. Here, please specify your preferred flight arrangements and if you require additional accommodation, with the number of nights needed.
3. After finalising your purchase and submitting your booking form, a member of our team will be in contact with you via email to verify your request.

Please note, a supplement of \$150 per person (plus any applicable fare and tax differences) applies to deviate from the standard itinerary. We will contact you via email with a quote and proposed flight itinerary, and then proceed with collecting the additional payment required to confirm your request.

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TOUR ITINERARY

EXTRA SERVICES

You can enhance your holiday by arriving or departing before or after the tour, adding a stopover package en-route or booking a tour extension. On this tour you can choose from the following options:

Airport chauffeur

Take the hassle out of getting to the airport with private chauffeur transfers to and from your home airport. Your personal chauffeur will meet and greet you, attend to your luggage and drive you to your destination in a luxury vehicle.

- Within 30km of airport: \$139 per vehicle (max 2 guests)
- Outside 30km of airport: You may add this option to your booking and the final price will be adjusted based on the transfer distance.

Additional surcharges may apply depending on pick-up time, tolls and government levies.

Airport Chauffeur 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 this service, where any applicable cost will be added to your final balance.

Pre and post tour accommodation (deviating from group flights forfeits your group airport transfers)

- Pre-tour accommodation (Istanbul): \$153 per room per night for double/twin/single including breakfast
- Post-tour accommodation (Cairo): \$149 per room per night for double/twin/single including breakfast

Arrival and departure airport transfers

- Arrival Transfer (Istanbul): \$50 per vehicle
- Departure Transfer (Cairo): \$50 per vehicle

Your transfer may be shared with other Inspiring Vacations customers.

Please specify in the 'Special Request' field when making your purchase your preferred travel arrangements and if you would like our team to book additional nights' accommodation

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and/or airport transfers. The additional cost for these land arrangements will be added to your final payment invoice and are subject to availability.

Airport lounges

Escape busy airport terminals and relax at a cosy and catered lounge instead. Departure lounge access in Sydney \$70 per person (up to 6 hours); Melbourne & Brisbane \$55 per person (up to 3 hours).

Airport lounge passes 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 this service, where any applicable cost will be added to your final balance.



TOUR ITINERARY

OPTIONAL TOURS

You have the choice of 2 of 4 Inspiring Experiences to enhance your journey. You may wish to purchase the remaining 2 optional tours as follows:

- Cairo City tour (Day 16)- \$80pp
- Temple of Isis (Day 17) - \$55pp
- Luxor Temple (Day 20) - \$20pp
- Home-cooked Egyptian dinner in Cairo (Day 21) - \$90pp

Extra optional activity (Only to be booked locally) - Hot Air Ballooning over Cappadocia (Day 4) - approx. EUR 150 per person

Optional Tour Bundles

If you're wanting to make the most of your time in Egypt, why not purchase our optional tour bundle? These optional tours have been hand-picked by our staff and based on our customers personal favourites.

1. Egyptian Home Cooked Dinner
2. Temple of Isis

\$130 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 or speaking with your Dedicated Support Agent for assistance.

Please note that you must select your Optional Tours no later than 65 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 required to pay in USD. We appreciate your understanding.



TOUR ITINERARY

EXCLUSIONS

- Visas
- Travel insurance (recommended)
- Tipping
- Anything not mentioned in the itinerary
- Optional activities
- Personal expenses

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Fitness Requirements

While the tour itinerary should give you some guidance and overview to the expected requirements, to determine if this tour is right for you we categorise each of our tours in terms of their intensity. These guidelines are to ensure that each tour group is conducted as expected and to ensure the overall satisfaction of all Inspiring Vacations customers.

As a general rule, portorage is not included, therefore at all times you are expected to handle your own luggage where help may not be available.

This particular tour is categorised as a "3":

3 – Moderate Tour: A good level of fitness and mobility is required, as this tour includes a moderate level of physical activity and is considered a medium-fast paced tour. You should be able to walk up and down stairs, get on and off the coach and able to walk reasonable distances of approximately 2 kilometres per day or more with ease. Any physical ailments you may have must be disclosed at the time of booking to determine your suitability. If you have any form of walking aids, other than a walking stick or hiking poles, then this tour is not suitable.

Tipping

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. At the commencement of your tour (in each country) 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 portorage. We suggest USD\$5 (AUD\$7 approx) 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 guide will be collected at the conclusion of their services in each country. To

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remove the uncertainty and stress of not knowing how much is appropriate to tip we recommend USD\$6-8 (AUD\$8-12 approx) per person per day. The amount you wish to contribute is dependent on the services received and at the complete discretion of the guest. Thank you for your understanding.

Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences however any changes are beyond our control.

Single Supplement

Single supplement is \$2,299 per person in addition to the twin share price.

Triple Share

Not available.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is required to protect yourself against the unexpected.

We have partnered with nib to offer our customers competitive rates for their travel insurance. You can book comprehensive or budget cover simply by clicking [HERE](#) to arrange your policy.

Visa & Passport information

It is the travellers responsibility to ensure they have a valid passport. The passport must be valid for a minimum of 6 months from your intended date of return to Australia.

Australian passport holders will require a visa to enter Egypt.

You will be able to obtain your E-visa when you have all of your travel documents approximately 30-40 days prior to departure.

Visit <https://visa2egypt.gov.eg/> and create an account for yourself to then start the application process.

Information required:

- Visa type (tourist)

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- Entry type (single)
- Arrival date and departure date (no specific flight details are required)
- Passport information
- You have to upload a JPEG (only supported file type) of your passport
- The name of the host/tour operator, phone number, email address and street address

Pay USD \$25pp by credit card

Wait for it to be approved and you will be notified via email within approximately 48 hours.

Once approved, please ensure that you travel with the following documentation as they are required to present to customs upon arrival into the country:

- Passport with 6 months validity
- E-visa printout
- Travel itinerary (provided 30 days before departure)
- Hotel list (provided 30 days before departure)

Please note visas for Jordan can be obtained upon entry into each country.

Visas for Turkey must be obtained prior to travel via the Turkish government's official [e-visa](#) website.

Please note that these details are subject to change without notice. We recommend visiting <https://smartraveller.gov.au> for up to date information in terms of entry requirements.

Please speak to your Dedicated Support Agent for more information.

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TOUR ITINERARY

Tour Documentation

Final documentation including e-tickets and hotel details will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

Group Size

4-16 people.

Trip Style - Small Group

These tours are our proudest creations. They have been crafted for Inspiring Vacations travellers exclusively, with personal and unique experiences in mind. You will travel with only a maximum of 20 other guests. Enjoy choice features such as hand-picked accommodation, a sampling of the region's best culinary delights and a range of optional activities to choose from to best suit your travel style.

Children

Children must be 2 years old or over and share a room with parents at all times. Children are the same price as adults.

Tour Length

The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land.

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