

Dabuka Travel Visions

MAGAZINE

Issue III

November 2023 -

January 2024

Travel Visions
Spotlights
4 of the Best

Hidden Gems
Fly & Drive
Tanzania: Serengeti



TRAVEL WITH DABUKA

DEAR TRAVELERS IN TIME AND SPACE.

We live in turbulent times – certainties seem to be dissolving, the media floods us with contradictory half-information – but there are still cornerstones of life that cannot be changed.

For us it is the joy of traveling and also the joy of introducing other people to new places and new cultures – inside and outside of Egypt. That's why we're proud to present the 3rd issue of our travel magazine today with travel tips, stories and stuff to dream about.

Of course, questions always arise:

Which offer is the best for me? Which travel time is the best? What individual adjustments can I make? Is it safe??

That's why we're now offering a personal consulting service. Tarek is available online: Every Tuesday, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. (GMT+2), after prior registration, to answer your questions.

You can reach him on Telegram, Viber, Skype – and to make an appointment by email – tarek@dabuka.de



Our strengths lies in personal and individual support. We stand for making dreams come true, but not promising the impossible.

Of course, we also have our network that informs us daily about whether we can “send you into the desert” with a clear conscience or not.

A story from everyday life: Some time ago, Dorothee was in a hurry – as she often is – and ran quickly down the street to get as many things done as possible. Suddenly an Egyptian passerby tapped her on the shoulder and held her wallet in his hand. “Did you lose that?”, he asked, handing it back to her with a smile. Apparently the bag had fallen out of the bag while Dorothee was looking for something else in it.

“Peace starts with a smile”: Mother Teresa!

Smiling costs nothing and you will be richly rewarded with it here.

Tell us something too. Send us a picture of a special travel experience for a chance to win \$100 when we feature it in our next magazine.

We are happily looking forward to hear from you.

With best travel greetings.

Dorothee Rieche - Tarek El Mahdy



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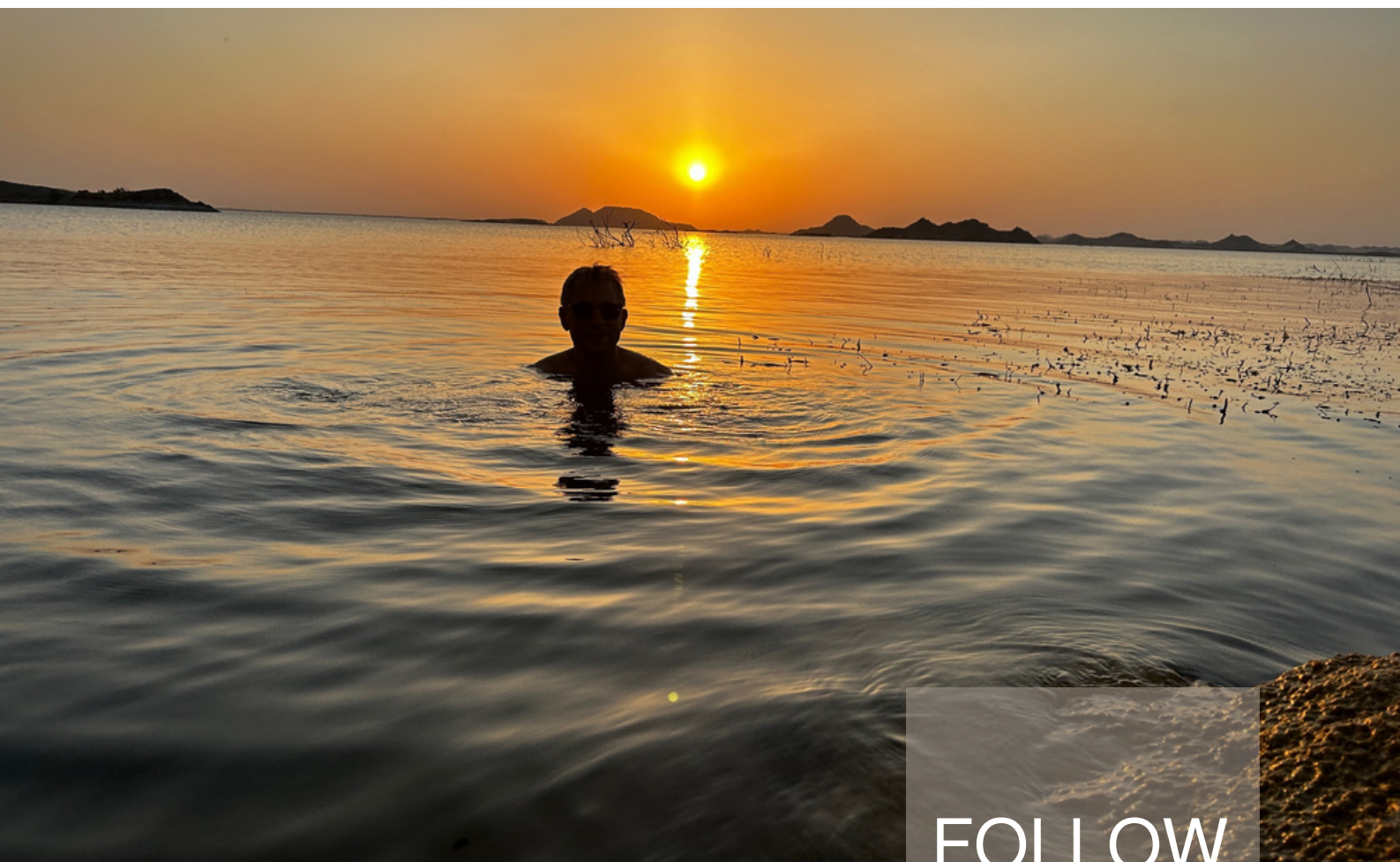
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Call it a Dream



Become a winner

FOLLOW
LIKE
AND
SHARE



Share your most beautiful travel photos with us on Instagram or Facebook and [#dabukatraveltvisions](#) to WIN a \$100 USD voucher to make more travel dreams come true!

The winners' photos will also have the chance to be featured in our next issue.

Our winner in this issue is Birgit Danelak, Berlin, Germany

For all existing Dabuka clients please join our EXCLUSIVE Facebook group "Dabuka insiders."



Closing Date: 15/01/2024

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CUSTOMER TESTIMONIALS

We love to hear about your amazing experiences with us and all your wonderful feedback is most welcome!

SAFARI BOAT ON LAKE NASSER & HAISSA ISLAND
BY BIRGIT FROM GERMANY

To the southern end of Egypt

We have already seen and experienced a lot in Egypt. What was still missing was the extreme south of the country. And so we set off on a very special journey.

In the middle of the infamous rush hour traffic, we drive to Giza train station to take the nostalgic night train to Aswan. The journey alone is an experience. We feel like we've been transported back to the 70s. However, the service on board and the delay of just 25 minutes at a distance of 860 km shame the current "Deutsche Bahn" by far.

In Aswan we are warmly welcomed by Khaled, our German-speaking tour guide, and we continue to a small ferry boat that takes us to the temples of Kalabsha and Beit El Wali.

