

# EGYPT ITINERARY





# ACANELA, EGYPT & JORDAN EXPEDITION

## Day 1: Cairo, Egypt

Meals: B, L

Flight Number:

Departure Time:

Arrival Time::

Welcome to Cairo, the capital city of Egypt! This famous city is associated with ancient Egypt, the famous Giza pyramids, and the Nile river. We hope you will enjoy your time in this historic and incredible city. Our in-country team will do all they can to make sure you get to see and enjoy the many sights here.

**Afternoon:** Arrive at Cairo International Airport in Cairo, Egypt. After disembarking the plane, you will proceed to customs and immigration. Please note that if you are a citizen of the United States you will have a \$25 visa (as of June, 2018) which can be purchased upon arrival. The entire process of clearing customs and immigration should take about an hour, after which you will exit into the arrival hall. Upon entering the arrival hall, please look for your driver who will be there to greet you with a sign reading "Acanela Expeditions". Your driver will then transport you to your hotel for check-in (check-in opens at 2:00pm, with check-out scheduled for 12:00pm). Please contact our in-country director, Hesham (number above), if your flight is delayed or need need further assistance with your airport transfer. Since your flight arrival time may impact the schedule for the afternoon / evening. Please pay close attention to updates to your itinerary (for example, if you are scheduled for a late arrival, your food tour will begin at a later time).

**Dinner :** In the evening you will be met by your guide to set out on a 2-3 hour food tour to visit the local artisan markets,, enjoying an evening food tour of Cairo (with plenty of delicious bites to sample and dine on as you learn about the culture and history of Cairo through its food). At the end of your tour you will be escorted back to your hotel to enjoy a relaxing evening at the hotel.

**Evening:** Overnight at hotel

*Accommodation: Kempinski Cairo Hotel or Similar*

*Address: 12 Ahmed Ragheb, Cairo, Cairo Governorate 11519, Egypt*

*Phone: +20 2 27980000*

## Day 2: Cairo, Egypt

Meals: B, L

**Breakfast:** Enjoy a hearty breakfast at the hotel before setting out on your first full day in Egypt. Breakfast starts at 6:00 am and runs until 9:00 am in the morning.

**Morning: (8:00am)** After you've enjoyed your breakfast, please proceed to the lobby of the hotel where you will meet your guide for your all day tour of Cairo. Your tour guide will be waiting for you in the hotel lobby with a sign that says "**Acanela Expeditions**". During our tour today, we will visit the Giza pyramids, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. At the foot of the Pyramids, lies the Sphinx with the face of king Chephren and the body of a lion representing. The tour also includes a visit to the Valley Temple, which belongs to the Pyramids of Chephren and the wishing well. If you wish to enter the pyramids as part of your tour, please be sure to notify your guide before you pass through the main entrance. While entrance to see the



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pyramids is covered by Acanela, to enter the pyramids is equivalent to \$20 USD. Please tell your guide beforehand so they can assist you in purchasing the right ticket to enter the pyramid if you wish.

**Lunch:** After a full morning of touring, you will have the opportunity to enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Cairo has a number of available food options for you to try, so please communicate directly with your guide on your preferences and what foods you wish to try!

**Afternoon:** In the afternoon tour to Memphis, Egypt's first Capital until the end of the old kingdom 3200 B.C. with the famous colossal statue of king Ramses the second. After touring Memphis we will drive to Sakkara, the City of the dead with the famous step Pyramid of Djoser - the world's oldest major stone structure. It was built in the 3rd Dynasty (around 2630 BC) for King Djoser.

**Dinner:** You will set out on a food tour to visit the local artisan markets, enjoying an evening food tour of Cairo (with plenty of delicious bites to sample and dine on as you learn about the culture and history of Cairo through its food). At the end of your tour you will be escorted back to your hotel to enjoy a relaxing evening at the hotel.

**Evening:** Overnight at hotel

*Accommodation: Kempinski Cairo Hotel or Similar*

*Address: 12 Ahmed Ragheb, Cairo, Cairo Governorate 11519, Egypt*

*Phone: +20 2 27980000*

### Day 3: Cairo, Egypt

**Meals: B, L**

**Breakfast:** Enjoy a hearty breakfast at the hotel before setting out on your full day in Egypt. Breakfast starts at 6:00am and runs until 9:00 am in the morning.

