







Greetings from Egypt!

We are very excited to be seeing all of you very soon and embarking on a powerful adventure throughout Egypt with you!

I have attached a link to our **Travel Tips & Information document:**

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nvriWZlglrXo8-ttXNwaHCvG2-cKegtn

to help you with your planning for your journey to Egypt. In addition, I have included the contact information for our Hotel and Cruise venues that you can leave with your families if you wish.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

If you have any trouble with your flights or arrival time--please call Mohamed (Mo) Taha's, our tour manager at Select Egypt, WhatsApp number and keep him informed. You can also drop me an email.

Mo Taha: +20 122 050 4030

You can also email Ildi on <u>ildibudai9@gmail.com</u> if you are not able to make a phone call or use WhatsApp.

I have also attached our final detailed itinerary. Please bring a copy of this with you to Egypt. This is a flexible schedule, subject to changes as we go. We will make announcements when necessary. Please be prompt for departures!







If you haven't done so yet, please make sure to send us your flight itineraries for both arrivals and departures, so that we can arrange for your 'meet and greet' inside the airport.

We will have a company representative, holding a sign saying 'Khemit School', meet you inside the airport and help you to obtain your visas (at a cost of \$25.00 USD if traveling from the USA, Canada, and most other countries), walk you through customs, help you get your baggage and show you where to go to get to the hotel.

Those arriving in the Cairo Airport at:

Terminal 3: Will take the overpass directly to the Le Meridien Airport Hotel

Terminals 1 & 2: Will catch a shuttle (either an airport shuttle or hotel shuttle), which comes by about every 5 minutes. Our company representative will assist you with this.

When you arrive in the lobby, we will have an associate available to help check you into your room at the hotel. We meet promptly at **6 PM in the lobby** for our Welcome Dinner. If you arrive late, please ask the front desk which room we are meeting in.

The weather here during the daytime should be beautiful with the possibility of requiring a light sweater or jacket occasionally, and the evenings can sometimes be a bit chillier—so please use your own discretion with bringing suitable clothing. I always recommend layering while traveling in Egypt, as the temperatures can fluctuate greatly throughout the days and nights. Please check a weather forecasting site such as www.weather.com, on the Internet, if you would like to have more detailed information.

We've had to change the advertised cruise ship to the luxurious **Semiramis I**, due to sailing schedule changes. The Semiramis I is a fabulous Cruise ship on which we'll enjoy all the comforts and amenities of a 5 star deluxe Nile cruise. We have also upgraded our hotel in Luxor to the wonderful Steigenberger Achti Hotel, located right on the Nile River.

Also, the Osirieon at Abydos has been closed to the public. We will be able to view this site from the top; however, they have closed the gate for further entry. We will still explore the wonderfully crafted and decorated halls of the Seti I temple there.







We will be keeping lists and collecting money for three options along our journey. The first will be an early morning trip to Abu Simbel on Day 3, March 9th --leaving the hotel at 4 AM to take a 3-hour bus ride to visit the two massive rock temples dedicated to Ramses II and his wife, Nefertari at Abu Simbel. Please decide if you want to join this group by the morning of Sunday, March 8th. Ildi and Mohammad will begin accepting registrations and funds at the Introductory Meeting. The cost will be \$165.00 per person.

You will also be offered an optional Hot Air Balloon ride on the morning of Thursday, March 12th for a cost of \$150.00 per person and an optional Private Entry into the Osiris Shaft on the Giza Plateau on Monday, March 16th. The cost for this opportunity will be \$250.00 per person.

Please check the schedule for times. **Ildi and Mohamed will be keeping the lists and collecting money for these events.**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dress can be casual. Shorts and T-shirts are acceptable for both men & women, however women may want to dress a little more conservatively if they venture outside hotels and tourist areas. Please remember to bring your bathing suits, as the hotels all have wonderful pools and the cruise ship will also have a small pool. We will also offer an opportunity to swim in the Nile when we are in Aswan.

