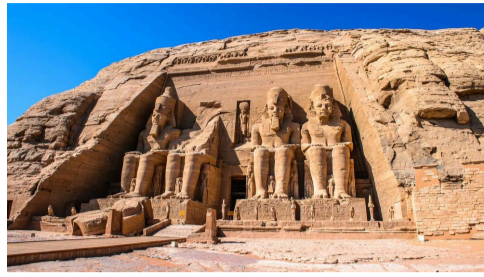


SPLENDOURS OF EGYPT & SUDAN, (ZCK)

Cairo to Khartoum 27 Days, departing 16th November 2021



TRIP OVERVIEW

Trip Style: Overlanding

Route: Cairo to Khartoum

Duration: 27 Days

Transport: Overland Expedition Vehicle, Private Bus, Ferry

Accommodation: Comfortable Hotel 2 nights
Basic Hotel 14 nights
Camping 1 night
Multishare Hostel 3 nights
Overnight Boat 1 night
Camping without facilities 5 nights

Meals: Breakfasts x 26, Lunches x 7, Dinners x 7

Physical Challenge: ● ● ○ ○ ○

Your itinerary may include easy-paced day walks, bike rides, and other activities that are not too strenuous.

Lifestyle Challenge: ● ● ● ○ ○

This trip has a bit of everything. Some areas that you travel through may be physically challenging; for example you may be at altitude some of the time and you may be camping for several nights. The pace of the trip can be tiring at times and some facilities will be basic. However there will also be plenty of time to relax and some comfortable accommodation.



DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1 - Cairo (16th November 2021)

Border Information: if joining in Cairo, you will most likely enter Egypt at Cairo International Airport (IATA code: CAI).

There will be an important group meeting at 10:00am at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting. Your leader will need to check your Sudanese visa or make sure the necessary preparations have been done to pick your visa up in Cairo or Aswan. They will also need to check the Ethiopian visas of anyone going beyond Khartoum.

In the afternoon we will have an included half-day guided visit to the Egyptian Museum. We will go to the museum by metro or by taxi, and be shown around the vast and breathtaking collection of historical relics and treasures, including the sarcophagus of Akhenaten, the mummy of Ramses II and of course the incredible golden mask of Tutankhamun!

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Cairo before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Cairo.

Accommodation: King Hotel A'''

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided tour of the Cairo Egyptian Museum

Included

Optional Activities

Entrance to the Mummy Room in the Egyptian Museum which displays the mummies of some very important Pharaohs such as Akenaten Ramses II and Hatshepsut

Entrance: 100 EGP

Visit The Pharonic Village - a showcase of various scenes of everyday life in Ancient Egypt

Entrance: 150 EGP

Explore the medieval Islamic fortress of the Cario Citadel built by the warrior Saladin and the beautiful Ottoman Mosque of Muhammed Ali Pasha

Entrance: 50 EGP

Visit the collection of Egyptian Coptic Christian heritage at the Coptic Museum and the nearby Hanging Church

Entrance to museum: 50 EGP

See the 9th-century Nileometer on Rhoda Island which was once used for carefully measuring the height of the Nile during the annual flood

Entrance: 15 EGP

Entrance to the distinctive Cairo Tower the tallest building in North Africa (when open)

Entrance: 70 EGP

Explore the scenic Al Azhar Park an oasis of beautiful greenery within Cairo built in tradition Islamic style

Entrance: 7 EGP

Discover the exceptional collection of art from all over the Islamic world at Cairo\'s Museum of Islamic Art

Entrance: 50 EGP

Day 2 - Cairo (17th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will set off in a local chartered minibus for an included full-day guided tour to Memphis, the pyramids at Saqqara, the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx.

We will aim to be back in Cairo for around 4:00pm today.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Explore the interior of the Pyramids at Giza.

Entrance to Khufu Pyramid interior: 120 EGP

Entrance to Menkaure Pyramid interior: 40 EGP

Entrance to boat reconstruction: 40 EGP

See the stunning Sound and Light show at the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx

Price: 120 EGP

Day 3 - Alexandria (18th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will start our journey by travelling up to the Mediterranean coast to the bustling city of Alexandria, where we will spend 2 nights exploring the sights.

