



TRAVEL PACKAGE EXPERIENCE

# 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh

Bastet Travel | +201550191399 | info@bastettravel.com

DURATION

**8**

GUESTS

**20**

RATING

**5 / 5**



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### Package Overview

<b>Tour Type</b>	Private Tours
<b>Trip Type</b>	package
<b>Availability</b>	Available
<b>Categories</b>	8 Days Egypt Vacation Packages, Egypt Tour Packages
<b>Destinations</b>	Cairo, Sharm El Shekh
<b>Package URL</b>	<a href="https://bastettravel.com/package/8-days-christian-tour-sharm-el-sheikh/">https://bastettravel.com/package/8-days-christian-tour-sharm-el-sheikh/</a>

### Description

Join the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh — Cairo churches, Wadi Natrun, Alexandria & Mount Sinai in one sacred Egypt pilgrimage.



## Why You Will Love This Package

Centuries before Christianity spread westward into Europe, it took root in Egypt — in the desert monasteries of **Wadi Natrun**, in the streets of **Alexandria** where Saint Mark founded Africa's first Christian community, and on the summit of **Mount Sinai** where Moses received the Law. The **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** by Bastet Travel is a complete pilgrimage itinerary through these founding sites, structured as an Egypt Tour Package that combines sacred history with one of the world's most dramatic natural landscapes.

## Discover the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh & Outstanding Landmarks

Egypt's Christian heritage is older than most of the churches of Europe. The **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** opens in Cairo, where the **Hanging Church** was built above a Roman gatehouse in the third century AD, the **Virgin Mary Tree in Matariya** sheltered the Holy Family during their flight from Herod according to Coptic tradition, and the **Saint Mary Church in Zeitun** stands on the site of documented Marian apparitions witnessed by tens of thousands of Egyptians between 1968 and 1971. From Cairo, the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** moves through the desert monasteries of **Wadi Natrun** — active monastic communities founded in the 4th century AD by the Desert Fathers, among the oldest continuously inhabited Christian institutions in the world — before reaching Alexandria and its extraordinary concentration of early Christian monuments.

What makes the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** structurally distinctive is the arc it traces from the urban Christian communities of Cairo and Alexandria to the wilderness theology of **Mount Sinai** — the sacred peak in the southern **Sinai Peninsula** where, according to both the Old Testament and the Quran, God revealed the Ten Commandments to Moses. The **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** also incorporates a rest day at **Sharm El Sheikh** on the **Red Sea** coast, a deliberate pause between the intensity of Alexandria's historical sites and the pre-dawn ascent of **Mount Sinai** that follows. This is not a tour that rushes the spiritual experience — every transition in the itinerary is paced to allow genuine reflection at each site.

## Deep Dive into the Landmarks with the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh

### Cairo — Pharaonic Foundations

The **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** opens with a morning at the **Pyramids of Giza** — the **Great Pyramid of Khufu** (c. 2560 BC, the last surviving Wonder of the Ancient World), the



**Pyramid of Khafre**, the **Pyramid of Menkaure**, and the **Great Sphinx**, a 73-meter monolithic limestone figure carved around 2500 BC — followed by an afternoon at the **Egyptian Museum** on Tahrir Square, whose 120,000-artifact collection provides the Pharaonic context that underlies Egypt's entire subsequent religious history; both the **Pyramids of Giza** and the **Egyptian Museum** anchor the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** in the ancient civilization that Christianity inherited and transformed.

## **Cairo — Christian Heritage Quarter**

Three sites in Cairo carry direct significance to the story of Christianity in Egypt within the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh**: the **Virgin Mary Tree in Matariya** — a sycamore tree in the Heliopolis district marking a Coptic traditional site associated with the Holy Family's rest during the Flight into Egypt, the current tree descending from a 16th-century replacement of the original — the **Saint Mary Church in Zeitun**, built on the site in the Zeitoun district of Cairo where the Virgin Mary was reported to have appeared in luminous apparitions witnessed publicly between 1968 and 1971 (investigated and confirmed by the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate), and the **Hanging Church** (formally the Saint Virgin Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church in Old Cairo), suspended above the twin towers of the Roman fortress of Babylon and housing a remarkable collection of Coptic icons dating to the 8th century; all three are essential stops in the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh**.

