



Christmas & New Year Breaks Desert Lake Safari



Lake Nasser on the Nile in Southern Egypt

Do something absolutely unique over the coming Christmas or New Year holidays come on a Desert Lake Boat Safari where you will find guaranteed sunshine and adventure.

Boat safaris are similar to the old style African luxury camping safari where cross country vehicles are used for game viewing and traveling, whilst large support trucks carrying the camping equipment and safari staff, traveling ahead to set up camps. Fundamentally, our safaris are the same except we use boats instead of vehicles. Our live aboard house boats and fishing boats replace the cross country vehicles and our well appointed mother ships the large support trucks. These boat safaris are exclusive with only a small number of people traveling together on a style of mobile camping that combines comfort with the unique experience of being out in a desert wilderness.

These safaris are a cruise between Aswan and Abu Simbel exploring the desert lake shore line, its wild life, people and stunning scenery. One of the highlights is visiting the Temples of Abu Simbel which are among the most magnificent ancient monuments in the world.

Camps are located on sandy beaches where it is safe to swim in the fresh lake water. There are plenty of opportunities to walk along the desert shore where, in some places the water has washed away the top soil, to reveal plant and animal fossils of bygone eras. Also, Stone Age drawings and more 'modern' hieroglyphics, carved by ancient Egyptians during their trading or mineral seeking expeditions down the Nile, can be found.

At night whilst camping under the desert stars, one hears all sorts of sounds: frogs, crickets, the call of an owl, howling jackals and night birds. When it's quiet and the camp lights have been turned off the area becomes alive; there is no shortage of wildlife. Gerbils tend to scout around for leftovers; desert foxes or Golden Jackals are also likely to be searching for tit bits; we encourage these remarkably tame animals by feeding them.



House boat supported by a mother ship on the right



Lake Nasser

Lake Nasser is situated in the middle of the largest and driest desert on our planet. To the West lies the huge Libyan Desert and to the East the Nubian Desert and across the narrow Red Sea is the massive Arabian Desert.

The lake is a lovely place to visit, the weather is nearly always sunny and bright; some areas have not see any rain at all for the past five or even ten years. The shoreline is a variety of desert landscapes, hilly and rugged, or flat and sandy with clean freshwater beaches. It's a magical wilderness of stunning desert scenery, bordered by the clean water of the lake, which is dotted with rocky islands. There is an atmosphere of tranquillity, vastness and adventure a wilderness where visitors literally have hundreds of square kilometres' to themselves.

The area supports an impressive variety of birds, mammals, and reptiles. Over 100 species of birds have been recorded within the Lake's dominion. Wild duck, Egyptian geese, pelicans, herons, egrets and various species of hawks, kites, falcons and eagles are amongst the birds to be seen on the Lake's shores. This area is an important staging point for migrant and over-wintering birds. In many areas of the Lake, crocodiles and monitor lizards make their home. Many other types of wildlife including Dorcas gazelle, jackals, desert fox, and various smaller desert mammals also inhabit the shoreline and islands.

Lake Nasser is populated by a small number of transient peasant fishermen and the residents are Bedouin camel and sheep herdsman, who are seen grazing their flocks on the sparse vegetation growing on the edge of the Lake.

The area also contained several important Nubian archaeological sites which were rescued from being inundated by the rising lake; the most notable are the temples of Abu Simbel, which were built by the Pharaoh Ramses II in 1200 BC.



Safari Units

Safari units are made up of one or two house boats (or fishing boats) teamed up with one of our five mother ships. The mother ship is an essential part of the safari unit; it's fitted with a built-in kitchen, dining area, toilet, and shower and there is also plenty of space to relax sunbathe or just watch the world go by. The mother ship travels ahead with the safari crew to set up camp; leaving the house boats free to explore the lake, viewing wild life and enjoying the incredible desert scenery.



House Boats

Safari house boats are a 'home away from home' with a sundeck, two cabins, toilet & shower and a small galley with a wash basin; the galley also contains an ice box full of cold drinks.

Safari house boats sleep four people comfortably or up to a maximum of six persons if two sleep on the sun deck and enjoy the unique and peaceful experience of sleeping under the desert stars.

