



# Middle East and Arabian Peninsula



# DISCOVER SAUDI ARABIA END JEDDAH OPTION 1

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PROPHET OPTION 2

### (Opt. 1) Discover Saudi Arabia end Jeddah

#### 01 THU. Riyadh.-

**Welcome to Saudi Arabia**, a country of contrasts that will leave you with unforgettable souvenirs! Transfer to the hotel. In the evening, we will include a transfer with entrance ticket to **Boulevard Riyadh**, the largest park in the kingdom, which will surprise you with its animation and life. The park has curious attractions, numerous restaurants with specialties from many different countries, live shows and, above all, a fountains eye-catching show with colored water. Free time to stroll around, enjoy the place and dine in one of its restaurants. Return to the hotel.

#### 02 FRI. Riyadh.-

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the **"Kingdom Centre"**, with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of **Al Turaif DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya.

At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

#### 03 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiqer - Buraydah.-

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiqer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

#### 04 SUN. Buraydah - Medina.-

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit **"the city of dates"** - more or less active depending on the time of the year - and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see - today from outside - the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**

#### 05 MON. Medina - Jeddah.-

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of 10 minarets with a capacity for one million visitors. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan

troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill, but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims who will surround us any day. At the **Quba Mosque**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to **JEDDAH**, on the shores of the Red Sea, the second largest city in the country, with four million inhabitants. Before going to the hotel, we will visit the **Al-Rahma mosque**, better known as the **floating mosque**, because it is built on the shores of the Red Sea with pillars over the water. We will also enjoy the lively sportive port, very close to the tracks where the Formula 1 circuit is held.

#### 06 TUE. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah. With a local guide we will visit this city that will surprise us by its contrasts. At this time, a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis. Among others, the construction of the **Jeddah Tower**, which will be the tallest building in the world with more than a thousand meters high, stands out.

We will follow the **Corniche**, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas. We will contemplate the **King Fahd Fountain**, the highest of its kind in the world, its water jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the lively and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to **"Tabeyat International city"** an architectural complex of great beauty with its very interesting museums of history and ethnography. We will then visit the historical center, entering through **Bab Makkah** - the most important gate of Jeddah - and we will also pass by the cemetery of Eve, where tradition says that Eve, Adam's wife and the first woman of humanity according to the bible, was buried. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 07 WED. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

#### (Opt. 2) In the footsteps of the Prophet

Days 1 - 6 as in Opt. 1

#### 07 WED. Jeddah-Mecca- Al Hada - Taif.-

**Important Note:** Mecca is a city that is not accessible to non-Muslim tourists. If you are Muslim, if you wish, we can adapt our program so that you can visit it (you will stay in Taif with the rest of the members of the group and the visit of the remaining points of the day will not be included). In this case, there will be a supplement that will depend on the number of travelers who can and wish to visit Mecca.

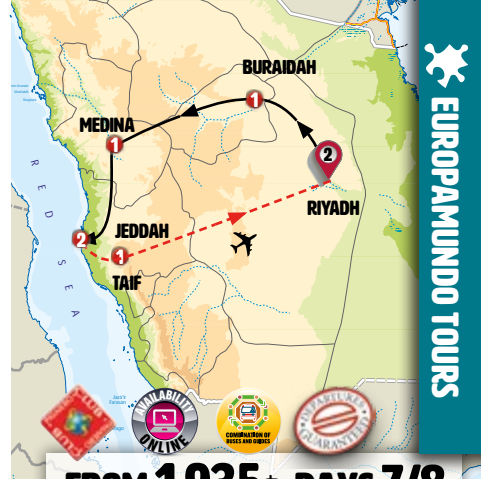
Today we travel to Taif, a city authorized for non-Muslim travelers in the province of Mecca. This city, located at almost 2000 meters above sea level, is popular for its mild climate, so every summer the Saudi Government moves to this point -not as hot as Riyadh-. The route, up the mountain, is spectacular in scenery. We will stop at **AL HADA**, with its tourist market, great views and rose fields. **Lunch included.**

**TAIF**, this popular city with very modern shopping malls and great amusement parks, has numerous rose gardens. On the outskirts of the city of Qadeera, we will visit the **King Faisal Park**, which hosts an annual rose festival, and experience the roses used to make local perfumes. In this city 300 million roses are produced annually in more than 900 farms. **We will visit a rose oil factory -Attar-**. We will also stroll through the central market, with its maze of narrow streets and its different areas (honey, perfumes, jewelry...). In the evening we will go to the modern shopping mall district where you will have time to dine in one of its many restaurants of all kinds of cuisines.

#### 08 THU. Taif - Riyadh.-

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and flight to Riyadh. End of our services.

**Note:** Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night. In this case, the airport transfer to the hotel is not included and will be billed.



**FROM 1.935\$-DAYS 7/8**

#### DEPARTURE DATES

**Every thursday**

#### EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the website's "My Trip" page.

#### THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **City tour in:** Riyadh, Medina, Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh, Historic centre in Jeddah.
- **Experiences:** Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Tabeyat International City and house of Beit Sallum in Jeddah.
- **2 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Ushaiqer, Medina.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **Experiences:** Rose factory-Attar in Taif.
- **Ticket admission:** King Faisal park.
- **Flights included:** Taif/ Riyadh.
- **1 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Hada.







AL-ULA



FROM **2.327\$**-DAYS **7/9**

DEPARTURE DATES

**Every thursday**

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



JEDDAH



ID:27181

## SAUDI ARABIA CHARMS OPTION 1

ID:27177

## UNFORGETTABLE SAUDI ARABIA OPTION 2

(Opt. 1) Saudi Arabia charms  
**01 THU. Riyadh.-**

**Welcome to Saudi Arabia**, a country of contrasts that will leave you with unforgettable souvenirs! Transfer to the hotel. In the evening, we will include a transfer with entrance ticket to **Boulevard Ryadh**, the largest park in the kingdom, which will surprise you with its animation and life. The park has curious attractions, numerous restaurants with specialties from many different countries, live shows and, above all, a fountains eye-catching show with colored water. Free time to stroll around, enjoy the place and dine in one of its restaurants. Return to the hotel.

**02 FRI. Riyadh.-**

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the **"Kingdom Centre"**, with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaif **DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya. At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

**03 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiqer - Buraydah.-**

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiqer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

**04 SUN. Buraydah - Medina.-**

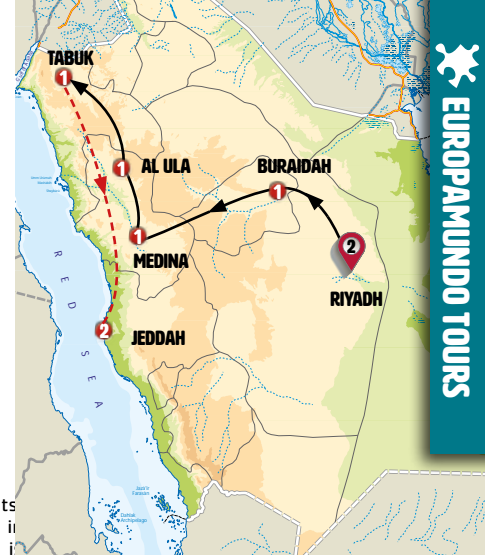
Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit **"the city of dates"** -more or less active depending on the time of the year- and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been





MEDINA



forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see – today from outside – the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**

#### 05 MON. Medina – Al-'Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-'Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-'Ula on Tuesday.

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or –if you wish– visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station). In the afternoon we travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-'ULA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After arrival we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, "Jabal Al Fil" an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

#### 06 TUE. Al-'Ula - Tabuk.-

In the region of Al-'Ula we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in "**Al-'Ula Heritage Village**", the old Al-'Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**. In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for **TABUK**. **Dinner included.**

#### 07 WED. Tabuk.-

We visit Tabuk, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit the castle whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the **castle** and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the city center and we reach the **old train station**, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

**Transfer to the airport and end of the tour.** Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night.

#### (Opt. 2) Unforgettable Saudi Arabia Days 1 – 6 as in Opt. 1

#### 07 WED. Tabuk – Jeddah.-

We **visit Tabuk**, a city over half a million inhabitants active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit the **castle** whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the castle and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the center and we reach the old train station, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

After the visit of Tabuk transfer to the airport. We include **flight to JEDDAH**, the second city in the country, with four million inhabitants, on the shore of the Red Sea. Transfer to your hotel and free time.

#### 08 THU. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah, with our local guide we will **visit the city**. We will be surprised by its contrasts, currently a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis, highlights the construction of the Jeddah Tower that will be the tallest building in the world with over a thousand meters high. We will follow the Corniche, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas; we will contemplate the Fountain of King Fahd, the highest of its kind in the world, its jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the active and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to "**Tabeyat International city**" very interesting museum of history and ethnography in an architectural ensemble of great beauty. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 09 FRI. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

### THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **City tour in:** Riyadh, Medina.
- **Evening Transfer:** Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh, Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Experiences:** Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk.
- **5 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Ushaiqer, Medina, Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **City tour in:** Jeddah.
- **Ticket admission:** Tabeyat International City and Mud House Museum in Jeddah.
- **Flights included:** Tabuk/ Jeddah.



TABUK





AL HOFUF



FROM **2.153\$**-DAYS **7/9**

DEPARTURE DATES

Every two weeks on  
Tuesdays

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



JEDDAH

ID:27182

**PALM TREES AND SWORDS** OPTION 1

ID:27176

**SAUDI ARABIA, THE JEWEL OF THE DESERT** OPTION 2

(Opt. 1) Palm trees and swords

**01 TUE. Riyadh.-**

**Welcome to SAUDI ARABIA!** A country of contrasts that will leave you with unforgettable memories! Transfer to your hotel. Free time.

**02 WED. Riyadh- Dammam - Al-Hofuf.-**

Early in the morning we move to the **train station**, Arabia's railways are very modern. We travel to the coast of the Persian Gulf where we are surprised by the city of **DAMMAM**, provincial capital with almost a million inhabitants. Following its modern maritime strip we follow the Heritage Village, next to the sea, in the form of a fortress we'll visit its small **museum of ancient objects** (including its collection of historical cars). **Lunch included.** We continue towards the impressive Ithra site and its very modern King Abdulaziz center for world Culture - an architecturally very striking place (being rock shaped), with its leisure areas, its museums, its library.

Mid-afternoon continuation to the **oasis of AL-AHSA**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Arrival at **AL-HOFUF**, the main city of the oasis. We will take a night walk through the **King Abdullah Park**, a pleasant park where its artificial lake and the fountains that dance to the rhythm of the music are a stand out.

**03 THU. Al-Hofuf- Riyadh.-**

We visit the Oasis of **AL AHSA**, with its gardens, canals, wells. Inhabited since the Neolithic; it is considered the largest oasis in the world with its almost 3 million date palms. In the center of Al-Hofuf we visit the **Ibrahim Palace**, historical fortress (World Heritage Site) dominated by its white mosque, built in 1556 by the Ottomans. After that we visit the "**House of Allegiance**" that shows us a small palace characteristic of the oasis. We will stroll through the elegant **souk of Al Qaisariya**, one of the oldest markets in Arabia, reflecting the commercial tradition of the region. We will approach the lively area where the **Muhaires Palace** stands, with its many restaurants, shops and parks where the local population goes.

Later we travel through the oasis, we go to **AL QARA** , a spectacular landscape area, labyrinth of mini-gorges-

caves in the mountain, and a historical site; it will seem that "you penetrate the mountain", all year round the temperature is around 25 degrees. We also visit its museum "land of civilizations" that describes the history of the area.

**Note:** At the time of writing this itinerary, the Ibrahim Palace was closed for restoration. During the period when it is closed, the palace will be visited from the outside.

In the afternoon we take a modern **high-speed train**, in two hours and 20 minutes we travel almost 350 kilometers of desert that separate us from Riyadh.- **RIYADH**, arrival. To end the day, we will include transfer and entrance to the **Boulevard Riyadh**, you will be surprised by its life and activity, the attractions, the numerous restaurants with specialties from numerous countries, its live shows, and -above all- the spectacle of colorful fountains. Time to stroll, dine (dinner not included) and enjoy this place. Return to the hotel.

**04 FRI. Riyadh.-**

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the "**Kingdom Centre**", with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaif **DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover





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- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
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- **City tour in:** Riyadh, Medina.
- **Evening Transfer:** Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh.
- **Experiences:** Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Heritage Village and King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture in Dammam, Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina.
- **High Speed Train:** Riyadh/ Dammam.
- **4 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Dammam, Ushaiqer, Medina, Medina.
- (Additional services Opt. 2)
- **City tour in:** Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Historic centre in Jeddah.
- **Ticket admission:** Tabeyat International City and house of Beit Sallum in Jeddah.



thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya. At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

### 05 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiqer - Buraydah.-

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiqer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

### 06 SUN. Buraydah - Medina.-

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit **"the city of dates"** -more or less active depending on the time of the year- and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see - today from outside - the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**

### 07 MON. Medina.-

We will **explore Medina**. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of 10 minarets with a capacity for one million visitors. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill, but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims who will surround us any day. At the **Quba Mosque**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. We will also stroll

through the nearby market where you can find dates, perfumes and other local specialties. **Lunch included.** After lunch we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

**Transfer to the airport and end of our services.** Check your flight time in case you need an extra night.

### (Opt. 2) Saudi Arabia, the jewel of the desert

**Days 1 - 6 as in Opt. 1**

### 07 MON. Medina - Jeddah.-

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of 10 minarets with a capacity for one million visitors. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill, but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims who will surround us any day. At the **Quba Mosque**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to **JEDDAH**, on the shores of the Red Sea, the second largest city in the country, with four million inhabitants. Before going to the hotel, we will visit the **Al-Rahma mosque**, better known as the **floating mosque**, because it is built on the shores of the Red Sea with pillars over the water. We will also enjoy the lively sportive port, very close to the tracks where the Formula 1 circuit is held.

### 08 TUE. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah. With a local guide we will visit this city that will surprise us by its contrasts. At this time, a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis. Among others, the construction of the **Jeddah Tower**, which will be the tallest building in the world with more than a thousand meters high, stands out.

We will follow the **Corniche**, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas. We will contemplate the **King Fahd Fountain**, the highest of its kind in the world, its water jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the lively and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to **"Tabeyat International city"** an architectural complex of great beauty with its very interesting museums of history and ethnography. We will then visit the historical center, entering through **Bab Makkah** - the most important gate of Jeddah - and we will also pass by the cemetery of Eve, where tradition says that Eve, Adam's wife and the first woman of humanity according to the bible, was buried. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

### 09 WED. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.





MEDINA

FROM 2.965\$-DAYS 9/11

DEPARTURE DATES

Every two weeks on Tuesdays

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.

AL ULA



ID:27183

## SALAM ALEIKUM ARABIA OPTION 1

ID:27178

## ARABIAN MYSTERIES OPTION 2

**(Opt. 1) Salam Aleikum Arabia**  
**01 TUE. Riyadh.-**  
**Welcome to SAUDI ARABIA!** A country of contrasts that will leave you with unforgettable memories! Transfer to your hotel. Free time.

**02 WED. Riyadh- Dammam - Al-Hofuf.-**  
 Early in the morning we move to the **train station**, Arabia's railways are very modern. We travel to the coast of the Persian Gulf where we are surprised by the city of **DAMMAM**, provincial capital with almost a million inhabitants. Following its modern maritime strip we follow the Heritage Village, next to the sea, in the form of a fortress we'll visit its small **museum of ancient objects** (including its collection of historical cars). **Lunch included.** We continue towards the impressive Ithra site and its very modern King Abdulaziz center for world Culture - an architecturally very striking place (being rock shaped), with its leisure areas, its museums, its library.

Mid-afternoon continuation to the **oasis of AL-AHSA**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Arrival at **AL-HOFUF**, the main city of the oasis. We will take a night walk through the **King Abdullah Park**, a pleasant park where its artificial lake and the fountains that dance to the rhythm of the music are a stand out.

**03 THU. Al-Hofuf- Riyadh.-**  
 We visit the Oasis of **AL AHSA**, with its gardens, canals, wells. Inhabited since the Neolithic; it is considered the largest oasis in the world with its almost 3 million date palms. In the center of Al-Hofuf we visit the **Ibrahim Palace**, historical fortress (World Heritage Site) dominated by its white mosque, built in 1556 by the Ottomans. After that we visit the **"House of Allegiance"** that shows us a small palace characteristic of the oasis. We will stroll through the elegant **souk of Al Qaisariya**, one of the oldest markets in Arabia, reflecting the commercial tradition of the region. We will approach the lively area where the **Muhaires Palace** stands, with its many restaurants, shops and parks where the local population goes.

Later we travel through the oasis, we go to **AL QARA**, a spectacular landscape area, labyrinth of mini-gorges-

caves in the mountain, and a historical site; it will seem that "you penetrate the mountain", all year round the temperature is around 25 degrees. We also visit its museum "land of civilizations" that describes the history of the area.

**Note:** At the time of writing this itinerary, the Ibrahim Palace was closed for restoration. During the period when it is closed, the palace will be visited from the outside. In the afternoon we take a modern **high-speed train**, in two hours and 20 minutes we travel almost 350 kilometers of desert that separate us from Riyadh.- **RIYADH**, arrival. To end the day, we will include transfer and entrance to the **Boulevard Riyadh**, you will be surprised by its life and activity, the attractions, the numerous restaurants with specialties from numerous countries, its live shows, and -above all- the spectacle of colorful fountains. Time to stroll, dine (dinner not included) and enjoy this place. Return to the hotel.

**04 FRI. Riyadh.-**  
 Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the **"Kingdom Centre"**, with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaif **DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover





thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya. At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

#### 05 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiqer - Buraydah.-

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiqer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

#### 06 SUN. Buraydah - Medina.-

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit "**the city of dates**" -more or less active depending on the time of the year- and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see - today from outside - the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**

#### 07 MON. Medina - Al-'Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-'Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-'Ula on Tuesday.

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year

622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-'ULA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After arrival we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, "Jabal Al Fil" an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

#### 08 TUE. Al-'Ula - Tabuk.-

In the region of Al-'Ula we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in "**Al-'Ula Heritage Village**", the old Al-'Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**. In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for **TABUK**. **Dinner included.**

#### 09 WED. Tabuk.-

We visit Tabuk, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit the castle whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the **castle** and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the city center and we reach the **old train station**, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

**Transfer to the airport and end of the tour.** Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night.

#### (Opt. 2) Arabian mysteries

Days 1 - 8 as in Opt. 1

#### 09 WED. Tabuk - Jeddah.-

We visit Tabuk, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit the **castle** whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the castle and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the center and we reach the old train station, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

After the visit of Tabuk transfer to the airport. We include **flight to JEDDAH**, the second city in the country, with four million inhabitants, on the shore of the Red Sea. Transfer to your hotel and free time.

#### 10 THU. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah, with our local guide we will visit the

**city.** We will be surprised by its contrasts, currently a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis, highlights the construction of the Jeddah Tower that will be the tallest building in the world with over a thousand meters high. We will follow the Corniche, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas; we will contemplate the Fountain of King Fahd, the highest of its kind in the world, its jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the active and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to "**Tabeyat International city**" very interesting museum of history and ethnography in an architectural ensemble of great beauty. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 11 FRI. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **City tour in:** Riyadh, Medina.
- **Evening Transfer:** Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh, Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Experiences:** Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Heritage Village and King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture in Dammam, Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk.
- **High Speed Train:** Riyadh/ Dammam.
- **6 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Dammam, Ushaiqer, Medina, Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **City tour in:** Jeddah.
- **Ticket admission:** Tabeyat International City and Mud House Museum in Jeddah.
- **Flights included:** Tabuk/ Jeddah.







JERUSALEM

FROM **3.357\$**-DAYS **12/14/17**

#### DEPARTURE DATES

Every Thursdays

#### EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.

ID:27186

## FROM JERUSALEM TO MEDINA OPTION 1

ID:27187

## JERUSALEM, JORDAN AND ARABIAN CLASSICS OPTION 2

ID:27185

## THREE RELIGIONS, DESERTS AND NABATAEANS OPTION 3



BETHLEHEM

### (Opt. 1) From Jerusalem to Medina

#### 01 THU. Jerusalem.-

**Arrival at Tel Aviv airport. Welcome to Israel!** Border procedures and transfer to the hotel in Jerusalem. Free time.

#### 02 FRI. Jerusalem -Bethlehem- Jerusalem.-

Breakfast. Excursion to visit the **New City of Jerusalem**, seeing the Shrine of the **Book in the Museum of Israel**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed, and the model that represents the city of Jerusalem at the time of Jesus. We will go through the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, then going toward Ein Karen, a picturesque neighborhood on the outskirts of the city to visit the **Shrine of Saint John the Baptist**. We will also see Yad Vashem, the **Holocaust Museum and Memorial**. In the afternoon, we will travel to **BETHLEHEM**, located behind the wall built in recent years to separate the two communities. We will take a Palestinian guide to visit the Church of the Nativity, the Grotto of the Manger and the Shepherds' Field. Return to Jerusalem and accommodation.

#### 03 SAT. Jerusalem.-

We include a visit to the **old city of Jerusalem**. Excursion by Mount Scopus toward the **Mount of Olives**. There is an extraordinary view of the walled Holy City from the top. We then continue to Gethsemane, the Basilica of the Agony. Departure toward the Old City. Visit to the **Western Wall (Wailing Wall)**. We will continue along the **Via Dolorosa** to arrive at Calvary, the place where Christ



was crucified, and to see the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**. We then go onward to Mount Zion to visit the **Tomb of King David**, the **Cenacle (Hall of the Last Supper)** and the **Abbey of the Dormition**. Accommodation in Jerusalem.

#### 04 SUN. Jerusalem - Ajlun - Jerash - Amman.-

Breakfast. Early departure to border of Israel and Jordan. Arrival at Sheik Hussein Bridge to complete border and visa procedures. Welcome to Jordan! We explore the **FORTRESS OF AJLUN**, an imposing castle dating back to the 12th century. In this area, Muslims and Orthodox Christians have always lived together. We visit the historic **CHURCH OF SAINT SERGIUS**. Shall we all pray for peace? **Lunch included**. We continue to **JERASH** to visit its impressive Roman archaeological site. We then travel to **AMMAN**. Arrival and accommodation.

**NOTE:** The Sheik Hussein border must be crossed on a special bus for this purpose. This costs around \$3 per person, which must be paid directly by the passengers themselves.

**FEES:** Each country requires an entry/exit fee that passengers must pay directly at their destination. For guidance purposes, these are the fees/visa fees that may apply (prices subject to change without notice): Israel: \$32 (Departure Fee to Jordan); Jordan: 40 dinars/\$60 (Sheik Hussein Border visa).

#### 05 MON. Amman- Castles of the Desert- Madaba- Mount Nebo- Amman.-

We will depart towards the **CASTLES OF THE DESERT**, built between the 7th and 8th centuries. We will visit **QASR KHARANA**, with its imposing structure of thick walls and the **QUSAYR AMRA** World Heritage Site, notable for its remarkable frescoes. Then, we travel to **MADABA**, **lunch is included**. We will visit the **Madaba Archaeological Park**, which we cross via an ancient Roman road, and the **Church of St. George**, with its fantastic 6th Century mosaic representing the oldest known map of the Holy Land. We continue to **MOUNT NEBO**, where Moses stopped to look over the Promised Land. Return to **Amman**. Arrival and free time.

#### 06 TUE. Amman- Bethany- Panorama Complex- Dead Sea.-

We leave for **BETHANY** on the banks of the River Jordan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; this is where John the Baptist baptised Jesus. Then we visit the **DEAD SEA MUSEUM**, which an impressive Panorama Complex. **Lunch is included**. Arriving at our hotel at the **DEAD SEA**, do not forget to take a dip in the saltiest sea and lowest altitude on earth. **Dinner** and accommodation included.

#### 07 WED. Dead Sea- Cave of Lot- Dana- Shobak- Petra.-

Exciting section in the heart of Jordan. Following the Dead Sea, we visit **LOT'S CAVE**, discovered in 1991, with its old Byzantine church from the 6th century. Then we ascend into the mountains to **DANA**, a small picturesque town of stone houses on a huge cliff. **Lunch is included**. We continue along the King's Route to **SHOBAK**, where we take photographs (outside only) of the great Crusader Castle. We continue to **WADI MUSA** (the site around Petra). We will explore the **MOSES SPRING**, where Moses is said to have tapped the rock with his rod and the water gushed out, and the **Petra Museum**, an excellent exhibition that enables us to learn about the history of the Nabateans and to see magnificent pieces found in the area. **Dinner** and accommodation. Any travelers who wish can go to an old Turkish bath or see a light and sound show in Petra.

#### 08 THU. Petra- Wadi Rum.-

Today we have the most exciting day of the trip: First, we visit the impressive archaeological site of **PETRA**, which is accessed through a narrow canyon, and discover the temples and tombs excavated on the cliffs in this city that was founded 300 years before Christ. After **lunch (included)** we leave for the impressive desert of **WADI RUM**. At the Visitor Centre we board **4x4 vehicles** to visit some of the most impressive landscapes. We stop in the town of **RUM** to visit the ruins of the Nabatean temple. We include a **45-minute camel ride** through the



PETRA

desert. We will also visit the **Khazali Canyon**. In this spectacular place, we will see the engravings that reveal the origins of the Arabic language. **Dinner and accommodation included in a desert camp**.

#### 09 FRI. Wadi Rum- Tabuk.-

Today we enter a country that until very recently has been closed to tourism. Only 120 km separate us from the border of **SAUDI ARABIA** (Halat Ammar). In this route we will see landscapes of great beauty in the desert. Border procedures and continuation to **TABUK**. This region is famous for its export of flowers to Europe. On the way, we will stop at a farm where we will have the opportunity to see various crops of plants and flowers.

We visit this city of over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will go to the **old train station**, today a museum that preserves the steam engines that connected Damascus with Medina. We will visit the **castle** whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the castle and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the city center.

#### 10 SAT. Tabuk- Al Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we can leave Al-Ula around 19hrs to Medina -staying two nights in this city-.

We will leave Tabuk early, travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-'ULA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded

by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After landscapes of great beauty, we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included**. We will have free time in "**Al-Ula Heritage Village**", the old Al-Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**.

At dusk we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, "Jabal Al Fil" an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included**. **Note:** The order of visits may vary without affecting their content.

#### 11 SUN. Al-'Ula - Medina.-

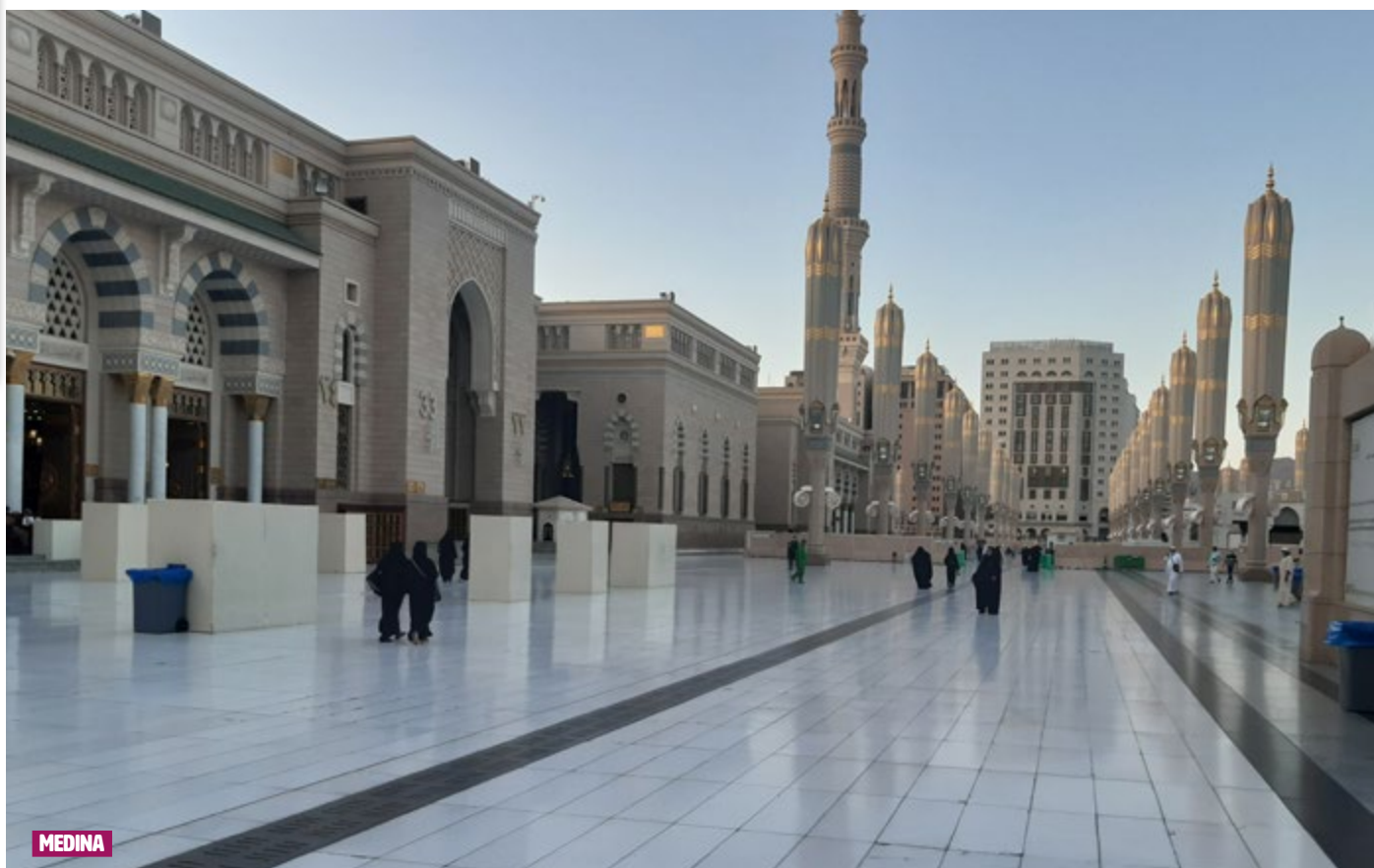
We will leave in the morning, still enjoying the beautiful landscapes of the Al-Ula region. We travel to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We are in an imposing historical destination, one of the two most sacred cities of Islam, a destination to which millions of pilgrims arrive every year and a city forbidden for non-Muslims until very recently; respect for its inhabitants and beliefs and proper dress code is required.

In the afternoon we will visit the **Al Madinah Museum** that allows us to understand a little the history of the city. At the end of the afternoon, we will go to see -from outside- the **Al Masjid mosque**, built by the prophet himself and place where he is buried, we will not be able to avoid feeling a surge of emotions when we observe the thousands of people who enter at the time of prayer. **Dinner included**.

