

Egypt

Country name	Egypt ¹
State title	Arab Republic of Egypt
Name of citizen	Egyptian
Official language	Arabic (<i>ara</i> ²)
Country name in official language	مصر (Miṣr) ³
State title in official language	جمهورية مصر العربية (Jumhūrīyat Miṣr al ‘Arabīyah)
Script	Arabic
Romanization System	BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic 1956
ISO-3166 country code (alpha-2/alpha-3)	EG/EGY
Capitals – conventional names	Cairo, The New Capital ⁴
Capitals in official language	القاهرة (Al Qāhirah) العاصمة الجديدة (Al ‘Āṣimah al Jadīdah)
Area/Population	1,001,450 sq km/120.1 million (2026 est.) ⁵

Introduction

Egypt is located principally in North Africa, with the Sinai Peninsula being in Asia. Approximately 97% of Egypt is desert. The majority of Egypt’s population live on the fertile land close to the River Nile, which flows through Egypt from south to north. Egypt has coastline on the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. It shares land borders with Libya, Sudan, Israel and Palestine (Gaza Strip).

Geographical Names Policy

Geographical names in Egypt are written in Arabic, the country’s official language. Where possible, names should be taken from official Arabic-language Egyptian sources and romanized using the [BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic](#)⁶.

¹ The English language conventional name Egypt comes from the Ancient Greek *Aígyptos* (Αἴγυπτος) which is believed to derive from Ancient Egyptian *hut-ka-ptah*, meaning “castle of the soul of Ptah”.

² ISO 639-3 language codes are used for languages throughout this document.

³ The name Miṣr is an arabicised version of the Ancient Egyptian. In Arabic it means settled place or capital. This may explain why Egyptians refer to both their country and their capital as Miṣr.

⁴ Construction of a new capital city to the east of Cairo began in 2015. Since November 2025, the city has been officially referred to as the New Capital (Arabic: Al ‘Āṣimah al Jadīdah) and serves as the seat of the Egyptian government, while Cairo remains Egypt’s historic capital and largest city. See also note 3.

⁵ UN data.

⁶ [Microsoft Word - ROMANIZATION OF ARABIC - Nov 22](#)

Roman-script resources are often available for Egypt; however, it should also be noted that, even on official Egyptian products, Roman-script forms may be encountered which are likely to differ from those arising from the application of the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic.⁷

Many places in Egypt also have well-established conventional English names (see ‘Other significant locations’, p15), which can be used where appropriate. For instance, in English-language texts it would be usual to refer to the historic capital and largest city of Egypt as Cairo, with the romanized Arabic form Al Qāhirah provided in brackets if required. On cartographic products, PCGN usually recommends showing these English conventional names in brackets after the romanized Arabic name.

It should also be noted that prior to 1997, PCGN policy for Egypt was to use the Roman-script names found on Survey of Egypt sources. These Survey of Egypt forms may be encountered on older products and will differ in some ways from the forms resulting from the application of the BGN/PCGN Romanization System⁸.

Official Egyptian sources that can be used for place names include CAPMAS, Egypt’s statistics authority, whose website provides a [geoportal](#) and mapping of [Egypt’s administrative boundaries](#), and the [Egypt Information Portal](#) and the [State Information Service](#). Arabic names should be romanized according to the BGN/PCGN Arabic Romanization System. The Roman-script names on Egyptian sources may not conform to the BGN/PCGN System. The approved names in the US NGA’s [Geographic Names Server \(GNS\)](#) will be romanized according to the BGN/PCGN System.

Language

The official language of Egypt is Arabic (*ara*), which is a Semitic language and is written from right to left. The Arabic alphabet consists of 28 letters, in addition to which there are several vocalisation marks which are not usually written⁹.

Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) (*arb*) is used by the printed media and for official written purposes throughout the Arab world but each region has its own spoken dialect. Therefore, whilst the written Arabic encountered in Egypt will differ only slightly from that encountered in other Arabic-speaking nations, the spoken Egyptian Arabic (*arz*) is quite distinct from any other Arabic dialect. However, due to the popularity of Egyptian films and television series, Egyptian Arabic is widely understood throughout the Arab world. Additionally, within Egypt there are variations in the dialect: in Upper Egypt a distinct variety, known as Saidi Arabic (*aec*) is spoken and the population in the far west of the country speaks a dialect closer to that spoken in the rest of North Africa, to the west of Egypt. The Bedouin population in the Sinai Peninsula speak Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic (*avl*).

The main elements of Egyptian dialect that can influence the unstandardised Roman-script spellings of names which may be encountered are as follows:

⁷ See the section on language below or for further information see PCGN’s *Brief Guide to Understanding Toponyms in the Arab World* (available on request)

⁸ For example, the Survey of Egypt romanized the Arabic letter Jīm (ج) as G, not J as in the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic, and the definite article was written as El and not Al as in the BGN/PCGN System.

⁹ See BGN/PCGN Romanization System for further details. Link at footnote 6.

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1. The letter *Qāf* (ق), which is romanized in the BGN/PCGN system as ‘q’, is often pronounced as a glottal stop¹⁰, e.g. Abū Qīr is pronounced Abū ‘Īr. Consequently, when the *Qāf* is not pronounced according to its standard Arabic pronunciation, it may sometimes also be omitted in a written Roman form of a name. The *Qāf* is also sometimes seen represented in Egyptian sources as ‘k’.
2. The letter *Jīm* (ج), is romanized in the BGN/PCGN system as ‘j’, and is pronounced like ‘j’ in Jack in many dialects of Arabic. However, in Egyptian Arabic it is pronounced like ‘g’ in get. Compare the conventional name Giza, which represents the pronunciation of the name to the BGN/PCGN romanization, Al Jīzah¹¹, which represents the spelling.
3. The letter *Thā’* (ث), which is pronounced in MSA like ‘th’ in thin, is often pronounced in Egyptian Arabic like ‘t’ in ten. For example, Dayr ath Tha’ālib may be seen written as Deir el Ta’ālib.
4. The letters *Ḍād* (ض) and *Ẓā’* (ظ) are both usually pronounced like the ‘z’ in zoo and may both be seen written as ‘z’ in Roman script.
5. The short vowels known as *Faṭḥah* and *Ḍammah* are romanized in the BGN/PCGN System as ‘a’ and ‘u’ respectively. They can often be found written as ‘e’ and ‘o’ respectively in non-standardised Roman-script forms. Likewise, the short vowel, *Kasrah*, (romanized as ‘i’ in the BGN/PCGN system) is sometimes romanized as ‘e’.

Note also that, when it occurs at the end of a word, the letter *Yā’* (ي) is often seen in both handwritten and printed Arabic text with the two dots below the letter omitted. It should however still be romanized as ‘ī’, except in cases where it is a true *Alif Maqṣūrah*, when it should be romanized as ‘á’.¹²

Inventory of characters (and their Unicode encodings¹³):

The **BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic** contains the following letter-diacritic combinations in addition to the unmodified letters of the basic Roman script¹⁴:

Romanization (Upper case)	Unicode encoding	Romanization (Lower case)	Unicode encoding
‘	2018 or 02BB	’	2019 or 02BC
Á	00C1	á	00E1
Ā	0100	ā	0101
Ḍ	1E10	ḍ	1E11
Ḥ	1E28	ḥ	1E29

¹⁰ Similar to the sound found in some dialects of British English in place of /t/ between vowels or word-finally after a vowel (e.g. the pronunciation of butter as bu’er, or get as ge’ dropping the t).

¹¹ Al (ال) is the definite article in Arabic. It often forms part of Egyptian toponyms but, as here, is sometimes dropped in the conventional English-language name.

¹² See BGN/PCGN Romanization System for further details. Link at footnote 5.

