



Travel Talk tours take you on a journey of history, culture and legends. Jordan's geographical nature makes it an intriguing country, as it is surrounded by Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria and Israel and straddles the Holy land of the world's three great monotheistic religions. You can leave footprints where Jesus once walked, look out over the lands promised to Moses or ride through Lawrence of Arabia's desert land. The amazing landscape alone is enough of a reason to visit Jordan. From the wind-blown dunes of Wadi Rum, to floating in the Dead Sea or exploring the city of Petra; a city carved into rock face over 2,000 years ago and now one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Travel Talk tours bring you to the heart of the Jordanian culture, history and of course adventure. You will explore the impressive sites, discover the natural and cultural treasures of Jordan and camp beneath the starry skies as you learn more about the traditional life in the desert. A Jordan tour is a pilgrimage of all sorts and is a must for any adventurous traveller.

### VISAS

All foreigners need a visa to enter Jordan. All nationalities except Colombian and Chinese nationals can purchase a visa at the border. South African nationals have free entry. Visas are valid for two weeks from entry, but can be easily extended for up to three months.

### ESSENTIALS

Before you leave your country, we recommend you make sure you have the following:

- ➔ Passport
- ➔ Airline or transportation ticket
- ➔ Tour voucher
- ➔ Insurance policy
- ➔ Visas (if necessary)
- ➔ Label on your travel bag
- ➔ Pre-departure information
- ➔ Money (cash and/or travellers cheques)
- ➔ Credit card

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

It is essential to all passengers travelling on Travel Talk tours to have personal insurance to cover all medical and repatriation costs. Please do not forget to take a copy of your insurance policy with you. While there are no mandatory vaccinations for travellers to Jordan it is advisable to ensure typhoid, polio and tetanus inoculations are up to date. Most people find that Jordan is a friendly and hospitable country and feel quite comfortable wandering around alone during the day. However, as with any country you are taxis rather than walk.

It is wise not to accept gifts of food or drink from any strangers for the risk of possibly being a victim of theft by drugging. Take care with your passport, credit cards and money - a money belt to fit beneath your clothes is highly recommended. It is also recommended that at least one set of modest clothing is taken with you. It is a sign of respect to cover your shoulders and legs when visiting mosques and also attracts less unwanted attention. A headscarf for females is necessary when visiting mosques in Jordan.

### WHAT TO WEAR...

As a general guideline, clothing should be lightweight, loose fitting, hard-wearing and easily washed.

**In summer**, cotton clothing is much more comfortable than man-made materials like nylon. Clothing that will protect you from sunburn is an absolute necessity. Especially in summer months white or light coloured, long sleeve cotton shirts are preferable.

**In winter** (December-March) you will need some warm, woollen clothing but in general, the weather is still quite warm. Please also keep in mind that when visiting religious sites, appropriate attire is required (scarf for females etc.). Please remember that Jordan has conservative attitudes towards dress. Women, and also to a certain extent men, will find that the way they dress will often determine the degree of respect they receive from both men and women.

### MONEY

Jordan Dinar (JOD) is divided into 1.00 fil. Notes range from 1 dinar to 20 dinars. Coins used are 1 dinar, ½ dinar, ¼ dinar, 100 fil, 50 fil, and 10 fil. Approximately GBP 1 = 1.06 JOD. There is no restriction on the amount of foreign currency that a visitor may bring into Jordan, but large amounts should be declared on arrival. Banks can be found almost everywhere in Jordan and we recommend you take US\$, Euro or GBP as these are the easiest to change.

Travellers' cheques are avoided as they can be very time consuming to change and often cannot be changed outside of major cities. ATMs can be found almost everywhere in Jordan. Credit cards are accepted in most shops, restaurants and hotels (with the exception of American Express).