Day 4 - Alexandria (19th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have the chance to visit the beautiful modern Alexandria Library, explore various historical sites, and to go diving in the Mediterranean.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a trip out to the incredibly moving war cemeteries of El Alamein the site of one of the most influential battles of World War II

Entrance to cemetery (not incl transport to and from Alexandria): 50 EGP

Scuba diving around the incredible submerged port of Heracleion in the Mediterranean Sea

2 dives: 800 EGP

Visit the Bibliotheca Alexandria the incredible modern Library of Alexandria

Entrance: 70 EGP

See the interesting collections and exhibits at the Alexandria National Museum located in a restored Italian-style palace

Entrance (incl camera permit): 65 EGP

Explore the incredible 2nd-century Roman amphitheatre of Kom El Dikka

Entrance to main site: 15 EGP

Entrance to the Villa of Birds: 10 EGP

Visit the incredible Citadel of Qaitbey a 15th-century defensive fortress on the mouth of the Eastern Harbour

Entrance: 25 EGP

Explore the ancient underground catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa

Entrance: 35 EGP

Visit Pompey's Pillar, one of the largest columns ever constructed in the Roman era.

Entrance: 20 EGP

Stroll through Montaza Palace and extensive gardens in the Montaza district of Alexandria.

Entrance to the gardens: 5 EGP

Head to the Mustafa Kamal Necropolis with tombs from the 2nd and 3rd centuries BC.

Entrance: 15 EGP

Day 5 - Port Said (20th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will follow the Mediterranean coast across the Nile Delta to reach Port Said, the town at the northern outflow of the Suez Canal.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

See the famous and influential Suez Canal near Port Said

Price: Free

Visit the Military Museum

Entrance incl camera permit: 7 EGP

Day 6 - Zafarana (21st November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will travel south following the Suez Canal, then branch out into the Eastern Deserts, visiting the ancient Coptic Monastery of St. Anthony en route.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the ancient Coptic Monastery of St. Anthony in Egypt's Eastern Deserts

Included

Day 7 - El Quseir (22nd November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will travel down the stunning coast of the Red Sea to explore the Ottoman fort at El Quseir.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the Ottoman Fort at El Quseir

Included

Day 8 - Marsa Alam (23rd November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will complete our drive to the beautiful southern Red Sea village of Marsa Alam.

We will have 2 full days in Marsa Alam to relax on the beaches, enjoy many optional activities on the Red Sea, or to take an optional overnight camel safari out into the nearby deserts of Wadi-el-Gamal!

Day 9 - Marsa Alam (24th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will continue to enjoy the activities on offer in Marsa Alam. There are plenty of options for once in a lifetime experiences, both on land and in the sea!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Head out scuba-diving through the coral reefs of the Red Sea

Price: 60 EUR

Take an evening camel safari in the Wadi-El-Gamal desert with the option of sleeping out under the stars

Day trip: 100 EGP

Overnight trip: 300 EGP

Snorkel through the crystal clear waters of the Red Sea searching for dolphins and other marine life

Sharm El Luli or Dolphin House: 60 EUR

Abu Dabab: 15 EUR

Visit the fascinating traditional camel markets of Shalateen on the remote coastal border with Sudan

Visit to camel market: 33 EUR

Head out on a small yacht for a fishing trip on the idyllic waters of the Red Sea

Price: 70 EUR

Head out for a sunset quad biking trip into the deserts near Marsa Alam

Half-day super safari (jeep, quads, camels): 60 EUR

Sunset quad biking trip: 35 EUR

Explore the coral reefs of the Red Sea from a 'semi-submarine', a boat designed with huge underwater viewing windows

Price: 40 EUR

Surfing or kite-surfing on the Red Sea near Marsa Alam

Kite surfing bay fee per day: 60 EUR

Kite surfing equipment rental per day: 79 EUR

Day 10 - Marsa Alam (25th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Our final day in Marsa Alam. This is the time to enjoy relaxation on the beach before we continue our journey towards Luxor.

Day 11 - Luxor (26th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will head to Luxor, a beautiful modern town built on the site of the Ancient Egyptian capital of Thebes, where we will spend 3 nights exploring the incredible historical sites here. We will also try to visit the Temple of Hathor at Dendara en route (if accessible).