¹³ www.unicode.org

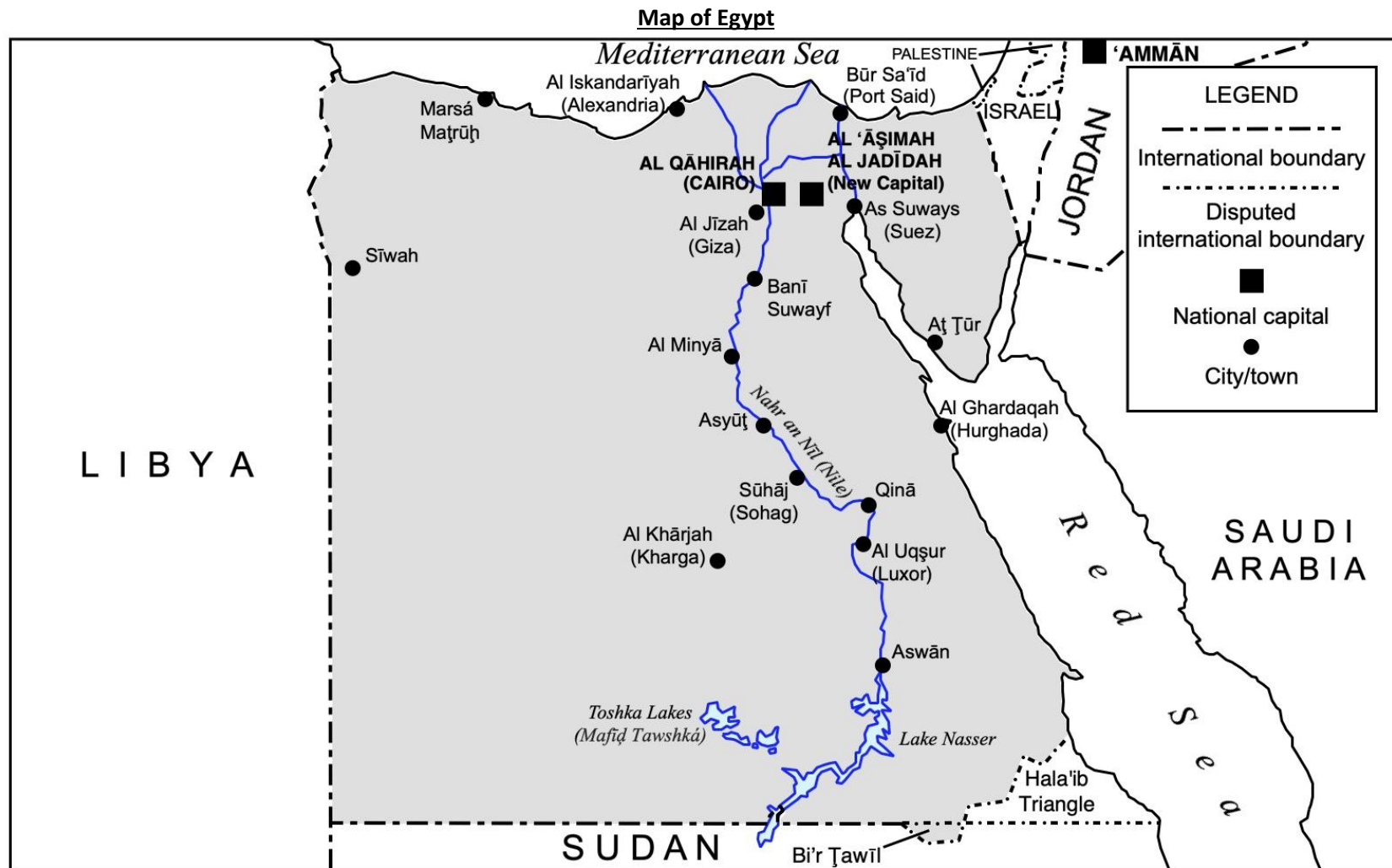
¹⁴ Characters can be manually input into Microsoft Word documents by typing in these character codes and then holding down the ALT key and pressing /x/. The code will change to the required character. The letter can be copied and pasted into other programmes if required. Alternatively, the ‘Insert – Symbol’ command can be used; the code can be entered into the ‘Character code’ box which will show the corresponding letter.

