

# Sudan

## General Info & FAQ

*The following information has been prepared for clients travelling with us to Sudan. We hope that this advice and info will be helpful when planning your trip and will answer most of the questions you may have about travelling to Sudan.*

*If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be pleased to help you.*

*Enjoy Sudan!*

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## LOCAL CONTACTS:

The Italian Tourism Co. Ltd – 31<sup>st</sup> Street – El Amarat – Khartoum

Tel. 00249-183-487961 - Fax 00249-183- 487962

Mobile Mr. *Ibrahim*: +249 (0) 912195130 for emergencies only 24 h or 00249 (0) 922082745

or Mrs *Carla*: 00249 (0)115182451

International 24hrs info service: 0039 331 5416663

Your guide in Sudan: TBA

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### SAFETY

We operate in Northern Sudan, the area from Khartoum to the Egyptian border it is safe to travel -

### TRANSPORTATION

In our journeys we use A/C 4WD cars (Toyota Land Cruisers and/or Toyota Hilux Double Cabin).

### MEALS

Cold lunches at midday picnic style (tomato, rice or pasta salad, cheese, ham, tuna fish, fresh fruit). The meals include international dishes as well as local food. The most common local dishes are: "full" broad beans soup, lamb; "chai", tea with spices or mint, very good and rich of flavour. Dinners are hot dishes including meat or fish, vegetables; pasta, rice or soup; fruit and dessert; tea and coffee available.

## ACCOMMODATION:

### HOTELS IN KHARTOUM

#### **CORINTHIA – BURJ AL FATEH 5\*\*\*\*\***

Nile Road, PO Box 11042

Khartoum

Sudan

Tel: +249 (0)187 555555

Fax: +249 (0)187 555556

#### **AL SALAM ROTANA 5\*\*\*\*\***

P.O.Box 12290 Africa St.