### WEATHER

The weather in Jordan is pleasurable for travel throughout the year. Amman is sunny and cloudless from May to October, with temperatures averaging approximately 25°C (75 F). During spring, the most beautiful season in Jordan, fields and mountains are coated with rich greenery and exquisite wildflowers. In autumn, the weather is mild and pleasant. July and August are hot and dry, but not restrictive of tourist activities. The valleys and Aqaba are ideal winter resorts, with temperatures averaging 16-22°C between November to April. Rainfall is a rare occurrence by the Red Sea as well as in the desert areas of Jordan.

Month	Aqaba		Amman		Petra		Kerak	
	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F
Jan	18	65	22	72	2	54	21	69
Feb	20	69	27	81	13	57	22	72
March	23	75	28	84	17	63	25	77
April	29	85	36	97	23	74	30	86
May	33	92	38	101	27	81	35	94
June	36	97	38	102	31	88	38	100
July	37	99	41	106	32	90	40	104
Aug	36	98	41	107	32	90	40	103
Sept	34	94	37	100	31	88	37	98
Oct	31	88	34	94	26	79	33	91
Nov	25	78	30	86	18	66	27	81
Dec	20	68	26	79	13	57	22	72

### EATING & DRINKING

Food in Jordan tends to be a mixture of Arab and Lebanese cuisine. A standard meal will consist of a main dish supplemented by a number of appetisers such as tahini (sesame seed puree), Baba Ghanoug (tahini, garlic and charred aubergines) dips and salads.



Mensef is the national dish of Jordan. This traditional Bedouin meal consists of lamb (or goat) cooked with herbs in a yoghurt sauce and served with rice and bread. Other favourite dishes include meat stews, meatloaf and kebabs. Wining and dining in Amman is a blend of elegance, ease and fun.

There is a wide variety of national and international cuisine, pubs, discotheques and live entertainment. Some fine restaurants require prior bookings. Throughout the Middle East, the drinking of tea is very common with Jordan being no exception, especially if you are shopping or meeting people for the first time. Mint, thyme, or saga are often used to flavour the tea. Coffee is served Turkish style; very strong and sweet. Freshly squeezed fruit juice is readily available from street stalls and kiosks and makes a refreshing change from the carbonated drinks. Although Jordan is a Muslim country, most of the hotels we use do serve alcoholic drinks (although during Ramadan, some hotels will close their bars). Local wine is fairly palatable, as is the local beer, Amstel; a mild lager. You might also want to try Araq – an aniseed flavoured liqueur.

### SHOPPING

Souvenir choices are endless and handcraft shops are widely scattered throughout Jordan. The wide range of crafts combine traditional art with modern flair. The most common Jordanian craft items include Madaba Rugs, carved olivewood, Hebron glass, ceramics, pearl, cross stitch embroidery and Bedouin silver jewellery. Decorated sand bottles are also among the popular things to buy. The Arab "kefi as" are interesting traditional items; big, cotton headscarves in black and white or red and white checked material.

They are very useful in protecting not only the head but also the back of one's neck against the strong sun. There are many different kinds of jewellery available, from the beadwork done by the women and children of the Bedouin, to marcasite silver, which is very popular and attractive. The designs are simple but very nice. You can find the earrings, bracelets, necklaces and rings sold in several local shops. Silver is almost always sold by weight and the shopkeeper will weigh the pieces before giving you a price. A good deal of interest is also shown in "narghilas" or water pipes.

You can also find a very large variety of "shisha" tobacco in Jordan. Another interesting thing to look at is the dresses and skirts on sale. They are embellished by hand in cross-stitch, one of the oldest forms of embroidery. The colours used have significant meaning and there are several books available explaining. Among the glass objects you can also find a particular kind of crystal, wine glasses, semi opaque and coloured. Jordanian ceramics are also very elegant; plates and dishes make a good buy.

### OPENING HOURS

Most Jordanians work five days a week with Friday and Saturday off. Business and shopping hours are flexible. Some establishments are open between 09:30 - 13:30 and 15:30 - 18:00. Others may be open all day, from 08:00 to 20:00. Government offices are open from 08:30 to 14:00. All businesses and most shops, other than those in the souks, are closed on Fridays. During the Holy Month of Ramadan, working hours are more flexible and generally shorter.

