

A Travel Guide to Egypt

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Egyptian history has built up layer upon layer for 5,000 years. A leading ancient civilization, the breadth of Egypt, both modern and ancient, is breathtaking. Taking [holidays Egypt](#) will leave you with no shortage of locations to see. Since nobody has unlimited time to explore the country here are three of the top "must see" destinations.

Alexandria-Sprawled along the Mediterranean coast is Alexandria. Relatively young compared to other Egyptian cities, like Thebes and Memphis, at about 2,300-years-old, it's one of the most remarkable cities in the world. The Library of Alexandria is an excellent stop. The original Library burned down 2,000 years ago, but the city has constructed a new one, called the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, which houses millions of volumes in a modernist building rising from the ground like a giant concrete corkscrew. For ancient sites Pompey's Pillar is a popular stop, an enormous monolithic column built in the 3rd century. Alexandria is a beautiful dusty maze of old and new structures. Wandering around bookshops and restaurants in this exotic local is the most adventurous part of a visit.

Cairo-Heading down the Nile, Egypt's capital is an obvious choice. The Giza plateau with the Great Pyramids, the fantastic Cairo Museum and Tahrir Square, where the 2011 revolution was centered, are a few stops you'll want to make. The best part of Cairo is the city itself. Old Cairo is like a walk into history with its mix of narrow alleyways and enormous mosques.

Luxor Temple-Rounding out the top three for a [holidays Egypt](#), further down the Nile, is the temple at Luxor, the modern city that stands on the location of ancient Thebes. The temple is a colossal complex begun during the reign of Pharaoh Hatshepsut and added onto by progressive pharaohs. The statues are remarkable examples of ancient Egyptian art, and the complex has no end of pillars, hieroglyphic reliefs and spacious hallways and open air rooms. No Egyptian trip would be complete without seeing this amazing expanse of Egyptian history.

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