



Photo: Strange Luke



Photo: Dan Brown

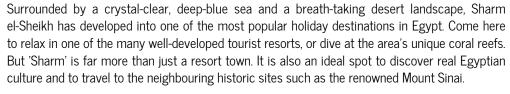




Photo: Vyacheslav Argenberg



Photo: juliegomoll

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#### Top 5

#### The Bays

Sharm has become one of the top global destinations for snorkelers and divers thanks to its beautiful and diverse sea life, an...

#### Ice Skating

It may sound strange, but Sharm does have its very own ice skating spots like the El Salam Ice Skating at Concord El Salam Hot...

#### Mount Sinai

According to Christian belief, it was on Mount Sinai that Moses received the Ten Commandments, making it a popular target for ...

#### Monastery of St. Catherine

Nestled at the foot of Mount Sinai, the monastery was built for Emperor Justinian between 527 and 565 AD. It later took the na...

#### **Ras Mohamed National Park**

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#### **THE CITY**



Photo: Dan Brown

Sharm el-Sheikh - "Sharm" for short - is one of the fastest developing holiday resorts in Egypt. What was a sleepy fishing village less than two decades ago, is now a buzzing tourist destination with some 35,000 inhabitants. Its rocky mountains, beautiful deep-blue sea and its breath-taking desert landscape make it a popular sight for globetrotters from across the world.

Situated alongside the southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula, Sharm is an area of beaches and resorts stretching some 30 kilometres, with Naama Bay forming the main tourist centre.

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#### DO & SEE



Photo: Vyacheslav Argenberg

Even if you do not want to spend your entire holiday on stunning Red Sea beaches, there are still plenty of reasons to come here. Sharm gives you a taste of real Egyptian life and culture, and serves as a base to visit some of the historic sites that surround it. Its crystal-clear water and unique sea life have also made Sharm one of the finest diving spots in the world.

#### The Bays

Sharm has become one of the top global destinations for snorkelers and divers thanks to its beautiful and diverse sea life, and its sandy beaches have become very popular with holidaymakers.

Naama Bay is by far the most popular of them, and its long, sandy beach is a favourite among swimmers and sun bathers. It is buzzing with life thanks to its many restaurants and shops. Come here to try out the Bungee catapult or take up horse riding sessions.

If you prefer it more quiet, spend a day at Nabq Bay, which is situated outside of the main tourist area, or spend a day on Sharks' Bay, about a 20 minute taxi ride from Naama Bay.

Ras Um Sid, located west of Naama, is great for snorkelling. Situated about five minutes' drive from Sharm, it is famous for its stunning coral reefs and boasts an impressive cliff.

If you are interested in diving, Sharm El-Maya should be your point of reference. The bay, located near Sharm's Old Town area, is home to a number of diving centres that will show you the best waters in Sharm. When picking a diving school, however, make sure the school has been accredited by a professional diving association.

#### Ice Skating

It may sound strange, but Sharm does have its very own ice skating spots like the El Salam Ice Skating at Concord El Salam Hotel. Come here to show off your ice skating skills and let your kids enjoy a good time.

#### **Mount Sinai**

According to Christian belief, it was on Mount Sinai that Moses received the Ten Commandments, making it a popular target for pilgrims from across the world. The mountain, also called Mount Moses, is more than 2,200 metres high and can be ascended via the Path of Moses, a stairway of nearly 4,000 steps, or by a second path east of the St. Catherine Monastery. Once you have reached the peak where the Chapel of the Holy Trinity lies, enjoy the breath-taking views of the Sinai Desert.

Address: Mount Sinai, Sinai Desert, Sharm el-Sheikh

#### Monastery of St. Catherine

Nestled at the foot of Mount Sinai, the monastery was built for Emperor Justinian between 527 and 565 AD. It later took the name of St. Catherine of Alexandria, whose remains are buried there. Today, the monastery houses a priceless collection of art pieces including religious ornaments, beautiful mosaics and a vast collection of illuminated manuscripts.

Address: St. Catherine of Alexandria, Sinai Desert, Sharm el-Sheikh Internet www.sinaimonastery.com

#### **Ras Mohamed National Park**

This stunning national park lies some 30 kilometres south of Sharm El-Sheikh, at the southern tip of the Sinai



Peninsula. Spread over 480 square kilometres, this desert terrain is home to a number of exotic mammal species, birds and reptiles. Make sure you do not miss the colourful coral reefs.