A GeoNames Soft-Copy Keyboard can be downloaded from the NGA website and used to enter the required letter-diacritic combinations for a particular region: http://geonames.nga.mil/gns/html/gns_services.html

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Romanization (Upper case)	Unicode encoding	Romanization (Lower case)	Unicode encoding
Ī	012A	ī	012B
Ş	015E	ş	015F
Ţ	0162	ţ	0163
Ū	016A	ū	016B
Ț	005A+0327*	ț	007A+0327*

*Note, the z + cedilla is not available as a single encoding.



Map produced by PCGN for illustrative purposes only, and is not to be taken necessarily as representing the views of the UK government on boundaries or political status

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Boundaries

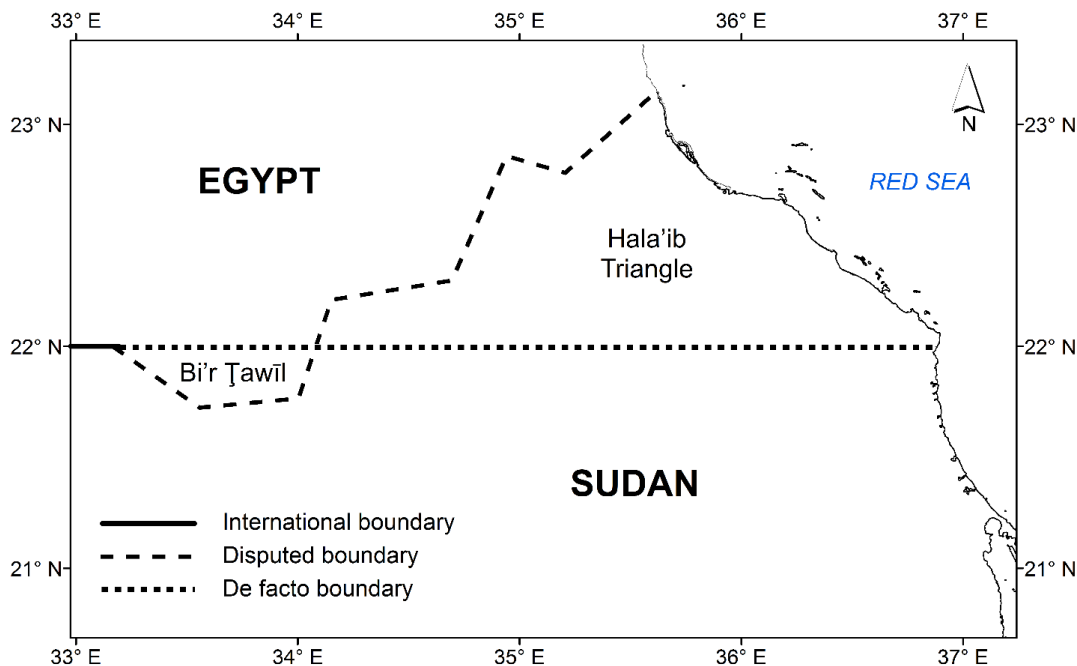
Egypt is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the north, Palestine (Gaza Strip) and Israel to the northeast, the Red Sea to the east, Libya to the west and Sudan to the south.

