

Thank you to John & Jane - customers from Bexhill - for this Discover Egypt Travellers guide
What a way to celebrate your Golden Wedding Anniversary!
Congratulations from us all at Premier Travel Bexhill.



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Premier Travel – Discover Egypt

We celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary with a trip to Egypt, starting with three days in Cairo then a flight to Luxor to join the Steigenberger Legacy for a seven day cruise of the Nile.

These notes may prove to be a helpful guide and allay any worries you may have.

Initial Preparation

You can apply on line for a visa to enter and stay in Egypt.

Alternatively, there is a mini bank in front of Cairo Immigration Control where you can buy a visa to cover your stay for about £20:00. You will need your booking and hotel details.

DO NOT bother to change monies in advance. The Egyptians are very happy with GB Stirling. In the hotels and banks you will find ATMs with English language facilities for you to withdraw cash. Opt for Egyptian pounds (£100 equals 2000 EGPs) your charge should be about £1:50 for ATM withdrawals.

All transactions are either by credit card or bank notes. Coins are disliked and not accepted in banks.

Pack lightweight clothes. Ladies will need a headscarf and trousers when entering the Mosque. Otherwise shorts and tops are quite acceptable.

Cairo

Traffic in Cairo is manic, but moves quickly with few jams. Your driver is well versed with these “no rules” conditions which includes avoiding sporadic donkey carts.

Hotel

The Le Meridien Pyramids is excellent and across the road from the Sphinx and the Pyramids. The food, swimming pool and services are excellent. English ATM by the lifts. Tip modestly, an English £5 or EGP 100 is perfect.

Bottled water arrives in your room daily at no charge. Your tour guide will also hand out water at the start of days out.

Tours are excellently managed. Book whole day tours which are more economic and beautiful cooked lunches are included.

Steigenberger Legacy

This is a beautifully fitted ship! Purpose built to fit the locks on the Nile. The first day option is a tour of the kitchens and the bridge. All food is triple washed in bottled water. Ice cubes in drinks is bottled water. Hygiene is the absolute priority, please use the gel dispenser at the dining room entrance.

All dining tables are laid in line for each group of ten or twelve. You will stay with this group for all tours and events. New friendships are made and useful contacts established for exchange of best photos.

Any birthday or anniversary is celebrated by everyone. Let your waiter know in advance and expect impromptu music, dancing and a cake.

Water

Bottles are delivered to your cabin daily at no charge. Tour guides issue them for all tours. Try and drink at ambient temperature, not heavily chilled, as this will upset your stomach. Hot flannels and refreshing drinks await your return to the ship.

Security

You are very safe. Army roadside checkpoints, Police and Tourist Police are ever present. Security checks and bag xrays take place at all venues.

Souvenirs

This is a cash in hand society. Expect to be hassled, just ignore traders and walk on. Many of their goods are seconds so be cautious and get your tour guide to check any transactions.

The duty free Souvenir Shop at Luxor Airport is hassle free "normal" shopping and has a very good selection at reasonable prices. A good opportunity of offloading those remaining EGP notes.

Our Experience

Overall, brilliant, the trip of a lifetime. Pyramids, amazing and King Tut at the museum, stunning. The Valley of the Kings and Abu Simbel beyond belief.

Top Tips

Best time to go? Autumn/Winter.

Take GB Stirling and use hotel or bank ATMs for EGPs at 20 to £1.

DON'T drink too much chilled water, try ambient temperature to protect your stomach. Unless you drink more than average, an inclusive drinks package is not necessary. Eat hotel and shipboard food and avoid street food.

Book full day tours which include cooked lunches.

Buy souvenirs at Duty free Luxor Airport.

Tip modestly on your last evening, the ship has a universal point which your tour guide will explain on your first day.

Prepare to be amazed.