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1. Geographical location

Luxor, described as the world's biggest open air museum, is located in Upper Egypt. River Nile splits Luxor into two areas, which are known as the East Bank (where the town lies) and the West Bank (where many tourist attraction spots are located).



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2. Neighbouring cities/countries

The Neighboring Cities Of Luxor Are Aswan With A Distance Of 220 Kilometers And Hurghada With A Distance Of 280 Kilometers.



3. Significance

Luxor is the second most popular place to visit in Egypt, behind Cairo. It has been estimated that one-third of the most treasured monuments and antiquities in the whole world are sited in Luxor, which makes it one of the most important tourism sites on this planet. One needs substantial amount of time to explore all the sites in this hypnotic city. There is an endless list of monuments here, out of which The Luxor Temple and Karnak Temple are the world's largest temple complex and signifies the importance of Luxor in ancient Egyptian history.



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4. History

Once known as Thebes, Luxor has played an important role in the ancient Egyptian history. It has served as the religious capital for almost all of the Pharaonic period. The significance of the city dates back to the 11th Dynasty, when native nubi Egyptian put in their heart and soul in growing the town into a thriving city. The city was renowned not only for its high social status and luxury, but also as a center for wisdom, art, religious and political supremacy. From 18th Dynasty to 20th Dynasty, the city had grown as the political, military and religious capital of Ancient Egypt. The invading forces of the Hyksos were expelled from the Upper Egypt with the help of Thebes. The Babylonians, the Hittites of Anatolia, the Phoenicians of Byblos and Tyre, the Mitanni, the Canaanites of Ugarit and the Minoans from the island of Crete were fascinated by the city. Thebes was replaced as political capital by several cities in Northern Egypt; such as Bubastis, Sais and Alexandria; leading to fading away of the political and military prominence of the city during late period. Nonetheless, Thebes, the city of the God Amon-Ra, remained the religious capital of Egypt until the Greek Period.

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5. Cultural identity

With a perfect blend of so many culture and tradition, Luxor is truly a cosmopolitan city. Trip to Luxor is an overwhelming trip and tourists are mesmerized with the beauty and history of museums, monuments and temples. People of Luxor come across to be assertive and aggressive but they are really friendly. Be mindful of your code of conduct around them.



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6. Natural resources

Luxor is home to copious resources including iron ore, limestone, manganese, phosphate, talc, zinc, gypsum, asbestos and gold. There is an abundant supply of salts, including natron, brine and soda. Thanks to the deserts of Egypt!



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Karnak Temple

Signifying the history and culture of Thebes, Karnak Temple consists of a huge mix of chapels, decayed temples, pylons and other buildings. Being the largest ancient religious preservation in the world, the temple also has a 1 hour Sound and Light Show which narrates the history of the Thebes. As you visit this temple, the Pharaohs come and tell you their interesting life story with haunting music reverberating in the background.

Address : El-Karnak, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7188346, 32.657270299999994

Contact : +20 2 22617304

Website : <http://www.karnak.org/>

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : Egyptian: LE 2.00, Foreigner: LE 50.00 (Temple) Adults: LE 100.00 (Sound and Light Show)

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-17:30hours

Time Required : 4

Expected Wait Time : 15-20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.2. Karnak Open Air Museum

Karnak Open Air Museum is located in the northwest corner of the Karnak Temple. Here lie the reconstructed structures of the dismantled and buried or hidden pylons in the complex. Among these monuments is the White Chapel of Sensusret I, the shrine of Amenhotep II and the Chapelle Rouge of Hatshepsut.

Address : El-Karnak, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7186326, 32.657856300000005

Contact : +20 2 22617304

Website : <http://www.karnak.org/>

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : Adults: LE 20.00, Students: LE 10.00

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-17:30hours

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Valley of the Kings

Located on the West Bank of the Nile River, Valley of the Kings is opposite to Thebes (modern Luxor), within the heart of the Theban Necropolis. A majority of the royal tombs are placed in the East Valley of the wadi. NOTE: The entrance ticket covers only 3 tombs, so make a wise decision! The ticket for the tomb of Ramesses VI, Tutankhamun and Ay must be purchased separately.

Address : West Bank of the Nile River, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.74016430000001, 32.601410999999985

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : Adults: LE 4.00, Student: LE 2:00 (Egyptian) Adults: LE 70.00, Student: LE 35:00 (Fpreigner)

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-16:00hours (Last ticket is sold at 18:00hours) During Ramadan: Daily- 06:00hours-17:00hours (Last ticket is sold at 16:00hours)

Time Required : 3

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.4. Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut (Deir el Bahary)

Part of Theban Necropolis, the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut is a complex of mortuary temples and tombs. Located on the outskirts of Luxor, this temple is one of the major points of attraction in the city. The Mortuary Temple of Mentuhotep II was one of the first monuments to be constructed on this historical site.

Address : Kings Valley Road, Qesm Al Wahat Al Khargah, New Valley Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7379906, 32.6073897

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : LE 50.00 per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-17:00hours

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.5. Luxor Temple

Constructed approximately in 1400 BCE, the Luxor Temple is a huge ancient Egyptian temple, located on the East Bank of the Nile River. Unlike other temples in the city, it is devoted to the rejuvenation of the kingship.

Address : Kornish Al Nile, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.699502, 32.63905090000003

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station

Entry Fee : LE 60.00 per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily: 06:00hours-22:00hours

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.6. Luxor Museum

Sited on the shoreline of the Nile River, Luxor Museum is a two-storey museum displaying far more restricted artefacts than the country's major collections in the Museum of Antiquities in Cairo. If you are a history aficionado, head here to grasp the best of Egypt's past. NOTE: Last ticket is sold 30 minutes before closing time.

