



Old Cairo & The Hanging Church - UNESCO World Heritage Site



[Your Itinerary, maps and weather](#)



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History Before Our Eyes

Coptic Cairo is a part of Old Cairo which encompasses the Babylon Fortress, the Coptic Museum, the Hanging Church, and many other Coptic historical sites. It is believed in Christian tradition that the Holy Family visited this area and stayed at the site of Saints Sergius and Bacchus Church. Coptic Cairo was a stronghold for Christianity in Egypt both before and during the Islamic era, as most of its churches were built after the Muslim conquest of Egypt in the 7th century.

This experience will probably amaze you. That Moses was found in the reeds, at a site that you will visit today, or that Mary, Joseph and Jesus took refuge at the site now known as the Saints Sergius and Bacchus Church, make this a very special experience. But these events are, by themselves, footnotes in an incredibly rich history of events and people.

The Babylon Fortress

The Babylon Fortress is an ancient Roman fortress formerly located on the east bank of the Nile in an area known today as Old Cairo or Coptic Cairo. The fortress was built around 300 AD in order to protect the entrance to an ancient canal and it was also a toll gate for passing traders. It is in this area, once swampy and with marshes it has been noted that Moses was rescued from the bullrushes.

Coptic Cairo – The Hanging Church

Coptic Cairo has a concentration of Christian churches that date from the centuries between the decline of the pharaonic religion and the arrival of Islam when Egypt had a Christian majority.

The name 'Hanging Church' comes from the fact that it was built atop the walls of the 4th century BC Roman fortress. It is believed in Christian tradition that the Holy Family visited this area and stayed at the site of Saints Sergius and Bacchus Church.

Coptic Cairo – Ben Ezra Synagogue

The Ben Ezra Synagogue is the oldest synagogue in Cairo and was founded in the 9th century claiming to be where Moses was found in the reeds. It is supposedly where Mary drew water to wash Jesus. The synagogue's storeroom was found to contain a treasure of forgotten sacred manuscripts known as the Geniza Collection. The Egyptian Prime Minister reopened the synagogue in 2023 following restorations.



What You Can Expect From Our Old Cairo Tour

- The places and events that have been an important part of Christianity have an impact on all those who come on this tour.
- The experience is a touchstone with history and in many ways, makes it all real
- The Babylon Fortress, Hanging Church and others are part of a rich history which weaves the influence of Christianity, Islam and Judaism in its earliest years. It is this history which people engage with and which is a great education for all.



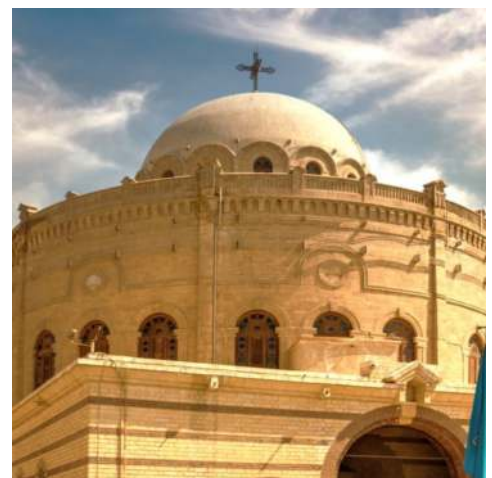
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Saints Sergius and Bacchus Church

It is believed in Christian tradition that the Holy Family visited this area and stayed at the site of Saints Sergius and Bacchus Church. And when you visit you can see the crypt or room that the Holy Family rested in on their journey fleeing Herod. Of course its a moving moment for many people and irrespective of faith, it s an historical event that took place in Egypt.





Cairo's Oldest Preserved Churches

The Church of Saint Barbara and the Church of Saints Sergius and Bacchus are also notable for being among Cairo's oldest preserved churches, dating from the late 7th or early 8th century. The area also contains the **Coptic Museum**, which showcases the history of Coptic art from Greco-Roman to Islamic times.



The Hanging Church

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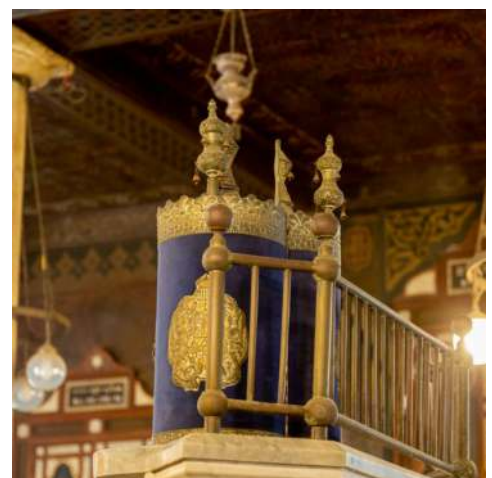
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About Lunch

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



Contact Us

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Inclusions

- Pick up from your hotel and return (approx.)
- Water
- Lunch
- All entrance fees, service charge, current taxes, and vat.
- Services of an English-speaking guide

Exclusions

- Personal expenditure of any kind
- Tips
- Alcoholic Drinks and extra meals (other than those stated in the itinerary)