

Italian Tourism Co. Ltd

SUDAN

Karima: the heart of the XXV Dynasty

3 days



Day 1 / Khartoum - Karima

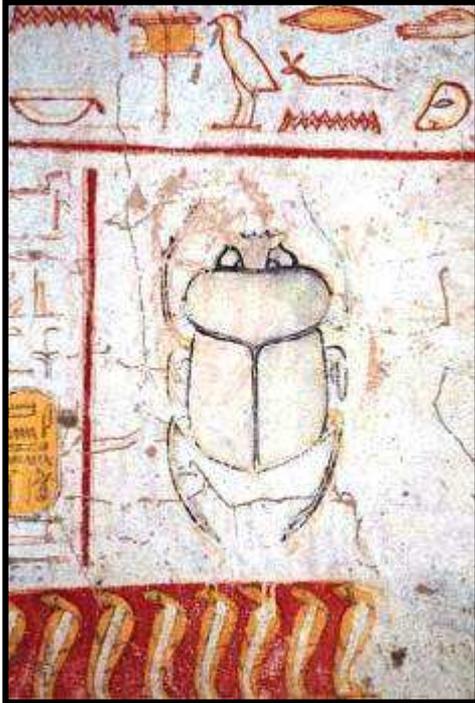
Pick up from your hotel in *Khartoum* and then departure northward towards *Karima*. After 5 hours drive we reach the Nile in the small town of *Merowe* where, on the other side of the river, there is our NUBIAN REST-HOUSE just at the foot of *Jebel Barkal*. Dinner and overnight at the rest house. (D.)

Day 2 / Karima - Jebel Barkal and the necropolis of El Kurru



Landmark in the *Nubian Desert*, *Jebel Barkal* ("*Jebel*" means mountain in Arabic) can be seen from a few dozen kilometres whilst still in the open desert. At the foot of this wonderful and isolated red sandstone mountain, considered holy since the ancient

times, there is a big temple, dedicated to the Pharaohs of the New Reign and to their patron, *Amon*. *Amon's* ancient "*Pure Mountain*", the Olympus of the Nubians, was the religious Nubian heart for more



than 1000 years. Besides the ruins of the big temple there are still several sculptured granite rams that were supposed to border a long avenue that probably led to the pier on the Nile. In the mountain wall there is a big room decorated with bas-relief. The *Royal necropolis* of the ancient city of *Napata*, the Nubian capital (from 800 to 400 b.C.) before the Meroitic period, had a large number of pyramids, located in three different places: few hundred metres north of *Jebel Barkal*; a dozen kilometres southwards from the holy mountain, in *El Kurru*; in *Nuri*, which is located on the other bank of the Nile.

After lunch at the *Nubian Rest House* we then move southwards to the village of *El Kurru* where there is one of the necropolises of the ancient capital, *Napata*. Here we can visit two tombs, which are excavated in the rock under pyramids - partially collapsed - and are totally decorated with images of the Pharaoh, of the gods and multicolour hieroglyphic inscriptions. The trip goes on with the visit to a site, rich in fossil trunks in the desert. In the evening return to *Karima*, accommodation at the Rest-House, dinner and overnight stay. (B.L.D.)

Day 3 / Karima - visit of the necropolis of Nuri - Khartoum

After breakfast, we cross the Nile to reach the *Pyramids of Nuri*. Little walk among these ancient ruins where the pyramid of Pharaoh *Taharqa* dominates among the others. After the visit we begin our journey back towards Khartoum. Drop off at your hotel in Khartoum. (B.)



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 4th Cataract. 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 one of the 22 A.C 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. All the buildings are made with local bricks covered by hand-spread clay plaster as used in the Nubian area. The hotel is managed by an Italian manager with the help of well-trained Sudanese staff.

http://www.italtoursudan.com/prop_nubianresthouse.php

End of Service

Khartoum, July 2014



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