

Extension for 5 nights to Sinai

- St. Catherine & Sharm El-Sheikh -

OCT 08TH (WED) CAIRO /ST. CATHERINE (B/D)

AFTER BREAKFAST TRANSFER TO ST. CATHERINE (A DRIVE OF APPROXIMATELY 7 HOURS) EN-ROUTE VISIT OYOUN MOUSA (MOSES EYES) AND THE PHARAOH'S BATHS.

**ARRIVE ST. CATHERINE & CHECK-IN TO YOUR HOTEL
DINNER AND OVERNIGHT STAY AT ST. CATHERINE VILLAGE HOTEL**

OCT 09TH (THU) ST. CATHERINE /SHARM (B)

02:00 AM

EARLY WAKE UP CALL

TRANSFER FROM YOUR HOTEL TO SINAI MOUNTAIN. CLIMB SINAI MOUNTAIN WITH AN ESCORT AND WATCH THE SUNRISE FROM THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN. THEREAFTER DESCEND DOWN THE MOUNTAIN AND TRANSFER BACK TO HOTEL.

BREAKFAST AT YOUR HOTEL.

THIS MORNING VISIT THE ANCIENT AND SACRED MONASTERY OF ST. CATHERINE'S, SITUATED AT THE FOOT OF MOUNT SINAI WHERE MOSES RECEIVED THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. (MONASTERY IS CLOSED EVERY FIRDAY, SUNDAY AND ON RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS).

LOCATED AT THE FOOT OF MOUNT MOSES, ST. CATHERINE'S MONASTERY WAS CONSTRUCTED BY ORDER OF THE EMPEROR JUSTINIAN BETWEEN 527 AND 565 AD. IT IS BUILT AROUND MOSES' BURNING BUSH, WHICH HAS A CHAPEL BUILT ATOP IT. ST. CATHERINE, WHO WAS TORTURED AND BEHEADED FOR HER CHRISTIAN BELIEFS, LENDS HER NAME TO SINAI'S CENTER OF RELIGIOUS TOURISM. A SINAI MONK ONCE HAD A VISION OF HER BODY AT THE TOP OF A NEARBY MOUNTAIN NAMED MOUNT CATHERINE WHICH IS THE HIGHEST SUMMIT IN SINAI, WHERE HER REMAINS WERE DISCOVERED.



THE MONASTERY WAS ORIGINALLY ORDERED BUILT BY EMPRESS HELEN, THE MOTHER OF CONSTANTINE THE GREAT, BUT WAS ACTUALLY BUILT BY EMPEROR JUSTINIAN TO HOUSE THE BONES OF ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA. ST. CATHERINE, WHOSE BODY WAS REPORTEDLY CARRIED AWAY BY ANGELS, WAS DISCOVERED 500 YEARS LATER AT THE TOP OF THE PEEK THAT NOW BEARS HER NAME. HER RELICS ARE STORED IN A MARBLE RELIQUARY IN THE BASILICA OF THE TRANSFIGURATION.

THE MONASTERY OF ST. CATHERINE IS ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN MONASTERIES IN THE WORLD ~ A GREEK ORTHODOX HOLY PLACE CONNECTED WITH THE PROPHET MOSES AND THE EXODUS OF THE JEWS FROM EGYPT. IT IS A SPECTACULAR NATURAL SETTING FOR PRICELESS WORKS OF ART, INCLUDING A WONDERFUL BYZANTINE MOSAIC DATING BACK TO THE 6TH CENTURY, ARAB MOSAICS, GREEK AND RUSSIAN ICONS, WESTERN OIL PAINTINGS, PAINTINGS ON WAX, FINE SACERDOTAL ORNAMENTS, MARBLES, ENAMELS, CHALICES, RELIQUARIES, INCLUDING ONE DONATED BY CZAR ALEXANDER II IN THE 19TH CENTURY, AND ANOTHER BY EMPRESS CATHERINE OF RUSSIA IN THE 17TH CENTURY.

