## Overnight Excursion to Luxor from Hurghada

**Price Starting From: \$175** 

2 Days Egypt Luxor

### Overnight Amazing Trip to Luxor From Hurghada

Spending two days exploring Luxor from Aswan is considered one of the unforgettable adventures that will always remind you of your time in Egypt.

#### The Ancient History of Luxor

The foundation of the city of Thebes dates back to the IV Dynasty, around 257 BC. Until the Middle Kingdom, Thebes was nothing more than a collection of simple huts adjacent to each other, although it was used as a cemetery to bury the deceased, as the rulers of the provinces from the Old Kingdom onwards were buried there. Thebes later became the capital of Egypt at the time of the 11th Egyptian Dynasty under Pharaoh Mentuhotep I, who managed to unify the country again after the chaos that afflicted Egypt in the first decadent era.

In the early morning, you can enjoy an unforgettable experience with a hot air balloon on the west bank, enjoying the view of all the monuments of the city.

# Luxor West Bank Excursions: Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut Temple & Colossi of Memnon

Your excursion begins with an amazing visit to the temples of Dendera. The earliest origins of the temple of Dendera date back to Dynasty IV, when King Khufu built a temple on this site, which was restored and made some additions during the reign of King Bibi I of Dynasty VI. Interest in Dendera continued in the Middle Kingdom and increased during the New Kingdom, with Thutmose III, Thutmose IV, and Ramesses III contributing to the maintenance of the temple. The present temple dates from the Greek and Roman periods, from the reign of Ptolemy IX.

We then set off on another adventure to the west bank of Luxor, starting with a visit to the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, which is characterized by its large size and continues to impress visitors with its beauty and unique design, different from the temples that were built in Thebes, on the east bank of the Nile. At the dawn of Christianity, the Copts built a monastery to worship the temple of Hatshepsut. We also will explore the Valley of the Kings, a valley in Egypt that was used for 500 years between the 16th and 11th centuries BCE to construct tombs for New Kingdom pharaohs and nobles from the 18th through 20th Dynasties of Ancient Egypt.

We also allow you to visit the Colossi of Memnon, known locally as Colossi or Salamat. These are two huge statues, built around 1350 BC, which are all that remains of a temple built in memory of the pharaoh Amenhotep III, who ruled Egypt during the 18th Dynasty.

Luxor and Karnak Temples: Luxor East Bank Tours

Through our 2-day tour, you will also explore the east bank of Luxor, visiting Luxor Temple, which is a large ancient Egyptian temple complex located on the east bank of the Nile River in the present-day city of Luxor, known as ancient Thebes. It was founded in 1400 BC.

We concluded our adventure with an incredible visit to the temple of Karnak. The temple owes its name to the city of Karnak, a modernized version of the Arabic word khorenq, meaning fortified town, which was used to designate many temples in the region during this period.

# Overview Inclusion

- Meeting and assistance by our guide from your hotel in Hurghada and return.
- One-night accommodation in a 5-star hotel in Luxor with breakfast included.
- Air-conditioned private vehicle transportation during the overnight trip to Luxor from Hurghada.
- A qualified English-speaking guide during your trip to Luxor from Hurghada.
- Admission fees to the above-mentioned sites.
- A lunch during the 2-day trip to Luxor from Hurghada.
- A bottle of water and cold drinks during Egypt Day Tours.
- During Egypt Day Tours, all taxes and service charges are included.

#### Exclusion

- Additional items not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Tipping is optional on the 2 day excursion to Luxor from Hurghada.
- Individual expenses during the overnight excursion to Luxor from Hurghada.
- Rates do not apply during Christmas and New Year tours in Egypt or Easter tours Egypt.

### **Itinerary**

## Day 01: Hurghada-Luxor -Karnak and Luxor Temples Tour

To start your overnight trip to Luxor from Hurghada, a Cairo Top Tours leader will meet you in the Hurghada hotel lobby with a sign bearing your name. It takes about three and a half hours to go from Hurghada to Luxor in a private vehicle.

Your tour begins with an impressive visit to the east bank of Luxor, where, with an expert guide, you will be able to immerse yourself in the deep civilization of Egypt.

Your day begins with a unique visit to Karnak. or Karnak Temple Complex, commonly known as Karnak Temple, is a complex of temples, buildings, and columns where expansion and construction continued from the Pharaonic period, specifically the kings of the Middle Kingdom, to the Roman period in Luxor, Egypt, on the eastern bank. The temple was built for the divine trinity of Amun (Amun-Ra in modern times), his wife, the goddess Mut, and their son Khonsu; each has a temple belonging to the Karnak temple complex. Tourists and non-specialists sometimes only pay attention to the Karnak temple, which belongs to Amun-i Amun-Ra.

Then we will drive to another famous temple, the Temple of Luxor. Luxor Temple was built during the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Dynasties. The most important buildings in the temple are those built by Kings Amenhotep III (1397–1360 BC) and Ramses II (1290–1223 BC) (who added an open courtyard, a monument, and two obelisks). King Thutmose III (1490-1436 BC) also built compartments for visitors to the Holy Trinity at Thebes, and Tutankhamun (1348-1337 BC) completed the inscriptions on its walls. It is one of the best-preserved and most beautifully built Egyptian temples, where the layout of the Egyptian temple is most evident.

After a day full of adventures, we will take you back to your hotel in Luxor to spend your day in peace.

## Day 02: Luxor West Bank Trips

We continue our adventures in Luxor with an incredible visit to the west bank of Luxor, Your day starts with a pick-up by our guide in a modern air-conditioned car to visit the Colossi of Memnon. The statues were made from blocks of quartzite sandstone quarried from the Red Mountain (near present-day Cairo) and transported 675 kilometers (420 miles) by road to Thebes (Luxor). It is believed that the stones were too heavy to be transported upstream against the Nile. The blocks later used by Roman engineers to rebuild the northern statue may have come from Edfu (north of Aswan)

Then you will explore the Deir el-Bahri which is a group of pharaonic temples and tombs located on the west bank of the Nile opposite the city of Luxor, Egypt. The monastery was built by Queen Hatshepsut to perform rituals that benefit her in the next world, while the name Al-Deir Al-Bahri is a modern Arabic name given to this area in the seventh century AD after the Copts used this temple as their monastery. The temple consists of three ascending amphitheaters connected by sloping platforms for ascending and descending. The first monument built at the site was the funerary temple of Mentuhotep II of the Eleventh Dynasty during the 21st century BCE. During the Eighteenth Dynasty, Amenhotep I and Hatshepsut also built extensively at the site.

Following that, we will travel to Egypt's Valley of the Kings, which was utilized for 500 years between the sixteenth and eleventh centuries BC to construct tombs for the New Kingdom's pharaohs and nobles throughout the 18th through 20th Dynasties. In the center of the historic funerary city of Thebes, the valley faces Thebes (now Luxor) on the west bank of the Nile River. The eastern valley, which contains the majority of the royal tombs, and the western valley make up the Valley of the Kings.

After finishing your two days of explorations we will take you back to your hotel in Hurghada.