

DINING RECOMMENDATIONS

View the selection of restaurants we recommend for quality of food, presentation and ambience.
Bon Appetit!

CAIRO

Naguib Mahfouz

Khan El Khalili Bazaar

Located in the heart of the Khan El Khalili Bazaar, this restaurant is named after Egypt's Nobel Prize-winning novelist, and it's a convenient, air-conditioned place to take a break from shopping. The coffee shop at the entrance offers drinks, snacks and *shisha* (water pipes), while the restaurant section offers a selection of chicken, meats and mouth-watering Middle Eastern mezzas. No alcohol is served.

Abou El Sid (Maadi & Zamalak)

This unique, cozy restaurant and bar is decorated in the style of a traditional Egyptian house, with authentic furniture and floors tiles, and many original pieces taken from old buildings. The excellent menu offers a delicious array of Egyptian cooking, from a long list of mezzas (small appetizers) to traditional main dishes like veal and pearl onion *tajin*, or Circasian chicken in walnut sauce. You can even try a *shisha* (water pipe). Music is a mix of modern western and traditional Arabic songs.

Arabesque

6 Kasr El Nil St., Downtown

Tucked away beside a tiny gallery featuring modern Egyptian paintings, this cozy restaurant has a menu ranging from Middle Eastern to continental cuisines. Brass lanterns studded with stained glass cast a warm glow on the tapestries that adorn the walls.

Le Pacha

Le Pacha 1901 is one of Cairo's landmark dining and entertainment venues. Originally a paddle boat from the turn of the century, Le Pacha was transformed into a nostalgic and magical place that celebrates a glorious era long gone but not forgotten. Moored along the banks of the Nile along the Gezira Island, the boat features 10 restaurants and 2 function rooms that offer delicious international cuisines, impeccable service and spectacular views of the Nile. Le Pacha has also earned a stellar reputation for its efficient and tailored catering department and a home delivery menu that conveniently brings Le Pacha's favorite dishes to your doorstep.

Le Tarbouche

Le Pacha 1901 Boat, Saray El Gezirah Street, Zamalek

One of a group of restaurants on Le Pacha, a moored boat on the Nile, Tarbouche stands out as a place to get authentic Egyptian home-style cooking in a rich yet comfortable atmosphere.

L'Asiatique

Le Pacha 1901 Boat, Saray El Gezirah Street, Zamalek

A unique blend of modern and ancient Asian décor with low Japanese tables and an extensive Sushi Bar. The delicious cuisine features an exotic selection of specialties from China, Japan, Thailand and India. In recognition of its outstanding food and service, L'Asiatique was voted third best restaurant in Africa, top best in Egypt, by the **World's 50 Best Restaurants**, organized by Restaurant Magazine of London, England.

Maharani

Le Pacha 1901 Boat, Saray El Gezirah Street, Zamalek

Maharani is a poetic word for “Empress” and for millions of Indians it signifies the loved one, the sweetheart, or someone close to the heart. The creation and success of this beautiful restaurant is a tribute to women the world over, who have made our lives richer, more beautiful, wholesome and balanced. We are committed to bringing you the finest and freshest meals, in a beautiful Indian palace surrounding, accompanied by personalized service. We hope while you dine here you will savor many “Rasas” that satisfy your body, mind and soul. If you aren’t a regular customer yet, it is our intent that you will soon be one, a case of love at first bite.

Le Steak

Le Pacha 1901 Boat, Saray El Gezirah Street, Zamalek

This classic French Restaurant with train-like booths, “Garçons” in traditional French style aprons and vests and an art nouveau feel will transport you into Parisian bistros of the belle époque. Excellent French Gastronomic cuisine, an extensive wine list and a water level Nile view combine to make Le Steak one of Cairo's favorite dining experiences

La Bodega

157 26th July Street, Zamalek

This elegant restaurant/bar has been beautifully restored from a 1920’s Cairo apartment, to form a sprawling maze of little rooms and separate lounges. Decorated in subtle tones with an Asian feel, La Bodega serves fabulous fusion cuisine. Music is a mix of Latin, jazz and Buddha-Bar tracks. Although large, the place is very crowded at the weekends, so reserve a table if possible.

Rossini

66 Omar Ibn el-Khattab Street, Cairo, Egypt

One of the most elegant restaurants in town, this former villa offers a classy dining experience and a delicious Italian menu. The soft lighting, elegantly set tables and soft piano music create a warm and romantic ambience. Diners sit on a cozy patio amidst the verdant green foliage, tended by courteous and prompt waiters. The menu specializes in Italian seafood dishes, and has won wide acclaim from locals and ex-pats alike. Prepare to splurge a bit on the main course, as many dishes (like the lobster) are sold by weight at market prices. Vegetarian pasta plates and even a few meat dishes are also served. Save room for the heavenly tiramisù.

