

Tribe Expeditions
Trip Program

Day 1

Eastern Sahara EXPEDITION

17 Days 16 Nights



Arrive in Cairo International Airport, meet and assist service at airport.

Transfer to hotel in Six October city very close to Bahariya road.



Start early from hotel driving a short distance on Bahariya road until we start off road in a south direction to reach jebel Qatrani, this area was used by ancient Egyptians to quarry basalt. Continue south towards Lake Qarun in Fayoum.



Then continue on the paved road to wadi Ryan protected area and on to the valley of the whales. A trekking trip is planned here to visit the 40 years-old whale's skeletons. Our first camp will be in the camping area near valley of the whales.



Day 2



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Day 3

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We drive some 30 km up the escarpment of the depression until we reach Bahariya road where we continue to Bahariya oasis.

Rest in Bahariya and visit the recently discovered golden mummies from roman period at the small museum. Continue to white desert where we shall camp.



Driving on road passing by Farfra and Dakhla oasis and continue some 50 km on the Darb al Tarfawi Road when we start our off road journey heading west and camping in dunes.



Day 4

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Day 5

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We continue towards Yardangs formation site also known as red lions which is an ancient lake site, after it was dry, the fauna left fossilized in the playa sediment had formed in the shape of sea lions in the direction of the wind, giving a spectacular landscape view.

The area was occupied in prehistory as a hunting site and many stone tools can be found here.

(Important WARNING: we can take pictures only but can not remove any stone tool. It is restricted by Egyptian law to take any PREHISTORY TOOL from the desert!)



Continue towards Eastern Gilf Kebir which is much broken by intensive water erosion that created a large system of valleys.

Driving to Wadi Bakht where another prehistory occupation site is found.

Exploring some side valleys on the way outside Wadi Bakht, and then camping in Eastern Gilf Kebir.



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Day 6



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Day 7

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Rounding the southern tip of the Gilf we will continue to Eight Bells ; an old landing site from world war 2 , then continue to our first rock art site on this expedition , Mogharet El Qantara also known as Shaw cave A rock art site discovered by Kennedy show in 1935.

After lunch we will continue to Prince Monument erected by Hungarian explorer Almaszy to the late Prince of Egypt Kamal Aldin Hussein, who discovered and named the Gilf Kebir plateaux in 1926. Then continue to Clayton Craters where we shall camp.



Drive a short distance to Jebel Uweinat where we visit Karkur Talh main rock art site then continue in a trekking excursion of about 1 hour to the rock art site discovered by the Belgium expedition in 1968.

Uweinat Mountain was discovered by the Egyptian explorer Ahmed Hassanein during the first and only crossing of the eastern Sahara by camel, for 8 month and over 3500 Kilometres Hassanein completed his legendry expedition from Sallum to El Obied in Sudan.

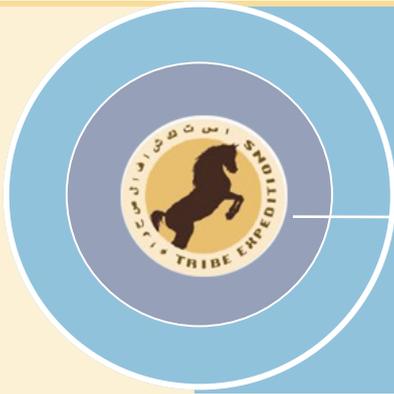


Among the expedition results was determining the correct position of kufra on the map of Africa and the discovery of Arkenu and Uwinate. Also recording the forgotten and erased history of the sanussi leaders and the tribes of the desert.

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From Uweinat Mountain we drive north to Wadi Sura Meaning the pictures valley; the land of rock art in the Gilf Kebir. First we visit Swimmers Cave discovered by Almsay in 1933. Then visit the Mestikawi-Foggini cave discovered in 2002 with the richest assembly of rock art paintings and engravings in the whole of Egypt, Some travellers consider this cave to be the "Sistine Chapel" (Vatican - Rome) of the African rock art. Later camp in a spectacular area where the rocks were shaped like domes.



We spend the morning in the vicinity of the cave wondering around and looking for any possible undiscovered rock art sites.

Then driving south and east to Aqaba Pass where we ascend the pass following the valley that runs from the plain towards central Gilf Kebir area. At this point we are at the Gap that



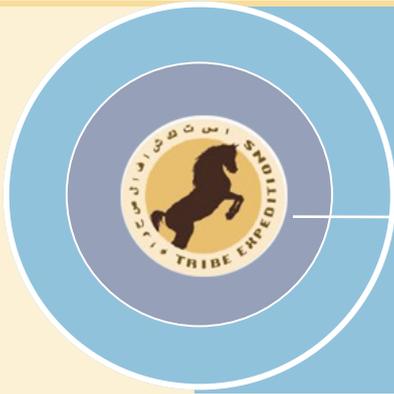
splits the Gilf Kebir plateaux to a northern and southern part.