Address : Kornish Al Nile, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7076132, 32.64454909999995

Contact : +20 95 2370569

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station

Entry Fee : Adults: LE 8.00, Students: LE 4.00 (Egyptian) Adults: LE 70.00, Students: LE 35.00 (Foreigner)

Open & Close Timing : Summers: Daily- 09:00hours-22:00hours (Remains closed from 16:00hours-17:00hours) Winters: Daily- 09:00hours-21:00hours

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.7. Medinet Habu

Being one of the largest complexes in the city, Medinet Habu is a historical place that narrates the occurrence and fall of the Sea Peoples during the rule of Ramses III. Located on the West Bank of the Nile River, this captivating site is adorned with scenes and texts showcasing the triumphs of the king. This well-preserved historical site is also home to a lot of festivals that take place in the city.

Address : Al Bairat, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7193131, 32.601340100000016

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : Egyptian: LE 2.00, Foreigner: LE 25.00

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-17:00hours

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.8. Deir el-Medina

A home to the artisans working on the tombs in the Valley of the Kings during the 18th to 20th Dynasties of the New Kingdom, Deir el-Medina is an ancient village located on the West Bank of the Nile River. NOTE: Last ticket is sold an hour before the closing time.

Address : Qesm Al Wahat Al Khargah, New Valley Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.728044, 32.601425000000006

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : Egyptian: LE 2.00, Foreigner: LE 25.00

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-19:00hours, Ramadan: 06:00hours-17:00hours

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.9. Mortuary Temple of Merenptah

Merenptah was the 13th son of Ramesses II. Though the Mortuary Temple of Merenptah was destroyed long ago, it has been restored to a large degree and is

one of the newest sites on the West Bank of the Nile River. Be sure to visit this iconic site that was rescued from the floods of the Nile River.

Address : West Bank of Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7249059, 32.606665499999996

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : LE 20.00 per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.10. Dendera Temple Complex

One of the best preserved sites in the country, Dendera Temple Complex was always a place for chapels and shrines. Located around 2.5 kilometers to the southeast of Dendera, the complex houses a temple dedicated to the Goddess of Hator. Also known as the “Castle of the Sistrum”, the complex comprises of a sacred lake, Temple of the Birth of Isis, a bark shrine and many other archaeological sites.

Address : Qism Qena, Dandarah, Qena Governorate, Egypt

Location : 26.1419501, 32.670242000000003

Contact : +20 109 507 1411

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : LE 40.00 per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 08:00hours-17:00hours

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.11. Mummification Museum

Dedicated to the art of ancient Egyptian mummification, this museum displays human and animal remains and the tools used in the process of mummification. The ancient Egyptian museum is built on Kornish Al Nile on the banks of the Nile River.

Address : Corniche el Nil, East Bank, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.702295, 32.639881999999994

Contact : +20 95 2370062

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station

Entry Fee : Egyptian: LE 2.00 Foreigner: LE 40.00

Open & Close Timing : Daily: 09:00hours-21:00hours (Winter) Daily: 09:00hours-22:00hours (Summer)

Time Required : 3

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.12. Valley of the Queens

The Valley of the Queens, also known as Ta-Set-Neferu, is a place where the Pharaoh's wives were buried in the ancient times. Ta-Set-Neferu means 'place of beauty'. The valley also holds many secrets which are yet to be revealed, such as the tomb of Ramesses II's second wife that is still lost somewhere beneath the sands. NOTE: Last ticket is sold an hour before the closing time.

Address : West Bank of the Nile River, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7285836, 32.5929218999999965

Nearest Public Transport : Luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : Adults: LE 2.00, Students: LE 1.00 (Egyptian) Adults: LE 25.00, Students: LE 15.00 (Foreigner)

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-19:00hours, Ramadan: 06:00hours-17:00hours

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.13. Dra' Abu el-Naga'

Used as a royal necropolis for the kings of the 17th Dynasty, Dra' Abu el-Naga' is located on the West Bank of the Nile River at Thebes. It contains the tomb of Amenhotep I and Tomb ANB.

Address : Sawalim Village, Qesm Al Wahat Al Khargah, New Valley Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.735049, 32.620361

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : LE 20.00 per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-17:00hours

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.14. Ramesseum

Located in the Theban necropolis, Ramesseum is a significant temple of Pharaoh Ramesses II. Ramesseum was a part of the pharaoh's funerary complex just like other memorial temples. It is famous for the remains of the fallen statues that inspired Shelley's poem named *Ozymandias*.

Address : West Bank of the Nile River, Luxor, New Valley Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7279952, 32.610460200000034

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : LE 40.00 per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-18:00hours

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.15. Mortuary Temple of Seti I

Located in the Theban Necropolis, the Mortuary Temple of Seti I is one of the major archaeological sites in the country and is the memorial temple of the new kingdom. It was built with fine white limestone and is unarguably the most beautiful religious structure in Egypt. Don't forget to visit this historical place on your visit to Luxor.

Address : Naga Al Taref Inside Road, Luxor Governorate, Egypt
Naga Al Taref Inside Road, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7325043, 32.628479999999997

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station (not recommended)

Entry Fee : LE 30.00 per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 07:00hours-18:00hours

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



7.2. Free

7.2.1. Madina Club

Location : 25.6890103, 32.63498690000006

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Royal Valley Golf Club

Location : 25.703171, 32.735982000000035

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Abd El-Hameed Taha

Abd-El-Hameed Taha is the key souk of Luxor. The souk comprises of 2 sections, one for the tourists and other for the locals.