These boats are ideal for family holidays – especially if Dad is a keen fisherman? Bring the family; they will have a wonderful adventure while father indulges in trying to catch one of the largest fresh water fish in the world or a hard fighting Tiger fish.



Fishing Boats

For a less expensive option you can use one of our fishing boats for a Desert Lake Safari. A fishing boat can comfortably accommodate two persons or, at a squeeze, up to four people. Fishing boats are less expensive than the house boats but there are disadvantages; there is less space and these boats are not fitted with an on board toilet & shower, these facilities are covered by the mother ships or perhaps behind a convenient bush on the shore?

Ta-Seti Safari

Our selection of four Christmas and New Year breaks last for a week and cover both Luxor and Aswan as well as a four day boat safari adventure which cruises on Lake Nasser, between Aswan and Abu Simbel covering the area of the original Nile which the ancient Egyptians called 'Ta-Seti' (land of the bow), after the weapons for which the Nubians were famous. In addition to the Nubian monuments this safari will give you a great insight into the wild life and desert grandeur of the lake. You also visit the magnificent temples of Abu Simbel.

1) Depart: 22 December – Return: 29 December 2008

2) Depart: 29 December – Return: 05 January 2009

Monday

On arrival at Luxor airport you will be met by an American Express tour coordinator who will transfer you to the Sonesta St. George hotel for the night.

Tuesday

Transfer to Luxor airport for an early flight to Aswan. On arrival in Aswan you will be met and transfer by air-conditioned mini bus to Garf Hussein; the drive takes about one hour then join your safari boats.

Wednesday

On safari, all meals and hot beverages are included.

Thursday

On safari, all meals and hot beverages are included.

Friday

Breakfast while cruising to Abu Simbel, arrive at 10.30am. Visit the Abu Simbel Temples escorted by an Egyptologist guide. Transfer to Aswan arriving late afternoon; overnight at the Basma hotel.

Saturday

There are several options for sightseeing in Aswan or you can just relax by the swimming pool at your hotel; overnight at the Basma hotel.

Please refer to 'Optional Sightseeing' below.

Sunday

A free morning in Aswan, with use of swimming pool, until your transfer to the station for a first class train ride to Luxor where you will be met and then transferred to a first-class hotel. During the train journey to Luxor you will get a fascinating insight into the fertile Nile Valley and Egypt's rural areas.

Monday

Free morning in Luxor or there are several options for sightseeing, please refer to 'Optional Sightseeing' below. In the late afternoon you will be transferred to Luxor airport for your flight home.

3) Depart: 24 December – Return: 31 December 2008

4) Depart: 31 December – Return: 07 January 2009

Wednesday

On arrival at Luxor airport you will be met by an American Express tour coordinator who will transfer you to the Sonesta St. George hotel for the night.

Thursday

Transfer to Luxor airport for an early flight to Aswan. On arrival at Aswan airport you will be met and transferred to the Basma hotel.

Gala Christmas dinner is included.

Friday

Early morning transfer by air-conditioned mini bus to Abu Simbel; the drive takes 3 hours and on arrival you will have an escorted tour of the famous Temples of Abu Simbel and then join the safari boats.

Saturday

On safari, all meals and hot beverages are included.

Sunday

On safari, all meals and hot beverages are included.

Monday

The safari ends at approximately 4pm at Garf Hussein when you will be transferred by air-conditioned mini bus to the Basma hotel in Aswan.

Tuesday

Free morning in Aswan; there are several options for sightseeing in Aswan or you can just relax by the swimming pool at your hotel. Please refer to 'Optional Sightseeing' below. At 6pm transfer to Aswan train station for a first class train ride to Luxor where you will be met by an American Express tour coordinator and transferred to the Sonesta St, George hotel.

Wednesday

Free morning in Luxor with several options for sightseeing; please refer to 'Optional Sightseeing' below. In the late afternoon you will be transferred to Luxor airport for your flight home.



Family Discounts

There is a family discount on the cost of each of our four Christmas & New Year breaks. Each child accompanying two full paying parents sharing the same boat gets a 20% discount. The two adults pay the full safari cost under the price band for the total number of family members sharing the house boat or fishing boat. For example two parents and two children, the parents would pay the full cost under the price band for 4 persons; the child discount will apply to the same price band. The lower age limit for a child is 9 years and the upper limit is 21 years old.

