

A full-page photograph of a desert landscape at night. In the center, a person stands on a small rock peak with their arms raised, silhouetted against the sky. The sky is filled with the Milky Way galaxy, showing a dense band of stars and colorful nebulae in shades of orange, yellow, and blue. Large, dark rock formations are visible on either side of the person. The foreground is dark and rocky.

**EGYPT
LANDSCAPE & ASTRO
PHOTOGRAPHY**

“Recognise that the very molecules that make up your body, the atoms that construct the molecules, are traceable to the crucibles that were once the centres of high mass stars that exploded their chemically rich guts into the galaxy, enriching pristine gas clouds with the chemistry of life. So that we are all connected to each other biologically, to the earth chemically and to the rest of the universe atomically. That’s kinda cool! That makes me smile and I actually feel quite large at the end of that. It’s not that we are better than the universe, we are part of the universe. We are in the universe and the universe is in us.”

I am not a Photographer! Can I still join the tour?

One of the most common questions I hear is, "I am not a photographer... Can I still join your tours?" And let me tell you, the answer to this is a resounding **YES!**

You really don't need to be a pro with an expensive camera or have an advanced understanding of photography to come along on any of my adventures.

If the thought of witnessing wildlife in its natural habitat or gazing up at the stars ignites that spark of joy in you, then you're more than welcome to join ANY of my tours! Photography tours are less about snapping award-winning shots and more about sharing those awe-inspiring moments together as a group that truly values nature over luxury. We want enthusiastic companions who'd rather wake up at 2 AM for a chance to catch sight of the Milky Way than complain about their hard bed.

Sure, we do our best to provide clean toilets, comfy beds, and delicious food; but let's be real—sometimes we might need to sacrifice comfort just a tad while we venture into remote areas in search of rare and lesser-explored species. So grab your sense of adventure and come ready for unforgettable experiences—your love for wildlife and starry nights is all that matters here!

Why with Saleel?

If you are a nature enthusiast looking for an unforgettable adventure that intertwines the thrill of wildlife encounters with the breathtaking art of astrophotography, Saleel is your ultimate guide!

With over a decade steeped in the world of photography, he has mastered the delicate craft of identifying prime locations and perfect timing to capture awe-inspiring images. Thanks to Saleel's extensive network of seasoned naturalists, guides, and safari drivers who share real-time insights about animal movements and sightings and also keep on updating Saleel about the lesser explore locations.

This vibrant web of communication means you can leave behind all planning stress; instead, immerse yourself entirely in your passion for photography as Saleel leads you directly to nature's canvas at its most dramatic moments. But that's not all—Saleel thrives on sharing his wealth of knowledge! His enthusiasm radiates as he unveils trade secrets on composition or techniques tailored specifically for capturing elusive wildlife or stunning celestial scenes above.

As twilight descends and stars begin their dance across the sky, you'll find that under Saleel's mentorship, every click becomes a masterpiece waiting to unfold. Excitement bubbles at every turn when you're fortunate enough to journey alongside this passionate expert—where each moment spent together promises not just photographs but vivid stories etched into your memory forever!



Egypt

Expedition 2025

ROAD MAP

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

LIBYA



SUDAN

Map is only for representational purposes, not to scale.

Day 1

Arrival in Cairo
Proceed to Aguabat Valley

Day 2

White Desert Natural Park

Day 3

Crystal Mountain

Day 4

Abu Muharrik Dune Belt

Day 5

Drop to Cairo and fly back



Arrival in Egypt

We recommend you to land in Cairo International Airport latest by 6:30 in the morning, where your thrilling adventure begins!

As soon as you touch down, our friendly team member will be eagerly awaiting your arrival to whisk you away on an unforgettable journey.

Buckle up for a scenic drive as we traverse the breathtaking landscapes from Cairo to Aguabat Valley - a distance of roughly 5 hours filled with stunning vistas and glimpses of local life.

Agabat, known as the ‘Beautiful Valley’, is a hidden gem nestled within the vast expanse of Egypt's Western Desert, where nature’s artistry unfolds in breathtaking splendor. This diminutive valley, despite its size compared to the grand Bahariya area, captivates with an allure that beckons explorers and dreamers alike.