Address : Luxor City, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.702374, 32.645148399999925

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Caravanserai

Caravanserai, built in the old Egyptian style, is a craft shop which offers beautiful craftwork from all over Egypt.

Address : Al Bairat, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.718704, 32.60252

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Habiba Gallery

Habiba Gallery, a diverse assortment of old and new Egyptian handcrafts, is run by Linda Wheeler, an Australian lady living in Luxor.

Address : Luxor City, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.69569, 32.647400000000006

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Fair Trade Center Luxor Center

To buy souvenirs for your friends and family, the Fair Trade Center Luxor Center is the best place to visit.

Address : Mabad Al Karnak, Luxor City, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.69986, 32.6410889999999965

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Tombs of the Nobles

Located on the west bank of the Nile River in the hills, Tombs of the Nobles is a place where the city's most influential and wealthy persons have been buried. The site houses around 400 tombs which are divided into smaller groups and is been made open to the public. Visit this historical burial site to know more about the history of Luxor.

Address : Qesm Al Wahat Al Khargah, New Valley Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7307509, 32.6093396999999964

Nearest Public Transport : Luxor railway station (not recommended)

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 06:00hours-17:00hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Abu Haggag Mosque

Abu Haggag Mosque is an ancient Egyptian center of worship dating back to the dominance of Pharaoh Amenhotep III in 14th century BC. Abu Haggag also was known as the Father of Pilgrimage, did not actually establish the mosque but stopped a local official from destroying it. Since then the locals have a soft corner in their hearts for this mosque and Abu Haggag.

Address : Abou Al hagag square, Luxor, Egypt

Location : 25.6998831, 32.6397925

Contact : +20 100 121 3318

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station

Open & Close Timing : Daily: Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Colossi of Memnon

The Colossi of Memnon are 2 massive statues of Pharaoh Amenhotep III, which have stood in the Theban Necropolis for the past 3,400 years (since 1350 BC). These statues act as a gate to the mortuary temple of Amenhotep III. Both the statues depict Amenhotep III with his mother and his wife. In spite of being a victim of natural calamities and human exploitation, the statues at this historical site are well-preserved even today.

Address : Al Bairat, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7205975, 32.61045560000002

Contact : +20 114 813 0616

Nearest Public Transport : Luxor railway station (not recommended)

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Friday: 10:00hours-20:00hours Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

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8. Key sites sports & adventure

From thrilling hot air baloon rides, to scenic escapades into the Valley of The Kings and Valley of The Queens, Luxor never disappoints when it comes to Adventure Sports. Get your taste of thrill and awe as you explore the hidden gems of this beautiful Egyptian city.

- **Hot Air Balloon Ride -**

Address : Abd El-Hameed El-Omda, Luxor, 11599, Egypt

Location : 25.6892325,32.63669579999999

Contact No : +20 95 2272960

Website : <http://www.sindbadballoons.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : luxor railway station

Entry Fees : LE 79.00 (Standard Flight) LE 99.00 (Deluxe Flight) LE 1499.00 (Exclusive Flight)

Open / Close Time : Daily- 07:30hours-22:00hours

Time Required : 3

Wait Time : 30 minutes

Index**9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums**

Alike other Egyptians and Africans, dwellers of Luxor are also fascinated with the game of football. Not just men in the city, but women are making the country proud. Madina club, an Egyptian football club based in Luxor, plays in Egyptian Second Division Group A. Also, the city is a home to 18- hole golf championship course and offers the best golfing experience in the country. Royal Valley Golf Club, located 13 km from Luxor's city center and 8 km from Luxor International airport, offers the best desert golfing experience.



10. Spas and relaxation

Tired of exerting all day long while touring in Luxor? Take a detour into one of the many fine relaxation spots the city has to offer. From peaceful hammock naps to rejuvenating infinity pools in the resorts, Luxor makes sure you are well rested and prepared to venture into its enigmatic bosom.

- **Sofitel Karnak Spa:**

Address : El Zinia Gebly Street, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.741437,32.66243899999995

Contact No : +20 95 2378020

Website : <http://www.sofitel.com/gb/hotel-1661-sofitel-winter-palace-luxor/index.shtml>

- **Sonesta St. George Hotel Luxor:**

Address : Gazirat Al Awameyah, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.6877982,32.632213999999976

Contact No : +20 95 2382575

Website : <http://www.sonesta.com/luxor/?fa=healthclub.home>

- **Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa:**

Address : El-Karnak El-Gadid, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.730409,32.656619999999975

Contact No : +20 100 600 1270

Website : http://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/egypt/hilton-luxor-resort-and-spa-LUXHITW/index.html?WT.mc_id=zELWAKNoEMEA1HI2DMH3LocalSearch4DGGenericx6LUXHITW



11. Events calendar

Month

Events

Coptic Christmas

Coptic Christmas, the Egyptian Christmas is celebrated in the first week of January.

Islamic New Year

Islamic New Year, also known as Al Hijra, is celebrated to pay homage to the journey made by Mohammed from Mecca to Medina.

Luxor Marathon

Luxor Marathon, starting at Deir al-Bahri, is held in mid-February.

Union Day

Union Day is observed on 22nd of every February. It's that time of the year when work takes a foot back and people spend time with family or friends.

Luxor African Film Festival

Luxor African Film Festival, an annual event, is organized by Independent Sahab Foundation in the month of March.

Sinai Liberation Day

Sinai Liberation Day is celebrated on 25th of every April and is observed in commemoration of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula after the introduction of the Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty of 1979.

Labor Day

Labor Day is held on 1st of every May.

Evacuation Day

Evacuation Day marks the evacuation of foreign troops in 1954 and is held on 18th of every June.