#### 12 MON. Medina.-

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque (Al Masjid an Nabawi)**,





an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

**Transfer to the airport and end of the tour.** Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night.

**(Opt. 2) Jerusalem, Jordan and Arabian Classics Days 1 - 11 as in Opt. 1**

**12 MON. Medina - Jeddah.-**

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of 10 minarets with a capacity for one million visitors. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill, but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims who will surround us any day. At the **Quba Mosque**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to **JEDDAH**, on the shores of the Red Sea, the second largest city in the country, with four million inhabitants. Before going to the hotel, we will visit the Al-Rahma mosque, better known as the **floating mosque**, because it is built on the shores of the Red Sea with pillars over the water. We will also enjoy the lively sportive port, very close to the tracks where the Formula 1 circuit is held.

**13 TUE. Jeddah.-**

Full day in Jeddah. With a local guide we will visit this city that will surprise us by its contrasts. At this time, a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis. Among others, the construction of the **Jeddah Tower**, which will be the tallest building in the world with more than a thousand meters high, stands out.

We will follow the **Corniche**, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas. We will contemplate the **King Fahd Fountain**, the highest of its kind in the world, its water jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the lively and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to "**Tabeyat International city**" an architectural complex of great beauty with its very interesting museums of history and ethnography. We will then visit the historical center, entering through **Bab Makkah** - the most important gate of Jeddah - and we will also pass by the cemetery of Eve, where tradition says that Eve, Adam's wife and the first woman of humanity according to the bible, was buried. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

**14 WED. Jeddah.-**

After breakfast, end of our services.





(Opt. 3) Three religions, deserts and Nabataeans  
Days 1 - 13 as in Opt. 2

**14 WED. Jeddah-Mecca- Al Hada - Taif.-**

**Important Note:** Mecca is a city that is not accessible to non-Muslim tourists. If you are Muslim, if you wish, we can adapt your program so that you can visit it (you will stay in Taif with the rest of the members of the group and the visit of the remaining points of the day will not be included). In this case, there will be a supplement that will depend on the number of travelers who can and wish to visit Mecca.

Today we travel to Taif, a city authorized for non-Muslim travelers in the province of Mecca. This city, located at almost 2000 meters above sea level, is popular for its mild climate, so every summer the Saudi Government moves to this point -not as hot as Riyadh-. The route up the mountain, is spectacular in scenery. We will stop at **AL HADA**, with its tourist market, great views and rose fields. **Lunch included.**

**TAIF**, this popular city with very modern shopping malls and great amusement parks, has numerous rose gardens and great amusement parks. On the outskirts of the city of Qadeera, we will visit the **King Faisal Park**, which hosts an annual rose festival and experience the roses used to make local perfume. In this city 300 million roses are produced annually more than 900 farms. **We will visit a rose oil factory -Attar-**. We will also stroll through the central market with its maze of narrow streets and its different aromas (honey, perfumes, jewelry...). In the evening we will go to the modern shopping mall district where you will have time to dine in one of its many restaurants of all kinds of cuisines.

**15 THU. Taif- Riyadh.-**

Transfer to the airport and **flight to RIYADH** and transfer to your hotel.

In the evening, we will include a transfer with **entrance ticket to Boulevard Riyadh**, the largest park in the kingdom, which will surprise you with its animation and life. The park has curious attractions, numerous restaurants with specialties from many different countries, live shows and, above all, a fountain with a catching show with colored water. Free time to stroll around, enjoy the place and dine in one of its restaurants. Return to the hotel.

**16 FRI. Riyadh.-**

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower just over 300 m high, the **"Kingdom Centre"**, with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in the city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaihiya, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriyah. At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

**17 SAT. Riyadh.-**

After breakfast, end of our services.



## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Excursion:** Bethlehem in Jerusalem, 4x4 vehicles, camel rides in Wadi Rum.
- **City tour in:** Jerusalem, Medina.
- **Evening Transfer:** Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Ticket admission:** Book in the Museum of Israel, Holocaust Museum and Memorial, Church of the Nativity, in Bethlehem, Fortress and Church of Saint Sergius in Ajlun, Archaeological site in Jerash, Castle of Qasr Kharana and Castle of Qusayr Amra in Castles of the Desert, Church of St. George, Madaba Archaeological Park in Madaba, Archaeological Site in Bethany, Dead Sea Museum and Panorama Complex in Dead Sea, Moses Springs and Petra Museum, Visitor Centre, 4x4 vehicles and camel rides in Wadi Rum, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Al Madinah Museum and garden and well of Ethiq in Medina.
- **10 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Jerash, Madaba, Dead Sea, Dead Sea, Shoubak, Petra, Wadi Rum, Al Ula, Al Ula, Medina.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **City tour in:** Medina, Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Historic centre in Jeddah.
- **Ticket admission:** Tabeyat International City and house of Beit Sallum in Jeddah.

(Additional services Opt. 3)

- **City tour in:** Riyadh.
- **Evening Transfer:** Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh.
- **Experiences:** Rose factory-Attar in Taif, Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh.
- **Ticket admission:** King Faisal park, Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh.
- **Flights included:** Taif/ Riyadh.
- **1 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Hada.







AL ULA



FROM **2.232\$**-DAYS **9/11/14**

DEPARTURE DATES  
**Every Sunday**

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



JEDDAH

ID:27189  
ID:27190  
ID:27188

## DREAMS OF JORDAN AND MAGIC OF ARABIA END MEDINA OPTION 1

## DREAMS OF JORDAN AND MAGIC OF ARABIA END JEDDAH OPTION 2

## DREAMS OF JORDAN AND MAGIC OF ARABIA OPTION 3



(Opt. 1) Dreams of Jordan and magic of Arabia end Medina

**01 SUN. Amman.-**

**Welcome to Europamundo!** Upon arriving at the airport, we will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Check the information boards in the hotel reception area for details of the welcome meeting with your guide and fellow travelers.

**02 MON. Amman- Castles of the Desert- Madaba- Mount Nebo- Amman.-**

We will depart towards the **CASTLES OF THE DESERT**, built between the 7th and 8th centuries. We will visit **QASR KHARANA**, with its imposing structure of thick walls and the **QUSAYR AMRA** World Heritage Site, notable for its remarkable frescoes. Then, we travel to **MADABA**, lunch is included. We will visit the **Madaba Archaeological Park**, which we cross via an ancient Roman road, and the **Church of St. George**, with its fantastic 6th Century mosaic representing the oldest known map of the Holy Land. We continue to **MOUNT NEBO**, where Moses stopped to look over the Promised Land. Return to **Amman**. Arrival and free time.

**03 TUE. Amman- Bethany- Panorama Complex- Dead Sea.-**

We leave for **BETHANY** on the banks of the River Jordan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; this is where John the Baptist baptised Jesus. Then we visit the **DEAD SEA MUSEUM**, which an impressive Panorama Complex. **Lunch is included.** Arriving at our hotel at the **DEAD SEA**, do not forget to take a dip in the saltiest sea and lowest altitude on earth. **Dinner** and accommodation included.

**04 WED. Dead Sea- Cave of Lot- Dana- Shobak- Petra.-**

Exciting section in the heart of Jordan. Following the Dead Sea, we visit **LOT'S CAVE**, discovered in 1991, with its old Byzantine church from the 6th century. Then we ascend into the mountains to **DANA**, a small picturesque town of stone houses on a huge cliff. **Lunch is included.**

We continue along the King's Route to **SHOBAK**, where we take photographs (outside only) of the great Crusader Castle. We continue to **WADI MUSA** (the site around Petra). We will explore the **MOSES SPRING**, where Moses is said to have tapped the rock with his rod and the water gushed out, and the **Petra Museum**, an excellent exhibition that enables us to learn about the history of the Nabateans and to see magnificent pieces found in the area. **Dinner** and accommodation. Any travelers who wish can go to an old Turkish bath or see a light and sound show in Petra.

**05 THU. Petra- Wadi Rum.-**

Today we have the most exciting day of the trip: First, we visit the impressive archaeological site of **PETRA**, which is accessed through a narrow canyon, and discover the temples and tombs excavated on the cliffs in this city that was founded 300 years before Christ. After **lunch (included)** we leave for the impressive desert of **WADI RUM**. At the Visitor Centre we board **4x4 vehicles** to visit some of the most impressive landscapes. We stop in the town of **RUM** to visit the ruins of the Nabatean temple. We include a **45-minute camel ride** through the desert. We will also visit the **Khazali Canyon**. In this spectacular place, we will see the engravings that reveal the origins of the Arabic language. **Dinner** and accommodation included in a desert camp.

**06 FRI. Wadi Rum- Tabuk.-**

Today we enter a country that until very recently has been closed to tourism. Only 120 km separate us from the border of **SAUDI ARABIA** (Halat Ammar). In this route we will see landscapes of great beauty in the desert. Border procedures and continuation to **TABUK**. This region is famous for its export of flowers to Europe. On the way, we will stop at a farm where we will have the opportunity to see various crops of plants and flowers.

We visit this city of over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will go to the **old train station**, today a museum that preserves the steam engines that



connected Damascus with Medina. We will visit the **castle** whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the castle and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we will walk through the active commercial area of the city center.

#### 07 SAT. Tabuk- Al Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we can leave Al-Ula around 19hrs to Medina -staying two nights in this city-.

We will leave Tabuk early, travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-U'LA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After landscapes of great beauty, we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in "**Al-U'la Heritage Village**", the old Al-U'la, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**.

At dusk we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, 'Jabal Al Fil' an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

**Note:** The order of visits may vary without affecting their content.

#### 08 SUN. Al-U'la - Medina.-

We will leave in the morning, still enjoying the beautiful landscapes of the Al-U'la region. We travel to the holy city of **MEDINA**, 'the luminous city'. We are in an imposing historical destination, one of the two most sacred cities of Islam, a destination to which millions of pilgrims arrive every year and a city forbidden for non-Muslims until very recently; respect for its inhabitants and beliefs and proper dress code is required.

In the afternoon we will visit the **Al Madinah Museum** that allows us to understand a little the history of the city. At the end of the afternoon, we will go to see -from outside- the **Al Masjid mosque**, built by the prophet himself and place where he is buried, we will not be able to avoid feeling a surge of emotions when we observe the thousands of people who enter at the time of prayer. **Dinner included.**

#### 09 MON. Medina.-

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque (Al Masjid an Nabawi)**, an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

**Transfer to the airport and end of the tour.** Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night.

#### (Opt. 2) Dreams of Jordan and magic of Arabia end Jeddah

Days 1 - 8 as in Opt. 1

#### 09 MON. Medina - Jeddah.-

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque (Al Masjid an Nabawi)**, an amazing and luminous mosque of 10 minarets with a capacity for one million visitors. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill, but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims who will surround us any day. At the **Quba Mosque**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to **JEDDAH**, on the shores of the Red Sea, the second largest city in the country,

with four million inhabitants. Before going to the hotel, we will visit the **Al-Rahma mosque**, better known as the **floating mosque**, because it is built on the shores of the Red Sea with pillars over the water. We will also enjoy the lively sportive port, very close to the tracks where the Formula 1 circuit is held.

#### 10 TUE. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah. With a local guide we will visit this city that will surprise us by its contrasts. At this time, a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis. Among others, the construction of the **Jeddah Tower**, which will be the tallest building in the world with more than a thousand meters high, stands out.

We will follow the **Corniche**, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas. We will contemplate the **King Fahd Fountain**, the highest of its kind in the world, its water jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the lively and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to "**Tabeyat International city**" an architectural complex of great beauty with its very interesting museums of history and ethnography. We will then visit the historical center, entering through **Bab Makkah** - the most important gate of Jeddah - and we will also pass by the cemetery of Eve, where tradition says that Eve, Adam's wife and the first woman of humanity according to the bible, was buried. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Salum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 11 WED. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

#### (Opt. 3) Dreams of Jordan and magic of Arabia

Days 1 - 10 as in Opt. 2

#### 11 WED. Jeddah-Mecca- Al Hada - Taif.-

**Important Note:** Mecca is a city that is not accessible to non-Muslim tourists. If you are Muslim, if you wish, we can adapt your program so that you can visit it (you will stay in Taif with the rest of the members of the group and the visit of the remaining points of the day will not be included). In this case, there will be a supplement that will depend on the number of travelers who can and wish to visit Mecca.

Today we travel to Taif, a city authorized for non-Muslim travelers in the province of Mecca. This city, located at almost 2000 meters above sea level, is popular for its mild climate, so every summer the Saudi Government moves to this point -not as hot as Riyadh-. The route, up the mountain, is spectacular in scenery. We will stop at **AL HADA**, with its tourist market, great views and rose fields. **Lunch included.**

**TAIF**, this popular city with very modern shopping malls and great amusement parks, has numerous rose gardens. On the outskirts of the city of Qadeera, we will visit the **King Faisal Park**, which hosts an annual rose festival, and experience the roses used to make local perfumes. In this city 300 million roses are produced annually in more than 900 farms. **We will visit a rose oil factory -Attar-**. We will also stroll through the central market, with its maze of narrow streets and its different areas (honey, perfumes, jewelry...). In the evening we will go to the modern shopping mall district where you will have time to dine in one of its many restaurants of all kinds of cuisines.

#### 12 THU. Taif- Riyadh.-

Transfer to the airport and flight to **RIYADH** and transfer to your hotel.

In the evening, we will include a transfer with **entrance ticket to Boulevard Riyadh**, the largest park in the kingdom, which will surprise you with its animation and life. The park has curious attractions, numerous restaurants with specialties from many different countries, live shows and, above all, a fountains eye-catching show with colored water. Free time to stroll around, enjoy the place and dine in one of its restaurants. Return to the hotel.

#### 13 FRI. Riyadh.-

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the "**Kingdom Centre**", with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of **Al Turaif DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on



the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya.

At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

#### 14 SAT. Riyadh.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet. .
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Excursion:** 4x4 vehicles, camel rides in Wadi Rum.
- **City tour in:** Medina.
- **Evening Transfer:** Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Ticket admission:** Castle of Qasr Kharana and Castle of Qusayr Amra in Castles of the Dessert, Church of St. George, Madaba Archaeological Park in Madaba, Arqueological Site in Bethany, Dead Sea Museum and Panorama Complex in Dead Sea, Moses Springs and Petra Museum, Visitor Centre, 4x4 vehicles and camel rides in Wadi Rum, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Al Madinah Museum and garden and well of Ethiq in Medina.
- **10 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Madaba, Dead Sea, Dead Sea, Shoubak, Petra, Petra, Wadi Rum, Al Ula, Al Ula, Medina.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **City tour in:** Medina, Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Historic centre in Jeddah.
- **Ticket admission:** Tabeyat International City and house of Beit Salum in Jeddah.

(Additional services Opt. 3)

- **City tour in:** Riyadh.
- **Evening Transfer:** Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh.
- **Experiences:** Rose factory-Attar in Taif, Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh.
- **Ticket admission:** King Faisal park, Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh.
- **Flights included:** Taif/ Riyadh.
- **1 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Hada.





AL ULA

ID:27199

## EMIRATES, QATAR, BAHRAIN AND DREAMS OF ARABIA OPTION 1

ID:27198

## EMIRATES, QATAR, BAHRAIN AND ARABIA UNFORGETTABLE OPTION 2

ID:27200

## BEAUTIES OF THE PERSIAN GULF AND MYSTERIES OF ARABIA OPTION 3

**(Opt. 1) Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Dreams of Arabia**

**01 WED. Dubai.-**

**Welcome to Emirates!** Arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel.

At the end of the afternoon, we will be transferred to visit the impressive city of **DUBAI** that shines in the night. We will go to witness the show of "**Dubai Fountain**", where the water dances to the rhythm of music and light; we are at the foot of Burj Khalifa which with its 828 meters is the tallest tower in the world; free time to walk and dine (dinner not included) in the immense Dubai Mall. Return to the hotel.

**02 THU. Dubai.-**

Today we have a spectacular day getting to know Dubai. We include going up the spectacular tower "**Dubai Frame**" with its spectacular bridge shape and its view at 150 meters high. Afterwards we go to the old part of Dubai, a walk through the souk of Bur Dubai and the spice souk. We will take an **Abra (traditional boat of the Emirates)** to move to the historic neighborhood of **Al Fahidi** and the center for cultural understanding (with its motto "open minds, open doors"), in this area we will include in a traditional building, a **typical meal** of the country; if the group is more than 15 travelers they will give us an explanation to get to know better the gastronomy of the Emirates.

In the afternoon we will have time in **Madinat Jumeirah**, which offers us a contemporary version of a traditional Arab village with its souk, its canals, and its colorful villas.

**03 FRI. Dubai- Abu Dhabi.-**

We still have all morning to get to know Dubai. We will have a **panoramic tour** in which we will pass in front of the great mosque of Jumeirah, afterwards we continue passing by Burj Al Arab, a spectacular hotel in the form of a sail; the island of "Palm Jumeirah" in the shape of a palm tree. We will take the very modern monorail. A walk through the area of The Marina. We then have free time next to the most popular and active beach in Dubai: JBR beach. If you wish you can bathe in the warm waters of the Persian Gulf, or if you prefer you can stroll through its many luxury shops. Time to bathe or rest and have lunch (not included).

After lunch we will continue our route to **ABU DHABI**, the most important Emirate and capital of the country. Before entering the city, we will stop at Ferrari World, a theme park dedicated to Ferrari racing cars (stop to see outdoor areas). After that we visit the **Sheikh Zayed Mosque**, a beautiful white mosque, the largest in the Emirates, with an area of more than 12 hectares, a point that seeks the encounter with other cultures and people of other religions. We will pass in front of Capital Gate, a 160-meter-high building known for being the steepest skyscraper in the world. From the beautiful "Corniche", by the sea, we will get a great panoramic view of the city. Already, after dark we will go to **The Founders Memorial**, built in memory of Zayed, the first sultan of the Emirates; **The Constellation** stands out, with its magnificent night lighting.

**04 SAT. Abu Dhabi- Doha.-**

In the morning we continue our visit of the city. We will visit (entrance included) the **Heritage Village**, this

FROM **4.302\$**-DAYS **15/16/17**

DEPARTURE DATES

Every two weeks on Wednesday

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



DOHA



place allows us to understand the traditional life in the Emirates, we enjoy its views, we can buy in its craft shops and visit its small museums that illustrate us about the history of the Emirates. After that we include a visit and entry into **Qasr Al Watan**, the presidential palace of the Emirates, magnificent construction of white granite profusely decorated, highlights its dome of 37 meters and its chandelier lamp of 350,000 pieces of glass. After that we go to the "cultural district" where there are several museums, highlights the Louvre, with its spectacular architecture by the sea and an incredible collection. You have the opportunity if you wish to visit one of the museums or enjoy your free time in the area. **Lunch included.**

In the afternoon, transfer to the airport, we include the **flight to DOHA**, the capital of **QATAR**. Arrival and transfer to the hotel.

#### 05 SUN. Doha.-

We discover an exciting city. In this city's **city tour** we will visit the Corniche, with its line of skyscrapers and its beaches; we will get to see the very modern football stadium of Al Thumama, host of the 2022 World Cup; we will pass by the National Museum with its impressive architecture and include an entrance and visit of the **Museum of Islamic Art**, that houses the largest collection of Islamic art in the world. Uniting modernity and tradition we visit the **Souk of the Falcons** where we will understand the importance of falconry in this country; a time to walk in the Waqif Souk, built on the site of the old market remodeled to have the appearance of a nineteenth-century souk, nearby we will pass by the stables where the neighbors house Arabian horses. At lunchtime we will go to "The Pearl of Qatar" an artificial archipelago, here we will see Porto Arabia and we will have free time in Qanat, a shopping area inspired by Venice. **Lunch included.**

At the end of the day, we move to **KATARA**, a cultural village that has architectural replicas from all over the world, with several places to eat, its opera and its amphitheater.

#### 06 MON. Doha- Bahrain.-

**Important note:** Until 2019 there was a ferry linking Qatar with Bahrain significantly reducing travel time between the two points and avoiding transit through Saudi Arabia. It is possible that that ferry line will be restored, in which case the trip would be made by ferry. If the route is not restored, it passes through Saudi Arabia; please check that you have the visa for this country (in case your trip from Bahrain continues to Saudi Arabia please apply for the double or multiple entry visa).

We will travel through the road, 120 km of modern highway through the desert separates us from the border of Saudi Arabia. Transit through **Saudi Arabia**, we travel to **BAHRAIN**, a small country located on an island in the Persian Gulf, we pass by the 25 km friendship bridge that connects Arabia with Bahrain. Border procedures. Bahrain is a small country of 765 Km2 inhabited by just under two million inhabitants that always had great historical importance. **MANAMA**, arrival in the middle of the afternoon. Upon arrival we will know the historic neighborhood of **Muharraq**, in its pedestrian alleys are some of the most beautiful historical buildings in the country: royal residences and houses of rich pearl merchants very well restored.

At the end of the day, we will walk through the **souk of Manama**, with its active life and through **Little India**, over 300 000 inhabitants of Bahrain were born in India, this neighborhood preserves its life, the temple of Krishna and numerous small Indian restaurants.

#### 07 TUE. Bahrain.-

We will get to know thoroughly this small country; by coach we follow the coast, we include the entrance to **Beit Al Qur'An**, museum on the Qur'an, the Muslims' holy book. We also visit the fantastic **Bahrain National Museum** that allows us to see the art, ethnography and traditions of this country and understand the importance it had throughout history. We will visit with a guide the impressive **Al Fatih Mosque** the most important in the country. **Lunch included.**

In the afternoon we will leave Manama, on the outskirts is located **QALAT AL BARHEIN**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, an impressive fortress by the sea inhabited for 4000 years (the current castle was built by the Portuguese). We enter one of the most important oil production areas in the world, between refineries and pipelines we will stop next to the first oil extraction well opened in the country. We will also stop at the "tree of life", which with its more than 500 years being alive in the desert is a symbol of this country. Return to Manama, free time.



AL-HOFUF

#### 08 WED. Bahrain- Dammam - Al-Hofuf.-

We leave in the morning from Manama, take the long bridge of 25 km that separates this country from **SAUDI ARABIA**. Border procedures. We enter a country that until very recently has been closed to tourism.

We will be surprised by the city of **DAMMAM**, provincial capital with almost a million inhabitants. By the sea we get the chance to take a photo of the water tower of Khobar. Following its modern maritime strip we follow the Heritage Village, next to the sea, in the form of a fortress we'll visit its small **museum of ancient objects** (including its collection of historical cars); **Lunch included.** We continue towards the impressive Ithra site and its very modern King Abdulaziz center for world Culture - an architecturally very striking place (being rock shaped), with its leisure areas, its museums, its library.

Mid-afternoon continuation to the oasis of **AL-AHSA**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Arrival at **AL-HOFUF**, the main city of the oasis. We will take a night walk through the **King Abdullah Park**, a pleasant park where its artificial lake and the fountains that dance to the rhythm of the music are a stand out.

#### 09 THU. Al-Hofuf- Riyadh.-

We visit the Oasis of **AL AHSA**, with its gardens, canals, wells. Inhabited since the Neolithic; it is considered the largest oasis in the world with its almost 3 million date palms. In the center of Al-Hofuf we visit the **Ibrahim Palace**, historical fortress (World Heritage Site) dominated by its white mosque, built in 1556 by the Ottomans. After that we visit the "House of Allegiance" that shows us a small palace characteristic of the oasis. We will stroll through the elegant **souk of Al Qaisariya**, one of the oldest markets in Arabia, reflecting the commercial tradition of the region. We will approach the lively area where the **Muhaires Palace** stands, with its many restaurants, shops and parks where the local population goes.

Later we travel through the oasis, we go to **AL QARA**, a spectacular landscape area, labyrinth of mini-gorges-caves in the mountain, and a historical site; it will seem that 'you penetrate the mountain', all year round the temperature is around 25 degrees. We also visit its museum "land of civilizations" that describes the history of the area.

**Note:** At the time of writing this itinerary, the Ibrahim Palace was closed for restoration. During the period when it is closed, the palace will be visited from the outside.

In the afternoon we take a modern **high-speed train**, in two hours and 20 minutes we travel almost 350 kilometers of desert that separate us from Riyadh.- **RIYADH**, arrival. To end the day, we will include transfer and entrance to the **Boulevard Riyadh**, you will be

surprised by its life and activity, the attractions, the numerous restaurants with specialties from numerous countries, its live shows, and -above all- the spectacle of colorful fountains. Time to stroll, dine (dinner not included) and enjoy this place. Return to the hotel.

#### 10 FRI. Riyadh.-

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the "Kingdom Centre", with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaif **DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya. At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

#### 11 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiquer - Buraydah.-

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiquer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital





of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

#### 12 SUN. Buraydah – Medina.-

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah – a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit **"the city of dates"** –more or less active depending on the time of the year- and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see – today from outside – the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**

#### 13 MON. Medina – Jeddah.-

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of 10 minarets with a capacity for one million visitors. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill, but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims who will surround us any day. At the **Quba Mosque**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station). In the afternoon we travel to **JEDDAH**, on the shores of the Red Sea, the second largest city in the country, with four million inhabitants. Before going to the hotel, we will visit the Al-Rahma mosque, better known as

the **floating mosque**, because it is built on the shores of the Red Sea with pillars over the water. We will also enjoy the lively sportive port, very close to the tracks where the Formula 1 circuit is held.

#### 14 TUE. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah. With a local guide we will visit this city that will surprise us by its contrasts. At this time, a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis. Among others, the construction of the **Jeddah Tower**, which will be the tallest building in the world with more than a thousand meters high, stands out.

We will follow the **Corniche**, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas. We will contemplate the **King Fahd Fountain**, the highest of its kind in the world, its water jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the lively and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to **"Tabeyat International city"** an architectural complex of great beauty with its very interesting museums of history and ethnography. We will then visit the historical center, entering through **Bab Makkah** – the most important gate of Jeddah – and we will also pass by the cemetery of Eve, where tradition says that Eve, Adam's wife and the first woman of humanity according to the bible, was buried. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 15 WED. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

#### (Opt. 2) Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Arabia Unforgettable Days 1 – 14 as in Opt. 1

#### 15 WED. Jeddah-Mecca- Al Hada – Taif.-

**Important Note:** Mecca is a city that is not accessible to non-Muslim tourists. If you are Muslim, if you wish, we can adapt your program so that you can visit it (you will stay in Taif with the rest of the members of the group and the visit of the remaining points of the day will not be included). In this case, there will be a supplement that will depend on the number of travelers who can and wish to visit Mecca.

Today we travel to Taif, a city authorized for non-Muslim travelers in the province of Mecca. This city, located at almost 2000 meters above sea level, is popular for its mild climate, so every summer the Saudi Government moves to this point -not as hot as Riyadh-. The route, up the mountain, is spectacular in scenery. We will stop at **AL HADA**, with its tourist

market, great views and rose fields. **Lunch included.** **TAIF**, this popular city with very modern shopping malls and great amusement parks, has numerous rose gardens. On the outskirts of the city of Qadeera, we will visit the **King Faisal Park**, which hosts an annual rose festival, and experience the roses used to make local perfumes. In this city 300 million roses are produced annually in more than 900 farms. **We will visit a rose oil factory -Attar-**. We will also stroll through the central market, with its maze of narrow streets and its different areas (honey, perfumes, jewelry...). In the evening we will go to the modern shopping mall district where you will have time to dine in one of its many restaurants of all kinds of cuisines.

#### 16 THU. Taif – Riyadh.-

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and flight to Riyadh. End of our services.

**Note:** Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night. In this case, the airport transfer to the hotel is not included and will be billed.

#### (Opt. 3) Beauties of the Persian Gulf and Mysteries of Arabia Days 1 – 12 as in Opt. 2

#### 13 MON. Medina – Al-'Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-'Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-'Ula on Tuesday.

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-'ULA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After arrival we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, "Jabal Al Fil" an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

#### 14 TUE. Al-'Ula – Tabuk.-

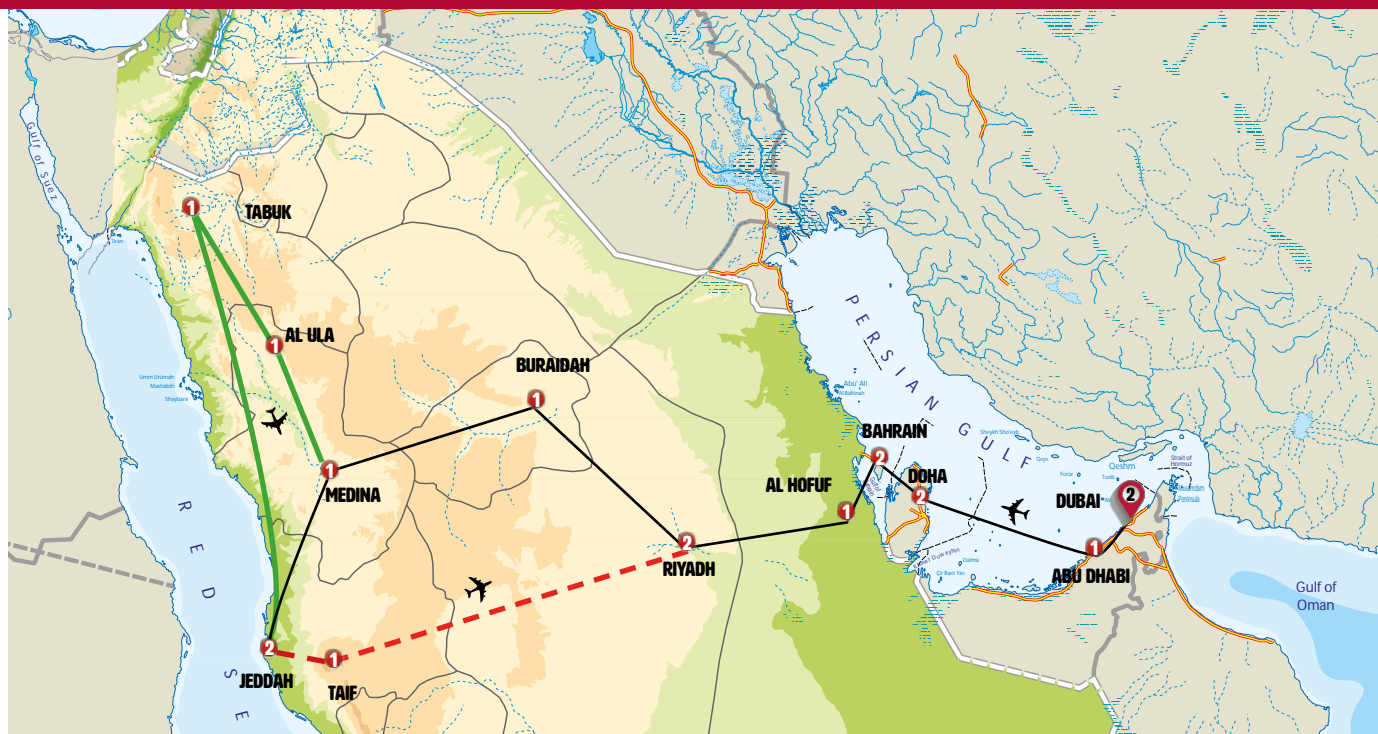
In the region of Al-'Ula we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Mada'in Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in **"Al-'Ula Heritage Village"**, the old Al-'Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**. In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for **TABUK**. **Dinner included.**

#### 15 WED. Tabuk – Jeddah.-

We visit **Tabuk**, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit **the castle** whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the castle and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the center and we reach the old train station, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

After the visit of Tabuk transfer to the airport. We include **flight to JEDDAH**, the second city in the





TAIF

country, with four million inhabitants, on the shore of the Red Sea. Transfer to your hotel and free time.

