

# MA'AT TOURS EGYPT 2010!



## Newsletter 6: August 2009

Hi Everyone,  
We would like to pass on the following news:

### ITINERARY CHANGES

We have four people on *Tour 2010* with different ex-Egypt dates to the main group. We will make some changes to our Luxor itinerary to accommodate their needs. Please be assured that this will only involve the 'swapping' of some itinerary days – no activities or sites will be 'deleted'. We will email you an updated itinerary shortly.

### YOUR EGYPTIAN VISA



Our second Information Kit will contain information letting you know how to apply for your Visa. We suggest that you do so in late October.

### THE REAL EGYPT?

By now we trust that you have had the chance to read our information sheets on ethical and responsible tourism. If you have the opportunity please also read our website page: <http://www.maat.com.au/ethic.html> and follow the link from it to the 'Our recent lecture on ethical tourism' page too.

While we understand that for many the primary motivation to visit Egypt is to see its ancient wonders, we believe that your experience in Egypt will be greatly enhanced if you gain some knowledge of the people of modern Egypt, and learn about their society. On tour we offer opportunities for you to have personal interactions with local people, such as meals and *shy* (tea) in private homes. As some 'homework' on contemporary Egyptian society we recommend - as a starting point - two websites:

**Egypt Today**  
THE MAGAZINE OF EGYPT

<http://www.egypttoday.com/>

Egypt Today is a highly authoritative, monthly magazine available on-line. Its in-depth, balanced coverage of Egyptian social and cultural issues make it a rich source of information. For example, the July '09 issue has a feature story 'Street Smart' (See:

[www.egypttoday.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=8560](http://www.egypttoday.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=8560)) that discusses the issue of illegal street vendors from several points of view. Reading it will give you a greater understanding of the real-life concerns of the dozens of vendors that crowd the streets near our hotel in Cairo.



<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/>

Al-Ahram Weekly is the English, weekly version of a popular daily Egyptian newspaper. The news stories and features give an interesting insight into Egyptians' view of themselves, and the world.



The 'Pizza Hut' view of Giza... and Egypt?

### DATES TO HOLD IN MIND

**Mid-August:** Our next major mail-out will be posted to you.

**1<sup>st</sup> September:** Payment of balance of Ma'at & Egyptian Agents fees' (\$1350.00) and EgyptAir fees (to be confirmed via email).

**19<sup>th</sup> September:** Information Session at our home.

**1<sup>st</sup> October:** Payment of Singapore Airlines fare.

**November:** Airline tickets and any further information will be sent to you via express post.

**2<sup>nd</sup> January 2010:** Depart Australia, and be in Cairo early the next morning!

With all good wishes,

*Patricia, Mike & Peter*