



## The National Museum of Egyptian Civilisation - NMEC



[Your Itinerary, maps and weather](#)



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# The Innovations that Led The World

Since its opening in 2017, the Museum (NMEC) has gained an international reputation for excellence. It presents the richness, brilliance and innovation of Egyptian society through the ages. Its themes include the Dawn of Civilization, The Nile, Writing, State and Society, Material Culture, Beliefs and Thinking and the Gallery of Royal Mummies. For travellers to Egypt, it provides deep insight to the amazing society that the Egyptians built from prehistoric days to the present. The Museum is in Al Fustat, an area at the heart of Egyptian history. The Museum houses 50,000 artefacts and also the ancient natural lake of Ain El-Sira.

## Leading the Ancient World

Egypt is considered to have been one of the most, if not the most, advanced ancient civilizations. It developed thousands of years before many other cultures. The scope of the Egyptians brilliance and innovation ranged from its well-known architectural accomplishments (the pyramids) which were based on the groundbreaking achievements it made in mathematics and engineering, to its advancement in the sciences of astronomy, medicine, medical surgery and the law. And the Egyptian had some of the worlds earliest art and literature contributions which are showcased in thousands of galleries and museums around the world. At the same time their sophistication in religious beliefs and rituals continues to draw the attention of both travellers and researchers. The legacies of these accomplishments in various disciplines continue to this day.

## Some Notable Achievements

### Mathematics, Geometry and Engineering

- The Egyptians made great contributions to modern mathematics, such as designing decimals, fractions, the number zero, negative numbers, and even the value of Pi
- They developed the discipline of geometry which they combined with their algebra system to construct the pyramids.

### The Invention of the Calendar and Clocks

- Today's calendar of timekeeping were Egyptian inventions based on the cycles of the sun and moon. The Egyptian calendar was divided into twelve months of 30 days each, along with five additional days at the end of the year to bring the total up to 365.
- In order to tell the time, Egyptians invented two types of clock. Obelisks were used as sun clocks by noting how its shadow moved around its surface throughout the day as well. And they also invented water clocks. An inscription in the tomb of the court official Amenemhet dating to the 16th century BC shows a water clock made from a stone vessel with a tiny hole at the bottom which allowed water to drip at a constant rate.



## The First Police Forces

- With the pharaohs centralising power came the emergence of organized law enforcement around 2500BC, as the first-ever police force was founded in ancient Egypt. By 1500 BC specialised police forces also emerged

## The Development of Medicines

- The Egyptians had a far more scientific approach to curing sickness, creating medicines from natural resources, such as minerals, herbs, and animal products.

## The Development of Medical Centres and Public Health Systems

- As early as 2200 BC, there were institutions known as Houses of Life, dedicated to the improvement and protection of human life, these centers could even be considered a forerunner of the hospital.
- Not only did the Egyptians introduce a huge number of new medical concepts, but they were also responsible for the world's first public health system. Around 1500 BC, the village of Deir el-Medina was established for the craftsmen and labourers working on the royal tombs in the nearby Valley of the Kings.

NMEC has, on its lower level, over 20 pharaonic mummies that tell the history of Egypt's brilliance and innovation. And on the upper levels, there is the more recent history of the events and people who shaped EGYPT since the pharaohs. As a first step into the history of Egypt there is no better place to start.

**The NMEC is considered the first of its kind in Egypt and the Arab world. Its focus is on highlighting the interaction between the Egyptians and the land on which they lived throughout history through cultural themes that give insight into the life of the Egyptian people.**



## What You Can Expect From This Experience

The National Museum of Egyptian Civilisation (NMEC) was opened in 2017 and provides an introduction to Egyptian Society that gives both perspective and deep insight into this amazing society. The history of Egypt is presented in themes with the bottom floor built like a pharaohs tomb, whilst the upper floors covers more recent periods. There are over 20 mummies in the museum, each with a history of their times and achievements.