Address: Ras Mohamed, Sinai Desert

#### **Tiran Island**

This beautiful island, located in the Gulf of Aqaba between Sharm El Sheikh and Saudi Arabia, boasts stunning coral reefs and lagoons, making it the perfect paradise for snorkelers and divers. To get there, you can catch a boat from the southern side of Naama Bay.

Address: Tiran Island, Gulf of Aqaba

#### **Nabq National Park**

This impressive natural reserve comprises 600 square kilometres, boasting a diverse animal and plant life. Here you can see Nubian ibexes, foxes and gazelles and other fascinating species.

Address: Nabq National Park, Sharm el-Sheikh

#### **Old Town**

The Old Town of Sharm was developed as recently as the 1960's. As it is not part of the region's major tourist areas, this is where many of the locals live, and it will give you a feeling of Egyptian culture. Its Old Market is popular with bargain hunters, as goods here are generally cheaper than in the tourist centres such as Naama Bay. The beach here is rather small, but still worth a visit.

Address: Old Town, Sharm el-Sheikh

#### **Aqua Park**

This Aqua Park can be found at the Aqua Blue Hotel. The water park includes 32 water games and 9 swimming pools with smaller pools and slides for the younger kids.

Address: El Khazan Street, Hadaba, Sharm el-Sheikh

#### **Cleo Park**

Cleo Park was the first themed water park to ever open in Sharm El Sheikh. It is located at Naama bay and offers you a new generation of adventurous rides and a fun filled experience.

Address: Cleo Park, Naama bay, Sharm el-Sheik

Phone: +20 69 360 4400 Internet: www.cleopark.net Email: info@cleoparkegypt.com

#### Soho Square

The Soho Square is a complete family entertainment centre. Here you can find restaurants, cafés, bars and a plethora of entertainment for everyone such as bowling, ice skating and Culturama, a journey through the Egyptian history on a 180 degree display.

Address: White Night Beach, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +2 01000 109109
Internet: www.soho-sharm.com
Email: mail@soho-sharm.com
More Info: In front of Savoy Hotel

#### **Ghibli Race Way**

Ghibli Raceway is a well-renowned provider of international motor sport to the Middle East. Feel the adrenaline surge for the need of speed at the biggest go-kart track in Egypt.

Address: Naama Bay, Peace Road, Sharm el-Sheik

Phone: +20 69 360 3939 Internet: www.ghibliraceway.com Email: info@ghibliraceway.com More Info: Near Hyatt Regency

#### **United Submarine**

At United Submarine you can discover the underwaterworld, with no need for swimming or diving skills. United Submarines offers a great opportunity to see the underwater world of the red sea up close. Five semi submarines run daily tours.

Address: Hadaba, villa 220 Ard El Mazad, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 3662 252

Internet: www.unitedsubmarines.com



#### DINING



Photo: juliegomoll

As a seaside resort, Sharm has become famous for its excellent seafood, such as fresh shrimps and deep fried calamari. Sharm's international clientele and its many top notch resorts mean you can find excellent restaurants that serve nearly anything from French, Thai, American and Japanese cuisine to traditional Egyptian food.

#### El Masrieen

El Masrieen is a restaurant that offers good oriental and Egyptian food at affordable prices. This place especially famous for its tasty grills.

Address: No.15 Old market, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 199 685 383

#### **Fares**

Fares is ideally located in the The Old Market and is one of the most popular restaurants in the Old Market. They serve fresh and tasty seafood dishes at decent prices.

Address: The Old Market, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 693 664 270

Internet: http://www.faresseafood.com/

## Jolie Ville restaurants

At the Jolie Ville resort there is a big selection of eateries. Here you can find The Seagull, an à la carte restaurant, the French La Fleur, a Beach Bar and Restaurant where you can enjoy barbecue for both lunch and dinner, and many more.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 3600100 Internet: www.jolieville-hotels.com More Info: Jolie Ville Resort

#### **Pomodoro**

Pomodoro can be found at the Camel Hotel and is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The dinner menu features Italian grilled meat, fish dishes, and home-made pizza. The terrace is cooled by fans and mist in summer and heated in winter.

Address: Centre of Na'ama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 3600 700 Internet: www.cameldive.com More Info: Camel Hotel

#### Rangoli

Rangoli Indian restaurant can be found at the Moevenpick Resort in Naama Bay and offers traditional Indian food like hot naans and tandoori. The view of the bay from here is just great, perfect for romantic one on ones.

