

Code JGEKT **King Tutankhamen**

Tour Dossier Introduction

Dossier Last Updated: 26-03-2014

Tour Code: JGEKT

Duration: 8 nights / 9 days

Joining City: Cairo

Departure City: Cairo

Nearest Joining International Airport: Cairo International Airport (CAI)

Nearest Departing International Airport: Cairo International Airport (CAI)

Please check this document just before departing in case of last minute changes to your tour.

Tour Documents

 PDF Document  Web Page

-  [Packing List for Adventure Tours](#)
-  [Middle East Pre Departure Booklet](#)
-  [Joining Letter for Tours Cairo](#)
-  [Optional Excursions Guide for Tours to the Middle East](#)
-  [Extra Excursions](#)
-  [Egypt Dossier](#)

What's Included

- > Pyramids & Sphinx
- > Saqqara
- > Aswan High Dam
- > Philae Temple
- > Arrival & Departure Transfer
- > Kom Ombo
- > Edfu
- > Valley of the Kings
- > Hatshepsut Temple
- > Egyptian Museum

- > 4 nights in hotels, hostels & guesthouses, 2 nights on overnight trains, 2 nights on a felucca sailing boat
- > 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- > Travel by Overnight Train, Arrival Transfer, Felucca, Foot, Car, Private Vehicle
- > Tucan Travel Representative, English-speaking local guide(s) on excursions

What's not Included

- Tipping kitty of USD\$35-90 payable at the start of your tour and administered by your tour leader.
- Entrance fees to some national parks and sites.
- International flights and departure taxes
- Domestic flight taxes if applicable
- Visas, travel insurance, personal items and single rooms.
- Spending money – budget for meals, snacks, drinks, limited souvenirs, laundry, tips and any extras
- Optional excursions - Please see our optional excursions guide on the dossier page for a comprehensive list of optional activities and excursions available on this tour.

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 to 1 - Arrive Cairo

The first day of your tour is simply an arrival day with no pre-organised activities. In order to allow time to relax and see some of the sights you may wish to add pre tour accommodation. On arrival please ask at the reception for information on when the pre departure meeting will be held.

On arrival in Cairo you will be thrown headfirst into the hustle and bustle of this wonderful city and your Egyptian adventure will start from the moment you leave the airport. After you've been driven to the hotel you will be itching to get out and into the thick of the charming chaos that is Cairo. As you wander the streets your senses will be assaulted on all levels with cars tooting donkeys braying and the call to prayer, the mix of smells like the aroma from cooking pots and the scent of apple tobacco, the delicious taste of mint tea as you sit in a shaded caf' to relax, and the endless river of life that you can watch roll past you, women haggling in the bazaars, men talking whilst enjoying a traditional shisha pipe, cars vying for space on the crowded roads, camels ambling serenely along and children playing in the back streets.

If arriving in Cairo a day or two before the tour begins, there is so much to do in Cairo, from visiting the fantastic Egyptian Museum with the Royal Mummy Room, to the bazaars of Khan el Khalili where you can shop up a storm and hone your bargaining skills.

Day 2 to 3 - Cairo - Aswan

Today we visit one of the most symbolic sites of Cairo, if not all of Egypt, is the Giza Pyramids and Sphinx. The pyramids are a spectacular sight and really do have to be seen to be believed! Weaving our way through the manic Cairo traffic, out into the suburbs the pyramids leap out and are suddenly there: huge majestic tombs rising out the desert, towering above the modern city of Cairo and an incredible testament to the immense achievements of the Ancient Egyptians.

Built over five thousand years ago the Pyramids are the only one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World that is still standing. We explore the Pyramids and the Sphinx with our local leader & Egyptologist who can explain all the mysteries surrounding their creation, were they built by aliens and are they aligned to the stars? We will then head on to the necropolis of Saqqara, where we can explore the myriad tombs and temples at this site and see Zhoser's step pyramid, which was constructed by Imhotep, the pharaoh's chief architect in 2700 BC.

