

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Imprint / Legend	2
List of Maps	6

HISTORY AND CULTURE

A Gift of the Nile	14
The Empire of the Pharaohs	18
Worship of the Gods and Belief in the Afterlife	28
Egypt's Great Gods	34
Pictures for Eternity	36
Antiquity and Christianity	38
Under the Banner of Islam	43
From Sultan Selim to President Mubarak	48

TRAVELING IN EGYPT

BETWEEN ORIENT AND OCCIDENT

Alexandria	59
The Beaches	66
From Alexandria to the Oasis of Siwa	67
The Delta and the Wādī an-Natrûn	68
GUIDEPOST: Hotels, Restaurants, Sights	70

PYRAMIDS, CHURCHES AND MOSQUES

Cairo	75
Old Cairo	83
The Islamic Old Town	86
The Pyramids of Gîza	101
The Necropolis of Saqqâra	106
Memphis: The Sunken Royal City	112
GUIDEPOST: Hotels, Restaurants, Sights	114

CENTRAL EGYPT AND THE OASES

Gîza and Beni Suef	119
Fayyûm Oasis	121
The Province of Minyâ	124
Asyût and the Oases of the New Valley	131
The Province of Sohâg	133
The Province of Qena	136
GUIDEPOST: Hotels, Restaurants, Sights	138

THEBES: CITY OF A HUNDRED GATES

Luxor	143
Karnak	150
Thebes West	159
<i>GUIDEPOST: Hotels, Restaurants, Sights</i>	180

FROM LUXOR TO THE NUBIAN TEMPLES

Esna	185
Al-Ka'b	186
Edfu	186
Kôm Ombo	188
Aswan	190
The Nubian Temples	199
<i>GUIDEPOST: Hotels, Restaurants, Sights</i>	205

CORAL REEFS AND WONDROUS MOUNTAINS

The Red Sea	207
The Desert Monasteries	209
The Suez Canal Zone	210
The Sinai Peninsula	211
St. Catherine's Monastery	213
<i>GUIDEPOST: Hotels, Restaurants, Sights</i>	215

FEATURES

Researching Ancient Egypt	218
The Mystery of the Hieroglyphs	222
Allahu Akbar	223
The Renaissance of Islam	224
Nasser's Pyramid Stands in Aswan	226
Little Space for Many Children	228
A Jasmine Morning	231
Nobel Prize for Naguib Mahfouz	232
Culinary Delights	234

GUIDELINES

Metric Conversion	236
Preparations	236
Climate / Travel Season	236
Clothing	236
Entry Requirements / Visas	237
Entering the Country by Car	237
Customs and Import Regulations	237
Currency / Foreign Exchange	238
Health Care	238
Routes to Egypt	238
By Air / By Ship	238
By Road	239
Travel within Egypt	239
A Few Words before You Travel	239
By Train	239
By Air / By Ship	240
By Bus or Group Taxi / By Car	240
Car Rental and City Taxis	241
Tours	241
Practical Tips from A to Z	241
Accommodation	241
Alcohol / Baksheesh / Banks / Electricity	242
Festivals / Calendar / Holidays	242
Filming and Photography	243
Food and Drink	243
Guides / Opening Times	243
Pharmacies	244
Post / Prices / Print Media / Shopping	244
Sports / Telecommunications / Time	245
Egypt in Statistics	246
Addresses	246
Airline Offices / Automobile Club	246
Embassies and Consulates	246
Egyptian Tourism Authority Offices	246
Basic Guide to the Egyptian Language	247
Author / Photographers	249
Index	250