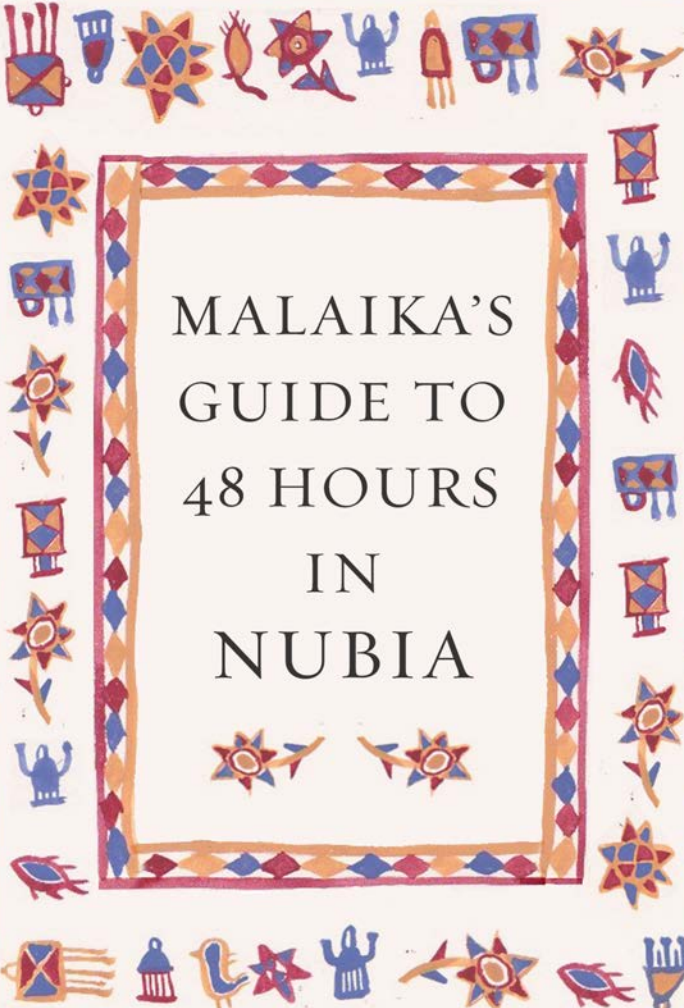



MALAIKA'S
GUIDE TO
48 HOURS
IN
NUBIA





Home to the largest Nubian population, the spectacular Temple of Philae and the best swimming spots on the Nile, Aswan is a laid back and slow paced small city in the South of Egypt. It offers a unique aesthetic and an unparalleled feeling of tranquility. As one of the sunniest places in Egypt, Aswan is best visited during winter months. Still, make sure to pack your sunscreen and hat.

With love from Egypt,

Goya Gallagher, Malaika's co-founder

Keep a look out for our extended guides coming to our IG @malaikalinens and website malaikalinens.com soon!

DAY I



MORNING

Start your day as early as 7-8 am to beat the crowd to the **Philae Temple**. Dedicated to Isis, and located on an island, it was once submerged by the Nile waters and has been re-located by UNESCO. Philae is one of our favourite temples because of its spectacular location and the architectural wealth with monuments of various eras, extending from the Pharaohs to the Caesars.

If you are feeling sporty, take a kayak from the lake and make your way to the Temple where you can disembark. The lake is magnificent with impressive boulders jetting out of the water and

surrounded by golden sand dunes. You will pass by ancient ruins and then Philae appears in the horizon becoming impossibly grand as you get closer.

Recommended Tip: Ask for a **Pylon Panorama** ticket, for an additional cost, to climb to one of the pylons and get an amazing panoramic view of the temple and the Nile. Only you and a few people might be up there, since it's a well kept secret.

LUNCH

Across the temple of Philae is **Eco Nubia**, a lovely eco-lodge serving the most de-

licious lunch and the best views of the temple.

AFTERNOON

Your next destination of the day is the **Unfinished Obelisk**. As its name indicates, this obelisk, if completed, would have been the tallest in the world at 42 metres (137 ft.) high. A magnificent proof of ancient workmanship, the Obelisk was never finished because the stone cracked.