Address: Naama Bay, El Salam Rd., Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 0081

Internet: www.moevenpick-hotels.com More Info: At Moevenpick Resort

#### The Blue Fountain

The Blue Fountain offers a varied menu with dishes like seafood, salads and much more. Here, the steaks are claimed to be just great, the service to be excellent and the atmosphere truly inviting.

Address: 1 Market Square, Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 114 400 4401

More Info: Beside Rear Exit of Carrefour

#### Fusion 21

At Fusion 21 you can enjoy Mediterranean dishes out in the open air. This trendy restaurant offers a great atmosphere and is a good choice if you like Mediterranean cuisine accompanied by refreshing cocktails.

Address: Soho Square, Sharks Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Opening hours: 6.30 pm-1 am



Phone: + 20 010 0010 9109 Internet: www.soho-sharm.com

#### **Caligula Hot Rock**

Caligula Hot Rock can be found at the Savoy Hotel. Here you can choose dishes from a varied and large menu. This is the perfect place to enjoy a good meal and afterwards linger over a couple drinks.

Address: Savoy Hotel, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 693 602 500

#### La Fleur

La Fleur is ideally located in Naama Bay and offers high quality dishes. This restaurant is highly recommended by its customers and the breakfast here is claimed to be outstanding.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

#### The Lounge

The Lounge is a combined bar and restaurant that offers an extensive menu and entertainment. Here you can not only enjoy great food, but also karaoke, quiz nights, live music and parties.

Address: Mall 6, Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 2 pm-3 am

Phone: +20 109 3639585

#### **CAFES**



Photo: Götz A. Primke

With the stifling heat of Egypt surrounding you, a hot coffee might be the farthest thing from your mind, but do not give up hope. Taking a break and sipping on an Arabic coffee is surprisingly invigorating and if that is not your cup of tea, there is always the icy alternatives to lessen your thirst.

#### Ali Baba Oriental Cafe

This stylish rooftop café offers a good selection of oriental coffees and teas as well as water pipes (Shishas) with a variety of flavoured tobaccos. You can pop by in the evening to watch the sun set.

Address: 1 Sonesta Circle, Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 0725 Internet: www.sonesta.com More Info: Sonesta Beach Resort

#### **Sultan Gardens**

At the Sultan Gardens Resort there are many dining options. If you feel like a refreshing drink or coffee you can relax, you are in good hands.

Address: Shark Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 60 2130 Internet: www.sultangardens.com More Info: Holiday Inn Resort

#### Makani Bakery

Makani Bakery serves a wide variety of homemade bread, sandwiches and puddings as well as sushi. You can decide to eat in or take away.



Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh Internet: www.divine-worx.com

#### Vanilla

Relax at Vanilla on the terrace, a comfortable chill-out zone with water pipes. You can choose from a range of tasty treats like ice cream, iced coffees and smoothies.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 0700 Internet: www.cameldive.com More Info: Camel Hotel

### **Charleston Bakery**

The food at Charleston Bakery is claimed to be spot on. Here you can enjoy everything from filled doughnut to chocolate fudge cake.

Address: IL Mercato, Sharm El Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 366 6318

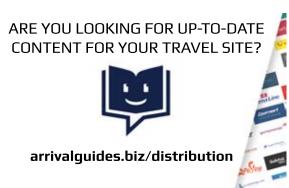
#### **BARS & NIGHTLIFE**



Photo: Svetlana Grechkina

What better thing is there than to relax with a cold beverage after a long day of sightseeing or sunbathing? Sharm has many top-notch bars that serve anything from exotic cocktails to imported European beer.

Sharm is famous for its lively and diverse nightlife. Enjoy a drink in the stylish Little Buddha bar, or quench your thirst with a pre-party cocktail at the Bus Stop. Then move on to one of Sharm's bigger venues such as the famous Pacha Nightclub. Whether you want to chill-out or rave until dawn, Sharm has it all.



ola.zetterlof@arrivalguides.com

#### The Sunset Bar

Enjoy a beautiful view of the Tiran Islands in the Red Sea waters while quenching your thirst with a refreshingly exotic cocktail. The bar is based within the Hilton complex in Sharks Bay.

