Egypt

Student’s Name

Institution

Course

Date of Submission

**Egypt**

Egypt is one of the best countries to travel. It is an ancient country that has many tourists’ sites. It is cheap to travel compared to other tourists destinations in Europe. In order for someone to have a successive tour in Egypt, its better to understand the country well. This is in relations to its Geography, climate, politics, population, economy, religion and its cultural customs.

**Geography and Climate of Egypt**

It has a size of 1,001,450 square kilometers in northern Africa. Its climate is aridity and that’s why most people are found near Nile Valley and Delta where there is irrigation. It has a Suez Canal that connects it with Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean. Most of Egypt’ land is dessert joining Sahara desert and Libyan Desert. It has one of the longest rivers in the world called the River Nile (Bowman, 2009). Some of the biggest cities of Egypt are called Cairo, Alexandria, Aswan etc.

Most Rain occurs from November to March. This is one of the best times to travel because there is mild weather. There is no hot and dry weather experienced in the summer season. From March to May there are khamseem winds which bring sandstorms.

**Egypt’s Politics, Economy and Religion**

Egypt is a Republic. It was ruled by Mohamed Hosni Mubarak from 1981 to 2011 when he resigned after a revolution in 2011. The country is now ruled by Mohammed Morsi who was elected president on June 2012. The people of Egypt depend on agriculture, tourism and export of petroleum products for their economy. Its energy market comes from natural gas, hydro power and coal (Fouberg, 2006). A lot of coal is mined near Sinai and oil is produced in the Gulf of Suez. Most of Arabs are either Islam or Christians. However, the country is dominated by Muslims. They comprise about 95%. The other minority group comprise of Christians. They make the other percentage.

**Cultural Customs**

The Egyptians speak mainly Arabic. That is their ancient language. The other spoken languages are English and French which are international. Egypt has an ancient culture which originates from the era of Pharaohs. Cairo, which is the capital city of Egypt, is known for culture learning. The women of Egypt are conservative in dressing because of the high influence of Muslim religion which is predominant there (Soliman, 2011). The men wear casually, trousers and t-shirts or shirts. It is wrong for Muslim women to wear transparent clothing and tight dressings.

**Travel Requirements**

There are various accommodation and means of transport. There are cheap hotels, modest hotels and expensive hotels. Cheap hotels offer staple snacks like fava beans and falafel. Modest hotels have fans and modern bathrooms. The hotels are often visited by locals and they charge from 30-50 US $. One gets to see various sites when staying in these hotels. The means of transport in Egypt is through trains, flights, taxis and horses. Trains are taken when travelling to Luxor etc from Cairo which is a 10-hour ride. The train ride costs from 6$. The domestic flights offered by EgyptAir cost from 35$(Soliman, 2011). The taxis are a great help in transporting people to tourists destinations. They charge from 20$ depending on the distance.

The tourist sites have various charges depending on the season. A visit to the Giza Pyramids always costs from 50$ and above. These are admission charges only. Seeing the Mummies inside the Egyptian Museum costs around 25$. The currency used in Egypt is Egyptian pound. Notes are in denominations of five. However, many tourists guide and hotels accept American dollars. This applies to booking train and international bus tickets. 1 dollar is exchanged for 6 Egyptian pounds.

**Tourists Sites**

There are many sights to see in Egypt. The largest cities of Egypt host some of these tourists’ sites. Cairo which is the capital city of Egypt has most of the pyramids. Alexandria has a very large sea port and many people come to see the Mediterranean Sea. Luxor has many monuments and is considered as one of the most frequented tourists sites (Fouberg, 2006). Sharm Elsheikh is another big city of Egypt that has diving spots. There are pyramids of Giza, the river Nile which people go for a cruise. There are beaches along the coast of Red Sea.

**Music and Festivals**

Most Egyptian music is sung in Arabic. It is a mixture of elements of Mediterranean, African and Western. Harps, drums and flutes often accompany the music. Vocal music and pop music are the most predominant forms of music in Egypt. Famous singers are Mohamed Mounir and Umm kulthum. Major festivals include Ramadan which is a holy month for fasting (Bowman, 2009). This festival is cerebrated with light, flares and sounds. Sham en Nisim is another festival which is cerebrated in the months of April and May. It is an ancient festival.

**A budget for a Week Stay in Egypt**

In order to budget well for any tour, a tourist is required to note his/her requirements. All tourists require a place to stay, food to eat, a means of transportation and sites to visit.

Hotel-30$x7=210$ for the 7 days that one will stay there.

Train costs-12$x7=84$ this includes return ticket for one week. This is when visiting one site in a day.

Taxis charges-40$x7=280$

Tourists sites-25$x7=175$

All these totals to 750$

Some of the contacts for travel agents include:

* Ask Aladdin.com - EGYPT TRAVEL EXPERTS   
  6060 Lost Colony Drive  
  Woodbridge, Virginia  
  ZIP code 22193-3335   
  Tel : 1- 617-9339330

**References**

Bowman, A. (2009). *Egypt after the Pharaohs 332 BC – AD 642*. Berkeley: [University of California Press](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_California_Press).

Fouberg, E. (2006). *Human Geography: People, Place, and Culture*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Soliman, K.H. (2011). Rainfall over Egypt. *Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society,* 343(80), 104-120.