Khartoum

Sudan

Tel (00249) 1 8700 7777

Fax (00249) 1 8700 7788

#### **GRAND HOLIDAY VILLA HOTEL 4\*\*\*\*\***

P.O.Box 316 Nile Avenue

Khartoum

Tel (00249) 183 774039

Fax (00249) 183 773961

#### **CITY FLATS HOTEL APARTMENTS 3\*\*\***

Building No. 2, Block No. 12

Street 49, Al Amarat

Khartoum,

Sudan

Tel: +249 (0) 183 – 499344 or +249 (0) 183 – 499345

**ALHAM DREAM HOTEL 3\*\*\***

Khartoum 2, Almoftey Street  
Khartoum,  
Sudan

Tel: 00249 (0) 183567585 – Mob: 00249924004003

**ACROPOLE HOTEL 3\*\*\***

Zubeir Pascha Str. 11111  
P.O.Box 48, Khartoum  
Sudan

Tel: +249 (0)183772860 or 83772518 or 83778483

Fax: +249 (0)183770898

**BOUGANVILLA GUEST HOUSE 3\*\*\***

339 Alryad Block 21 Abdala Altyeb Street,  
Khartoum  
Sudan

Tel: +249 (0) 18 322 2104

**REGENCY HOTEL 3\*\*\***

Qasr St  
Khartoum, Sudan  
PoBox 1716

Tel (00249) 183 775971

Fax (00249) 183 779087

**AL ASSAHA HOTEL**

Alamarat - Africa St. Front Of Indian embassy,  
Khartoum, Sudan

Tel +249 (0) 15 521 2121

**OUTSIDE KHARTOUM**

**MEROE SAFARI CAMP (at the Pyramids of Meroe)**

Tel: (00249) 915124871

**KARIMA NUBIAN REST HOUSE (in Karima near the Jebel Barkal)**

Local Director Abu Alas Tel: +249 (0) 912823247 or +249 (0) 155745201

**OUR EXCLUSIVE PROPERTIES**

***THE PERMANENT TENTED CAMP IN MEROE***

The Meroe Camp is located in Bagarwyia, (about 230 km. north of Khartoum) overlooking the beautiful pyramids of Meroe. Accommodation consists of 22 twin-bedded luxury and tastefully furnished tents (4x4 m) each one with its own private bathroom hut with WC, shower and washing basin – we provide towels and a small soap (no amenities) -. The Camp is located at 3.5 km from the Royal Necropolis. Each tent is equipped with a veranda with two comfortable chairs to relax in front of the astonishing view of more than forty pyramids. Electricity is supplied by a generator working from sunset till 11:00 pm (*Type C plugs, with two pins, 240 V*). The restaurant has an ethnic look and there is a nice terrace on top that overlooks onto the pyramids, where guest can enjoy cold drinks while watching memorable sunsets. The Camp is managed by an Italian manager with the help of experienced Sudanese staff. With this

permanent facility, this arid region of extraordinary archaeological interest and beautiful landscapes become accessible even to those reluctant to sacrifice their comfort.

*Please note that during your stay in Meroe you will notice that some construction work is taking place behind the tented accommodation. This does not impact on the views of the pyramids and no work will be taking place during the night or early morning*

#### ***THE NUBIAN REST- HOUSE IN KARIMA***

Karima is a small town located on the right bank of the Nile, close to the famous archaeological site at the foot of Jebel Barkal, south of the 4<sup>th</sup> Cataract. The town is a small, dusty and calm village, where a market takes place in the morning. The Nubian House is a charming small hotel built in the typical Nubian style just at the foot of Jebel Barkal, the holy mountain of the old Egyptian and Nubian Pharaohs. It is surrounded by a large private enclosure, with a nice garden and leisure area. Each of the 22 rooms is characterized by a peculiar Nubian door and has its own private bathroom and a pleasant veranda. The decor and finishing have been carefully selected. They come mainly from Italy and provide an elegant yet rustic charm. A reception, a restaurant and a living room with decorated walls complete the wonderful setting. The private bathrooms have WC, bidet, shower and washing basin – we provide towels and a small soap (no amenities) -The hotel is managed by an Italian manager with the help of well-trained Sudanese staff. All the buildings are made with local bricks covered by hand-spread clay plaster as used in the Nubian area.

#### ***THE EXPERIENTIAL PRE SET CAMP***

The camp is located in the magnificent area of Tombos, not far from the 3rd cataract amongst large granite boulders and pristine sand. There are 22 large South African - made canvas igloo tents 3 mt x 3 mt in size and over 2 mt in height. Inside there is 1 or 2 camp beds with proper mattress and bed linen, a small bedside table and a nice mat on the floor. Outside there are camping chairs where to sit and enjoy sunsets, starry nights or simply relax and read a book. Toilet paper, towels, soap, torch for the nights and clean water to freshen are also provided. Not far from the tents, on a sharing base, there are sitting desert toilets and “pump” showers. Meals are generally “buffet” style and are provided in a large restaurant tent. Here all the guests have the opportunity to share the meals while chatting about the adventures of the day. The camp is totally eco-friendly, the light is generated by the solar panels and all the fresh ingredients of the delicious food come from the local nearby village market. On special request we can prepare the preset camp in different area of Sudan.

#### ***OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS***

##### ***MARAWHEELAND RESORT***

This is a 3 \*\*\* hotel located in Merowee, on the eastern bank of the river Nile opposite Karima. It is a nice and clean 86 on suite rooms hotel on the Nile River bank, with garden and swimming pool. There is a 20 min drive to reach the Jebel Barkal archaeological site temples/pyramids area.