### ELECTRICITY

All appliances require a double round pin type plug for 220 volts AC, 50- hertz.

### TIPPING

Tips are a common reward for the service staff in Jordan. Most restaurants include service charge but if not stated, waiters expect to be tipped around ten percent of the bill. Your bus driver and guide will also be especially honoured with such a traditional appreciation at the end of your tour.

### DISTANCES

The following information will give you a better idea of the times travelled to help you plan your day:

- ➔ Boat / Aqaba 16 Km 15 min.
- ➔ Aqaba / Wadi Rum 70 Km 1 h.
- ➔ Wadi Rum / Petra 115 Km 1 h. 45 min.
- ➔ Petra / Dead Sea 200 Km 3 h. 30 min
- ➔ Dead Sea / Amman 60 Km 1 h.
- ➔ Amman / Ajlun 70 Km 1 h. 20 min.
- ➔ Ajlun / Jerash 21 Km 30 min.
- ➔ Jerash / Amman 51 Km 1 h.

### DESERT CAMPING

Wadi Rum (The Sound of Silence) is a journey to another world; a vast, silent universe, timeless and beautiful. Wadi Rum is one of Jordan's main tourist attractions and the most stunning desert landscape in the world, lying 320km southwest of Amman, 120km south of Petra and only 60km north of Aqaba. Stunning in its natural beauty, Wadi Rum epitomizes the romance of the desert. We provide you with a Bedouin Tent including mattress, mattress cover, pillow and blanket. We join a 2 hour Jeep safari in the desert and enjoy an authentic Jordanian dinner in the camp.

**Important:** If you join this tour between November-March we highly recommend you to bring your own sleeping bag due to colder weather in the evenings.



### FERRY TO JORDAN

The Gulf of Aqaba will be crossed with a ferry that is equipped with air-conditioning & airline style comfy seats. Please note that there is only one daily ferry & it doesn't have a set schedule, it departs when it's full. During your ride, you'll be given an information card to fill & to hand to the ferry's immigration officer with your passports. In return, you will receive a receipt in Arabic, and you'll get your stamped passports back after you disembark the ferry, at the Arrivals Hall, before you meet your Jordanian guide at the terminal building.

### BORDER TAXES

If you've purchased a combined tour of Egypt and Jordan, there will be a departure tax of US\$12 when leaving Egypt. If you have not obtained a visa for Jordan before your trip, this can be obtained in Aqaba. Please contact us for the latest information as these fees may change periodically.



### AIRPORT TRANSFER

Your arrival airport transfer is included if:

- You fly i to the city in which your tour starts
- You arrive on the first d y of your tour
- You forward your flig t details to us, at least 10 days in advance, including:
  - Date of flig t
  - Flight number
  - Arrival time
  - Name of traveller/s to be picked up

If you do not want an airport transfer to the hotel, please let us know by either phoning the office (0208 099 95 96) or sending us an email (info@traveltalktours.com). Please note the hotel check-in time is from 13:00.

### ACCOMMODATION

The hotels used on Travel Talk Jordan tours are rated 4 and 3 star. The main criteria in the hotel selection process are cleanliness, private bathroom facilities and location (generally central). If you are travelling on your own, you'll be allocated a twin or triple room with other group members of the same gender. Travellers who have paid single supplement will stay in single rooms. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee the availability of double beds, but will try our best. Your tour leader will organise the rooming arrangements when checking into the hotels according to the rooming lists. Therefore we cannot guarantee any last minute changes.

### PRE&POST TOUR ACCOMMODATION

Should you require pre and/or post-tour accommodation, please notify us (or your agent) at the time of booking. This information has to be also clearly stated on your voucher (check-in date, check-out date, number of travellers etc.). Unless a room is immediately available, most hotels will not allocate your room until at least midday.

