



ROBERTS

SAFARIS

EST. 1976



EXPERIENCE SUDAN



ITINERARY SUDAN

DAYS 1 & 2: CORINTHIA HOTEL, Khartoum

Arriving at Khartoum Airport you will be assisted to your transfer to the Corinthia Hotel in downtown Khartoum. On the first night we would suggest that you settle in and orientate yourself for the hustle & bustle to come.

Day 2: A Khartoum city tour. This will start with a visit to the Archaeological Museum that, as well as the beautiful ancient artefacts, this also hosts the exhibition of two temples relocated by UNESCO when the Lake Nasser area flooded.

You will then cross the Nile, over the confluence of the Blue and the White Nile's to reach Omdurman & visit the Khalifa's House Museum. The afternoon will consist of a visit to the colourful souk and then at sunset a visit to the tomb of Ahmed Al Nil to attend a ceremony of the Whirling Dervishes (only on Fridays). Return to the hotel.

DAYS 3 & 4: NUBIAN REST HOUSE, Karima

Day 3: After breakfast at the hotel and you begin the journey northward through the Western desert. With any desert landscape the 360 degree views are awe-inspiring and there will be plenty of time to appreciate the vista. The journey will be broken at one of the many "chai houses" or tea houses on the Wadi Muqaddam, this is one of the original water courses of the White Nile, surrounded by many acacia trees, daily life will unfurl around you. you can expect this journey to take around 6 hours before arriving into Old Dongola. Here you will be greeted by the ruins of a christian coptic church with amazingly well preserved marble columns as well as several other churches of interest on the banks of the Nile. After this, life of the Nubian people becomes more apparent with picturesque villages, many of the houses have intricately painted doors depicting the flowers and significant patterns of the area, you will also visit the stunning village of Gaddar before arriving in Karima. Suggested overnight at Nubian Rest House just at the feet of Jebel Barkal.

Day 4: Some 400 km from Khartoum and standing at 94 metres high - Jebel Barkel has long been held as an ancient landmark for traders and navigators across the centuries. At the foot of this wonderful and isolated red sandstone mountain, considered holy since the ancient times, there is a temple, dedicated to the Pharaohs of the New Reign and to their patron, Amon. Amon's ancient "Pure Mountain", the Olympus of the Nubians, was the religious Nubian heart for more than 1000 years. Besides the ruins of the temple there are still several sculptured granite rams, that are thought to border an avenue that probably led to a pier on the Nile. The Jebel Barkal archaeological sites are on the World Heritage list. The Royal necropolis of the ancient city of Napata, the Nubian capital (from 800 to 400 B.C.) before the Meroitic period, had a large number of pyramids, located in three different places: few hundred metres north of Jebel Barkal; a dozen kilometres southwards from the holy mountain in El Kurru & in Nuri, which is located on the opposite bank of the Nile.



ITINERARY SUDAN

DAYS 3 & 4: NUBIAN REST HOUSE, Karima continued

After lunch you will move southwards to the village of El Kurru where there is one of the necropolises of the ancient capital, Napata. Here you can visit a tomb, which is excavated in the rock under pyramids – partially collapsed – and it is decorated with images of the Pharaoh, of the gods and multicolour hieroglyphic inscriptions. The trip goes on with the visit to a site, rich in fossil trunks in the desert. In the evening return to Karima

DAYS 5 & 6: MEROE TENTED CAMP, Bayuda Desert

Day 5: A quick crossing of the Nile to briefly visit the archaeological site of Nuri where you will see many pyramids among which there is also the one belonging to the great Taharqa, there will be time for a walk in the area before you enter the Bayuda Desert. This desert is an area bounded by the loop that the Nile forms between the 4th and the 6th Cataract's and is characterised by sharp black basalt mountains, most of them volcanic and typically cone-shaped. The area is dramatic and varied with level pebble stretches giving way to valley's crossed by dry wadi's with little vegetation around. Here will be your first encounter with the Bisharin nomads, who live in familiar groups in small huts made of intertwined branches close to the rare water wells, with their caravans and herds of camels and donkeys. After a picnic in the desert, you will continue to the town of Atbara, located on the confluence between the Nile and the Atbara River, crossing the Nile for the final time.

As if by magic the barren landscape opens up to a sight of more than 40 pyramids, located on top of a hill, some of them perfectly preserved that belong to the Royal Necropolis of Meroe. Arrival at the permanent tented camp of Meroe, with a beautiful view onto the pyramids. Accommodation in comfortable and fully furnished tents, dinner and overnight stay.

