

Egypt Volunteering Safety Guidelines

Despite media portrayal, Egypt is considered a very safe country in comparison to the rest of the world. According to a recent Gallup poll conducted in 2018, Egypt has been ranked the safest country in Africa and higher than both the UK and US. Egypt has been ranked 16th out of 135 countries, while the UK was 21st and the US 35th.

You will be staying in one of the safest neighbourhoods in Cairo, so you can comfortably explore the streets. However, there are some safety tips you need to follow:

- Volunteers must be accompanied by at least one other volunteer or staff member when leaving the premises and must notify Volunteer Manager prior to departure.
- For your safety, do not use public transport. We recommend you always use Uber when going anywhere that is not walking distance and share your ride on the app with your Volunteer Manager. Please make sure to save the address or location of the accommodation.
- Sign out and in – when leaving accommodation you must sign out and sign back in before curfew. Even though the volunteer manager is not living on-site, there are staff members and security cameras there to keep track of this.
- Do not leave valuables and money unattended. There is a safe located in your room to store your valuables.
- Do not carry excessive amounts of cash on you.
- Listen to your project manager and respect the local rules and customs at all times! Please remember that you will be working outdoors, in an unfamiliar community and environment.
- Do not enter townships unless accompanied by a local staff member.
- To avoid unnecessary attention in the streets please follow the recommended dress code discussed in your induction and found in the Know Before You Go section.
- Be wary of people who seem too friendly too fast – do not give out your personal contact details to anyone under any circumstances.
- Save your project manager's number on your phone and make sure to provide us with a copy of your emergency contact at home.
- Only drink bottled water. Tap water is not safe to drink in Egypt.
- Do not swim or drink from the Nile River.
- Local vendors can be very persistent especially in popular touristic spots, it's best to just dismiss them and keep walking.)