#### 16 THU. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah, with our local guide we will **visit the city**. We will be surprised by its contrasts, currently a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis, highlights the construction of the Jeddah Tower that will be the tallest building in the world with over a thousand meters high. We will follow the Corniche, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas; we will contemplate the Fountain of King Fahd, the highest of its kind in the world, its jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the active and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to **"Tabeyat International city"** very interesting museum of history and ethnography in an architectural ensemble of great beauty. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 17 FRI. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Boat:** Dow in Dubai.
- **City tour in:** Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha, Riyadh, Medina, Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Dubai Fountain in Dubai, The Founders Memoria in Abu Dabi, Katara in Doha, Little India in Manama, King Abdullah Park in Al Hofuf, Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh, Historic centre in Jeddah.
- **Experiences:** Monorail, Dubai Frame and explanation about the gastronomy of Emirates in Dubai, Souk of the falcons in Doha, Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Madinat Jumeirah in Dubai, Heritage Village, Sheikh Zayed mosque, Qasr al Watan and the Founders Memorial in Abu Dabi, Al Thumama football stadium, islamic museum, and Katara in Doha, Beit al Quram museum, Al Fatih mosque and national museum of Bahrain in Manama; Qalat al Barhein fortress, Heritage Village and King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture in Dammam, King Abdullah Park, Ibrahim palace, House of Allegiance, Al Qara and Land of civilizations museum in Al Hofuf, Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Tabeyat International City and house of Beit Sallum in Jeddah.
- **High Speed Train:** Al Hofuf/ Riyadh.
- **Flights included:** Abu Dhabi-Doha.
- **7 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha, Bahrain, Dammam, Ushaiqer, Medina.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **Experiences:** Rose factory-Attar in Taif.
- **Ticket admission:** King Faisal park.
- **Flights included:** Taif/ Riyadh.
- **1 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Hada.

(Additional services Opt. 3)

- **City tour in:** Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Ticket admission:** Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Tabeyat International City and Mud House Museum in Jeddah.
- **Flights included:** Tabuk/ Jeddah.
- **3 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk.







DOHA



ID:27202

## DOHA, BAHRAIN, OASIS AND DREAM ARABIA END JEDDAH

OPTION 1

ID:27201

## DOHA, BAHRAIN, OASIS AND ARABIA DREAM

OPTION 2

ID:27203

## DOHA, BAHRAIN AND ARABIAN MYSTERIES

OPTION 3

FROM 3.236\$-DAYS 12/13/14

DEPARTURE DATES

Every two weeks  
on Saturday

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



BAHRAIN

(Opt. 1) Doha, Bahrain, Oasis and Dream Arabia end Jeddah

01 SAT. Doha.-

**Welcome to Europamundo!** Upon arriving at the airport, we will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Check the information boards in the hotel reception area for details of the welcome meeting with your guide and fellow travelers.

02 SUN. Doha.-

We discover an exciting city. In this city's **city tour** we will visit the Corniche, with its line of skyscrapers and its beaches; we will get to see the very modern football stadium of Al Thumama, host of the 2022 World Cup; we will pass by the National Museum with its impressive architecture and include an entrance and visit of the **Museum of Islamic Art**, that houses the largest collection of Islamic art in the world. Uniting modernity and tradition we visit the **Souk of the Falcons** where we will understand the importance of falconry in this country; a time to walk in the Waqif Souk, built on the site of the old market remodeled to have the appearance of a nineteenth-century souk, nearby we will pass by the stables where the neighbors house Arabian horses. At lunchtime we will go to **"The Pearl of Qatar"** an artificial archipelago, here we will see Porto Arabia and we will have free time in Qanat, a shopping area inspired by Venice. **Lunch included.**

At the end of the day, we move to **KATARA**, a cultural village that has architectural replicas from all over the world, with several places to eat, its opera and its amphitheater.

03 MON. Doha- Bahrain.-

**Important note:** Until 2019 there was a ferry linking Qatar with Bahrain significantly reducing travel time between the two points and avoiding transit through Saudi Arabia. It is possible that that ferry line will be restored, in which case the trip would be made by ferry. If the route is not restored, it passes through Saudi Arabia; please check that you have the visa for this country (in case your trip from Bahrain continues to Saudi Arabia please apply for the double or multiple entry visa).

We will travel through the road, 120 km of modern highway through the desert separates us from the border of Saudi Arabia. Transit through **Saudi Arabia**, we travel to **BAHRAIN**, a small country located on an island in the Persian Gulf, we pass by the 25 km friendship bridge that connects Arabia with Bahrain. Border procedures. Bahrain is a small country of 765 Km2 inhabited by just under two million inhabitants that always had great historical importance. **MANAMA**, arrival in the middle of the afternoon. Upon arrival we will know the historic neighborhood of **Muharraq**, in its pedestrian alleys are some of the most beautiful historical buildings in the country: royal residences and houses of rich pearl merchants very well restored.

At the end of the day, we will walk through the **souk of Manama**, with its active life and through **Little India**, over 300 000 inhabitants of Bahrain were born in India, this neighborhood preserves its life, the temple of Krishna and numerous small Indian restaurants.



#### 04 TUE. Bahrain.-

We will get to know thoroughly this small country; by coach we follow the coast, we include the entrance to **Beit Al Qur'an**, museum on the Qur'an, the Muslims' holy book. We also visit the fantastic **Bahrain National Museum** that allows us to see the art, ethnography and traditions of this country and understand the importance it had throughout history. We will visit with a guide the impressive **Al Fatih Mosque** the most important in the country. **Lunch included.**

In the afternoon we will leave Manama, on the outskirts is located **QALAT AL BARHEIN**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, an impressive fortress by the sea inhabited for 4000 years (the current castle was built by the Portuguese). We enter one of the most important oil production areas in the world, between refineries and pipelines we will stop next to the first oil extraction well opened in the country. We will also stop at the **"tree of life"**, which with its more than 500 years being alive in the desert is a symbol of this country. Return to Manama, free time.

#### 05 WED. Bahrain- Dammam - Al-Hofuf.-

We leave in the morning from Manama, take the long bridge of 25 km that separates this country from **SAUDI ARABIA**. Border procedures. We enter a country that until very recently has been closed to tourism.

We will be surprised by the city of **DAMMAM**, provincial capital with almost a million inhabitants. By the sea we get the chance to take a photo of the water tower of Khobar. Following its modern maritime strip we follow the Heritage Village, next to the sea, in the form of a fortress we'll visit its small **museum of ancient objects** (including its collection of historical cars); **Lunch included.** We continue towards the impressive Ithra site and its very modern King Abdulaziz center for world Culture - an architecturally very striking place (being rock shaped), with its leisure areas, its museums, its library.

Mid-afternoon continuation to the oasis of **AL-AHSA**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Arrival at **AL-HOFUF**, the main city of the oasis. We will take a night walk through the **King Abdullah Park**, a pleasant park where its artificial lake and the fountains that dance to the rhythm of the music are a stand out.

#### 06 THU. Al-Hofuf- Riyadh.-

We visit the Oasis of **AL AHSA**, with its gardens, canals, wells. Inhabited since the Neolithic; it is considered the largest oasis in the world with its almost 3 million date palms. In the center of Al-Hofuf we visit the **Ibrahim Palace**, historical fortress (World Heritage Site) dominated by its white mosque, built in 1556 by the Ottomans. After that we visit the **"House of Allegiance"** that shows us a small palace characteristic of the oasis. We will stroll through the elegant **souk of Al Qaisariya**, one of the oldest markets in Arabia, reflecting the commercial tradition of the region. We will approach the lively area where the **Muhaires Palace** stands, with its many restaurants, shops and parks where the local population goes.

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#### 07 FRI. Riyadh.-

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb

to the tower of just over 300 m high, the **"Kingdom Centre"**, with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

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At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

#### 08 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiqer - Buraydah.-

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiqer Heritage Village**, a village that was

an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

#### 09 SUN. Buraydah - Medina.-

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit **"the city of dates"** -more or less active depending on the time of the year- and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

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#### JEDDAH







AL-'ULA

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#### 11 TUE. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah. With a local guide we will visit this city that will surprise us by its contrasts. At this time, a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis. Among others, the construction of the **Jeddah Tower**, which will be the tallest building in the world with more than a thousand meters high, stands out.

We will follow the **Corniche**, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas. We will contemplate the **King Fahd Fountain**, the highest of its kind in the world, its water jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the lively and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to **"Tabeyat International city"** an architectural complex of great beauty with its very interesting museums of history and ethnography. We will then visit the historical center, entering through **Bab Makkah** - the most important gate of Jeddah - and we will also pass by the cemetery of Eve, where tradition says that Eve, Adam's wife and the first woman of humanity according to the bible, was buried. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 12 WED. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

#### (Opt. 2) Doha, Bahrain, Oasis and Arabia Dream Days 1 - 11 as in Opt. 1

##### 12 WED. Jeddah-Mecca- Al Hada - Taif.-

**Important Note:** Mecca is a city that is not accessible to non-Muslim tourists. If you are Muslim, if you wish, we can adapt your program so that you can visit it (you will stay in Taif with the rest of the members of the group and the visit of the remaining points of the day will not be included). In this case, there will be a supplement that will depend on the number of travelers who can and wish to visit Mecca.

Today we travel to Taif, a city authorized for non-Muslim travelers in the province of Mecca. This city, located at almost 2000 meters above sea level, is popular for its mild climate, so every summer the Saudi Government moves to this point -not as hot as Riyadh-. The route, up the mountain, is spectacular in scenery. We will stop at **AL HADA**, with its tourist market, great views and rose fields. **Lunch included.** **TAIF**, this popular city with very modern shopping malls and great amusement parks, has numerous rose gardens. On the outskirts of the city of Qadeera, we will visit the **King Faisal Park**, which hosts an annual rose festival, and experience the roses used to make local perfumes. In this city 300 million roses are produced annually in more than 900 farms. **We will visit a rose oil factory -Attar-**. We will also stroll through the central market, with its maze of narrow streets and its different areas (honey, perfumes, jewelry...). In the evening we will go to the modern shopping mall district where you will have time to dine in one of its many restaurants of all kinds of cuisines.

##### 13 THU. Taif - Riyadh.-

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and flight to Riyadh. End of our services.

**Note:** Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night. In this case, the airport transfer to the hotel is not included and will be billed.

#### (Opt. 3) Doha, Bahrain and Arabian Mysteries Days 1 - 9 as in Opt. 2

##### 10 MON. Medina - Al-'Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-'Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-'Ula on Tuesday.

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time.

At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-'ULA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After arrival we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, "Jabal Al Fil" an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

##### 11 TUE. Al-'Ula - Tabuk.-

In the region of Al-'Ula we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in **"Al-'Ula Heritage Village"**, the old Al-'Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**. In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for **TABUK**. **Dinner included.**

##### 12 WED. Tabuk - Jeddah.-

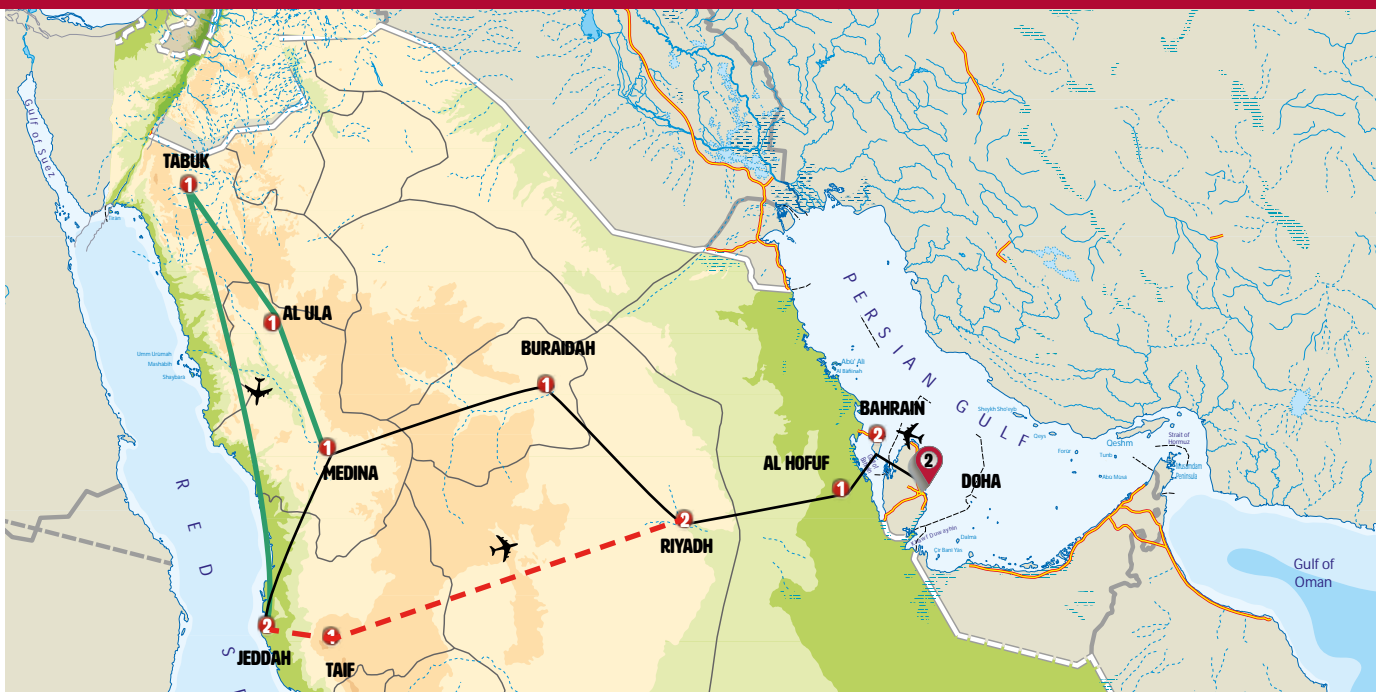
We visit **Tabuk**, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit **the castle** whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the castle and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the center and we reach the old train station, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

After the visit of Tabuk transfer to the airport. We include **flight to JEDDAH**, the second city in the country, with four million inhabitants, on the shore of the Red Sea. Transfer to your hotel and free time.

##### 13 THU. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah, with our local guide we will **visit the**





**city.** We will be surprised by its contrasts, currently a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis, highlights the construction of the Jeddah Tower that will be the tallest building in the world with over a thousand meters high. We will follow the Corniche, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas; we will contemplate the Fountain of King Fahd, the highest of its kind in the world, its jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the active and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to "Tabeyat International city" very interesting museum of history and ethnography in an architectural ensemble of great beauty. Free time

for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 14 FRI. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **City tour in:** Doha, Riyadh, Medina, Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Katara in Doha, Little India in Manama, King Abdullah Park in Al Hofuf, Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh, Historic centre in Jeddah.
- **Experiences:** Souk of the falcons in Doha, Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Al Thumama football stadium, Islamic museum, and Katara in Doha, Beit al Quram museum, Al Fatih mosque and national museum of Bahrain in Manama; Qalat al Barhein fortress, Heritage Village and King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture in Dammam, King Abdullah Park, Ibrahim palace, House of Allegiance, Al Qara and Land of civilizations museum in Al Hofuf, Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Tabeyat International City and house of Beit Sallum in Jeddah.
- **High Speed Train:** Al Hofuf/ Riyadh.
- **5 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Doha, Bahrain, Dammam, Ushaiqer, Medina.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **Experiences:** Rose factory-Attar in Taif.
- **Ticket admission:** King Faisal park.
- **Flights included:** Taif/ Riyadh.
- **1 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Hada.

(Additional services Opt. 3)

- **City tour in:** Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Ticket admission:** Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Tabeyat International City and Mud House Museum in Jeddah.
- **Flights included:** Tabuk/ Jeddah.
- **3 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk.



MEDINA





BAHRAIN

FROM **2.859\$**-DAYS **11/12/13**

DEPARTURE DATES

Every two weeks on Sunday

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



USHAIGER

- ID:27510 **BAHRAIN, OASIS AND DREAM ARABIA END JEDDAH** **OPTION 1**
- ID:27509 **BAHRAIN, OASIS AND ARABIA DREAM** **OPTION 2**
- ID:27511 **BAHRAIN AND ARABIAN MYSTERIES** **OPTION 3**

**(Opt. 1) Bahrain, Oasis and Dream Arabia end Jeddah 01 SUN. Bahrain.-**  
**Welcome to Europamundo!** Upon arriving at the airport, we will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Check the information boards in the hotel reception area for details of the welcome meeting with your guide and fellow travelers.

**02 MON. Bahrain.-**  
 Free morning in MANAMÁ, capital of BAHRAIN, a small country that always had great historical importance, inhabited by just under two million inhabitants and located on an island in the Persian Gulf. In the middle of the afternoon, we will visit the **historic district of Muharraq**, where, in its pedestrian alleys are located some of the most beautiful historical buildings in the country, such as royal residences and houses of rich pearl merchants very well restored. At the end of the day we will walk through the **souk of Manama**, with its active life and we will visit Little India, a neighborhood that preserves its life and traditions, the temple of Krishna and numerous small restaurants of India since more than 300 000 inhabitants of Bahrain were born in India.

**03 TUE. Baharain.-**  
 We will get to know thoroughly this small country; by coach we follow the coast, we include the entrance to **Beit Al Qur'An**, museum on the Qur'an, the Muslims' holy book. We also visit the fantastic **Bahrain National Museum** that allows us to see the art, ethnography and traditions of this country and understand the importance it had throughout history. We will visit with a guide the impressive **Al Fatih Mosque** the most important in the country. **Lunch included.**

In the afternoon we will leave Manama, on the outskirts is located **QALAT AL BARHEIN**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, an impressive fortress by the sea inhabited for 4000 years (the current castle was built by the Portuguese). We enter one of the most important oil production areas in the world, between refineries and

pipelines we will stop next to the first oil extraction well opened in the country. We will also stop at the **"tree of life"**, which with its more than 500 years being alive in the desert is a symbol of this country. Return to Manama, free time.

**04 WED. Bahrein- Dammam - Al-Hofuf.-**  
 We leave in the morning from Manama, take the long bridge of 25 km that separates this country from **SAUDI ARABIA**. Border procedures. We enter a country that until very recently has been closed to tourism.

We will be surprised by the city of **DAMMAM**, provincial capital with almost a million inhabitants. By the sea we get the chance to take a photo of the water tower of Khobar. Following its modern maritime strip we follow the Heritage Village, next to the sea, in the form of a fortress we'll visit its small **museum of ancient objects** (including its collection of historical cars); **Lunch included.** We continue towards the impressive Ithra site and its very modern King Abdulaziz center for world Culture - an architecturally very striking place (being rock shaped), with its leisure areas, its museums, its library. Mid-afternoon continuation to the oasis of AL-AHSA, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Arrival at **AL-HOFUF**, the main city of the oasis. We will take a night walk through the **King Abdullah Park**, a pleasant park where its artificial lake and the fountains that dance to the rhythm of the music are a stand out.

**05 THU. Al-Hofuf- Riyadh.-**  
 We visit the Oasis of **AL AHSA**, with its gardens, canals, wells. Inhabited since the Neolithic; it is considered the largest oasis in the world with its almost 3 million date palms. In the center of Al-Hofuf we visit the **Ibrahim Palace**, historical fortress (World Heritage Site) dominated by its white mosque, built in 1556 by the Ottomans. After that we visit the **"House of Allegiance"** that shows us a small palace characteristic of the oasis. We will stroll through the elegant **souk of Al Qaisariya**, one of the oldest markets in Arabia, reflecting the commercial tradi-



tion of the region. We will approach the lively area where the **Muhaires Palace** stands, with its many restaurants, shops and parks where the local population goes.

Later we travel through the oasis, we go to **AL QARA**, a spectacular landscape area, labyrinth of mini-gorges-caves in the mountain, and a historical site; it will seem that "you penetrate the mountain", all year round the temperature is around 25 degrees. We also visit its museum "land of civilizations" that describes the history of the area.

**Note:** At the time of writing this itinerary, the Ibrahim Palace was closed for restoration. During the period when it is closed, the palace will be visited from the outside.

In the afternoon we take a modern **high-speed train**, in two hours and 20 minutes we travel almost 350 kilometers of desert that separate us from Riyadh.- **RIYADH**, arrival. To end the day, we will include transfer and entrance to the **Boulevard Riyadh**, you will be surprised by its life and activity, the attractions, the numerous restaurants with specialties from numerous countries, its live shows, and -above all- the spectacle of colorful fountains. Time to stroll, dine (dinner not included) and enjoy this place. Return to the hotel.

#### 06 FRI. Riyadh.-

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the "**Kingdom Centre**", with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaif **DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya.

At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

#### 07 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiquer - Buraydah.-

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiquer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

#### 08 SUN. Buraydah - Medina.-

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to

buy their date annual requirement. We will visit "**the city of dates**" -more or less active depending on the time of the year- and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see - today from outside - the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**

#### 09 MON. Medina - Jeddah.-

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of 10 minarets with a capacity for one million visitors. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill, but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims who will surround us any day. At the **Quba Mosque**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to **JEDDAH**, on the shores of the Red Sea, the second largest city in the country, with four million inhabitants. Before going to the hotel, we will visit the Al-Rahma mosque, better known as the **floating mosque**, because it is built on the shores of the Red Sea with pillars over the water. We will also enjoy the lively sportive port, very close to the tracks where the Formula 1 circuit is held.

#### 10 TUE. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah. With a local guide we will visit this city that will surprise us by its contrasts. At this time, a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis. Among others, the construction of the **Jeddah Tower**, which will be the tallest building in the world with more than a thousand meters high, stands out.

We will follow the **Corniche**, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas. We will contemplate the **King Fahd Fountain**, the highest of its kind in the world, its water jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the lively and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to "**Tabayat International city**" an architectural complex of great beauty with its very interesting museums of history and ethnography. We will then visit the historical center, entering through **Bab Makkah** - the most important gate of Jeddah - and we will also pass by the cemetery of Eve, where tradition says that Eve, Adam's wife and the first woman of humanity according to the bible, was buried. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 11 WED. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.

DAMMAM





**(Opt. 2) Bahrain, Oasis and Arabia Dream**

**Days 1 - 10 as in Opt. 1**

**11 WED. Jeddah-Mecca- Al Hada - Taif.-**

**Important Note:** Mecca is a city that is not accessible to non-Muslim tourists. If you are Muslim, if you wish, we can adapt your program so that you can visit it (you will stay in Taif with the rest of the members of the group and the visit of the remaining points of the day will not be included). In this case, there will be a supplement that will depend on the number of travelers who can and wish to visit Mecca.

Today we travel to Taif, a city authorized for non-Muslim travelers in the province of Mecca. This city, located at almost 2000 meters above sea level, is popular for its mild climate, so every summer the Saudi Government moves to this point -not as hot as Riyadh-. The route, up the mountain, is spectacular in scenery. We will stop at **AL HADA**, with its tourist market, great views and rose fields. **Lunch included.**

**TAIF**, this popular city with very modern shopping malls and great amusement parks, has numerous rose gardens. On the outskirts of the city of Qadeera, we will visit the **King Faisal Park**, which hosts an annual rose festival, and experience the roses used to make local perfumes. In this city 300 million roses are produced annually in more than 900 farms. **We will visit a rose oil factory -Attar-**. We will also stroll through the central market, with its maze of narrow streets and its different areas (honey, perfumes, jewelry...). In the evening we will go to the modern shopping mall district where you will have time to dine in one of its many restaurants of all kinds of cuisines.

**12 THU. Taif - Riyadh.-**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and flight to Riyadh. End of our services.

**Note:** Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night. In this case, the airport transfer to the hotel is not included and will be billed.

**(Opt. 3) Bahrain and Arabian Mysteries**

**Days 1 - 8 as in Opt. 2**

**09 MON. Medina - Al-'Ula.-**

**Note:** The Al-'Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-'Ula on Tuesday.

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-'ULA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After arrival we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, "Jabal Al Fil" an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

**10 TUE. Al-'Ula - Tabuk.-**

In the region of Al-'Ula we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in "**Al-'Ula Heritage Village**", the old Al-'Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**. In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for **TABUK**. **Dinner included.**

**11 WED. Tabuk - Jeddah.-**

We **visit Tabuk**, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit **the castle** whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the castle and the city, from the great explorers





who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the center and we reach the old train station, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

After the visit of Tabuk transfer to the airport. We include **flight to JEDDAH**, the second city in the country, with four million inhabitants, on the shore of the Red Sea. Transfer to your hotel and free time.

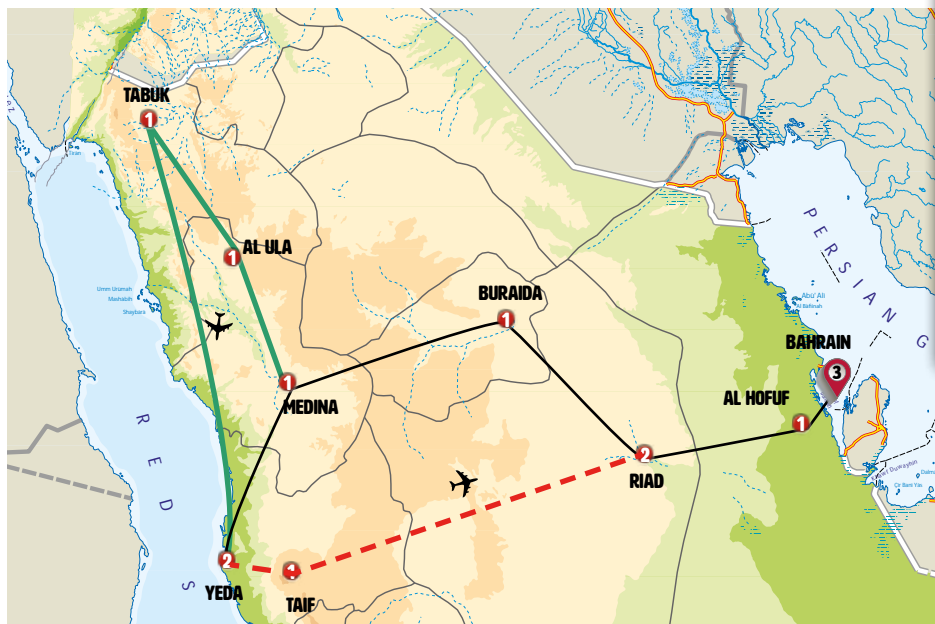
#### 12 THU. Jeddah.-

Full day in Jeddah, with our local guide we will **visit the city**. We will be surprised by its contrasts, currently a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis, highlights the construction of the Jeddah Tower that will be the tallest building in the world with over a thousand meters high. We will follow the Corniche, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas; we will contemplate the Fountain of King Fahd, the highest of its kind in the world, its jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the active and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to **"Tabeyat International city"** very interesting museum of history and ethnography in an architectural ensemble of great beauty. Free time for lunch in a shopping center-Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

#### 13 FRI. Jeddah.-

After breakfast, end of our services.



AL-ULA

## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with Spanish speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **City tour in:** Riyadh, Medina, Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Little India in Manama, King Abdullah Park in Al Hofuf, Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh, Historic centre in Jeddah.
- **Experiences:** Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Beit al Quram museum, Al Fatih mosque and national museum of Bahrain in Manama; Qalat al Barhein fortress, Heritage Village and King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture in Dammam, King Abdullah Park, Ibrahim palace, House of Allegiance, Al Qara and Land of civilizations museum in Al Hofuf, Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Tabeyat International City and house of Beit Sallum in Jeddah.
- **High Speed Train:** Al Hofuf/ Riyadh.
- **5 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Bahrain, Dammam, Al Hofuf, Ushaiqer, Medina.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **Experiences:** Rose factory-Attar in Taif.
- **Ticket admission:** King Faisal park.
- **Flights included:** Taif/ Riyadh.
- **1 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Hada.

(Additional services Opt. 3)

- **City tour in:** Jeddah.
- **Evening Transfer:** Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Ticket admission:** Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Tabeyat International City and Mud House Museum in Jeddah.
- **Flights included:** Tabuk/ Jeddah.
- **3 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk.







DUBAI

FROM 4.728\$-DAYS 15/17

DEPARTURE DATES

Every Saturday

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



ABU DHABI

ID:27221

## DUBAI, ARABIAN MYSTERIES, PETRA AND WADI RUM

OPTION 1

ID:27220

## DUBAI, MYSTERIES OF ARABIA, JORDAN AND CAIRO

OPTION 2

(Opt. 1) Dubai, Arabian Mysteries, Petra and Wadi Rum

**01 SAT. Dubai.-**

**Welcome to Emirates!** Arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel.

At the end of the afternoon, we will be transferred to visit the impressive city of **DUBAI** that shines in the night. We will go to witness the show of "**Dubai Fountain**", where the water dances to the rhythm of music and light; we are at the foot of Burj Khalifa which with its 828 meters is the tallest tower in the world; free time to walk and dine (dinner not included) in the immense Dubai Mall. Return to the hotel.

**02 SUN. Dubai.-**

Today we have a spectacular day getting to know Dubai. We will have a **panoramic tour** in which we will pass in front of the great mosque of Jumeirah, afterwards we continue passing by Burj Al Arab, a spectacular hotel in the form of a sail; the island of "Palm Jumeirah" in the shape of a palm tree. We will take the very **modern monorail**. A walk through the area of The Marina. We then have free time next to the most popular and active beach in Dubai: JBR beach. If you wish you can bathe in the warm waters of the Persian Gulf, or if you prefer you can stroll through its several luxury shops. Time to bathe or rest and have lunch (not included). In the afternoon we will have time in **Madinat Jumeirah**, which offers us a contemporary version of a traditional Arab village with its souk, its canals, and its colorful villas.

