Discover Egypt's ancient wonders and witness the phenomenal Sun Festival at Abu Simbel on this 13 day tour. Gaze in wonder at the legendary Pyramids of Giza and explore Valley of the Kings, cruise the Nile in style and relax by the Red Sea in Hurghada.

**HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS**

**Trip Highlights**
- Hurghada - enjoy R&R at the Red Sea, swim and opt to snorkel or scuba dive in the clear coastal waters
- Abu Simbel Sun Festival - at sunrise, witness the grand accomplishment and feat of precision mastered by King Rames II at the Abu Simbel Sun Festival
- Cairo - marvel at the legendary Pyramids of Giza, explore the Necropolis of Saqqara and see King Tut's treasures at the Egyptian Museum
- Luxor West Bank - discover exquisite tombs in the Valley of the Kings, the towering Colossi of Memnon and the beautiful Temple of Queen Hatshepsut
- Luxor - roam around the colossal Temple of Karnak and take an optional tour of the beautifully illuminated Luxor Temple at night
- Aswan - take leisurely boat trip to Agilika Island to explore the romantic Philae Temple and wander around the colourful souqs
- Nile cruising - spend 3 nights on board a 5 star Nile cruiser
- Kom Ombo - visit the Nile side Temple of Kom Ombo

**What's Included**
- Breakfast daily, 3 lunches and 3 dinners
- 7 nights 4 - 5 star hotels and 3 nights aboard 5 star Nile Cruiser (en suite cabin)
- 1 overnight train: Cairo - Aswan (Private 2 berth sleeper cabin)
- 1/2 night 4-5 star Aswan hotel prior to overnight bus journey (3.5hrs) to Abu Simbel
- Abu Simbel and Sun Festival entrance fee
- Airport arrival and departure transfer day 1 and day 13
- Touring of Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan, Abu Simbel, Kom Ombo, Luxor and Hurghada
- 3 days Hurghada, Red Sea stay - swim, sun and sand
- Egyptian tour guide degree qualified in Egyptology
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

**What's Not Included**
- Tipping Kitty: USD$60-80pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD$80-100pp, paid in local currency
- Tip for your tour guide, we recommend you allow USD$5 - 7 per day, per traveller. Tip for your Nile cruise staff, we recommend you allow $10 USD. Tipping your guide and the cruise staff is an entirely personal gesture
- International flights and visa

**DETAILED ITINERARY**

**Day 1: Cairo**
Tuesday 18 February 2020. Welcome to Egypt and the start of your holiday! Arrival at Cairo Airport, you will be met by a representative from On The Go Tours. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative. Cairo International Airport can appear to be a little chaotic to the uninitiated, this is normal! Upon exiting the airport you will be escorted to our awaiting transportation and transferred to your hotel. Here, your Egyptian adventure begins!

If you are arriving a day or two before the tour starts, one of our team will be on hand to advise on where best to enjoy your extra time in Cairo in advance of the tour commencing. We also offer a pre or post tour Alexandria Day Trip which can be pre-booked, please refer to our website for details.
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Day one is designed to be an arrival day for all passengers, so there are no formal arrangements on this first day.

PLEASE NOTE: The Welcome Meeting will be held on day 1, at 7pm.

Join us today for our optional Backstreets of Cairo tour which can be pre-booked and will depart from the hotel at 10am today. Further details about this optional tour can be found on our website.

Overnight - Cairo

Day 2: Pyramids & Saqqara

Visit to the famous pyramids and monolithic Sphinx at Giza Plateau. Sole survivors from the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World, the pyramids are the planet’s oldest tourist attraction! Gaze in awe at Cheops (Khufu), the largest of the three great pyramids. Constructed from over 2.5 million limestone blocks it is thought to have taken more than 20 years to construct. Continuing to Saqqara, we can explore the myriad tombs and temples at this site and see Zoser’s step pyramid - constructed by Imhotep, the pharaoh’s chief architect in 2700 BC! Overnight – Cairo (B)

Day 3: The treasure of King Tutankhamen

Cairo – Aswan. The morning is at leisure so why not go out and visit the Khan el-Khalili bazaar - This is a great place to pick up a few bargains or just sip some tea and people watch! Or opt for an optional Cairo city tour is also available, time permitting (book & pay locally).

