EGYPT UNCOVERED

Your passport to adventure

Map Image

Country(ies): Sudan

Tour type: Small Group

Transport: A/C 4x4 vehicle & boat

Group size: Min: 2 | Max: 16

Days: 13 days

Start Location: Khartoum, Sudan

End Location: Khartoum, Sudan

Meals: Breakfasts - 12, Lunches - 11, Dinners - 9

Highlights:

Capital city Khartoum, Sufi Whirling Dervishes, old souk of Omdurman, Naga & Mussawarat, Meroe Pyramids, Jebel Barkal, Nubian house in Karima, Nuri, Tombos, Wawa, Soleb Temple.

Day 1: Arrival in Khartoum

Upon your arrival, our team will greet you at the airport and transport you to your hotel in Khartoum, where they will assist you in settling in and familiarising you with the local surroundings. Should you arrive this morning, an optional city tour is available.

OVERNIGHT:

Khartoum hotel

MEALS:

EXTRAS:

Day 2: Khartoum City Tour and Dervish Ceremony (Fridays Only)

After a relaxed breakfast, we begin our day of sightseeing with a visit to Sudan's former capital, Omdurman. Here, we will admire the exterior of the Mahdi's Tomb and explore the fascinating Khalifa's House, which houses a small museum dedicated to the Mahdyia (open on Fridays and Saturdays only). There will be some free time to wander through Omdurman's vibrant souk before we pause for lunch at a restaurant overlooking the Nile. Following this, we will cross the meeting point of the Blue and White Nile rivers, located near the Presidential Palace, where General Gordon was executed by the Mahdi's forces in 1885. Our final stop of the day will be the Archaeological Museum. Key highlights include two stunning temples that were relocated from the Lake Nasser region by UNESCO when the Aswan Dam was constructed and the area flooded. In the late afternoon, we will proceed to the tomb of the Sufi leader Ahmed al Nil, timed for sunset, to witness the captivating Whirling Dervishes Ceremony (on Fridays only). Lastly, we will return to the hotel.

OVERNIGHT:

Khartoum hotel

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch

EXTRAS:

Day 3: Journey from Khartoum to the Meroe Pyramids via Mussawarat & Naga

Our journey through Sudan commences as we travel north to explore the temples at Naga, situated approximately 30 km east of the Nile and dating back to the Meroitic period. Following this, we proceed to Mussawarat, nestled in a picturesque valley surrounded by hills. Our adventure continues northward, leading us into a desert expanse strewn with vast, rounded granite boulders—these are the final remnants of the rocky formations of the 6th Cataract. Out of nowhere, more than 40 pyramids emerge! These pyramids form part of the Royal Necropolis of Meroe, with several of them in remarkable condition. We then reach the permanent tented camp at Meroe, offering stunning views of the pyramids, which you can admire from your own private veranda.

OVERNIGHT:

Meroe Pyramids permanent tented camp

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 4: Discovering the Necropolis and Royal Capital of Meroe

Today, our local guide will begin instructing you about the Kingdom of the Black Pharaohs. Several pyramids rise sharply against the clear sky. Each one features its own funerary chapel, with walls richly adorned with bas-reliefs depicting the King’s life and offerings to the gods. In the afternoon, we will travel along the Nile to explore the ruins of the Royal City. The majority of the area where the city lies, comprised of numerous small hills covered with red clay fragments, remains yet to be excavated by archaeologists.

OVERNIGHT:

Meroe Pyramids permanent tented camp

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 5: Journey to Meroe and Karima

After breakfast, we journey north, crossing the Nile by ferry. We then enter the Bayuda Desert, a region defined by the loop formed by the Nile between the 4th and 6th Cataracts. This desert is marked by steep, black basalt mountains, many of which are volcanic and typically cone-shaped. It is quite likely that we will come across small groups of Bisharin nomads, who reside in familiar clusters of small huts made from interwoven branches near the scarce water wells. Upon arrival at our Nubian Rest House, the remainder of the afternoon will be free.