After the tour we are greeted with the bright sound of a ship's bell: the Saï, a small, well-equipped safari boat, will be our floating accommodation for the next 4 days. As we are only now finding out, we will be the only two guests on board and also the only ship on Lake Nasser, which appears to us like a blue, glittering mirage. We glide along in pleasant peace, knowing full well that an entire culture lies beneath us. More than 50,000 Nubians had to leave their homes and were

resettled for the new reservoir. The crew, all Nubians, describe this sad part of their history to us impressively and very personally.

The days on board are never boring. We hardly get to read, the landscape that glides past us is far too varied. Apart from a few small fishing boats, we don't meet anyone. Instead, we enjoy magnificent sunrises and sunsets, climb high sand dunes and go hiking along the coast. The temples, which were relocated to higher areas in an unprecedented international relief effort to combat the rising water level of Lake Nasser, impress with their countless images and statues. Of all the gods, pharaohs and dates, our heads are soon spinning, only Ramses II remains permanently stuck.

It's a good thing that after the strenuous sightseeing in the heat that was still prevailing at the beginning of October, we were served around the clock and were served delicious food. Our Nubian crew always live up to their reputation for being particularly courteous and friendly. We even get to enjoy their very special musical abilities, which really touches us personally.



Call it a Dream



The last day on board is dedicated to the magnificent double temple of Abu Simbel. Approaching its giant colossal statues from the water is undoubtedly one of the many highlights of this trip.

The next morning we drive back to Aswan, where we are expected at one of the small ferries to cross over to Heissa Island. The island lies east of Aswan, squeezed between the Philae temple and the dam, and is one of the oldest Nubian islands. The Heissa Artie Guest House welcomes us with bright, bright colors and distinctive hospitality.

The ultimate icing on the cake awaits us in the afternoon: we have the opportunity to take part in the exuberant celebrations on the occasion of the Prophet's birthday. Hundreds



of people who arrived by boat from the surrounding villages take part in the procession, which is unusual for us. We experience pure Nubian joie de vivre that gets under your skin!

Before we fly back to Cairo the next afternoon, we enjoy the morning silence on a canoe tour between the islands and the dam - there's really nothing more that can be done.

Anyone who knows the Egyptian bureaucracy can imagine how many agreements, passport copies, phone calls... were necessary behind the scenes to make this trip such an unforgettable experience. That's why a big thank you goes to Tarek and Dorothee from Dabuka.



Call it a Dream

TRIP TO FAYOUM BY CHEHAB FROM GERMANY.

Out to the desert

We had a wonderful time. Experienced and seen a lot. Even for me as an Egyptian there was a lot that was new. We will definitely do more tours with you.

Our guide Adel was also great.

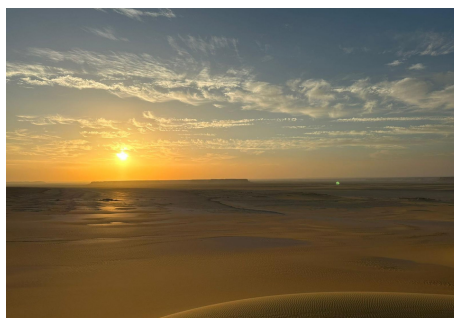
PRIVATE FAMILY KOSKINEN TRIP BY KRISTIINA FINLAND, EUROPE.

Trip to Wadi Hitan

This was our first trip to the desert and it was really unforgettable.

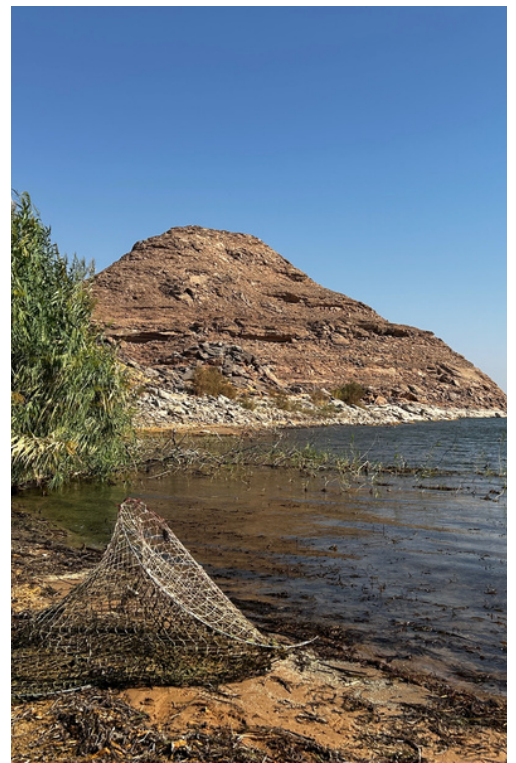
The 4x4 car was more comfortable than I thought and the landscape was amazing.

We loved crossing the dunes and sandboarding. My 13-year-old son said: "I'm sure I will remember this moment my whole life through." What more can you hope for?



Our driver Islam was very experienced, helpful and trustworthy and spoke good English. My husband wanted to buy some local things and he found us a shop. As we knew nothing about the attractions, he took us to all the sights on our route. Wadi el Hitan was really worth visiting. The night, campfire, stars, landscape and the peace in the desert were a wonderful experience - it was chilly though at night.

Dabuka arranged us this private tour on a short notice and a reasonable price. I highly recommend them.



NEWS

Tanzania

16.10 Rédaction Africanews

It's one of the most iconic images of Africa, the migration of over 1.5 million wildebeest across the Serengeti to the Masai Mara in Kenya in search of fresh grazing and water, the largest annual movement of animals globally.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors from all over the world come to the Serengeti in northern Tanzania each year to experience its vast open plains, stunning wildlife, and rich cultural heritage.

On Monday, it was named Africa's Leading National Park at the World Travel Awards for the fifth time in a row.

Egypt:

Egypt celebrates today the 121st anniversary of the Egyptian Museum In Tahrir.

The Egyptian museum is the oldest archaeological museum in the Middle East.

The Egyptian Museum in Tahrir was inaugurated in 1902.

The museum houses thousands of priceless Egyptian artefacts.

It contains the largest collection of ancient Egyptian antiquities in the world, including the famous Narmer Palette, royal statuary and artefacts from the age of the pyramid builders, the funerary collection of Yuya and Thuya, the grandparents of King Akhenaten, the treasures of Tanis, an extensive range of animal mummies, papyri, coffins and jewellery from different periods.

Egypt Today, 15.11.23



Call it a Dream



Join Egyptian Marathon 2024 by Dabuka

Start address:

Luxor City, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Finish address:

Luxor City, Luxor, Luxor Governorate, Egypt

Starting under the historic temple of Queen Hatshepsut, the Egyptian Marathon has been held regularly over the past 27 years proving to be the oldest ongoing marathon in Africa and the Middle East. With the marathon route going through multiple ancient locations such as the temple of Habou, temple of Amenophis, the Colossi of Memnon and much more, the Egyptian Marathon promises to be an unforgettable experience inspired by pharaonic tradition.

Important to notice that our marathon is also accredited by the Abbott World Marathons Majors in which you can collect points amounting to being included in future Major Marathons events.