In the morning your entrance fees and tipping kitty for the whole tour will be collected by the tour leader from everyone. The tip kitty will cover all tipping throughout the tour, except tips for the felucca captain and your tour guide. In the evening we will head to the station to take the overnight train to Aswan.

We arrive in Aswan early in the morning and check in to the hotel. Aswan is a busy Nubian town with a massive bazaar and our first visit is out to the mighty Aswan Dam, one of the 20th century's great feats of engineering. Behind the dam is Lake Nasser, named after one of Egypt's most prominent leaders. We then take a short boat trip out to Agilika Island to visit the marvellous Philae Temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis and dating back to the 4th century BC. The afternoon is yours to explore the bazaar that runs the whole length of town and is crammed with shops and stalls selling everything imaginable. To relax you can sit at one of the many river side cafes and enjoy a cup of sweet tea and a game of backgammon.

Please note: At the moment travel is restricted between four of the governorates that the overnight train to Aswan travels through. Instead, we may be required to organise internal flights between Cairo and Aswan and this will be at an additional expense. Please contact your Reservations Agent for more details.

Day 4 to 6 - (Optional Abu Simbel excursion) Felucca Sailing - Luxor

This morning there is an early optional excursion to fly out to the spectacular temple complex of Abu Simbel. This massive temple to King Ramses II is cut into the rock face, with no less than four giant statues of Ramses grandly guarding the entrance. One of the most impressive temples in Egypt, the site was relocated here in 1972 from what is now the shore of Lake Nasser.

If you chose not to visit Abu Simbel you have the morning in Aswan. In the afternoon it is all aboard our felucca for the two-night cruise - a highlight of any Egypt adventure – upstream to Luxor.

Feluccas are rustic sailboats based on a simple yet effective design and have plied the Nile for centuries. This is home for the next two nights and each boat comfortably carries five to 10 people. The deck is strewn with colourful rugs and cushions and there is a canopy to provide shade from the strong sun. At sundown the anchor is dropped near the river bank and we stay in one place until sunrise the next day. On board all meals are catered for and soft drinks and beer can be bought. As our speed is determined by the elements we cannot maintain a rigid itinerary, however, during the cruise there will be plenty of stops to visit places of interest, take regular swims and make the all important calls of nature ? please note there are no toilets or showers on board.

During the felucca cruise we visit the waterside temple at Kom Ombo and the large complex that is the Temple of Horus at Edfu. Edfu is a magnificent temple dedicated to Horus, the falcon headed god, and home of many ancient Egyptian legends. For centuries Edfu was almost completely covered with sand, which has protected the building from the elements and this means that Edfu is one of the best preserved temples in Egypt. There are reliefs carved into the temple walls depicting Horus and other gods on a grand scale, black granite falcon statues standing over two meters tall and a myriad of secret passage ways and hidden rooms.

We disembark our riverboat at Luxor and are transferred to our hotel. There can be nowhere else in the world that has the same number of awe-inspiring attractions as the 4,000-year-old, small town of Luxor. This was the capital of Egypt in ancient times (then known as Thebes) and there are an endless number of temples, tombs and museums that could keep you busy for a week. In the evening there is an optional excursion to the Temple of Luxor to see it lit up with coloured floodlights.

The Valley of the Kings is on the other side of the Nile, on the West Bank. We will make an early start today in an attempt to avoid the worst of the heat and the first thing we'll see is the imposing 18-metre-tall Colossi of Memnon, the only remnants of the temple to Amenophis III. We then begin our discovery of the valley with Hatshepsut Temple, built in honour of the first and longest reigning Egyptian queen, Hatshepsut. This exquisite structure is found in a steep half-circle of cliffs on the west bank of the Nile River and guarding the entrance to the great Valley of the Kings. Hatshepsut's beautiful temple was damaged after her reign ended when her nephew and stepson, Thutmose III, had her name and images chiselled off throughout the temple. Hatshepsut spent her reign building up the wealth of Egypt to the greater glory of the god Amun and this temple is one of her greatest commissions.