Daily Activities

Included Activities

See the remarkably well-preserved painted murals in the Temple of Hathor in Dendara

Included

Day 12 - Luxor (27th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

On the second day we will have an included guided tour around the world-famous Karnak Temple, which is walking distance from our hotel. This temple contains some remarkably preserved painted walls and many awe-inspiring pillars and obelisks, and was the centre of religious life in Thebes. Our tour will last about 2 hours, and then we will have free time for the rest of the day to explore the temple independently, and to visit the other sites in Luxor such as the smaller Luxor Temple in the town centre, and the small but beautiful Luxor Museum, which is filled with priceless treasures from the area.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided tour of Karnak Temple Luxor

Included

Optional Activities

Explore the colossal 18th-Dynasty Temple of Luxor

Entrance: 65 EGP

See the Sound and Light show at the Karnak Temple

Entrance: 100 EGP

Visit the fascinating Luxor Museum of Antiquities

Entrance: 80 EGP

Learn all about the process and techniques of mummification at the Luxor Mummification Museum

Entrance: 60 EGP

Day 13 - Luxor (28th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

On the third day we will have an included tour to the West Bank, which will encompass the Hatshepsut Temple and the phenomenal Valley of the Kings, the location of the tombs of the Pharaohs of the New Kingdom of Ancient Egypt.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the phenomenal royal tombs at the Valley of the Kings on the West Bank of the Nile Included

Visit the impressive Temple of Hatshepsut, built to honour one of Egypt's most influential Pharaohs Included

Optional Activities

Visit the world-famous tomb of the Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings the only Egyptian royal tomb ever discovered undisturbed

Entrance: 150 EGP

Day 14 - Aswan (29th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we leave Luxor and visit the incredible Temple of Edfu, an awe-inspiring temple dedicated to Horus built during the Ptolomaic era, which is considered to be the best-preserved cult temple in Egypt.

We will then continue on to the southern city of Aswan - here is where we will pick up the Sudanese visas of anyone who has arranged them to be processed here in advance.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Take a guided tour of the Ptolomaic-era Temple of Horus at Edfu considered to be the best preserved temple in Egypt Included

Day 15 - Nile Felucca (30th November 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will board a traditional felucca sailboat for an overnight adventure exploring the Nile by boat.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Discover the River Nile by boat on an afternoon and overnight felucca trip Included

Day 16 - Aswan (1st December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

We will return from the felucca to Aswan, where we will have 2 full days to enjoy to wealth of history and culture that Aswan has to offer, and to make optional visits to the Philae Temple, Elephantine Island, the Nubian Museum, and the Aswan Dam. If the group are keen to extend the felucca trip, we also have time to allow this possibility.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Visit the Philae Temple a beautiful Ptolomaic-era temple to Osiris on an island near Aswan

Boat and Entrance: 110 EGP

See the spectacular Sound and Light show at the Philae Temple

Price: 33 EGP

Visit the controversial Aswan High Dam

Entrance: 30 EGP

Take a boat trip out to Elephantine Island to explore its ruins and Nileometers, and to the beautiful botanical gardens on Elnabatat's Island

Trip: 90 EGP

Explore the Tombs of the Nobles near Aswan the rock-hewn tombs of nobility all the way from the Old Kingdom to the Roman era

Entrance: 40 EGP

Visit the the fortress-like 7th-century Monastery of St. Simeon

Entrance: 25 EGP

Visit the Nubian Museum a fantastic showcase of Nubian culture and civilisation

Entrance: 20 EGP

See the colossal Unfinished Obelisk near Aswan, which would have been the largest obelisk in the world had it been completed

Entrance: 30 EGP

Explore the nearby Fatimid cemetery a rare window into the 10th and 11th-century Fatimid Caliphate era

Entrance: Free

Visit the incredible Roman-era Temple of Kalabsha constructed in tribute to Mandulis the Nubian sun god

Entrance: 50 EGP

Explore the locally-made abstract sculptures showcased at the Aswan Sculpture Park

Entrance: 40 EGP

Enjoy more time on a Nile felucca

Sunset felucca cruise: 25 USD

2-day felucca trip to Kom Ombo: 100 USD

Day 17 - Aswan (2nd December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have full day in Aswan to visit as many of the historical sites as possible! Museums, Obelisks, Tombs and Temples are commonplace here. Which ones will you choose to visit?!

Day 18 - Abu Simbel (3rd December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will drive to the small village of Abu Simbel, where we will have an included visit to the phenomenal Temples of Ramses and Nefertari, with a possibility to visit the sound and light show after sunset (if it is running).

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the awe-inspiring world-famous Temple of Ramses II and Temple of Nefertari in Abu Simbel

Included

Optional Activities

Watch the fantastic Sound and Light show at the Abu Simbel Temples

Entrance: 60 EGP

Day 19 - Wadi Halfa (4th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Border Information: Exit Egypt at Qustol, enter Sudan at Qustol.

Today we will take an early transport ferry across to the east side of Lake Nasser, and then head across the border where we meet our local facilitator who will accompany us in Sudan. We will then drive a short distance to the dusty northern Sudanese frontier town of Wadi Halfa, where we will spend the night.