### TRANSPORTATION

You can expect comfort and reliability on our modern coaches and mini buses. Most vehicles feature air-conditioning, safe and secure luggage storage, comfortable seats, and a sound system.

### TOUR LEADER

Your tour leader's role is to ensure that all aspects of the trip run smoothly. He/she will share their local knowledge, advise you on ways to spend your free time and coordinate the day-to-day running of the tour. From time to time, unpredictable situations can occur and things may not go according to plan. Your leader may require your cooperation and understanding in that case. If you have any problems on tour, please let your leader know so that the correct steps can be taken. Please bear in mind that when you travel on a combined tour, you will have different groups and a different leader for each leg.

### ENTRANCE FEES

- ➔ Wadi Rum – Dissah 5 JD
- ➔ Dead Sea & Lunch 24 JD
- ➔ Jerash 8 JD
- ➔ King Abdula Mosque 5 JD
- ➔ Roman Theatre Amman 1 JD
- ➔ Shobak Castle 1 JD
- ➔ Amman Castle 2 JD
- ➔ Petra 50 JD
- ➔ Citadel 2 JD

### MISSED THE WELCOME MEETING?

Being avid travellers ourselves, we know that the unforeseen circumstances can arise. If you miss your welcome meeting or arrive on the second day of the tour, please don't stress. If you arrive late at night on the first day, please check the info board at the lobby for the next day's programme. If you arrive on second day, please contact your tour leader to join the group. On Day 2 there is a city tour in Amman in the morning that you may be able to join, depending on arrival times.

### RAMADAN IN JORDAN

Ramadan is the Holy month of the Islamic calendar and a time when Muslims fast from sun rise until sunset. Fasting means 'nil by mouth' including food, water and cigarettes. The day's fast is broken at sunset, often with soup and dates. Many local cafes and restaurants remain closed during the day however tourists are not expected to fast and there are cafes and restaurants that stay open to cater for you. During Ramadan you are encouraged to show your respect by not walking around in public eating, chewing gum, smoking or drinking. It is fine to do so in your hotel or in a cafe or restaurant recommended by your tour leader. Your tour leader will organise lunches and dinners for you which will make Ramadan easier. During the month you will find that tourist sites often close early to allow staff to return home in time to break their fast and shops often open late and close early. Following Ramadan is Ede, a three-day celebration (there is another Ede four-day celebration later in the year called Eid Ul-Adha). During this holiday it is more likely that shops (including the souks, but not restaurants) will be closed, and other services may be disrupted.

### LANGUAGE

Jordanian language is Arabic. Below you will find some phrases that may help you during your stay.

Hello	Selaam
Goodbye	Ma Salama
Yes	Aiwa
No	La
Welcome	Marhaba
Please	Minfudluk
Thank you	Shokran
Excuse me	Lao Samaht
Sorry	Assef
Perhaps	Yenken
How are you ?	E-zayak
Good morning	Sabah El-kheir
Good evening	Masa El-kheir
Good night	Tesbah Ala kheir
Today	En nahar-da
Tomorrow	Bukra
Yesterday	Imbarih
I'm well, thank you	El Humdoolelaa
Money	Fuluss
How much is it ?	Bekam ?
Too much !	Ketir !
I don't understand	Ana mish fahem
Leave me alone	Etrokny wahdy
Where is ...?	Fein....?
Here	Hena
Water	Maya
Coffee	Ahwa
Tea	Shy
The bill	El Hesab
Pharmacy	Ssaydaliya
Doctor	Doctur
Museum	Mat-hhaf
Ticket	Tazkara



Travel Talk tours will take you on a pilgrimage of culture, history, adventure, fun and relaxation. You will visit ancient sites, explore the treasures of Egypt, discover the magnificent pyramids and sphinxes, meet local people and partake in numerous activities throughout your Egypt experience. Before you leave for your adventure, it is important that you read this pre-departure information to ensure that your trip runs as smoothly as possible. While we appreciate that you are embarking on an adventure holiday that will produce its own share of surprises, it is also true that forewarned is forearmed. This information is not written with the intention of being anything other than general information that we hope will help you be more prepared for your holiday. The philosophy of Travel Talk is simple: to provide excellent value for money for budget conscious and adventurous travellers without compromising their experiences. We achieve this by providing quality transportation, accommodation, sightseeing and information services. We hope that our philosophy will exceed your expectations and the following information will help you have a memorable journey in Egypt.