Revolution Day

Revolution Day is observed on July 23rd commemorating the Revolution of 1952.

Flooding of the Nile

Flooding of the Nile is marked in the middle of August.

Festival of Moulid of Abu el-Haggag

Festival of Moulid of Abu el-Haggag is celebrated two weeks prior to Ramadan and Luxor is known widely for the celebration

**of this annual festival.
Ramadan**

**Ramadan is a holy month for
fasting.**

Pharaonic Wedding Festival

**Pharaonic Wedding Festival is
held in Karnak from the 15th to
the 20th of every October.**

Armed Forces Day

**On 6th October, Luxor celebrates
Armed Forces Day.**

Egyptian Naval Day

**Egyptian Naval Day
commemorates the sinking of
the Israeli destroyer Eilat in 1967.**

Suez Victory Day

**Suez Victory Day is observed as
another day where Egyptians pay
tribute to the people who fought
during the Suez Crisis.**

Victory Day

**Victory Day is observed in the
remembrance for those who
fought against Israel in the 1973
Yom Kippur War.**

12. Key local guides and tours

Luxor offers too many options to the travelers to get around the city. The city offers bike tour, motorcycle tour and also, the city can be explored through horseback, donkey and camel riding tours organized by different companies in the city.



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13. Transportation hubs

Airport: Located four miles (6 kilometers) east of the city, Luxor International Airport is the main airport which serves the city of Luxor. The airport also serves many charter airplanes as it is a popular tourist destination for those visiting the River Nile and the Valley of the Kings. The airport is really small leading to trouble in claiming luggage off the belt. Respective hotels provide shuttle facilities for commutation from airport to hotel. Also, taxis are brimming in Luxor for local transportation. One can hail a cab for not more than LE 50.00 to the town.

Train station: To travel within different cities in Egypt, four different modes of train travel are available. One can board any of the trains; day time air-conditioned express train, overnight air-conditioned express train, overnight deluxe sleeper and slow trains from Luxor Railway Station. Train travel is possible without a prior reservation by paying additional LE 3.00 per ticket.

Bus station: Buses for most of the major cities leave from behind the Luxor Temple, near New Everest Hotel. Book a ticket two days prior to your travel.

14. Transportation cost

Taxi: Getting around in a taxi in Luxor costs around LE 10.00 to LE 20.00 for short trips. It costs approximately LE 100.00 for a round trip to the West Bank. Taxis are in abundance in Luxor but they don't have meters. Don't forget to bargain and stay firm for the current prices. **Minibus:** Minibus is the cheapest way to get around in Luxor. All the buses have a defined route and seem to converge at the railway station. A ticket of minibus costs around LE 0.50 and you can get down at your destination by asking the driver to stop! **Boat:** One can use a boat to get between the East and West banks of Luxor. Dozens of felucca owners will offer you their services and will charge around LE 25.00 to LE 30.00. Budget heads can hail a blue local ferry, which costs around LE 0.50 to LE 1.00 per ride. **Calèches** One of the most delightful way to explore the city is a caliche which is a horse-drawn carriage. It is a common sight on the East bank, especially as the night falls. It costs you around LE 20.00 per person for an hr. **Bicycle:** One can discover the city by riding a bicycle or a bike. Rental rates of a bike varies from LE 5.00 to LE 20.00. One would need a passport, driving license or a student id card to hire a bike. **Motorcycle:** Chinese motorcycle around 150 cc can be rented in Luxor for approximately LE 50.00 perhr, or less for the day or the evening. One would need a passport, driving license or a student id card to hire a motorcycle.

Index**15. Baggage allowance**

Prefer exploring the city by either taxi or a cab when carrying a large suitcase. Large suitcases are allowed in the minibuses but refrain yourself from travelling via same because pickpockets are the regular passengers. One can carry a backpack easily when exploring the city. When riding on the city bus, no additional fee is charged for carrying extra luggage but it is advisable not to carry bulky and too many baggage. Else, keep an eye on your luggage.



Index**16. Must try food and local savouries**

Take your tastebuds on an adventure by trying out the delectable Egyptian cuisines at Luxor. From the carb-rich Kushari to the iconic deep fried Egyptian falafels, Luxor has everything you need to take a tasteful tour of Egypt in a day.



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17. Restaurant & Nightlife

El rawda El sharifa is one of the most famous area for restaurants in the city. The list of following restaurants and bars should be there on you 'must visit list' when visiting Luxor, Egypt:

Food -

El rawda El sharifa is one of the most famous area for restaurants in the city. The list of following restaurants and bars should be there on you 'must visit list' when visiting Luxor, Egypt:

- **Wenkie's German Ice Cream & Iced Coffee Parlour:**

Address : El-Gwazat street, Opposite the Nile Palace, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.6884838,32.634666700

Contact No : +20 128 894 7380

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/wenkies/>

Open / Close Time : Saturday to Wednesday: 14:00hours-21:30hours
Thursday & Friday: Closed

- **Gerda's garden restaurant:**

Address : Fondok Al Nile Helton, El-Karnak, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7293301,32.659008800

Contact No : +20 95 2358688

Website : <http://gerda-garden.jimdo.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 10:00hours-00:00hours

- **The King's Head Pub:**

Address : Street, Khaled Ibn Al Walid, Luxor, Luxor Governorate 85111, Egypt

Location : 25.6876278,32.631973900

Contact No : +20 95 2280489

Website : <http://kingsheadluxor.com/main/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 10:00hours-02:00hours

- **The Lantern Room Restaurant:**

Address : El Rawda El Sharifa St. Gazirat Al Awameyah, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.6874963,32.632458400