BUT OF PERHAPS EVEN GREATER SIGNIFICANCE IS THAT IT HAS THE SECOND LARGEST COLLECTION OF ILLUMINATED MANUSCRIPTS AFTER THE VATICAN. THE COLLECTION CONSISTS OF SOME 3,500 VOLUMES IN GREEK, COPTIC, ARABIC, ARMENIAN, HEBREW, SLAVIC, SYRIAC, GEORGIAN AND OTHER LANGUAGES. IN 1844, A GERMAN SCHOLAR VISITING THE LIBRARY DISCOVERED — AND THEN ARGUABLY STOLE — THE CODEx SINAITICUS, AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT 4TH CENTURY VERSION OF THE BIBLE THAT NOW RESTS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM IN LONDON.

ST. CATHERINE'S HAS A RICH HISTORY INDEED. SO RICH THAT IT IS A SPARKLING EXAMPLE OF AN UNDISCOVERED JEWEL OF TRAVEL. IT HAS WITHSTOOD NUMEROUS ATTACKS OVER ITS 14 HUNDRED YEAR EXISTENCE THUS PROTECTING A RICH STORE OF ART, AND TODAY, WHILE IT IS ONE OF THE OLDEST MONASTERIES IN THE WORLD, ITS ORIGINAL, PRESERVED STATE IS UNMATCHED.

CHECK-OUT & TRANSFER TO SHARM (A DRIVE OF APPROXIMATELY FOR 3 1/2 HOURS).

OVERNIGHT STAY AT CROWN PLAZA HOTEL

[HTTP://WWW.CROWNEPLAZASHARM.COM/FRONT.HTM](http://www.crowneplazasharm.com/front.htm)

OCT 10TH (FRI) SHARM EL-SHEIKH (B)
BUFFET BREAKFAST AT HOTEL.
DAY AT LEISURE BY THE BEACH.
OVERNIGHT STAY AT CROWN PLAZA HOTEL

OCT 11TH (SAT) SHARM EL-SHEIKH (B)
BUFFET BREAKFAST AT HOTEL.
DAY AT LEISURE BY THE BEACH.
OVERNIGHT STAY AT CROWN PLAZA HOTEL

OCT 12TH (SUN) SHARM EL-SHEIKH (B)
BUFFET BREAKFAST AT HOTEL.
DAY AT LEISURE BY THE BEACH.
OVERNIGHT STAY AT CROWN PLAZA HOTEL

OCT 13TH (MON) SHARM EL-SHEIKH / CAIRO / USA (B)
BUFFET BREAKFAST AT HOTEL.
TRANSFER TO SHARM AIRPORT FOR YOUR FLIGHT ~ SHARM / CAIRO.
ARRIVE CAIRO AND CONNECT YOUR INTERNATIONAL DEPARTURE FLIGHT

CAIRO / NEW YORK
NEW YORK / LOS ANGELES

DL 009
DL 611

DEP. 11:30 AM / ARR. 5:40 PM
DEP. 8:30 PM / ARR. 11:59 PM

"END OF TOUR"

US\$ 1,085 PER PERSON SHARING TWIN ROOM

US\$ 240 SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

Cost includes:-

- ✦ **ACCOMMODATION FOR 1 NIGHT AT ST. CATHERINE VILLAGE HOTEL ON TWIN SHARING INCLUSIVE OF BREAKFAST AND DINNER.**
- ✦ **ACCOMMODATION FOR 4 NIGHTS AT CROWN PLAZA HOTEL ON TWIN SHARING INCLUSIVE OF BREAKFAST.**
- ✦ **TRANSFER BY CAR CAIRO / ST. CATHERINE / SHARM WITH AN ENGLISH SPEAKING ESCORT**
- ✦ **VISITS OF THE MONASTERY & SINAI MOUNTAIN WITH ENGLISH SPEAKING ESCORT.**
- ✦ **TRANSFERS SHARM HOTEL TO AIRPORT**
- ✦ **COACH CLASS AIR TICKET FOR TRAVEL SHARM / CAIRO**

Cost excludes:-

- ✦ **MEALS AND SIGHTSEEING TOURS NOT MENTIONED.**
- ✦ **ANY EXPENSES OF A PERSONAL NATURE SUCH AS, LAUNDRY, BEVERAGES, TELEPHONE CALLS, TIPPING, ETC.**
- ✦ **GRATUITY FOR TOUR LEADERS/DRIVERS AND GUIDES.**
- ✦ **TRAVEL & MEDICAL INSURANCE.**