**Morning: (8:00am):** After you've enjoyed your breakfast, please proceed to the lobby of the hotel where you will meet your guide to start your visit to the Egyptian museum. Your tour guide will be waiting for you in the hotel lobby with a sign that says "Acanela Expeditions". The Egyptian museum is where you will see a rare collection of 5000 years of art which is considered the largest most precious collection of Egyptian art in the world. Over 250,000 genuine artifacts are presented, including an exhibit dedicated to Tutankhamen collection of treasure, gold and jewelry. Your museum entry fee is covered by Acanela, but if you want to enter the mummy chamber, it will be an additional \$15 USD to enter. If you want to enter the mummy chamber, please be sure to notify your guide before entering the museum so they can assist you.

**Lunch:** After a full morning of touring, you will have the opportunity to enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Cairo has a number of available food options for you to try, so please communicate directly with your guide on your preferences and what foods you wish to try!

**Afternoon:** In the afternoon proceed to visit Old Cairo where you will enjoy, the Hanging Church of the 3rd century - built from one of the tower remains from the Babylon fortress. Visit the Church of Abu Serga, where you can see the holy crypt, followed by the Ben Ezra Jewish Synagogue. Your tour is expected to end around 4:00 pm unless you elect to have free time and wish to explore the remaining sights on your own.



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**Dinner:** At the end of your tour you will be escorted back to the hotel by your driver and guide (approximately 30-60 minutes by car). Since you will be on your own for dinner, please ask your local guide about their favorite dining spots to get a taste of the local cuisine. Cairo has a variety of cuisines available, so don't be shy about visiting some of the main local spots.

**Evening:** Overnight at hotel

*Accommodation: Kempinski Cairo Hotel or Similar*

*Address: 12 Ahmed Ragheb, Cairo, Cairo Governorate 11519, Egypt*

*Phone: +20 2 27980000*

### Day 4: Cairo, Egypt / Luxor

Meals: B

**Breakfast:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast at your hotel before setting out for the day. Breakfast is served from 6:00am and runs until 9:00 am in the morning.

After we check out of our hotel we will travel to the Cairo International Airport to catch our International flights back home or continue onwards to Aswan and Luxor (The Nile River) if you have opted to participate in the tour extension. Please note that check-out time from the hotel is before 11:00 am.

**Arrival:** Arrive at Luxor International Airport in Luxor, Egypt. After clearing customs and immigration, your driver will greet you and assist you with the transfer to your hotel. Your driver will meet you outside the departure hall - holding a sign either with **your name on it or the name "ACANELA"**. Please contact the Egypt in-country contact Hesham (number at the top of the itinerary) if your flight is delayed or need need further assistance with your airport transfer. You will be transferred to your hotel by a private vehicle. Check into your hotel and enjoy a free day in Luxor.

**Lunch (own expense):** Dine on a delicious lunch of your choosing during your free time in Luxor.

**Dinner (own expense):** Enjoy a delicious dinner at the hotel or another location of your choice.

*Accommodation: Sonesta St. George Hotel Luxor or similar*

*Address: Gazirat Al Awameyah, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt*

*Phone: +20 95 2382575*

### Day 5: Nile River Cruise

Meals: B, L, D

**Breakfast:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast at the hotel before setting out on your first day on the Nile River Cruise.

**Afternoon:** At 12:00 pm transfer to your deluxe Nile cruise boat where you will be welcomed by the reception staff. Lunch will be served on board followed by a visit to the East Bank. Our expert guide will lead us to the



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striking Luxor Temple—dedicated to the god Amun. We will see its courtyard and the granite statues of Ramses the Great. We will also visit the Karnak temples as well before heading back to the cruise ship.

**Evening:** To end our day we will dine on a gourmet dinner while taking in the breathtaking views along the Nile. Dinner is scheduled for 8:30 pm.

*Accommodation: Nile Cruise Boat*

### Day 6: Nile River Cruise

**Meals: B, L, D**

**Breakfast:** Wake up and get ready for an early start with a delicious breakfast on board the cruiser. Breakfast at 6:00 am.

**Morning:** 7:00 am We will travel to the West Bank of Luxor to explore the Valley of the Kings; (if you wish to go inside a tomb, you will need to buy a ticket when you arrive at the Valley of the Kings - your guide can help you with this). You will also have the chance to visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. On the way back to the river Nile, you will pass by the famed Colossi of Memnon, known in Ancient Greek times for their haunting voices at dawn.

**Afternoon:** We will make our way back to the cruise ship for lunch at 1:00 pm. Enjoy an afternoon tea as we sail on to Edfu via Esna.