Contact No : +20 95 2361451

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/The-Lantern-Restaurant-in-Luxor-218632264864470/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 15:00hours-23:00hours

- **Sofra:**

Address : 90 Mohamed Farid St, Luxor, Egypt

Location : 25.694853,32.642405300

Contact No : +20 95 2359752

Website : <http://www.sofra.com.eg/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 11:00hours-00:00hours

- **Al - Sahaby Lane Restaurant:**

Address : Madinet Al Oqsor, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.7019255,32.642501100

Contact No : +20 95 2372386

Website : <http://www.nefertitihotel.com/sahabi.htm>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 09:00hours-23:00hours

- **Jewel Of The Nile Restaurant:**

Address : Al Rawda Al Sharifa, Luxor City, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.6868177,32.636235299

Contact No : +20 106 432 6698

Website : <http://www.jewelofthenilerestaurant.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 17:00hours-23:00hours

- **A Taste of India Asian & International Restaurant Plus Lounge Bar:**

Address : Sharia St Joseph, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.6887351,32.633706200

Contact No : +20 109 373 2727

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/tasteindialuxor/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 12:00hours-22:30hours

- **JJ's Bar & restaurant:**

Address : Side Street off Fondok Al Nile Helton, New Karnak Village, El-Karnak, Al Karnak, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Location : 25.729148,32.658200999

Contact No : +20 106 426 3878

Website : <http://www.jjsbarkarnak.com/>

Open / Close Time : Monday & Saturday: 17:30hours-02:00hours Tuesday & Friday: 17:30hours-01:00hours Thursday: 17:30hours-06:00hours

Sunday: 17:30hours-00:30hours Wednesday: Closed



Index**18. Average meal cost**

Economical meal: LE 5.00 – LE 30.00 Mid-segment restaurant: LE 80.00-LE 100.00 for lunch and LE 120.00-LE 150.00 for dinner Luxury dining: LE 200.00-LE 350.00



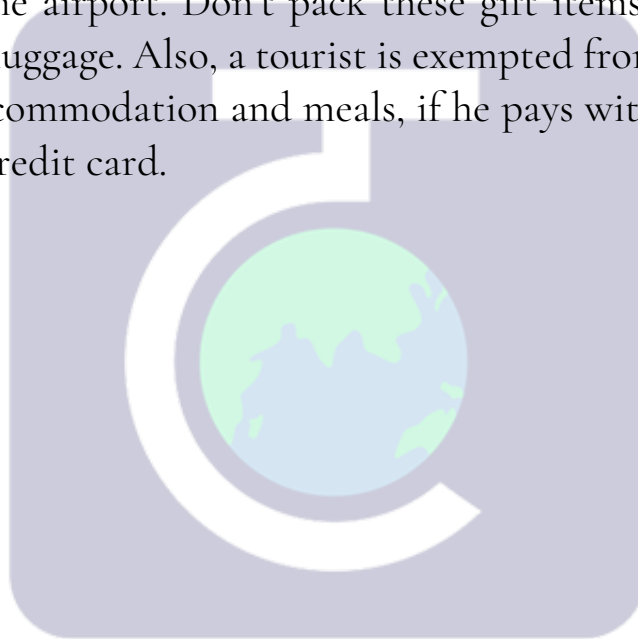
19. Shopping

Souks are shopaholics' paradise in Egypt.



20. Tourist benefits

On most goods and services in Egypt, 10% Value Added Tax is charged. At retail stores, the price is inclusive of VAT. If a tourist makes a purchase of \$50.00 or more at a gift store that has an agreement with the VAT authorities of Egypt, then by filling a form at the store and getting it stamped, tourist is eligible for a 10% refund at the airport before departure. All he need to do is represent the form and goods at the airport. Don't pack these gift items in your luggage and keep it in your hand luggage. Also, a tourist is exempted from VAT tax on tourist services like hotel accommodation and meals, if he pays with foreign currency or via foreign debit or credit card.



Index**21. Essential local apps**

Download Uber to book a cab or a taxi. To notify your Facebook friends if something goes wrong, download Yalahwy and your friends will mobilize to come at your rescue. To book the best restaurant, bar and club in Egypt; download Tazkarty app. Also, this app helps you to secure the tickets for the hottest events, concerts and parties happening nationwide.



22. Driving

The East Bank is the metropolitan side of the city leading to heavy traffic jams and crowd on the roads. It gets difficult for a tourist to drive in the East Bank. The West Bank in contrary is rural and many tourists opt to ride on the roads of the West Bank while getting themselves between the tourist sites. One will have to deposit the original license to hire a vehicle in Luxor. But, don't forget to keep a photocopy of the license while driving.



Index**23. Travel essentials**

When travelling to Egypt, make sure that you pack following things: Travel Insurance documents, and Travel adaptor or portable charger. Egypt uses two pronged, rounded plugs with the standard voltage of 220 V. The power sockets are of type C/F. The standard frequency is 50 Hz.



Index**24. Essential clothes**

When travelling to Egypt, make sure that you pack following things: Travel Insurance documents, and Travel adaptor or portable charger. Egypt uses two pronged, rounded plugs with the standard voltage of 220 V. The power sockets are of type C/F. The standard frequency is 50 Hz.