## **Wadi Natrun**

The four active monasteries of **Wadi Natrun** — **Deir Anba Bishoi**, **Deir Abu Makar**, **Deir El Suriani**, and **Deir El Baramus** — were founded in the desert depression 100 kilometers northwest of Cairo beginning in the mid-4th century AD by followers of Saint Macarius the Great, making them among the oldest continuously functioning monastic communities in Christendom; the **Wadi Natrun** monasteries directly inspired the entire Western European monastic tradition through the writings of John Cassian, who visited in the early 5th century, and they remain vital centers of Coptic Orthodox spiritual life central to the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh**.

## **Alexandria**

Alexandria holds a unique position in the story of early Christianity, and the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** covers four monuments that define it. The **Saint Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral** marks the traditional site where Saint Mark the Evangelist founded the Church of Alexandria around 42 AD — making it one of the oldest Christian communities in the world and the mother church of all Coptic Christianity. The **Catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa**, carved in the 2nd century AD and descending three underground levels, represent the largest ancient funerary complex in Egypt and blend Pharaonic, Greek, and Roman artistic traditions in a way unique to Alexandria's cultural position at the intersection of three civilizations. **Pompey's Pillar** — a 26.85-meter red Aswan granite monolith erected in 297 AD within the ancient **Serapeum** precinct — and the modern **Bibliotheca Alexandrina**, inaugurated in 2002 on the traditional site of the ancient



Library of Alexandria, complete the Alexandria chapter of the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh**.

## Sharm El Sheikh & the Red Sea

**Sharm El Sheikh** sits at the southern tip of the **Sinai Peninsula** on the **Red Sea**, at the point where the Gulf of Aqaba and the Gulf of Suez converge — a coastline with direct biblical resonance as the body of water crossed by the Israelites during the Exodus. The **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** allocates a full rest day here between Alexandria and **Saint Catherine**, allowing pilgrims to decompress amid the extraordinary marine landscape of the **Red Sea** before the physical and spiritual demands of the **Mount Sinai** ascent.

## Saint Catherine & Mount Sinai

**Saint Catherine Monastery** — founded by Emperor Justinian between 527 and 565 AD at the foot of **Mount Sinai** in the southern **Sinai** mountains — is one of the oldest continuously inhabited Christian monasteries in the world and a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2002. It houses the **Burning Bush**, the living shrub identified by Orthodox Christian tradition as the bush from which God spoke to Moses (Exodus 3:2), still growing within the monastery grounds and propagated as the original plant. The monastery's library contains the second largest collection of early Christian manuscripts in the world after the Vatican, including the **Codex Sinaiticus** (now in the British Library), discovered here in the 19th century. **Mount Sinai** (Jebel Musa, 2,285 meters above sea level) rises directly behind the monastery and is ascended via the Steps of Repentance — a path of 3,750 stone steps cut by monks — for a pre-dawn summit arrival at the site traditionally identified as the place of the **Theophany**; both **Saint Catherine Monastery** and **Mount Sinai** are the spiritual culmination of the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh**.

## Spectacular Highlights of the Journey with the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh

- **Pyramids of Giza:** Private guided tour of the **Great Pyramid of Khufu**, **Pyramid of Khafre**, **Pyramid of Menkaure**, and the **Great Sphinx** — the Pharaonic foundation of the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh**
- **Egyptian Museum:** Guided afternoon covering the Tutankhamun treasury and the broader collection of 120,000 Pharaonic artifacts on Tahrir Square
- **Virgin Mary Tree in Matariya:** Visit to the Heliopolis district site traditionally associated with the Holy Family's rest during the Flight into Egypt
- **Saint Mary Church in Zeitun:** The site of internationally documented Marian apparitions witnessed publicly between 1968 and 1971
- **Hanging Church:** Third-century Coptic church suspended above the Roman fortress of Babylon in Old Cairo, housing 8th-century icons