OVERNIGHT:

Karima Nubian house

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 6: Excursion to Karima: Exploring El Kurru and Jebel Barkal

Today, we will visit the Jebel Barkal archaeological sites, which are listed as a World Heritage location. Here, we can observe temples and pyramids from the royal necropolis of the ancient city of Napata. Our journey will then take us southward to the village of El Kurru. At this location, we have the opportunity to explore one of the tombs, which is carved into the rock beneath pyramids that have partially collapsed. These tombs are beautifully adorned with depictions of the Pharaoh, gods, and vibrant hieroglyphic inscriptions (unfortunately, the second tomb here is currently closed due to damage to the paintings within). Not far from this site, there is an intriguing location featuring petrified wood, remnants of an ancient forest containing hundreds of large trunks.

OVERNIGHT:

Karima Nubian house

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 7: Excursion to Karima & Ancient Dongola

This morning, we embark on the lengthy journey to Old Dongola, the location of several Coptic Christian churches. As the heart of the Nubian region, many of the houses are vibrantly adorned with floral designs.

OVERNIGHT:

Karima Nubian house

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 8: Journey to the Pyramids of Nuri and a Nile Cruise

Following breakfast, we head to the market in Karima, where we can immerse ourselves in the authentic daily life of the Sudanese people. Next, we embark on a small motorboat for a delightful cruise along the Nile, taking in the stunning sandy stretches and the lush, cultivated islands that line the river. A little further to the north, one could once admire the striking granite rock formations of the 4th Cataract. After enjoying a picturesque picnic lunch, we make our way to the Pyramids of Nuri for the afternoon.

OVERNIGHT:

Karima Nubian house

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 9: Journey to Karima and Wawa, via Kerma & Tombos

Today, we travel westward through the Nubian Desert, reaching the Nile. We then cross the bridge to Dongola city, continuing north along the western bank of the Nile on the newly paved road that runs through a portion of the Western Desert. This route passes through areas adorned with

striking granite formations. Our destination is the Temple of Soleb, where we will enjoy a picnic lunch at the residence of the temple's guardian. After lunch, we continue for another half hour northward before taking a fisherman’s boat across the Nile to reach the Island of Sai. This site is significant for its archaeological value, featuring ancient remnants from the Kerma civilisation, Egyptian culture, and Christian heritage. As we navigate the river to the island, there’s a chance we may spot Nile crocodiles along the riverbanks. Following the visit, we return to the mainland and head back to our lodging for the evening.

Nubian House in Soleb:

- A traditional Nubian house featuring several rooms, each with four beds, as well as verandas with additional beds.
- Equipped with two long-drop toilets and one naturally sun-heated shower.
- The house has a generator that operates for a few hours, allowing guests to charge their camera batteries.
- A kitchen and a separate room for the driver are available.
- Meals will be prepared by our cook.
- Sleeping bags with sheets and mosquito nets are provided by our organisation.
- Single rooms cannot be guaranteed.

OVERNIGHT:

Nubian House

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 10: Journey to Soleb, Nile Ferry Crossing, 3rd Cataract, Sebu, and Tombos

This morning, we visit the Temple of Soleb, regarded as the most magnificent Egyptian temple in all of Sudan. It stands as a testament to the New Kingdom in Nubia, adorned with numerous walls featuring hieroglyphic inscriptions, bas-reliefs, and an array of columns. We then head south, diverting from the main road to reach the Nile, following its course through several villages before arriving at the ferry. Here, we cross the river to reach the eastern bank, just north of the Third Cataract rapids—once the third major obstacle the ancient Egyptians had to navigate while sailing the Nile.

We ascend the hill to the ancient Ottoman Fort, where we can enjoy splendid views of the cataract. In Sebu, located right on the riverbank, visitors can explore one of Sudan’s most significant rock engraving sites, with hundreds of images dating from prehistoric to Egyptian periods. We continue our journey through the Nubian villages and the massive rocks of the Third Cataract towards the village of Tombos. Here, the ancient granite quarries remain, with the remnants of a statue of King Taharqa, abandoned in the desert around 2800 years ago, alongside several fascinating Egyptian

stelae carved into the rocks.