[NMEC](#) presents the innovation of the ancient Egyptians and their contribution to mathematics, engineering, astronomy and many other disciplines



## A World Class Museum Dedicated to Egyptian History

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## Ancient Egypt's Incredible Achievements

Egypt is considered to have been one of the most, if not the most, advanced ancient civilization. It developed thousands of years before many other cultures. The scope of the ancient Egyptians brilliance and innovation ranged from its well-known architectural accomplishments (the pyramids) which were based on the ground-breaking achievements it made in mathematics and engineering, to its advancement in the sciences of astronomy, medicine, medical surgery and the law. And [NMEC](#) presents Egyptian innovations in a way which leave you in awe!





## Their Intellect Drove Innovation

The ancient Egyptians would come to invent **mathematics, geometry, surveying, metallurgy, astronomy, accounting, writing, paper, medicine, the ramp, the lever, the plough, and mills for grinding grain.** They also developed:

The first **police force,**

The first medical centres (**Houses of Life**) and even;

A **public health system** for pyramid workers.



## Some Fun Facts About Egyptian Inventiveness

Cosmetics for both men and women were Egyptian inventions from 4000 BC. They combined soot with a lead mineral to create a black ointment for the eyes.

And removing unwanted hair to augmenting the facial features with make-up made from natural pigments, was popular.

Wigs too were in vogue with Egyptian women. The cheapest wigs were made out of vegetable fibres, whilst the royal family had theirs made exclusively of human hair.



## More Facts, More Fun!

The **first barbers** were also found in ancient Egypt, with records from as far back as 5000 BC indicating that there were men employed to cut and groom hair and beards using sharpened flints and shells.

Abscesses plagued the ancient Egyptians, and **toothpaste** became one of the most prominent Egyptian inventions to prevent it! And **breath mints** made of natural ingredients were invented to overcome bad breath!





### More Facts More Fun!

If you unwrapped the bandages from a mummy, the bandages could be as long as 1.6 km.

Egyptian women had equal rights.

One female Pharaoh, Hatshepsut, portrayed herself in statues with a male body. She also wore a fake beard!

Bread and beer were used as currency.



### About Lunch

We enjoy taking our guess out for lunch because it's another way to experience Egyptian culture. We just want to make the following points. We only take our guests to the best restaurants. We place good hygiene and cleanliness within those establishments as the number 1 priority. The restaurants offer both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. If you choose to pass on lunch, we won't take it personally. But please be assured, your health and safety is our overriding priority.

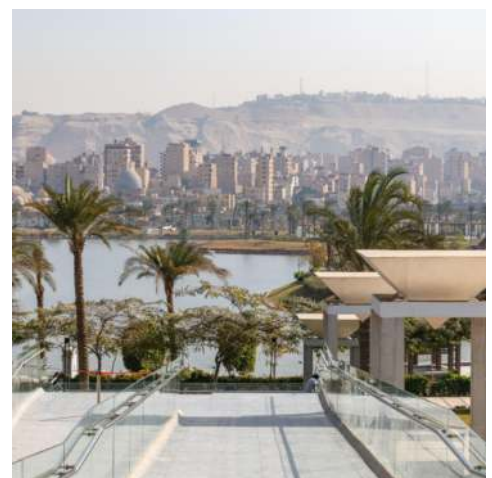


### Contact Us

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## Inclusions

*This half day tour is combined with another tour for a full days activities. Please enquire at One Horizon for your options.*

- Pick up at 9.30 am from your hotel
- Water
- Lunch
- All entrance fees, service charge, current taxes, and vat.
- Services of an English-speaking guide

## Exclusions

- Personal expenditure
- Tips
- Alcoholic, soda or fruit juice drinks

## Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the following individuals and groups who have made their videos publicly available on You Tube

**Living Jetsetters:** Muhammad Ali Mosque – inside the mosque

**Michael Jiroch:** A Look At Khan El Khalili Bazaar & The Hanging Church

**[Reagan Schrock](#):** Mosque and Citadel Fortress of Saladin, Coptic Cairo

**Sheila -** Visiting Ben Ezra Synagogue

**The Pinoy Traveller:** Muhammad Ali Mosque