Main information:

- Marathon (AIMS measure), In-line, Skate, Wheelchair.
- Luxor Run (22.289 km)
- Ramsis Run & walk (12.336km)
- Hatshepsut Run & Walk (5 km)
- Race categories: Male, Female, open and Masters division.
- Services: Every 2.5 km (Mineral water & Banana)
- Temperature between 18-23 digress humidity 44%, wind speed 4 knot (knot=1.15kn/h).

After 20 years and a billion dollars, the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) will soon be ready to welcome visitors, according to a report by CNN,

Described as "largest museum in the world dedicated to one civilization," the GEM is also expected to become one of the world's leading centers for archaeological and historical study.

Strategically set between Cairo and the Great Pyramid of Giza, the GEM has an 120-acre footprint and will house 100,000 artifacts, 20% of which will be on public display for the first time, over 12 exhibition halls that take up 484,000 square feet of floor space.

Among the historical treasures that will be housed in the GEM are Tutankhamen's sarcophagus along with all of the 5,000 artifacts that were found in his tomb when it was uncovered in 1922, a 30-foot-tall, 3,200-year-old statue of Ramses the Great, and the Khufu ship, a fully intact solar barge that was buried next to the Great Pyramid in 2500 BC.

The structure was designed by Irish architectural firm Henghan Peng after their vision for a future home of Egyptian historical artifacts won a contest in 2003. According to Architectural Digest, the GEM's construction was plagued by setbacks, from the financial crisis in 2008 to 2011's Arab Spring and the Covid pandemic.

A March 2022 article by Building Design + Construction reported that the structure was "99% complete, with the remaining 1% representing the final touches and logistics for the official opening, planned for November 2022." While no date has been officially announced, Architectural Digest says "there are murmurs of a late 2023 inauguration."

Art News, 8.11.23

Stories beside the main stream

My way from Germany to Tunisia – Libya – Egypt – (Part II).

After some adventures with my Toyota Landcruiser on my way from Germany to Tunisia – a trip which I did alone just to fulfill a dream - finally I came to the Tunisian border ready to enter Libya.

In our imagination, national borders are often a bit formidable and we treat them with certain seriousness. But for me - as the two borders are close together and the border police uniforms look very similar, I didn't even recognize when I had entered Libya. Suddenly it was done, they stamped the passport and then I had to enter with the car into a hall. So far – so good.



I entered and waited and nothing happened. So I started to look around and saw, that all cars coming in were heading to a man in uniform behind a desk near the entrance – obviously the customs.

I went to him and told him that I was on my way to Egypt and wanted to complete the formalities. As you can imagine, the next thing was about money. He asked for a fee for the number plates. Still convinced that I had done everything very correctly so far, I told the official that I had no Libyan money with me and needed a bank to exchange.

His face looked like a big question mark as he asked me why I hadn't used any of the many exchange opportunities on my way through Tunisia. My pride in having avoided the black market so far because I wanted to do everything correctly and officially began to crack when I heard, that there was no bank at the border. Things didn't get any better when the officer then asked me for US dollars – which I had but didn't want to declare.



Torn between distrust and my desire to move things forward, I said I had German Mark.

Perhaps we both got a lesson in international understanding at this point, as the official was completely taken aback by a currency he had never heard of as well as by behavior he couldn't understand – and I on the other hand slowly realized, that I wasn't as prepared for Libya as I thought. Speaking Arabic didn't mean to speak the same language!

His next question was about what I had in the car!

My goodness – the car was loaded to the roof! It took me a while to write everything down (at least what I remembered). Relieved, I handed in the paper – which the official didn't even look at, but gave it a nice green stamp and signed with a green pencil. Green is, after all, the color of hope and in fact, the paper has now been declared an official document. Libya's national flag used to be green!

Back to the money question.

Since we couldn't get anywhere with US dollars and German mark, the official asked for Tunisian dinars. Here I scraped together the last of my Tunisian money, the amount of which didn't excite him, but which he quickly disappeared into a drawer.

I gave up thinking about it, my international education progressed....and....I got the license plates I wanted to drive



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through!

But it wasn't time yet. The officer said that I still needed to get insurance, so he asked me in Arabic to go to the "Hazira", which means "stable".

I became a bit worried. A stable is normally for animals...

In any case, the border officer was obviously happy to be rid of me, gave me my stamped passport, my papers and a colleague to show me the way to the "stable".

As we drove on, a million questions flashed through my head - which I didn't dare ask - and the person next to me wasn't talkative at all.

Finally, after about 30 "silent kilometers", my companion led me to a large building where many fully loaded trucks were already waiting. I realized that the "stable" here was the customs office for trucks!



My companion's task was thus accomplished; he basically unloaded me and disappeared.

At least luck was on my side because I ended up with the head of customs, who was the first to be willing to actually talk to me and even invited me to lunch.

Here, too, I was asked about money again - i.e. I needed Libyan dinars, which were only available on the black market.

My counterpart tried to help me, but you have to understand that at that time the cell phone connection in Libya was by no means existing and a simple call could become a more complex undertaking. But while I was still wondering more and more whether I would even be able to enter the country properly in the foreseeable future, I started talking to the Head of Customs and he told me that he had a girlfriend in Germany, that he



sees her from time to time on visits. That's why he also knew how complicated it can sometimes be to really understand other countries and customs.

He told me his story:

One day he was at a bank in Germany to withdraw money from his account when a little girl who was standing in line next to her mother suddenly shouted in his direction: "Foreigners out!" And even though her mother several times tried to stop her daughter, she shouted again and again until my counterpart became too embarrassed and waited in front of the bank until the mother and the girl had finished their business...

When I heard a story like that, I didn't want to complain about my previous immigration experiences anymore!

This was the first Libyan I ever met, his name was Abdel Razek and he impressed me deeply when he suddenly gave me a share of his salary so that I would have Libyan dinars with me in any case until I had completed my black market business!

Before I left, he gave me a contact to swap near Tripoli and I continued with the good feeling that I was now on the right track in many ways.

Read what happened next in our coming issue.



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OUTSTANDING DESTINATIONS



Selected Destinations Around The Globe

We would like to introduce to you The Western Desert.

Part 1: Eocene Plateau - Abu Mohareq Dune

The Abu Mohareq Dune is called in Arabic “The Father of motion” and it is the longest chain of dunes in Egypt. The dune reaches a length of over 500 kms from the north till the south and is changing its form while traveling to the south. The direction of the dune is parallel to the main wind direction in North Africa and the sand is transported from the North/Northwest to the South/Southeast. It starts in the north in an area that is known as “Two Depressions” and stretches then along the entire Eocene Plateau (the area that is limited to the River Nile - Nile

Valley in the east and the oasis road that connects the oasis in the west) and then it continues for 100 kilometers further south till it stops around a place called Baris.

The story of the Abu Mohareq dune is not 100% clear. For the local inhabitants the darb (camel caravan routes) were important as they connected the oases to the Nile Valley.

In history the Abu Mohareq dunes became important for the first time to the British government during World War I (Great War), when the Senussi tribes had invaded Egypt from Libya and had occupied the oases in the western desert.