- **Wadi Natrun Monasteries:** Four active 4th-century desert monasteries — **Deir Anba Bishoi**, **Deir Abu Makar**, **Deir El Suriani**, and **Deir El Baramus** — among the oldest in Christendom
- **Qaitbay Citadel:** 15th-century Mamluk sea fortress built in 1477 AD on the site of the ancient Lighthouse of Alexandria
- **Bibliotheca Alexandrina:** The modern successor to the ancient Library of Alexandria, inaugurated in 2002
- **Saint Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral:** Traditional founding site of the Church of Alexandria, established by Saint Mark around 42 AD
- **Catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa:** Three-level rock-cut funerary complex from the 2nd century AD — the largest ancient catacomb in Egypt
- **Pompey's Pillar:** A 26.85-meter red granite monolith, the largest ancient monolith in Egypt outside of Aswan
- **Red Sea, Sharm El Sheikh:** A full day of rest and reflection on the biblical coastline of the southern **Sinai Peninsula**
- **Mount Sinai:** Pre-dawn guided ascent of Jebel Musa (2,285 meters) via the Steps of Repentance for sunrise at the summit
- **Saint Catherine Monastery:** UNESCO World Heritage Site founded by Emperor Justinian, housing the **Burning Bush** and one of the world's most significant early Christian manuscript collections
- **Optional Israel Extension:** Border crossing at Taba available for pilgrims continuing to the Holy Land

## What You Will Love About This Tour with the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh

- **The full arc of Egyptian Christianity in one itinerary:** From the Holy Family's flight through Cairo to the founding of the Alexandrian church, the 4th-century desert monasteries, and the Old Testament theophany at **Mount Sinai**, the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** traces Christianity's Egyptian chapter from beginning to end without gaps
- **Sites that standard Egypt tours never include:** The **Virgin Mary Tree in Matariya**, **Saint Mary Church in Zeitun**, and the **Wadi Natrun Monasteries** are absent from virtually every mainstream Egypt itinerary — the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** is built specifically around them
- **Wadi Natrun as a living spiritual experience:** These monasteries are not museums — monks live and pray in them today using liturgies that have changed little in 1,600 years, and the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** treats the visit as an encounter with a living tradition rather than an architectural tour
- **The Red Sea rest day is strategically placed:** The day in **Sharm El Sheikh** before **Saint Catherine** is not a filler — it provides the physical and psychological transition between the urban intensity of Cairo and Alexandria and the wilderness setting of **Mount Sinai**



- **Sunrise at the summit of Mount Sinai:** The pre-dawn ascent is one of the most memorable physical experiences available on any Egypt pilgrimage, and the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** includes a guide for the full ascent
- **Optional Holy Land extension:** The itinerary concludes at the **Taba border crossing**, making the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** a natural first leg for pilgrims continuing to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and the Galilee

## Everything Included in Your Experience with the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh

The **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** covers the complete logistics of a multi-city pilgrimage itinerary with no hidden costs. Assistance at **Cairo International Airport** and a private transfer to the hotel open the tour. All inter-city and inter-site transportation throughout the eight days is by private road vehicle with air conditioning. An official guide accompanies every excursion and site visit, providing specialist knowledge in Coptic Christian history, early church archaeology, and biblical geography. The guided ascent of **Mount Sinai** is included. Admission fees to all monuments listed in the itinerary are covered — the **Pyramids of Giza, Egyptian Museum, Virgin Mary Tree, Saint Mary Church in Zeitun, Hanging Church, Wadi Natrun Monasteries, Qaitbay Citadel, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Saint Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral, Catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa, Pompey's Pillar, and Saint Catherine Monastery**. Hotel accommodation with daily breakfast is provided in Cairo, Alexandria, **Sharm El Sheikh**, and **Saint Catherine**. Lunches at local restaurants are included on all touring days of the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh**.

## Conclusion

For pilgrims and travelers seeking the deepest possible engagement with Egypt's Christian heritage, the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** from Bastet Travel delivers an itinerary that no comparable Egypt Tour Package matches in scope or spiritual integrity. From the Coptic streets of **Old Cairo** and the living monasteries of **Wadi Natrun** to the Alexandrian church founded by Saint Mark and the summit of **Mount Sinai** at sunrise, the **8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh** traces the full story of Christianity in Egypt with precision, reverence, and expert guidance at every step.

Contact **Bastet Travel** on **WhatsApp** to reserve your dates and receive a personalized itinerary proposal.



## Included & Excluded

### Included

Everything included in this trip package.

Assistance at Cairo airport

Transfer from Cairo airport

Private road transfers throughout the tour

Guided tours with an official guide

Ascent to Mount Sinai

Admission to the monuments described in the program, if they are not referenced as 'optional'

Hotel nights in Cairo, Alexandria, Sharm El-Sheikh, and Saint Catherine, with breakfast

Lunches at local restaurants

### Excluded

Additional expenses not included in the package price.