Following hotel check out, this afternoon we embark on a guided tour of the enlightening Egyptian Museum, where you can opt to see the famed solid gold death mask of King Tutankhamen, or the Royal Mummy room. Later there will be a chance to have dinner before boarding the overnight sleeper train bound for Aswan. Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)

Day 4: Philae Temple & Abu Simbel

Aswan - Abu Simbel. Arrive Aswan, today check in aboard your 5 star Nile cruiser which will be home for the next three nights. Then enjoy a short boat trip to Agilika Island where we visit the picturesque Philae Temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis.

Back on board the cruiser there will be time to rest and recuperate before departing in the early hours of the morning on our coach journey toward the Temples of Abu Simbel. Here we will await the first rays of sunlight to touch the temple gate signifying the start of the Sun Festival of the mighty King Ramses II.

5 STAR NILE CRUISER: Facilities on board the Nile cruiser include a bar, lounge, dining room and outdoor recreation area. The boat deck offers plenty of space for relaxation and there is a swimming pool. Your outward facing cabin located on the main or upper deck offers air-conditioning, a private bathroom and views of the Nile as we sail. In the evening, low-key entertainment is on hand. All meals are included, buffet style.

Your cruiser will sail for a total duration of 8 - 12 hours covering a distance of 212km (split between 2 of the 3 days you are on board). The remainder of the time the boat is in dock in either Aswan, Luxor or at sightseeing stops en route. Views will be obstructed whilst the cruiser is in dock as ships dock side by side. You may also need to cross the reception of other boats the reach your vessel. Free time is offered during this time to independently explore whilst docked when sight-seeing is not included. Overnight - Overnight – Nile Cruiser/coach journey to Abu Simbel (B, L, D)

Day 5: ABU SIMBEL SUN FESTIVAL

22 February. Abu Simbel - Aswan - Nile Felucca Sailing. Possibly the most awe-inspiring temple in all ancient Egypt, the great Sun Temple of King Ramses II at Abu Simbel was constructed between 1290 and 1224 BC to revere the mighty pharaonic ruler himself. Ramses the Bold, Ramses the Great, Ramses the Narcissist are perhaps all apt titles for one of ancient Egypt’s most powerful rulers.

Built by Ramses II to demonstrate his political clout and divine backing to the ancient Nubians, Abu Simbel is an incredible self-tribute. Guarding the entrance to the temple, hewn into the side of a mountain, are four colossal statues of the pharaoh himself. Over the centuries, the desert sands imperceptibly shifted until the temple was all but lost to humanity. It was rediscovered by chance in 1813 by a Swiss explorer called John Lewis Burckhardt. Only one of the heads of the pharaohs was showing and a small part of the rest of the temple peeked above the desert sands. It wasn’t until the British happened upon the temple and started excavating that the full glory of Abu Simbel was revealed to the modern world. The other rock cut temple
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Day 7 : Luxor

This morning we disembark and check into our 5 star Luxor hotel. The day is free to enjoy the hotel facilities, relax and explore. Tonight, we have the opportunity to visit Luxor Temple with dinner afterwards. Built by Amenophis III, Luxor Temple looks stunning at night when it’s illuminated by hundreds of lights. Book/pay locally at approx USD$25 including entrance fees and buffet dinner. Remainder of the evening is at leisure. **Overnight - Nile Cruiser (B)**

Day 8 : Valley of the Kings

Luxor. An early start to avoid the heat, we venture to the famed Valley of the Kings. One of the first sights you’ll see is the Colossi of Memnon. This huge pair of enthroned statues is all that remains of the temple of Amenophis III. See the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and surrounding tombs.

A short stop will be made at an Alabaster workshop. Stone carving is a trade that has existed on the West Bank since pharaonic times. Carving the stone is a trade passed down from generation after generation, for most residents of the west bank and is their sole trade and income. After relaxation time back in Luxor, we visit the Temple of Karnak, the rest of the day is at your leisure. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

Days 9-11 : Hurghada by the Red Sea

Hurghada is one of the Red Sea's most popular resorts and it is easy to see why. Hotels and expanded infrastructure provide holidaymakers with excellent aquatic facilities for sail boarding, yachting, deep-sea fishing, SCUBA diving and snorkelling. Hurghada’s central location provides a gateway to prime offshore reefs, which are some of the finest in the world. Hurghada also has a healthy after dark scene. For retail therapy, the town has plenty of shops selling knock-off bags and tees, snorkeling gear and suchlike. Just outside Hurghada is an ancient Roman quary called Mons Porphyritis and Port Safarga – a famously windy place and King Kong of windsurfer paradieses.