Day 6: This morning dedicated to the pyramids. The Royal Necropolis of Meroe is located at about 3 km from the Nile on hills covered by yellow sand dunes. Several pyramids stand out with their sharp shapes against the clear sky. Each one has its own funerary chapel with the walls fully decorated with bas-reliefs depicting the King's life and offers to the gods. Lunch at Meroe Camp. In the afternoon you will drive along the Nile to visit the ruins of the Royal city. The excavations confirm that the town of Meroe used to cover a large area and the Royal city was located in a central position, surrounded by suburbs and a boundary wall. Most of the area where the city is located, formed by many small hills covered by red clay fragments, has still to be excavated by the archaeologists. Dinner and overnight stay at the permanent Meroe Camp.



ITINERARY SUDAN

DAYS 7: CORINTHIA HOTEL, Khartoum

After breakfast you will head south to Mussawarat, also known as Al-Musawarat Al-Sufra, is a large Meroitic temple complex in modern Sudan, dating back to the early Meroitic period of the 3rd century BC. It is located in a large basin surrounded by low sandstone hills in the western Butana, 180 km northeast of Khartoum, 20 km north of Naqa and approximately 25 km south-east of the Nile. With Meroë and Naqa, it is known as the Island of Meroe and was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2011. Constructed in sandstone, the main features of the site include the Great Enclosure, the Lion Temple of Apedemak and the Great Reservoir. Most significant is the number of representations of elephants, suggesting that this animal played an important role at Musawwarat es-Sufra.

The Great Enclosure is the main structure of the site. Much of the large labyrinth-like building complex, which covers approximately 45,000 m², was erected in the third century BC. According to Hintze, "the complicated ground plan of this extensive complex of buildings is without parallel in the entire Nile valley". The maze of courtyards includes three (possible) temples, passages, low walls, preventing any contact with the outside world, about 20 columns, ramps and two reservoirs. There were many sculptures of animals such as elephants and most of the walls of the complex bear graffiti and masons' or pilgrims' marks both pictorial and in Meroitic or Greek script. The scheme of the site is so far, without parallel in Nubia and ancient Egypt, and there is some debate about the purpose of the buildings, with earlier suggestions including a college, a hospital, and an elephant-training camp. According to the scholar Basil Davidson, at least four Kushite queens — Amanirenas, Amanishakheto, Nawidemak and Amanitore — probably spent part of their lives in Musawwarat es-Sufra.

This area is covered with temples dating from around the 1st Century AD, one of the best restored examples was restored by a German archaeological mission – dedicated to the god Apedemak, it is a beautiful example of the area.

The site of Naga is located about 30 km to the east of the Nile and it is one of the two centres that developed during the Meroitic period. In Naga, in a typical Saharan environment with rocks and sand, we find a temple dedicated to Apedemak: a wonderful building with bas-relief decorations depicting the god with a lion's head, the Pharaoh, noblemen and several ritual images. A few metres away there is a small and odd construction with arches and columns, named "kiosk", in which we can notice Egyptian, Roman and Greek styles, all at the same time.

Arriving into Khartoum in the evening for your final evening in Sudan

DAY 8: Departure



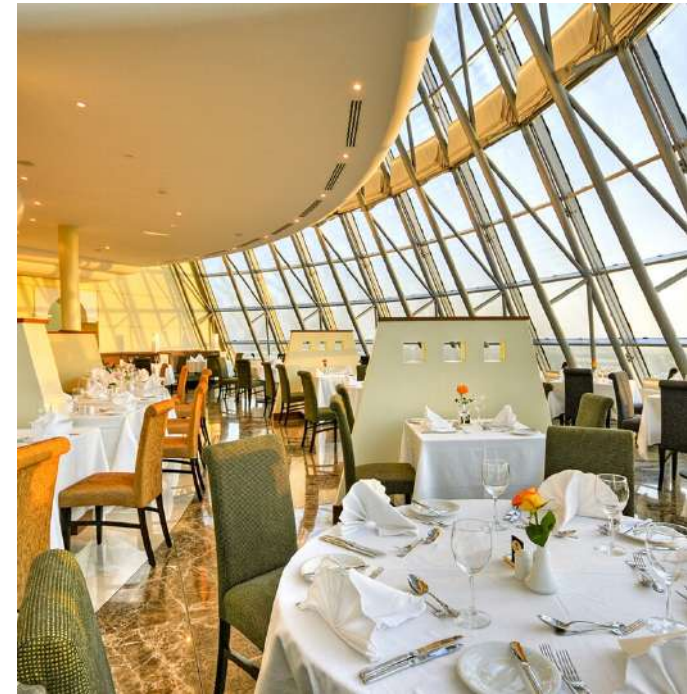
KHARTOUM



KHARTOUM

CORINTHIA HOTEL

KHARTOUM



The Corinthia Hotel Khartoum is a five-star hotel in central Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, on the meeting point of the Blue Nile and White Nile and in the centre of Khartoum's commercial, business and administrative districts.