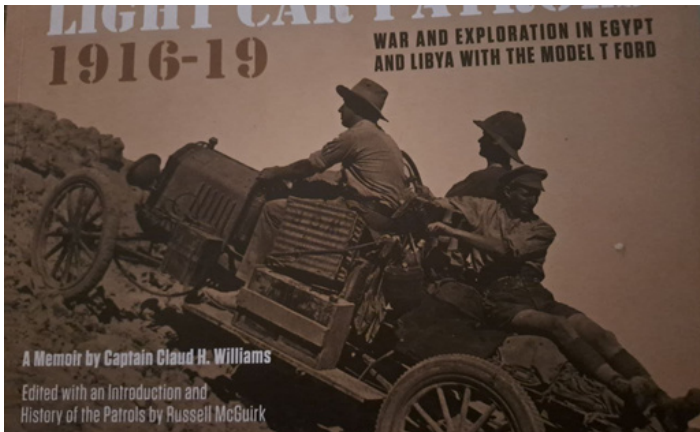


Call it a Dream

The British government became very worried and formed their first motorized motor car patrols consisting of some Ford Model "T"s.

They followed the old camel darb and constructed a railroad along that darb through the desert. The construction proceeded until they came across the Abu Mohareq Dune. This was an obstacle for the railroad line. It had to be ended here.

But shortly afterwards the Senussies left the Bahareya oasis and withdrew to the west to the Siwa Oasis. Now the British were delighted that their problem to cross the Abu Mohareq dune was no longer important and the project of constructing or finishing the railway was abandoned.



After the war the desert survey of Egypt was founded by the expert Dr. John Ball as its first director. One of his first projects was to create maps and discover and measure the Abu Mohareq Dunes.

Following the dunes to the south, the landscape changes permanently. You will find Nummulites, some vegetation and different limestone formations.

There is one place where you feel like you are in a surreal world – especially at sunset.

That area is called "Pink Panther Plateau", as the limestone rocks shimmer pink while the sun is going down.

At other places you come across broken pottery and once your eyes get used to observe, you will see at the top of some hills so-called "Alams", landmarks for further Darbs crossing the dunes. In this area you can find frequently very old camel bones or skeletons.



{Reading advice- "Light Car Patrol 1916 -1919" -

Autor: Claud Williams & Russell McGuirk}

Further south you reach nowadays some stone marked tracks. If you follow them you will find the legendary Djara Cave.

The Djara Cave was shown to the German Expedition of Gerhard Rohlfs by their Kabir (Leader) on Christmas Day 1873, exactly 150 years ago.

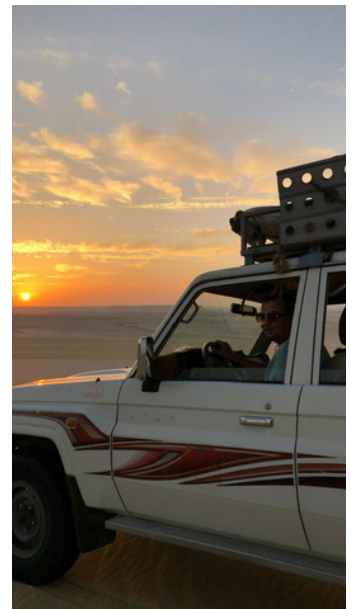
Rohlfs was the first to document the cave, which then fell into oblivion until the German Carlo Bergman rediscovered it again in 1989. The Djara cave is a stalactite cave in the middle of the dry desert. Several thousand years ago this cave was inhabited by humans and some rock engravings are still visible, documenting their former existence.

Further to the south the Abu Mohareq is changing its structure completely and the dune chains are turning into a labyrinth of crescent dunes and a further labyrinth of limestone rocks (a small kharafish) is blocking the way.

Once you've found your way through this wild landscape, at the end you reach the Eocene plateau.

The so-called Passe du Fou (pass of the crazy) is a pass that slowly brings the explorer back to the plain. From here you can continue towards the Kharga Oasis, where you can visit the Roman ruins of Labaka and Um Dabadib.

Follow the Abu Mohareq Dunes westwards and the journey can continue for a long time.



TRAVEL VISIONS



Series: Hidden Gems

"Society has arisen out of the works of peace; the essence of society is peacemaking. Peace and not war is the father of all things." Ludwig Von Mises

History teaches us that unfortunately it does not seem possible to have a world lasting peace. Suddenly we find ourselves in the middle of controversial parties; wars have shaped history. It seems all the more important to try to understand history in order to be able to face the future in peace.

One such piece of earth steeped in history is the city of El Alamein.

From a nomad's perspective:

"People call it a barren desert, but we call the land of my grandfathers and parents our country. I grew up here and moved around with my flock of sheep and goats. There was enough to eat and there were pine trees as far as the eye could see. The rain filled our cisterns and life was quiet and peaceful.

One day, workers came and built a railway embankment. A little later one of these iron monsters drove through our country with a deafening noise. In addition, stations were built

at equal distances all along the railway, which they called train stations.

A station was also built on our land which was called "El Alamein".

After a few years strangers came, they were said to be soldiers who didn't speak our language. But we understood that we had to leave our country because it was war now and our country the front line, whatever that meant. I no longer understood the world!

We left and for months strangers killed each other and with all sorts of modern military equipment they left craters and corpses everywhere.

One day, they were gone, leaving behind holes and bent tanks, vehicles and possibly rubbish.

In the years that followed, other strangers came back and buried their dead and built memorials and cemeteries. Once a year in autumn the strangers come back and celebrate what they call a reconciliation.



Booking details

Day Tour to Alamein

Duration: 1 day

Price: 100\$ /pp

For us, life went back to normal as it always does one day."

Today Desert plants surround El Alamein War Cemetery's headstones.

Just outside town, the German War Memorial is a fortress-like structure with a central obelisk, built over a mass grave. The Italian War Memorial is a tower inscribed inside with names of the dead.

The meaning of El Alamein is "Two Words", or "Two Flags", it was the turning point of the North African Campaign - but also the homeland of local nomads. Remembering a war always means a memorial for peace!

