

A Children's Guide to Egypt



About Egypt

Age 12-14

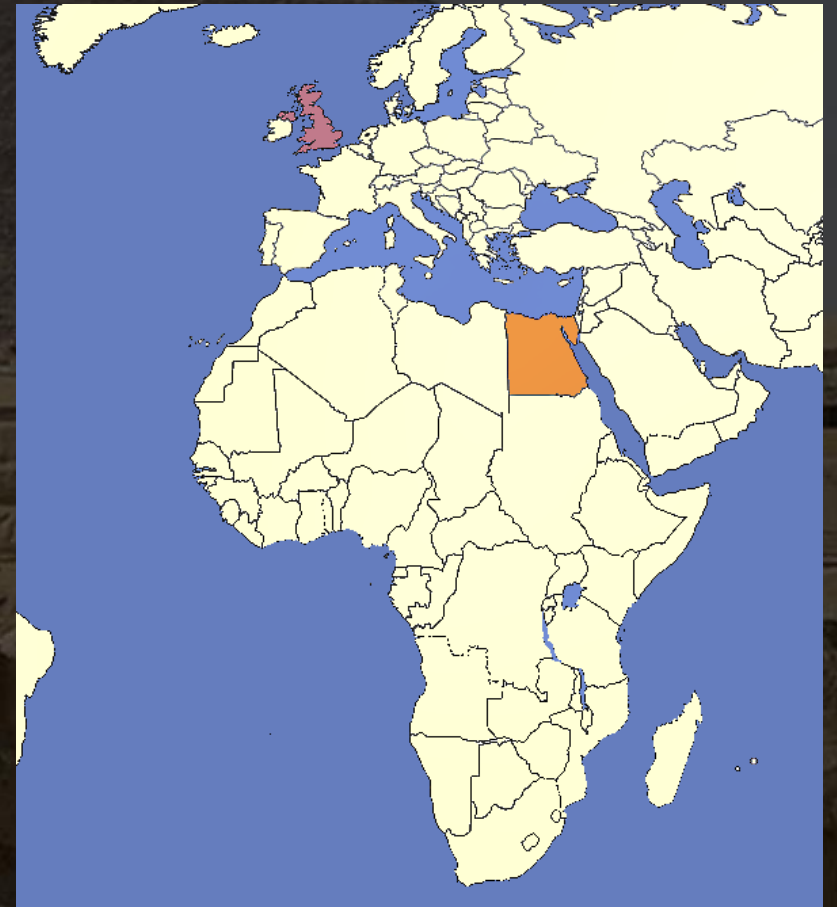
About Egypt

Egypt is most well known for its ancient civilisations that date back to 5000 BC with farmers residing on a thin stretch of fertile land along the Nile River. Today 95% of Egypt's population still reside along the Nile.

Ancient Egypt has a fascinating story. A Pharaoh never let his hair be seen and to deter flies they would keep several naked slaves close by and covered in honey. Both men and women wore makeup, originally as a sunscreen. When a body was mummified the brain was removed through the nose. Infections were treated with mouldy bread and children lived naked until their teens, as the weather never got cold.

Egypt is located in north-eastern Africa and shares its borders with Israel, Sudan and Libya as well as a long sandy coastline on both the Mediterranean and Red Seas. The capital of Egypt is Cairo and popular tourist spots include Sharm el-Sheikh, Taba, Luxor and El Gouna.

Egypt has its own currency, the Egyptian Pound, and 1 Egyptian Pound equates to roughly 10 pence.



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Egypt is generally a safe country to visit as a tourist but take care when crossing roads as the Egyptians drive on the right and also on the left if the road is in better condition! It is not recommended to drink tap water so drink bottled water and take care to ensure the seal isn't broken when purchased.

The climate in Egypt may vary depending upon where you visit and as an extension of the Sahara desert extreme heat may be experienced during the summer months. October through to April is the most popular time to visit and the cooler temperatures are perfect for exploring the many ancient archaeological sites.

There is no shortage of attractions to visit in Egypt and these include the Great Pyramids and the Sphinx, the Egyptian Museum of Cairo and the Luxor Temples and a tour down the Nile from Aswan to Luxor is a popular excursion. Visitors may also like to take a camel or horse desert safari with a local guide and these are as popular during the night under the stars as in the day.



Attractions

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The Pyramids of Giza - Cairo

The Great Pyramids are located on the Giza Plateau and are today the only remaining monument of the Seven Wonders of the World. It is believed that it took 10,000 workers 30 years to build the pyramids that were used as a tomb for Pharaohs on the journey to the afterlife. Over 2 million blocks weighing an average 2.5 tons were used in the construction, which equates to 1 block being placed every 9 seconds, a feat that would be impossible to duplicate today.



The Egyptian Museum - Cairo

The Museum of Cairo houses an extensive collection of over 120,000 ancient Egyptian artefacts. Inside the museum there are large displays of Egyptian coins, 11 mummies and the remains of Pharaoh Ramses III. King Tutankhamun artefacts are also on display and these include the 11kg solid Gold Mask as well as ivory & gold bracelets, necklaces, alabaster vases and weapons & instruments used by the King.



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The Sphinx - Cairo

The Great Sphinx of Giza is a statue modelled in the form of a mythical creature with a lion's body and a human head. It is located in the Giza Plateau on the west bank of the Nile and stands almost 20 metres in height and 74 metres in length. The Sphinx is believed to have been sculptured in 2500 BC during the reign of the Pharaoh Khafra and today is missing its nose and there are several stories about how this occurred.



The Valley of the Kings - Luxor

The Valley of the Kings sits on the west bank of the Nile and is where Pharaohs were buried in tombs during the 16th to the 11th century BC. The royal tombs are decorated with scenes of Egyptian mythology that today gives an insight into the beliefs and lives of the ancient Egyptians. The Luxor Temple, Karnak Temple and Luxor Museum are here and a project to unearth and restore the 3-kilometre long Avenue of the Sphinxes is underway.



Phrases

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Phrases

Basics

Yes	Aywa
No	La
Hello	Ahlan
Goodbye	Salam
Please	Men fadlak
Thank you	Mut shakkran
My name is	Ismee
What's your name?	Ismak ey?
Beach	Sha
Hotel	Fondo

Numbers

One	Wahid
Two	Itnayn
Three	Talata
Four	Arba'a
Five	Hamsa
Six	Sita
Seven	Sabaa
Eight	Tamania
Nine	Tesaa
Ten	Ashra
One hundred	Mia

Colours

Red	Ahmar
Blue	Azra
Green	Axdar
Yellow	Asfar
Black	Eswed
White	Abyad

Restaurant

I want	Aryd
How much is it?	Bi Kaam
The bill please	Yrja mshrwa alqanwn
What is that	Eeh da
Bread	lish
Salad	Salata
Dessert	Helu
Meat	Lahma
Fish	Samak
Fruit	Fakha
Water	Mayya

Conversations

Good morning	Sahab el-kheir
Good evening	Masaa el-kheir
Good night	Tisbah ala kheir
What time is it?	El-saa Kam?
Help	Ilha'ouni
Do you speak English?	Bititkalimy Englizee
I don't understand	Mish fahiim
Excuse me/sorry	Afwan / ahlan
Toilet	Mrhadh

The Egyptian words are written in phonetics.

Phonetics are written as the words would sound in English, so simply say what you see.