### VISAS

All visitors to Egypt are required to have a visa and a passport valid for another six months. Visas can be arranged through Egyptian embassies worldwide. Visitors from the US, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Korea, Colombia and EU countries may be able to purchase a visa stamp upon arrival in Egypt, please note that visa fee USD 25, it can only be paid in USD, GBP or EURO. South Africans need to arrange their Egyptian visa prior to arrival.

### ESSENTIALS

Before you leave your country, we recommend you to make sure you have the following:

- ➔ Passport
- ➔ Airline or transportation ticket
- ➔ Tour voucher
- ➔ Insurance policy
- ➔ Visas (if necessary)
- ➔ Label on your travel bag
- ➔ Pre-departure information
- ➔ Money (cash and/or travellers cheques)
- ➔ Credit card

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

It is recommended to all passengers travelling on Travel Talk tours to have personal insurance to assist with any medical and other costs. Please do not forget to take a copy of your insurance policy with you. While there are no mandatory vaccinations for travellers to Egypt, it is advisable to ensure your typhoid, polio and tetanus inoculations are up to date. Some travellers feel more confident with hepatitis and meningitis inoculations as well. Rabies exists only in rural areas and it is very unlikely that you will come in contact with a rabid animal on tour.

Immunisation is generally available in a series of three injections over a period of one month (lasts 3 to 5 years) or a single visit booster dose (lasts only 6 to 12 months). Please consult a medical practitioner for advice. Most people find Egypt to be a friendly and hospitable country and feel quite comfortable wandering around alone during the day. However, as with most foreign countries, it is recommended that you exercise more caution at night and do not walk alone. It is wise not to accept gifts of food or drink from any strangers. Take care with your passport, credit cards and money - a money belt to fit beneath your clothes is highly recommended.

It is also recommended to take at least one set of modest clothing. It is a sign of respect to cover your shoulders and legs when visiting mosques and also helps to avoid unwanted attention. A headscarf for women is necessary when visiting mosques in Egypt.

### WHAT TO WEAR...

As a general guideline, clothing should be lightweight, loose fitting and easily washed. In Summer, cotton clothing is much more comfortable than other materials like nylon. Clothing and accessories that will protect you from the sun is also necessary. It's a good idea to pack a white or light coloured, long sleeve cotton shirt. In Winter you will need warmer clothing, especially at night. Please also keep in mind that when visiting religious sites, appropriate attire is required. It is recommended for females to pack a scarf.

### MONEY

The local currency is Egyptian Pound (EGP) and 1GBP is approximately 23 EGP. Most towns in Egypt have ATMs that are linked to major international networks. Credit cards are accepted in most tourist areas, but if you are travelling off the beaten track, be prepared to have some cash. It is difficult to guess how much money you will need each day, however as a general rule approx. 15-20 GBP per day helps for extra meals and entrance fees.

### WEATHER

Egyptian summers are hot and dry in most of the country & humid in the Delta and along the Mediterranean Coast. In recent years the humidity has spread to Cairo and the city swelters in August. Winters are mild with some rain, but usually there are bright, sunny days and cold nights. Spring and autumn are only short seasons and during the 50 days (khamaseen) between the end of March and mid-May, dust storms can occur sporadically. If you are travelling between November and March on a tour that includes trekking in the Sinai or cruising on the Nile you should expect temperatures to fall considerably at night. At this time of year temperatures can often fall below freezing near Mt. Sinai.