Recipe for happiness:

A pinch of patience
A knife tip of goodness
A spoon full of joy
And a bunch of love



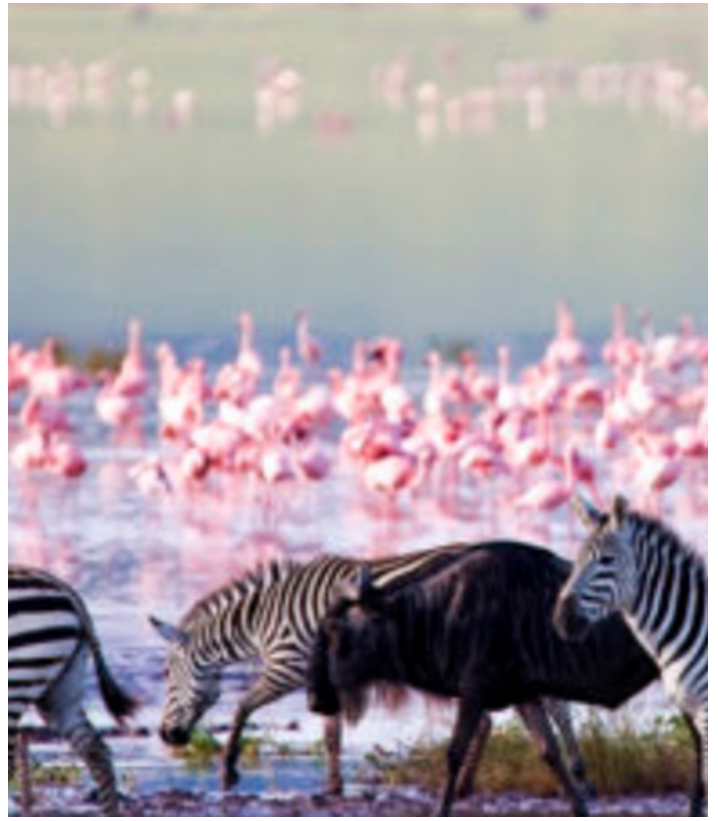
Contact: : 0101 506 9061

Email:

service@dabuka.de

www.dabuka.de

Call it a Dream



Think Big

Why little when it can be more?

Does it sound crazy to combine three extraordinary destinations?
Never mind – it’s healthy to be a little crazy.

Egypt – Socotra – Tanzania

From the Pharaohs to the Garden of Eden to the safari paradise, if you’re on the move, then totally.

Fascinating history, legendary landmarks and stunning landscapes are some of the most obvious reasons to visit Egypt. But it’s also overflowing with hidden gems, gorgeous beaches, delicious cuisine and opportunities for adventure. Get the main attractions of Egypt all in one – Live life – Egypt!

Socotra – a journey to the end of the world.

The Socotra Archipelago lies in the Indian Ocean between the Arabian Peninsula and the Horn of Africa being located some 240km east of Cap Guardafui (Somalia) and some 380km south of Ras Fartak, (Al Mahrah, Yemen).

Socotra is globally important for biodiversity conservation because of its exceptionally rich and distinct flora and fauna. It is home to 825 plant species of which 308 (37%) are endemic. These species are found nowhere else on Earth.

Trip name: Think Big

Duration: 21 Days / 20 Nights

Price: From 6296 \$

UNESCO designated Socotra as a World Heritage Site in 2008. It’s no wonder why Socotra is often called “Galapagos of the Indian Ocean”.

A land of incense and myrrh, and of miracle aloes that would heal the Greeks and Romans in times of war, Socotra was also a place for sorcerers, genies and monsters. Myths and legends proliferate. From Plato to Marco Polo who stated that its sorcerers were the most powerful in the world. There lived flying snakes, it was believed that its mountains hid a Phoenix nest and the equally fantastic Roc bird, the huge bird described by Sinbad the Sailor.

Our local partner will take you on a very special journey.

Tanzania is Africa's visual masterpiece.

Tanzania has more languages than any other African country. It has over 100 languages, however, the national languages of Tanzania are English and Swahili. It is home to Africa's highest point and lowest point. The highest is the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, while the lowest is the floor of Lake Tanganyika.

Tanzania offers amazing cultural experiences, beautiful landscape, beaches and wildlife encounters that are second to none. From the breathtaking wildebeest migration in the Serengeti to the exotic beaches of Zanzibar, Tanzania has it all and more.



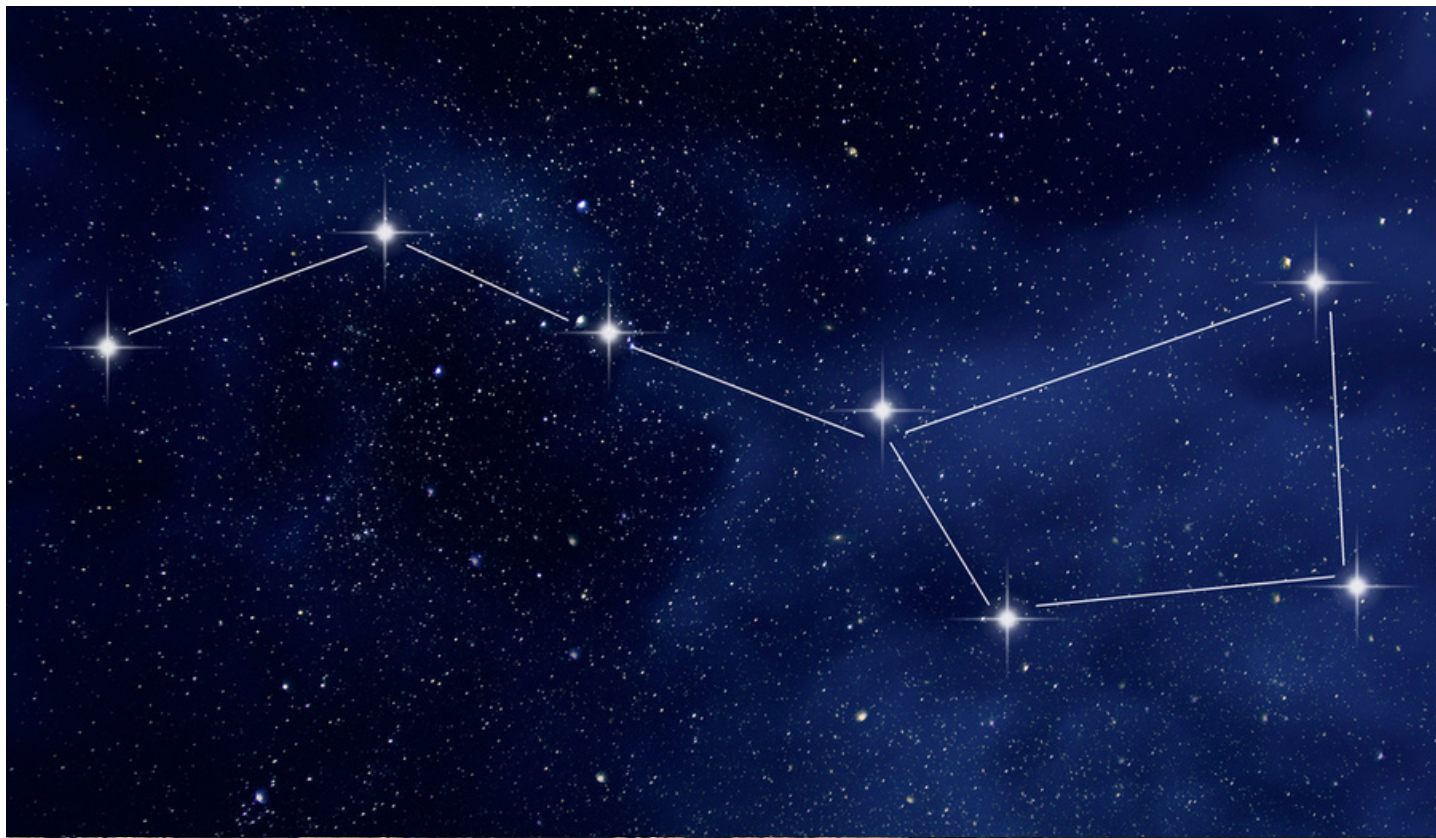
Contact: : 0101 506 9061

Email: service@dabuka.de

www.dabuka.de

Call it a Dream

SPOTLIGHTS



Time travel under the stars

Stars have always captivated their viewers and provided orientation. And the images they form in the sky continue to pose new puzzles for astronomers and astrologers. But even without being a specialist, the Milky Way and the Big Dipper often lead to dreams of their own.