**03 MON. Dubai - Abu Dhabi.-**

We still have all morning to get to know Dubai. We include

going up the spectacular tower "**Dubai Frame**" with its spectacular bridge shape and its view at 150 meters high. Afterwards we go to the old part of Dubai, a walk through the souk of Bur Dubai and the spice souk. We will take an **Abra** (traditional boat of the Emirates) to move to the **historic neighborhood of Al Fahidi** and the center for cultural understanding (with its motto "open minds, open doors"), in this area we will include in a traditional building, a **typical meal** of the country; if the group is more than 15 travelers they will give us an explanation to get to know better the gastronomy of the Emirates.

After lunch we will continue our route to **ABU DHABI**, the most important Emirate and capital of the country. Before entering the city, we will stop at Ferrari World, a theme park dedicated to Ferrari racing cars (stop to see outdoor areas). After that we visit the **Sheikh Zayed Mosque**, a beautiful white mosque, the largest in the Emirates, with an area of more than 12 hectares, a point that seeks the encounter with other cultures and people of other religions. We will pass in front of Capital Gate, a 160-meter-high building known for being the steepest skyscraper in the world. From the beautiful "Corniche", by the sea, we will get a great panoramic view of the city.

Already, after dark we will go to The Founders Memorial, built in memory of Zayed, the first sultan of the Emirates; **The Constellation** stands out, with its magnificent night lighting.

**04 TUE. Abu Dhabi- Al Dhannah.-**

In the morning we continue our visit of the city. We will visit (entrance included) the **Heritage Village**, this place allows us to understand the traditional life in the Emirates, we enjoy its views, we can buy in its craft shops and



visit its small museums that illustrate us about the history of the Emirates. After that we include a visit and entry into **Qasr Al Watan**, the presidential palace of the Emirates, magnificent construction of white granite profusely decorated, highlights its dome of 37 meters and its chandelier lamp of 350,000 pieces of glass.

After that we go to the "cultural district" where there are several museums, highlights The Louvre, with its spectacular architecture by the sea and an incredible collection. You have the opportunity if you wish to visit one of the museums or enjoy your free time in the area. **Lunch included.**

In the afternoon we continue our route, we cross oil-producing regions to **DHANNAH CITY**. We will be staying in a nice hotel-resort next to the warm waters of the Persian Gulf. **Dinner included.**

#### 05 WED. Al Dhannah – Al-Hofuf.-

Free time to relax in the hotel, you can enjoy its white sand beach, its pool or snorkel in the waters of the Persian Gulf. **Lunch included.** After lunch we enter a country that until very recently has been closed to tourism. Only 130 km separate us from the border of **SAUDI ARABIA** (Al Batha). Border procedures and continuation of our route through the desert to the **oasis of AL-AHSA**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Arrival at **AL-HOFUF**, the main city of the oasis. We will take a night walk through the **King Abdullah Park**, a pleasant park where its artificial lake and the fountains that dance to the rhythm of the music stand out.

#### 06 THU. Al-Hofuf- Riyadh.-

We visit the **Oasis of AL-AHSA**, with its gardens, canals, wells. Inhabited since the Neolithic; it is considered the largest oasis in the world with its almost 3 million date palms. In the center of Al-Hofuf we visit the **Ibrahim Palace**, historical fortress (World Heritage Site) dominated by its white mosque, built in 1556 by the Ottomans. After that we visit the "**House of Allegiance**" that shows us a small palace characteristic of the oasis. We will stroll through the elegant **souk of Al Qaisariya**, one of the oldest markets in Arabia, reflecting the commercial tradition of the region. We will approach the lively area where the **Muhaires Palace** stands, with its many restaurants, shops and parks where the local population goes.

Later we travel through the oasis, we go to **AL QARA**, a spectacular landscape area, labyrinth of mini-gorges-caves in the mountain, and a historical site; it will seem that "you penetrate the mountain", all year round the temperature is around 25 degrees. We also visit its **museum "land of civilizations"** that describes the history of the area.

**Note:** At the time of writing this itinerary, the Ibrahim Palace was closed for restoration. During the period when it is closed, the palace will be visited from the outside.

In the afternoon we take a modern **high-speed train**, in two hours and 20 minutes we travel almost 350 kilometers of desert that separate us from Riyadh.- **RIYADH**, arrival. To end the day we will include transfer and entrance to the **Boulevard Riyadh**, you will be surprised by its life and activity, the attractions, the numerous restaurants with specialties from numerous countries, its live shows, and -above all- the spectacle of colorful fountains. Time to stroll, dine (dinner not included) and enjoy this place. Return to the hotel.

#### 07 FRI. Riyadh.-

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the "**Kingdom Centre**", with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaif **DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya.

At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

#### 08 SAT. Riyadh – Al Qasab – Shaqra – Ushaiqer – Buraydah.-

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiqer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

#### 09 SUN. Buraydah – Medina.-

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit "**the city**

**of dates**" -more or less active depending on the time of the year- and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see - today from outside - the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**

#### 10 MON. Medina – Al-'Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-'Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-'Ula on Tuesday.

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in





Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-'ULA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After arrival we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, "Jabal Al Fil" an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

#### 11 TUE. Al-'Ula - Tabuk.-

In the region of Al-'Ula we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in "Al-'Ula Heritage Village", the old Al-'Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**. In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for **TABUK**. **Dinner included.**

#### 12 WED. Tabuk - Petra.-

We visit Tabuk, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit the castle whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the **castle** and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the city center and we reach the **old train station**, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

Only 100 km separate us from **JORDAN**. Border procedures and continuation to **WADI MUSA** (town created around Petra), we will visit the **Spring of Moses**, where allegedly Moses hit the rock with his rod and the water gushed out, and the **Petra Museum**, an excellent sample that allows us to understand the history of the Nabataeans and get to know magnificent pieces found in the area. **Dinner included.** Travelers who wish to do so can go in their free time to an old Turkish bath or get to see the lights and sounds show in Petra.

#### 13 THU. Petra- Wadi Rum.-

Today we have the most exciting day of the trip: First, we visit the impressive archaeological site of **PETRA**, which is accessed through a narrow canyon, and discover the temples and tombs excavated on the cliffs in this city that was founded 300 years before Christ. After **lunch (included)** we leave for the impressive desert of **WADI RUM**. At the Visitor Centre we board **4x4 vehicles** to visit some of the most impressive landscapes. We stop in the town of **RUM** to visit the ruins of the Nabatean temple. We include a **45-minute camel ride** through the desert. We will also visit the **Khazali Canyon**. In this spectacular place, we will see the engravings that reveal the origins of the Arabic language. **Dinner and accommodation included in a desert camp.**

#### 14 FRI. Wadi Rum- Aqaba.-

After breakfast we will leave for **AQABA**, Jordan's second city. We will visit Jordan's second city, a modern, commercial port city. Afternoon free to enjoy the hotel-resort and the warm waters of the Red Sea!

#### 15 SAT. Aqaba - Amman.-

After breakfast we will depart via "the desert road" to the **AMMAN**

**Note:** Depending on the number of travellers, the trip from Aqaba to Amman may be made by regular VIP coach.

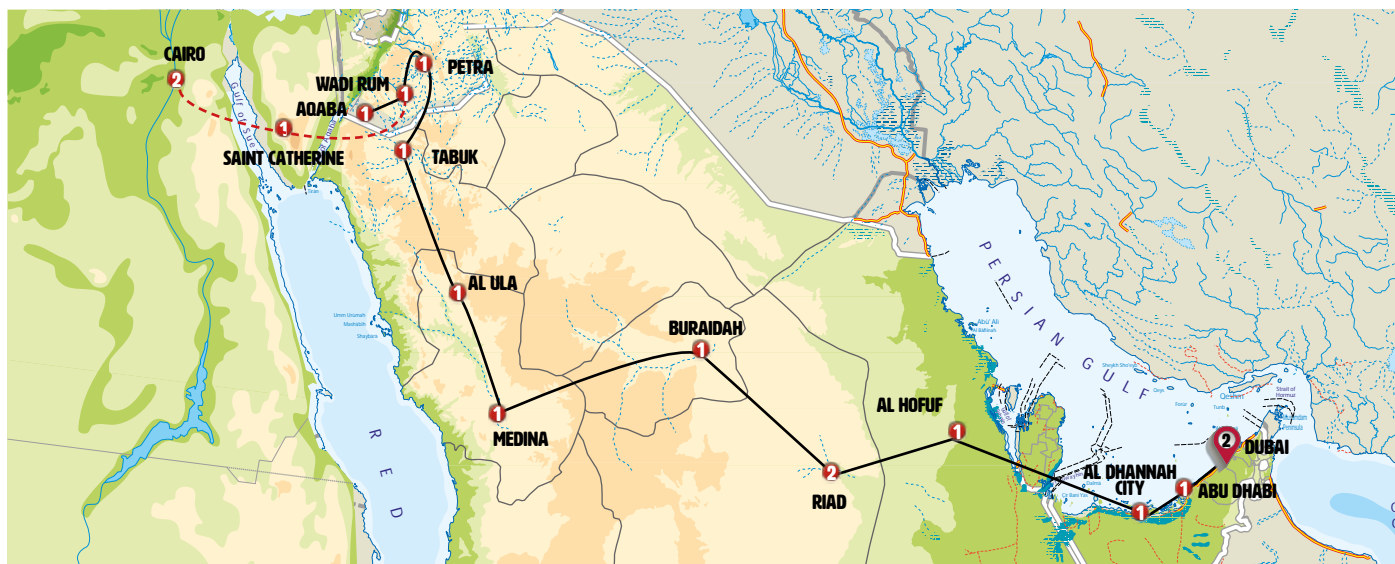


AL-'ULA

AL-'ULA







(Opt. 2) Dubai, Mysteries of Arabia, Jordan and Cairo

Days 1 - 13 as in Opt. 1

**14 FRI. Wadi Rum- Aqaba- Eilat- Saint Catherine.-**

After breakfast, we leave for **AQABA**, Jordan's second city, lying on the banks of the Red Sea. We walk through the center before continuing to the border of **ISRAEL**, **EILAT** and arrive in this modern and tourist city with its excellent beaches. There's time to relax, have lunch and stroll around. Are you tempted to have a swim? We then continue towards the **EGYPT** border, and into Sinai. On the way, there's chance to take photographs of the Pharaoh's Island with the powerful fortress of Saladin. Continue to **SAINT CATHERINE**. Arrival, accommodation and **dinner included**.

**FEES:** At the border crossing from Jordan to Israel and from Israel to Egypt, every traveler must pay an entry/exit fee for the different countries. Jordan: \$15 (exit fees), Israel: \$32 (exit fee), Egypt: \$45 (entry visa, which is actually \$25 visa + \$20

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Due to exceptional circumstances or due to a small number of participants, it may happen that we will cross directly from Jordan to Egypt by boat, taking the **AQA-BA- TABA FERRY** with a duration of just over two hours. During the ferry crossing, there will be no assistance from any guide.

**15 SAT. Saint Catherine- Well of Moses- Cairo.-**

At the foot of Mount Sinai, we visit the impressive walled **monastery of SAINT CATHERINE**. According to tradition, this is where Moses saw "the Burning Bush that burned without being consumed". The monastery, which is a sacred place for Jews, Christians and Muslims, belongs to the Orthodox Church and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We then continue on through the Sinai Desert's picturesque landscapes. **Lunch included** in route. Stop at the **WELL OF MOSES**, a biblical site that looks like a small oasis. We will leave Sinai through the tunnel under the **SUEZ CANAL**. Arrival in **CAIRO** at the end of the afternoon. Accommodation.

**16 SUN. Cairo.-**

Full day visit where we explore the famous **Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos** (tickets to go inside the pyramids are not included), and also the impressive Sphinx, which is sculpted from rock. Visit to the **Egyptian Museum** with its ancient art and where the treasure of the Lost Tomb of Tutankhamen is kept. **Lunch included. Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque.** We will take a walk through the Coptic neighborhood where we visit the Hanging Church built above a Roman fortress.

**17 MON. Cairo.-**

After breakfast, end of our services.



## THE PRICE INCLUDES

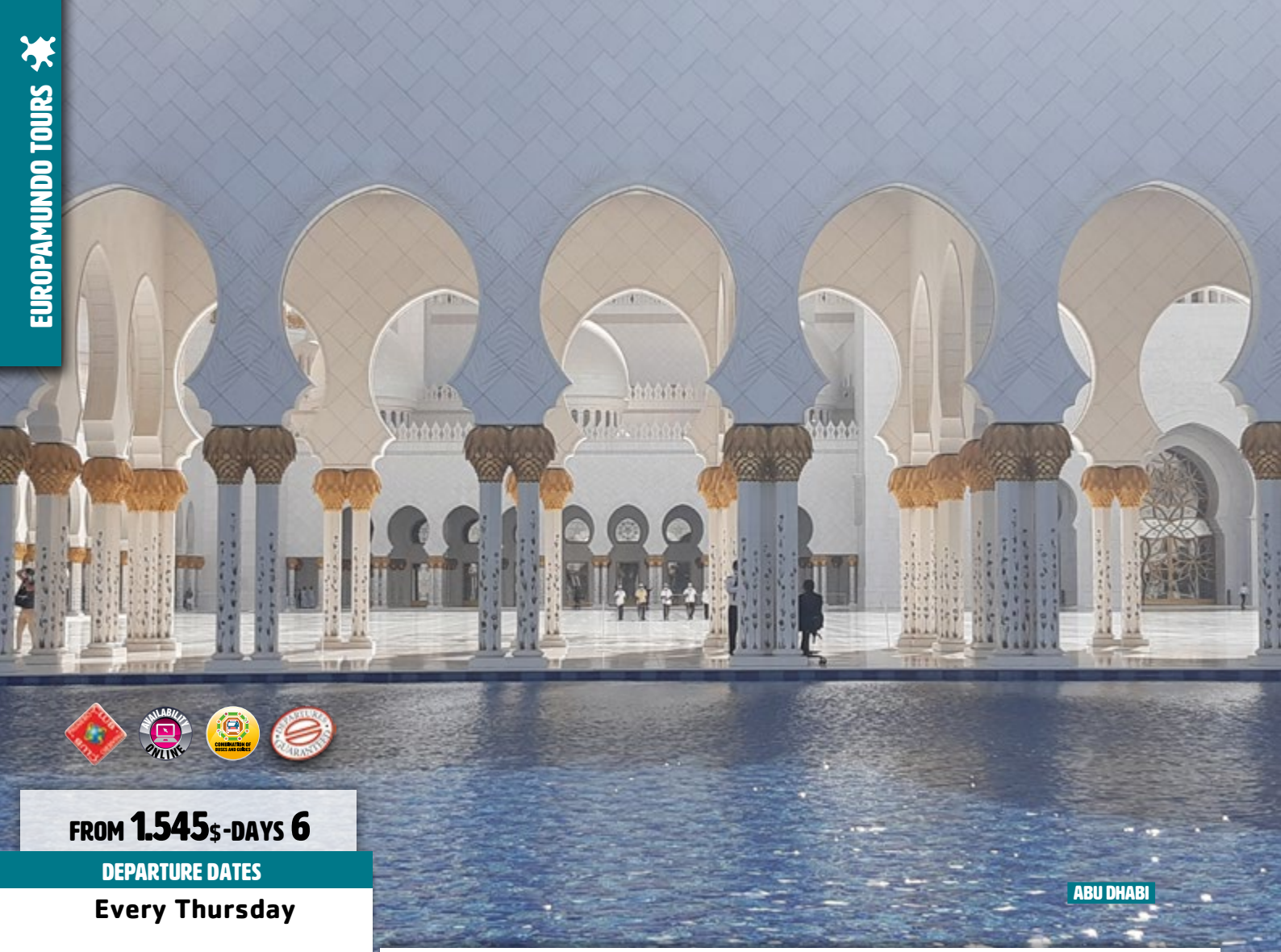
- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Excursion:** 4x4 vehicles, camel rides in Wadi Rum.
- **Boat:** Abra in Dubai.
- **City tour in:** Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Riyadh, Medina.
- **Evening Transfer:** Dubai Fountain in Dubai, The Founders Memoria in Abu Dabi, King Abdullah Park in Al Hofuf, Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh, Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Experiences:** Monorail, Dubai Frame and explanation about the gastronomy of Emirates in Dubai, Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Madinat Jumeirah in Dubai, Heritage Village, Sheikh Zayed mosque, Qasr al Watan and the Founders Memorial in Abu Dabi, King Abdullah Park, Ibrahim palace, House of Allegiance, Al Qara and Land of civilizations museum in Al Hofuf, Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Spring of Moses and Petra Museum in Petra, Visitor Centre, 4x4 vehicles and camel rides in Wadi Rum.
- **High Speed Train:** Al Hofuf/ Riyadh.
- **12 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Al Dhannah City, Al Dhannah City, Ushaiqer, Medina, Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk, Petra, Wadi Rum.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **City tour in:** Cairo.
- **Ticket admission:** Monastery of Saint Catherine in Saint Catherine, Well of Moses, Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos, Egyptian Museum, Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque, the Hanging Church Coptic neighbourhood in Cairo.
- **3 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Saint Catherine, Moses Well, Cairo.







FROM **1.545\$**-DAYS **6**

DEPARTURE DATES

**Every Thursday**

**ABU DHABI**

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



**ABU DHABI**

ID:27231

## DUBAI AND THE BEST OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

**01 THU. Dubai.-**

**Welcome to Emirates!** Arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel.

At the end of the afternoon, we will be transferred to visit the impressive city of **DUBAI** that shines in the night. We will go to witness the show of "**Dubai Fountain**", where the water dances to the rhythm of music and light; we are at the foot of Burj Khalifa which with its 828 meters is the tallest tower in the world; free time to walk and dine (dinner not included) in the immense Dubai Mall. Return to the hotel.

**02 FRI. Dubai.-**

Today we have a spectacular day getting to know Dubai. We will make a **panoramic visit** in which we will pass in front of the great **mosque of Jumeirah**. We include going up the spectacular tower "**Dubai Frame**" with its spectacular bridge shape and its view at 150 meters high. Afterwards we continue passing by Burj Al Arab, a spectacular hotel in the form of a sail; the island of "Palm Jumeirah" in the shape of a palm tree. We will take the very modern **monorail**. After that we go to the old part of Dubai, a walk through the souk of Bur Dubai and the spice souk. We will take an **Abra (traditional boat of the Emirates)** to move to the historic neighborhood of Al Fahidi and the center for cultural understanding (with its motto "open minds, open doors"), in this area we will include in a traditional building, a **typical meal** of the country; if the group is more than 15 travelers they will give us an explanation to get to know better the gastronomy of the Emirates.

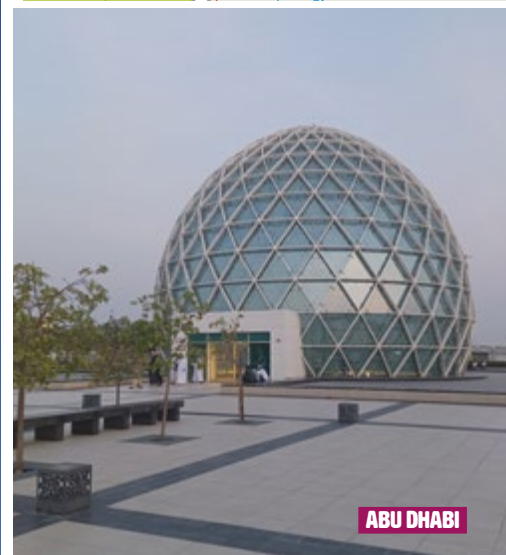
In the afternoon we will have time in **Madinat Jumeirah**, which offers us a contemporary version of a traditional Arab village with its souk, its canals, and its colorful villas. Later in the afternoon we have free time next to the most popular and active **beach in Dubai: JBR beach**. You can stroll along the beach or have a drink in one of its many restaurants and cafes.

**03 SAT. Dubai- Sharjah - Khor Fakkan- Al Bidiya- Fujairah.-**

We will leave for the neighboring **EMIRATE OF SHARJAH**, its capital has been named by UNESCO as "Cultural Capital of the Arab World". In a magnificent location, next to the lagoon, we stop at the mosque of **Al Noor**, considered the most beautiful of the 600 mosques that exist in Sharjah; from the outside we admire its architecture of Ottoman design, walking around it we photograph (without entering) the green island of Al Noor which is accessed by bridge. Later we visit (entrance included) the **Fort of Sharjah**, an interesting fortress that today is a museum about the sovereign family. We cross the colorful bird market. We will then visit the **Museum of Islamic Civilization**, an excellent museum that offers us an insight about the religion and culture of the Arab and Islamic world. After the museum, and before leaving the city, we will discover the "**Rain Room**", inside which we walk through artificial rain without getting wet!

We then travel to the **Gulf of Oman**, with beautiful mountain landscapes. **KHOR FAKKAN** is a very nice city. We will have a relaxing time on the beach where you can have lunch in one of its pleasant restaurants and -if you wish- bathe in the warm Gulf Sea (dressing rooms and showers





available). Already in the afternoon we will stop next to the ruins of the old Portuguese castle, we will walk next to the artificial waterfall that will refresh us and we will be able to photograph the immense amphitheater built overlooking the sea.

In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for BADIYAH, a short distance from Khor Fakkan, the oldest mosque in the country -from the fifteenth century-, built in adobe at the foot of a fortress overlooking the sea.

We continue our route to the **EMIRATE OF FUJAIRA**. **Dinner included** and accommodation.

#### 04 SUN. Fujairah - Al Hayl- Al Ain.-

In the morning we will visit **FUJAIRAH**, capital of the Emirate very close to the border with Oman. The great Sheik Zayed mosque, the second largest in the country with its 100 meters high minarets; its adobe fortress, and the **Fujairah Museum** that tells us about the origin of the city. A time to stroll before taking our lunch (included); in the afternoon we leave for the **fortress of Al Hayl**, next to a small oasis in a valley between mountains. We continue our route to the fantastic **oasis of AL AIN**, declared a world heritage site by UNESCO. Entering the city we meet **Qasr de Al Muwajji**, fortress/museum where Sheikh Zayed was born, the first president of the Emirates (who died in 2022). **Dinner included**.

#### 05 MON. Al Ain- Abu Dhabi.-

We continue to visit **Al Ain**, undoubtedly the city with the greatest historical heritage of the Emirates. First thing in the morning we go to the **Camel Market**, we will be surprised by its activity (it is a cattle market in general, sheep, goats, horses, but above all camels). Later we visit the **fortress of Al Jhaili**, considered one of the most representative adobe fortifications in the world. The **museum of Sheik Zayed** allows us to appreciate what life was like a century ago in this city. After that, we enter the great **Oasis of Al Ain**, a world heritage site, we include a ride in small **electric vehicles** that allow us to appreciate its gar-

dens, palm plantations, its irrigation systems. **Lunch included**.

After lunch we will continue our route to **ABU DHABI**, the most important Emirate and capital of the country. Before entering the city, we will stop at Ferrari World, a theme park dedicated to Ferrari racing cars (stop to see outdoor areas). After that we visit the **Sheikh Zayed Mosque**, a beautiful white mosque, the largest in the Emirates, with an area of more than 12 hectares, a point that seeks the encounter with other cultures and people of other religions. We will pass in front of Capital Gate, a 160-meter-high building known for being the steepest skyscraper in the world. From the beautiful "Corniche", by the sea, we will get a great panoramic view of the city.

Already, after dark we will go to **The Founders Memorial**, built in memory of Zayed, the first sultan of the Emirates. **The Constellation** stands out, with its magnificent night lighting.

#### 06 TUE. Abu Dhabi- Dubai.-

In the morning we continue our visit of the city. We will visit (entrance included) the **Heritage Village Heritage**, this place allows us to understand the traditional life in the Emirates, we enjoy its views, we can buy in its craft shops and visit its small museums that illustrate us about the history of the Emirates. After that we include a visit and entry into **Qasr Al Watan**, the presidential palace of the Emirates, magnificent construction of white granite profusely decorated, highlights its dome of 37 meters and its chandelier lamp of 350,000 pieces of glass. After that we go to the **"cultural district"** where there are several museums, highlights the Louvre, with its spectacular architecture by the sea and an incredible collection. You have the opportunity if you wish to visit one of the museums or enjoy your free time in the area. **Lunch included**.

In the afternoon we return to **DUBAI**, arrival around 18 hrs (end of trip or additional night if you wish).

## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Boat:** Abra in Dubai.
- **City tour in:** Dubai, Abu Dhabi.
- **Evening Transfer:** Dubai Fountain in Dubai, The Founders Memoria in Abu Dabi.
- **Experiences:** Monorail, Dubai Frame and explanation about the gastronomy of Emirates in Dubai, rain room in Sharjah, camel market and small electric vehicles in the oases of Al Ain.
- **Ticket admission:** Madinat Jumeirah in Dubai, fort and museum of islamic civilization in Sharjah, Al Badyah mosque, mosque and museum of Fujairah, Al Hayl fortress, Qasr Al Muwajji, Al jhaili fortress and Sheik Zayed museum in Al Ain, Heritage Village, Sheikh Zayed mosque, Qasr al Watan and the Founders Memorial in Abu Dabi.
- **6 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Dubai, Fujairah, Fujairah, Al Ain, Al Ain, Abu Dhabi.





FROM **4.953\$-DAYS 17**

### DEPARTURE DATES

**Every two weeks  
on Saturdays**

### EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the website's "My Trip" page.

### THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with Spanish and Portuguese speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer Includes departure transfer**
- **Excursion:** 4x4 vehicles, camel rides in Wadi Rum, Bethlehem in Jerusalem.
- **City tour in :** Doha, Medina.
- **Evening Transfer:** Katara in Doha, Little India in Manama, King Abdullah Park in Al Hofuf, Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Experiences:** Souk of the falcons in Doha, Rose factory-Attar in Taif, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Al Thumama football stadium, Islamic museum, and Katara in Doha, Beit al Quram museum, Al Fatih mosque and national museum of Bahrain in Manama; Qalat al Barhein fortress, Heritage Village and King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture in Dammam, King Abdullah Park, Ibrahim palace, House of Allegiance, Al Qara and Land of civilizations museum in Al Hofuf, King Faisal park, Qailat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Moses Springs and Petra Museum, Visitor Centre, 4x4 vehicles and camel rides in Wadi Rum, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Citadel of David in Jerusalem; Church of the Nativity and Salesian Monastery of Cremisan in Bethlehem.
- **High Speed Train:** Al Hofuf/ Riyadh.
- **11 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Doha, Bahrain, Dammam, Ushaiquer, Medina, Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk, Petra, Petra, Wadi Rum.



BAHRAIN

## PERSIAN GULF, THE BEAUTY OF ARABIA, PETRA AND JERUSALEM

ID:27476

### 01 SAT. Doha.-

**Welcome to Europamundo!** Upon arriving at the airport, we will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Check the information boards in the hotel reception area for details of the welcome meeting with your guide and fellow travelers.

### 02 SUN. Doha.-

We discover an exciting city. In this city's **city tour** we will visit the Corniche, with its line of skyscrapers and its beaches; we will get to see the very modern football stadium of Al Thumama, host of the 2022 World Cup; we will pass by the National Museum with its impressive architecture and include an entrance and visit of the **Museum of Islamic Art**, that houses the largest collection of Islamic art in the world. Uniting modernity and tradition we visit the **Souk of the Falcons** where we will understand the importance of falconry in this country; a time to walk in the Waqif Souk, built on the site of the old market remodeled to have the appearance of a nineteenth-century souk, nearby we will pass by the stables where the neighbors house Arabian horses. At lunchtime we will go to **The Pearl of Qatar** an artificial archipelago, here we will see Porto Arabia and we will have free time in Qanat, a shopping area inspired by Venice. **Lunch included.**

At the end of the day, we move to **KATARA**, a cultural village that has architectural replicas from all over the world, with several places to eat, its opera and its amphitheater.

### 03 MON. Doha- Bahrain.-

**Important note:** Until 2019 there was a ferry linking Qatar with Bahrain significantly reducing travel time between the two points and avoiding transit through Saudi Arabia. It is possible that that ferry line will be restored, in which case the trip would be made by ferry. If the route is not restored, it passes through Saudi Arabia; please check that you have the visa for this country (in case your trip from Bahrain continues to Saudi Arabia please apply for the double or multiple entry visa).

We will travel through the road, 120 km of modern highway through the desert separates us from the border of Saudi Arabia. Transit through **Saudi Arabia**, we travel to **BAHRAIN**, a small country located on an island in the Persian Gulf, we pass by the 25 km friendship bridge that connects Arabia with Bahrain. Border procedures. Bahrain is a small country of 765 Km2 inhabited by just under two million inhabitants that always had great historical importance. **MANAMA**, arrival in the middle of the afternoon. Upon arrival we will know the historic neighborhood of **Muharraq**, in its pedestrian alleys are some of the most beautiful historical buildings in the country: royal residences and houses of rich pearl merchants very well restored.

At the end of the day, we will walk through the **souk of Manama**, with its active life and through **Little India**, over 300 000 inhabitants of Bahrain were born in India, this neighborhood preserves its life, the temple of Krishna and numerous small Indian restaurants.

### 04 TUE. Bahrain.-

We will get to know thoroughly this small country; by coach we follow the coast, we include the entrance to **Beit Al Qur'An**, museum on the Qur'an, the Muslims' holy book. We also visit the fantastic **Bahrain National Museum** that allows us to see the art, ethnography and traditions of this country and understand the importance it had throughout history. We will visit with a guide the impressive **Al Fatih Mosque** the most important in the country. **Lunch included.**

In the afternoon we will leave Manama, on the outskirts is located **QALAT AL BARHEIN**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, an impressive fortress by the sea inhabited for 4000 years (the current castle was built by the Portuguese). We enter one of the most important oil production areas in the world, between refineries and pipelines we will stop next to the first oil extraction well opened in the country. We will also stop at the **"tree of life"**, which with its more than 500 years being alive in the desert is a symbol of this country. Return to Manama, free time.

### 05 WED. Bahrain- Dammam - Al-Hofuf.-

We leave in the morning from Manama, take the long bridge of 25 km that separates this country from **SAUDI ARABIA**. Border procedures. We enter a country that until very recently has been closed to tourism.

We will be surprised by the city of **DAMMAM**, provincial capital with almost a million inhabitants. By the sea we get the chance to take a photo of the water tower of Khobar. Following its modern maritime strip we follow the Heritage Village, next to the sea, in the form of a fortress we'll visit its small **museum of ancient objects** (including its collection of historical cars); **Lunch included.** We continue towards the impressive Ithra site and its very modern King Abdulaziz center for world Culture - an architecturally very striking place (being rock shaped), with its leisure areas, its museums, its library.