Day 20 - Wawa (5th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Over the next 2 days we will journey through the remote areas of Northern Sudan and the vast Sahara Desert. En route we will visit many ruined temples of the Kushite era, including the Temple of Soleb near Wawa, the Deffufa of Kerma near Dongola, and the pyramids at Jebel Barkal mountain near the town of Karima.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the ruins of the Temple of Soleb

Included

Day 21 - Karima (6th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we continue on our journey visiting the relics of the Kushite era on our way.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit to the Kushite temples and climb to the summit of the distinctive Jebel Barkal mountain

Included

Visit the pre-Kushite Temple of Deffufa a 5500 year old Nubian archaeological site built by the Kerma civilisation

Included

Day 22 - Naqa (7th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Over these days we continue our journey into the heart of Sudan, visiting the incredible and haunting Nuri pyramids and Meroe pyramids of the Kushite era. We will then continue south to visit the Kushite ruins at the sites of Naqa and Musawwarat.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the ancient Kushite Royal Pyramids at Nuri near Karima

Included

Day 23 - Naqa (8th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We have the luxury of taking our time here. As we work our way towards Khartoum you can really feel yourself becoming one with Sudan as you spend time wandering through the ruins of bygone ages.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided visit of Meroe Pyramids

Included

Day 24 - Naqa (9th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Our final day travelling through the desert of Sudan. It will not be long until we are in the hustle and bustle of Khartoum. Enjoy the final hours of desolation and the final night of sleeping under the stars.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the Meroitic temple complex of Musawwarat

Included

Explore the ancient Kushite temple of Naqa

Included

Day 25 - Khartoum (10th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will complete our journey to the Sudanese capital of Khartoum, where your tour leader will have to collect the passports of everyone in the group to register our visas.

Day 26 - Khartoum (11th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

We will have the whole day to freely explore Khartoum, including possible optional trips to the impressive Grand Mosque and the bustling Omdurman market.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Learn all about the Islamic Mahdist era with a visit to the Khalifa House Museum and the Mahdi's Tomb in Omdurman

Visit: 15 USD

Witness the confluence of the Blue and White Niles at 'The Mogran' near Khartoum

Visit: Free

Visit the various interesting museums of Khartoum - the Presidential Palace Museum the National Museum and the Ethnographic Museum

Entrance Presidential Palace Museum: Free
Entrance Ethnographic Museum: 1,000 SDG
Entrance National Museum: 1,000 SDG

Explore Omdurman market in Khartoum

Visit: Free

Witness the spectacular Whirling Dervishes of Omdurman

Entrance: 1,000 SDG
Minibus for up to 10 people out to the site: 500 SDG

Day 27 - Khartoum - End Date (12th December 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Border Information: if finishing in Khartoum, you will most likely exit Sudan at Khartoum International Airport (IATA code: KRT).

Today is the end day for passengers finishing their trip in Khartoum. Please note there is no accommodation included on the trip tonight - please contact the Sales Team if you are interested in booking extra nights of accommodation in order to fully explore and take part in some of the optional activities listed below.

For passengers continuing their journey on to Gondar, today we will leave Khartoum towards the Ethiopian border, staying in the small town of Gedaref.

Accommodation:

ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

The routes, activities and places visited described in these notes are intentions and are meant as a rough guide only. By their very nature, overland itineraries need to be flexible and the regions that we are travelling through are often unpredictable. We intend to follow the planned route but exact night stops and inclusions cannot be guaranteed and it sometimes happens that we decide to make a change to our planned itinerary. This may be for a variety of reasons; climatic, road or bureaucratic conditions may demand it. Changes to the itinerary may occur with little notice so please be prepared for modifications to your trip.

Drive Times

Drive times are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. These are the approximate number of hours that the vehicle will be in motion, and does not include any time taken for coffee or lunch stops, border crossings, photo stops, activities en route, comfort breaks, shopping stops, toilet stops, etc. The times given are approximate estimates only and whilst given with the best of intentions, the drive times are heavily dependent on traffic, road conditions, weather, police roadblocks, and many other factors.

Accommodation and Meals Included

The type of accommodation and included meals are listed for each day of the itinerary. These listings show our intention and on most departures the listings will be accurate. However due to the flexible nature of overland itineraries, climatic, bureaucratic or road conditions may demand changes to our listed intentions or groups may simply decide to amend the plans from time to time.