Taboula

Shara'a Mohammad Mazhar , Garden City, Cairo, Egypt

The Taboula, is a restaurant known for the authentic Lebanese food it serves. The ambience is very relaxed, with a homely setting and dim lighting, ensuring that you spend an evening worth remembering. The menu too, isn't less impressive and offers an array of starters, and main courses for you to choose from. Absolutely recommended are the fettahs—various toppings covered with yogurt to be eaten with bread or rice. Also the Lebanese salad taboula is delectable and authentic. Various traditional wines are also available to sample along with the food

Tamarai

Nile City Towers, North Tower (2500C), Corniche Al-Nil, Boulaq, Cairo

Tamarai Restaurant & Bar opened in early 2009 this year to cater for Egypt’s thin upper crust. Designed by renowned Egyptian architect Shahira Fahmy, Tamarai features an indoor bar and lounge and a spacious outdoor dining terrace that offers views of the Nile below. It’s reminiscent of Beirut’s Sky Bar, which also sits atop a skyscraper, Tamarai might even be a little cooler because it’s directly flanked by one side of the tower, giving the whole place a Gotham City-like ambience. With fine French food and a DJ who frequently turns the terrace into one big dancefloor, Tamarai is hugely popular.

Four Seasons Cairo at Nile Plaza

1089 Corniche El Nil Street, Garden City

Zitouni

Authentic Lebanese flavors come alive at Zitouni, 24 hours a day. An extensive buffet offers breakfast, lunch and dinner. Guests enjoy a wide range of authentic Lebanese specialties such as breads, mezzas and grilled dishes, prepared by a team of gourmet Lebanese chefs. There are premiere views of the Nile from large picture windows. Reservations recommended.

Aqua

A stunning entrance flanked by aquariums swimming with brightly colored fish leads to a sleek, black stone interior. In this contemporary dining room overlooking the Nile, guests enjoy the freshest seafood with Pacific Rim fusion flavors. The restaurant also features a trendy sushi bar offering selections of sushi, maki and sashimi. There are two private dining rooms for 8 and 12 guests respectively. Reservations recommended.

Steak

This casual dining experience features premium cuts of beef, combined with rustic-style décor and original sepia photographs of rural Egyptian settings. The menu offers a choice of local and imported steaks cooked to perfection, complemented by a range of accompaniments, including salads and creative vegetable dishes. Tuesday evenings feature a steak and sushi buffet. Reservations recommended.

Bella

Bella is the mini-Italy of Cairo. Relish the delectable Italian pasta, focaccia, sciattata and a variety of Italian gourmet dishes at the restaurant. Keeping in tune with the Italian cuisine, the place is also furnished the Italian way with colorfully decorated walls and flooring and a number of pots and vases that adorn the tables. Two large burning stoves are located within the dining area itself so that you can smell the aromas of the delicious pastas and risottos which are the specialty here. So if you're craving Italian cuisine while in Cairo, Bella is your place to be!

Four Seasons Cairo at the First Residence

35 Giza Street, Giza

Seasons

This elegant, serene restaurant overlooking the Nile features a dynamic open kitchen and authentic Italian cuisine, prepared with passion. The interior is graced by stained glass, wall murals, contemporary artwork and a magnificent Murano glass chandelier from Venice. This is the perfect place for a special breakfast, business lunch or formal dinner. Reservations required for dinner, not necessary for breakfast or lunch.

Library Bar

Celebrated as the best bar in the Middle East by *Forbes* magazine, Library Bar is an intimate and informal meeting place with a spectacular view of the Nile. The bar's cigar humidor offers excellent Cuban and Dominican cigars, complemented by the cognac and whisky list. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails are available. There's a limited food menu, which includes sushi.

Lai Thai

An arched entrance welcomes guests into a room highlighted by Thai artifacts, silk wall hangings and gold leaf ceilings, against a backdrop of panoramic views of the Nile. Dishes featuring the unique Thai marriage of the delicate and cool with the spicy and fiery are prepared by Thai chefs. Vegetarians will find much to choose from, and guests may also select the level of fieriness of their dishes.

Aura

A beautiful restaurant overlooking the poolside and located on the fifth floor of the grand Four Seasons Cairo at The First Residence, Aura is sure to give you a memorable dining experience. Tuck in and relish the delectable hot and cold mezzahs, specially prepared Lebanese style pizzas and a variety of desserts. The peaceful and opulent seating arrangement easily accommodates 52 people. The place offers splendid views of the surrounding Nile river and the beautiful night sky, making for a unique dining experience. The restaurant also features an indoor seating arrangement and a separate smoking section. Don't forget to try the wines, which are specially imported from Lebanon

Club 35

First Mall, Four Seasons Cairo at the First Residence, 35 Giza Street

Dining out doesn't get much hipper than this. Club 35 restaurant/lounge has a sleek interior of cool lights and colors on three especially designed floor levels that allow you to "see and be seen" in this trendy yet informal atmosphere. The menu is a fusion of French cuisine complimented by Thai, Japanese and Vietnamese flavors.