Adding to this marvel is a fascinating remnant of history: centuries ago, a riverbed snaked through what was once at Agabat's lowest point—a peculiar placement that allowed water to flow forth from its depths as if summoned by some arcane force of nature!



5 Hrs



Camping in Aguabat Valley



B | L | D

AGUABAT VALLEY

WHITE DESERT NATURAL PARK

CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN

ABU MUHARRIK DUNE BELT

CAIRO



DAY 1



White Desert Natural Park

Nestled just slightly northwest of Egypt's vibrant heart lies the enchanting White Desert National Park, a surreal gem that beckons adventurers and nature lovers alike to explore its vast expanse of 115.8 square miles (300 sq km).

Imagine stepping into a realm where white sands glisten under the blazing sun, contrasting strikingly against the warm hues of an orange sandy base.

This mesmerising landscape is part of the Farafra depression in the Sahara Desert, which plays host to unique oases like Farafra Oasis, Ain El Maqfi Oasis, and Ain El Wadi Oasis. As you traverse this magnificent park, you'll encounter bizarre rock formations that rise dramatically from the earth—majestic spires sculpted by time and wind from pure white calcium and shimmering quartz crystals amid limestone deposits.

The very essence of desolation resides here; despite being enveloped by such breathtaking beauty, this area has one of Egypt's lowest populations—a stark reminder of nature's raw power over human presence. Adventurers are drawn here not only for its stunning scenery but also for thrilling explorations into the Great Sand Sea nearby—a desert playground filled with endless dunes waiting to reveal their secrets!



3 Hrs



Camping in White Desert



B | L | D

AGUABAT VALLEY

WHITE DESERT NATURAL PARK

CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN

ABU MUHARRIK DUNE BELT

CAIRO



DAY 2



Crystal Mountain

Crystal Mountain Egypt, a fairytale mountain that sparkles under the relentless sun of the Western Desert.

Imagine approaching this ridge, not as a towering peak but as an ethereal wave of shimmering calcite crystal that seems to dance across the horizon. As you draw closer, each glimmering facet of quartz captures the blazing sunlight, creating an otherworldly spectacle reminiscent of fairy tales where magical realms come alive.

This geological marvel is no mere mountain; it is an ancient Paleo formation, pushed from deep within the earth's embrace to reveal its stunning crystalline beauty—an ever-changing canvas shaped by wind and time. The very name "Crystal Mountain" springs from Arabic roots that intertwine with elegance and meaning, referring to its unique geological formation while captivating all who venture near.

Here in this mystical landscape, one cannot help but feel transported into another world—a realm where nature's artistry reigns supreme amidst golden sands and endless skies!