Arriving at the Valley of the Kings, there is not much to see above the ground, but corridors carved deep into the valley lead to the burial chambers far underground. The walls of the tombs are covered in incredibly well preserved paintings depicting the gods and goddesses of ancient Egypt and complex hieroglyphics which our guide will help us decipher. You will have the opportunity to visit some of the different tombs including that of Tutankhamen, the famous boy king. After relaxing back in Luxor we head out to visit the Temple of Karnak, with its spectacular complex of sanctuaries, pylons, chapels, halls and obelisks all dedicated to the Theban gods.

Day 7 to 8 - Luxor - Cairo

After an overnight train to Cairo, we wake up again in the bustling capital. Today we will enjoy a guided tour of the wonderful Museum of Egyptian Antiquities. The museum has an amazing collection of some 120,000 artefacts from centuries of civilisation. Worth a visit is the Royal Mummy Room, where nine mummies are on display. The treasures found in King Tutankhamen's tomb in the Valley of the Kings in 1922 remain one of the great archaeological finds, and many of the artefacts found in the Boy King's tomb are on display. Perhaps none is more impressive than his solid-gold death mask. The rest of the day is yours to explore all the charms of Cairo's bazaars and restaurants at your leisure.

Day 9 to 9 - Depart Cairo

Your adventure of a lifetime comes to an end today. If you have a late flight or have lengthened your stay by adding post tour accommodation you will have more time to explore the sights.

This itinerary is a guide. Changes may be made before or during your tour to improve the running or due to unforeseen circumstances.

Tipping Kitty

On this tour we operate a compulsory tipping kitty system to save you money and embarrassment in countries where tipping is a way of life and where requests for tips can be infuriatingly persistent. Each member of the group contributes approximately US\$35-45 per person to the kitty. The tour leader uses this kitty to pay tips to any people who provide services to the group as a whole e.g. guides, porters, drivers, housekeeping staff in hotels etc. Your tour leader does not benefit from this kitty.

Felucca Sailing

To participate in this excursion you are required to know how to swim. If you are unable to swim you may be asked to upgrade to a different boat for your safety and comfort.

Group Size

This tour has an average group size of 15-20 passengers per Tour Leader

Packing List

We have a detailed packing list for all of our Adventure Tours [here](#).

Baggage

On all of our Adventure Tours, you will be required to carry your luggage long distances down unpaved and uneven roads or up flights of stairs when elevators are not available. It is important that you choose a durable and lightweight soft bag that you can carry comfortably on your back.

You will also need a small daypack, large enough to carry everything you might need on overnight excursions.

Extra Excursions

Our Egypt and Jordan tours have optional extra excursions that must be booked before departure to guarantee availability. To find out more about these optional excursions [click here](#).

Add-ons & Extras

On many of our Group Tours, we spend one night in our arrival and departure cities. If you want to explore these cities more we can book pre and post tour accommodation, city tours and airport transfers for you. Price information can be found on the price page of each tour. We also have **Add-ons** - short packages that can be booked alongside a tour or on their own and have been carefully designed to ensure you don't miss out on popular highlights.

High Season and Holiday Supplement

For departure dates on this tour that fall during the high season, over Christmas and New Year, and Easter, you will be required to pay an additional supplement to cover the higher operational costs for these times of year. For the most up-to-date costs for these supplements, please see the Prices page of this tour.

Rooming

All our **Adventure Tours** are priced per person on a shared room basis meaning there is no compulsory extra payment for those travelling on their own.

I'd like my own room

If you are a solo traveller, a single room is available on most occasions at an extra cost. Price information can be found on the price page of each tour.

Day by Day Itinerary

Day	Activity	Country	Meals
Day 1	Cairo	Egypt	
Day 2	Overnight train to Aswan		B
Day 3	Aswan		B
Day 4	Felucca Sailing		BLD
Day 5	Felucca Sailing		BLD
Day 6	Luxor		B
Day 7	Overnight train to Cairo		B
Day 8	Cairo		B
Day 9	Cairo		B

(B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner included)

Please note the day to day itinerary above is given as a GUIDELINE ONLY.

For tours that include the option of a single supplement, a ? will indicate in which destinations single rooms are available.