Address: Ras Nusrani, Sharks Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Opening hours: 10 am-10 pm Phone: +20 69 360 3333 Internet: www.hilton.com

More Info: Hilton Sharks Bay Resort

#### Pirate's Bar

This bar has a strong nautical theme, with fishnets and compasses decorating the walls. It is particularly popular with foreign visitors thanks to the large selection of imported draught beers from Ireland, Germany, and Scotland. Find it next to the reception of the Hilton Fayrouz Resort.

Address: Peace Road, Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 0136 Internet: www.hilton.com More Info: Hilton Fayrouz Resort

#### **Bus Stop**

Shaped like a big red bus, Bus Stop is a popular pre-party venue for the Pacha Nightclub. Here you can chill-out with a cool beverage and absorb the R&B and soul beats.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 600 1978 More Info: Sanafir Hotel



## **Pacha Nightclub**

Pacha Nightclub is arguably the most well-known club in Sharm El-Sheikh, and a big one too. This is a great place to chill-out with a cool beer at the pool party bar, play in the foam zone or get your groove on at the dance floor. If it gets too hot, cool down in the on-site swimming pool.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 0197 Internet: www.pachasharm.com More Info: Sanafir Hotel

#### Cascades Pool Bar & Restaurant

This pool bar is set among cascading waterfalls and offers a range of cool drinks and tasty snacks. The Cascades Pool Bar & Restaurant is ideal for a quick, refreshing lunch.

Address: The Gardens Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 1234

Internet: www.sharmelsheikh.regency.hyatt.com

More Info: Hyatt Regency

#### **Hard Rock Cafe**

The Sharm affiliate of the well-known American chain comes stuffed with Rock [] n'Roll memorabilia as usual. Its menu is dominated by main stream Western dishes such as chicken wings, onion rings and hamburgers. This place also serves alcohol.

Address: Naama Promenade, Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 2664 Internet: www.hardrock.com

#### Camel Bar & Roof

The Camel Bar & Roof is one of the most popular bars where you can watch big sports games and live bands. They serve tasty snacks and have a full drinks menu, including cocktails and shooters.

Address: Naama bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 3600 700 Internet: www.cameldive.com More Info: Camel Hotel

#### Little Buddha

This could be one of the most stylish venues in town, boasting a flashy, futuristic décor. Order a drink at Buddha's illuminated bar counter, then sit down on one of the soft sofas spread across the lounge area or dance to the resident DJs' rhythmic house beats.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 1030

Internet: www.littlebuddha-sharm.com

More Info: Naama Bay Hotel

#### **SHOPPING**



Photo: Lukasz Badura

Without a doubt, Naama Bay is the top spot in Sharm for shopping. The lively tourist area is packed with fashionable clothes shops, jewellery stores and other shops offering pretty much anything. As the Naama Bay area is a thriving night life spot, many shops here stay open until midnight or even later.

Shopping in Naama Bay is rather expensive by local standards, however, bargain hunters should go to the Old Market in down town Sharm, which is also the best location in the area to buy classical Egyptian souvenirs. Why not buy a traditional water pipe here?

In Nabq you can find Al Khan and La Strada, two malls with shopping, food and entertainment and in Al Hadaba the main shopping spot is Il Mercato.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**



Photo: Rick Manwaring

Sharm el-Sheikh is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the Arab world and a very popular charter destination. The development of Sharm el-Sheikh as a tourist destination started in the 1960's and has happened rapidly.

#### Sonesta Club

This resort hotel is designed in traditional Nubian style, located on Naama Bay and overlooking South Sinai's desert and mountains. Its 505 guest rooms and suites feature either a balcony or roof terrace.

Address: Peace Road, Sharm El Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 3601280 Internet: www.sonesta.com

#### Camel Dive Club & Hotel

This friendly hotel is located in the centre of Naama Bay is tailored specifically towards divers and features a dive centre and school. The beach is a two-minute walk away. Camel Dive Club & Hotel is especially popular with British tourists.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 0700 Internet: www.cameldive.com

#### **Hyatt Regency**

The 35-hectare Hyatt Regency is adjacent to the popular Naama Bay. Designed in Southern Mediterranean style, its 439 rooms and suites offer spectacular views of the Red Sea. Here you can relax at the outdoor pool, enjoy a day at

the hotel's own spa or play a game of tennis.

Address: The Gardens Bay, South Sinai, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 1234

Internet: www.sharmelsheikh.regency.hyatt.com

Email: sharm.regency@hyatt.com

#### **Baron Resort Sharm El Sheikh**

Baron Resort Sharm El Sheikh is a 5-star luxury resort with 600 meters of private sandy beach. The majority of their rooms have an amazing view of the Red Sea.