Arrival or departure flights from the country

Dinners in Cairo and Alexandria

Tips for guides and drivers

Other services not specified in the program

Visa



## Tour Itinerary

### Day 1 — Arrival in Cairo

The 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh begins at Cairo International Airport, where a Bastet Travel representative assists with arrival formalities and transfers you by private vehicle to your Cairo hotel. Day 1 carries no monument program — the evening is free for rest, orientation, and quiet preparation for the spiritual journey ahead. Overnight in Cairo.

### Day 2 — Pyramids of Giza & Egyptian Museum

After breakfast, a private vehicle takes you to the Giza Plateau for a guided morning at the Great Pyramid of Khufu — built around 2560 BC from approximately 2.3 million stone blocks, originally 146.5 meters tall — the Pyramid of Khafre, the Pyramid of Menkaure, and the Great Sphinx, whose 73-meter limestone body was carved from a single bedrock outcrop around 2500 BC. The Pharaonic monuments of Giza provide the civilizational backdrop against which Egypt's Christian story unfolded — your guide draws these connections explicitly. The afternoon moves to the Egyptian Museum on Tahrir Square, where guided time in the Tutankhamun galleries and the royal statuary halls builds the historical foundation for the Christian sites that follow. The 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh includes this Pharaonic day precisely because Egypt's Christian communities did not emerge in a vacuum — they grew within and against one of the oldest religious civilizations in the world. Overnight in Cairo. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

### Day 3 — Cairo Christian Heritage

Day 3 of the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh moves through the Christian geography of Cairo in chronological order. The morning opens at the Virgin Mary Tree in Matariya in the Heliopolis district, where a sycamore tree marks the site associated with the Holy Family's rest during their flight to Egypt — recorded in the Gospel of Matthew (2:13–15) and detailed in Coptic tradition. The tour continues to the Saint Mary Church in Zeitun, built on the site where the Virgin Mary appeared in visible luminous form to large public crowds between 1968 and 1971 — one of the most extensively witnessed and documented Marian apparitions in the modern era, confirmed by the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate under Pope Cyril VI. The afternoon descends into Old Cairo for the Hanging Church — formally the Saint Virgin Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church — a third-to-fourth-century structure suspended above the twin towers of the Roman fortress of Babylon, whose nave and sanctuary contain some of the finest medieval Coptic icons in existence. These three sites



together form the most complete single-day Cairene Christian itinerary available within the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh. Overnight in Cairo. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

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#### **Day 4 — Wadi Natrun & Alexandria**

Departing Cairo early, Day 4 of the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh heads northwest 100 kilometers to the Wadi Natrun depression, where four ancient monasteries have operated without interruption since the mid-4th century AD. Deir Anba Bishoi — founded around 390 AD and traditionally housing the incorrupt relics of Saint Bishoi — and Deir Abu Makar, the largest of the four and resting place of Saint Macarius the Great himself, are the primary monastery visits, with time for the Deir El Suriani and Deir El Baramus depending on the group's pace. These monasteries are not archaeological sites — they are active religious communities where the Divine Liturgy is celebrated in Coptic, the direct descendant of the ancient Egyptian language. From Wadi Natrun, the tour continues north to Alexandria for check-in. The afternoon allows a first orientation walk around the city's waterfront corniche before dinner. The 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh places Wadi Natrun and Alexandria back to back because both represent distinctly different expressions of Egyptian Christianity — monastic desert withdrawal versus urban apostolic community. Overnight in Alexandria. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

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#### **Day 5 — Alexandria Christian & Classical Legacy**

Day 5 of the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh covers Alexandria's full spectrum of ancient significance. The morning opens at the Saint Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral on the traditional site where Saint Mark the Evangelist landed around 42 AD, healed a shoemaker named Anianus, and established the first Christian community in Africa — the founding event of both Coptic Christianity and the entire African church. The tour continues to the Catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa — a three-level rock-cut funerary complex from the 2nd century AD that descends approximately 35 meters underground and uniquely fuses Pharaonic, Hellenistic, and Roman funerary traditions in a single monument. Pompey's Pillar, a 26.85-meter red Aswan granite column erected in 297 AD in honor of Emperor Diocletian within the ancient Serapeum precinct, stands a short walk away. The afternoon visits the Bibliotheca Alexandrina — the 21st-century successor to the ancient Library of Alexandria, inaugurated in 2002 and housing multiple specialized museums, rare manuscript collections, and a reading hall designed to hold eight million books. The day closes at the Qaitbay Citadel, the 1477 AD Mamluk sea fortress built on the exact site of the ancient Lighthouse of Alexandria at the entrance to the Eastern Harbor. These five sites collectively define why the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh considers Alexandria indispensable. Overnight in Alexandria. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.