Index**25. Local currency**

The official currency of Egypt is Egyptian pound (EGP/LE). In Arabic, it is also known as guineh. The pound is divided into 100 piasters and each piaster into 10 millims. 1 US Dollar= LE 8.89



Index**26. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges**

Banks, official bureaux de change and most hotels provide with the services of currency exchange. Nonetheless, authorized banks remain the best source of exchanging currency. Also, for convenience, private exchange agencies are located at several areas downtown and in the suburbs. We recommend you to get some 'home' currency and get the Egyptian currency on arrival as you get a better exchange rate in Egypt and you won't have to pay commission also if you change your money in Egypt. In most hotels, restaurants, tourist-type shops and some supermarkets; credit cards are acceptable. ATMs are set up in various locations throughout Luxor and are accessible 24 hrs/day. Recheck with your bank for information regarding the commission on withdrawal of money. Every time you swipe card in different bank's ATM, a fee up to \$5 or more is charged. Also, there is a limit on ATM cash withdrawals amounting to LE 3000 to LE 4000 every day. Working days for banks in Luxor are from Sunday to Thursday. On Friday and Saturday, banks remain closed. Typical banking hrs for Government banks are from 08:30 hrs to 14:00 hrs and for private/international banks are from 08:30 hrs to 17:00 hrs.

27. Staying connected

The biggest mobile phone market in Africa is Egypt. The three network providers are: Vodafone Egypt, Orange (formerly: Mobinil) and Etisalat. Tourists to Luxor can buy their “holiday” sim from any of the major streets for LE 20.00 including LE 5.00 credit in their stores. This sim has a validity of 40 days. Data is by default at LE 1.00 per MB on the tourist sim. You can add any of the packages used by locals. A copy of passport needs to be attached with the contract for documentation.



28. Time Zone

Egypt time zone: Eastern European Time Zone (UTC+02:00)



Index**29. Languages**

The official and the key language in Luxor is Arabic. English and French are both widely spoken though. Also, most Luxor people who are directly engaged with tourists are well versed with many European languages and have an iota of Japanese as well.



Index**30. Political Scenario**

Egypt is a republic country with a semi-presidential system of government. With the resignation of President Hosni Mubarak in 2011, executive powers was assumed by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces which later dissolved the parliament and adjourned the constitution. In Egypt, elections are held for the candidature of President and a unicameral legislature. The candidate with the maximum votes win the elections and is selected as a president to serve the nation for a four-year term.



31. Economic Scenario

Alike many other Egyptian cities, the economy of Luxor is also heavily dependent on tourism. Large number of people are also engaged in agriculture, particularly sugarcane. To cover up for shortfalls of income, many people cultivate food on their own.



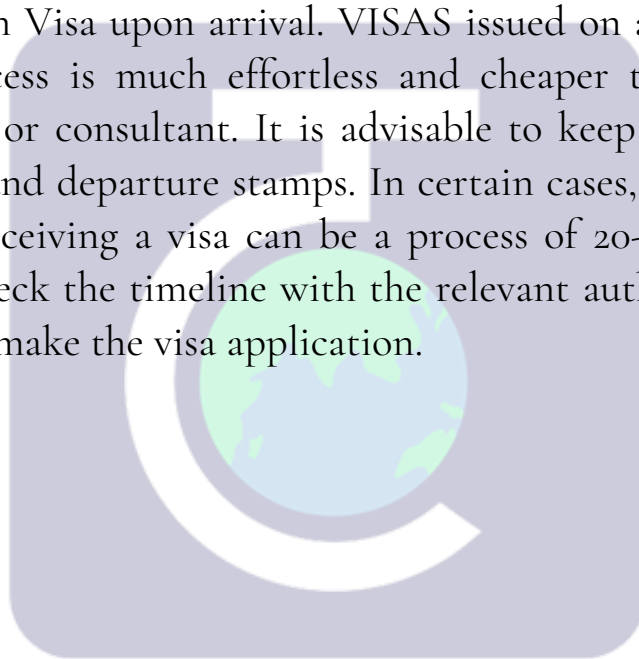
Index**32. Religious belief**

The official religion of Luxor is Islam. Majority of the inhabitants of Luxor comprises of Sunni. Minority belongs to Coptic Christians, but there are also Jews, Protestants, Catholics and other minorities.



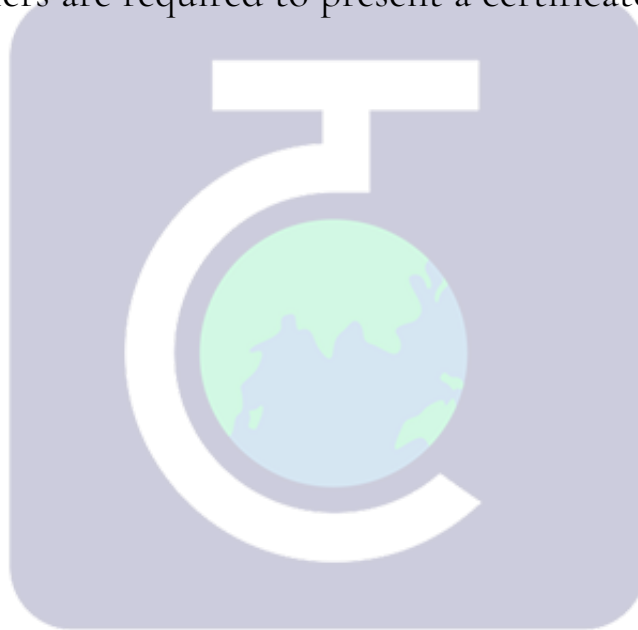
33. Visa requirements

Visas are required by all visitors to Egypt and it must hold a validity for at least six months post the date of entry. Most nationalities, including British, Americans, Irish, Canadians, New Zealanders, Australians and EU citizens can attain VISAS on arrival at officially designated international airports and sea ports, but not at land borders. Currently, it costs around USD 25/ GBP 15/ Euro 20/ EGP 175 to attain Visa upon arrival. VISAS issued on arrival are valid for a month but the process is much effortless and cheaper than getting a VISA through an embassy or consultant. It is advisable to keep 2 pages free in your passport for arrival and departure stamps. In certain cases, it has been observed that applying and receiving a visa can be a process of 20-30 days. Hence, it is essential that you check the timeline with the relevant authority in the country where you intend to make the visa application.