Mid-afternoon continuation to the oasis of **AL-AHSA**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Arrival at **AL-HOFUF**, the main city of the oasis. We will take a night walk through the **King Abdullah Park**, a pleasant park where its artificial lake and the fountains that dance to the rhythm of the music are a stand out.

### 06 THU. Al-Hofuf- Riyadh.-

We visit the Oasis of **AL AHSA**, with its gardens, canals, wells. Inhabited since the Neolithic; it is considered the largest oasis in the world with its almost 3 million date palms. In the center of Al-Hofuf we visit the **Ibrahim Palace**, historical fortress (World Heritage Site) dominated by its white mosque, built in 1556 by the Ottomans. After that we visit the **"House of Allegiance"** that shows us a small palace characteristic of the oasis. We will stroll through the elegant **souk of Al Qaisariya**, one of the oldest markets in Arabia, reflecting the commercial tradition of the region. We will approach the lively area where the **Muhaires Palace** stands, with its many restaurants, shops and parks where the local population goes.



Later we travel through the oasis, we go to **AL QARA**, a spectacular landscape area, labyrinth of mini-gorges-caves in the mountain, and a historical site; it will seem that "you penetrate the mountain", all year round the temperature is around 25 degrees. We also visit its museum "land of civilizations" that describes the history of the area.

**Note:** At the time of writing this itinerary, the Ibrahim Palace was closed for restoration. During the period when it is closed, the palace will be visited from the outside.

In the afternoon we take a modern **high-speed train**, in two hours and 20 minutes we travel almost 350 kilometers of desert that separate us from Riyadh. - **RIYADH**, arrival. To end the day, we will include transfer and entrance to the **Boulevard Riyadh**, you will be surprised by its life and activity, the attractions, the numerous restaurants with specialties from numerous countries, its live shows, and -above all- the spectacle of colorful fountains. Time to stroll, dine (dinner not included) and enjoy this place. Return to the hotel.

#### 07 FRI. Riyadh.-

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the **"Kingdom Centre"**, with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaif **DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya. At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

#### 08 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiqer - Buraydah.-

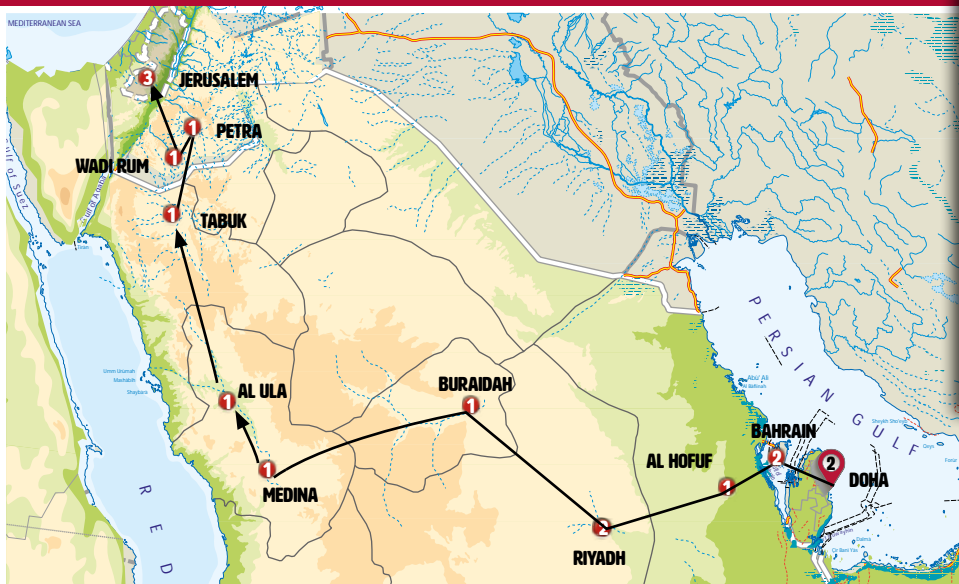
Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** was known since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiqer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

#### 09 SUN. Buraydah - Medina.-

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit **"the city of dates"** -more or less active depending on the time of the year- and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, "the luminous city". We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see - today from outside - the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**



#### 10 MON. Medina - Al-Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-Ula on Tuesday.

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or -if you wish- visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-U'LA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After arrival we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, "Jabal Al Fil" an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

#### 11 TUE. Al-Ula - Tabuk.-

In the region of Al-Ula we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture "the Other Petra" amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in **"Al-Ula Heritage Village"**, the old Al-Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**. In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for **TABUK**. **Dinner included.**

#### 12 WED. Tabuk - Petra.-

We visit Tabuk, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit the castle whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the **castle** and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the city center and we reach the **old train station**, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

Only 100 km separate us from **JORDAN**. Border procedures and continuation to **WADI MUSA** (town created around Petra), we will visit the **Spring of Moses**, where allegedly Moses hit the rock with his rod and the water gushed out, and the **Petra Museum**, an excellent sample that allows us to understand the history of the Nabataeans and get to know magnificent pieces found in the area. **Dinner included.** Travelers who wish to do so can go in their free time to an old Turkish bath or get to see the lights and sounds show in Petra.

#### 13 THU. Petra- Wadi Rum.-

Today we have the most exciting day of the trip: First, we visit the impressive archaeological site of **PETRA**, which is accessed through a narrow canyon, and dis-

cover the temples and tombs excavated on the cliffs in this city that was founded 300 years before Christ. After **lunch (included)** we leave for the impressive desert of **WADI RUM**. At the Visitor Centre we board **4x4 vehicles** to visit some of the most impressive landscapes. We stop in the town of **RUM** to visit the ruins of the Nabatean temple. We include a **45-minute camel ride** through the desert. We will also visit the **Khazali Canyon**. In this spectacular place, we will see the engravings that reveal the origins of the Arabic language. **Dinner and accommodation included in a desert camp.**

#### 14 FRI. Wadi Rum - Aqaba - Eilat - Jerusalem.-

After breakfast we leave for **AQABA**, the second Jordanian city on the shores of the Red Sea. A walk through the centre before continuing towards the Israel border. **EILAT**, arrival in this modern and tourist city with excellent beaches. A relaxing time to have lunch and walk. Do you dare to bathe? After lunch departure to Jerusalem. We will cross the beautiful landscapes of the Negev Desert and border the Dead Sea. Arrival in **JERUSALEM** and accommodation.

**NOTE:** When passing from Jordan to Israel, the traveler must pay the Jordan exit tax, which is approximately \$15.

#### 15 SAT. Jerusalem - Bethlehem- Jerusalem.-

Breakfast. **Full day visit.** We will start by going up to the Mount of Olives, where we will appreciate a magnificent view over the city. Then, we will make our way to visit the **Garden of Gethsemane**. We will enter the **Ancient City**, where we will walk the Via Dolorosa to reach Golgotha, place of the crucifixion of Jesus and the **Holy Sepulchre**. Already in the ArMinyan quarter, we will discover the legends that hide in the tower and citadel of David, where we will explore some of the most exciting archaeological treasures of this ancient settlement, the first foundations of present-day Jerusalem. After those visits, we will use free time for lunch.

In the afternoon we enter Palestine to visit the city of **BETHLEHEM**. We will visit the Mosque of Omar (exterior) and the **Church of the Nativity** with the Grotto of the Manger, the Basilica of Santa Catarina, and the Grotto of San Jeronimo. Brief walk through the ancient city before heading back to Jerusalem. On the outskirts of Bethlehem stands the Salesian monastery of Cremisan, within whose walls the only Palestinian wine is made. Return to the hotel Accommodation.

**Note:** Don't forget to bring your passport to cross into Palestine.

#### 16 SUN. Jerusalem.-

At first, we will have breakfast and then departure to the **Shrine of the Book** in the Israel Museum, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed, and where the Model of Jerusalem in the time of Jesus is located. Visit of the **Ain Karen** neighbourhood where the Church of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist is located, and visit of **Yad Vashem, Museum and Holocaust Memorial**. Then there will be the Visit of the lively **Mahaney Yehuda Market** where Orthodox Jews, Palestinians, ArMinyans, Arabs mix with tourists creating a multicultural environment. Free time for lunch. Next, visit the complex of the **four Sephardic synagogues**. We will visit the upper part of the **Hurva synagogue** (allowed for non-Jewish tourists), where we will have the opportunity to gain experience about their customs and traditions. From its terrace we will have an incomparable view of the Jewish quarter of the city. We will admire the exterior architecture of this group of temples, which also treasure a very particular history, to finish the route we will go to the **Wailing Wall**, where we will also see the **Tunnels of Said Wall** with its enormous quarry stones that today are part of the foundations of ancient Jerusalem from two thousand years ago. We can even see some caves that function as improvised churches or sacred rooms that are used for the prayers of the most religious. Back to the hotel. Accommodation

**17 MON. Jerusalem.-**  
After breakfast, end of our services.





AL-'ULA



FROM **4.968\$**-DAYS **15/17**

DEPARTURE DATES

Every Friday

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



TABUK

ID:27468

## IMAGES OF ARABIA, PETRA, THE BEAUTY OF THE NILE AND HURGHADA OPTION 1

DUBAI

ID:27469

## IMAGES OF ARABIA, PETRA, THE BEAUTY OF THE NILE, HURGHADA AND ALEXANDRIA OPTION 2

ID:27473

## MYSTERIES OF ARABIA, PETRA AND CHARMS OF THE NILE OPTION 3

**(Opt. 1) Images of Arabia, Petra, The Beauty of the Nile and Hurghada**

**01 FRI. Jeddah.-**

**Welcome to SAUDI ARABIA!** ....a country of contrasts that will leave you with surprising memories! Transfer to your hotel. Arrival at **JEDDAH**, the second city in the country, with four million inhabitants, on the shore of the Red Sea. Transfer to your hotel and free time.

**02 SAT. Jeddah.-**

Full day in Jeddah, with our local guide we will **visit the city**. We will be surprised by its contrasts, currently a large part of the city is being rebuilt to make it a great world megalopolis, highlights the construction of the Jeddah Tower that will be the tallest building in the world with over a thousand meters high. We will follow the Corniche, with its beautiful views, its mosques by the sea and its recreational areas; we will contemplate the Fountain of King Fahd, the highest of its kind in the world, its jets reach more than 300 meters high. We will stop at the active and picturesque fish market. We will include the entrance to "**Tabayat International city**" very interesting museum of history and ethnography in an architectural ensemble of great beauty. Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon, we will take a walk through its **historic center**, better known as **Al-Balad**, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, with its impressive set of medieval alleys and its houses made with coral and wooden balconies. We will visit inside the elegant house of **Beit Sallum**, today converted into a museum.

**03 SUN. Jeddah- Medina.-**

Early transfer to the **high-speed train** station. Saudi

Arabia has an excellent train that crosses the desert. In less than two hours we travel the 400 kilometers that separate us from **MEDINA**, the holy city, "the luminous city". We are in an imposing historical destination, one of the two most sacred cities of Islam, a destination to which millions of pilgrims arrive every year and a city forbidden for non-Muslims until very recently. Respect for its inhabitants and beliefs and proper dress code is required.

**Arrival and lunch included.** In the afternoon we will visit the **Al Madinah Museum** that allows us to understand a little the history of the city. At the end of the afternoon, we will go to see -from outside- the **Al Masjid mosque**, built by the prophet himself and place where he is buried, we will not be able to avoid feeling a surge of emotions when we observe the thousands of people who enter at the time of prayer. **Dinner included.**

**04 MON. Medina - Al-'Ula.-**

**Note:** The Al-'Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-'Ula on Tuesday.

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#### 08 FRI. Wadi Rum- Aqaba- Eilat- Saint Catherine.-

After breakfast, we leave for **AQABA**, Jordan's second city, lying on the banks of the Red Sea. We walk through the center before continuing to the border of **ISRAEL**, **EILAT** and arrive in this modern and tourist city with its excellent beaches. There's time to relax, have lunch and stroll around. Are you tempted to have a swim? We then continue towards the **EGYPT** border, and into Sinai. On the way, there's chance to take photographs of the Pharaoh's Island with the powerful fortress of Saladin. Continue to **SAINT CATHERINE**. Arrival, accommodation and **dinner included.**

**FEES:** At the border crossing from Jordan to Israel and from Israel to Egypt, every traveler must pay an entry/exit fee for the different countries. Jordan: \$15 (exit fees), Israel: \$32 (exit fee), Egypt: \$45 (entry visa, which is actually \$25 visa + \$20

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Due to exceptional circumstances or due to a small number of participants, it may happen that we will cross directly from Jordan to Egypt by boat, taking the **AQABA- TABA FERRY**

with a duration of just over two hours. During the ferry crossing, there will be no assistance from any guide.

#### 09 SAT. Saint Catherine- Well of Moses- Cairo.-

At the foot of Mount Sinai, we visit the impressive walled **monastery of SAINT CATHERINE**. According to tradition, this is where Moses saw "the Burning Bush that burned without being consumed". The monastery, which is a sacred place for Jews, Christians and Muslims, belongs to the Orthodox Church and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We then continue on through the Sinai Desert's picturesque landscapes. **Lunch included** in route. Stop at the **WELL OF MOSES**, a biblical site that looks like a small oasis. We will leave Sinai through the tunnel under the **SUEZ CANAL**. Arrival in **CAIRO** at the end of the afternoon. Accommodation.

#### 10 SUN. Cairo.-

Full day visit where we explore the famous **Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos** (tickets to go inside the pyramids are not included), and also the impressive Sphinx, which is sculpted from rock. Visit to the **Egyptian Museum** with its ancient art and where the treasure of the Lost Tomb of Tutankhamen is kept. **Lunch included.** **Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque.** We will take a walk through the Coptic neighborhood where we visit the Hanging Church built above a Roman fortress.

#### 11 MON. Cairo - Pyramid of Meidum - Oasis Al Fayoum - Wadi Rayyan - Wadi al Hittan - Minya.-

We will leave Cairo early, we will get to know an Egypt that you probably had never imagined: a country of great lakes in the middle of the desert! Stop (entrance included) at the **PYRAMID OF MEIDUM**, considered as the first pyramid that the ancient Egyptians tried to build, 2600 years before Christ, we are surprised by its stepped structure. We can climb to the door that gives access to the burial chamber (after descending 75 meters) and see the large mastabas that house the tombs of some relatives of the pharaoh.

After that we visit the **Oasis of Al Faiyum**, we outline the great **QARUM LAKE** that allows the irrigation of the entire oasis making this area "the garden of Egypt". The shores of the lake have numerous leisure points for Egyptians. Al Fayoum is also known for "the Al Fayoum portraits", the oldest portraits

in the world (today we can see them in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo). We will stop and have lunch at **TUNIS village**, a nice place with great ceramic crafts, **lunch included.** Afterwards we enter among magnificent desert landscapes, we stop at **WADI RAYYAN**, a saltwater lake where rare species of birds and gazelles live, an area declared a National Park. Time for a walk next to the small falls. We continue entering the desert, we travel to the enclosure of **WADI AL HITTAN** -the valley of the whales-, declared by Unesco a World Heritage Site. The number, concentration, and quality of the fossils, as well as their location in a protected landscape of great beauty, make the site an exceptional place. We get to visit the museum with fossilized whales (where we get to see their skeletons) and get to know about climate change. Continue to **MINYA**, a city of 300,000 inhabitants by the Nile, active and pleasant walk along the river. **Dinner included.**

#### 12 TUE. - Minya- Zawiyet Sultan - Beni Hassan - Deir Al Muharraq- Tombs of Mir - Asyut.-

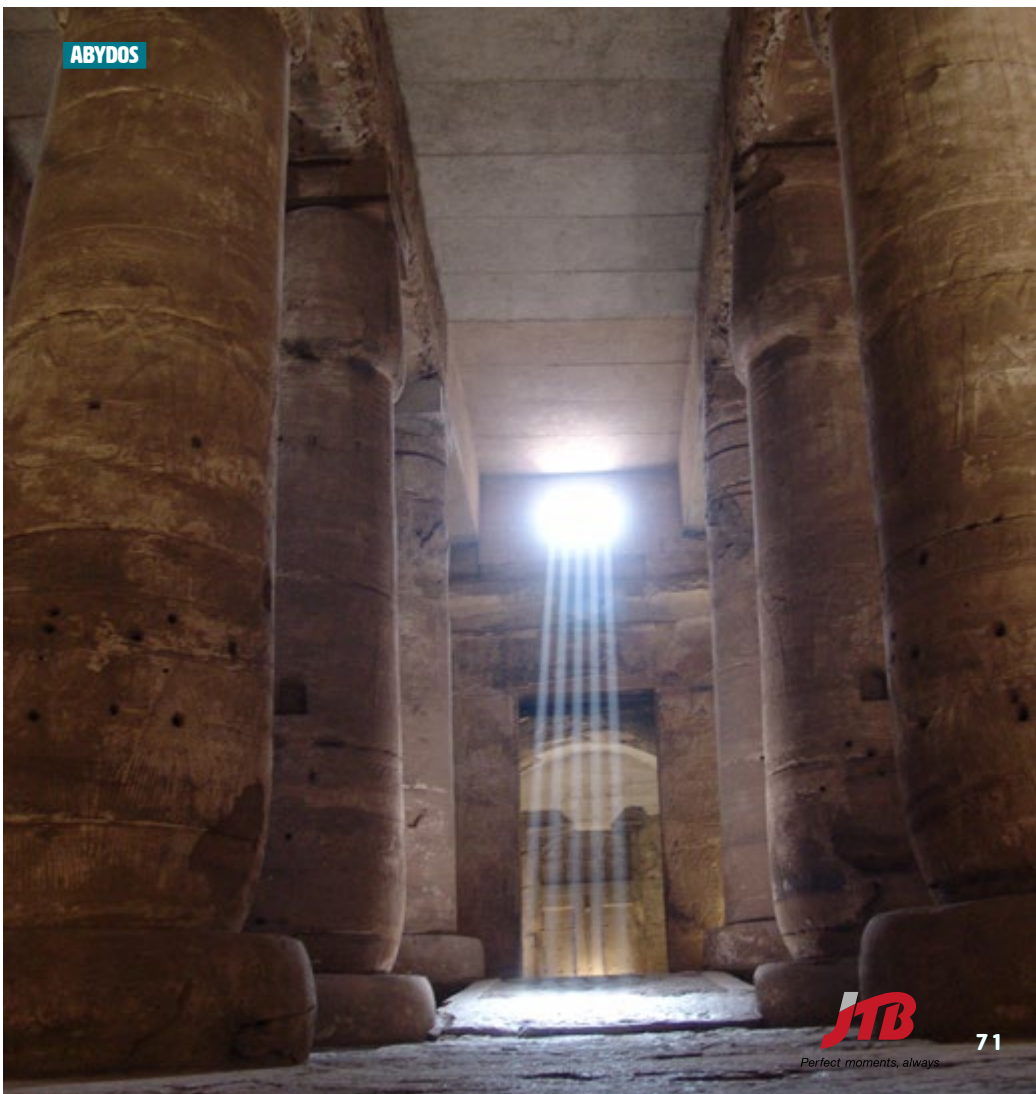
We start another exciting day in the center of the Nile Valley. Leaving Minya we stop at **ZAWIYET SULTAN**, place of the dead, at the foot of a small pharaonic necropolis an immense cemetery with a very peculiar architecture of vaulted adobe mausoleums leads us to feel "in another world". After that we visit **BENI HASSAN**, the necropolis stands on cliffs above the Nile valley, 39 tombs (four are visited) dating from 2125 to 1795 years before Christ and offer us a fascinating idea of the daily life of that time. **Lunch included.**

Following the Nile valley we stop at the **TOMBS OF MIR**, with its nine tombs of the Old and Middle Kingdom open to the visit. The solitude of the place is impressive (practically without tourism).

Next to the tombs we visit **DEIR AL MUHARRAQ**, monastery and place of Coptic pilgrimage, the monks indicate that Mary and Jesus inhabited a cave in this place for six months after fleeing from Herod; according to tradition the church was built around the year 60 "the oldest Christian church in the world". Continuation to **ASYUT**, provincial capital. **Dinner included.**

#### 13 WED. Asyut - Sohag - Abydos - Luxor.-

We leave Asyut for **SOHAG**, we are in one of the main Coptic areas of Egypt. We visit the **WHITE MONASTERY**, built in the fourth century (several times destroyed) and powerfully walled, in its con-



ABYDOS



struction stone was used that came from pharaonic temples and some blocks still show ancient Gods and hieroglyphics, at the time housed the largest library in Egypt. After that we visit the **RED MONASTERY**, one of the most impressive Christian buildings in Egypt, its ancient chapel of the fourth century, have most of its surface covered with frescoes (restored) that give us an idea of what religious buildings were like at the end of antiquity.

We continue our route to **ABYDOS**, lunch included, the most important place of worship of Osiris -God of the dead-, was a place of pilgrimage and necropolis for over 4500 years (from years 4000 BC to 600 AD), there are still many tombs unexcavated. The impressive temple of Seti stands out, one of the most complete and beautiful in Egypt.

Continuation to **LUXOR**.

#### 14 THU. Luxor.-

During our stay in Luxor we will get to know one of the most impressive ancient cities on the planet. Early in the morning, from our hotel we will take a **private boat** to cross the Nile River, with its peace and impressive views early in the morning, we go to the west bank. We visited the **"Valley of the Artisans"** **Deir el-Medina**, a little-visited place, here they lived and are the tombs of great builders and craftsmen who built and decorated the royal tombs of ancient Egypt. We will visit three tombs, their paintings show scenes of daily life at that time. After that, we visit the fantastic **temple of Medinet Habu**, the temple of Ramses II, large and magnificently preserved, its scenes of wars will surprise us. We stopped in front of the **Colossi of the Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenhotep II. We will visit the **VALLEY OF THE QUEENS** where the **Temple of Queen Hatshepsut** (Deir el Bahari) is located, considered the first woman to occupy the position of pharaoh. We also visit the famous **VALLEY OF THE KINGS** where the tombs of the main pharaohs are hidden. Among these tombs, composed of several rooms and corridors leading to the corresponding burial chambers (we include, in addition to the general admission, a ride in an **electric cart** to access the enclosure and **tomb of Ramses** -which requires additional entry-). Return to the east bank of Luxor. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon we visit **KARNAK**, it housed the most important religious complex in Ancient Egypt, highlighting the immense temple of Amun-Ra, our guide will take us to the little-crowded **temple of Khonsu**. We will also visit the **LUXOR MUSEUM**, which shows us an impressive collection of objects and mummies found in this area. After dark we include the entrance to the **LUXOR TEMPLE**, its lighting makes it magical at this time. Time to walk in the commercial area (souk) near the temple.

*Note: The order of the visits will vary based on climatological factors and procuring to visit the different locations at times of less affluence.*

#### 15 FRI. Luxor - Dendera - Hurghada.-

Free time in the morning stroll, shop or sightseeing in Luxor.

At around 11am we will leave for **DENDERA**, one of the best preserved Egyptian complexes thanks to the fact that it remained buried by sand and mud until it was discovered in the mid-nineteenth century. Impressive enclosure of 40,000 square meters surrounded by a burly brick wall eight to ten meters high. We are surprised by its walls and its immense doors. Temple dedicated to Hathor, goddess of love and fertility.

After the visit **lunch included** and continuation to the Red Sea. Our highway crosses desert mountain ranges, interesting landscapes.

**HURGHADA**, arrival in the late afternoon. We are located in the most popular of Egypt's resorts, its hotels stretch over a strip of almost 50 kilometers. Hotel accommodation on an **all-inclusive basis**.

#### 16 SAT. Hurghada- El Gouna- Hurghada.-

Full day in Hurghada. Free time during the morning to relax in the hotel facilities or go on your own to visit the large aquarium or the museum of Hurghada. After lunch (included), an excursion to get to know the area a little more. We will go to **EL GOUNA**, a short distance from Hurghada, we are in the most luxurious holiday town in Egypt. Numerous canals and lagoons were opened to access most of the residences by yacht, free time to walk around this exclusive place. After the center of Hurghada, we will stop next to its mosque (we will get to visit it) and walking we will go to the marina, a very touristic and lively area, with shops and restaurants.

After free time, return to our hotel. Stay on an **all-inclusive basis**.

#### 17 SUN. Hurghada - Saint Paul- Saint Anthony - El Galala - Cairo.-

Following the Red Sea, we travel to two impressive Coptic monasteries. St. Anthony and St. Paul are the oldest monasteries in Christendom, dating back to the fourth century, when monks began to settle in caves and hidden cliffs, at the foot of the Red Sea Mountain. The two monasteries are considered the holiest places of the Coptic church in Egypt.

Between arid mountains, surrounded by powerful walls, the **MONASTERY OF ST PAUL** thrills us, with its orchards and palm trees, and the pilgrims who come to pray at its fourth century's cave/church with its simple murals. After that we continue to the **MONASTERY OF ST ANTHONY**, also walled with its many buildings and adobe houses, its atmosphere seems stopped in time, the church of St Anthony, built on the tomb of the Saint houses magnificent Coptic murals of the thirteenth century. **Lunch included** in service area.

After these emotional places we travel to **EL GALALA**, we will be surprised with the new cities that Egypt is building in the desert. We will go first to the luxury resort located next to the Red Sea, with its marina and water park; from here we include the **cable car climb** (the highest slope in Africa) to El Galala, a new city (its construction began in 2015), magnificently designed, houses a large university. Continuation to **CAIRO**. - Arrival at the end of the day.

#### 18 MON. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services**.

**(Opt. 2) Images of Arabia, Petra, The Beauty of the Nile, Hurghada and Alexandria**  
Days 1 - 17 as in Opt. 1

#### 18 MON. Cairo - Wadi Natrum - Alexandria.-

We leave Cairo, traveling to the **WADI NATRUM** region, an area known for its Coptic monasteries since thousands of Christians who were fleeing in the fourth century from Roman persecutions, settled in the area. The monasteries, fortified because of the attacks suffered in different historical periods, are places that receive the visit of many pilgrims and

YEDA







ESNA

will allow us to discover their traditions. Coptic popes are chosen from among the monks of these monasteries. We will visit **SAINT MACARIO**, founded in the year 360, where one of its monks will guide us through the enclosure. After that we visit the monastery of **ANBA BISHOY**, founded in the year 340, we access the fortified tower by a drawbridge. We will visit - also guided by a monk - the church, the refectory and the fortress, where several Coptic Popes are buried. Time to stroll through the lively area and also visit the huge new cathedral.

We continue our route to **ALEXANDRIA**, arrival in this port city with over 5 million inhabitants. **Lunch included.** We visit this afternoon the great **QAITBEY** fortress, built in 1480 on a narrow peninsula where the Hellenistic lighthouse was located, which was considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. After that, with the bus we travel the cornice, chaotic, noisy, commercial or elegant, depending on the areas. Free time. Accommodation.

#### 19 TUE. Alexandria - Rashid - Rosetta - Cairo.-

We continue our visit of **ALEXANDRIA**, entering the impressive **CATACOMBS KOM ASH SHUQQAFA**, the largest Roman cemetery in Egypt, surprising the fusion of Pharaonic and Greco-Roman style. From here we will walk with our guide between narrow, commercial and bustling alleys to the **COLUMN OF POMPEY**, an immense column of 30 meters high that rises on the ruins of a temple. After that, we will stop to photograph externally the new **LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA**, inaugurated in 2002 with a very modern architecture that reminds us that this city, in the third century BC, was one of the greatest centers of knowledge dissemination in ancient times. The Library of Alexandria at that time guarded more than half a million papyrus. **Lunch included** and continuation of our route to **ROSETTA**. In this small city, very close to the mouth of one of the tributaries of the Nile, the Rosetta Stone was found, just over a meter high, which was key to deciphering the hieroglyphic writing of the Egyptians since it contains the same text written in hieroglyphics, demotic and ancient Greek. We can see a replica of the Rosetta Stone in the **fortress of Rashid**, located a short distance away, in a picturesque small village of streets full of local life and with numerous fishing boats of multiple colors on the banks of the Nile.

After that we visit Rosetta, a pleasant small town next to the Nile, we will walk through the center seeing (externally) the old Ottoman houses with their brick and wood architecture. We will also include a **boat trip on the Nile** to admire the views and activity of the fishing boats in the area. We return to **CAIRO**.- Arrival at the end of the day.

**NOTE:** The fortress of Rashid is not very visited, sometimes it can be closed (in that case we will see it externally and walk through the picturesque village of fishermen and farmers)

#### 20 WED. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services.**

#### (Opt. 3) Mysteries of Arabia, Petra and Charms of the Nile Days 1 - 13 as in Opt. 2

##### 14 THU. Luxor.-

During our stay in Luxor we will get to know one of the most impressive ancient cities on the planet. Early, from our hotel we will take a **private boat** to cross the Nile River, with its peace and breathtaking views early in the morning, we pass to the west bank. We visit the "Valley of the Artisans" **Deir el-Medina**, a place that is not visited often, here lived and are currently located the tombs of great builders and craftsmen who built and decorated the royal tombs of ancient Egypt; we will visit three tombs, their paintings show scenes of daily life of that time. Subsequently, transfer to the ship, boarding procedures on the **cruise and accommodation. Full board on the ship.** In the afternoon, visit to the impressive temple complex of **Luxor and Karnak**. Accommodation on board.

##### 15 FRI. Luxor - Esna.-

Today you will be able to admire the **Necropolis of Thebes**, visiting the famous **VALLEY OF THE KINGS**, where are hidden the tombs of the main pharaohs. Composed of several rooms and corridors that lead to the burial chambers, are among others, Ramses III, Seti I and Amenhotep II. You will also visit the **Colossae of Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenophis II, as well as the **Temple of Queen Hatshepsut** (Deir el Bahari) and the **Temple of Medinet Habu**. During this day we can enjoy the beauty of the Nile riverbanks. You could do different activities on the boat and at evening enjoy the music at the disco. **Full board.** Night on board, navigating to **ESNA**.

##### 16 SAT. Esna - Edfu - Kom Ombo - Aswan.-

Arrival to **EDFU** and visit the **Temple of Horus** (God represented by a Falcon), which in the past was partially covered by lime during the periodic flooding of the river Nile. The rescue and restoration work complete, we now have one of the most beautiful temples of Ptolemaic times, in an exceptional state of preservation. Navigation to **KOM OMBO**. Visit the **Temple of Kom Ombo**, the only temple dedicated to two gods, Sobek and Haroësis, where we find a Nilometer (former system for measuring the level of the Nile River) and a mummified crocodile. During the evening you will be able to enjoy the Chilaba's party, local typical outfit (on route you could economically acquire them at local markets). **Full board.** Accommodation on board, navigating to **ASWAN**.