We spend the night in a traditional Nubian house, where the rooms are simple but clean, featuring shared facilities, including a couple of Western-style toilets and a shower. Dinner and overnight stay are included.

OVERNIGHT:

Nubian House

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 11: Journey to Tombos, Kerma, and Karima

A brief morning drive brings us to Kerma, where we explore the impressive "Defuffa," a monument symbolising the Kerma civilisation. The museum, established by the Swiss archaeological mission following the discovery of seven statues of the Black Pharaohs in 2003, is particularly fascinating. We also have time to visit the Eastern Defuffa, located at the heart of the Necropolis, though we must cross agricultural fields to reach it. In the afternoon, we head back to Karima.

OVERNIGHT:

Karima Nubian house

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 12: Journey from Karima to Khartoum and Nuba Wrestling

After breakfast, we pack our belongings and head back to Khartoum. We take a break for lunch at a modest "chai house" (a roadside stop where local truck drivers pause for a meal and rest), before continuing our journey and arriving in Khartoum later in the afternoon. For most departures, we also offer a visit to the popular weekly Nuba wrestling event, which is a key highlight for many locals in Khartoum. A day-use room is available at a hotel in Khartoum until approximately 23:00. As most flights leave Khartoum between 02:00 and 04:00, a full night's accommodation is typically

unnecessary. The remainder of the evening is free for your own leisure.

OVERNIGHT:

N/A (day-use hotel included, option for overnight)

MEALS:

Breakfast,Lunch

EXTRAS:

Day 13: Khartoum Airport Departure Transfer

We will arrange your transfer from the hotel to the airport approximately 3 hours prior to your flight's departure time. If you have booked a full night's stay at the hotel, your day will be free until we transfer you to the airport for your next flight.

OVERNIGHT:

N/A

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Included:

- All accommodation mentioned in the itinerary
- All transportation and transfers
- 24-hour airport arrival and departure transfer service (on tour days)
- Services of a local tour guide throughout the tour
- All sightseeing excursions as per itinerary
- Bottled water outside Khartoum
- Nile boat trip (life jackets will be provided)
- Meals as specified in the itinerary
- Visa invitation letter for most nationalities

Excluded:

- International flights (available upon request)
- Arrival taxes
- Visa fees for Sudan (an invitation letter will be provided)
- Travel insurance (compulsory, get a quote here)
- Entrance fees for archaeological sites, photo permits, and local passport registration (US$260)
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Drinks, snacks, and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Tips for the tour leader & driver
- Any other items not listed above

Options

Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you???re visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

No Options

1. Accommodation

We offer high-quality accommodations, including 3-star hotels in Khartoum, as well as cosy guesthouses, Nubian houses, and premium tented camps in Meroe. Should you wish, upgrades to more luxurious hotels in Khartoum can be arranged upon request. All necessary bedding is supplied in the tented camps, and sleeping bags are available in the Nubian house at the Soleb section.

Hotel stays are provided in twin or double en-suite rooms, each with air conditioning. Couples will be accommodated in a private double room.

For details on room-sharing options and additional charges for solo travellers, please refer to the Single Room Supplement option.

2. Group Size/Tour Leaders/Guides

We are dedicated to operating as a small group tour provider, as we believe this approach offers everyone the best opportunity to connect with their fellow travellers and fully engage with the guide. There is little value in offering exceptional guides if you have to struggle to see them due to a large group! Therefore, we will never place you on a 50-seater bus with 49 other passengers and just one guide. Instead, our Sudan group departures will always have a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 16 participants.

At Encounters Travel, we prioritise the use of local Sudanese guides and representatives whenever possible. We believe this provides you with the most authentic experience of the country and the sites you are exploring.