📍 *Sheyakhah Oula, Qism Aswan, Aswan Governorate 1241771*

Recommended Tip: On your way to the exit, make sure not to miss the small line of shops, where you will find the only tourist bookstore in Aswan. Owned and operated by a Nubian family, the well-stocked **Obelisk bookstore** carries an impressive collection of books about Egyptian and Nubian history, culture, and literature in different languages, as well as vintage B&W photos. If you have already been to the Obelisk before, ask the police

guard at the main entrance to let you through or directly contact the bookstore owner, Imam Sabri, to let you in. obelisk.bookstore@gmail.com, ☎️ +20 111 411 9777

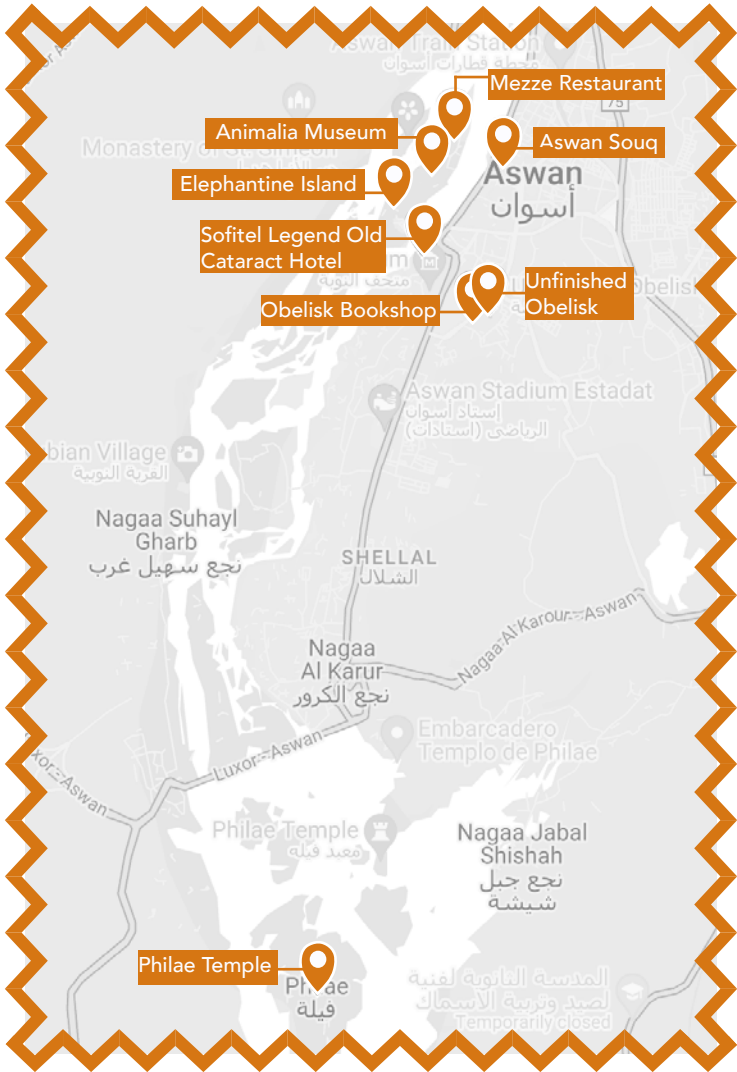
Whether you are staying at the **Sofitel Legend Old Cataract hotel** or not, the high tea at **The Terrace** restaurant is not to be missed. Make a reservation in advance to get a Nile view table. 📍 *Abtal Al Tahrir, Street, Aswan 1, Aswan Governorate 81511*

EVENING

Take a Felucca ride to **Elephantine Island**, where you can visit the colourful Nubian villages there and get to know the people and their ways of life. The island is also home to Aswan's hidden gem **Animalia museum**, a large family-owned house dedicated to the history, traditions, customs, language, flora and fauna of Nubia. The owner, Mohamed Sobhy, is a Nubian guide who can explain the museum in English, French and Spanish, and his daugh-

ter, Fatma, is a specialist bird watching tour guide. 📍 *Qism Aswan, Aswan Governorate 1240880. Call the owner, Mohamed Sobhy*
☎️ *+20 111 695 1577*

For dinner, you can stay on Elephantine Island and enjoy a delicious meal with a serene view of the Nile River at **Mezze** restaurant, located in Movenpick resort. It offers a variety of authentic à la carte Egyptian food. 📍 *Elephantine Island, Movenpick Resort, Egypt*



Mezze Restaurant

Animalia Museum

Aswan Souq

Elephantine Island

Aswan
أسوان

Sofitel Legend Old
Cataract Hotel

Unfinished
Obelisk

Obelisk Bookshop

Aswan Stadium Estadat
إستاد أسوان
(الرياضي (استادات)

bian Village
العقبة النوبة

Nagaa Suhayl
Gharb
نجع سهيل غرب

SHELLAL
الشلال

Nagaa
Al Karur
نجع الكرور

Nagaa-Al Karour-Aswan

Embarcadero
Templo de Philae

Kor-Aswan

Philae Temple
معبد فيلة

Nagaa Jabal
Shishah
نجع جبل
شيشة

Philae Temple

Philae
فيلة

المدسة الثانوية لفنية
لصيد وتربية الأسماك
Temporarily closed

DAY II



MORNING

Start your day as early as possible to beat the heat and take a Felucca ride to two gems off the beaten track in Aswan: **Aga Khan Mausoleum** and the **Monastery of St. Simeon**. The mausoleum is a tomb of the Nizari Ismaili leader Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah, Aga Khan III who was recommended to travel to Aswan to treat his one-leg paralysis in the sands of the golden land.