**Snorkelling Trip – 700 EGP (approx) per person payable locally.**

Join a day trip snorkelling and swimming at Gifan Island. You’ll be transferred by motor boat to across the blue water of the Red Sea to Gifan Island, the journey is approximately an hour. The boat will moo up and there is an opportunity to jump into the warm waters (mask and snorkel provided) to swim and marvel at the amazing marine life. Look out for porrot fish, butterfly fish, trumpet fish and angel fish – some times of the year it is also possible to see turtles and even dolphins!

After snorkelling the boat continues on to the island for a lunch stop (including soft drink or mineral water). If time allows you can also laze by the beach catching some rays before heading back to shore. Departs 08:15 returning 16:30 approx.

Please note that this is not operated by On The Go and the arrangements on the day are at the captain’s discretion. It is also a shared excursion so there could well be other people not part of your group on the boat. **Overnight - Hurghada (B:3)**

Day 12 : Return to Cairo, free time

Hurghada - Cairo. Morning at leisure before hotel check out and then our transfer back to Cairo departing approx 12 noon. Upon arrival and after check in, this evening remains yours to further explore this amazing city, perhaps...
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head to Khan el-Khalili bazaar and pick up a few souvenirs. Overnight - Cairo (B)

Day 13 : Farewell....
Sunday 01 March 2020. Hotel check out and included transfer to airport.(B)

HOTELS

The hotels listed below are ones which we frequently use on this tour. We reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard when necessary.

Holiday Inn Cairo Maadi
Overlooking the Nile and offering distant views of the Great Pyramids of Giza, this Holiday Inn provides the perfect location for your stay in Cairo. Each guestroom features a balcony and is well-equipped with modern amenities including free WiFi. Evenings can be spent enjoying international or Egyptian cuisine and unwinding with a cocktail at one of the hotel’s bars. Thanks to the friendly hotel staff, you’ll soon feel at home. And with panoramic views of the city from the rooftop lounge and pool, there’s no better place to base yourself for exploring Egypt’s ancient wonders.

M/S Medea
The M/S Medea is elegantly furnished with rich fabrics, wood paneling and classic style furniture, offering a refined setting for your Nile cruise. The restaurant offers 120 covers with a combination of waiter service and buffet meals which allows to sample both Egyptian and international cuisine. The spacious lounge bar is tastefully furnished with Chesterfield sofas and offers panoramic views of the Nile River.

Sonesta St. George Hotel
An elegant and luxurious classical hotel, the Sonesta's sophistication will ensure you a comfortable stay. The hotel has a sweeping terrace with fantastic views of the Nile, a grand entrance of polished marble and handsomely appointed furnishings with exquisite detail and a beautiful health spa. All its rooms offer views of the city or the river, complemented by a wide range of restaurants and cafes. Just minutes away you will find the temples at Luxor and Karnak, home to two of ancient Egypt's most famed sanctuaries.

Marriott Beach Resort
The Marriott Beach Resort is a luxurious beachfront hotel, with every room enjoying a view of the Red Sea and Hurghada city centre just a few minutes drive away. There is a choice of 8 restaurants and bars for hungry travellers, and a health club, tennis & squash courts, and fitness centre to stay in shape. During the day, soak in the heated outdoor pool or book a watersport activity. The hotel even has its own private island if you fancy a massage among the palm trees.

Le Meridien Heliopolis
Just a short drive from Cairo’s Old Town and international airport, the 5-star Le Meridien Heliopolis combines comfort with convenience. The guest rooms are spacious and equipped with air-conditioning, satellite television and a minibar, plus there’s complimentary WiFi throughout the property. Dining options include a choice of four on-site restaurants, serving Egyptian and international cuisine. Guests can also enjoy live entertainment and cocktails at The 51 Bar. During the warmer months hotel guests can take a dip in the outdoor pool or relax on a sun lounger on the terrace. There’s also a fitness centre and tennis courts for those who like to stay active whilst on holiday.

Optional Add-ons
If you have opted to extend your stay or enhance your holiday with one of our add-ons, please note:

Alexandria day trip - departs approx. 7am and returns to Cairo at between 5 - 7pm. Entrance fees are payable locally by you, budget approx USD$18.