Hala'ib Triangle

The UK government position on the boundary between Egypt and Sudan is that there is an international boundary and an administrative boundary. The international boundary, agreed between the British and Egyptian governments in the Anglo-Egyptian conventions of 1899 relating to Sudan ('the Anglo-Egyptian Condominium Agreement'), runs along the 22nd parallel between the Libyan border and the Red Sea (with a small salient northward in the area of Lake Nasser). The administrative boundary, established in 1902, includes a large disputed salient to the north of the international boundary. This area should be labelled as 'Hala'ib Triangle'. Any label depicting the Hala'ib Triangle area as "Under Sudanese Administration" should be removed, as this area is currently (de facto) administered by Egypt. The Bi'r Ṭawīl trapezoid, south of the international boundary, which is claimed neither by Egypt or Sudan, should be labelled as Bi'r Ṭawīl.

On UK government maps this area should be depicted as follows:

- The 1902 line should be shown with a broken symbol, representing "Disputed Boundary".
- The 1899 line west of the 1902 line should be shown as a solid or "Full International Boundary".
- The 1899 line east of the 1902 line should be shown with a broken line (different to the Disputed Boundary symbol) representing a "De facto Boundary".
- Where required, the Bi'r Ṭawīl trapezoid will be coloured/shaded as pertaining to Egypt.
- Where required, the Hala'ib Triangle will be coloured/shaded as pertaining to Sudan.



Note: this map is for illustrative purposes. It is not to be taken as necessarily representing the view of the UK Government on boundaries or political status.

Red Sea Islands

Two islands in the Red Sea (Thīrān and Ṣanāfir) had been under Egyptian control until a deal was signed between the Egyptian and Saudi governments in 2016, which granted sovereignty of the islands to Saudi Arabia. Despite protests from Egyptians and legal appeals, in March 2018 the Egyptian Supreme Court upheld the agreement. One of the islands was known as Tīrān, the Egyptian name. It should now be labelled with the Saudi name Jazīrat Thīrān. The name of Jazīrat Ṣanāfir has not changed.

Geographical Regions

Egypt's geography creates some natural divisions within the country. The majority of Egypt is located in the continent of Africa but the Sinai Peninsula is in southwest Asia. Approximately 95% of the Egyptian population lives on 4-5% on the land, the majority of Egypt being desert¹⁵. There are some populated places at oases¹⁶ in the desert but the majority of the population is located along the River Nile (which runs northwards from Sudan, through Egypt and into the Mediterranean Sea) and in the fertile Nile Delta. Since ancient times, Egypt has been divided into Upper and Lower Egypt. Broadly speaking Lower Egypt comprises the fertile Nile Delta region north of Cairo and Upper Egypt refers to the Nile Valley area further upriver, south of Cairo. In Arabic, Upper Egypt is known as *Ṣaʿīd Miṣr* or *Aṣ Ṣaʿīd* and people from this region are known as *Ṣaʿīdī*.

Administrative Structure

Egypt is divided into 27¹⁷ first-order administrative divisions (ADM1s), known as governorates (*Muḥāfaẓah* or *Muḥāfaẓat* in Arabic). These are further sub-divided into centres (*Markaz* in Arabic), cities (*Madīnah* or *Madīnat*), districts (*Qism* in Arabic), neighbourhoods (*Hayy*) and villages (*Qaryah* or *Qaryat*). Detailed maps of the administrative divisions of Egypt can be found on Egypt's CAPMAS GIS Boundaries map¹⁸.

In governorates that contain areas of desert, the second-order administrative divisions (ADM2s) only cover the populated areas. The aforementioned CAPMAS GIS Boundaries map shows the boundaries of the ADM2s. The desert areas are part of the governorates at ADM1 level but do not have second-order administrative divisions because there is no population there to administer. These areas are termed as 'desert hinterland of X Governorate or District' (Arabic: *Aṣ Ṣaḥrāwī li Muḥāfaẓat (or Qism) X*) and should be labelled as per the CAPMAS map on any mapping showing the ADM2s.

Egypt's first-order administrative divisions (ADM1s) and their centres (PPLAs) are listed below. Many of the ADM1s and PPLAs have conventional English names. These have been included for information and cross-reference. While it is not usually necessary to include the conventional names of the ADM1s on

¹⁵ The principal deserts in Egypt are the Eastern Desert and the Western Desert (also known as the Libyan Desert).

