

# El Minya 2-Day Trip

**Price Starting From : \$200**

2 Days - 1 Night

El Minya

Egypt

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Everyday

Prepare to set forth on an unforgettable two-day tour to El Minya, a concealed jewel along the Nile in Upper Egypt. Culturally rich, this city stands as a witness to history while offering a far different view into ancient Egyptian civilization from the ordinary tourist walks. As you traverse the scenic drive in rural Egypt, embrace incredible sites of archaeological wonder, quaint little villages, and ever-stretching landscapes along the peaceful banks of the Nile.

On the first day, tour the ancient city of Beni Hassan, famous for the wondrous tombs of the Middle Kingdom carved into limestone cliffs. These tombs, with their bright wall paintings, uniquely illuminate the day-to-day activities, agriculture, and warfare in ancient times. Thereafter, the journey to Tuna el-Gebel, the necropolis of Hermopolis, exhibits an amazing blend of Greco-Roman art and architecture with native Egyptian traditions in the tombs of high priests and the famous Isadora.

On the second day, head for Tell El-Amarna, the capital city built by the reformist Pharaoh Akhenaten in ruins. Walk through the remains of palaces, temples, and houses in a town that had once set out to transform Egypt's religious landscape. The guide will fascinate you with the story of Akhenaten and his wife, Nefertiti, enlivening the ancient stones in the process. Silent grandeur and just consummate depth of history shall usher you into a journey of discovery, reflection, and awe in El Minya.

## Overview

### Inclusion

- Our Egypt Day Tours include meeting and greeting services from your Cairo or Giza hotel to El Minya and back.
- Accommodations in El Minya city include bed and breakfast at the 4-star Aton Hotel or Siva Nefertiti Hotel, which overlooks the Nile.
- Transportation in a private, air-conditioned vehicle to El Minya.
- Certified tour guide who speaks English for the Cairo Day Tours.
- El Minya trips from Cairo include tickets and entry fees to all of the aforementioned sites.
- Two lunches at a nearby restaurant during the trips to El Minya.
- Water bottles for free on the trip in the car.
- Your Cairo excursions include all taxes and service fees.

### Exclusion

- Egypt excursions to El Minya from Cairo do not include gratuity.
- The Cairo Day Tours schedule does not include extras.
- Drinks during meals on your Cairo tours.
- Prices are available for Egypt Easter excursions and Egypt Christmas and New Year's tours.

## Itinerary

## Day 1: Cairo transfer to El-Minya

Begin your day with an early morning departure from Cairo, heading south through the scenic Nile Valley toward El Minya. Upon arrival, you'll be welcomed by the tranquil charm of this Upper Egyptian city, nestled along the riverbanks. Your first stop will be the ancient necropolis of Tuna El Gabal, home to a fascinating collection of Greco-Roman tombs, including the well-preserved tomb of Isadora and the catacombs dedicated to the sacred ibis and baboons of Thoth, the god of wisdom.

Next, journey eastward to explore the remarkable site of Tal El Amarna, the short-lived capital built by Pharaoh Akhenaten. As you walk through the remnants of temples, palaces, and residential districts, your guide will reveal the unique story of Akhenaten's religious revolution and his devotion to the sun disk, Aten. The Royal Tomb, Boundary Stelae, and the Palace of Akhenaten offer a vivid picture of life during this controversial chapter in ancient Egyptian history.

After a lunch break in a local restaurant, enjoy a relaxing return journey to Cairo, passing through fertile farmlands and small villages that dot the Nile's edge. Along the way, reflect on the day's discoveries—from the artistic tombs of Tuna El Gabal to the revolutionary spirit of Tal El Amarna. This full-day adventure offers a perfect blend of history, archaeology, and the timeless beauty of Egypt's heartland.

## Day 2: Beni Hassan & Tel El Amarna Tour

Your journey begins with an early morning pick-up from your hotel in Cairo, followed by a scenic drive south to the historic city of El Minya. Upon arrival, head straight to the breathtaking tombs of Beni Hassan carved into the cliffs overlooking the Nile. These Middle Kingdom tombs are famous for their vibrant wall paintings depicting wrestling scenes, daily life, and ceremonial activities. Your guide will walk you through the tombs of influential provincial governors, offering insight into a unique period of Egyptian history when local rulers held significant power.

Following your exploration of Beni Hassan, continue to the remarkable archaeological site of Tel El Amarna—the former capital of the heretic Pharaoh Akhenaten. Here, you'll step into the remnants of a city that sought to redefine religion and culture in ancient Egypt. Wander through the remains of royal palaces, temples, and private homes, and visit the Northern Tombs for panoramic views and fascinating depictions of life under Akhenaten's rule. The haunting beauty of this deserted capital offers a striking contrast to the traditional monuments of ancient Egypt.

After soaking in the history and mystery of Tel El Amarna, you'll begin the comfortable drive back to Cairo. Along the way, take in views of the rural Nile Valley, passing by lush farmland and traditional villages that offer a glimpse of modern-day life rooted in ancient landscapes. This day tour delivers an enriching and off-the-beaten-path experience, perfect for travelers seeking a deeper understanding of Egypt's diverse and storied past.