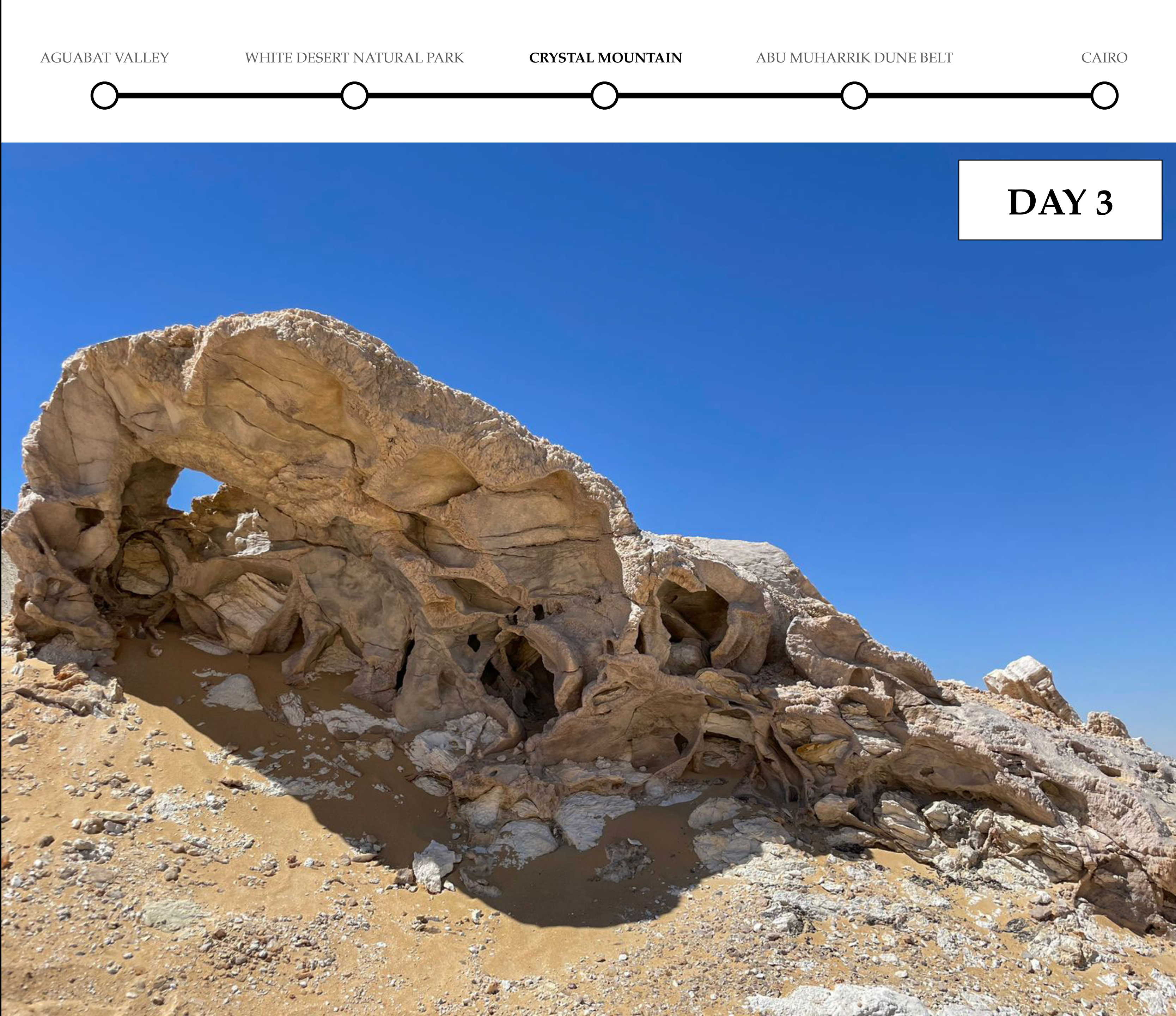
3 Hrs



Al Haiz Ecolodge



B | L | D



AGUABAT VALLEY

WHITE DESERT NATURAL PARK

CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN

ABU MUHARRIK DUNE BELT

CAIRO



DAY 3

Abu Muharrik Dune

Welcome to the mesmerizing expanse of Ghurd Abu Muharrik, or “Father of Movement,” where adventure beckons like the shimmering waves of golden sand stretching over 600 kilometres in the heart of Egypt's Western/Libyan Desert.

As we leave asphalt behind and plunge into this uncharted wilderness devoid of roads or civilisation, each night spent under a blanket adorned with countless stars becomes a spellbinding experience steeped in ancient tales whispered by Bedouins who have traversed these lands for centuries.

Imagine sipping steaming campfire meals amidst diverse landscapes that shift from towering dunes to rocky outcrops—each location reveals nature’s artistry while evoking echoes from ages past when travel was measured not in miles but in moments shared beneath the expansive canvas above. From our stashed supplies ensuring comfort along this rugged route to the intoxicating silence broken only by soft desert winds and mirthful laughter around warm flames,

Ghurd Abu Muharrik offers more than just an escape; it invites you on an odyssey—a profound reconnection with yourself amid some