¹⁶ For the names of the principal Egyptian oases please refer to the list of other significant locations below.

¹⁷ On 14th April 2011 the Egyptian Prime Minister issued a decision that the provinces of Ḥalwān and As Sādis min Uktūbar (6 October), created in 2008, be abolished and absorbed back into the governorates of Cairo and Giza. In August 2014, Egypt's President Sisi announced the creation of three new governorates but to date these new governorates have not been established (<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2014/08/20/Egypt-to-create-three-new-governorates-.html>).

¹⁸ http://www.capmas.gov.eg/Pages/GIS_Boundaries_DetailedMap.aspx?page_id=5077

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mapping, the conventional names of towns and other features may be a useful addition. The conventional names may also be used in English text.

1. Ad Daqahliyah (31° 06' 00" N 031° 36' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الدقهلية
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat ad Daqahliyah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الدقهلية
Variant names	Dakahlieh, El Daqahlia
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-DK
Centre	Al Maṣṣūrah (31° 02' 11" N 031° 22' 50" E)
Centre in Arabic script	المنصورة
Variant names of centre	El Mansoura
Governorate website	http://www.dakahliya.gov.eg

2. Al Baḥr al Aḥmar (Red Sea)¹⁹ (25° 24' 00" N 033° 12' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	البحر الاحمر
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Baḥr al Aḥmar
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة البحر الاحمر
Variant names	El-Bahr El-Ahmar
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-BA
Centre	Al Ghardaqah (Hurgada) (27° 15' 10" N 033° 49' 05" E)
Centre in Arabic script	الغردقة
Variant names of centre	El-Ghardaqa, Ghardaka
Governorate website	http://www.redsea.gov.eg/

3. Al Buḥayrah (30° 36' 00" N 030° 12' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	البحيرة
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Buḥayrah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة البحيرة
Variant names	Behaira, Buheira
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-BH
Centre	Damanhūr (31° 02' 21" N 030° 28' 09" E)
Centre in Arabic script	دمنهوور
Governorate website	http://behira.gov.eg/

4. Al Fayyūm (29° 18' 00" N 030° 30' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الفيوم
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Fayyūm
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الفيوم
Variant names	Fayoum, El Faiyum, Fayum
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-FYM
Centre	Al Fayyūm (29° 18' 36" N 030° 50' 30" E)

¹⁹ The islands which Egypt possesses in the Red Sea are administered as part of Al Baḥr al Aḥmar (Red Sea) governorate.

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Centre in Arabic script	الفيوم
Governorate website	http://www.fayoum.gov.eg

5. Al Gharbīyah (30° 54' 00" N 031° 00' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الغربية
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Gharbīyah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الغربية
Variant names	Gharbieh, El Gharbia
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-GH
Centre	Ṭanṭā (30° 47' 18" N 031° 00' 07" E)
Centre in Arabic script	طنطا
Governorate website	http://portal.gharbiya.gov.eg/

6. Al Iskandarīyah (Alexandria) (31° 00' 00" N 029° 45' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الإسكندرية
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Iskandarīyah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الإسكندرية
Variant names	Alex, Iskanderiya, 'Arūs al Baḥr al Abyaḍ al Mutawassiṭ (Bride of the Mediterranean)
ISO 3166-2 code	AG-ALX
Centre	Al Iskandarīyah (Alexandria) (31° 12' 00" N 029° 54' 00" E)
Centre in Arabic script	الإسكندرية
Governorate website	http://www.alexandria.gov.eg

7. Al Ismā'īlīyah (30° 36' 00" N 032° 24' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الإسماعيلية
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Ismā'īlīyah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الإسماعيلية
Variant names	Ismailia
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-IS
Centre	Al Ismā'īlīyah (30° 36' 15" N 032° 16' 20" E)
Centre in Arabic script	الإسماعيلية
Governorate website	http://www.ismailia.gov.eg