Continue to Wadi Assib, camping well close to the complex dunes of great sand sea that managed to brake and surmount the great barrier of gilf kebir.

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Day 11

From Central Gilf Kebir we continue to ascend the dunes and cliffs to the top surface of the plateaux, being on the top of the plateaux we will enjoy the view overlooking the plain,

A monument was placed here by Woltrwad Lama for the late Samir Lama who pioneered 4x4 operations to the top of Gilf Kebir and who explored this area for decades.

Then drive to a pass that would take us down into Wadi Hamra meaning the red valley where we shall camp.



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Day 12



We drive north towards the Great Sand Sea. Leaving the Gilf behind we will enter the area of southern Sand Sea where the giant dunes block any passage to east or west. We will drive in between the dunes to a suitable camping area. Spend the afternoon and the next early morning trekking in the Silica Glass area.



(Important WARNING: we can take pictures only but can not remove any piece of silica glass. It is restricted by Egyptian law to take any SILICA GLASS from the desert!)

Please read the protected areas rules of Egypt at the bottom of the PDF file)



From Silica camp we drive north in a suitable corridor between the huge dunes stopping at a secret site where fulgurites fragments are found at a suitable point heading west towards Clayton camp also known as Big Cairn which Patrick Clayton built after his first east west crossing of the sand sea in



1932. Clayton discovered the Silica Glass area and was the cartographer responsible for mapping the desert.

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Continue driving north towards Siwa, stopping at a petrified forest Site and then continue to Birr Wahed a hot water spring in between the dunes which formed a lake, resembling the lakes that once existed in prehistory times in the Sahara.

Overnight camping in Birr Wahed one of the most beautiful spots in the sand sea.



In the morning we visit Siwa Oasis, first we walk through the old town of Shali where we can have a bird eye view of the oasis,

Then visit the temple of the oracle. After lunch we continue to Marsa Matruh on the Mediterranean where we overnight in a small hotel.



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Day 16



Drive back to Cairo, stopping in Al Alamein and visiting the small **Museum.**

Overnight in hotel in Six October city.



Transfer to airport and flight back home.

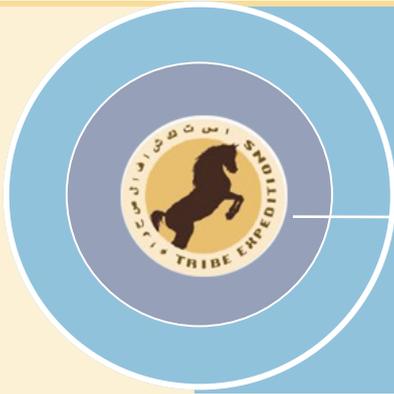
(Optional Pyramids tour is possible if the flight time is in the afternoon.)



Day 17

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The Trip includes:

The price offered in the planned expedition page includes the following:

- Services of Airport Meet & Assist and hotel transfer at arrival & departure
- 2 nights in Six October hotel (double occupancy)
- 1 night in Marsa Matruh Hotel
- Entrance fee for: Valley of the Whales - White Desert – Golden mummies – Temple of Oracle
- Single tent (Salewa) & one mattress per person.
- All meals, soft drinks, and mineral water (3 liters per person per day)
- Permit fee

Not included in the price:

- Flight cost
- Visa fee at airport
- Dinner of day 1 , 15 and 16

Protected Area Regulations:

The following applies to the protected parks of:

- Wadi Ryan, white Desert and Gilf kebir
- Desert tourists should be aware that most countries have laws that forbid actions leading to the destruction or deterioration of the natural environment and of archaeological sites.
- In Egypt, offenders are subject to prosecution according to the terms of law 102 of 1983 and antiquities law 117 of 1983.
- Collecting and stealing of artefacts will carry a sentence of up to 25 years in jail and a fine from 50,000 to 250,000 EGP.



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Regulations of the park:

- Do not disturb or damage animals and plants
- Do not collect or damage rocks, minerals or geological features and archaeological evidences
- Do not drive off marked tracks
- Do not write, paint or carve graffiti
- Do not leave any garbage, toilet paper or body waste
- Do not use wild plants for fire wood
- Camp only in designated areas

Tribe Expeditions is strongly respecting the above rules, we developed a plastic box arrangement as we carry 4 or 5 plastic boxes on each car roof rack, taking our fire wood into the desert, after it is used daily, we use the empty plastic boxes to carry all our garbage all the way back to the city.



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