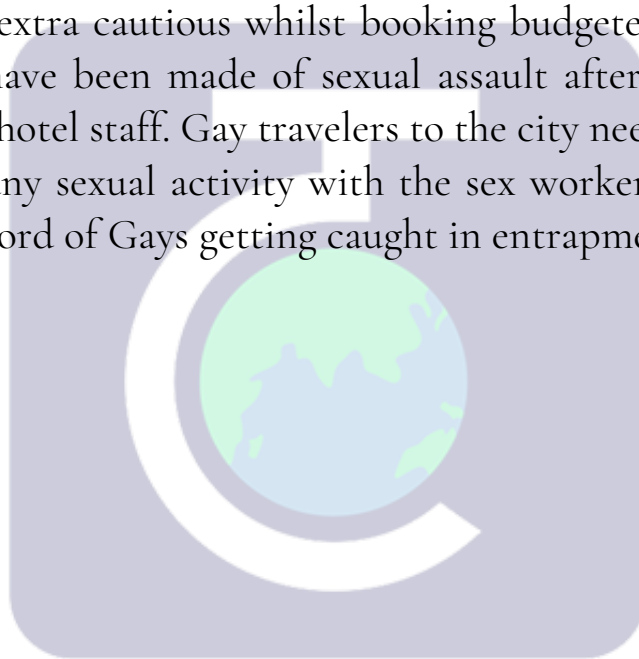
Index**34. Essential vaccination**

Every traveler should be up-to-date on routine vaccinations before every trip. These vaccinations include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine and your yearly flu shot. There is no mandatory vaccinations for travelers visiting to Egypt, except for the travelers traveling from regions infected by Yellow Fever or Cholera. These travelers are required to present a certificate of vaccination upon arrival.



Index**35. Theft and Safety**

Touts can make your sightseeing really frustrating and annoying. So, be aware of touts on the streets of Luxor, the hassle capital of Egypt! Also, the merchants in Luxor are very aggressive and manipulative. Don't involve yourself into window shopping. The best advice is to ignore any attempt by a local to strike up conversation, if you don't want to be talked into buying anything. Women travelers need to be extra cautious whilst booking budgeted hotels in Luxor. In past, many reports have been made of sexual assault after women were served spiked drinks by the hotel staff. Gay travelers to the city needs to be extra careful whilst indulging in any sexual activity with the sex workers. The country has a well-documented record of Gays getting caught in entrapment schemes.



Index**36. Embassy/Consulate**

To view the list of embassy consulates in Luxor, click <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/egypt>



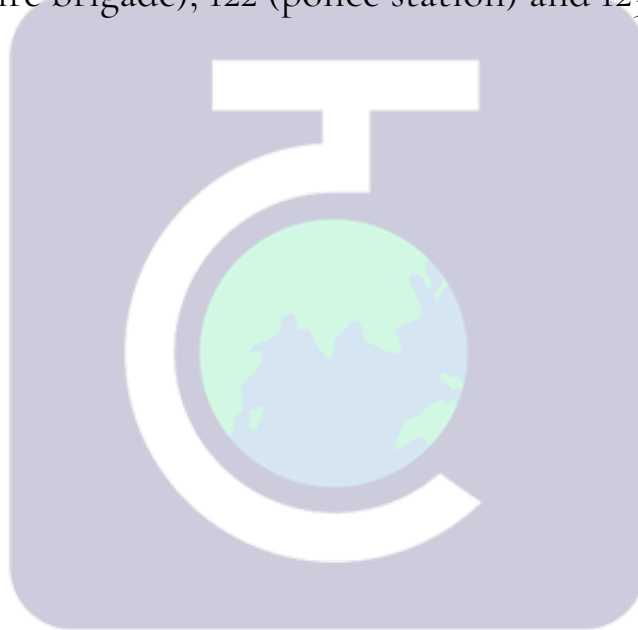
Index**37. Accessibility**

Luxor is not differently-abled-friendly city. Although there are tracks and ways created for wheelchairs, they have not been maintained properly since long. The cracked and the broken roads make it difficult to move a wheelchair on such roads. Government building don't have elevators and ramps are placed in wrong angles.



Index**38. Emergencies**

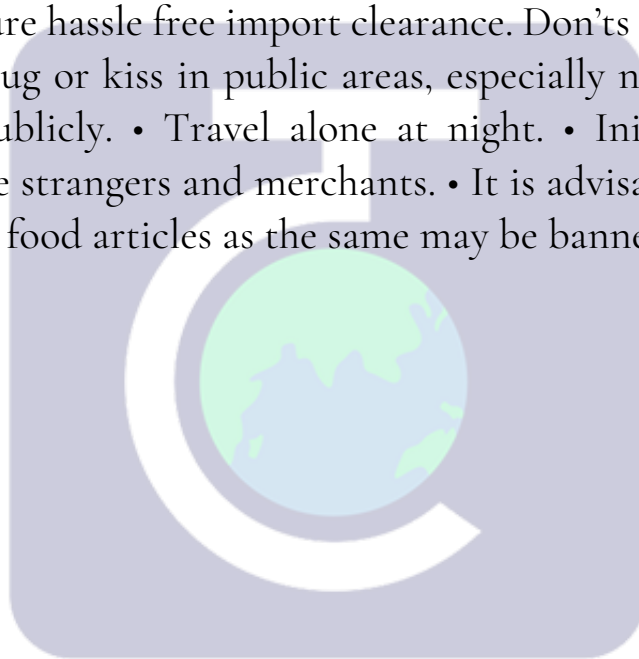
Luxor serves its travelers with well-developed hospitals and a wide range of diagnostics and treatments, in both public and private sectors. Following are two major hospitals in Luxor: Luxor Medical Center NOTE: All health insurances and travel insurances are accepted here. Luxor International Hospital NOTE: All health insurances and travel insurances are accepted here. For any SOS services, you can call on 180 (fire brigade), 122 (police station) and 123 (ambulance)