3. Dates & Prices

We organise regular small-group departures for this tour every Thursday from October to April. All departures are guaranteed with a minimum of four travellers. If only two or three travellers are booked on a particular date, the tour can still proceed, but an additional supplement will apply. Departure dates and prices can be found on our website or on a separate dates & prices sheet, available upon request.

Private and bespoke tours are also offered on any date; please get in touch for more information and pricing.

4. Money - Sudan

The Sudanese Pound (SDG) is divided into 100 piasters. Banknotes are available in denominations of SDG50, 20, 10, 5, 2, and 1. Coins come in denominations of 50, 20, 10, 5, and 1 piasters. The Sudanese Pound replaced the Sudanese Dinar, which was phased out on 30 June 2007. The exchange rate is as follows: 1 Sudanese Pound = 100 Sudanese Dinars = 1,000 old Sudanese Pounds.

Please be aware that credit and debit cards are not currently accepted in Sudan.

- The best place to exchange currency is at the airport, as the rates are generally more favourable than those at hotels.
- Currency exchange should only be done at authorised bureaux de change or banks, and receipts should be kept.
- Severe penalties are imposed for exchanging money on the black market.
- Only new US Dollar bills are accepted in Sudan. Old or worn bills will not be accepted.

5. Passports and Visas - Sudan

Passport Requirements:

- Your passport should be valid for at least six months from your date of departure, with at least two blank pages, and no Israeli stamps.
- Avoid using a nearly full or soon-to-expire passport.
- It is your responsibility to arrange for a visa, and the requirements may change at the discretion of the local authorities.

Obtaining a Sudan Visa:

Securing a Sudan visa can be a complex process. There are two main ways to obtain your visa:

1. **Apply for Your Visa in Advance:**
    - This option offers more certainty and peace of mind, but it can be more costly and time-consuming as it requires you to either visit the Sudanese embassy in person or mail your documents.
    - Most nationalities, including the UK, now need an invitation letter from our partners in Sudan, along with a letter from the Sudanese Ministry of the Interior to support your application.
    - The process typically takes a minimum of 4 weeks, so plan accordingly. You may be required to attend a brief interview at the embassy/consulate to verify that you are a genuine tourist.
    - While visas are sometimes issued on the same day, you may need to return a few days later to collect your passport. Many embassies/consulates also offer postal services.
    - You may choose to use a visa agency, but you will still need to provide all necessary documents and cover both the agency's fees and the costs for the required paperwork.
    - An additional visa fee is payable at the airport immigration desk upon arrival: US$100 for most nationalities and US$150 for US citizens.
2. **Obtain Your Visa on Arrival at Khartoum Airport:**
    - This option is more affordable and less complicated, and it generally works well.
    - We will provide you with the invitation letter and other required documents from the Sudanese government.
    - Once everything is arranged, we will send you an entry permit, which you must print and bring with you to board your flight to Khartoum.
    - Upon arrival, exchange the entry permit for a visa sticker at the airport. First, show your passport and entry permit to an official, then proceed to the Visa Counter to pay the visa fee and receive your sticker.
    - The visa fee at the airport is US$100, or US$150 for US citizens, payable in cash (use one $100 bill and one $50 bill issued no earlier than 2009).

For both options, you will need to make an additional payment in US Dollars in cash to our local partners in Sudan after your arrival to cover the costs of processing your visa. Please refer to the "Options" section or contact your travel consultant for more details.

Important: Please send us a scanned or photographed copy of the identity page of your passport as soon as possible after booking so we can secure the necessary documents for your visa.

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6. Voltage - Sudan

The sockets are designed for two-round pronged plugs (Type C / D) and supply 230 volts of electricity. Universal adapters can be purchased in most airport shops if you don’t have one. Standard European adapters should work well, though they might fit a bit loosely in the sockets. All hotel rooms come equipped with electrical sockets for charging devices like cameras and phones. Hair dryers are typically available upon request at the hotel reception if not already provided in your room. If you plan to use US appliances, you will need both a voltage converter and a plug adapter.