Month	Cairo		Luxor		Aswan		Dahab	
	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F
Jan	18	65	21	70	21	70	22	72
Feb	20	68	23	74	23	74	23	73
March	22	73	28	83	27	82	26	78
April	27	82	33	93	33	92	30	86
May	31	89	37	100	37	99	34	94
June	33	93	40	104	39	103	38	99
July	33	93	40	104	39	103	38	100
Aug	33	92	38	102	38	102	38	101
Sept	32	90	37	99	37	99	36	96
Oct	29	85	33	93	33	93	32	89
Nov	23	75	27	81	26	80	28	81
Dec	19	67	22	73	22	72	24	74

### EATING & DRINKING

Egyptian eating habits differ from our norm. Most natives begin the day with a light breakfast of beans (or bean cakes), eggs, and/or pickles, cheese and jam. Most families eat their large, starchy lunch between 14:00 and 17:00 and follow it with a siesta. They may take a British-style tea at 17:00 or 18:00 and eat a light supper (often leftovers from lunch) late in the evening. Dinner parties however, are scheduled late, often no earlier than 21:00. In restaurants, lunch is normally between 13:00-16:00 and dinner is between 20:00-24:00.



The shish-style kebab is extremely popular and can be served with or without skewers but always with traditional sides of greens and tomato salad, tahini sauce and pita bread. Bread is always whole wheat pita, coated with coarse ground wheat - it is heaven warm and straight from the oven. Often pita is served with a dipping sauce; tahini, hummus or babaganoush, and makes a fast, healthy, and delicious meal. The traditional and ubiquitous salad is chopped tomato, coriander, mint, little green peppers (not jalapenos but similar) and onions coated with garlic oil.

Other vegetables that grow well and are popular include beans, chickpeas and fava, which are stewed for breakfast, hearty stewed for lunch and ground and pasted for tahini and hummus dips. Mashed eggplant is the main ingredient in babaganoush and is also used in Egyptian moussaka with a mild, white cheese. Okra, cabbage, cauliflower and potatoes are used frequently; stewed with tomatoes and garlic. Rice is a staple food and is consistently wonderful, even for breakfast! Grilled pigeon is the acclaimed delicacy. You can taste local fish caught in the Red Sea; i.e. perch and tuna.

Egyptian bazaars display staggering amounts of spices, sculptured into colourful spice pyramids - from yellows of saffron and ochres of curries, to deep blues of powdered indigo dye. Food is usually spiced, but not spicy. Cumin and salt are found on restaurant tables.

There are not so many Middle Eastern deserts to speak of but fresh fruit and juice bars are very popular. There is nothing quite as refreshing as a freshly squeezed orange juice, sweetened with cut sugar cane, on a hot Egyptian day. Most of the hotels serve alcoholic drinks, but during Ramadan some hotels may close their bars.

Locally produced spirits and wine are worth a try (and cheaper than imported brands) and the local beer "Stella" is very good.

### SHOPPING

Shopping, shopping, and shopping! What holiday is complete without checking out the local wares; and Egypt is no exception to the rule. Shopping ranges from the famous Khan el-Khalili Bazaar, which remains largely unchanged since the 14th Century, to the modern air-conditioned centres displaying the latest fashions.

Particularly good buys are: spices, perfumes, gold, silver, brass and copperware, carpets, leatherwork, glass, ceramics and mashrabiya. You can try some of the famous street markets for fabrics (including Egyptian cotton), the Tentmakers Bazaar for applique-work, Mohammed Ali Street for musical instruments and the Camel Markets for that out of the ordinary souvenir... okay maybe not to buy, but definitely worth a visit for interest's sake.

The typical souvenirs for tourists are Egyptian themed clothing and statues which can be purchased from almost any stalls catering for tourists.

A considerable aptitude for negotiation will unquestionably result in lower prices in tourist areas - such as the Khan and shops around the pyramids and old or Coptic Cairo.