##### ***The Mobile Camps***

The mobile camps (bivouacs / wild camps) are prepared with the equipment on board of the vehicles. Accommodation will be in igloo tents (2,20 x 2,20 x 1,60m) with 5 cm thick foam mattresses. For the meals we use folding tables and chairs. Each pax is responsible of setting up his own tent. The guide and local staff will be glad to offer their help in case of need. All the kitchen equipment is available (cutlery, plates, cups, etc). A cook will be in charge of all the meals. Bowls for personal washing are available as well as enough water. NO sleeping bag, nor pillow or towels are provided during the wild camps. Please note that no generator is available while camping, so we suggest to bring an adaptator for car lighter and a portable recharger for batteries (like mobile phones) to charge directly from the car while travelling.

### *Private Nubian house*

Typical Nubian house with some rooms with 2/ 4 beds each, veranda with other beds, western or long drop toilet, naturally sun heated water shower OR bucket water. Normally there is a generator working for a couple of hours, so people can charge the batteries from their cameras. A kitchen and a room for the driver is also available. The food will be prepared by our cook. Passenger must bring sleeping bag, pillow and towel. SGL cannot be guaranteed.

## POLICE, CUSTOM AND HEALTH FORMALITIES

To enter in Sudan it is necessary to have an entry visa prior arrival, obtainable through the competent Sudanese Embassy. The passport must not have Israel Visa.

You will also need the following:

- Photographic permits: Not required for Tourist/Visit Visa
- Passport registrations: we arrange the registration.
- Passenger must bring 1 passport size photograph
- Archaeological Entrance fees – we take care of these

No vaccinations are required, but it is advisable the malaria prophylaxis. During the winter (November to February) there are very few mosquitoes and the risk is very low, but we recommend contacting your local Health Centre to ask for advice. A first aid kit is available while on tour in our vehicles, but it is advisable to carry your own personal medicines in the hand baggage.

## VISA

All nationalities (except Egyptians over 49 years old and Egyptian ladies or children) must have a valid tourist visa to enter Sudan, we support/sponsor visas ONLY to passengers who are booked on our tours or have one of our representative with them throughout their stay in Sudan.

For the visa, we can follow two different procedure:

### VISA ON ARRIVAL

Mainly for American - Australians - New Zealanders citizens and countries with No Embassies. For this we need to receive a scan copy of the passport (which has to have minimum 6 months validity, 2 free consecutive pages and NO Israel visa or stamp) ideally two months before or no later than 20 days before travelling.

We make the due procedures for you in Sudan and when finish we send you a scan copy of the LANDING/ENTRY PERMITS that the clients must print out and show it when checking in for the Khartoum flight. FAILING TO PRINT THE LANDING PERMIT WE SENT, IT WILL BE DENIED BORDING THE FLIGHT TO KHARTOUM.

On arrival at the Khartoum airport they will have the visa sticker placed on their passports. The cost for the procedure to get visa on arrival is per person: 135 USD to be paid to us cash locally for the procedure we did in Khartoum + 100 USD (non US citizens) or 150 USD (only for US passport holders) to be paid cash locally at the custom officer, as cost of the visa itself. Bank notes should be newly issued (not earlier than 2009).

***What to do at the Khartoum airport when you have visa on arrival: When entering the Khartoum airport arrival hall please join the queue for PASSPORT CONTROL - make sure you have completed the ENTRY FORM (if not given out on the flight, please look for one in the arrival hall) - place the entry form completed, your copy of Entry permits in the passport and hand it out to the custom officer. When completed the passport control from the authorities you will be sent to another queue for the COUNTER VISA (this is located in the far right hand side facing the Passport control desks) - Here you will need to pay the 100 USD (for NON USA***

passports) or 150 USD (for USA passports) - pls bring one US\$100 + US\$50 banknotes issued no earlier than 2009). A receipt will be issued for the money you paid. The custom officer will tell you to wait until they put the visa sticker in your passport which eventually will be returned to you and only then you will be allowed to move on to the bag collection.

A note on lines: In Khartoum there are often long lines to have your passport checked by officials. Be prepared for potential delays on receiving your visa on arrival.