**Evening:** At 7:30pm in the evening you will be greeted by your Boat Manager for a Cocktail Reception, who will review your cruise program for the upcoming days. Complimentary cocktails will be served followed by a gourmet dinner. Optional evening activity: At 9:30 pm enjoy a movie in the Lounge ( King of Egypt).

*Accommodation: Nile Cruise Boat*

### Day 7: Nile River Cruise

**Meals: B, L, D**

**Breakfast:** Dine on a delicious breakfast on board the cruiser at 7:00 am.

**Morning:** This morning we'll cruise to Edfu and explore the legendary Temple of Horus.

**Afternoon:** As we continue cruising through Edfu, we will enjoy an afternoon tea and lunch aboard the cruiser. Lunch will be at 1:00 pm and tea will be served at 4:00 pm. Later, we'll visit the Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to Sobek, the god of crocodiles. The temple stands at a bend in the Nile, where sacred crocodiles basked in the sun during ancient times.

**Evening:** The excitement doesn't end there, as we'll attend an oriental night "Gallabia costume Party" giving you the chance to dress in traditional galabeyya. Dinner will be a lavish buffet of Egyptian specialties, followed by music and dancing for all.

*Accommodation: Nile Cruise Boat*

### Day 8: Aswan

**Meals: B, L, D**



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**Breakfast:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast on board the cruiser at 7:00 am.

**Morning:** Today it's off to Aswan, followed by a short motorboat ride to the majestic Philae Temple on Agilika Island. From there we'll proceed to the granite quarries, which provided most of the stone used to build ancient pyramids and temples and still holds a massive, unfinished obelisk. We will also visit the High Dam before returning to the cruise ship.

**Lunch:** We will come back to the cruiser for afternoon lunch at 1:00 pm and afternoon tea at 4:00 pm. After lunch we'll have some time to relax on our cruise ship.

**Evening:** After a busy day, we'll have a special farewell dinner. While dining on a gourmet dinner belly dancers and whirling dervishes will perform.

*Accommodation: Nile Cruise Boat*

## Day 9: Aswan/ Departure

**Meals: B**

**Breakfast:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast on board.

**Morning:** After an unforgettable expedition sailing the Nile River, it's time to move on. Head to the Aswan International Airport for your flight home.

**Departure Airport:** Aswan International Airport

*Traveler Details:*

## Optional 5-Day Extension to Israel

### Day 7: CAIRO - TEL AVIV

**Meals: B, D**

**Breakfast:** Say goodbye to Egypt with one last traditional breakfast.

After we check out of our hotel we will travel to the Cairo International Airport to catch our International flights to Israel if you have opted to participate in the tour extension!

**\*Please Note-We are able to arrange your regional flight from Egypt to Israel at an additional cost- price to be determined by dates**

**Departure Airport:** Cairo International Airport

*Traveler Name:*

*Flight Number:*

*Departure Time:*

**Afternoon:** Welcome to the Holy Land! Disembark at the Ben Gurion International airport in Tel Aviv, Israel. As you disembark the plane, please proceed to the immigration area of the airport where a representative





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holding a sign saying “Acanela Expeditions” will meet you and assist you in obtaining your visa. As you exit immigration and collect your belongings, your guide will assist you with the transfer to your hotel. Your private driver and guide will meet you inside the arrival lounge area- holding a sign bearing the name “Acanela Expeditions”. Please contact the in-country director (number above) if your flight is delayed or need need further assistance with your airport transfer. Please note that check-in time at the hotel starts at 2:00pm.

### **Introduction:**

The juxtaposition of old and new is common in Israel and nowhere is this more apparent than in the city of Tel Aviv. The towering skyscrapers and state-of-the-art architecture in this cosmopolitan metropolis stand in stark contrast to the cobbled streets and old-world charm of the surrounding areas. Tel Aviv is the financial, technological and economic hub of Israel. Known as a “party capital”, the city is the perfect destination for the hedonistic traveler looking to play in a vibrant, dynamic city that never sleeps. Visitors spend time marveling at the plethora of contemporary art galleries, engaging in retail therapy at artisan boutiques, or relaxing in the sun on one of the Tel Aviv's sizzling beaches, before heading to one of the many restaurants, bars and exclusive nightclubs after dark.