Alexandria & El Alamein - 4 days - departs approx. 7am and returns to Cairo at between 5 - 7pm. Entrance fees are payable locally by you, budget approx USD$18.

Backstreets of Cairo - departs 10am, day 1 and returns to your hotel at 5pm. Entrance fees included.

For further information about Add-ons, please refer to our website: www.onthegotours.com/Egypt/Tour-Add-ons

Visas

Egypt

Visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Egypt.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible.
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so that we can proceed to book trains and flights tickets, if included within your holiday. **Visas are required by all visitors to Egypt.**

**E-Visa.** You can obtain an e-Visa for tourism purposes prior to travel by completing an application and making payment online. The e-Visa can be obtained up to 3 months prior to travel and is valid for 30 days from the date of entry. The e-Visa is available to a long list of eligible countries and the Government of Egypt is constantly adding to the list. The current cost (Mar 2018) of a single entry e-Visa for tourism purposes is USD25 or equivalent. The visa cost is set to rise to USD60 and this may happen at any time. We recommend you secure an e-Visa prior to travel as it will speed up and smooth the immigration process upon your arrival.

Online applications can be completed at: visa2egypt.gov.eg

**Visa upon arrival.**

It still remains possible for nationals of some countries to procure their tourist visa upon arrival at Cairo International Airport. Please contact your nearest Egyptian Embassy or Consulate to see if this is available to you. The current cost of the visa (Mar 2018) is USD25 and is payable in USD CASH ONLY. The visa upon arrival cost is also set to rise to USD60 and this could happen without notice. Although not official a visa can near always also be paid in equivalent GBP or Euro CASH ONLY according to the exchange rate of the day. Please note that in the event of visa refusal at port of entry, On The Go Tours cannot be held responsible.

Important: RSA, Chinese and passport holders from a number of other countries cannot obtain an e-Visa or Visa upon arrival. Citizens of these countries must obtain an Egyptian Tourist Visa prior to travel. Please contact your nearest Egyptian Embassy or Consulate for further details.

Note: When filling in an Egyptian visa form, you will be asked to provide your address in Egypt. For the purposes of this form, please use either of the following addresses:

- Holiday Inn Cairo Maadi. Corniche El Nil, Maadi, Cairo 11431 Te + 202 25260601
- Steigenberger Cairo Pyramids Hotel Alexandria Road, Pyramids - Giza, Cairo, Egypt Tel +202 33772555

Le Meridien Pyramids El Remaya Square, Pyramids, Cairo, 12561, Egypt Tel: +202 3377070

Mercure Cairo Le Sphinx Hotel 1 Alexandria Desert Road, Pyramids, Cairo, 12556, Egypt Tel: +202 3376444

Oasis Hotel Cairo-Alexandria Desert Road, Pyramids 12556 - Cairo / Egypt Tel: +202 38387333 & +202 38387666

**Jordan**

For those travelling onwards to Jordan. A visa is required for most nationalities visiting Jordan. If you are travelling with On The Go Tours (a registered tour company), this is now obtainable upon arrival and free of charge. If you are a UK, EU, AUS, NZ, SA, CAN and USA passport holders and travelling with us, (on a holiday including a stay of more than 2 consecutive nights in Jordan or if arriving via a land border staying more than 3 nights) we will arrange the visa for your stay/s and present it to you upon arrival.

Our airport representative will meet your PRIOR to immigration at Amman International Airport and escort you through immigration presenting your free visa approval letter to officials. Please be sure to provide us with your full passport details at least 4 weeks prior to your arrival in order for the free visa to be arranged. Should you NOT wish to take advantage of a free visa or you are not staying in Jordan for more than 2 consecutive nights, UK, EU, AUS, NZ, CAN and USA passport holders can obtain a visa upon arrival at a cost of 40JD/USD$57/Euro42 for single entry. South African passport holders can obtain a visa upon arrival at no cost.

On departure (via land or sea), a 5 - 10JD departure tax of is applied to all visitors. If departing Jordan by air then the departure tax is included in the airfare.

**Israel**

For those travelling onwards to Israel. British, South African, Australian, New Zealand, USA and Canadian passport holders do not require a visa to enter Israel. For all other nationalities please visit the Israeli embassy website.

Please be advised visa requirements are subject to change, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel.