The 12 zodiac signs of astrology correspond to 13 constellations along the ecliptic, the path the sun follows in the sky over the course of a year.

Since Egypt has the shortest distance to the sky, the best places for stargazing in Egypt are limitless.

The Big Dipper is a striking constellation that serves as a guide to other constellations in the sky. If you extend the rear edge of the chariot five times, you will come across the North Star, which marks the north celestial pole.

What we know as the Big Dipper was

called Meshetiu in ancient Egypt. This constellation had a special meaning for the Egyptians, which is reflected not only in frequent mentions in religious texts, but also in the fact that certain buildings were orientated after it or one of its stars.



Dune driving and more -

Wadi Hitan – Abu Mohareq Dunes –
Djara Cave

Date: 8 days / 7 nights
Price: 1012 \$/pp
Contact: service@dabuka.de
www.dabuka.de
+20 101 506 9061

- 1- A shooting star hurtles through space at a speed of 250.000 km per hour – ten times faster than a space shuttle. If a larger meteor penetrates the Earth's atmosphere, you can even hear it: as a distant rumble of thunder.
- 2- Meteors can be as small as a micrometer or as large as a grain of rice. If they measure more than a centimeter, they shine even brighter and are called fireballs.
- 3- The word "shooting star" is derived from "schnuppe", the fame for the glowing end of the wick of a candle. In French, shooting stars are called "étoiles filantes", literally translated as "stringy stars", and in Spanish, "estrellas vagas", lazy stars.
- 4- Every 33 years, a true shooting star fireworks display, called the Leonid Storm, light up the sky over North America. It was particularly impressive in 1966: At that time around 40 shooting stars were counted per second.
- 5- In the Middle Ages, people believed that shooting stars were falling pieces of stars that angels had broken out while cleaning.

Just make a wish – it can become true!



Call it a Dream



How much tipping in Egypt??

Please note – this is just an orientation – tipping is not obligatory but highly appreciated by the people who try to make your life better!



Arrival at the airport:

Helper with luggage

10 LE

Guide

2\$ - 5\$ /pp

Go to a public toilet.

5 - 10 LE

Get a ride to your hotel:

Driver for a private transfer

2\$ -4\$ /car

Hotel:

Helper with luggage.

10 -15 LE

Room service per day.

10-20 LE / order

Cleaning personal

20-50 LE / day

Private sightseeing:

Driver ½ day (4h)

3\$ - 6\$ /car

Guide ½ day (4h)

3\$ - 6\$ /pp

Driver 1 day (8h)

4\$ - 8\$ /car

Guide 1 day (8h)

3\$ - 8\$ /pp

Desert trip with 4x4 cars:

Driver in the desert.

4\$ - 8\$/car/day

Driver in the desert & cooking & guide .

6\$ - 12\$/car/day

Desert guide

25\$-28\$ pp/ day



Nile Cruise ship:

Guide on the cruise

3\$ - 5\$ pp/ day

Staff on the cruise

2\$ - 4\$ pp/ day

Dahabeya on the Nile:

Guide on a dahabeya.

10\$-15\$ pp/ day

Staff on a dahabeya

7\$-10\$ pp/ day

Safari Boat on Lake Nasser:

Guide on a Safari Boat

25\$-28\$ pp/ day

Staff on a Safari Boat

15\$-18\$ pp/ day



Recipe to cook in the desert

Chackshooka

A simple traditional Egyptian dish

Ingredients:

Eggs -oil -chopped onion -tomato sauce- green bell peppers and garlic, oriental spices, cumin-paprika - salt&pepper.

Recipe :

First add all the chopped vegetables into the heated pan with 2 big spoons of oil. Add the spices cumin-paprika-salt&pepper. Then add the tomato sauce and let them stir for 5 minutes.

Finally crack the egg into the sauce and cover it with the lid, wait another 5 minutes.

Now you have the most famous Egyptian breakfast dish.

Enjoy!

Middleclass restaurant:

Tips: if not included 5-10% from final amount

A further tip: A few nice arabic words and a smile can make a difference.

Thank you = Shokran
Ok. = Mashi
Good bye. = Ma Salama





▲ picture of the Citadel donated by Mr. O'Correll, Australia

The LRDG in the Citadel.

You ever heard about the LRDG?

It means the "Long Range Desert Group" and was a British special military unit founded in Egypt during World War II and disbanded shortly after the end of the war.

On 5th December 1940 the base of the LRDG was shifted to the Citadel of Cairo, overlooking Cairo from the Mokkatam Hill with a view of the Pyramids.

And although this group didn't exist that long, it is still famous today and the descendants of LRDG members are still interested in learning how and where their relatives fought.

Many books have been written on this topic, and the history of the LRDG has the aura of the extraordinary.

The LRDG was the brainchild of Major (later Brigadier) Ralph A. Bagnold, to scout out the enemies behind the enemy lines with a small motorized unit.

It was based on small trucks. Each truck had a base team of three men and should be self-sufficient to cover about 2400 kms and stay out for around fourteen days. In the beginning each patrol consisted of 32 men traveling in 11 two wheel-driven trucks.

Bagnold first looked for some desert-experienced officers and men, who initially came from New Zealand.

They set a high standard from the start and established the LRDS's legendary reputation.

Since there were often no more than 300 men, in that private army, the LRDG was also known as the Mosquito Army.



The Italians, who were their enemy, described them as a phantom army and were horrified from these trucks that appeared from nowhere out of the desert some hundred miles behind the front, fulfilling their operation and disappearing into the desert again.

The desert fox, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, said that the LRDG had caused much more damage to them than any other unit of that size.

Overall, these were really selected men who also received special training. Everyone who served in the LRDG became an expert in his field but was trained to have enough knowledge to replace anyone else if needed. As they were all volunteers they were really committed to their job.

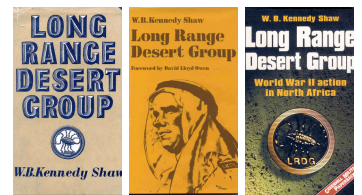
For example Pat Clayton, a specialized cartographer who used to work as a survey inspector in Egypt before the war. Eight years before the outbreak of the war, Clayton had already discovered a secret backdoor through the Great Sand Sea into Libya, many kilometers south from the front line.

Bagnold himself was a signal officer and knew how important communication was. He built up the best wireless network, and distances of over 1500 kms could be covered.

Interested to know more?

We recommend : "The Long Range Desert Group" by W.B. Kennedy-Shaw - who himself was one of the founding British officers of the LRDG. He was their first intelligence Officer.