Located on Israel's Mediterranean coast, Tel Aviv is recognizable by its stark 1930s Bauhaus buildings, thousands of which are clustered in the White City architectural area. This city is known for its accessible beaches and vibrant nightlife ranging from Lilienblum Street's lounges to Dizengoff Street's open-air cafes. Tel Aviv Port's waterfront promenade is lined with shops and restaurants, and the chic Neve Tzedek neighborhood has high-end fashion boutiques. The metropolitan area includes the once-separate town of Jaffa, whose Old City is a maze of galleries, Crusader ruins, flea markets and minarets.

**Dinner:** After checking in, gather together for a traditional welcome dinner at your hotel.

**Evening:** Overnight at hotel

*Accommodation: Tal Hotel or Similar, Tel Aviv*

Address: HaYarkon St 287, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel

Phone: +972 3-542-5500

### **Day 8: OLD JAFFA/ CAESAREA**

**Meals: B,L**

**Breakfast:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast at your hotel before beginning the day's adventures!

**Morning:** Start the day with a walking tour in Old Jaffa! Jaffa is a southern ancient port city in Israel. The flea market here is a well known attraction in the area, with vendors selling a wide range of products. The Old City's ancient Clock Tower is an iconic feature and an impressive sight. The small alleyways and streets that wind through the city are lined with artist galleries and studios, as well as boutiques and craft shops. Biblically, the city of Jaffa is well known for its association with stories of Jonah, Solomon and Saint Peter, as well as the mythological story of Andromeda and Perseus

**Lunch:** Jaffa also is home to some of the most excellent restaurants in all of Israel. Grab a bite to eat before continuing on to Caesarea!



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**Afternoon:** In the afternoon, make the drive to old Caesarea (1hr). Caesarea was originally called Stratton's Tower after its founder, Stratton, who was a ruler of Sidon during the 4th Century BCE. Herod built up Stratton's Tower into a city second only to Jerusalem over the course of 12 years and renamed it "Caesarea" in honor of the emperor. After arriving, enjoy a short film that walks you through the site's history in its entirety. Take a seat in the Colosseum stadium and enjoy the remarkable architecture before we make our way back to Tel Aviv.

**Dinner:** There are many local dishes to surprise and delight you! Ask your guide or the hotel front desk for a recommendation or explore the beautiful city on your own, either way, you are in for a treat as you settle down to dine.

*Accommodation: Tal Hotel or Similar, Tel Aviv*

*Address: HaYarkon St 287, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel*

*Phone: +972 3-542-5500*

### Day 9: JERUSALEM

**Meals: B, L**

**Breakfast:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast at your hotel before beginning the day's adventures!

**Morning:** Begin with a short drive to Jerusalem (1hr) for a full day tour where you will get to visit several important historic sites that have great meaning to several different religions. Climb to the top of the Mt. of Olives, walk through the Garden of Gethsemane, visit Golgotha/The Hill of Calvary, tour the Christian and Jewish Quarters, and stop by Mt. Zion.

Upon arrival in Jerusalem, check in to your hotel, freshen up and set out to see some amazing sights!

**Lunch:** Pause amidst the incredible historical locations and enjoy a traditional meal.

**Afternoon:** Continue your tour of Jerusalem before heading back to the hotel to relax and unwind.

**Dinner:** Savor some local favorites as you dine at a local restaurant. Enjoy a leisurely evening to explore the city on your own or relax at your hotel.

#### *Christian Quarter*

The Christian Quarter is situated in the northwestern corner of the Old City, extending from the New Gate in the north as far as the Damascus Gate in the east, where it borders on the Muslim Quarter. This quarter contains the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, one of Christianity's holiest places. The ground on which the church stands is venerated by most Christians as Golgotha, the Hill of Calvary, where Jesus was said to have been crucified and buried. The church has been an important pilgrimage destination since the 4th century. Today it serves as the headquarters of the Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem and the Catholic Archbishop of the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher.

#### *Jewish Quarter*

The Jewish Quarter is one of the four traditional quarters of the Old City of Jerusalem. Located in the southeastern sector of the walled city, the Jewish Quarter is bordered by the Zion Gate on the south, the





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Armenian Quarter on the west, the Cardo on the north, and the Western Wall and Temple Mount on the east. Sites of historical and religious significance in the Jewish Quarter include the Western Wall, the Hurva Synagogue and the Cardo.