**Troubleshooting**

These things will most likely never happen, but it’s good to be prepared if they ever do. Here are a few tips to keep your trip hassle-free. Egypt is no worse than anywhere else when it comes to crime. Minimise your chances of being robbed with these tips:

- Leave valuables in the hotel safe deposit or better still, at home
- Keep bags locked at all times with a combination/padlock. Bags should also be locked when being transferred in vehicles, on board the train, felucca or when taking a flight.
- Carry your passport on your person
- Carry spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- Carry your bag close to your person rather than over your shoulder
- Travel in a group or pair, especially if you are female

Please note On The Go Tours will not be held liable for loss or damage to personal property under any circumstances.

**It's not like home**

Travel to far - flung corners of the earth involves lifestyles and conditions that are sometimes very different from what you are used to back home. You must come prepared to cope with unusual situations, local inadequacies and unpredictable events as and when they occur. Foreign travel is definitely not suitable for people who expect or demand everything to go exactly as planned. With the greatest respect and in the interest of your ultimate enjoyment you must understand this. Things can and do change in foreign countries.

**Entrance Fees & LP**

Entry fees to sites of antiquity are not included, although reasonably priced. In Egypt, we collect entrance fees on Day 2 of the tour (the amount is noted under exclusions). A breakdown of the entrance fee total is provided upon arrival. Entrance fees and optional excursions that you may wish to undertake are payable in local currency - Egyptian Pounds (EGP). A local Payment of
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Cash GBP150 (or USD equivalent as per the Egyptian bank rate of the day), if applicable to your tour and noted under the exclusions is also payable on day 2. On tours that also travel to Jordan, entrance fees there are payable in Jordanian Dinar (JD). In Israel (on our Pyramids Petra Promised Land tour) entrance fees are included.

Tip Kitty
At the start of your tour we will collect a tip kitty (the amount is noted under exclusions) from all tour participants to cover tips throughout your holiday. This saves you the hassle of knowing when and how much to tip bellhops, luggage luggers, bus drivers, antiquity guards, train conductors and other support staff throughout the tour.

This amount does not include a tip for your tour guide. For a job well done, we would suggest USD$5-7 per day for your tour guide. Tipping your guide and crew is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

Your tip kitty in Egypt is collected in Egyptian Pounds (EGP). If you are travelling to Jordan, the tip kitty for this part of your holiday is collected in Jordanian Dinar (JD).

In Israel we do not collect a tipping kitty. As a guideline we recommend that you budget USD$5-7 per day per traveller for your guide and USD$2-3 per day per traveller for your driver.

Currency
The currency of Egypt is the Egyptian Pound. Pound Sterling, US Dollars, Euro and other major currencies can be exchanged in Egypt. Exchange facilities are available at most hotels and all major towns have ATMs. It’s advisable to request notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities. Traveller’s Cheques are not recommended as they’re often difficult to exchange.

Health Requirements
You should seek medical advice before travelling to Egypt from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Tetanus, Diphtheria, Typhoid, Hepatitis A and Rabies are strongly recommended. As tap water is not safe to drink in Egypt, only drink bottled mineral water which is readily available in hotels, shops and restaurants.

Climate
Temperatures in Egypt are generally high (25-30 degrees) and even hotter in the summer months from May to September, when the sun can be fierce and temperatures soar, so pack light comfortable clothing, sunscreen and a hat.

In Cairo and the Nile Delta region, winter (October to February) can be cooler - so take a jacket, long-sleeved tops and trousers for the cooler evenings. The south remains warm during this time but again, temperatures do drop in the evenings. Rainfall is negligible with the most falling along Egypt’s Mediterranean coastline.

Time & Voltage
Egypt is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Standard voltage is 220 volts. Primary sockets require the European, 2 pronged variety. We recommend that you pack a universal travel adaptor. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adaptor in order to use U.S. appliances.

Essential Packing
- Towel for the felucca (if applicable to your chosen tour)
- Lightweight cotton garments
- Comfortable walking shoes for the Pyramids and Valley of the Kings. Pack flip flops/thongs/jandals to wear aboard the Nile felucca or Nile Cruiser
- DEET based mosquito repellent & antihistamine cream
- 2 pin, European electrical adaptor
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch
- Sleep sheet or sleeping bag if travelling with us on the felucca or onward to Jordan.
- Felucca: We suggest hiring locally a freshly laundered winter warmth blanket for USD$15 (total) for the 2 night stay.
- Wadi Rum camp: All bedding (which is freshly laundered) is provided at Wadi Rum and therefore bringing a sleeping bag is not a necessity but your own personal choice.

