

# Sheila Guide To Cairo: An In-Depth Look at Egypt's Capital City



## Sheila's Guide to Cairo by Sheila Simkin

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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Cairo, Egypt's sprawling capital, is a city of contrasts. It is a city of ancient history and modern skyscrapers, of bustling markets and tranquil mosques. It is a city that is both fascinating and overwhelming.

If you are planning a trip to Cairo, Sheila Guide To Cairo is the perfect resource for you. This comprehensive guide covers everything you need to know about Egypt's capital city, from its history and culture to its top attractions and hidden gems.

## History and Culture

Cairo's history dates back to the ancient Egyptians. The city was originally founded as a fortress town in the 10th century BC. Over the centuries, Cairo has been ruled by a succession of empires, including the Persians,

Greeks, Romans, Arabs, and Ottomans. In 1922, Egypt gained independence from British rule.

Cairo is a city with a rich and diverse culture. The city is home to a number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the Pyramids of Giza, the Khan el-Khalili market, and the Al-Azhar Mosque. Cairo is also home to a number of museums and art galleries, including the Egyptian Museum, the Museum of Islamic Art, and the Coptic Museum.

## **Top Attractions**

Cairo is home to a number of top attractions, including:

- **The Pyramids of Giza:** The Pyramids of Giza are one of the most iconic landmarks in the world. These ancient tombs were built over 4,500 years ago and are a testament to the ingenuity and skill of the ancient Egyptians.
- **The Khan el-Khalili market:** The Khan el-Khalili market is a bustling market in the heart of Cairo. The market is home to a variety of shops selling souvenirs, spices, and antiques.
- **The Al-Azhar Mosque:** The Al-Azhar Mosque is one of the oldest and most important mosques in the world. The mosque was founded in 970 AD and is a center of Islamic learning.
- **The Egyptian Museum:** The Egyptian Museum is home to a vast collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts. The museum is a must-see for anyone interested in the history of Egypt.
- **The Museum of Islamic Art:** The Museum of Islamic Art is home to a collection of Islamic art from around the world. The museum is a great

place to learn about the history and culture of Islam.

- **The Coptic Museum:** The Coptic Museum is home to a collection of Coptic art and artifacts. The museum is a great place to learn about the history of Christianity in Egypt.

## Hidden Gems

In addition to its top attractions, Cairo is also home to a number of hidden gems. These include:

- **The Gayer-Anderson Museum:** The Gayer-Anderson Museum is a small museum located in a historic house in the Al-Sayeda Zeinab district. The museum is home to a collection of Islamic art and artifacts.
- **The Beit al-Suhaymi:** The Beit al-Suhaymi is a historic house located in the Al-Darb al-Ahmar district. The house is a beautiful example of traditional Islamic architecture.
- **The Khanqah of Sultan Barquq:** The Khanqah of Sultan Barquq is a historic mosque located in the Al-Muizz li-Din Allah district. The mosque is a beautiful example of Mamluk architecture.
- **The Al-Hakim Mosque:** The Al-Hakim Mosque is a historic mosque located in the Old City. The mosque is a beautiful example of Fatimid architecture.
- **The Ibn Tulun Mosque:** The Ibn Tulun Mosque is a historic mosque located in the Sayyida Zeinab district. The mosque is a beautiful example of Abbasid architecture.

## Getting Around

Cairo is a large city and getting around can be a challenge. The best way to get around is by taxi or Uber. You can also use the public transportation system, but it can be crowded and unreliable.

## **Where to Stay**

There are a number of hotels in Cairo to choose from. Some of the best hotels include:

- **The Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza**
- **The Ritz-Carlton, Cairo**
- **The St. Regis Cairo**
- **The Nile Hilton Hotel**
- **The Kempinski Hotel Cairo**

## **Where to Eat**

Cairo is home to a variety of restaurants serving food from all over the world. Some of the best restaurants in Cairo include:

- **The Abu El Sid restaurant**
- **The El Tahrir restaurant**
- **The Naguib Mahfouz restaurant**
- **The Koshary Abou Tarek restaurant**
- **The Zooba restaurant**

Cairo is a city that has something to offer everyone. Whether you are interested in history, culture, or just good food, you are sure to find

something to love in Cairo. Sheila Guide To Cairo is the perfect resource for planning your trip to Egypt's capital city.



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