### *Via Dolorosa*

The Way of the Cross or Via Dolorosa is the route where Jesus is believed to have traveled carrying the cross from his trial to the place of the crucifixion and burial. The 14 stations commemorate incidents along the way. The first 7 stations wind through the Muslim Quarter; the last 5 are inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Station I – the place where Pontius Pilate judgment hall once stood and Jesus was condemned to death (John 19:16) Station II – The Monastery of the Flagellation where Jesus was given the cross (John 19:17) Station III – The spot where Jesus fell under the weight of the cross for the first time Station IV – Where Mary came out of the crowd to see her son Station V – Simon the Cyrene was taken out of the crowd by the Romans to help Jesus carry the cross (Matthew 27:32) Station VI – Recalls the tradition of Veronica stepping up to Jesus and wiping his face Station VII – Where Jesus fell for the second time Station VIII – Where Jesus consoled the women of Jerusalem (Luke 23:27-31) Station IX – Where Jesus fell for the third time Station X – Jesus is stripped of his garments (John 19:23-24) Station XI – Jesus is nailed to the cross (Matthew 27:35) Station XII – The Place where Jesus died on the cross (John 19:30) Station XIII – The spot where Jesus' body was removed from the cross (John 19:38) Station XIV – The tomb of Jesus (John 19:40-41)

### *Church of the Holy Sepulchre*

The site of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem is identified as the place both of the crucifixion and the tomb of Jesus of Nazareth. The church has long been a major pilgrimage site for Christians all around the world.

### *Cardo*

The Cardo was part of the Old City's Jewish Quarter and was reconstructed as the marketplace of Byzantine Jerusalem from the 6th Century. Today, situated 20 feet below modern street level, one part of the Cardo is a restored arcade of Jewish galleries and shops, while the other part is an open-air reconstructed street.

### *Western Wall*

The Western Wall (Kotel) has remained intact since the destruction of the Second Temple (70 C.E.). It is the most sacred spot for Jews from all around the world and many come here to pray regularly. It is a remnant of the Herodian retaining wall that once enclosed and supported the Second Temple.

### *The Last Supper Room*

Also known as the Cenacle, the Last Supper Room is located in Jerusalem, south of the Zion Gate in the walls of the Old City on the upper floor of a two-storey building. According to Christian tradition, this room is held to be the site of the Last Supper – the meal that Jesus shared with his apostles the night before his crucifixion, and also the room in which the Holy Spirit alighted on the eleven apostles. It is also thought to be the place where the apostles stayed when they were in Jerusalem.

*Accommodation: Dan Boutique Hotel or Similar*

Address: Hebron Rd 31, Jerusalem, Israel

Phone: +972 2-568-9999

**Day 10: MASADA/ DEAD SEA**

**Meals: B, L**



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**Breakfast:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast at your hotel before beginning the day's adventures! Be sure to bring with you your swimming gear as today you will get to visit the Dead Sea!

**Morning:** Meet up with your driver and guide for a scenic drive through the Judean desert as you journey to Masada (1.5 hrs). Masada is a fortress built by King Herod between 37-31 BCE in the Judean Desert, overlooking the Dead Sea. Ascend by cable car (or by foot) and explore the ancient palace with its water cisterns, ritual baths (mikvah), and synagogue ruins. This incredible site has been claimed as a UNESCO world heritage site and is brimming with beauty and history.

**Lunch:** After getting your fill of Masada, fill up on an amazing lunch before continuing on to the Dead Sea!

**Afternoon:** Experience floating in the Dead Sea!. The Dead Sea is a salt lake whose banks are more than 400m below sea level, the lowest point on dry land. Its famously hypersaline water makes floating easy, and its mineral-rich black mud is used for therapeutic and cosmetic treatments at local resorts. After a relaxing day by the water, dry off and drive back to Jerusalem (1.5 hrs).

**Dinner:** Freshen up back at the hotel and unwind after a long day. Spend the evening exploring the beautiful city and soaking up the culture that surrounds you. Try a new restaurant and enjoy the local cuisine on your last evening in Jerusalem.

*Accommodation: Dan Boutique Hotel or Similar*

Address: Hebron Rd 31, Jerusalem, Israel

Phone: +972 2-568-9999

### Day 11: JERUSALEM/ USA

**Meals: B**

**Breakfast:** Enjoy a delicious breakfast at your hotel before preparing to return home.

After we check out of our hotel we will travel to the Ben Gurion International Airport to catch our flights back home or continue onwards to our next destination!

**Departure Airport:** Ben Gurion International Airport

**Traveler Name:**

**Flight Number:**

**Arrival Time:**