

Hawara & Meidum add-on (day 1 of the tour) - \$395 per person

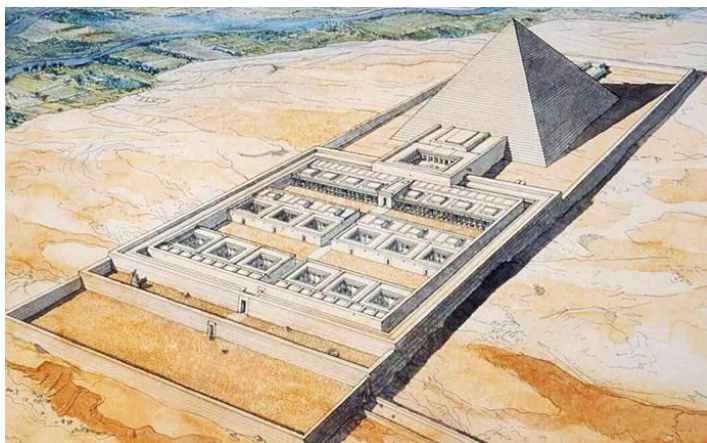
Do you want to see even more pyramids in Egypt? For the guests who would like to arrive one day early, we prepared a trip to Hawara and Meidum pyramids. On that day we normally organize reception at the airport for the arriving guests, but you will drive towards Faiyum oasis and make a stop in Meidum.



In many ways, Meidum, built for pharaoh Snefru, is the most mysterious of all the great Pyramids. It is often known as the "collapsed pyramid" because of its ruined state. It seems to have been designed as a seven step pyramid with a further step being added once construction was in a fairly advanced stage. It was then turned into the first true pyramid by filing in the steps and capping them with limestone. No sarcophagus was found inside the chamber and there is no evidence that Snefru or anyone else was ever buried in this pyramid.

We will enter inside the pyramid and later we will also visit a nearby mastaba of an unknown noble which can be entered via a robber's tunnel. The burial chamber contains the first example of a red granite sarcophagus known in antiquity.

After the visit in Meidum, we will drive south to see the Hawara pyramid. The pyramid stands in the north of an elaborate complex enclosed by a wall measuring 385 by 158 meters. This makes the Hawara complex the largest Middle Kingdom funerary complex. The entrance was located at the southern corner of the east wall. A causeway appears to have led up to it. Unfortunately, almost nothing remains of this vast complex which Greek and Roman visitors, many centuries after it was built, described as a vast labyrinth of open courts, chambers, chapels and hidden crypts. The Greek traveler Herodotus claimed to have counted three thousand rooms in the pyramid's funeral complex. Herodotus visited the pyramid during the 5th century B.C. and described it as follows: *12 main courts and the visitor was guided from courtyards into rooms into galleries into more rooms and from there into more courtyards.*



The Pyramid of Hawara was constructed by Amenemhet III, the sixth Egyptian Pharaoh of the 12th dynasty of the Old Kingdom around 1850 B.C. Due to the fact that the Pyramid was built out of brick stones and then coated by limestone, it is sometimes called the Black Pyramid. **Price: \$395 per person.** The cost of the add-on does not include the extra night in the hotel.