**For clients with VIP hall assistance:** Upon your arrival in Khartoum airport look out as soon as you disembark the plane for a sign with your name on, you will be transferred to the VIP HALL where you will meet our local representative. The staff will take care of your visa on arrival and collecting the luggage on your behalf. In the mean time you will be waiting in a comfortable clean hall sipping tea and coffee. IF you have visa on arrival: Remember to take with you the print out of your "Landing Permits" and 100 (for NON USA passports or 150 USD for USA passports (pls bring one US\$100 + US\$50 banknotes issued no earlier than 2009). After receiving your passport stamped and your bags you will be assisted with your transfer to the Hotel.

A note on lines: In Khartoum there are often long lines to have your passport checked by officials. Be prepared for potential delays on receiving your visa on arrival.

A note on baggage claim: If customs will need to check the content of your bags you will be informed and transferred to the regular arrival hall to open the bag for inspection.

### VISA THROUGH THE EMBASSY

We will provide you with our invitation and then apply for the visa directly to the competent Sudanese Embassies, we still need to have passport copies of your clients. The costs for this procedure depends on the embassies.

### BAGS INSPECTION

The custom officer may need to check your bags and in this case you will be sent to a large room where you need to open the bag and let them make sure you are not carrying anything. Once cleared you can go.

### WHERE DO YOU MEET US?

Our representative will be waiting for you just outside the glass door **ON THE RIGHT** when exiting the secure area of the airport after collecting your bags, there will be a sign with your name or your agent logo.

On the top of this info sheet you can find the telephone numbers that you can call in case of need. Do not hesitate to call us, we are here to assist.

### LOCAL PAYMENT

The archaeological entrance fees and passport registration are normally quoted separately in USD in our itineraries.

We are now forced to ask to bring these fees cash in USD directly to Khartoum and give them to our guide on arrival in Sudan. The reason for this is that it is now compulsory for everyone to pay these fees in hard currency (USD) and no more in SDG.

In addition we would like to recommend to bring the correct amount as stated in our information, newly issued bank notes (issued not earlier than 2009).

### THE FIRST AID KIT and FIRST AID TRAINING

The first aid kit on our cars will contain medicinal useful for wounds, traumas as below:

Disinfectant, cicatrizer (for scar), burn ointment, cream/balm for trauma treatment, bandage, sterile dressing, Band-Aid, absorbent cotton and thermometer.

So we kindly recommend our guests to bring all the other personal or generic medicines that are not here included.

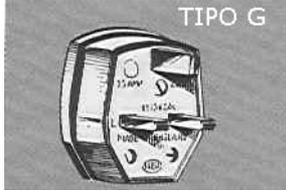
All our guides are first aid trained

## PERSONAL TRAVEL INSURANCE

Everybody travelling in Sudan must be covered by travel insurance.

## ELECTRICITY AND SOCKETS

Type C,G and D plugs; 240 V; 50 Hz



**TYPE C**

Electricity availability:

- At our Nubian Rest-House in Karima 24 hours available
- At our Meroe Camp electricity is supplied by a generator working from sunset till 11:00 pm (*Type C plugs, with two pins, 240 V*)
- Wild Camps: please remember to bring an adaptor for car lighter and a portable recharger for batteries (like mobile phones) to charge directly from the car while travelling.

## CURRENCY

The currency in Sudan is the New Sudanese Pound, the present value is: 1 Euro = 54.67 SDG – 1 USD = 47.65 SDG (Jan2019). There is a Money exchange bureau either for Euros or USD at the airport (recommended), in Khartoum city centre or at the hotel in Khartoum.

Please note that only new USD are accepted in Sudan.

**Please note that credit cards and debit cards are NOT accepted in Sudan.**



## LANGUAGE

The official language is Arabic; in the Nubian region it is also used a local dialect different from Arabic. Very few people speak English.

## TIME ZONE

After 17 years Sudan has decided to adopt once again the Daylight Saving Time. This means that the official time from 1 Nov is GMT +2.