Dates & Prices

- 1) 22 December to 29 December 2008
- 2) 29 December to 05 January 2009
- 3) 24 December to 31 December 2008
- 4) 31 December to 07 January 2009

House Boat					Fishing Boat		
2 share	3 share	4 share	5 share	6 share	2 share	3 share	4 share
£685	£600	£540	£500	£470	£585	£490	£450
Single Supplement in hotels				£170			

Safari Information

- ✓ Price is per person.
- ✓ Hotel accommodation is on a bed & breakfast basis.
- ✓ All transfers between airports, hotels and the safari start point.
- ✓ An escorting mother ship with a chef and full safari crew.
- ✓ The house or fishing boats are captained by an experience English speaking guide.
- ✓ Full board, three good meals plus hot beverages at all times on safari.
- ✓ Entry fee and a qualified guide to visit Ramses II's great temples at Abu Simbel.

Not Included

- ✗ These holidays are sold throughout Europe we do not include flights, please contact us for details.
- ✗ Bottled water, soft drinks, beer, and wine.
- ✗ Laundry, drinks and personal items.





The African Angler

The African Angler has been operating big game fresh water fishing safaris on Lake Nasser for the past fifteen years and had the privilege of being the first to explore this remote and spectacular lake. The company is registered in Australia and is managed by Tim & Peter Baily who were both born and raised in Kenya. They have been involved in the safari business for most of their lives and have brought some of the atmosphere of a traditional Kenya safari to Lake Nasser.



One of the most important requirements for a successful safari is experienced staff; we take this seriously and devote a lot of time and effort in selecting and training our safari staff.

The safari staff and guides are all Nubians who are the people who used to inhabit the Nile Valley in southern Egypt and the Sudan before the area was flooded by Lake Nasser. In the 1960's, they had to migrate either into Egypt or south into the Sudan after the rising waters of the lake swamped much of their traditional homeland.



The Nubians have a proud and rich heritage with their own distinct traditions, architecture and languages. They achieved a highly developed civilization, long before the Pharaohs of Egypt, known as the Kingdom of Cush with a history that can be traced back to the dawn of civilization.

They are a naturally friendly people who have a very relaxed way of life compared to the 'fast' life we seem to lead in the Western world; perhaps we can learn something from them? You cannot beat them for their spontaneous and genuine friendship.

Our Nubian chefs will surprise you with their ability to conjure up amazing food in the middle of nowhere, including freshly baked bread every morning. The style of cooking is a blend of western taste merged with Nubian cuisine, which is superb – you will eat well.



Our safari staffs have many years of experience and will make sure you have a comfortable and enjoyable safari. With almost one member of staff for each guest all you need to do is relax and enjoy a fantastic desert lake experience.

Destination Guide

It is important that you are fully briefed as to what to expect on a boat safari so we have created a **Desert Lake Guide** which, on request, or when you make a booking we will send you. This guide contains all the essential information you will need to prepare yourself for a safari.



If you are interested in dedicated fishing safaris for Nile perch, Tiger fish and the big Vundu catfish then please ask for our pamphlet **Nile Perch Safaris**.

You might be interested in getting a copy of our recently published book **Nile Perch 'The Ultimate Guide for Anglers'** written by Tim Baily (African Angler)

Contact email: enquiries@african-angler.net



How to make a booking

1. Please contact us to confirm we have boats free on the date you have selected. If we have availability we will send you an invoice and our Destination Guide.
2. To confirm a booking a deposit of 25% of the holiday cost is required, this deposit will be deducted from your final payment. Payments can be made by bank transfer, or by using a credit card.
3. These holidays are sold throughout Europe we do not include flights, please contact us for details.

Payment Conditions

1. The deposit is not refundable if you cancel your safari.
2. There is an administration fee amounting to 25% of the deposit for changing your safari start date once it has been confirmed with a deposit.
3. Balance of payment is due six weeks before the safari starts after which date there will be no refund.
4. We recommend that insurance be taken out to cover all contingencies, including cancellation.
5. We will refund the balance, but not the deposit, within two weeks prior to arrival if the reason for canceling is not covered by travel insurance, for example civil strife or war, or when accredited authorities advise against travel. We refer to advice from the British Foreign Office website, www.fco.gov.uk.

Email: enquiries@african-angler.net



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