##### 17 SUN. Aswan.-

Arrival to **ASWAN**. Possibility of getting the **optional** tour to **Abu Simbel** (visit NOT included in the itinerary), located two hundred and eighty kilometers from Aswan, visit the western desert and the temples carved on the cliff by Ramses II during the twelfth century BC, with 20 meters high statues, dedicated to the god Amon Ra, and the Temple of Nefertari, dedicated to the goddess Hathor. Visit the **Red Granite quarry** where is the famous 41 meters high **Unfinished Obelisk**. We will also visit the Aswan Dam, one of the largest in the world, which created Lake Nasser with a length of more than 500 km. We will visit the beautiful **Temple of Philae** dedicated to the goddess Isis and located on a small island that can only be accessed by boat. In the afternoon, a **felucca cruise on the Nile**, typical sailing boats in the area, heading to the island of Kitchener where the Botanical Garden is located. **Full board.** Accommodation on board.

##### 18 MON. Aswan.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services.**



## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with Spanish and Portuguese speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Excursion:** 4x4 vehicles, camel rides in Wadi Rum.
- **Boat:** Little boat to cross the Nile River in Luxor.
- **City tour in:** Cairo.
- **Evening Transfer:** Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Illuminated Temples in Luxor.
- **Transfer:** El Gouna in Hurghada.
- **Ticket admission:** Tabeyat International City and Beit Sallum House in Jeddah, Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Spring of Moses and Petra Museum in Petra, Visitor Centre, 4x4 vehicles and camel rides in Wadi Rum, Monastery of Saint Catherine in Saint Catherine, Well of Moses, Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos, Egyptian Museum, Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque, the Hanging Church Coptic neighbourhood in Cairo, Pyramid of Meidum in Meidum, Tunis Village in Faiyum Oasis, Valley of Whales and Fossilized Whales Museum in Wadi Al Hitan, Necropolis of Beni Hassan, Tombs of Mir, Deir Al Muharraq Monastery, White Monastery and Red Monastery in Suhaq, Necropolis of Abydos, Valley of the Artisans, Temple of Medinet Habu, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Hatshepsut, Valley of the Kings, electric cart, Tomb of Ramses, Museum of Luxor, Temple of Karnak and Luxor in Luxor, Dendera Temple Complex, Monastery of St Paul and Monastery of St Anthony.
- **Funicular:** Cable car climb in Al Galala.
- **High Speed Train:** Jeddah/ Medina.
- **21 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Medina, Medina, Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk, Petra, Petra, Wadi Rum, Saint Catherine, Moses Well, Cairo, Faiyum Oasis, Minya, Beni Hassan, Asyut, Abydos, Dendera, Hurghada, Hurghada, Monastery Of St. Paul And St. Anthony.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **Boat:** Boat trip on the Nile in Rosetta.
- **City tour in:** Alexandria.
- **Ticket admission:** Saint Macarius Monastery and Anba Bishoy Monastery in Wadi El Natrun, Qaitbey Fortress, Rashid Fortress in Rosetta.
- **2 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Alexandria, Alexandria.

(Additional services Opt. 3)

- **Excursion:** Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon in Luxor.
- **Boat:** Typical sailing boats felucca and show typical dance beduina in Aswan.
- **Ticket admission:** Temples of Luxor and Karnak in Luxor, Temple of Horus in Edfu, Temple of Kom Ombo in Kom Ombo, Red Granite Quarry and Unfinished Obelisk, Philae Temple, Aswan Dam in Aswan.
- **7 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Luxor, Luxor, Esna, Kom Ombo, Aswan, Aswan, Aswan.







MEDINA

ID-27463

## CONTRASTS OF ARABIA WITH JORDAN, CAIRO AND ALEXANDRIA OPTION 1

ID-27464

## CONTRASTS OF ARABIA WITH JORDAN, NILE CRUISE AND ALEXANDRIA OPTION 2

ID-27465

## ARABIA, JORDAN, EGYPT WITH ALEXANDRIA, LUXOR AND HURGHADA OPTION 3

(Opt. 1) Contrasts of Arabia with Jordan, Cairo and Alexandria

**01 THU. Riyadh.-**

**Welcome to Saudi Arabia**, a country of contrasts that will leave you with unforgettable souvenirs! Transfer to the hotel. In the evening, we will include a transfer with entrance ticket to **Boulevard Ryadh**, the largest park in the kingdom, which will surprise you with its animation and life. The park has curious attractions, numerous restaurants with specialties from many different countries, live shows and, above all, a fountains eye-catching show with colored water. Free time to stroll around, enjoy the place and dine in one of its restaurants. Return to the hotel.

**02 FRI. Riyadh.-**

Today (the order of activities may vary depending on the time of year) we will visit the impressive capital of Saudi Arabia. We will include the climb to the tower of just over 300 m high, the **"Kingdom Centre"**, with its beautiful design and its "bridge-shaped" viewpoint that offers spectacular views over the city. We will also visit, surrounded by a beautiful park, the **National Museum**, the largest museum in the country, where we will learn about the history, culture, and art of the Kingdom. After that we will visit the **Masmak Fortress**, the ancient fortress of the city, whose interior allows us to understand the incredible change that took place in this city during the last century. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the neighborhood, with its souks and commercial life.

Free time for lunch in a shopping center- Mall- where you can choose from the various restaurants and types of food offered there.

In the afternoon we will also visit the district of Al Turaif **DIRIYA**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This place - on the outskirts of Riyadh - was formerly the first capital of the Saudi dynasty, which we will be able to discover

thanks to the vestiges of its numerous palaces and the urban complex at the edge of the oasis of Ad-Diriya.

At the end of the day, we will visit the **Al Rajhi Mosque**, the largest mosque in Riyadh with its Andalusian style architecture, where **we will witness a prayer and have an introduction to Islam** that will surely make us learn something about this religion. Return to hotel.

**03 SAT. Riyadh - Al Qasab - Shaqra - Ushaiquer - Buraydah.-**

Today we follow the ancient route of pilgrims traveling from Iraq to Mecca, with its many historic towns in small oases. **AL QASAB** ancient since ancient times for its salt and wheat production, also for its poets. We will visit the walled city and the small salt ponds where 200,000 tons of salt are still produced each year.

Desert landscapes of dunes lead us to **SHAQRA**, a city that is growing along with its university. We visit the well-fortified ancient city, with its picturesque old market and adobe alleys. Continue to **USHAIQER**. **Lunch included** before transferring to **Ushaiquer Heritage Village**, a village that was an important stop for pilgrims because of its springs and the beauty of its oasis. We will also visit its small museum and its Najdi architecture houses with its carved wooden doors, its beautiful windows and triangular roofs. Continuation to **BURAYDAH**, capital of the province of El Kasim with more than 600 000 inhabitants located in a large oasis. Arrival in the late afternoon and free time.

**04 SUN. Buraydah - Medina.-**

Early in the morning we will visit the largest **Camel Market** in the world, located in Buraydah - a city that also houses a camel hospital. The city's economy is also based on agriculture of oasis products (dates, lemons, oranges, wheat), and annually, around August, holds a huge date market that attracts many people from different places to buy their date annual requirement. We will visit **"the**



FROM **3.719\$**-DAYS **14/17/19**

DEPARTURE DATES

**Every Thursday**

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's **"My Trip"** page.



AL-'ULA



**city of dates** – more or less active depending on the time of the year – and we will be able to taste this sweet fruit of the palm tree. Afterwards, we will have time to stroll through the city center, with its vegetable market, its great mosque, its jewelry souks and its activity. We will visit the **Al Oqilat Museum** that tells us about the traditions of Arabia and the customs of the region. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, we continue our route by an excellent highway through the desert. Arrival in the evening to the holy city of **MEDINA**, “the luminous city”. We find ourselves in an outstanding historical and religious destination as it is one of the two most sacred cities of Islam. Medina is visited by millions of pilgrims every year and has been forbidden to non-Muslims until very recently. Respect its inhabitants and beliefs and remember to use the required mode of dress. In the evening, we will go to see – today from outside – the **Al Masjid Mosque**, built by the prophet himself and the place where he is buried. We will be touched to see the thousands of people who enter at prayer time. **Dinner included.**

#### 05 MON. Medina – Al-'Ula.-

**Note:** The Al-'Ula region is one of the most beautiful areas in the world, however its hotel infrastructure is extremely limited. On some occasions we will spend two nights in Medina (visiting in this case in the afternoon the Al Madinah Museum) leaving very early for Al-'Ula on Tuesday.

We will explore Medina. We will walk around the immense **Prophet's Mosque** (Al Masjid an Nabawi), an amazing and luminous mosque of ten minarets with a capacity for one million visitors.. On the **hill of UHUD**, an important pilgrimage site, where the prophet's forces clashed with Meccan troops. You can walk through its vast esplanade and climb the hill but remember to do so in silence and respecting the hundreds of pilgrims surrounding us at any given time. At the **Mosque of Quba**, in the year 622, the prophet and his followers laid the first stone of what was to be the first mosque in history, although the present building is more recent. From here, we will walk to the nearby **garden and well of Ethiq** where the different tribes of the place went out to drink water and greet the Prophet and his companions recently arrived in Medina after their persecution in Mecca. Afterwards we will have some free time in the city center to stroll around the shopping areas or –if you wish– visit the Hejaz Railway Museum (in the former Ottoman railway station).

In the afternoon we travel to one of the most spectacular places in the world: The region and oasis of **AL-'ULA**: an authentic open-air museum surrounded by nature, where you will find rock formations, canyons and ravines that compete with the majestic treasures carved by its ancient inhabitants. After arrival we will go to **The Elephant Rock**, “Jabal Al Fil” an impressive geomorphological phenomenon, a 52 meters high rock in the shape of an Elephant. **Dinner included.**

#### 06 TUE. Al-'Ula – Tabuk.-

In the region of Al-'Ula we will visit the enclosure of **HEGRA (Madain Saleh)**, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, of Nabataean culture “the Other Petra” amazes us with its tombs excavated in the rock in a desert environment full of mystery. **Lunch included.** We will have free time in “**Al-'Ula Heritage Village**”, the old Al-'Ula, magnificently restored with its pleasant restaurants and shops. We will also have some time to walk in the magnificent **Oasis**. In the middle of the afternoon, we will leave for **TABUK**. **Dinner included.**

#### 07 WED. Tabuk – Petra.-

We visit Tabuk, a city over half a million inhabitants, active provincial capital and one of the oldest cities in the country. We will visit the castle whose origin is 3500 years before Christ, and inside it, a museum tells the history of the **castle** and the city, from the great explorers who visited it, such as Ibn Battuta, to the pilgrims who stopped to drink from the fountains on their way to Mecca or Medina. After the visit, we will enter the **Mud House Museum**, a recreation of the interior of an adobe house where we will learn what traditional life was like in the past in this type of housing. Subsequently we walk through the active commercial area of the city center and we reach the **old train station**, today a museum that preserves the steam machines that connected Damascus with Medina.

Only 100 km separate us from **JORDAN**. Border procedures and continuation to **WADI MUSA** (town created around Petra), we will visit the **Spring of Moses**, where allegedly Moses hit the rock with his rod and the water gushed out, and the **Petra Museum**, an excellent sample that allows us to understand the history of the Nabataeans and get to know magnificent pieces found in the area. **Dinner included.** Travelers who wish to do so can go in their free time to an old Turkish bath or get to see the lights and sounds show in Petra.

#### 08 THU. Petra– Wadi Rum.-

Today we have the most exciting day of the trip: First, we visit the impressive archaeological site of **PETRA**,

which is accessed through a narrow canyon, and discover the temples and tombs excavated on the cliffs in this city that was founded 300 years before Christ. After **lunch (included)** we leave for the impressive desert of **WADI RUM**. At the Visitor Centre we board **4x4 vehicles** to visit some of the most impressive landscapes. We stop in the town of **RUM** to visit the ruins of the Nabatean temple. We include a **45-minute camel ride** through the desert. We will also visit the **Khazali Canyon**. In this spectacular place, we will see the engravings that reveal the origins of the Arabic language. **Dinner and accommodation included in a desert camp.**

#### 09 FRI. Wadi Rum- Aqaba- Eilat- Saint Catherine.-

After breakfast, we leave for **AQABA**, Jordan's second city, lying on the banks of the Red Sea. We walk through the center before continuing to the border of **ISRAEL**, **EILAT** and arrive in this modern and tourist city with its excellent beaches. There's time to relax, have lunch and stroll around. Are you tempted to have a swim? We then continue towards the **EGYPT** border, and into Sinai. On the way, there's chance to take photographs of the Pharaoh's Island with the powerful fortress of Saladin. Continue to **SAINT CATHERINE**. Arrival, accommodation and **dinner included**. **FEES:** At the border crossing from Jordan to Israel and from Israel to Egypt, every traveler must pay an entry/exit fee for the different countries. Jordan: \$15 (exit fees), Israel: \$32 (exit fee), Egypt: \$45 (entry visa, which is actually \$25 visa + \$20

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Due to exceptional circumstances or due to a small number of participants, it may happen that we will cross directly from Jordan to Egypt by boat, taking the **AQABA- TABA FERRY** with a duration of just over two hours. During the ferry crossing, there will be no assistance from any guide.

#### 10 SAT. Saint Catherine- Well of Moses- Cairo.-

At the foot of Mount Sinai, we visit the impressive walled **monastery of SAINT CATHERINE**. According to tradition, this is where Moses saw “the Burning Bush that burned without being consumed”. The monastery, which is a sacred place for Jews, Christians and Muslims, belongs to the Orthodox Church and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We then continue on through the Sinai Desert's picturesque landscapes. **Lunch included** in route. Stop at the **WELL OF MOSES**, a biblical site that looks like a small oasis. We will leave Sinai through the tunnel under the **SUEZ CANAL**. Arrival in **CAIRO** at the end of the afternoon. Accommodation.



RIYADH



# 11 SUN. Cairo.-

Full day visit where we explore the famous **Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos** (tickets to go inside the pyramids are not included), and also the impressive Sphinx, which is sculpted from rock. Visit to the **Egyptian Museum** with its ancient art and where the treasure of the Lost Tomb of Tutankhamen is kept. **Lunch included. Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque.** We will take a walk through the Coptic neighborhood where we visit the Hanging Church built above a Roman fortress.

# 12 MON. Cairo – Wadi Natrum – Alexandria.-

We leave Cairo, traveling to the **WADI NATRUM** region, an area known for its Coptic monasteries since thousands of Christians who were fleeing in the fourth century from Roman persecutions, settled in the area. The monasteries, fortified because of the attacks suffered in different historical periods, are places that receive the visit of many pilgrims and will allow us to discover their traditions. Coptic popes are chosen from among the monks of these monasteries. We will visit **SAINT MACARIO**, founded in the year 360, where one of its monks will guide us through the enclosure. After that we visit the monastery of **ANBA BISHOY**, founded in the year 340, we access the fortified tower by a drawbridge. We will visit – also guided by a monk – the church, the refectory and the fortress, where several Coptic Popes are buried. Time to stroll through the lively area and also visit the huge new cathedral.

We continue our route to **ALEXANDRIA**, arrival in this port city with over 5 million inhabitants. **Lunch included.** We visit this afternoon the great **QAITBEY** fortress, built in 1480 on a narrow peninsula where the Hellenistic lighthouse was located, which was considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. After that, with the bus we travel the cornice, chaotic, noisy, commercial or elegant, depending on the areas. Free time. Accommodation.

# 13 TUE. Alexandria – Rashid- Rosetta – Cairo.-

We continue our visit of **ALEXANDRIA**, entering the impressive **CATACOMBS KOM ASH SHUQQAFA**, the largest Roman cemetery in Egypt, surprising the fusion of Pharaonic and Greco-Roman style. From here we will walk with our guide between narrow, commercial and bustling alleys to the **COLUMN OF POMPEY**, an immense column of 30 meters high that rises on the ruins of a temple. After that, we will stop to photograph externally the new **LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA**, inaugurated in 2002 with a very modern architecture that reminds us that this city, in the third century BC, was one of the greatest centers of

knowledge dissemination in ancient times. The Library of Alexandria at that time guarded more than half a million papyrus. **Lunch included** and continuation of our route to **ROSETTA**. In this small city, very close to the mouth of one of the tributaries of the Nile, the Rosetta Stone was found, just over a meter high, which was key to deciphering the hieroglyphic writing of the Egyptians since it contains the same text written in hieroglyphics, demotic and ancient Greek. We can see a replica of the Rosetta Stone in the **fortress of Rashid**, located a short distance away, in a picturesque small village of streets full of local life and with numerous fishing boats of multiple colors on the banks of the Nile. After that we visit Rosetta, a pleasant small town next to the Nile, we will walk through the center seeing (externally) the old Ottoman houses with their brick and wood architecture. We will also include a **boat trip on the Nile** to admire the views and activity of the fishing boats in the area. We return to **CAIRO**.- Arrival at the end of the day.

**NOTE:** The fortress of Rashid is not very visited, sometimes it can be closed (in that case we will see it externally and walk through the picturesque village of fishermen and farmers)

# 14 WED. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services.**

**(Opt. 2) Contrasts of Arabia with Jordan, Nile Cruise and Alexandria Days 1 – 13 as in Opt. 1**

# 14 WED. Cairo- Aswan.-

Transfer to the airport early in the morning to depart by regular flight **(included)** to **ASWAN**. Arrival and transfer to the ship, boarding procedures, and accommodation. In Aswan you will visit the **Red Granite Quarry**, where the famous **Unfinished Obelisk** is located. We will observe the ingenious procedure used by the ancient Egyptians for the extraction of granite blocks. We will also visit the **High Aswan Dam**, a huge engineering work that retains the waters of the Nile. Finally, we will enjoy a **felucca ride on the river**, typical fishing boats. **Full board** on the ship. Accommodation on board.

# 15 THU. Aswan- Kom Ombo- Edfu.-

In the morning, **optional visit to Abu Simbel** by bus or plane. Navigation to **KOM OMBO**. In the morning we will visit the **Temple of Kom Ombo** unique temple dedicated to two Gods, Sobek and Haroësis, where there is a **Nilometer** (ancient Nile

River level measurement system) and a mummified crocodile. Departure to **Edfu** and accommodation on board. **Full board** on the ship.

# 16 FRI. Edfu – Esna – Luxor.-

Stay on **Full Board** on the ship. Visit of **Temple of Edfu**, dedicated to the God Horus (God represented by a Falcon), was in the past partially covered by silt during periodic floods of the Nile. Once the rescue and restoration work finished, we find can now find one of the most beautiful temples of the Ptolemaic era in an exceptional state of conservation. Navigation to Luxor crossing the Esna lock. Arrival in Luxor in the afternoon and visit of the temple of **Karnak and Luxor**. Night on board.

**Note:** Depending on the time of arrival and daylight, the visit of Luxor and Karnak can be done the next morning.

# 17 SAT. Luxor- Cairo.-

Disembarkation and visits. We will visit the **Necropolis of Thebes with the Valley of the Kings** (tombs of the main Pharaohs) as the explanation of the tombs that are visited is not allowed inside them, our guide will give the explanations outside (the tomb of Tutankhamun is not included since all the treasures are in the Museum of Egypt in Cairo). Visit of **Queen Hatshepsut's temple** in Deir el Bahari. Visit of **Medinet Habu**. Later we will visit the **Colossi of Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenhotep II. After the visit, transfer to the airport to take a **regular flight (included)** to **CAIRO**.

Arrival at the airport and end of services. Check your flight schedule in case you need an extra night in the city.

**(Opt. 3) Arabia, Jordan, Egypt with Alexandria, Luxor and Hurghada Days 1 – 13 as in Opt. 2**

# 14 WED. Cairo – Luxor.-

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport from your hotel to take a scheduled flight **(air ticket included)** to **LUXOR**. Arrival and **transfer to the hotel**. Free time to enjoy and stroll through the souks of this impressive city.

# 15 THU. Luxor.-

During our stay in Luxor we will get to know one of the most impressive ancient cities on the planet. Early in the morning, from our hotel we will take a **private boat** to cross the Nile River, with its peace and impressive views early in the morning, we go to the west bank. We visited the **"Valley of the Artisans" Deir el-Medina**, a little-visited place, here they lived and are the tombs of great builders and craftsmen who built and decorated the royal tombs of ancient Egypt. We will visit three tombs, their paintings show scenes of daily life at that time. After that, we visit the fantastic **temple of Medinet Habu**, the temple of Ramses II, large and magnificently preserved, its scenes of wars will surprise us. We stopped in front of the **Colossi of the Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenhotep II. We will visit the **VALLEY OF THE QUEENS** where the **Temple of Queen Hatshepsut** (Deir el Bahari) is located, considered the first woman to occupy the position of pharaoh. We also visit the famous **VALLEY OF THE KINGS** where the tombs of the main pharaohs are hidden. Among these tombs, composed of several rooms and corridors leading to the corresponding burial chambers (we include, in addition to the general admission, a ride in an **electric cart** to access the enclosure and **tomb of Ramses** -which requires additional entry-). Return to the east bank of Luxor. Free time for lunch.

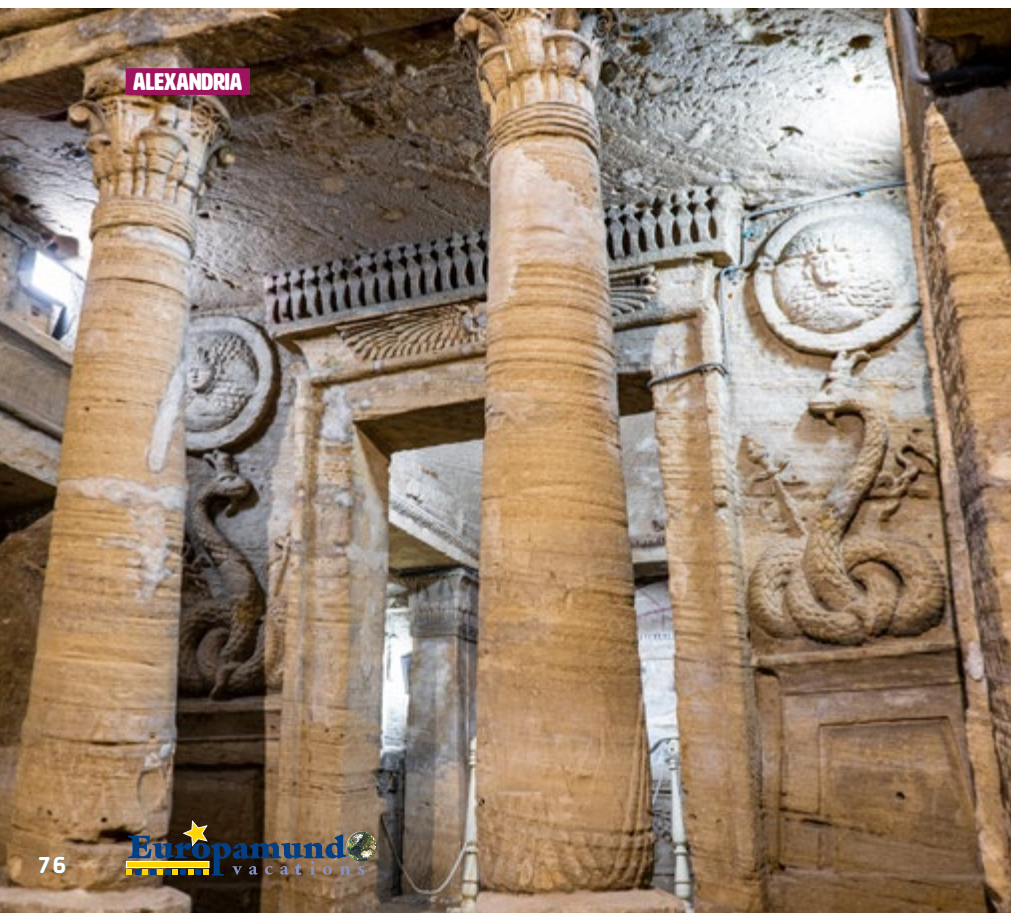
In the afternoon we visit **KARNAK**, it housed the most important religious complex in Ancient Egypt, highlighting the immense temple of Amun-Ra, our guide will take us to the little-crowded **temple of Khinsu**. We will also visit the **LUXOR MUSEUM**, which shows us an impressive collection of objects and mummies found in this area. After dark we include the entrance to the **LUXOR TEMPLE**, its lighting makes it magical at this time. Time to walk in the commercial area (souk) near the temple.

**Note:** The order of the visits will vary based on climatological factors and procuring to visit the different locations at times of less affluence.

# 16 FRI. Luxor – Dendera – Hurghada.-

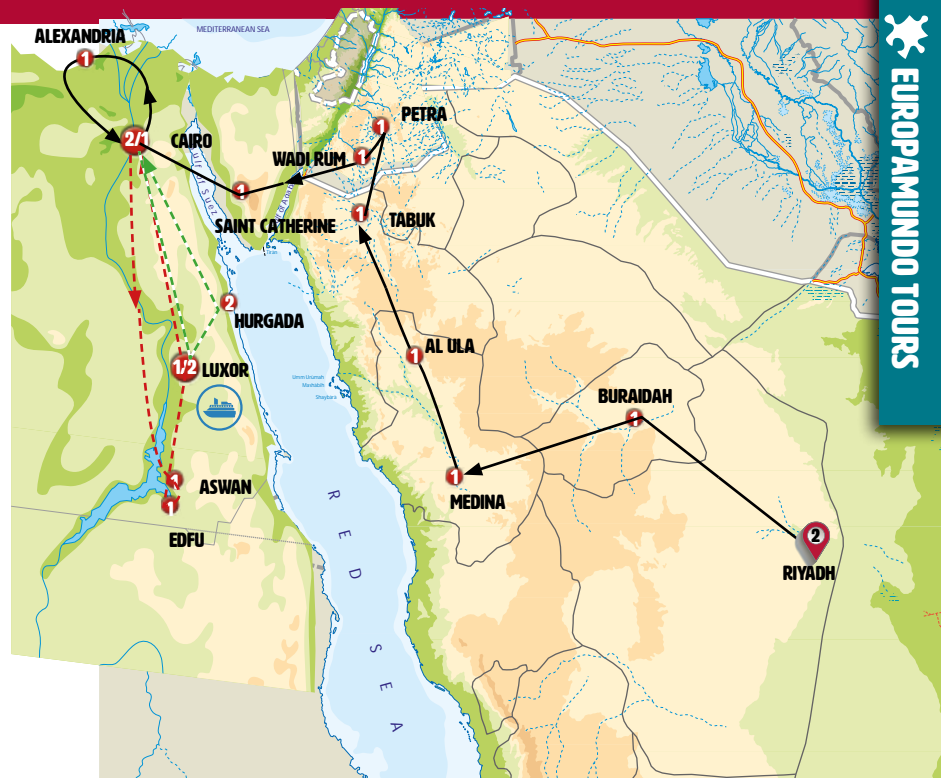
Free time in the morning stroll, shop or sightseeing in Luxor.

At around 11am we will leave for **DENDERA**, one of the best preserved Egyptian complexes thanks to the



ALEXANDRIA





fact that it remained buried by sand and mud until it was discovered in the mid-nineteenth century. Impressive enclosure of 40,000 square meters surrounded by a burly brick wall eight to ten meters high. We are surprised by its walls and its immense doors. Temple dedicated to Hathor, goddess of love and fertility.

After the visit **lunch included** and continuation to the Red Sea. Our highway crosses desert mountain ranges, interesting landscapes.

**HURGHADA**, arrival in the late afternoon. We are located in the most popular of Egypt's resorts, its hotels stretch over a strip of almost 50 kilometers. Hotel accommodation on an **all-inclusive basis**.

#### 17 SAT. Hurghada- El Gouna- Hurghada.-

Full day in Hurghada. Free time during the morning to relax in the hotel facilities or go on your own to visit the large aquarium or the museum of Hurghada. After lunch (included), an excursion to get to know the area a little more. We will go to **EL GOUNA**, a short distance from Hurghada, we are in the most luxurious holiday town in Egypt. Numerous canals and lagoons were opened to access most of the residences by yacht, free time to walk around this exclusive place. After the center of Hurghada, we will stop next to its mosque (we will get to visit it) and walking we will go to the marina, a very touristic and lively area, with shops and restaurants. After free time, return to our hotel. Stay on an **all-inclusive basis**.

#### 18 SUN. Hurghada - Saint Paul- Saint Anthony - El Galala - Cairo.-

Following the Red Sea, we travel to two impressive Coptic monasteries. St. Anthony and St. Paul are the oldest monasteries in Christendom, dating back to the fourth century, when monks began to settle in caves and hidden cliffs, at the foot of the Red Sea Mountain. The two monasteries are considered the holiest places of the Coptic church in Egypt.

Between arid mountains, surrounded by powerful walls, the **MONASTERY OF ST PAUL** thrills us, with its orchards and palm trees, and the pilgrims who come to pray at its fourth century's cave/church with its simple murals. After that we continue to the **MONASTERY OF ST ANTHONY**, also walled with its many buildings and adobe houses, its atmosphere seems stopped in time, the church of St Anthony, built on the tomb of the Saint houses magnificent Coptic murals of the thirteenth century. **Lunch included** in service area.

After these emotional places we travel to **EL GALALA**, we will be surprised with the new cities that Egypt is building in the desert. We will go first to the luxury resort located next to the Red Sea, with its marina and water park; from here we include the **cable car climb** (the highest slope in Africa) to El Galala, a new city (its construction began in 2015), magnificently designed, houses a large university. Continuation to **CAIRO**. - Arrival at the end of the day.

#### 19 MON. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services**.

## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with Spanish and Portuguese speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Excursion:** 4x4 vehicles, camel rides in Wadi Rum.
- **Boat:** Boat trip on the Nile in Rosseta.
- **City tour in:** Riyadh, Medina, Cairo, Alexandria.
- **Evening Transfer:** Boulevard Riyadh in Riyadh, Elephant Rock in Al Ula.
- **Experiences:** Kingdom Centre Tower and introduction to Islam in Al Rajhi mosque in Riyadh, Camel Market and date tasting experience in Buraydah.
- **Ticket admission:** Boulevard Riyadh, National Museum, Masmak Fortress and Al Rajhi Mosque in Riyadh, Ushaiqer Heritage Village, Oqilat Museum in Buraydah, garden and well of Ethiq in Medina, Hegra, Heritage Village and the Elephant Rock in Al Ula, Castle, Mud House museum and old train station in Tabuk, Spring of Moses and Petra Museum in Petra, Visitor Centre, 4x4 vehicles and camel rides in Wadi Rum, Monastery of Saint Catherine in Saint Catherine, Well of Moses, Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos, Egyptian Museum, Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque, the Hanging Church Coptic neighbourhood in Cairo, Saint Macarius Monastery and Anba Bishoy Monastery in Wadi El Natrun, Qaitbey Fortress, Rashid Fortress in Rosseta.
- **13 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Ushaiqer, Medina, Al Ula, Al Ula, Tabuk, Petra, Petra, Wadi Rum, Saint Catherine, Moses Well, Cairo, Alexandria, Alexandria.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

**Excursion:** Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon in Luxor.

• **Boat:** Typical sailing boats felucca and show typical dance beduina in Aswan.

