

A WHIRLWIND ADVENTURE

Discovering Cairo in 48 Hours

As the sun rises over the Nile, casting golden hues across Cairo's sprawling landscape, the city begins to stir – a reminder that adventure awaits in every corner of Egypt's bustling capital.

If you have just 48 hours to explore Egypt's most glorious city, a well-planned itinerary is essential to capture the essence of Cairo, from its ancient wonders to its contemporary marvels.

DIVE INTO HISTORY PYRAMIDS OF GIZA

Begin your Cairo journey where history itself seems to have begun – at the awe-inspiring Pyramids of Giza. Standing as the last surviving wonder of the ancient world, the pyramids are a must-see. The largest, the Great Pyramid of Khufu, offers an optional interior tour that is well worth the effort. Nearby, the Sphinx guards the Giza plateau with a mystic calm, offering a perfect photo opportunity as the day breaks.

SAQQARA AND THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM

After a local lunch featuring falafel and koshari, a short drive to





Mosque of Rifai and Sultan Hassan



Saqqara is in order to see the Step Pyramid of Djoser, the world's oldest complete stone building complex. This less crowded site provides a more personal glimpse into ancient Egypt's grandeur.

Returning to the city, visit the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square. Home to an astonishing collection of artefacts, the museum offers a comprehensive overview of Egypt's rich history, highlighted by the treasures of Tutankhamun and rare items dating back 5,000 years.

NILE DINNER CRUISE

As evening approaches, unwind with a dinner cruise on the Nile. These floating restaurants provide sumptuous Egyptian cuisine and entertainment, such as belly dancing and traditional music. It's a relaxing way to watch the cityscape illuminated against the night sky.

EXPERIENCE THE CULTURE ISLAMIC CAIRO

Start your second day in the heart of Islamic Cairo, a UNESCO World

Heritage site filled with mosques, madrasas, and monuments dating back to the Fatimid through to the Ottoman periods. Begin at the Citadel of Salah El-Din, which offers panoramic views of the city and houses several mosques and museums, including the impressive Mosque of Muhammad Ali.

Stroll down to the Khan El Khalili bazaar, a bustling market that has

served travellers and locals alike since the 14th century. Here, you can haggle over souvenirs, from handmade crafts to spices and silver. Don't forget to stop for a cup of traditional Egyptian coffee at one of the old cafés like El Fishawi, a centuries-old institution.

COPTIC CAIRO

In contrast, the nearby Coptic Cairo area



Pyramids of Giza



presents some of the city's oldest Christian churches, including the Hanging Church and the Church of St. Sergius and Bacchus, which reportedly sits above the spot where the Holy Family found refuge. The Coptic Museum

here contains a wealth of information about Egypt's Christian heritage.

ZAMALEK DISTRICT

For your final evening, head to

Zamalek, an island in the Nile that boasts an array of garden cafes, art galleries, and shops in a leafy, upscale setting. Dinner at one of the area's rooftop restaurants offers excellent food and stunning views of the Nile and the city beyond.

PRACTICAL TIPS

Getting Around: Cairo's traffic is infamous. Opt for taxis or rideshare apps like Uber for direct routes, or take the metro to avoid the congestion.

Dress Code: Respectful attire is advised, especially when visiting religious sites. Women should carry a scarf to cover their heads in mosques, and both sexes should wear clothing that covers shoulders and knees.

Stay Hydrated: Cairo can be hot, and touring can be exhaustive. Always carry a bottle of water with you.

Forty-eight hours in Cairo is barely enough to scratch the surface of this city's profound history and vibrant culture. Yet even a brief visit filled with the highlights mentioned above promises an enriching and unforgettable experience, leaving you yearning to return to explore more of what Egypt has to offer. So, dive into Cairo's chaos: marvel at its ancient monuments, shop in its lively bazaars, and let the city's energetic pulse lead you on an extraordinary adventure. 🇪🇬

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