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7. Entrance fees & permits

The tour price excludes permits and entrance fees for the National Museum and archaeological sites included in the itinerary. To cover these costs, as well as photo permits and local passport registration, a fee of EUR 260 per person will be collected in Khartoum at the start of the tour. Please bring 260 Euros (or an equivalent amount in US Dollars) in new, unmarked bills, preferably in smaller denominations ($10/$20). Additionally, you will need to provide 2 passport-sized photographs for permit processing.

Camera Fees & Permits

- A photography permit is required for all types of photography. We will arrange this for you, and the permit will specify where photography is allowed.
- Photographing military areas, personnel, bridges, broadcast stations, public utilities, slum areas, or beggars is strictly prohibited. Always ask for permission before taking photos.
- If you plan to bring a video camera, an additional fee of US$20 per archaeological site applies, and the permit must be arranged in advance. Please inform us several weeks prior to your arrival if you intend to bring a video camera.

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8. Language and Customs

The official languages of Sudan are Arabic and English, as stated in the 2005 constitution. However, English is rarely spoken outside of official circles or the hospitality industry. Interestingly, it is often the older generations who have a stronger command of the English language.

Sudan is an Islamic state, and the government has implemented Sharia law. Alcohol, drugs, and homosexuality are strictly prohibited. Foreigners are generally treated as locals, which means they could face severe consequences for violating these laws, including lengthy jail sentences and corporal punishment, with a minimum of forty lashes. It is crucial never to display images, statues, or figures of the Prophet Muhammad.

Sudanese women typically wear modest attire and cover their heads. As a sign of respect, foreign women should consider doing the same, even if they see other tourists not following this custom. Men are expected to wear long trousers rather than shorts. When in doubt, it is best to dress conservatively.

Although Sudanese people do not expect foreigners to observe Ramadan, the Islamic fasting month, it is considered impolite to eat, drink, or smoke in public during this time.

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9. Transport

Our tours offer a combination of various modes of transport. We want you to truly experience the country you're exploring, but at the same time, ensure you’re comfortable and refreshed for the next part of the journey. Given the routes in Sudan, the available public transport options, and the distances between locations, we use private vehicles like Toyota Landcruisers (max 4 passengers per vehicle) or Toyota Hilux (max 3 passengers per vehicle) for the entire tour.

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10. Airport Transfers

This tour includes a meet-and-greet service and airport transfer on the first day. Our representative will be waiting with an Egypt Uncovered signboard or your name clearly displayed for easy identification. If you are unable to locate our representative, emergency contact numbers will be provided on your tour confirmation voucher.

A transfer to the airport is also included at the end of the tour. Please review the tour itinerary and your flight times carefully. Most international flights departing from Khartoum are scheduled in the early hours of the morning. If you have upgraded to a 4 or 5-star hotel in Khartoum, only a day-use room is typically included for your final day. A full night's stay is provided at the standard 3-star hotel. If you require a full night’s accommodation in an upgraded hotel, an additional charge may apply.

Refunds are not available for missed transfers or parts of your trip due to incorrect flight details or delayed arrivals. Any additional expenses incurred to join the group will be your responsibility.

If your flights are scheduled to arrive before the tour starts or depart after the tour ends, we can arrange extra accommodation and airport transfers. We will strive to book these at the same hotel as the main tour, subject to availability (upgraded hotels can also be arranged upon request). Please note that if you do not book additional accommodation through us, arrival and departure transfer services will not be included, and you will need to organise your own transport.

Arrival Procedure

Be prepared for potential delays at immigration, especially if you are obtaining a “visa on arrival” (refer to the Passports and Visas section). After passport control, proceed to baggage reclaim, where further waiting times are common. Once you collect your luggage, you will need to show your baggage receipts (typically attached to your boarding pass), and your bags may be manually inspected by airport staff. This is standard procedure to ensure no prohibited items, such as alcohol or inappropriate materials, are brought into Sudan. Be aware that some magazines with certain images might also be considered inappropriate and could be confiscated without return.

