## **Half-Day Tour to Islamic Cairo**

**Price Starting From: \$50** 

4 Hours Egypt Cairo

Enjoy an unforgettable experience in Cairo through our half-day tour that takes you to Islamic Cairo, which is home to numerous historical monuments that reflect the splendor of Islamic architecture and the city's long history. The Al-Azhar Mosque is one of the oldest mosques in Egypt and one of the main centers for the dissemination of Islamic sciences since its foundation in the 10th century.

Another highlight is the Sultan Hassan Mosque, an architectural masterpiece with its huge dome and madrasa, where the four schools of jurisprudence were taught. Next to it is the Rifai Mosque, which is characterized by its grandeur and houses the tombs of kings and members of the Alawite family.

Also, you will visit the Khan El Khalili, which is a historic souk from the Mamluk era, perfect for lovers of shopping and traditional crafts. Bab Zuwayla is one of the remaining gates of Cairo's Fatimid walls and allows visitors to climb to the top to view the city from a unique perspective. Al Moez Street, the largest open-air museum of Islamic antiquities, with a collection of archaeological buildings such as Beit Al Suhaimi and Beshtak Palace, is the perfect place to enjoy the beauty of historic Cairo.

In just half a day, you will have the opportunity to visit Islamic Cairo, or Cairo of the Moazz, also called Historic Cairo or Medieval Cairo, which generally refers to the historic areas of Cairo that existed before the modern expansion of the city during the 19th and 20th centuries. Particularly the central parts around the old walled city and around the Cairo Citadel. The name "Islamic" Cairo does not refer to the greater prominence of Muslims in the area but rather to the city's rich history and heritage since its founding in the early period of Islam, distinguishing it from the nearby ancient Egyptian sites of Giza and Memphis.

Islamic Cairo is one of the largest and densest concentrations of historic architecture in the Islamic world. It features hundreds of mosques, cemeteries, schools, palaces, nawazils, and fortifications dating back to all parts of Egypt's Islamic era. In 1979, the United Nations Educational, Cultural, and Scientific Organization (UNESCO) declared Historic Cairo a World Cultural Heritage Site as "one of the oldest Islamic cities in the world, with its famous mosques, madrasas, baths, and fountains" and "the new center of the Islamic world that reached its golden age in the 14th century."

## Overview Inclusion

- Pick up from/to your hotel, go to the mosques of Islamic Cairo by Cairo Top Tours staff, and return.
- Tickets to the above-mentioned sites and mosques.
- Air-conditioned transportation in an exclusive air-conditioned vehicle during your private Islamic Cairo Tours.
- An experienced English-speaking guide during your Egypt Day Tours.
- A quality local restaurant lunch during the Cairo Islamic Tours.
- Complimentary mineral water and soft drinks during your Cairo half-day tours.
- Any taxes or service charges for your Islamic Cairo Day Trip.

- Additional costs are not mentioned in the Cairo Travel itinerary.
- Tipping is not included in the prices.
- Expenses for personal items during the Egypt tours.
- Beverages during meals.

## Itinerary

## **Half-Day Trip to Islamic Cairo**

You will have an excellent opportunity to explore the most magnificent structures and the splendors of Islamic architecture and art with the Islamic Cairo Half-Day Tour.

Our expert guide will be waiting for you at your hotel to start your tour in a private air-conditioned car for an unforgettable adventure exploring Islamic Cairo.

Your tour of Cairo begins with the Khan el Khalili Market, which is located in the neighborhood of Al-Hussein, in the Gamaleya section, and is a great tourist attraction for visitors to Cairo. Khan Al-Khalili is a famous market more than 600 years old, named after its founder, Prince "Jarkas Al-Khalili" from the city of Hebron in Palestine, one of the princes of Sultan Barqouk, and this market is one of the 38 markets that were distributed during the Mamluk period in the axes of Cairo.

The name had a share of its importance and function, as the first syllable means Khan, meaning a store, a shop, a place for sale, and the second syllable is Al-Khalili, which is one of the Mamluk emirs, and his name is Jarkas Al-Khalili, Khan Al-Khalili, and the market preferred his name after him, and it is one of the most important places to sell handicrafts in Egypt and one of the most important tourist places as well.

After experiencing Khan El Khalili, we will start another adventure in the impressive Citadel of Saladin. Salah al-Din al-Ayyubi began the construction of this castle on Mount Muqattam in AH 572 / AD 1176 at a place that was known as the aerial dome, but it was not completed during his lifetime but by Sultan al-Kamil ibn al-Adil (AH 604 / AD 1207), who was the first to inhabit it and took it over as the king's house, and it remained the seat of government in Egypt until the time of Khedive Ismail, who moved the seat of government to the palace of the king's palace in the palace of Ismail. It remained the seat of the Egyptian government until the time of Khedive Ismail, who moved the seat of government to the palace of Abdeen, also in the Cairo area.

This majestic castle went through many historical events, as its walls witnessed several historical events during the Ayyubid and Mamluk eras and the time of the French campaign in Egypt in 1798 AD until Muhammad Ali Pasha took over the government of Egypt, where he restored its prosperity and grandeur.

After finishing your half-day trip to the Islamic Cairo, we will go back to your hotel in Cairo or Giza.