

Egypt, the unlimited treasure

Ten must see tourist sites in Egypt:

No.10 - Saint Catherine's Monastery



It is the most important religious site in Sinai. Situated at the base of the mountain where Moses received the Ten Commandments, St Catherine's Monastery is one of the most famous in the world, built between 527 and 565 AD.

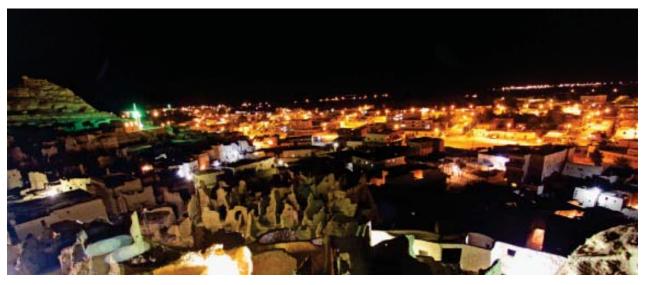
No. 9 - Mosque of Sultan Hassan



Massive yet elegant, this great structure is regarded as the finest piece of early-Mamluk architecture in Cairo. It was built between 1356 and 1363 by Sultan Hassan. It was used as a school for different Islamic schools of thought.



No.8 - Siwa Oasis



350 miles far from the modern life in Cairo, Siwa is sitting about 25m below sea level and brimming with olive and palm trees, epitomizes slow-paced oasis life. At the edge of the oasis, the swells of the Great Sand Sea roll to the horizon, providing irresistible fodder for desert exploration. Nearest oasis, Bahariya is popular for the White Desert tour which starts 20 KM south of Bahariya with the black desert. About 160 km south of Bahariya Oasis, the White Desert begins. It is truly white, in clear contrast with the yellow desert elsewhere.

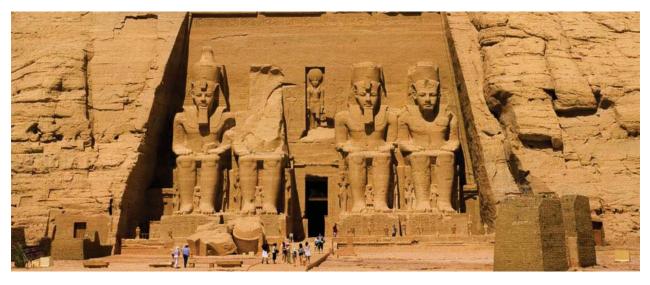
No. 7 - Egyptian Museum



Open daily from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm, the Egyptian Museum is home to 160,000 items of ancient Egyptian antiquities, and one of Cairo's top attractions. Highlights include the objects from the Tomb of Tutankhamen and the Royal Mummy Room containing 27 royal mummies from Ancient Egypt.



No. 6 - Abu Simbel



Abu Simbel is an archaeological site comprising two massive rock-cut temples in southern Egypt on the western bank of Lake Nasser. The twin temples were originally carved out of the mountainside during the reign of Pharaoh Ramses The Great in the 13th century BC, as a lasting monument to himself and his queen Nefertari. Abu Simbel remains one of Egypt's top tourist attractions.

No. 5 - Bibliotheca Alexandrina



Alexandria's ancient library was one of the greatest of all classical institutions, and one of the Seven Miracles of Ancient World. And while replacing it might seem a herculean task, the new Bibliotheca Alexandrina manages it. Opened in 2002, this world's biggest library is an impressive piece of modern architecture and a deliberate attempt to rekindle the brilliance of the original center of learning and culture.



No. 4 - Nile Cruise



Cruising the Nile is a popular way of visiting Upper Egypt. Hundreds of luxurious cruise ships travel the Luxor-Aswan route which terminates at two of Egypt's most important tourist destinations. Taking a Felucca down the Nile is an adventurous option. Feluccas are sail boats that have been used on the Nile since antiquity. A Felucca is not quite as comfortable as a luxury cruise ship but nothing can beat sailing in a quiet rig that was designed thousands of years ago.

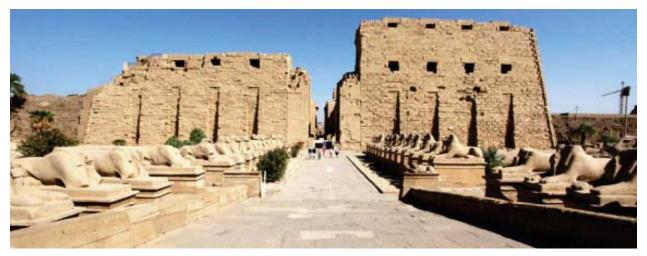
No. 3 - Ras muhammad National Park

Located in South Sinai near Sharm El Sheikh, Ras Mohamed National Park is a real paradise of underwater life.