The American dollar is currently very strong here at about 15.7 EGP (LE) to the US dollar, which is very good. You can exchange currency at the Le Meridien Airport Hotel and there are many places along our journey to exchange money, as well as ATMs, and we will see to it that you have the opportunities as needed. Many vendors accept credit cards, but please make sure you check with your bank prior to departing for your trip the costs for overseas ATM withdrawals and credit card purchases.

We recommend that you do bring spending money for shopping and/or light snacks or meals that are not included on the itinerary. If you have special dietary needs, you will definitely want to bring snacks that fit your needs for our longer road trips and longer site visits. Although we will do our best to provide fruits and other snack options, choices are often limited. It can be difficult to find viable restaurants in Egypt in some areas, such as Dendera and Abydos. Lunch boxes will be provided in some cases, however, again—the food options are limited.



HIDDEN INCA TOURS



Breakfast buffets are included daily, and three meals each day on the cruise ship. On other days, we will provide a large lunch or dinner. You will be responsible for purchasing your own beverages, including alcoholic drinks during the included meals. Coffee, tea and juice are provided free of charge at your buffet breakfasts. Additional meals are reasonably priced at around \$15.00 - \$25.00 USD at the hotels. We will provide water when traveling on the motor coaches.

The Le Meridien Airport Hotel, the Steigenberger Achti Resort on the Nile and Mena House Hotel offer free WIFI in your room and the Tolip Aswan Hotel, where we'll be staying for one night, offers free WIFI in their lobby, however, the Cruise Ship charges high fees for this service. We can obtain sim cards for your mobile phones and/or tablets. You will need to load these cards with a specified amount of available data usage. If you have a Windows laptop, we can obtain an Internet Flash Drive, loaded with 10 GB of available uploading and downloading of data (which would be more than enough for your entire journey here and can even be shared with others), for a cost of about \$60.00. Please let us know in advance so we can have it ready for you and receive your payment for this upon your arrival.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Le Meridien Airport Hotel: https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/caiam-le-meridien-cairo-airport/

Address: Cairo International Airport Terminal 3, Cairo Governorate

Phone: 02 22659600





Tolip Aswan Hotel: http://www.helnan.com/helnanAswanHotel

Address: Cornich El Nile. Phone: 097 2328828



HIDDEN INCA TOURS







Semiramis I: https://www.sunrise-resorts.com/gallery/SUNRISE_Select_M-S_Semiramis_I_II

Tel: +20 65 3460 020 Fax: + 20 65 3460 025





Steigenberger Achti Resort on the Nile:

https://www.steigenberger.com/en/hotels/all-hotels/egypt/luxor/steigenberger-resort-achti

Address: Luxor City, Luxor, Luxor Governorate

Phone: 0100 447 0503











Mena House Hotel: www.menahousehotel.com

Address: Kafr Nassar, Al Haram, Giza Governorate, Egypt

Phone: +20 2 33773222





We all look forward to greeting everyone personally on the evening of March 7th at our meeting for Introductions followed by a wonderful Welcome Dinner together. Please meet us in the hotel lobby at 6 PM, where you will be guided as to where we'll be convening.

If you arrive after 6 PM, and miss the meeting, please ask where we'll be dining. If you miss both the meeting and dinner—please be aware that we are leaving the hotel at the crack of dawn!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR DAY 2

Please have your baggage placed outside your room by 4:00 AM sharp and have your breakfast buffet at the Le Méridien Club Lounge which opens at 4 AM. Finish your breakfast and join the group in the lobby by 4:30 AM sharp! We are booked on two different flights that leave around 7 AM. Find your baggage and gather it with the group you are assigned to. This will be sent to you or announced at the Introductory Meeting. We have attached the group lists for these flights. Please check to see which group and flight you will be on. Please do not be late as we must go to the appropriate terminals and check in quickly.

We look forward to meeting everyone and enjoying a trip of a lifetime!

Warmly,

Patricia Awyan Lehman, Brien Foerster, Suzan Moore and the Khemit School Travel Team