3 Hrs



Camping at Abu Muharrik Dune



B | L | D

AGUABAT VALLEY

WHITE DESERT NATURAL PARK

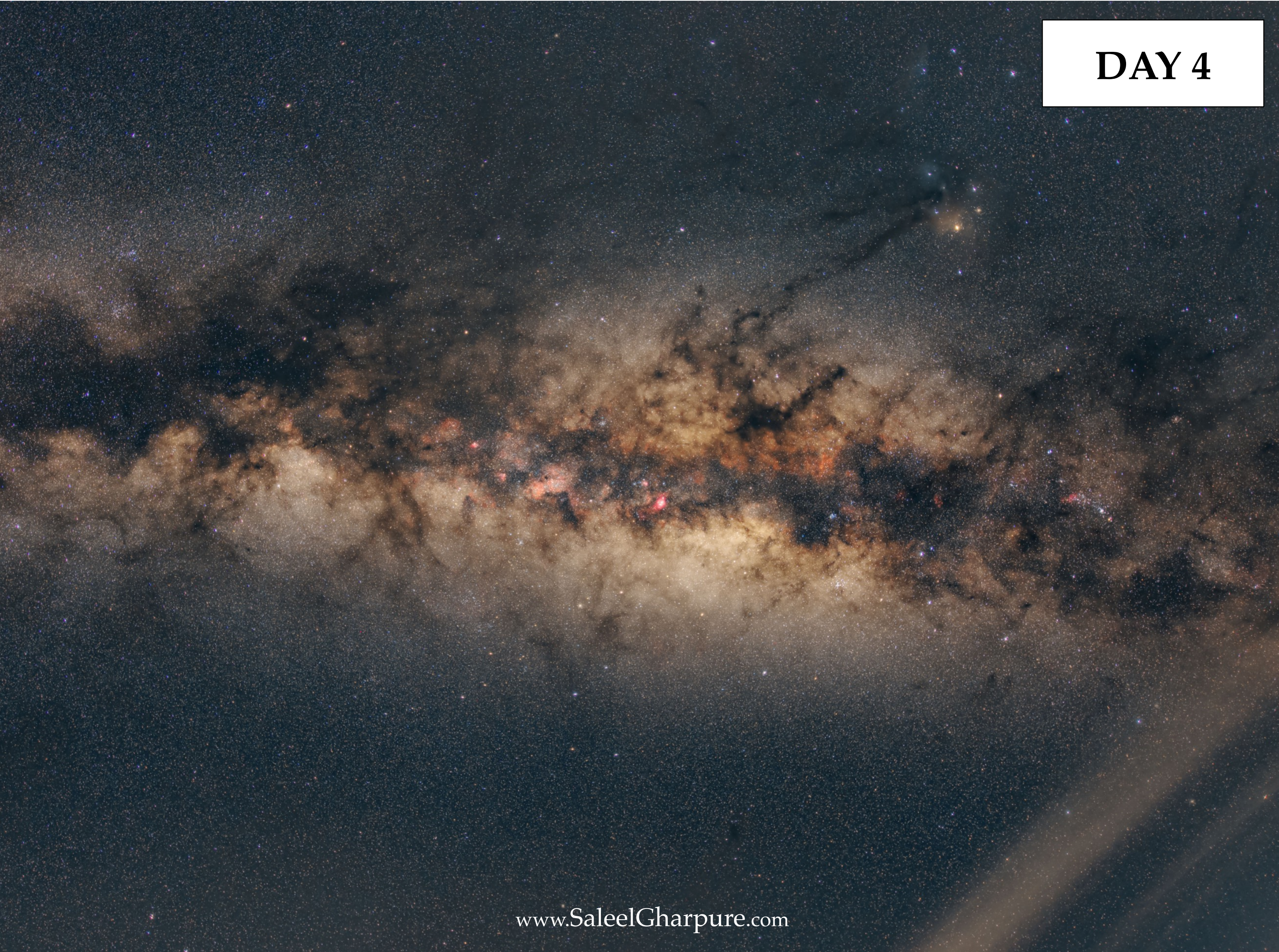
CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN

ABU MUHARRIK DUNE BELT

CAIRO



DAY 4



Drop-off at Cairo Airport

As the sun rises over the breathtaking expanse of Sahara desert, painting the sky with hues of gold and amber, we embark on our final adventure: for shooting the last SUNRISE of the trip.

The brilliant dawn casts ethereal shadows on the rolling dunes, transforming them into waves of molten light that beckon us to seize this moment forever. After indulging in a hearty breakfast infused with flavours reminiscent of Egypt's rich culinary heritage, it's time for checkout; our bittersweet farewell to this pristine land is tinged with nostalgia as we pack away not just souvenirs but also moments etched in laughter and discovery.

We hop aboard our vehicle for Cairo, where whispers of bustling bazaars await us—a journey that will whisk us away in about 5 hours! By noon, we'll reach the airport for our return journey saying goodbye to all the participants who have become friends through shared adventures under these endless skies; their smiles are now woven into our tapestry of memories as we prepare to leave behind this magical realm filled with ancient stories waiting to be told again.