Most other places such as grocery stores and shopping malls, the prices are fixed and not really negotiable. In some shops, a friendly effort aimed at getting a discount may be fine, but in most cases this could cause offense.

### OPENING HOURS

Normally shops and department stores are open from 9:00am to 9:00pm with possible variations from town to town (except for the Ramadan period). Banks in Egypt are open Sunday through Thursday from 9:00am to 2:00pm and they are closed on Friday and Saturday. Post Offices are open from 9:00am to 2:00pm and are closed on Friday.

### ELECTRICITY

All appliances require a double round pin type plug for 220 volts AC, 50- hertz.

### TIPPING

Tipping is a way of life in Egypt. It is not just a "reward" and should not really be called a tip. In Arabic, it is called "baksheesh" and is part of the traditional payment structure for services, whether they are good or bad. Everyone tips everyone. You should budget for around US\$ 4-5 per day for tipping. Your bus driver, felucca staff and guide may also be honoured with such a traditional appreciation.

### DISTANCES

The following information will give you a better idea of the times travelled to help you plan your day:

- ➔ Cairo-Aswan : 982 kms, 12 hrs
- ➔ Aswan-Luxor : 247 kms, 3 hrs
- ➔ Aswan-Abu Simbel : 309 kms, 3.5 hrs
- ➔ Luxor- Cairo : 735 kms, 9 hrs
- ➔ Cairo-Hurghada : 453 kms, 6 hrs
- ➔ Hurghada-Luxor : 286 kms, 4.5 hrs
- ➔ Cairo-Dahab : 630 kms, 9.5 hrs
- ➔ Cairo-Nuwebia : 540 kms, 8.5 hrs
- ➔ Dahab-Sharm : 100 kms, 1.5 hrs

### FELUCCA BOAT

Feluccas are traditional sailing boats that have been used on the Nile for centuries. They are very simple sailing boats and have no engines or toilets. There is a single deck on which you can stretch out during the day under a shade awning. Each felucca sleeps 6-8 people and is crewed by a captain and a deck hand - both of whom have grown up along the banks of the Nile. As well as being experienced Nile sailors they also make the most delicious meals out of simple local ingredients. You may sit down to a lunch of local bread, white cheese, hummus and delicious fresh juicy tomatoes or a dinner of pasta and mixed vegetables with delicious tomato sauce. The deck is covered with mattresses and cushions and you will sleep sardine style across the boat, however a light sleeping bag will be necessary if you are travelling in the winter.

### NILE CRUISER

We use 5-star cruisers on our Nile Cruise tours. On the Nile Cruise boat, there is an ample deck space, a large sundeck and a spacious, shaded seating area with its own bar and the best views of the majestic Nile. Meals are served in the air-conditioned restaurant and there is a lounge bar where you can enjoy your evening listening to music or playing cards. The air-conditioned cabins have a private ensuite shower, toilet and washbasin as well as a large window offering a panoramic view of the river. Although the meals are included in the tour price, drinks will cost extra and please note the prices on the cruise boat can be higher than the usual Egyptian restaurants & bars.



### AIRPORT TRANSFER

Your arrival airport transfer is included if;

- You fly into the city in which your tour starts
- You arrive on the first day of your tour OR you have booked pre-accommodation through us
- You forward your flight details to us, at least 10 days in advance, including:
  - Date of flight
  - Flight number
  - Arrival time
  - Name of travellers to be picked up

If you do not want an airport transfer to the hotel, please let us know by either phoning the office (0208 099 95 96) or sending us an email (info@traveltalktours.com). Please note the hotel check-in time is from 13:00.

### ACCOMMODATION

The hotels used on Travel Talk Egypt tours are rated 5-star (Boutique hotel in Dahab). The main criteria in the hotel selection process is cleanliness, private bathroom facilities and location (usually central). If you are travelling on your own, you'll be allocated a twin or triple room with other group member/s of the same gender. Travellers who have paid a single supplement will stay in single rooms. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee the availability of double beds for couples.