Please double check your flight schedule in order to inform us promptly of any changes. Please also note that our tours will start, according to the day, between 7 and 8 am since sunset will now be between 17.00 and 17.30.

## CLIMATE

The Northern Sudan regions have a desert climate, with high thermal range between day and night. For a trip the best periods are the winter months, from October to the end of April, with a dry and sunny climate.

The ranges of temperatures are:

- October/November and March/April: 30°-38° C during the day, 12°-18° in the night

- December/January/February: 25°-30° C during the day, 5°-10° C in the night

The humidity fluctuations are between 20%-40%. No clouds or rains in these months.

Khartoum may be more humid than the other areas where our tours travel in.

From February to end of April (and occasionally even earlier) there may be lots of "nimitti" which are small, harmless, but extremely annoying flies in the north (Tombos, Soleb area) – these flies are the ones that make the pollination of the palms. We will provide fly nets to wear over the face, and the tour leader will recommend to wear long sleeves top.

### WEARING & Packing info

We suggest light clothes for the day and some warm items for the winter nights.

No shorts for both men and women – No sleeveless tops for the ladies – Sudan is a not an extremist Muslim country, there is no need to cover the women hair (but the hat for the hot sun is recommended) however it is nice practice not to show the legs (long trousers or long skirts are recommended) or wearing clothes which are too tight.

Remember the following items: hat, sunglasses, electric torch with spare batteries, wet tissues, sun screen lotion. Bring your own shampoo, conditioner and shower gel.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

We remind you that it is not allowed to take photographs of military items, airports, bridges, official buildings and in the markets. In Khartoum also there are often problems with Islamic fundamentalists to take photos of the town. We suggest, in case of any doubt, to ask the tour leader. You will take amazing photos in Sudan following the rules.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE SOME PRESENTS FOR THE SUDANESE PEOPLE?

Sudan is a developing country and most people are living a very simple life.

The people of Sudan are very welcoming and friendly, normally they do not ask or beg and we aim to keep the country as virgin as possible for as long as we can, we wish to keep on travelling "light" enjoying the beauty of the country without changing its people.

If you wish to bring small gifts to give to the locals we recommend pens, pencils or markers for children / these gifts are NOT to be given directly to children but to the teachers when visiting schools or to your guides who will ensure that these gifts are given to needy children.

As everywhere in the world, ladies loves perfumes and creams so you could bring small samples of perfumes or creams (the one you normally gets for free at shop will be fine).

On our tours most probably you will visit **Tarabil School** close to our Meroe Camp, to show you how much is our commitment to Sudan...as you can see from the attachment or on website <http://www.amicidelsudan.org/index.php/en/> we proudly support the NGO *Friends of Sudan* and do our best in giving children and their families a better future, as you can imagine, for us Sudan cannot be just business.

If you have dismissed clothes we normally collect them and then we bring them to some refugees' camps.

Normally our guides purchase on behalf of the group extra fresh fruit and we give it when we visit nomads in the desert (they have not much access to fresh fruit).

We prefer having the local guides to give the gifts to nomads or local families we visit, on behalf of the travelers to ensure that locals do not start asking gifts to travelers which can be quite annoying in some countries.

## VIDEO CAMERA / BINOCULAR / TELESCOPE

A special permit is required for filming the archaeological sites. If you carry a traditional/professional video camera it might be that it will be required to pay an extra tax, which varies according to the number of sites included. This procedure can take a while to be organized therefore we require the clients to let us know well in advance.

There can be problems in introducing professional Binocular lenses in Sudan, Custom might not allow this item to enter the country, if so they will keep it at the airport and issue a receipt in order to have it back when leaving the country.

Most Telescopes might not be allowed in the country. If the custom confiscate them they will issue a receipt for the item and return it when leaving the country.

## LAUNDRY

Laundry service is available at Meroe Camp and at the Nubian Rest House in Karima. Please note that we are in an Islamic country and underwear and socks will not be washed.