▼ LRDG men parade (photo IWM)

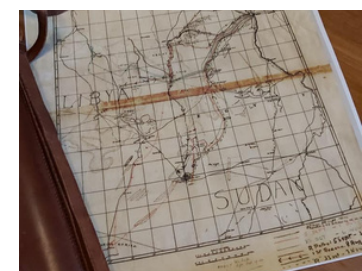


From left to right the same book 1st edition 1945 - reprint 1989 - reprint 2000

The Long Range Desert Group by W.B. Kennedy -Shaw



▲ Eroded flimsy for fuel transportions



▲ An early patrol route on a map



Egypt up close - New experience!

Every new place and every experience leaves a small mark on our soul. You know why travelling makes you happy and why there is nothing better than looking at the sun from a different perspective and breathing the air of foreign continents?

- A feeling of happiness and freedom
- New inspiration
- Get to know new things
- Discover the beauty of the world
- Test your limits
- Clear your head and breathe deeply
- To broaden one's horizon
- Spiritual wealth
- Appreciation
- Fun fact
- Collect memories
- Goosebump moments

Trip Name: Fly& Drive Egypt
 Season: October - May
 Duration: 14 Days/ 13 Nights
 Price: From 3284\$ pp



Call it a Dream

Experience with us the icing on the cake:

As a self-drive to the highlights of Egypt - a new type of active holiday without regrets.

Get to know the highlights of Egypt in a very special way - as a chauffeur in your own car.

We show you the way and organize it – you drive yourself and enjoy.

Independence and self-determination give your travel adventure a special flair.

At the same time, we are always there if you need a backup – linguistically, organizationally, technically.

Egypt's sun, friendly people and diverse landscape as an "all-round carefree package".

.....
 "A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions".

.....
 Oliver Wendell Holmes

Contact: 0101 506 9061
 Email: service@dabuka.de
www.dabuka.de



Route:

Cairo – Quseir – Hamata – Shalatin-
Wadi Gemal N.P. – Aswan – Luxor –
Minya – Cairo



FOUR OF THE BEST



Our dream has a name - “Dabuka Blue”.

The shape of our ship is slowly emerging from tons of iron and wood – from 2024 we will accompany you and your dreams across water and land to untouched nature and historical sites with a new perspective. With imagination and love, we are currently creating a floating home for anyone who wants to combine culture, nature and relaxation.

We are particularly excited about this project, because it offers the opportunity to create something very personal with a “feel-good-guarantee”:

Our individual boat tour, brings you from Aswan to Abu Simbel or vice versa. Sunrises and sunsets on the water, quiet gliding without a lot of noise and haste, short stops for walks on land. Small group sizes and a crew always ready to pamper you support the individual travel character.

Nubia, the beautiful austere land that once linked Egypt and black Africa, now lies beneath the world’s largest man-made lake – Lake Nasser.

Along Lake Nasser’s shore the site Abu Simbel Temples is among the most awe-inspiring monuments in all Egypt after the Giza Pyramids. Built by the greatest of the pharaohs, Ramses II, these huge rock cut temples marked the southern border of the Egyptian Empire with Nubia at the peak of its power during the New Kingdom.

Today, they still convey the spirit of a great era, that has stood test of time.

Route: (could be)

- Day 1: Wadi El Seboua - Dakka – Meharraga (Luxury Safari Boat)
- Day 2: Aswan - Kalabsha - Ghazal (Luxury Safari Boat)
- Day 3: Amada – Pennout – El Derr (Luxury Safari Boat)
- Day 4: Kasr Ibrim – Abu-Simbel (Luxury Safari Boat)
- Day 5: Abu-Simbel – Check-out

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“A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work.” Colin Powell



Call it a Dream



Fly and drive - Summer special (available from June to September)

Did you know?

Camels have three sets of eyelids and two rows of eyelashes to keep sand out of their eyes.

Camels have thick lips which let them forage for thorny plants other animals can't eat.

Camels can completely shut their nostrils during sandstorms.

There are 160 words for camel in Arabic.

Of course, you are not a camel, but perhaps you are interested in discovering part of the Egyptian desert by following old camel caravans.

There is only one word for it: Amazing!

Your “desert ship” is your car – and you are the Capt’n. Learn how to manage dune driving from an expert, feel the freedom to find your own way and enjoy huge sand dunes, overnight under the stars and a swim in the oasis.

Say “hi” to a little challenge and a special group experience. We’ll show you the way and take care – you drive yourself and enjoy.

You will love the adrenaline-pumping experience of 4x4 vehicles across the dunes. The full speed and feeling of dry wind in your hair can’t be compared to any other ride.

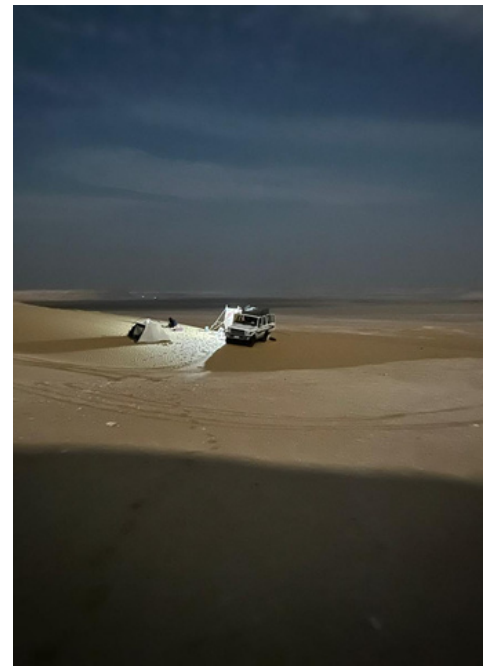
By the way – sunlight helps the body synthesize vitamin D, which contributes to bone and tooth health, improves mood and fight depression.

Route:

Cairo – Baharyea- Farafra – Darb Dakhla – White Desert – Wadi el Hitan – Kusur El Arab - Cairo.



Call it a Dream



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Booking details
Fly & Drive (summer)
12 days / 11 nights
From \$690 USD



Egyptian me-time

“The key is in not spending time, but in investing it”, Stephen R. Covey.

What about investing time in yourself by traveling elsewhere?

We invite you to a feel good tour to the main attractions of Egypt, combined with a special accommodation. Beyond the anonymous hotel complexes, we bring you to historical and authentic accommodation.

Understand the stories of the ancient Pharaoh's whose spirit are still be felt at the famous sites, because you can really rest at night and let the impressions of the day sink in.

Some examples:

Eco Lodge, Nubia. Located within a short distance from the famous Aswan Dam, the Temple of Philae, on the islet of Angelika, immerses visitors in the history of ancient Egypt. Dedicated to the protective goddess Isis, its bas-reliefs and murals make it an exquisite sanctuary in the country. Open all year round, the fully equipped lodge overlooks the temple of Philae. It has a banquet room and a restaurant that serves traditional Nubian cuisine based on organic products grown on-site.

The ecolodge, consisting of nine rooms built from granite and mud, also has facilities for a wide range of activities, including kayaking and swimming, sightseeing and Nubian craft markets. The facility has attracted tourists globally. It has won commendation from the United Nations World Tourism Organization and the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism for its outstanding achievements in sustainable development.