After completing these formalities, you will find our representative waiting just outside the glass doors with an Egypt Uncovered signboard or your name clearly displayed.

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11. International Flights

We aim to offer you as much flexibility as possible when booking your holiday with us. To accommodate travellers with varying plans, we exclude international flights from the main tour price. However, we are happy to assist with flight suggestions that complement the tour. Simply provide us with your preferred dates and departure airport, and we will present a selection of airlines, schedules, and fares for you to choose from.

Your transfers between the airport and hotel are included on the first and last days of the tour. Our Sudan tours begin and end at Khartoum airport (KRT).

Occasionally, we also offer flight-inclusive packages from selected airports. When these are available on our website, the prices quoted are accurate at the time, but are subject to the availability of the fare used. Prices will be confirmed at the time of booking, and we will also provide you with flight times and airline details before issuing tickets.

Flight-inclusive prices are based on the cheapest Economy ticket class available, which is generally non-refundable and non-changeable unless the flight is cancelled due to circumstances like Covid-19, in which case airlines tend to offer more flexibility. If you require more flexible ticket options or wish to upgrade to Premium Economy or Business Class, these can be arranged for an additional supplement. Any changes to flight-inclusive bookings will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Flight CO2 Emissions:

Flying is a wonderful way to see the world, but it does contribute to carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions, which have an impact on the environment. By considering the CO2 emissions of your flight when booking, you can help reduce your travel footprint.

When booking international flights, we recommend you also take into account the CO2 emissions of your chosen airline. Some airlines and flight search engines (such as Google Flights or Skyscanner) provide this information, allowing you to compare your options and make a more informed choice. Many airlines are now working towards more sustainable practices, and by opting for greener flight options, you can contribute to positive environmental change while still enjoying your adventure.

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12. Tipping

Tipping in Sudan: An Overview

Tipping, or *bahsis* (pronounced bahk-sheesh), is a common and widely accepted practice in Sudan. The wages for service workers are generally low, and tips play an essential role in supplementing their modest incomes.

However, tipping remains voluntary, and the amount should reflect both the quality of service you receive and your personal financial situation. Many people seek guidance on how much to tip, so here are some general suggestions to help:

- **Restaurants and Taxis**:
  - For local markets and casual dining spots, simply leaving the small change is appropriate.
  - In more upscale restaurants, a tip of around 5% to 10% of the total bill is recommended.
- **Local Guides**:
  - If you have a local guide accompanying you during your travels, a tip of USD 2 per person per day is a suitable amount.
- **Drivers**:
  - You may have private drivers throughout your trip, some for brief periods and others for longer durations. While USD 2 per person per day is generally acceptable, you may consider a higher tip for those who are more involved in the trip.
- **Tour Guides**:
  - For your main tour guide, we suggest tipping between USD 25 to 40 per person for the entire duration of the tour. Ultimately, the amount should reflect your level of satisfaction with their service and your budget. There's no pressure to give a specific amount—it's entirely up to you.

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13. Health and Vaccinations

You should ensure you have comprehensive insurance that covers medical emergencies, including emergency evacuation and repatriation.

Vaccination recommendations and other health precautions vary depending on the country you are visiting and where you are travelling from. It is advisable to consult your GP, healthcare provider, or a travel clinic for the latest vaccination information for your destination. Additionally, make sure that you are up-to-date with the vaccines and boosters recommended for your regular life back home, such as those for occupational risks, lifestyle-related exposures, and any underlying health conditions. Below are the additional vaccinations and health precautions typically recommended for the countries in this region:

- South Africa: Hepatitis A, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from or transiting through an infected area).
- Namibia: Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from an infected area).
- Botswana: Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from or transiting through an infected area).
- Zimbabwe: Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from or transiting through an infected area).
- Zambia: Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from or transiting through an infected area).
- Malawi: Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from or transiting through an infected area).