Optional Activities

A selection of optional activities is listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This list is designed to be a helpful guide as to what is commonly available in each location, and is neither an exhaustive list, a guarantee that the activity is available, or an endorsement or recommendation. Certain activities may not be available on your particular visit and it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. It is recommended to give yourself extra time in your joining or ending city if you would like to participate in some optional activities there. Prices listed are for entrance only and do not include transport costs to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. The prices are displayed according to our latest information and in the best faith, but prices do fluctuate due to exchange rates, season, numbers of participants, and simple increases from the operator, and therefore any prices listed are a guide only and cannot be guaranteed. If you partake in any optional activities, you do so at your own risk and it must be clearly understood that your participation is your own decision and does not form part of your contract with Dragoman. You may be required to sign/complete a waiver form or optional activity form for some optional activities. For more information around activity safety and insurance, please see the Essential Information document.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a real emergency once you have left your home country, please contact us on our out of office hours number. If you cannot get through on the phone, please leave a message with your name, reference number, contact details and a message with the help that you need and we will get back to you. Please bear in mind that real progress or action may not be possible until normal office hours, depending on the issue.

If your flight is delayed, please inform us as soon as you can and then make your way to the joining hotel as instructed in the Joining Point section of these notes.

Out of hours Number: +44 (0) 7985 106564

A FEW RULES

We expect all group members to act respectfully towards our staff and other group members. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Engaging in commercial or exploitative sexual activities, committing acts of violence or threatening violence towards local people, other group members or any member of our staff is not allowed. Any customer engaging in such activities will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited and conduct yourself in accordance with our responsible travel policy. Any customer found contravening such laws or regulations will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

Although we are aware that in some parts of the world taking, carrying or selling drugs, or carrying weapons may be legal, it is not acceptable for Dragoman customers and our tour leaders have the right to ask you to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price if you are found to be engaging in such activities.

ISSUES ON THE TRIP

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local partner straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. If this is the case please contact our customer relations department on customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk.

You may also choose to provide details in your feedback questionnaire which we ask you to complete at the end of your trip, but we do ask you to be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is complete.

IMPORTANT NOTES

OVERLANDING LIFESTYLE

Dragoman was founded in 1981, and has had many years of experience of leading overland trips across 4 continents. Overlanding is all about sharing a great travelling experience with like-minded people. On your trip you'll travel in one of Dragoman's purpose-built iconic expedition vehicles on an off-the-beaten-track adventure along rugged roads, experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up-close. Your journey will be overland, sometimes across vast distances, so some long days spent driving are inevitable - but these will be interspersed with breaks of a day or two at a destination or activity.

On an overland journey, you are more than just a passenger and everyone gets involved setting up camp - we supply the tent but it's up to you to pitch it! As part of your trip, you will be assigned a truck job which could be collecting firewood or water, luggage loading, organising food, stores, etc. Like all great adventures, the more you put in the more you'll get out! For more details of how an overlanding trip works, please see the Essential Information document.

SAFETY STANDARDS

We run adventure journeys in off the beaten track areas, which often have poor infrastructure. You should expect that some of these areas do not adhere to 'Western' safety standards. For more information, please see the Essential Information document

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN REMOTE AREAS

We will be travelling to areas in remote locations where medical assistance will not be available, and communications may be sparse. We do not carry satellite phones on our regular trips. Therefore, if you have a medical condition such as a heart condition that would put you at risk, we would suggest that this is not the trip for you. Also, please be aware that should an emergency occur, there is likely to be a considerable delay in accessing medical care, and by joining our trip you accept this risk.

VISAS, HEALTH, INSURANCE & MONEY

Before you travel there are vital things to consider such as:

- Any visas needed for your trip
- Any vaccinations needed (please consult your GP or travel clinic)
- Organising your local payment (the kitty)
- Buying travel insurance (insurance is compulsory to be allowed to join our trips)

For more information on these topics, please see the Essential Information Document.

EGYPT NOTES

SUDAN NOTES

SUDAN NOTE

The British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) currently has no travel warnings in place that will affect this trip for British clients.

Non-UK clients should check the travel advice of their own governments, as this may be different to the British FCO advice. Australia and New Zealand currently advise 'against all travel' to all areas of Sudan outside of Khartoum. Canada advises against all travel to Sudan and the U.S asks travellers to carefully consider the risks of travel to Sudan.

We therefore ask that all non UK travellers check their insurance policy carefully to ensure they are still covered for this trip (as travel to these areas may invalidate some insurance policies). All non UK clients will need insurance that will remain valid throughout the entire trip before they are able to travel with us.

Please note that there are no ATMs in Sudan (at least none that will work for non-Sudanese cards), so please bring plenty of USD cash with you.

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 27th May 2020**