## BAGGAGE

It is recommended to carry soft baggage, to make the arrangement in the cars much easier. The weight should not exceed 15 Kg per person.

## MOBILE PHONES and INTERNET- WIFI:

The coverage for Mobile Phones is constantly improving in Sudan. In the major centres and when on main tar roads there is mobile coverage.

Internet and WIFI is available in all the Khartoum hotels - outside Khartoum there are some Internet cafe - If you wish to have connection outside Khartoum we can purchase a local sim card with GB for you.

Wi-Fi at our Nubian Rest House in Karima is limited to the restaurant and terrace area, due to high congestion in the local line the WI-FI signal is working primarily in the late evening/night/early morning only.

At the Meroe camp WI-Fi works only in the restaurant and veranda area, Signal is normally quite good.

## ON ARRIVAL AT THE KHARTOUM AIRPORT

There can be long queues to have the passport checked by the officers, and there can be further delays for "visa on arrival" – if this has been previously organized – everybody must have a valid visa to enter Sudan.

After the passport control you will proceed to the bags collection and also for them to be delivered there can long waits.

Once you collect the luggage you will be asked to show your bags receipts and you may also be asked to have your bags manually checked by the airport officers. This is quite normal, they just need to be sure that there is nothing illegal for Sudan inside, like alcohol, pornographically magazines etc. (please note that some normal magazines we read in our own countries may have some images of undressed public characters...and this may be considered inappropriate) – the custom would simply not allowing them inside the country.

Our representative will meet you just outside the glass door **ON THE RIGHT** with a sign with either your name or group name on it.

## RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

We are committed to protect the environment, its resources and the people of Sudan. It is quite difficult to do so in Africa, however in our tours, we are trying our best to minimize the production of non disposable rubbish, we try to be as "green" as possible and to preserve the friendliness of the Sudanese people.

**Support the local communities:** in our properties of Meroe and Karima, we employ only local staff (with the exception of the Italian Manager).

We travel often in remote areas of north Sudan, we visit local houses, nomads' huts and stop at wells in the desert, we have a strong company policy of NOT giving out money for photos etc. If people offer us tea/coffee etc we may (according to circumstances) give small gifts like fresh fruit, sugar or tea, which are very precious goods in this part of Africa. We proudly support the NGO Amici del Sudan/Friends of Sudan <http://www.amicidelsudan.org/index.php/en/who-we-are>

We take care (free of charge) of the local operations and logistic they have in Sudan –

**Go Green:** In both properties of Meroe and Karima we have our own water wells.

Water is the most precious things on Earth – although available, we kindly ask the guests to consider it as a very precious gift and do not waste it!

At the Meroe Camp we have solar panels which produce the hot water needed in the winter months for the showers.

We are trying to minimize the production of rubbish. As you may be very well aware when travelling in Africa, about the huge problem of the plastic bottles/bags which are found everywhere near villages, cities etc. In all our quotations we include mineral water, we are committed to limit the amount of plastic bottles we use on tour, not the amount of water we give to our guests.

#### **PUBLIC TOILETS:**

Last but not least.

Rest stops will be made throughout all our tours, but there are no restroom facilities in Sudan. Part of the fun might be locating your own sand dunes/tree/bush for this purpose.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Please note that it is not allowed to bring alcoholic beverages in the country because of the Islamic law. It is also strictly forbidden to take out of the country fossils, stones and any possible archaeological item. An accurate screening of your luggage will be done at the airport before departure. Fines may apply in case they find something suspicious.

*Khartoum, 04.07.2019*



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**E-mail:** [international@italtoursudan.com](mailto:international@italtoursudan.com) / [itcltds@gmail.com](mailto:itcltds@gmail.com) - **Web site:** [www.italtoursudan.com](http://www.italtoursudan.com) - **Skype:** [italtoursudansedemilano](https://www.skype.com/en/contacts/italtoursudansedemilano)