- Tanzania: Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from or transiting through an infected area).
- Kenya: Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Poliomyelitis, Tetanus, Typhoid, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from an infected area).
- Uganda: Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Yellow Fever, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from an infected area).
- Sudan: Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Yellow Fever, Malaria precautions (Malaria map), Yellow Fever certificate (Required if coming from or transiting through an infected area; may also be needed for departure).
- Morocco: Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Typhoid, Malaria not usually present, Yellow Fever certificate not required.

Please note that this information may change at short notice. For the most up-to-date health and vaccination requirements, we suggest contacting your medical practitioner or travel clinic.

Malaria: There is no vaccine for Malaria, a serious and sometimes fatal disease transmitted by mosquitoes. To reduce the risk of infection, wear long-sleeved clothing and long trousers, use insect repellents, and sleep under a mosquito net if needed. Mosquitoes are most active during and after sunset. Consult your GP or a travel clinic for the most suitable malaria prevention medication for the areas you are visiting.

Yellow Fever: This disease is transmitted by mosquitoes active during the day. Many countries require a Yellow Fever vaccination certificate as part of their entry requirements, particularly if you have travelled from or through an infected region, including stopovers of more than 12 hours. You can refer to US CDC information to check where Yellow Fever is present and which countries require proof of vaccination. Ensure that you arrange for the certificate in advance and carry it with you throughout your trip.

Please inform us of any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or asthma, as well as any prescription medications you are taking. Additionally, we need to know about any food allergies or physical disabilities.

If you are taking part in an Overland tour or a wildlife safari, be aware that you may be travelling on rough or bumpy terrain for extended periods. This can be uncomfortable or even painful, especially if you have a back condition. Please contact us if you have any concerns.

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14. Time

The time in Sudan is 3 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

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15. What to take

Luggage:
To ensure smooth transport of everyone’s luggage in the vehicles, we kindly ask that you bring soft luggage instead of hard suitcases. A small daypack or bag is also recommended for daily outings. Your main luggage will typically stay at your accommodation during sightseeing trips, so you won’t need to carry it far. Hotel porters are usually available to assist with luggage handling.

Luggage Restrictions:
To optimise space and comfort in the vehicles, we ask that your main luggage does not exceed 15kg for this tour. As for hand luggage, most airlines allow between 5kg and 10kg, but we kindly request you limit yours to 5kg.

Clothing:
Sudan's climate varies from hot and dry in the north to humid and tropical in the equatorial south. The best time to visit is from October to April. During October/November and March/April, daytime temperatures range from 30-38°C, with nights around 12-18°C. In December/January/February, temperatures are slightly cooler at 25-30°C during the day, with nights dropping to 5-10°C. Summer temperatures can exceed 40°C, but tours are generally not held during this time. Dust storms (haboobs) can occur from July to August and again from November to January. You will need clothing suitable for hot days but also something warm for the cooler evenings and nights, especially in the desert areas.
Sudan is a predominantly Muslim country with Sharia law in place, and modesty is highly valued, particularly for

women. Therefore, it's advised that clothes be loose-fitting and not revealing. Women are not required to wear a veil or cover their heads, but it's a good idea to bring a headscarf or sunhat as they are often helpful in the desert sun. Shorts should be avoided by both men and women.

Other Essentials:
Bedding (sheets, blankets, pillow) will be provided at the Meroe desert camp, but we recommend bringing a lightweight sleeping sheet or liner for added comfort year-round (sand tends to find its way everywhere). Additionally, we suggest you bring a sunhat, sunscreen, sunglasses, a basic first aid kit, toiletries, a money belt, a small torch, a camera, and chargers.

Nimitti:
Between February and April, there can be an abundance of "nimitti" in the northern regions (Tombos, Soleb area). These small, harmless flies, which aid in palm pollination, can be quite bothersome. We will provide fly nets for face protection, and your tour leader will suggest wearing long-sleeved tops to help minimise discomfort.

Printed on: Saturday 31st of October 2026

Note: Please download an up-to-date copy of these tour notes shortly before you travel as itineraries and information does change from time to time.