• **Transfer:** Red Granite Quarry and Unfinished Obelisk in Aswan.

• **Ticket admission:** Red Granite Quarry and Unfinished Obelisk, Philae Temple, Aswan Dam in Aswan, Temple of Kom Ombo in Kom Ombo, Temple of Horus in Edfu, Necropolis of Thebas, Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, Medinet Habu.

• **Flights included:** Cairo-Aswan, Luxor-Cairo.

• **6 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Aswan, Aswan, Aswan, Edfu, Esna, Luxor.

(Additional services Opt. 3)

• **Boat:** Little boat to cross the Nile River in Luxor.

• **Evening Transfer:** Illuminated Temples in Luxor.

• **Transfer:** El Gouna in Hurghada.

• **Ticket admission:** Valley of the Artisans, Temple of Medinet Habu, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Hatshepsut, Valley of the Kings, electric cart, Tomb of Ramses, Museum of Luxor, Temple of Karnak and Luxor in Luxor, Dendera Temple Complex, Monastery of St Paul and Monastery of St Anthony.

• **Funicular:** Cable car climb in Al Galala.

• **Flights included:** Cairo-Luxor.

• **5 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Dendera, Hurghada, Hurghada, Hurghada, Monastery Of St. Paul And St. Anthony.







MINYA

FROM 1.933\$-DAYS 10/12/10

DEPARTURE DATES

Every Saturday

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.

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## ALL OF EGYPT WITH HURGHADA OPTION 1 ETERNAL EGYPT, SECRETS OF THE NILE, HURGHADA AND ALEXANDRIA OPTION 2 OASIS, PYRAMIDS, MONASTERIES AND JEWELS OF THE EGYPTIAN NILE OPTION 3

### (Opt. 1) All of Egypt with Hurghada

#### 01 SAT. Cairo.-

Welcome to Europamundo! Upon arriving at the airport, we will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Check the information boards in the hotel reception area for details of the welcome meeting with your guide and fellow travelers.

#### 02 SUN. Cairo.-

Full day visit where we explore the famous **Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos** (tickets to go inside the pyramids are not included), and also the impressive Sphinx, which is sculpted from rock. Visit to the **Egyptian Museum** with its ancient art and where the treasure of the Lost Tomb of Tutankhamen is kept. **Lunch included. Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque.** We will take a walk through the Coptic neighborhood where we visit the Hanging Church built above a Roman fortress.

#### 03 MON. Cairo - Pyramid of Meidum - Oasis Al Fayoum - Wadi Rayyan - Wadi al Hittan - Minya.-

We will leave Cairo early, we will get to know an Egypt that you probably had never imagined: a country of great lakes in the middle of the desert! Stop (entrance included) at the **PYRAMID OF MEIDUM**, considered as the first pyramid that the ancient Egyptians tried to build, 2600 years before Christ, we are surprised by its stepped structure. We can climb to the door that gives access to the burial chamber (after descending 75 meters) and see the large mastabas that house the tombs of some relatives of the pharaoh.

After that we visit the **Oasis of Al Faiyum**, we outline the great **QARUM LAKE** that allows the irrigation of the entire oasis making this area "the garden of Egypt". The shores of the lake have numerous leisure points for Egyptians. Al Fayoum portraits, the oldest portraits in the world (today we can see them in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo). We will stop and have lunch at **TUNIS village**, a nice place with great ceramic crafts, **lunch included.** Afterwards we enter among magnificent desert landscapes, we stop at **WADI RAYYAN**, a saltwater lake where rare species of birds and gazelles live, an area declared a National Park. Time for a walk next to the small

falls. We continue entering the desert, we travel to the enclosure of **WADI AL HITTAN** -the valley of the whales-, declared by Unesco a World Heritage Site. The number, concentration, and quality of the fossils, as well as their location in a protected landscape of great beauty, make the site an exceptional place. We get to visit the museum with fossilized whales (where we get to see their skeletons) and get to know about climate change.

Continue to **MINYA**, a city of 300,000 inhabitants by the Nile, active and pleasant walk along the river. **Dinner included.**

#### 04 TUE. - Minya- Zawiyet Sultan - Beni Hassan - Deir Al Muharraq- Tombs of Mir - ASYUT.-

We start another exciting day in the center of the Nile Valley. Leaving Minya we stop at **ZAWIYET SULTAN**, place of the dead, at the foot of a small pharaonic necropolis an immense cemetery with a very peculiar architecture of vaulted adobe mausoleums leads us to feel "in another world". After that we visit **BENI HASSAN**, the necropolis stands on cliffs above the Nile valley, 39 tombs (four are visited) dating from 2125 to 1795 years before Christ and offer us a fascinating idea of the daily life of that time. **Lunch included.**

Following the Nile valley we stop at the **TOMBS OF MIR**, with its nine tombs of the Old and Middle Kingdom open to the visit. The solitude of the place is impressive (practically without tourism). Next to the tombs we visit **DEIR AL MUHARRAQ**, monastery and place of Coptic pilgrimage, the monks indicate that Mary and Jesus inhabited a cave in this place for six months after fleeing from Herod; according to tradition the church was built around the year 60 "the oldest Christian church in the world". Continuation to **ASYUT**, provincial capital. **Dinner included.**

#### 05 WED. ASYUT - Sohag - Abydos - Luxor.-

We leave ASYUT for **SOHAG**, we are in one of the main Coptic areas of Egypt. We visit the **WHITE MONASTERY**, built in the fourth century (several times destroyed) and powerfully walled, in its construction stone was used that came from pharaonic temples and some blocks still show ancient Gods and hieroglyphics, at the time housed the largest library in Egypt. After that we visit the **RED MONASTERY**, one of the most impressive Christian buildings in Egypt, its an-

cient chapel of the fourth century, have most of its surface covered with frescoes (restored) that give us an idea of what religious buildings were like at the end of antiquity.

We continue our route to **ABYDOS**, **lunch included**, the most important place of worship of Osiris -God of the dead-, was a place of pilgrimage and necropolis for over 4500 years (from years 4000 BC to 600 AD), there are still many tombs unexcavated. The impressive temple of Seti stands out, one of the most complete and beautiful in Egypt.

Continuation to **LUXOR**.

#### 06 THU. Luxor.-

During our stay in Luxor we will get to know one of the most impressive ancient cities on the planet. Early in the morning, from our hotel we will take a **private boat** to cross the Nile River, with its peace and impressive views early in the morning, we go to the west bank. We visited the **"Valley of the Artisans"** **Deir el-Medina**, a little-visited place, here they lived and are the tombs of great builders and craftsmen who built and decorated the royal tombs of ancient Egypt. We will visit three tombs, their paintings show scenes of daily life at that time. After that, we visit the fantastic **temple of Medinet Habu**, the temple of Ramses II, large and magnificently preserved, its scenes of wars will surprise us. We stopped in front of the **Colossi of the Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenhotep II. We will visit the **VALLEY OF THE QUEENS** where the **Temple of Queen Hatshepsut** (Deir el Bahari) is located, considered the first woman to occupy the position of pharaoh. We also visit the famous **VALLEY OF THE KINGS** where the tombs of the main pharaohs are hidden. Among these tombs, composed of several rooms and corridors leading to the corresponding burial chambers (we include, in addition to the general admission, a ride in an **electric cart** to access the enclosure and **tomb of Ramses** -which requires additional entry-). Return to the east bank of Luxor. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon we visit **KARNAK**, it housed the most important religious complex in Ancient Egypt, highlighting the immense temple of Amun-Ra, our guide will take us to the little-crowded **temple of Khnso**.



We will also visit the **LUXOR MUSEUM**, which shows us an impressive collection of objects and mummies found in this area. After dark we include the entrance to the **LUXOR TEMPLE**, its lighting makes it magical at this time. Time to walk in the commercial area (souk) near the temple.

**Note:** The order of the visits will vary based on climatological factors and procuring to visit the different locations at times of less affluence.

#### 07 FRI. Luxor - Dendera - Hurghada.-

Free time in the morning stroll, shop or sightseeing in Luxor.

At around 11am we will leave for **DENDERA**, one of the best preserved Egyptian complexes thanks to the fact that it remained buried by sand and mud until it was discovered in the mid-nineteenth century. Impressive enclosure of 40,000 square meters surrounded by a burly brick wall eight to ten meters high. We are surprised by its walls and its immense doors. Temple dedicated to Hathor, goddess of love and fertility.

After the visit **lunch included** and continuation to the Red Sea. Our highway crosses desert mountain ranges, interesting landscapes.

**HURGHADA**, arrival in the late afternoon. We are located in the most popular of Egypt's resorts, its hotels stretch over a strip of almost 50 kilometers. Hotel accommodation on an **all-inclusive basis**.

#### 08 SAT. Hurghada- El Gouna- Hurghada.-

Full day in Hurghada. Free time during the morning to relax in the hotel facilities or go on your own to visit the large aquarium or the museum of Hurghada. After lunch (included), an excursion to get to know the area a little more. We will go to **EL GOUNA**, a short distance from Hurghada, we are in the most luxurious holiday town in Egypt. Numerous canals and lagoons were opened to access most of the residences by yacht, free time to walk around this exclusive place. After the center of Hurghada, we will stop next to its mosque (we will get to visit it) and walking we will go to the marina, a very touristic and lively area, with shops and restaurants. After free time, return to our hotel. Stay on an **all-inclusive basis**.

#### 09 SUN. Hurghada - Saint Paul- Saint Anthony - El Galala - Cairo.-

Following the Red Sea, we travel to two impressive Coptic monasteries. St. Anthony and St. Paul are the oldest monasteries in Christendom, dating back to the fourth century, when monks began to settle in caves and hidden cliffs, at the foot of the Red Sea Mountain. The two monasteries are considered the holiest places of the Coptic church in Egypt.

Between arid mountains, surrounded by powerful walls, the **MONASTERY OF ST PAUL** thrills us, with its orchards and palm trees, and the pilgrims who come to pray at its fourth century's cave/church with its simple murals. After that we continue to the **MONASTERY OF ST ANTHONY**, also walled with its many buildings and adobe houses, its atmosphere seems stopped in time, the church of St Anthony, built on the tomb of the Saint houses magnificent Coptic murals of the thirteenth century. **Lunch included** in service area.

After these emotional places we travel to **EL GALALA**, we will be surprised with the new cities that Egypt is building in the desert. We will go first to the luxury resort located next to the Red Sea, with its marina and water park; from here we include the **cable car climb** (the highest slope in Africa) to El Galala, a new city (its construction began in 2015), magnificently designed, houses a large university.

Continuation to **CAIRO**. - Arrival at the end of the day.

#### 10 MON. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services**.

#### (Opt. 2) Eternal Egypt, Secrets of the Nile, Hurghada and Alexandria Days 1 - 9 as in Opt. 1

#### 10 MON. Cairo - Wadi Natrum - Alexandria.-

We leave Cairo, traveling to the **WADI NATRUM** region, an area known for its Coptic monasteries since thousands of Christians who were fleeing in the fourth century from Roman persecutions, settled in the area. The monasteries, fortified because of the attacks suffered in different historical periods, are places that receive the visit of many pilgrims and will allow us to discover their traditions. Coptic popes are chosen from among the monks of these monasteries. We will visit **SAINT MACARIO**, founded in the year 360, where one of its monks will guide us through the enclosure. After that we visit the monastery of **ANBA BISHOY**, founded in the year 340, we access the fortified tower by a drawbridge. We will visit - also guided by a monk - the church, the refectory and the fortress, where several Coptic Popes are buried. Time to stroll through the lively area and also visit the huge new cathedral.

We continue our route to **ALEXANDRIA**, arrival in this port city with over 5 million inhabitants. **Lunch included**. We visit this afternoon the great **QAITBEY**

fortress, built in 1480 on a narrow peninsula where the Hellenistic lighthouse was located, which was considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. After that, with the bus we travel the cornice, chaotic, noisy, commercial or elegant, depending on the areas. Free time. Accommodation.

#### 11 TUE. Alexandria - Rashid- Rosetta - Cairo.-

We continue our visit of **ALEXANDRIA**, entering the impressive **CATACOMBS KOM ASH SHUQQAFA**, the largest Roman cemetery in Egypt, surprising the fusion of Pharaonic and Greco-Roman style. From here we will walk with our guide between narrow, commercial and bustling alleys to the **COLUMN OF POMPEY**, an immense column of 30 meters high that rises on the ruins of a temple. After that, we will stop to photograph externally the new **LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA**, inaugurated in 2002 with a very modern architecture that reminds us that this city, in the third century BC, was one of the greatest centers of knowledge dissemination in ancient times. The Library of Alexandria at that time guarded more than half a million papyrus. **Lunch included** and continuation of our route to **ROSETTA**. In this small city, very close to the mouth of one of the tributaries of the Nile, the Rosetta Stone was found, just over a meter high, which was key to deciphering the hieroglyphic writing of the Egyptians since it contains the same text written in hieroglyphics, demotic and ancient Greek. We can see a replica of the Rosetta Stone in the **fortress of Rashid**, located a short distance away, in a picturesque small village of streets full of local life and with numerous fishing boats of multiple colors on the banks of the Nile.

After that we visit Rosetta, a pleasant small town next to the Nile, we will walk through the center seeing (externally) the old Ottoman houses with their brick and wood architecture. We will also include a **boat trip on the Nile** to admire the views and activity of the fishing boats in the area. We return to **CAIRO**. - Arrival at the end of the day.

**NOTE:** The fortress of Rashid is not very visited, sometimes it can be closed (in that case we will see it externally and walk through the picturesque village of fishermen and farmers)

#### 12 WED. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services**.

#### (Opt. 3) Oasis, Pyramids, Monasteries and Jewels of the Egyptian Nile Days 1 - 6 as in Opt. 2

#### 07 FRI. Luxor - Esna.-

Today you will be able to admire the **Necropolis of Thebes**, visiting the famous **VALLEY OF THE KINGS**, where are hidden the tombs of the main pharaohs. Composed of several rooms and corridors that lead to the burial chambers, are among others, Ramses III, Seti I and Amenhotep II. You will also visit the **Colossae of Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenophis II, as well as the **Temple of Queen Hatshepsut** (Deir el Bahari) and the **Temple of Medinet Habu**. During this day we can enjoy the beauty of the Nile riverbanks. You could do different activities on the boat and at evening enjoy the music at the disco. **Full board**. Night on board, navigating to **ESNA**.

#### 08 SAT. Esna- Edfu- Kom Ombo - Aswan.-

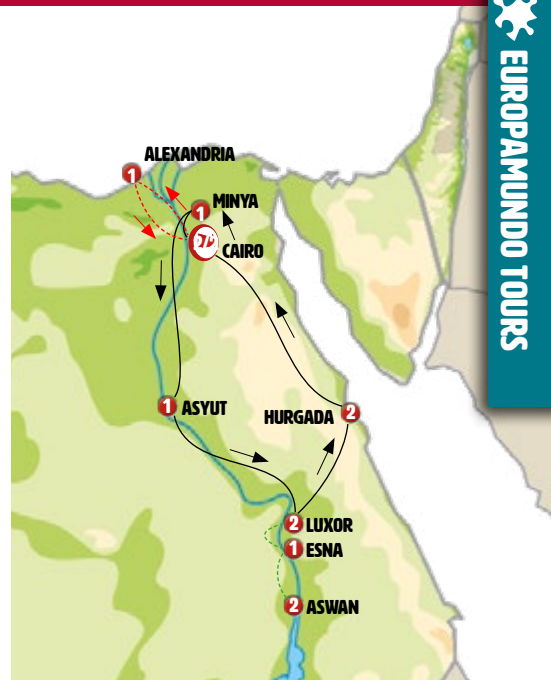
Arrival to **EDFU** and visit the **Temple of Horus** (God represented by a Falcon), which in the past was partially covered by lime during the periodic flooding of the river Nile. The rescue and restoration work complete, we now have one of the most beautiful temples of Ptolemaic times, in an exceptional state of preservation. Navigation to **KOM OMBO**. Visit the **Temple of Kom Ombo**, the only temple dedicated to two gods, Sobek and Haroësis, where we find a Nilometer (former system for measuring the level of the Nile River) and a mummified crocodile. During the evening you will be able to enjoy the Chilaba's party, local typical outfit (on route you could economically acquire them at local markets). **Full board**. Accommodation on board, navigating to **ASWAN**.

#### 09 SUN. Aswan.-

Arrival to **ASWAN**. Possibility of getting the **optional** tour to **Abu Simbel** (visit NOT included in the itinerary), located two hundred and eighty kilometers from Aswan, visit the western desert and the temples carved on the cliff by Ramses II during the twelfth century BC, with 20 meters high statues, dedicated to the god Amon Ra, and the Temple of Nefertari, dedicated to the goddess Hathor. Visit the **Red Granite quarry** where is the famous 41 meters high **Unfinished Obelisk**. We will also visit the Aswan Dam, one of the largest in the world, which created Lake Nasser with a length of more than 500 km. We will visit the beautiful **Temple of Philae** dedicated to the goddess Isis and located on a small island that can only be accessed by boat. In the afternoon, a **felucca cruise on the Nile**, typical sailing boats in the area, heading to the island of Kitchener where the Botanical Garden is located. **Full board**. Accommodation on board.

#### 10 MON. Aswan.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services**.



## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with Spanish and Portuguese speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Boat:** Little boat to cross the Nile River in Luxor.
- **City tour in:** Cairo.
- **Evening Transfer:** Illuminated Temples in Luxor.
- **Transfer:** El Gouna in Hurghada.
- **Ticket admission:** Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos, Egyptian Museum, Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque, the Hanging Church Coptic neighbourhood in Cairo, Pyramid of Meidum in Meidum, Tunis Village in Faiyum Oasis, Valley of Whales and Fossilized Whales Museum in Wadi Al Hiton, Necropolis of Beni Hassan, Tombs of Mir, Deir Al Muharraq Monastery, White Monastery and Red Monastery in Suhaq, Necropolis of Abydos, Valley of the Artisans, Temple of Medinet Habu, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Hatshepsut, Valley of the Kings, electric cart, Tomb of Ramses, Museum of Luxor, Temple of Karnak and Luxor in Luxor, Dendera Temple Complex, Monastery of St Paul and Monastery of St Anthony.
- **Funicular:** Cable car climb in Al Galala.
- **11 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Cairo, Faiyum Oasis, Minya, Beni Hassan, Asyut, Abydos, Dendera, Hurghada, Hurghada, Hurghada, Monastery Of St. Paul And St. Anthony.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **Boat:** Boat trip on the Nile in Rosseta.
- **City tour in:** Alexandria.
- **Ticket admission:** Saint Macarius Monastery and Anba Bishop Monastery in Wadi El Natrun, Qaitbey Fortress, Rashid Fortress in Rosseta.
- **2 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Alexandria, Alexandria.

(Additional services Opt. 3)

- **Excursion:** Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon in Luxor.
- **Boat:** Typical sailing boats felucca and show typical dance beduina in Aswan.
- **Ticket admission:** Necropolis of Thebas, Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, Medinet Habu; in Luxor, Temple of Horus in Edfu, Temple of Kom Ombo in Kom Ombo, Red Granite Quarry and Unfinished Obelisk, Philae Temple, Aswan Dam in Aswan.
- **6 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Luxor, Esna, Kom Ombo, Aswan, Aswan, Aswan.







ALEXANDRIA

FROM 2.125\$ - DAYS 10

DEPARTURE DATES

Every Saturday

### EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.



LUXOR

## LAND OF PHARAOS WITH ALEXANDRIA AND THE RED SEA

10:27482

### 01 SAT. Cairo.-

**Welcome to Europamundo!** Upon arriving at the airport, we will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Check the information boards in the hotel reception area for details of the welcome meeting with your guide and fellow travelers.

### 02 SUN. Cairo.-

Full day visit where we explore the famous **Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos** (tickets to go inside the pyramids are not included), and also the impressive Sphinx, which is sculpted from rock. Visit to the **Egyptian Museum** with its ancient art and where the treasure of the Lost Tomb of Tutankhamen is kept. **Lunch included.** **Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque.** We will take a walk through the Coptic neighborhood where we visit the Hanging Church built above a Roman fortress.

### 03 MON. Cairo - Wadi Natrum - Alexandria.-

We leave Cairo, traveling to the **WADI NATRUM** region, an area known for its Coptic monasteries since thousands of Christians who were fleeing in the fourth century from Roman persecutions, settled in the area. The monasteries, fortified because of the attacks suffered in different historical periods, are places that receive the visit of many pilgrims and will allow us to discover their traditions. Coptic popes are chosen from among the monks of these monasteries. We will visit **SAINT MACARIO**, founded in the year 360, where one of its monks will guide us through the enclosure. After that we visit the monastery of **ANBA BISHOY**, founded in the year 340, we access the fortified tower by a drawbridge. We will visit - also guided by a monk - the church, the refectory and the fortress, where several Coptic Popes are buried. Time to stroll through the lively area and also visit the huge new cathedral.

We continue our route to **ALEXANDRIA**, arrival in this port city with over 5 million inhabitants. **Lunch included.** We visit this afternoon the great **QAITBEY** fortress, built in 1480 on a narrow peninsula where the Hellenistic lighthouse was located, which was considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. After that, with the bus we travel the cornice, chaotic, noisy, commercial or elegant, depending on the areas. Free time. Accommodation.

### 04 TUE. Alexandria - Rashid- Rosetta - Cairo.-

We continue our visit of **ALEXANDRIA**, entering the impressive **CATACOMBS KOM ASH SHUQQAFA**, the largest Roman cemetery in Egypt, surprising the fusion of Pharaonic and Greco-Roman style. From here we will walk with our guide between narrow, commercial and bustling alleys to the **COLUMN OF POMPEY**, an immense column of 30 meters high that rises on the ruins of a temple. After that, we will stop to photograph externally the new **LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA**, inaugurated in 2002 with a very modern architecture that reminds us that this city, in the third century BC, was one of the greatest centers of knowledge dissemination in ancient times. The Library of Alexandria at that time guarded more than half a million papyrus. **Lunch included** and continuation of our route to **ROSETTA**. In this small city, very close to the mouth of one of the tributaries of the Nile, the Rosetta Stone was found, just over a meter high, which was key to deciphering the hieroglyphic writing of the Egyptians since it contains the same text written in hieroglyphics, demotic and ancient Greek. We can see a replica of the Rosetta Stone in the **fortress of Rashid**, located a short distance away, in a picturesque small village of streets full of local life and with numerous fishing boats of multiple colors on the banks of the Nile.

After that we visit Rosetta, a pleasant small town next to the Nile, we will walk through the center seeing (externally) the old Ottoman houses with their brick and wood architecture. We will also include a **boat trip on the Nile** to admire the views and activity of the fishing boats in the area. We return to CAIRO.- Arrival at the end of the day.

**NOTE:** The fortress of Rashid is not very visited, sometimes it can be closed (in that case we will see it externally and walk through the picturesque village of fishermen and farmers)

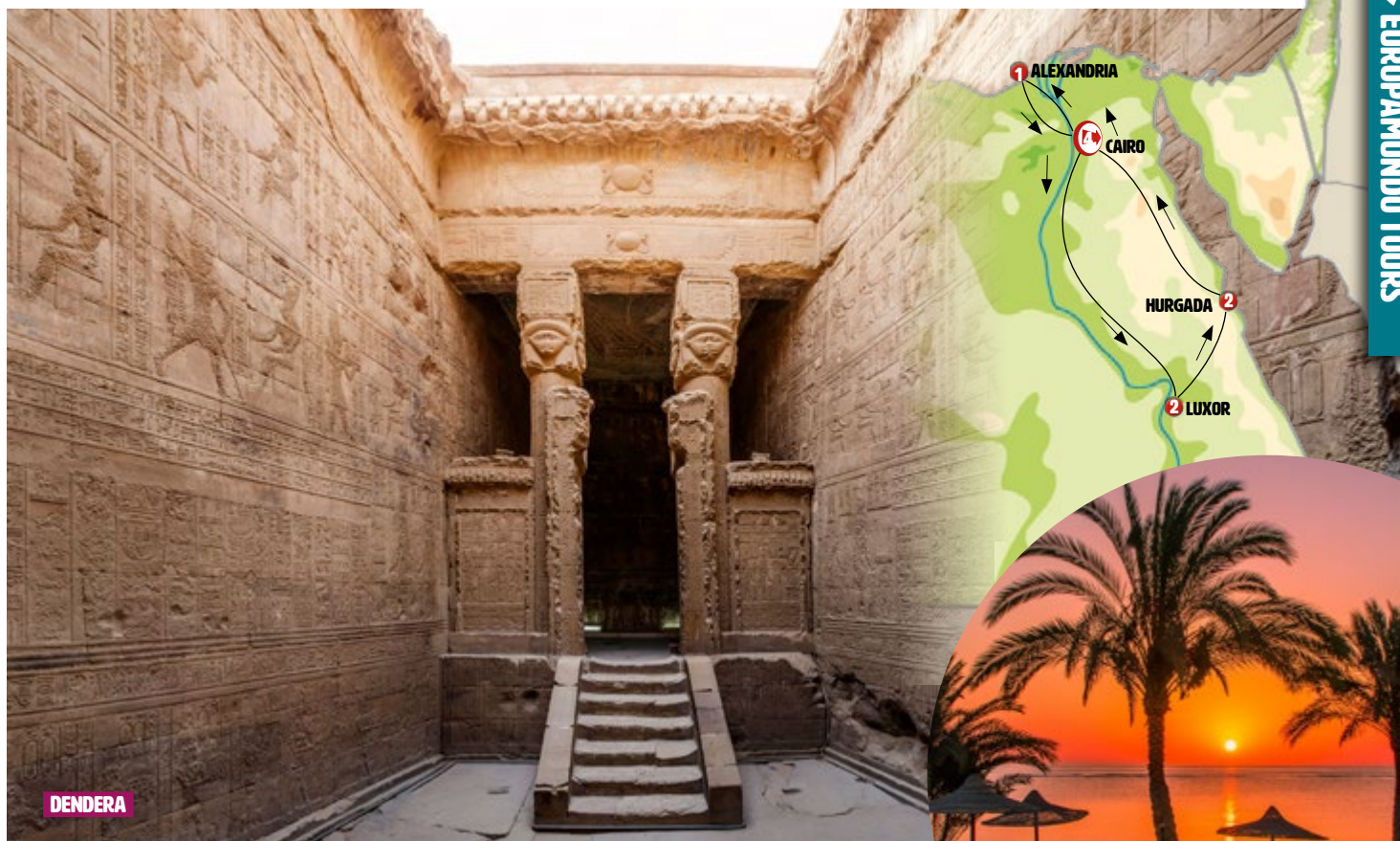
### 05 WED. Cairo - Luxor.-

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport from your hotel to take a scheduled flight (**air ticket included**) to **LUXOR**. Arrival and **transfer to the hotel**. Free time to enjoy and stroll through the souks of this impressive city.

### 06 THU. Luxor.-

During our stay in Luxor we will get to know one of the most impressive ancient cities on the planet. Early in the





DENDERA

HURGHADA

morning, from our hotel we will take a **private boat** to cross the Nile River, with its peace and impressive views early in the morning, we go to the west bank. We visited the **"Valley of the Artisans"** Deir el-Medina, a little-visited place, here they lived and are the tombs of great builders and craftsmen who built and decorated the royal tombs of ancient Egypt. We will visit three tombs, their paintings show scenes of daily life at that time. After that, we visit the fantastic **temple of Medinet Habu**, the temple of Ramses II, large and magnificently preserved, its scenes of wars will surprise us. We stopped in front of the **Colossi of the Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenhotep II. We will visit the **VALLEY OF THE QUEENS** where the **Temple of Queen Hatshepsut** (Deir el Bahari) is located, considered the first woman to occupy the position of pharaoh. We also visit the famous **VALLEY OF THE KINGS** where the tombs of the main pharaohs are hidden. Among these tombs, composed of several rooms and corridors leading to the corresponding burial chambers (we include, in addition to the general admission, a ride in an **electric cart** to access the enclosure and **tomb of Ramses** - which requires additional entry-). Return to the east bank of Luxor. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon we visit **KARNAK**, it housed the most important religious complex in Ancient Egypt, highlighting the immense temple of Amun-Ra, our guide will take us to the little-crowded **temple of Khinsu**. We will also visit the **LUXOR MUSEUM**, which shows us an impressive collection of objects and mummies found in this area. After dark we include the entrance to the **LUXOR TEMPLE**, its lighting makes it magical at this time. Time to walk in the commercial area (souk) near the temple.

*Note: The order of the visits will vary based on climatological factors and procuring to visit the different locations at times of less affluence.*

#### 07 FRI. Luxor - Dendera - Hurghada.-

Free time in the morning stroll, shop or sightseeing in Luxor.

At around 11am we will leave for **DENDERA**, one of the best preserved Egyptian complexes thanks to the fact that it remained buried by sand and mud until it was discovered in the mid-nineteenth century. Impressive enclosure of 40,000 square meters surrounded by a burly brick wall eight to ten meters high. We are surprised by its walls and its immense doors. Temple dedicated to Hathor, goddess of love and fertility. After the visit **lunch included** and continuation to the Red Sea. Our highway crosses desert mountain ranges, interesting landscapes.

**HURGHADA**, arrival in the late afternoon. We are located in the most popular of Egypt's resorts, its hotels stretch over a strip of almost 50 kilometers. Hotel accommodation on an **all-inclusive basis**.

#### 08 SAT. Hurghada- El Gouna- Hurghada.-

Full day in Hurghada. Free time during the morning to relax in the hotel facilities or go on your own to visit the large aquarium or the museum of Hurghada. After lunch (included), an excursion to get to know the area a little more. We will go to **EL GOUNA**, a short distance from Hurghada, we are in the most luxurious holiday town in Egypt. Numerous canals and lagoons were opened to access most of the residences by yacht, free time to walk around this exclusive place. After the center of Hurghada, we will stop next to its mosque (we will get to visit it) and walking we will go to the marina, a very touristic and lively area, with shops and restaurants. After free time, return to our hotel. Stay on an **all-inclusive basis**.

#### 09 SUN. Hurghada - Saint Paul- Saint Anthony - El Galala - Cairo.-

Following the Red Sea, we travel to two impressive Coptic monasteries. St. Anthony and St. Paul are the oldest monasteries in Christendom, dating back to the fourth century, when monks began to settle in caves and hidden cliffs, at the foot of the Red Sea Mountain. The two monasteries are considered the holiest places of the Coptic church in Egypt.