Your tour leader will organise the rooming arrangements at check-in according to the rooming lists. We can therefore not guarantee any last minute changes.

### PRE&POST TOUR ACCOMMODATION

Should you require pre or post tour accommodation, please notify us (or your agent) at the time of booking and we can make the arrangements for you. This information will be clearly stated on your voucher. Unless a room is immediately available, most hotels will not allocate your room until at least midday.

### TRANSPORTATION

You can expect comfort and reliability on our modern coaches and mini buses. Most vehicles feature air-conditioning, safe and secure luggage storage, comfortable seats, and a sound system.

### TOUR LEADER

Your tour leader's role is to ensure that all aspects of the trip run smoothly. He/she will share their local knowledge, advise you on ways to spend your free time and coordinate the day-to-day running of the tour. From time to time situations can arise and things may not always go according to plan. If this occurs, your tour leader may require your cooperation and understanding. Furthermore, should you have any problems on tour please let your leader know so that the correct steps can be taken. Please bear in mind that when you travel on a combined tour, you will have different groups and a different leader for each leg.

### ENTRANCE FEES

- ➔ Giza Pyramids/Sphinx - Cairo E£ 200
- ➔ Sakkara Pyramids - Cairo E£ 180
- ➔ Valley of the Kings - Luxor E£ 244
- ➔ Luxor Temple - Luxor E£ 160
- ➔ Karnak Temple - Luxor E£ 200
- ➔ Edfu Temple - Aswan E£ 180
- ➔ Komombo Temple - Aswan E£ 140
- ➔ Philae Temple Aswan E£ 180
- ➔ Egyptian Museum Cairo E£ 220
- ➔ Salah El Din Citadel - Cairo E£ 180
- ➔ Unfinished Obelisk Aswan E£ 80
- ➔ Hatchepsut E£ 142
- ➔ Great Library 70 E£
- ➔ Citadel - light house 80 E£
- ➔ Katakomb 80 E£
- ➔ Pompei's pillar 80 E£

**Note:** In Egypt the entry fees may be discounted if they are purchased with an international student ID. All fees are subject to change and have been quoted in Egyptian Pound.

### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- ➔ Blue hole Excursion (Dahab) 34 USD
- ➔ Mountain dinner (Dahab) 24 USD
- ➔ Nubian dinner (Aswan) 26 USD Abu
- ➔ Simbel (Aswan) 94 USD
- ➔ Hot air ballon (Luxor) 124 USD
- ➔ Pyramids S&L show (Cairo) 30 USD

### MISSED THE WELCOME MEETING

Being avid travellers ourselves, we know that unforeseen circumstances can arise. If you are late and miss the welcome meeting, don't stress, just check the information board in the hotel lobby for the next day's programme as the Cairo city tour starts around 8:00am. If you arrive on Day 2 or after, please contact your tour leader to organise to meet up.

### LANGUAGE

The language used in Egypt is Arabic. Please find below some words and phrases to help you during your stay.

Hello	Selaam
Goodbye	Ma Salama
Yes	Aiwa
No	La
Welcome	Marhaba
Please	Minfudluk
Thank you	Shokran
Excuse me	Lao Samaht
Sorry	Assef
Perhaps	Yenken
How are you ?	E-zayak
Good morning	Sabah El-kheir
Good evening	Masa El-kheir
Good night	Tesbah Ala kheir
Today	En nahar-da
Tomorrow	Bukra
Yesterday	Imbarih
I'm well, thank you	El Humdoolelaa
Money	Fuluss
How much is it ?	Bekam ?
Too much !	Ketir !
I don't understand	Ana mish fahem
Leave me alone	Etrokny wahdy
Where is ...?	Fein....?
Here	Hena
Water	Maya
Coffee	Ahwa
Tea	Shy
The bill	El Hesab
Pharmacy	Ssaydaliya
Doctor	Doctur