Ras Mohamed National Park is one of world's most popular dive and snorkeling sites. With a large variety of fish, corals and sharks calling this part of the Red Sea home.



<u>No.2 – Karnak</u>



Karnak is an extraordinary complex of sanctuaries, kiosks, pylons and obelisks, dedicated to the Theban triad but also to the greater glory of pharaohs. Constructed over more than 1500 years, it has at its heart the temple of Amun, 'home' of the local god who became the most powerful deity in Egypt and the wider region.

No.1 - Giza Necropolis



For nearly 4000 years, the extraordinary shape, impeccable geometry and sheer bulk of the Giza Pyramids have invited the obvious question: 'How were we built, and why?'

Located just outside of the outskirts of Cairo on the esplanade known as the Giza Plateau, the Great Pyramids of Giza is the must-see Ancient Egyptian landmark.

The two smaller – but still huge – pyramids in Giza are those of Khafre and Menkaure. A few steps to the east you will notice three small (20 m high) piles of rumble: the queens' pyramids, tombs of Khufu's wives and sisters. Nearby, on the Giza Plateau, you'll also find the Great Sphinx and the Solar Boat Museum. The site is also where the Sound & Light Show at Giza takes place, and where every newcomer to Egypt experiences Giza camel rides for the first time.

COMPULSORY MODULE -2

Only for active travelers:

Desert Safaris

There are fascinating desert safari tours conducted in a traditional way of Bedouin culture. These tours cover most of the western desert from Wadi Hetan (Whale Valley) in Fayoum, including Egypt's five oases (Bahariya, Farafra, Dakhla, Kharga and Siwa), the White Desert, the Black Desert, the Crystal Desert, the Great Sand Sea, Djara Cave and all the valleys.

Perfect for meditation, quad rallies, sand boarding and sightseeing

Abu Gallum



Along the Gulf of Aqaba the coastal plain is narrow and this protected area plays an important role in regulating land use. The Nubian Ibex are desert goats which are found on virtually inaccessible peaks and the reefs, which are among the finest in the world, are still in pristine condition.

Brother's Islands:



For genuine divers, brother's Islands one of the ten best dive sites according to CNN 2012. It is a huge paradise of coral reefs and rare kinds of sharks, fishes and even wrecks dates back to 1901.



Colored Canyons



Near Neweiba, two hours from Sharm El Sheikh or about 90 minutes' drive from Dahab, of which 30 minutes are into the desert, then hiking for almost 2 hours, not that exhausting though. The rock formations are amazing. It is an ideal place to feel the mysteries and splendor of Sinai.

Abu Rimata



Easily accessible from Hurghada or Sharm el-Sheikh by a liveaboard or day boat, this site has aptly been named the "Aquarium" as it is relatively shallow and quite flat... it is home to a stunning variety of marine species. It is packed full of small reef fishes, stingrays, leopard sharks. Jacks, barracuda and small tuna can also be seen in big numbers.



Ain Sukhna Bird Watching



Located on the Egyptian Red Sea coast, within an hour and a half driving distance from Cairo, the touristic area of Ain Sukhna is known to be an important bottleneck for migratory birds. The area is a great site for observing the spring migration.

Kite surfing in Safaga



Safaga is regarded as a dream spot for windsurfers and kiters. Located about 50 kilometers south of Hurghada, this site offers not only numerous diving bases but is arguably one of the best windsurfing and kite surfing spots in Egypt.

The contrast between the azure and turquoise colors of the sea and the barren desert landscape makes this area an impressive holiday. About 3.5 km away, located Tobia Island a small sandy cay surrounded by turquoise water.



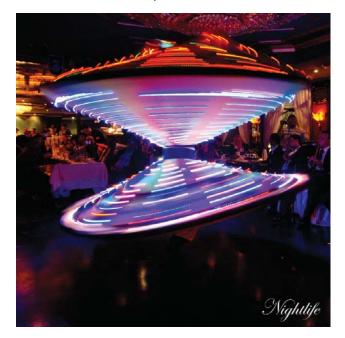
Underwater diving



The Red Sea Riviera is perfect for those looking for sea attractions and perfect sun. There are also underwater ruins like the German submarine and Napoleonic era warship wreck dives in the WhiteMed near Alexandria which accommodates also the underwater museum of the ruins of an enthralling ancient kingdom of Queen Cleopatra.

The secret sauce of Egypt:

The genuine characteristic of Egypt expresses that special atmosphere that spreads all over the country and reflects especially in the authentic local cuisine some of its recipes date back 5000 years. The Egyptian music which has been an integral part of Egyptian culture since antiquity and the folklore dance consist together a lovely facade of the Egyptian character. Local dancers in local costumes and Tanoura dancers add a special touch to the experience of traveling to Egypt while the handcrafts bear the trademark of the accumulative arts of thousands of years.



THE END