Between arid mountains, surrounded by powerful walls, the **MONASTERY OF ST PAUL** thrills us, with its orchards and palm trees, and the pilgrims who come to pray at its fourth century's cave/church with its simple murals. After that we continue to the **MONASTERY OF ST ANTHONY**, also walled with its many buildings and adobe houses, its atmosphere seems stopped in time, the church of St Anthony, built on the tomb of the Saint houses magnificent Coptic murals of the thirteenth century. **Lunch included** in service area.

After these emotional places we travel to **EL GALALA**, we will be surprised with the new cities that Egypt is building in the desert. We will go first to the luxury resort located next to the Red Sea, with its marina and water park; from here we include the **cable car climb** (the highest slope in Africa) to El Galala, a new city (its construction began in 2015), magnificently designed, houses a large university. Continuation to **CAIRO**. - Arrival at the end of the day.

#### 10 MON. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services**.

## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with Spanish and Portuguese speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer Includes departure transfer**
- **Boat:** Boat trip on the Nile in Rosseta, Little boat to cross the Nile River in Luxor.
- **City tour in :** Cairo, Alexandria.
- **Evening Transfer:** Illuminated Temples in Luxor.
- **Transfer:** El Gouna in Hurghada.
- **Ticket admission:** Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos, Egyptian Museum, Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque, the Hanging Church Coptic neighbourhood in Cairo, Saint Macarius Monastery and Anba Bishoy Monastery in Wadi El Natrun, Qaitbey Fortress, Rashid Fortress in Rosseta, Valley of the Artisans, Temple of Medinet Habu, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Hatshepsut, Valley of the Kings, electric cart, Tomb of Ramses, Museum of Luxor, Temple of Karnak and Luxor in Luxor, Dendera Temple Complex, Monastery of St Paul and Monastery of St Anthony.
- **Funicular:** Cable car climb in Al Galala.
- **Flights included:** Cairo-Luxor.
- **10 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Cairo, Alexandria, Alexandria, Dendera, Hurghada, Hurghada, Hurghada, Monastery Of St. Paul And St. Anthony.







SAINT CATHERINE



FROM **1.597\$**-DAYS **7/9**

DEPARTURE DATES

Every Tuesday

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.

ANBA BISHOP



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## JERUSALEM, SINAI AND CAIRO OPTION 1 HOLY LAND WITH CAIRO AND ALEXANDRIA OPTION 2

(Opt. 1) Jerusalem, Sinai and Cairo

**01 TUE. Jerusalem.-**

**Arrival at Tel Aviv airport (Ben Gurion).** After customs our transfer will be waiting for you to continue by road to **JERUSALEM**. Accommodation.

**02 WED. Jerusalem.-**

**TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS:** Full day visit of Jerusalem.

Breakfast. **Full day visit.** We will start going up the **Mount of Olives**, where we will appreciate a magnificent view over the city. We will also visit the Garden of Gethsemane. We will enter the Old City, where we will walk the **Via Dolorosa** to reach Golgotha, place of the crucifixion of Jesus and the **Holy Sepulchre**. Already in the Armenian quarter, we will discover the legends that are hidden in the tower and **citadel of David**, where we will explore some of the most exciting archaeological treasures of this ancient settlement, the first foundations of present-day Jerusalem. Free time for lunch. Next, visit to the **complex of the four Sephardic synagogues**. We will visit the upper part of the Hurva synagogue (allowed for non-Jewish tourists), where we will have the possibility to learn their customs and traditions. From its terrace we will have an unparalleled view of the Jewish quarter of the city. We will admire the exterior architecture of this group of temples, which also treasure a very particular history, to finish the route we will approach the **Western Wall**, where we will also know the **Tunnels** of said Wall with its huge quarry stones that today are part of the foundation of ancient Jerusalem 2000 years ago. We can even see some grottoes that make improvised churches or sacred rooms that serve for the prayers of the most religious. Return to the hotel. Accommodation.

**03 THU. Jerusalem.-**

Breakfast. Departure to the **Sanctuary of the Book** in the Israel Museum, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are exhibited, and where the Model of Jerusalem in the time of Jesus is located. Visit the neighborhood of **Ain Karen** where the Church of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist is located, and visit of Yad Vashem, **Museum and Holocaust Memorial**. Visit the lively **Mahane Yehuda Mar-**

**ket** where Orthodox Jews, Palestinians, Armenians, Arabs mingle with tourists creating a multicultural atmosphere. Free time for lunch. In the afternoon we enter **PALESTINE** to visit the city of **Bethlehem**. We will visit the **Mosque of Omar** (exterior) and the **Church of the Nativity** with the Grotto of the Manger, the Basilica of Santa Catarina and the Grotto of Saint Jerome. Short walk through the old city before returning to Jerusalem. On the outskirts of Bethlehem stands the **Salesian monastery of Cremisan** where the only Palestinian wine is made. Return to the hotel Accommodation.

**Note:** Don't forget to bring your passport to cross into Palestine.

**04 FRI. Jerusalem - Eilat - Saint Catherine.-**

After breakfast we leave for the south of Israel. We will skirt the Dead Sea and traverse the beautiful landscapes of the Negev Desert. Arrival at **EILAT**, a modern and touristic city with its excellent beaches. A relaxing time for lunch and walking. After lunch departure to the border of **EGYPT**. Passage to Sinai, on our route we photograph the island of the pharaoh with the powerful fortress of Saladin. Continuation to **SAINT CATHERINE** -Arrival, **dinner included** and accommodation.

**NOTE:** In the passage from Israel to Egypt, entry / exit taxes must be paid by the traveler in the different countries. Israel: 32 \$ (exit tax), Egypt: Entrance fee to Taba: 25\$, Entry visa: 45\$ (which is actually 25\$ visa + 20\$ processing fee)

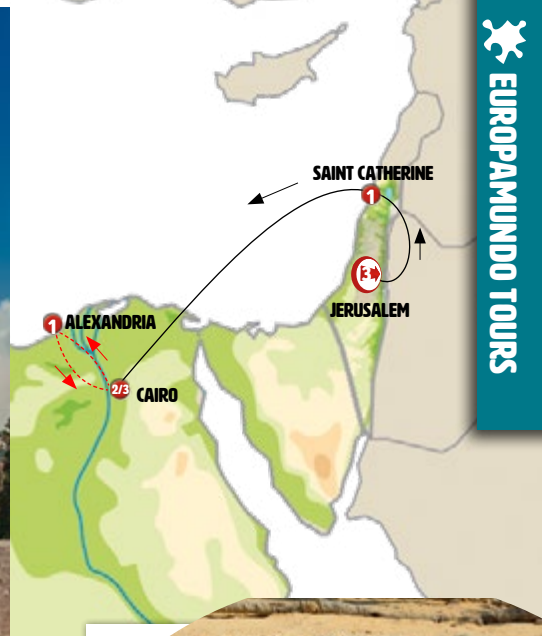
**05 SAT. Saint Catherine- Well of Moses- Cairo.-**

At the foot of Mount Sinai, we visit the impressive walled **monastery of SAINT CATHERINE**. According to tradition, this is where Moses saw "the Burning Bush that burned without being consumed". The monastery, which is a sacred place for Jews, Christians and Muslims, belongs to the Orthodox Church and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We then continue on through the Sinai Desert's picturesque landscapes. **Lunch included** in route. Stop at the **WELL OF MOSES**, a biblical site that looks like a small oasis. We will leave Sinai through the tunnel under the **SUEZ CANAL**. Arrival in **CAIRO** at the end of the afternoon. Accommodation.





JERUSALEM



QAITBEY



POZOS DE MOISÉS

#### 06 SUN. Cairo.-

Full day visit where we explore the famous **Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos** (tickets to go inside the pyramids are not included), and also the impressive Sphinx, which is sculpted from rock. Visit to the **Egyptian Museum** with its ancient art and where the treasure of the Lost Tomb of Tutankhamen is kept. **Lunch included.** **Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque.** We will take a walk through the Coptic neighborhood where we visit the Hanging Church built above a Roman fortress.

#### 07 MON. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services.**

#### (Opt. 2) Holy Land with Cairo and Alexandria Days 1 - 6 as in Opt. 1

#### 07 MON. Cairo - Wadi Natrum - Alexandria.-

We leave Cairo, traveling to the **WADI NATRUM** region, an area known for its Coptic monasteries since thousands of Christians who were fleeing in the fourth century from Roman persecutions, settled in the area. The monasteries, fortified because of the attacks suffered in different historical periods, are places that receive the visit of many pilgrims and will allow us to discover their traditions. Coptic popes are chosen from among the monks of these monasteries. We will visit **SAINT MACARIO**, founded in the year 360, where one of its monks will guide us through the enclosure. After that we visit the monastery of **ANBA BISHOY**, founded in the year 340, we access the fortified tower by a drawbridge. We will visit - also guided by a monk - the church, the refectory and the fortress, where several Coptic Popes are buried. Time to stroll through the lively area and also visit the huge new cathedral.

We continue our route to **ALEXANDRIA**, arrival in this port city with over 5 million inhabitants. **Lunch included.** We visit this afternoon the great **QAITBEY** fortress, built in 1480 on a narrow peninsula where the Hellenistic lighthouse was located, which was considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. After that, with the bus we travel the cornice, chaotic, noisy, commercial or

elegant, depending on the areas. Free time. Accommodation.

#### 08 TUE. Alexandria - Rashid- Rosetta - Cairo.-

We continue our visit of **ALEXANDRIA**, entering the impressive **CATACOMBS KOM ASH SHUQQAFA**, the largest Roman cemetery in Egypt, surprising the fusion of Pharaonic and Greco-Roman style. From here we will walk with our guide between narrow, commercial and bustling alleys to the **COLUMN OF POMPEY**, an immense column of 30 meters high that rises on the ruins of a temple. After that, we will stop to photograph externally the new **LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA**, inaugurated in 2002 with a very modern architecture that reminds us that this city, in the third century BC, was one of the greatest centers of knowledge dissemination in ancient times. The Library of Alexandria at that time guarded more than half a million papyrus. **Lunch included** and continuation of our route to **ROSETTA**. In this small city, very close to the mouth of one of the tributaries of the Nile, the Rosetta Stone was found, just over a meter high, which was key to deciphering the hieroglyphic writing of the Egyptians since it contains the same text written in hieroglyphics, demotic and ancient Greek. We can see a replica of the Rosetta Stone in the **fortress of Rashid**, located a short distance away, in a picturesque small village of streets full of local life and with numerous fishing boats of multiple colors on the banks of the Nile.

After that we visit Rosetta, a pleasant small town next to the Nile, we will walk through the center seeing (externally) the old Ottoman houses with their brick and wood architecture. We will also include a **boat trip on the Nile** to admire the views and activity of the fishing boats in the area. We return to **CAIRO**.- Arrival at the end of the day. **NOTE:** The fortress of Rashid is not very visited, sometimes it can be closed (in that case we will see it externally and walk through the picturesque village of fishermen and farmers)

#### 09 WED. Cairo.-

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services.**

### THE PRICE INCLUDES

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with Spanish and Portuguese speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Excursion:** Bethlehem in Jerusalem.
- **City tour in:** Jerusalem, Cairo.
- **Ticket admission:** Book in the Museum of Israel, Holocaust Museum and Memorial, Church of the Nativity, in Bethlehem, Monastery of Saint Catherine in Saint Catherine, Well of Moses, Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos, Egyptian Museum, Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque, the Hanging Church Coptic neighbourhood in Cairo.
- **3 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Saint Catherine, Moses Well, Cairo.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **Boat:** Boat trip on the Nile in Rosseta.
- **City tour in:** Alexandria.
- **Ticket admission:** Saint Macarius Monastery and Anba Bishoy Monastery in Wadi El Natrun, Qaitbey Fortress, Rashid Fortress in Rosseta.
- **2 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Alexandria, Alexandria.







FROM 3.307\$-DAYS 14

DEPARTURE DATES

Every Tuesday

EXPECTED HOTELS

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the web-site's "My Trip" page.

**(Opt. 1) Jerusalem, Pyramids, Monasteries and Red Sea**  
**01 TUE. Jerusalem.-**  
**Arrival at Tel Aviv airport (Ben Gurion).** After customs our transfer will be waiting for you to continue by road to **JERUSALEM**. Accommodation.

**02 WED. Jerusalem.-**  
**TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS:** Full day visit of Jerusalem.

Breakfast. **Full day visit.** We will start going up the **Mount of Olives**, where we will appreciate a magnificent view over the city. We will also visit the Garden of Gethsemane. We will enter the Old City, where we will walk the **Via Dolorosa** to reach Golgotha, place of the crucifixion of Jesus and the **Holy Sepulchre**. Already in the Armynian quarter, we will discover the legends that are hidden in the tower and **citadel of David**, where we will explore some of the most exciting archaeological treasures of this ancient settlement, the first foundations of present-day Jerusalem. Free time for lunch. Next, visit to the **complex of the four Sephardic synagogues**. We will visit the upper part of the Hurva synagogue (allowed for non-Jewish tourists), where we will have the possibility to learn their customs and traditions. From its terrace we will have an unparalleled view of the Jewish quarter of the city. We will admire the exterior architecture of this group of temples, which also treasure a very particular history, to finish the route we will approach the **Western Wall**, where we will also know the **Tunnels** of said Wall with its huge quarry stones that today are part of the foundation of ancient Jerusalem 2000 years ago. We can even see some grottoes that make improvised churches or sacred rooms that serve for the prayers of the most religious. Return to the hotel. Accommodation.

**03 THU. Jerusalem.-**  
 Breakfast. Departure to the **Sanctuary of the Book** in the Israel Museum, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are exhibited, and where the Model of Jerusalem in the time of Jesus is located. Visit the neighborhood of **Ain Karen** where the Church of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist is located, and visit of **Yad Vashem, Museum and Holocaust Memorial**. Visit the lively **Mahane Yehuda Market** where Orthodox Jews, Palestinians, Armenians, Arabs mingle with tourists creating a mul-

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## JERUSALEM, PYRAMIDS, MONASTERIES AND RED SEA JERUSALEM AND SECRETS OF THE EGYPTIAN NILE

HURGADA

OPTION 1

OPTION 2

titicultural atmosphere. Free time for lunch. In the afternoon we enter **PALESTINE** to visit the city of **Bethlehem**. We will visit the **Mosque of Omar** (exterior) and the **Church of the Nativity** with the Grotto of the Manger, the Basilica of Santa Catarina and the Grotto of Saint Jerome. Short walk through the old city before returning to Jerusalem. On the outskirts of Bethlehem stands the **Salesian monastery of Cremisan** where the only Palestinian wine is made. Return to the hotel accommodation.  
**Note:** Don't forget to bring your passport to cross into Palestine.

**04 FRI. Jerusalem - Eilat - Saint Catherine.-**  
 After breakfast we leave for the south of Israel. We will skirt the Dead Sea and traverse the beautiful landscapes of the Negev Desert. Arrival at **EILAT**, a modern and touristic city with its excellent beaches. A relaxing time for lunch and walking. After lunch departure to the border of **EGYPT**. Passage to Sinai, on our route we photograph the island of the pharaoh with the powerful fortress of Saladin. Continuation to **SAINT CATHERINE** -Arrival, **dinner included** and accommodation.  
**NOTE:** In the passage from Israel to Egypt, entry / exit taxes must be paid by the traveler in the different countries. Israel: 32 \$ (exit tax), Egypt: Entrance fee to Taba: 25\$, Entry visa: 45\$ (which is actually 25\$ visa + 20\$ processing fee)

**05 SAT. Saint Catherine- Well of Moses- Cairo.-**  
 At the foot of Mount Sinai, we visit the impressive walled **monastery of SAINT CATHERINE**. According to tradition, this is where Moses saw "the Burning Bush that burned without being consumed". The monastery, which is a sacred place for Jews, Christians and Muslims, belongs to the Orthodox Church and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We then continue on through the Sinai Desert's picturesque landscapes. **Lunch included** in route. Stop at the **WELL OF MOSES**, a biblical site that looks like a small oasis. We will leave Sinai through the tunnel under the **SUEZ CANAL**. Arrival in **CAIRO** at the end of the afternoon. Accommodation.

**06 SUN. Cairo.-**  
 Full day visit where we explore the famous **Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos** (tickets to go inside the pyramids are not included), and also the im-

pressive Sphinx, which is sculpted from rock. Visit to the **Egyptian Museum** with its ancient art and where the treasure of the Lost Tomb of Tutankhamen is kept. **Lunch included. Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque.** We will take a walk through the Coptic neighborhood where we visit the Hanging Church built above a Roman fortress.

**07 MON. Cairo - Pyramid of Meidum - Oasis Al Fayoum - Wadi Rayyan - Wadi al Hittan - Minya.-**

We will leave Cairo early, we will get to know an Egypt that you probably had never imagined: a country of great lakes in the middle of the desert! Stop (entrance included) at the **PYRAMID OF MEIDUM**, considered as the first pyramid that the ancient Egyptians tried to build, 2600 years before Christ, we are surprised by its stepped structure. We can climb to the door that gives access to the burial chamber (after descending 75 meters) and see the large mastabas that house the tombs of some relatives of the pharaoh.

After that we visit the **Oasis of Al Faiyum**, we outline the great **QARUM LAKE** that allows the irrigation of the entire oasis making this area "the garden of Egypt". The shores of the lake have numerous leisure points for Egyptians. Al Fayoum is also known for "the Al Fayoum portraits", the oldest portraits in the world (today we can see them in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo). We will stop and have lunch at **TUNIS village**, a nice place with great ceramic crafts, **lunch included**. Afterwards we enter among magnificent desert landscapes, we stop at **WADI RAYYAN**, a saltwater lake where rare species of birds and gazelles live, an area declared a National Park. Time for a walk next to the small falls. We continue entering the desert, we travel to the enclosure of **WADI AL HITTAN** -the valley of the whales-, declared by Unesco a World Heritage Site. The number, concentration, and quality of the fossils, as well as their location in a protected landscape of great beauty, make the site an exceptional place. We get to visit the museum with fossilized whales (where we get to see their skeletons) and get to know about climate change.

Continue to **MINYA**, a city of 300,000 inhabitants by the Nile, active and pleasant walk along the river. **Dinner included.**



**08 TUE. - Minya- Zawiyet Sultan - Beni Hassan - Deir Al Muharraaq - Tombs of Mir - ASYUT.-**

We start another exciting day in the center of the Nile Valley. Leaving Minya we stop at **ZAWIYYET SULTAN**, place of the dead, at the foot of a small pharaonic necropolis an immense cemetery with a very peculiar architecture of vaulted adobe mausoleums leads us to feel "in another world". After that we visit **BENI HASSAN**, the necropolis stands on cliffs above the Nile valley, 39 tombs (four are visited) dating from 2125 to 1795 years before Christ and offer us a fascinating idea of the daily life of that time. **Lunch included.**

Following the Nile valley we stop at the **TOMBS OF MIR**, with its nine tombs of the Old and Middle Kingdom open to the visit. The solitude of the place is impressive (practically without tourism).

Next to the tombs we visit **DEIR AL MUHARRAQ**, monastery and place of Coptic pilgrimage, the monks indicate that Mary and Jesus inhabited a cave in this place for six months after fleeing from Herod; according to tradition the church was built around the year 60 "the oldest Christian church in the world".

Continuation to **ASYUT**, provincial capital. **Dinner included.**

**09 WED. ASYUT - Sohag - Abydos - Luxor.-**

We leave ASYUT for **SOHAG**, we are in one of the main Coptic areas of Egypt. We visit the **WHITE MONASTERY**, built in the fourth century (several times destroyed) and powerfully walled, in its construction stone was used that came from pharaonic temples and some blocks still show ancient Gods and hieroglyphics, at the time housed the largest library in Egypt. After that we visit the **RED MONASTERY**, one of the most impressive Christian buildings in Egypt, its ancient chapel of the fourth century, have most of its surface covered with frescoes (restored) that give us an idea of what religious buildings were like at the end of antiquity.

We continue our route to **ABYDOS**, **lunch included**, the most important place of worship of Osiris -God of the dead-, was a place of pilgrimage and necropolis for over 4500 years (from years 4000 BC to 600 AD), there are still many tombs unexcavated. The impressive temple of Seti stands out, one of the most complete and beautiful in Egypt.

Continuation to **LUXOR**.

**10 THU. Luxor.-**

During our stay in Luxor we will get to know one of the most impressive ancient cities on the planet. Early in the morning, from our hotel we will take a **private boat** to cross the Nile River, with its peace and impressive views early in the morning, we go to the west bank. We visited the "Valley of the Artisans" **Deir el-Medina**, a little-visited place, here they lived and are the tombs of great builders and craftsmen who built and decorated the royal tombs of ancient Egypt. We will visit three tombs, their paintings show scenes of daily life at that time. After that, we visit the fantastic **temple of Medinet Habu**, the temple of Ramses II, large and magnificently preserved, its scenes of wars will surprise us. We stopped in front of the **Colossi of the Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenhotep II. We will visit the **VALLEY OF THE QUEENS** where the **Temple of Queen Hatshepsut** (Deir el Bahari) is located, considered the first woman to occupy the position of pharaoh. We also visit the famous **VALLEY OF THE KINGS** where the tombs of the main pharaohs are hidden. Among these tombs, composed of several rooms and corridors leading to the corresponding burial chambers (we include, in addition to the general admission, a ride in an **electric cart** to access the enclosure and **tomb of Ramses** -which requires additional entry-). Return to the east bank of Luxor. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon we visit **KARNAK**, it housed the most important religious complex in Ancient Egypt, highlighting the immense temple of Amun-Ra, our guide will take us to the little-crowded **temple of Khnusu**. We will also visit the **LUXOR MUSEUM**, which shows us an impressive collection of objects and mummies found in this area. After dark we include the entrance to the **LUXOR TEMPLE**, its lighting makes it magical at this time. Time to walk in the commercial area (souk) near the temple.

**Note:** The order of the visits will vary based on climatological factors and procuring to visit the different locations at times of less affluence.

**11 FRI. Luxor - Dendera - Hurghada.-**

Free time in the morning stroll, shop or sightseeing in Luxor.

At around 11am we will leave for **DENDERA**, one of the best preserved Egyptian complexes thanks to the fact that it remained buried by sand and mud until it was discovered in the mid-nineteenth century. Impressive enclosure of 40,000 square meters surrounded by a burly brick wall eight to ten meters high. We are surprised by its walls and its immense doors. Temple dedicated to Hathor, goddess of love and fertility.

After the visit **lunch included** and continuation to the Red Sea. Our highway crosses desert mountain ranges, interesting landscapes.

**HURGHADA**, arrival in the late afternoon. We are located

in the most popular of Egypt's resorts, its hotels stretch over a strip of almost 50 kilometers. Hotel accommodation on an **all-inclusive basis**.

**12 SAT. Hurghada- El Gouna- Hurghada.-**

Full day in Hurghada. Free time during the morning to relax in the hotel facilities or go on your own to visit the large aquarium or the museum of Hurghada. After lunch (included), an excursion to get to know the area a little more. We will go to **EL GOUNA**, a short distance from Hurghada, we are in the most luxurious holiday town in Egypt. Numerous canals and lagoons were opened to access most of the residences by yacht, free time to walk around this exclusive place. After the center of Hurghada, we will stop next to its mosque (we will get to visit it) and walking we will go to the marina, a very touristic and lively area, with shops and restaurants. After free time, return to our hotel. Stay on an **all-inclusive basis**.

**13 SUN. Hurghada - Saint Paul- Saint Anthony - El Galata - Cairo.-**

Following the Red Sea, we travel to two impressive Coptic monasteries. St. Anthony and St. Paul are the oldest monasteries in Christendom, dating back to the fourth century, when monks began to settle in caves and hidden cliffs, at the foot of the Red Sea Mountain. The two monasteries are considered the holiest places of the Coptic church in Egypt.

Between arid mountains, surrounded by powerful walls, the **MONASTERY OF ST PAUL** thrills us, with its orchards and palm trees, and the pilgrims who come to pray at its fourth century's cave/church with its simple murals. After that we continue to the **MONASTERY OF ST ANTHONY**, also walled with its many buildings and adobe houses, its atmosphere seems stopped in time, the church of St Anthony, built on the tomb of the Saint houses magnificent Coptic murals of the thirteenth century. **Lunch included** in service area.

After these emotional places we travel to **EL GALALA**, we will be surprised with the new cities that Egypt is building in the desert. We will go first to the luxury resort located next to the Red Sea, with its marina and water park; from here we include the **cable car climb** (the highest slope in Africa) to El Galala, a new city (its construction began in 2015), magnificently designed, houses a large university. Continuation to **CAIRO**. - Arrival at the end of the day.

**14 MON. Cairo.-**

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services.**

**(Opt. 2) Jerusalem and Secrets of the Egyptian Nile Days 1 - 10 as in Opt. 1**

**11 FRI. Luxor - Esna.-**

Today you will be able to admire the **Necropolis of Thebes**, visiting the famous **VALLEY OF THE KINGS**, where are hidden the tombs of the main pharaohs. Composed of several rooms and corridors that lead to the burial chambers, are among others, Ramses III, Seti I and Amenhotep II. You will also visit the **Colossae of Memnon**, two impressive statues of Amenophis II, as well as the **Temple of Queen Hatshepsut** (Deir el Bahari) and the **Temple of Medinet Habu**. During this day we can enjoy the beauty of the Nile riverbanks. You could do different activities on the boat and at evening enjoy the music at the disco. **Full board**. Night on board, navigating to **ESNA**.

**12 SAT. Esna- Edfu- Kom Ombo - Aswan.-**

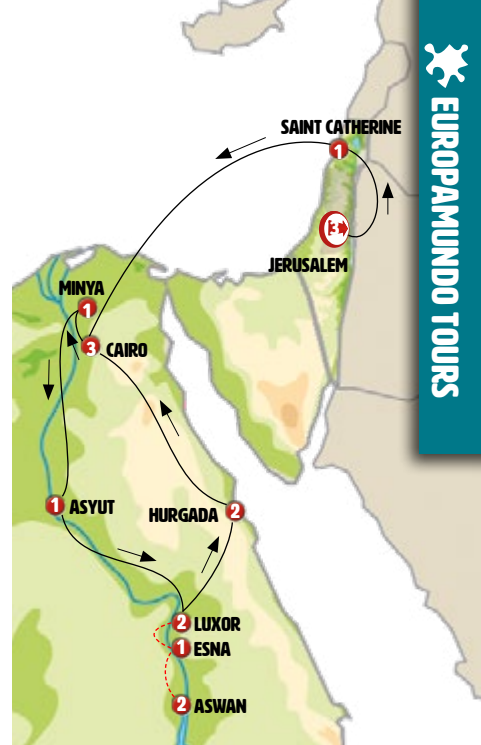
Arrival to **EDFU** and visit the **Temple of Horus** (God represented by a Falcon), which in the past was partially covered by lime during the periodic flooding of the river Nile. The rescue and restoration work complete, we now have one of the most beautiful temples of Ptolemaic times, in an exceptional state of preservation. Navigation to **KOM OMBO**. Visit the **Temple of Kom Ombo**, the only temple dedicated to two gods, Sobek and Haroësis, where we find a Nilometer (former system for measuring the level of the Nile River) and a mummified crocodile. During the evening you will be able to enjoy the Chilaba's party, local typical outfit (on route you could economically acquire them at local markets). **Full board**. Accommodation on board, navigating to **ASWAN**.

**13 SUN. Aswan.-**

Arrival to **ASWAN**. Possibility of getting the **optional** tour to **Abu Simbel** (visit NOT included in the itinerary), located two hundred and eighty kilometers from Aswan, visit the western desert and the temples carved on the cliff by Ramses II during the twelfth century BC, with 20 meters high statues, dedicated to the god Amun Ra, and the Temple of Nefertari, dedicated to the goddess Hathor. Visit the **Red Granite quarry** where is the famous 41 meters high **Unfinished Obelisk**. We will also visit the Aswan Dam, one of the largest in the world, which created Lake Nasser with a length of more than 500 km. We will visit the beautiful **Temple of Philae** dedicated to the goddess Isis and located on a small island that can only be accessed by boat. In the afternoon, a **felucca cruise on the Nile**, typical sailing boats in the area, heading to the island of Kitchener where the Botanical Garden is located. **Full board**. Accommodation on board.

**14 MON. Aswan.-**

After breakfast, **transfer to the airport and end of our services.**



**THE PRICE INCLUDES**

- **Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with Spanish and Portuguese speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.
- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **Includes departure transfer**
- **Excursion:** Bethlehem in Jerusalem.
- **Boat:** Little boat to cross the Nile River in Luxor.
- **City tour in:** Jerusalem, Cairo.
- **Evening Transfer:** Illuminated Temples in Luxor.
- **Transfer:** El Gouna in Hurghada.
- **Ticket admission:** Book in the Museum of Israel, Holocaust Museum and Memorial, Church of the Nativity, in Bethlehem, Monastery of Saint Catherine in Saint Catherine, Well of Moses, Pyramids of Cheops, Kefren and Micerinos, Egyptian Museum, Citadel of Saladin and the Alabaster Mosque, the Hanging Church Coptic neighbourhood in Cairo, Pyramid of Meidum in Meidum, Tunis Village in Faiyum Oasis, Valley of Whales and Fossilized Whales Museum in Wadi Al Hitan, Necropolis of Beni Hassan, Tombs of Mir, Deir Al Muharraaq Monastery, White Monastery and Red Monastery in Suhaq, Necropolis of Abydos, Valley of the Artisans, Temple of Medinet Habu, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Hatshepsut, Valley of the Kings, electric cart, Tomb of Ramses, Museum of Luxor, Temple of Karnak and Luxor in Luxor, Dendera Temple Complex, Monastery of St Paul and Monastery of St Anthony.
- **Funicular:** Cable car climb in Al Galala.
- **11 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Saint Catherine, Moses Well, Cairo, Faiyum Oasis, Minya, Beni Hassan, Asyut, Abydos, Dendera, Hurghada, Hurghada, Hurghada, Monastery Of St. Paul And St. Anthony.

(Additional services Opt. 2)

- **Excursion:** Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon in Luxor.
- **Boat:** Typical sailing boats felucca and show typical dance beduina in Aswan.
- **Ticket admission:** Necropolis of Thebas, Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, Medinet Habu; in Luxor, Temple of Horus in Edfu, Temple of Kom Ombo in Kom Ombo, Red Granite Quarry and Unfinished Obelisk, Philae Temple, Aswan Dam in Aswan.
- **6 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Luxor, Esna, Kom Ombo, Aswan, Aswan, Aswan.