It is located next to the Friendship Hall of Khartoum and the Tuti Bridge. The hotel was opened on 17 August 2008. It has 18 guest floors, 173 rooms and 57 suites. The hotel has six restaurants and cafés and leisure facilities including spa, gym, tennis and squash courts.

It was built and financed by the Libyan government at a cost of over 80 million euros. The building has an oval curved facade; like the Burj al Arab, the Yildiz Hotel and the Grand Millennium, Sulaymaniyah, it was designed to resemble a ship's sail. It is known as "Gaddafi's Egg" because it is funded by the Libyan government at the time.

Khartoum was once the centre of the slave trade into ancient Egypt as well as being the capital of all of Sudan until 2011 when South Sudan voted for independence, this is generally a pretty safe capital city and it's important to remember that alcohol is not encouraged anywhere in Sudan.

OLD DONOGOLA



JEBEL BARKAL

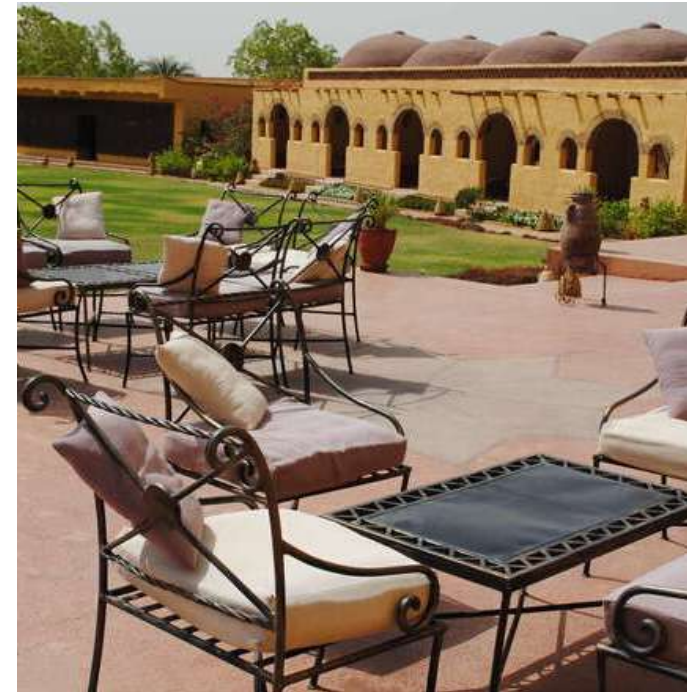


EL KURRU



NUBIAN REST HOUSE

KARIMA



Karima is a small town located on the right Bank of the Nile, close to the famous archaeological site at the foot of Jebel Barkal, south of the 4th Cataract. The town is a small, dusty and calm village, where a big market takes place in the morning. The Nubian House is a charming small hotel built in the typical Nubian style just at the foot of Jebel Barkal, the holy mountain of the old Egyptian and Nubian Pharaohs. It is surrounded by a large private enclosure, with a nice garden and leisure area. Each of the 22 A-C rooms is characterized by a peculiar Nubian door and has its own private bathroom and a pleasant veranda. The decor and finishing have been carefully selected.

They come mainly from Italy and provide an elegant yet rustic charm. A reception, a restaurant and a living room with decorated walls complete the wonderful setting. All the buildings are made with local bricks covered by hand-spread clay plaster as used in the Nubian area. The hotel is managed by an Italian manager with the help of well-trained Sudanese staff.

NURI DISHARIN NOMADS



MEROE PYRAMIDS



MEROE CAMP

BAGARWYI



Meroe tented Camp is located in Bagarwyia, (about 230 km. north of Khartoum) overlooking the beautiful pyramids of Meroe. Accommodation consists of 22 twin-bedded tents (4x4 m), tastefully furnished. Each one has its own private bathroom hut with shower and toilet. The Camp is located 2 km from the Royal Necropolis. Each tent is equipped with a veranda with two comfortable chairs to relax in front of the astonishing view of more than forty pyramids. The tents have electricity produced by a generator working till 11:00 pm. A restaurant building is available for the guests.

The Camp is managed by an Italian manager with the help of well-trained Sudanese staff. With this permanent facility, this arid region of extraordinary archaeological interest and beautiful landscapes become accessible even to those reluctant to sacrifice their comfort.

MUSAWWARAT



ROMAN KIOSK





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