Next, you can take a camel ride or walk to the monastery to learn about Coptic Christianity's history. On the same island and sand dunes are the **Tombs of the Nobles**, carved up to 18 metres deep in the

mountain where different Ancient governors are buried. The walk down the sand dunes will be enjoyable with an unbeatable view of Aswan's mainland and the Nile - but only if you wear comfy shoes and have your water bottle, hat and scarf to protect you from the heat and sand.

LUNCH

Take a short Felucca ride back to the mainland for delicious yet unfussy and tasty food at **Chef Khalil restaurant**, located close to Aswan train station. This small and popular restaurant serves a good variety of fresh fish from Lake Nasser and the Red Sea.

☎ *Call Chef Adel Khalil himself at +20 106 515 4455*

AFTERNOON

If interested to learn more about ancient and modern Nubian culture and history, head to the mainland to visit the **Nubian Museum**, dedicated fully to Nubian civilization and people. If you did not get the chance to visit the Obelisk Bookstore, make sure to pass by their newest branch inside the museum.

📍 *Assuan, Sheyakhah Oula, Qism Aswan, Aswan Governorate 1240853*

Next, visit Aswan's famous Souq where you can buy souvenirs ranging from Aswan's famous sunbaked peanuts, henna powder, spices to perfumes, dried hibiscus, clothes and customized Ancient Egyptian accessories. You will also find handmade artifacts such as carpets, baskets and hats.

EVENING

Take a Felucca ride to the west of Suheil Island where you can see more Nubian villages and beautifully co-

loured houses. Shop local arts and crafts and buy fragrant spices there. When in Nubia, you definitely do not want to miss a dinner and party at **Anakato Nubian House**. You can have mouth-watering food and drink tea, along with a party where you will experience Nubian music and dance. 📍 *Kiki Island, Gharb Soheil, Nuba, Aswan, Egypt*

☎️ +20 100 212 8478

DAY TRIPS

If you have an extra day to spend, it is totally recommended to go on a day trip to **Abu Simbel** which is located 300 kilometers south of Aswan closer to the Sudanese borders. Abu Simbel is one of Egypt's most magnificent and striking monuments built 3000 years ago by Ramsis II.

WHERE TO STAY

Sofitel Old Cataract
☎ +20 102 222 9071

Eco Nubia
☎ +20 100 123 0755

Movenpick
☎ +20 972 454 455

BenBen by Dhara Hotels
☎ +20 109 813 4393

WHERE TO EAT

Sofitel Old Cataract
1902 Restaurant
The Terrace
☎ +20 97 2316000

Eco Nubia
☎ +20 100 123 0755

Movenpick
Elephantine Restaurant
Mezze Restaurant
Panorama Restaurant
Orangerie Restaurant
☎ +20 972 454 455

Solaih Nubian Restaurant
☎ +20 103 000 0055

Chef Khalil
☎ +20 106 515 4455

WHERE TO SHOP

Aswan Old Souks
Gharb Sohail village Souk
Obelisk Book shop
☎ +20 111 411 9777

Al Batoul, have a traditional galabeya made with the finest Egyptian cotton.
☎ +20 128 316 1487

WHAT TO DO

Nubian Kayak Club
☎ +20 101 358 0235

Felucca
☎ +20 122 249 1997

Nubian Museum
Sound & Light show at Philae Temple

LOCAL TOUR GUIDES

Hassan Amin (English)
☎ +20 100 601 6564

Hassan Mohamed (English)
☎ +20 100 535 4710

Fatma Sobhy (English)
☎ +20 115 360 6770

Mohamed Sobhy (Spanish)
☎ +20 111 695 1577

Alaa Saleh (Spanish)
☎ +20 122 358 6095



Qubbet el-Hawa

Aswan Train Station

Chef Khali
Restaurant

Monastery of
St. Simeon

Aga Khan Mausoleum

Aswan Botanical Garden
جزيرة النباتات باسوان

Aswan
أسوان

KFC - Aswan
كنكاكي

Aswan Museum

Sofitel Legend Old
Cataract Aswan

Nubian Museum
متحف النوبة

Unfinished Obelisk
المسلة الناقصة

حميري أفندي للماكولات
البحرية والتبليبة
Seafood restaurant

Salouga
and Ghazal
Nature Reseve
محمية سالوفا
وغزال

Anakato
Nubian
House

Aswan Stadium Estadat
استاد أسوان
(الرياضي) (استادات)

Seheil Island


Masjed Altabyah
العلم لتجارة
المواد الغذائية

Seheil Island
جزيرة سهيل

Famine Stela
لوحة المجاعة

Abu Simbel

SHELLAL
الشلال



Find us on Instagram at
@malaikalinens
www.malaikalinens.com