## **Day 6 — Sharm El Sheikh on the Red Sea**

A long but scenically rewarding road transfer takes the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh from Alexandria south and east along the Suez Canal route to Sharm El Sheikh at the southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula, where the Red Sea's Gulf of Aqaba opens before you in its full clarity. This day is structured as a rest and reflection day — the Red Sea coastline carries its own profound biblical resonance as the body of water parted during the Exodus, and the clear turquoise water and dramatic Sinai mountain backdrop provide a setting that encourages stillness after five days of intensive monument touring. Guests may swim, snorkel, walk the waterfront, or simply rest at the hotel in preparation for the early-morning Mount Sinai ascent on Day 8. The 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh does not fill this day with optional activities by default — the rest is intentional. Overnight in Sharm El Sheikh. Meals: Breakfast.

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## **Day 7 — Transfer to Saint Catherine**

After breakfast in Sharm El Sheikh, a private vehicle transfers you north through the interior of the Sinai Peninsula toward Saint Catherine — a journey of approximately 170 kilometers through some of the most austere and dramatically beautiful desert terrain in the Middle East, passing through granite mountains, dry wadis, and Bedouin settlements with the jagged peaks of the central Sinai massif rising around you. Arrival at Saint Catherine is timed for early afternoon, allowing guests to rest, walk the area around the monastery walls, and prepare practically and spiritually for the pre-dawn ascent. The 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh designates this as a quiet, preparatory day — the pilgrim who arrives at the foot of Mount Sinai rested and focused experiences the ascent very differently from one who does not. Overnight in Saint Catherine. Meals: Breakfast.

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## **Day 8 — Mount Sinai Ascent, Saint Catherine Monastery & Departure**

The final day of the 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh begins before sunrise. The ascent of Mount Sinai (Jebel Musa, 2,285 meters) starts in the early hours — typically around 2:00 AM — via the Camel Path, a winding route through the Sinai mountain landscape, or the more demanding Steps of Repentance (3,750 stone steps cut by monks over centuries), both converging at the summit where a small chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity marks the traditional site of the Theophany. Sunrise from the summit of Mount Sinai — with the Sinai mountains receding in every direction and the first light reaching the desert below — is the spiritual culmination of the entire 8 Days Christian Tour Sharm El Sheikh. Following the descent, Saint Catherine Monastery opens for morning visitation: the UNESCO World Heritage Site founded by Emperor Justinian between 527 and 565 AD, housing the Burning Bush in its grounds, the Chapel of the Burning Bush (accessible only to monastics), the remarkable Basilica of the Transfiguration with its 6th-century mosaic apse, and the



monastery library. The tour concludes with a private transfer to the Taba border crossing, where an optional extension into Israel is available for pilgrims continuing to Jerusalem and the Holy Land.

Meals: Breakfast.

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## Group Pricing

### Standard Accommodations

#### From May to August:

Per Person in Single Room **\$850**

Per adult in a Double or Triple Room **Contact us**

#### From September to April:

Per Person in Single Room **\$1,000**

Per adult in a Double or Triple Room **Contact us**

### Deluxe Accommodations

#### From May to August:

Per Person in Single Room **\$1062.5**

Per adult in a Double or Triple Room **Contact us**

#### From September to April:

Per Person in Single Room **\$1,250**

Per adult in a Double or Triple Room **Contact us**

### Ultra Deluxe Accommodations

#### From May to August:

Per Person in Single Room **\$1,530**

Per adult in a Double or Triple Room **Contact us**

#### From September to April:

Per Person in Single Room **\$1,800**

Per adult in a Double or Triple Room **Contact us**



## Luxury Accommodations



**From May to August:**

Per Person in Single Room **\$1,700**

Per adult in a Double or Triple Room **Contact us**



**From September to April:**

Per Person in Single Room **\$2,000**

Per adult in a Double or Triple Room **Contact us**