Address: Ras Nasrani Bay, South Sinai, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69367 0100 Internet: www.baronhotels.com

#### **Tropitel Naama Bay Hotel**

The Tropitel Naama Bay Hotel can be found ideally located in Naama Bay. The rooms are comfortable and all overlook the beautiful bay. Amenities onsite include 4 pools, beach, spa, fitness centre, restaurants and much more.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 0570 Internet: www.tropitelhotels.com

#### Moevenpick Resort Sharm El Sheikh

The Moevenpick Resort Sharm El Sheikh is part of the international hotel chain with the same name, Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts. This resort offers 5 private beaches, restaurants, a café and bars. All rooms are sophisticated and feature an Arabesque decor.

Address: Naama Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 693 600 081

Internet: www.moevenpick-hotels.com

# Hilton Sharm El Sheikh Fayrouz Resort

This luxurious resort can be found 5 minutes from Naama Bay. The Hilton Sharm El Sheikh Fayrouz Resort offers pools and a private beach for all sun lovers. For all people who love their water sports, there is also a diving and snorkelling centre onsite. If you feel sporty, you can also



use the tennis court or gym.

Address: Naama Bay, Peace Road, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 3600 136 Internet: www3.hilton.com

#### Sierra Sharm El Sheikh

The Sierra Sharm El Sheikh Hotel offers 331 rooms right next to Soho Square. Amenities at the hotel include a large outdoor pool, fitness centre, tennis courts and a water sports centre. All guests have access to a private area on White Knight Beach.

Address: Soho Square, Sharm el-Sheikh Internet: www.savoy-sharm.com

#### Rixos Sharm El Sheikh

At the Rixos Sharm El Sheikh you can enjoy a white sandy beach and 11 swimming pools. You can find this resort in Nabq and amenities at the hotel include spa, sports activities, fitness centre and several restaurants.

Address: Nabq Bay, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 3710210 Internet: www.rixos.com

#### Naama Inn Hotel

Right in the middle of Naama Bay you can find the Naama Inn Hotel. This hotel offers 37 rooms and an ideal location for touring the city. The hotel features spacious rooms, a pool area and restaurants.

Address: King Abdullah Street, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 3600 800 Internet: www.naamainn.com

#### **ESSENTIAL INFORMATION**



Photo: Michela Simoncini



#### Sharm El Sheik International Airport

The Sharm El Sheik International Airport is located about 18 kilometres from the city. To get to the city you can either go by bus, taxi or car. There are regular bus services and the journey takes about 15 minutes. The taxi ranks can be found next to Terminal 1. Some hotels also offer bus transfers, as do tour operators.

Address: Sharm El Sheik International Airport, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 69 360 1141

Internet: www.sharm-el-sheikh-airport.com

#### **Public transport**

You can easily walk around the city. The public transport in Sharm El-Sheikh is provided by minibuses, which run from the Northern to the Southern part of Sharm and back. You have to hail the bus to get on.

#### Taxi

There are essentially two types of taxis, 4-seaters and



8-seaters, which you can hail on the street. Prices can vary, so make sure you agree to a price before getting into a cab. Many up-market hotels use private taxi companies that are more expensive.

#### Post

You can ask at your hotel for the nearest post office.

Main Post Office:

Address: Banks Str. Ras Um Sid, Sharm el-Sheikh Opening hours: 8.30 am-2 pm. Closed on Fridays Phone: +20 69 366 0518

#### **Pharmacy**

Ask at your hotel for the nearest pharmacy or call for advice and more information. The Omar Pharmacy Chain has pharmacies at several locations around the city

Omar Pharmacy:

Address: Sultan Kabous Street, Sharm el-Sheikh

Phone: +20 693 600 830

Internet: www.omarandomarpharmacy.com

#### Telephone

Country code: +20

Area code: 069

#### **Electricity**

220 volt

#### **Population**

Approximately 35,000

#### Currency

1 Egyptian Pound (LE) = 100 piasters

#### Opening hours

Opening hours may vary. Shops are generally open until late.

#### Newspapers

al-Ahram al-Gomhurija al-Achbar

#### **Emergency numbers**

Emergency: 123 Police: 126 Fire Brigade: 180

**Tourist information** 

Main Tourism Office Sharm El Sheikh Open: 8 am-8 pm +20 69 366 4721