La Maison Blanche

First Mall, Giza

La Maison Blanche offers an unparalleled French cuisine experience in an exceptional modern interior design. The venue is divided into several areas including a long bar, a cigar lounge and a VIP area. While each room has its individual identity, the one link that connects the stunning scope is the fact that the furniture is all imported from France for a decidedly French feel. The spectacular cuisine includes high-end French specialties guaranteed to keep guests coming back for more.

Indigo

First Mall, Giza

The spacious restaurant overlooks a stunning view of the Nile, making it ideal for a unique dining experience. Managed by friendly Lebanese and French managers, the place offers exemplary service. Indigo isn't different from those restaurants we wish to dine in abroad, proving to skeptics that cuisine in Egypt is being taken most seriously and dining interior concepts have become a medium of art unto their own. French interior decorator Didier Gomez designed the restaurant's bar and lounge seating area and created its dining concept. The overall theme was modern meets ethnic, with red, natural wood colors and maroons being the dominant colors. Indirect lighting sets off various colored glows throughout the restaurant.

Mena House Oberoi

Khan El Khalili

Named after the famous Cairo market, Khan El Khalili serves light Egyptian and continental meals 24 hours a day. The interior features brass tabletops, marble floors and an intricate plaster ceiling. Tall windows give views over the landscaped gardens.

Alfredo

Offering a classic dining experience with traditional Italian cuisine, the menu is a compilation of authentic Italian homemade food with a strong emphasis on farm fresh ingredients.

The Moghul Room

Incense-fragranced air and live sitar music set the scene at this beautiful Indian restaurant situated in the old palace section of the Mena House Oberoi, which serves some of the best Indian food in town. Choose your meal a la carte, or try the set menus (which are mildly spiced) that give a good sampling of dishes.

Lunch and Dinner Cruises

Nile Maxim

In front of Cairo Marriott Hotel, Zamalek

Admire the lights and sights of Cairo by night, while enjoying gourmet French cuisine at this luxurious cruising restaurant, exquisitely appointed with Art Nouveau decoration. After dinner, you will be entertained by an Egyptian folkloric performance and a belly dancer.

Nile Pharaoh & Golden Pharaoh

B1 Corniche El Nil Street, Giza

Operated by the Oberoi Hotels, the Nile Pharaoh & Golden Pharaoh cruising restaurants offer Middle Eastern buffets, with Pharaonic-style décor. After dinner, a folkloric show entertains you.

Grand Marquise

Grand Hyatt Cairo, Corniche El Nil Street, Garden City, Roda Island

The Grand Hyatt's private yacht, Marquise, offers relaxation and entertainment, whether docked alongside the hotel terrace or during its daily lunch and dinner cruises along the Nile.

Pyramids & Sakkara area

Sakkara Country Club

Sakkara Road, Giza.

This private membership club situated in the heart of the desert offers tennis, horse stables, and an outdoor swimming pool overlooking the open space of the Sahara desert. For dining, there are two air-conditioned restaurants with a capacity of 400 persons, an open air terrace with gorgeous views and an English-style bar with a fireplace.

Al Azhar Park

Situated in the heart of Islamic Cairo, this beautiful park was created for the citizens of Cairo by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.

Citadel Restaurant (run by Studio Misr)

This hilltop restaurant inspired by traditional Cairene architecture serves traditional Egyptian cuisine, amazing desserts and *shishas* (water pipes). We recommend sitting on the large terrace, which has a magnificent, panoramic view of Al Azhar Park and the real Citadel in the distance.

The Lakeside Café

This café is made of a cluster of white pavilions floating on a lake at Al Azhar Park, a new take on Islamic design that gives you a feeling of lightness and serenity as you try the mainly Lebanese food served here.

Conrad Hotel

1191 Corniche El Nil Street, Maspero

Oak Grill

This unique Cairo restaurant serves the finest grilled, roasted and smoked meats and seafood. Using only the very finest ingredients, all dishes are simply prepared in the roasting oven or oak-smoker, the first of its kind in Egypt, making this a truly memorable dining experience.

Jayda Lounge & Bar

Relax in the enchanting outdoor setting of Jayda, the green jade lounge and bar at the Conrad Cairo hotel. Listen to the vibrant electro-lounge music as you discover the new age Lebanese cuisine. Indulge in a stunning cocktail creation while enjoying the Nile views and fresh summer breeze at this cosmopolitan Cairo bar.

Semiramis InterContinental

Corniche El Nil Street, Garden City

El Sabaya

Feast on wonderful Lebanese food in a serene setting of oversized pillows and billowing curtains. The many mezzas are especially fantastic, from hummus with lamb to cheese pastries. There is an all-you-can-eat mezza offer for lunch.