Villa Belle Epoque, Maadi, Cairo, is considered to be the first boutique hotel in Egypt that gives tourists the experience of living the Egyptian style.

This hotel is an old villa built in 1907. It was opened as a hotel in March 2009. There you can find an intimate accommodation with customized hospitality in a magical location. The hotel is located 12 kilometers from center Cairo in Maadi. They allow you to get a sophisticated and relaxed taste of the capital.

Duration: 8 days/ 7 nights

Price: 1920\$

Route:

Cairo – Aswan –

Abu Simbel – Luxor - Cairo



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Ready for a game? Learn more about your personality type with a free personality test.
- www.16personalities.com.

No need to take it too seriously, but maybe it gives you an indication how to invest your time best in the future.



Call it a Dream





Drive and Fly outside Egypt

“Habari” – means “Hello” in Tanzania

This time we are flying from Tanzania’s safari capital Arusha to a world-famous natural paradise.

Serengeti National Park Tanzania is undoubtedly the best-known wildlife sanctuary in the world and is therefore unequalled for its natural beauty and scientific value. It has the greatest concentration of plains game in Africa.

The National park was named after the Massai local word “Siringet” which means an open endless plain.

Every traveler is a little nomad – here we meet a population group that has been on the move since the beginning.

Well, technically they’re semi-nomadic. They move themselves and their livestock to the tune of a communal land management system based on seasonal rotation.

Recently there have been whispers that consumerist nations should pay attention to this sort of seasonal rotation. The reason being, that it’s seen as much more sustainable than the ‘take, take, take’ attitude of many developed countries.

The nomadic way of life goes back to the roots of all human history which makes the Maasai extra special. They and a handful other people across the world are our last living link to our distant past.

But of course the animals are also the focus here. While crossing the Massai’s homeland you will spot elephants, giraffes, zebras and other wildlife. Prepare to be amazed when you catch your first glimpse of the endless plains of the Serengeti.

When your African road trip comes to an end and you board the plane on your way back to Arusha, you can peer out over the wings of the plane and see the Serengeti from a different angle. The perfect time to reflect on some of what will be sure to be your greatest memories in life.

“Kwaheri” means “See you again!”

Trip Name: Drive & Fly back Serengeti

Duration: 3 Days/ 2 Nights

Price: From 946\$ pp



Route:

Arusha – Tarangire National Park – Ngorongoro Conservation Area – Serengeti National Park



Call it a Dream

Today we introduce a friend and colleague from the south: Faraq from the Ababda tribe.

Dabuka: “What do you do when you don’t work for Dabuka?”

Faraq: “As you know, before cooperating with Dabuka, I worked for Wadi Gemal Nationalpark as a driver. I am now responsible for the entire fleet. But I am always happy, when Dabuka is calling.”

Dabuka: “You belong to the Ababda people – what is special about your culture?”

Faraq: “The Ababda are known in history as the most peaceful people in all of Africa. They are also the best trackers. The Ababda are very connected to nature and often work as charcoal burners or fishermen.

However, when the Sheikh Shazley festival takes place once a year, everyone is represented at the festival for at least three days, come what may.”

Dabuka: “What are your favorite places?”

Faraq: “The question is not so easy to answer as both, water and desert are familiar places to me.

One of my favorites is to go out into the open sea by boat and then dive into the depths as a free diver.

Through my work for Dabuka, I learned which places offer special features. As we drove into different valleys, I discovered a lot of rock carvings – which our visitors are also very interested in. In addition, if any scientific project comes to the area of the National Park, I usually accompany them.

The entire south east could be described as “my area”. Already when I was a little boy, I explored every meter by foot and later I got the reputation as the best one who drove south.

In any case – for every area we have our unwritten laws to respect: Every dead wood belongs to someone, every well in the desert belongs to someone, everything you find in the desert belongs to someone.

It’s not the way the city people think, because there is no written sign, and just therefore everyone can serve themselves as they please. We know what to do without written hints.

Dabuka: “Yes, we have learned so much from you over the years. We look forward to drinking a Gabbana (local coffee) with you again soon!”



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Call it a Dream



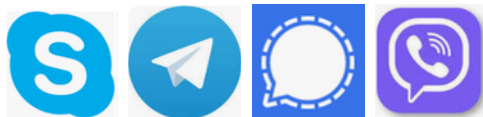
DABUKA INTERNAL

New: Advisory Service

We're now offering a personal consulting service. Tarek is available online Every Tuesday, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. (Cairo time) after prior registration, to answer your questions.

You can reach him on Telegram, Viber, Skype – and to make an appointment by email – tarek@dabuka.de

Our service covers: Travel in Africa and Middle East.



Call it a Dream

Solution Quiz Issue 2

- 1: Philae in Egypt and Balbeek in Lebanon were the two last bastions of pagan religion in the Middle East.
- 2: "A Thousand and One Nights" took place on the island and was consisting on the love story of the prince Anas El-Wogood and his beloved princess Ward.
- 3: The original island was called "the pure island", because no one but priests could live there or visit the island. Philae temple is now located on the island called Agilika.
- 4: In the 1960's the High Dam was constructed, which meant that sites and temples in the south would have been under water. Thus, the entire Philae temple complex was moved to a new, higher island to save it from the rising water of the Nile.
- 5: Now located in a garden in Dorset, England, this 9-metre-high, pale pink ancient Egyptian obelisk is one-half of a pair that originally stood outside the Temple of Isis. Explorer William John Bankes installed the obelisk in his home in 1827.

By Chance

The wheel of time turns faster and faster. The year has just begun, now it's over again. We hope you find a few moments in the new year to take some time out, where you can find peace and enjoy life to the fullest.

When the clocks strike midnight on New Year's Eve and ring in the New Year, people all over the world celebrate with a variety of customs that are supposed to bring good luck for the next year...



Women in Italy, Chile and Mexico start the New Year with red underwear.

Austrians dance the Viennese waltz at the turn of the year.

In Russia, champagne with ashes is said to make wishes come true.

Open windows in China are said to let in luck.

“Ras al sanna” means New Year’s Eve in Arabic. Translated, this means “Head of the Year”. This is not a holiday for devout Muslims and Islamists even turn their noses up at fellow Muslims who celebrate this day. This is also because they do not follow the Western calendar, but the Islamic calendar. According to her, there is also a New Year, but at a different date. But in our days Egypt is also celebrating intensively with the rest of the world in December.



A special way to start the New Year is to spend New Year's Eve in the desert. Here it is easy to free yourself from baggage and look forward to the future with hope.

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Design your own journey from 2 days up to 7 days. Get your individual offer.

Prices per day start from 80\$/pp

Wishes for 2024

•” For the New Year as much happiness as drops of water in the sea, as much love as stars in the sky and health on every new day.”

(Unknown)

• “Welcome the New Year with confidence and without prejudice, then you have it already half a friend.”

(Novalis)

• “Allow yourself thirty minutes each day to worry, and during that time, take a nap.”

(Abraham Lincoln)

Thank you for your support so far - we wish you many travel dreams to come true.

Editorial

Dabuka Travel Visions Issue 3

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