If doing a felucca cruise or travelling between November and March, pack warm clothes (i.e. – fleece, jacket, trousers, jeans, hat and scarf) as temperatures plummet at night.

Arrival Transfers
A complimentary airport arrival transfer is included in your tour. Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative from On The Go Tours PRIOR to immigration. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative who will fast track you through the immigration queue. Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative. Our representative will assist you with your luggage and escort you to your vehicle, where you will wave goodbye and be transferred to your hotel.

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes in the arrival hall) or your flight to Egypt is delayed, please call or send a text message (standard text message, not messenger or what’s app) to the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

Travelling By Overnight Train
For journeys between Cairo and Aswan and/or Luxor on our Signature tours, and from Luxor to Cairo on our Budget tours, we utilise the overnight 1st class sleeper train service (excluding Treasures of the Nile). On the train the two berth cabins are lockable, equipped with bunk beds, linen, washbasin and towel, allowing passengers to relax and stretch out. A simple dinner and breakfast is included on the service. Dinner, served within an hour of your boarding is of a very average standard and we recommend that you eat dinner prior to boarding the train. A basis breakfast is served in the morning and tea and coffee is offered complimentary. There is a bar carriage located toward the centre of the train where hot and cold beverages can be purchased, and sometimes alcohol. The sleeper train is the highest class of rail travel available in Egypt, though by western standards it would be considered of a moderate standard. We always request our cabins to be side by side in the same carriage, though ultimately

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.
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the location of our cabins, and whether they are together rests with the rail authority.
If you are a solo traveller and have opted to share a room for your tour and not pay the single supplement you will be sharing a cabin with another On The Go traveller, or if this isn’t possible, a member of the public (of the same sex).

Etiquette
Despite the inevitable ups and downs of travelling abroad, you will generally be shown great hospitality in Egypt. In return, please demonstrate sensitivity and respect for the local customs. Egypt is a Muslim country; so care should be taken to dress respectfully in large cities and towns, for example, when at markets and in public places.
• Ladies should avoid wearing ‘clingy, tight or suggestive’ attire, and stick to cool, flowing, cottons in busy city areas and markets
• Take care to dress conservatively and ensure that limbs are covered and remove footwear prior to entering a mosque
• Ex-military style clothing should not be worn
• Ask permission before taking photographs of people
• The standard form of greeting is a handshake. Men and women do not kiss at any time as a form of greeting

Ramadan
The majority of the Egyptian population is Muslim (approx 86%), with a small minority of Jews and Christians. Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims in Egypt and throughout the world and adherents of the Muslim faith fast during daylight hours and break their fast with lavish meals and lively celebrations in the evening. Ramadan culminates a month later in a 3 day celebration called Eid al - Fitr. Many shops (excluding those which cater mainly to tourists) and attractions close earlier during Ramadan. As such we will start our tour earlier during this period to make the best use of time and itineraries will be slightly altered to ensure we visit all attractions, leisure time will be offered in the late afternoon. Non-Muslims are not expected to fast over Ramadan, but it is considered impolite to eat food or drink on the street.
Note: Traffic is exceptionally heavy during Ramadan, especially toward the time of breaking the fast. Forthcoming Ramadan dates are as follows, (approximate) -
23 April – 23 May 2020
12 April – 11 May 2021

Shopping
Egypt is a virtual Aladdin’s Cave. While Cairo's Khan al-Khalili bazaar is cavernous and full of unusual and everyday objects, smaller souqs and bazaars abound in other towns, too. Top buys include - perfume concentrate, carpets and rugs in innumerable hand-loomed designs, backgammon boards, hand-crafted shisha pipes, Pharaonic objects fashioned in marble and alabaster, Egyptian cotton clothing and of course - authentic papyrus.
IMPORTANT: Set your budget and don’t be swayed, remember the caveat – ‘Let the buyer beware’. Any purchases made whilst on holiday with us, irrespective of whether the store is recommended by us or other, are at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with the product you are purchasing and the delivery arrangements (we would recommend you take away with you any purchases rather than rely on shipping services). On The Go cannot be held responsible or accountable for items bought in country or shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.