5 Hrs



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B | - | -

AGUABAT VALLEY

WHITE DESERT NATURAL PARK

CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN

ABY MUHARRIK DUNE BELT

CAIRO



DAY 5





04 Apr - 08 Apr 2027



**Limited to only
7 Participants**



USD 1,500 PP
**GST + TCS additional on equivalent
amount in INR**

INCUSIONS

- Stay on twin sharing basis in the camps as per itinerary on full board basis.
- Cairo Airport pickup, all surface transfers, drop to Cairo on the last day of the tour
- Unlimited Mileage during day time for scouting in 4X4 Land Cruisers
- All meals from Lunch on Day 1 to Breakfast on Day 5
- Natural Park permits and Military permissions
- Solar light panels, GPS marking equipment, satellite phone, USB charging ports, Camping equipment
- On-field and In-door photography guidance by Saleel
- Tips for guides and drivers

EXCLUSIONS

- International flight ticket
- Visa, Insurance, Vaccination,
- Stay in Cairo before or after the tour
- Any sightseeing which is not a part of the itinerary
- Any expenses of personal nature like laundry, Local sim card, Drinks, and room service ordered items
- Cost incidental to any change in the itinerary / stay on account of flight cancellation due to bad weather, illness, roadblocks or any factors beyond our control
- Optional activities like Hot Air Ballon ride, Pyramid visit etc.
- Anything not specifically mentioned under the prices included above

 Bank Details for Online fund transfer

Bank Details For Online Fund Transfer

For INR transactions,

Bank Name : The Federal Bank
Account Name : The Urban Trails
Account Number : 13830200019276
Branch Name : Naupada, Thane
IFSC Code : FDRL0001383
[FDRL (zero)(zero)(zero)(one)(three)(eight)(three)]

For USD transactions,

Bank Name : The Federal Bank
Account Name : The Urban Trails
Account Number : 13831300000059
IFSC Code : FDRL0001383
SWIFT CODE : FDRLINBBIBD

Payment schedule for EMI option

Booking Amount	INR equivalent to 50% USD + 5% GST of the tour cost	AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION
Final Payment	INR equivalent to 50% USD + 5% GST of the tour cost	ON OR BEFORE 15.12.2026

GST @5% is additional on all payments done in INR & 20% TCS APPLICABLE FOR ALL INDIAN CITIZEN

The calculated amount in INR will be based on prevailing exchange rate. Cost in INR may vary in case of change in exchange rate while we transfer the amount to Kenya. The exchange rate will be calculated on the day, last payment is made! Difference in the exchange rate if any, will be adjusted accordingly in your last instalment.

Documents required for Booking

- PASSPORT COPY
- PAN CARD (MUST) FOR INDIANS
- Non-refundable booking amount 25% of the Tour cost

Documents required on the Tour

- PASSPORT with minimum 6 Months Validity
- Approved Visa

Cancellation Policy

In the event of cancellation of tour / travel services due to any avoidable / unavoidable reason/s we must be notified of the same by Email ONLY at info@saleelgharpure.com.

Cancellation charges will be effective from the date we receive your request **only** on email at info@saleelgharpure.com.

Cancellation charges are as follows:

- More than 90 days prior to first day of the tour : **30% of the Tour / service cost excluding GST / Tax**
- Between 61 to 89 days prior to first day of the tour : **40% of the Tour / service cost excluding GST / Tax**
- Between 30 to 60 days prior to first day of the tour : **50% of the Tour / service cost excluding GST / Tax**
- Between 15 to 29 days prior to first day of the tour : **70% of the Tour / service excluding GST / Tax**
- Less than 14 days prior to first day of the tour : **No Refund**

Note: Written cancellation will be accepted only on all working days (10am on Monday to 17:00 on Friday). Any cancellation sent after 17:00 on Friday will be considered on next working day (Monday).

Participants who are opting for monthly payment options, in case of delayed payments, participant will be liable for 2% interest per month. In case of missing 2 monthly payments in a row without prior approval from us by E-mail, The Urban Trails and / or Saleel Gharpure, reserves all the rights to cancel your booking and **there will not be any refund for the amount paid.**

Get in Touch to confirm your seat!



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www.SaleelGharpure.com

