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Day 1: Arrive in Cairo, Egypt

From the <u>Cairo International Airport</u>, we will pick you up and transport you to your hotel in Cairo. We'll assist you with checking in and see to it that everything goes as planned. Additionally, you will have the chance to modify your incredible 10-day Egypt Christmas Package Tour.

Cairo hotel welcome drink during the night.

Day 2: Pyramids and Cairo Trips

Your Egypt day tours begin today when your tour guide meets you at your hotel after breakfast. First, you will visit the <u>Giza Pyramids</u> complex. You'll see the Great Pyramid of Khufu, the largest pyramid, the Pyramid of Khafre, and the Pyramid of Menkaure. You can walk around the Sphinx and other pyramids. You have the option to ride a camel and take photos.

Next, you'll go to the Egyptian Museum in downtown Cairo. It houses over 120,000 artifacts from ancient Egypt, including huge statues, coffins, and King Tut's gold collection.

After lunch at a local restaurant, you will head to Coptic Cairo to see important Christian sites. You'll visit six ancient churches, including <u>the Hanging Church</u> of the Virgin Mary, one of the oldest in Cairo. You'll also see Abu Serga Church from the 4th century and the <u>Ben Ezra Synagogue</u>, originally a Christian church.

After your tour activities, you'll return to your hotel to rest for the night. Your meals for the day will be breakfast and lunch.

Day 3: Cairo to Alexandria Trip

After enjoying your breakfast at the hotel, your Egyptologist guide will meet you to start your <u>Alexandria</u> day tour. Alexandria is Egypt's second-largest city and was founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BC.

The first stop is <u>the Citadel of Qaitbay</u>, a medieval fortress built in the 15th century to defend Alexandria. The citadel is one of many historical Islamic monuments in Alexandria and in all of Egypt.

Next, you'll visit the Roman <u>Catacombs of Kom El-Shoqafa</u>, believed to have been started in the 2nd century AD. Then see <u>Pompey's Pillar</u>, a Roman triumphal column built around 300 AD for the Roman Emperor Diocletian. You'll also see other Roman ruins at the site.

You'll also tour the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, an important cultural and intellectual center in Alexandria.

After some sightseeing, you'll have lunch and then check into your Alexandria hotel to spend the night. Your meals for the day will be breakfast and lunch.

Day 4: Alamein World War II Cemetery and Military Museum

After breakfast, you will go to the <u>El-Alamein Common Wealth Cemetery</u>, which has a number of cemeteries and memorials honoring the battle's victims of various nationalities. There is also a church, a mosque, and a small museum there, in addition to the German Exaltation and the Italian Cemetery. There is also the Military Museum, which has five halls and a main lobby with murals depicting wartime events and carvings of the warring enemies. Following your visit to the Italian, German, and Australian Cemeteries, you will be taken back to Cairo to complete your Alamein tour.

Meals: breakfast and lunch

Day 5: Fly to Luxor - Luxor East Bank Tour

After enjoying breakfast at your Cairo hotel, your English-speaking tour leader will transfer you to the Cairo International Airport. You will catch your flight to Luxor, the ancient city of Thebes. Luxor was the capital of Egypt during the New Kingdom and is a huge open-air museum.

You will start your <u>Luxor day tour</u> by visiting Luxor Temple. The temple was dedicated to the worship of the god Amun, his wife Mut, and their son Khonsu, in the form of the god Min, the fertility god.

Next, you will explore the sprawling <u>Karnak Temple</u> complex, built by King Amenhotep IV. Karnak was known as Ipet Isu, or "the most select of places."

At the end of the day, your tour leader will escort you back to your Luxor hotel, where you'll check in and spend the night.

Your meals for the day will be breakfast and lunch.

Day 6: Luxor West Bank Tours

On the 6th day of your Egypt Nile cruise, you will explore the West Bank of Luxor, including the Valley of the Kings, which contains the tombs of ancient Egyptian pharaohs and kings from the New Kingdom period. After breakfast, you'll visit the Temple of Ramesses III at Medinet Habu. This temple was built by Ramesses II in the 13th century BC in the ancient capital of Abydos. It was believed to be the place where the god Amun first appeared and where Ramesses III worshipped after his death. The day will conclude with a visit to the Colossi of Memnon, which are two massive 18-meter statues of Amenhotep III. Then you'll return to your hotel in Luxor. Meals this day include breakfast and lunch.

Day 7: Kom Ombo and Edfu Temples Tour

After breakfast, you will check out of your hotel in Luxor and visit the <u>Temple of Edfu</u>, also known as the Temple of Horus. This temple was built in the 2nd century BC and is dedicated to the Egyptian <u>god Horus</u>. It is considered one of the most beautiful and luxurious temples in ancient Egypt.

Next, you will continue to the <u>Kom Ombo Temple</u>, which sits atop a hill overlooking the Nile River. This temple dates back to the Ptolemaic era and was built to honor the crocodile god Sobek as well as the falcon god Horus.

After touring Kom Ombo, you will transfer to your hotel in Aswan to check in for an overnight stay. Your meals for this day will include breakfast and lunch.

Day 8: Aswan Tour

Today, we'll show you the majority of Aswan. After breakfast, you will begin your Aswan day tours to see the magnificent <u>High Dam</u> of Aswan, one of the greatest engineering feats of the 20th century, which is situated between Egypt and Sudan. Next, you will visit the <u>Unfinished Obelisk</u>, which Queen Hatshepsut constructed from a single piece of stone between 1508 and 1458 BC. You will then go to the <u>Philae Temple</u>, which was constructed in reverence for the <u>goddess Isis</u>. Ptolemy II began construction, and the Roman emperors finished it. Aswan, spend the night.

breakfast and lunch

Day 9: Abu Simbel Temples

Check out after breakfast to begin the fantastic tour to the <u>Abu Simbel Temples</u> from Aswan. The temples were built by <u>Ramses II</u> and symbolize the wonders of ancient Egyptian engineering, astronomy, and architecture. They were carved out of a rock cliff and dedicated to Ramses II and his wife. Ramses II also carved out the two temples at Abu Simbel. The four global gods, Ptah, Re-Her-Akhtey, Amun-Re, and Ramses II, are honored in the Temple of Ramses II. The Sun Temple of Ramses II is another name for it. His favored wife, the Nubian Queen Nefertari, is the subject of the smaller temple. Next, you will be transferred to Aswan Airport for your flight back to Cairo and accommodation at the hotel in Cairo for the night.

Day 10: The Departure

After your final breakfast of the trip, our knowledgeable tour guide will drive you to Cairo International Airport for your flight home.

Meals: Breakfast

The end of your Christmas vacation in Egypt! We hope to see you soon.