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39. Do's and Don'ts

Dos • Carry minimum cash and valuable items whilst exploring the city. • Haggle with taxi drivers and merchants. • Ride a bike or a motorcycle around Ancient Thebes. • Board a local felucca before sunset. • Take a felucca cruise for a two day trip to Aswan. • Hire a donkey, horse or camel to explore the West Bank of the River Nile. • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. Don'ts • Wear short skirts or indecent clothes. • Hug or kiss in public areas, especially near religious places. • Drink and smoke publicly. • Travel alone at night. • Initiate an unnecessary conversation with the strangers and merchants. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/ unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import.



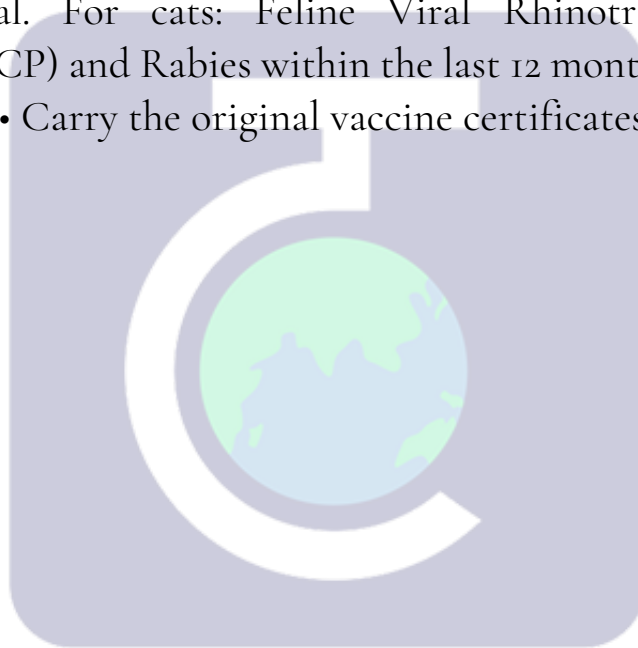
Index**40.Tipping basics**

Don't forget to tip in Egypt as it is a source of income for many Egyptians. In Arabic, tip is called "baksheesh". Tipping amount varies from LE 1.00 to LE 300.00. Luggage men at hotel are expected to be tipped at LE 3-5 per bag, both in and out. Tour leader are expected to be tipped at LE 300-350 for the whole trip, if traveling in a group. Most customers will find a service charge on the receipt, but please note that this amount goes to the restaurant and not the waiters. You can tip accordingly.



Index**41.Pet info**

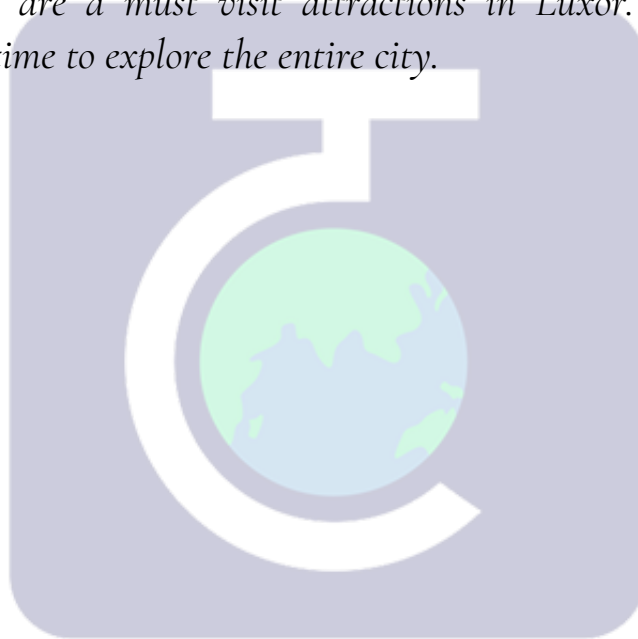
There are a number of hotels in Luxor that allows you to get your pet along. But, following points need to be taken care of when traveling with your pet to Luxor: • Implant a microchip with International standards. • All animals need to have full and an up to date inoculations. For dogs: Hepatitis, Distemper, Leptospirosis, Parvo, (DHLPP) and Rabies within the last 12 months or a minimum of four weeks before arrival. For cats: Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia (FVRCP) and Rabies within the last 12 months or a minimum of 4 weeks before arrival. • Carry the original vaccine certificates with the pets.



Index

Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Luxor, which means “Palaces”, is the foremost travel destination in the Nile Valley and Upper Egypt. The dynastic and religious capital of Middle Kingdom and New Kingdom Egypt, Luxor mesmerizes its travelers with vast temples, ancient royal tombs, spectacular desert and river scenery and a bustling modern life. The Luxor Temple, Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens, Medinet Habu, Mummification Museum, Karnak complex and mortuary temples are a must visit attractions in Luxor. A traveler requires a substantial amount of time to explore the entire city.



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