The Grill

One of Cairo's top French restaurants, the Grill has stunning views over the Nile and Cairo by night, plus elegant décor and live piano music.

Birdcage

Everything about the Birdcage is pure Thailand, from the exotic water feature at the door to the authentic etiquette displayed throughout your meal. What will really transport you across the continent; however, are the sizzling sounds and enticing aromas from the open kitchen, where Chef Narong creates Thai specialties such as Garlic Pepper Shrimp, Cashew Chicken and Crispy Rice with Peanut Sauce.

Grand Hyatt

Corniche El Nil Street, Garden City, Roda Island

The Revolving Restaurant

On the 41st floor with stunning Cairo views, this is the highest restaurant in the Middle East, rotating 360 degrees in 75 minutes. The tables are placed around a show kitchen in the center of the restaurant where you watch the chefs prepare French cuisine. Dinner only, starting 7pm. Reservations and formal dress required.

Nubian Village

The Nubian Village offers Middle Eastern and Mediterranean cuisine, including Lebanese and Egyptian dishes, in an ethnic Nubian setting. Puff on a *shisha* (water pipe) as a band performs traditional Arabic music to add to the atmosphere.

Sofitel El Gezira

3 El Thawra Council Street

Vendome

With a complete non-smoking area, enjoy French cuisine of the finest quality at Vendome. One of the famous restaurants of Sofitel El Gezira—Vendome offers good food along with a great décor and ambience. Sample some of the alcoholic beverages, or just grab a mug of cold beer, and enjoy the beautiful view of the Nile.

Buddha Bar

Situated on the edges of the Nile in the exceptional Sofitel, the Buddha-bar gives an incredible view on the mythical river. Its two floors, its various atmospheres and its terrace adorned with dragons give Buddha-bar Cairo an outstanding personality.

Kababgy

Cairo's best address for traditional barbecue and oriental atmosphere right on the banks of the Nile with live entertainment.

LUXOR

1886

Sofitel Winter Palace, Corniche El Nile Street, Luxor

The 1886 Restaurant (this heritage hotel's five-star restaurant named after its inauguration year) serves French cuisine in an elegant, candlelit atmosphere with sparkly chandeliers, mirrors, silver service and evocative live music from the talented guitarist. Reservations are recommended and a jacket or tie for gentlemen is required.

Hilton Luxor

Rosetta

With beautiful, contemporary interiors inspired by the Rosetta Stone, this relaxed main restaurant at the Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa features both banquette seating and cozy booths for intimate dining. Begin the day with a famous Hilton breakfast and a glass of exotic fruit juice as you overlook the Nile.

Silk Road

Treat your taste buds to a fine dining experience in exquisite surroundings at the elegant Silk Road. Explore exotic eastern cuisine, savoring an array of delicacies from all over Asia, such as delicately spiced Indian curries and aromatic Malaysian soups.

Sunset Lounge & Terrace

Marvel at stunning Nile views as you sip a cocktail and recline on soft, shaded outdoor seating at the Sunset Lounge & Terrace at the Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa. When the evening turns cooler, enjoy live entertainment and delicious traditional snacks indoors.

Sonesta St. George Hotel Luxor

Corniche El Nil Street, Luxor

Beban

This à la carte restaurant overlooks the Nile and swimming pool of the Sonesta St. George Hotel, serving Italian fare for lunch and dinner.

ASWAN

Moevenpick Aswan

Orangerie

The Orangerie, with views over the pool and gardens, offers the famous Mövenpick buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner. If you prefer, you can choose from our à la carte selection of local and international dishes.

A friendly, air-conditioned restaurant decorated in arabesque tiles, serving tasty set meals based around fish, kebab, pigeon or rice-stuffed vegetables. Popular with Egyptian families and tourists alike. No alcohol.

Sofitel Legend Old Cataract

El Saraya Restaurant

This refreshing restaurant has the option of both indoor and outdoor seating, with views overlooking the Nile at the Palace. It offers breakfast, lunch and dinner and is located on the Ground Floor of the Palace.

1902 Fine Dining Restaurant

The beautiful 1902 Fine Dining Restaurant – open only for dinner - offers an exquisite dining experience featuring gourmet Oriental and international dishes. The restaurant, in the South Wing on the Ground Floor of the Palace, is steeped in history and the Thousand and One Nights ambience will ensure an original and elegant experience.

Oriental Kebabgy Restaurant

The spectacular terrace of this Egyptian-Lebanese Restaurant is the perfect setting to sample the delights of Middle Eastern cuisine.

The Terrace

Known only as The Terrace, this beautiful eatery has a spectacular terrace area which offers sweeping views of the Nile. The perfect place for sunset afternoon tea and snacks.