8. Al Jīzah (Giza) (29° 00' 00" N 029° 15' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الجيزة
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Jīzah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الجيزة
Variant names	El Giza, Jiza, El-Gizeh
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-GZ
Centre	Al Jīzah (Giza) (30° 00' 29" N 031° 12' 39" E)
Centre in Arabic script	الجيزة
Governorate website	www.giza.gov.eg

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9. Al Minūfiyah (30° 30' 00" N 031° 00' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	المنوفية
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Minūfiyah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة المنوفية
Variant names	El Monofia, Menoufieh, Menoufiya, Menufia, Minūfiya; Monofeya
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-MNF
Centre	Shibīn al Kawm (30° 33' 09" N 031° 00' 33" E)
Centre in Arabic script	شبين الكوم
Variant names of centre	Shabin Al-Kum, Shabin El Kom, Shibeena al-Kawm
Governorate website	http://www.monofeya.gov.eg

10. Al Minyā (28° 06' 00" N 030° 00' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	المنيا
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Minyā
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة المنيا
Variant names	El Minia, Minieh, El Minya
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-MN
Centre	Al Minyā (28° 06' 36" N 030° 45' 01" E)
Centre in Arabic script	المنيا
Governorate website	http://www.minia.gov.eg

11. Al Qāhirah (Cairo) (30° 02' 00" N 31° 13' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	القاهرة
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Qāhirah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة القاهرة
Variant names	Miṣr ²⁰ , Al-Qahira
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-C
Centre	Al Qāhirah (Cairo) (30° 02' 00" N 31° 13' 00" E)
Centre in Arabic script	القاهرة
Governorate website	http://www.cairo.gov.eg

12. Al Qalyūbiyah (30° 18' 00" N 031° 15' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	القليوبية
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat al Qalyūbiyah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة القليوبية
Variant names	El Kaloubia, Kalubiya
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-KB
Centre	Banhā (30° 30' 00" N 031° 12' 00" E)
Centre in Arabic script	بنها
Variant names of centre	Benha
Governorate website	http://www.qaliobia.gov.eg/

²⁰ See note 3

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13. Al Uqşur (Luxor)²¹ (25° 42' 00" N 032° 39' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الأقصر
Long form name	Muḥāfazat al Uqşur
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الأقصر
Variant names	Al-Uqşur, El-Aksur, El Aqsur, Louksor, Luksor, Luqsor, El Kusur, El Qusur
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-LX
Centre	Al Uqşur (Luxor) (25° 41' 47" N 032° 38' 45" E)
Centre in Arabic script	الأقصر
Governorate website	http://www.luxor.gov.eg

14. Al Wādī al Jadīd (24° 48' 00" N 028° 54' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الوادي الجديد
Long form name	Muḥāfazat al Wādī al Jadīd
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الوادي الجديد
Variant names	El-Wadi El-Gedid, New Valley
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-WAD
Centre	Al Khārjah (Kharga) (25° 27' 05" N 030° 32' 47" E)
Centre in Arabic script	الخارجة
Variant names of centre	El Kharga, al-Khargah
Governorate website	http://www.newvalley.gov.eg/

15. Ash Sharqīyah (30° 42' 00" N 031° 48' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	الشرقية
Long form name	Muḥāfazat ash Sharqīyah
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة الشرقية
Variant names	El-Sharkia, Al Sharqiya
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-SHR
Centre	Az Zaqāzīq (Zagazig) (30° 35' 16" N 031° 30' 07" E)
Centre in Arabic script	الزقازيق
Variant names of centre	Al Zaqāzīq, Zagazig, El Zagazig
Governorate website	http://www.sharkia.gov.eg

²¹ Al Uqşur was declared a Madīnah ("City") at first-order administrative level by presidential decree in 1989, its administrative extent comprising little more than the urban area. In 2009 a further presidential decree was issued converting Madīnat al Uqşur into Muḥafazat al Uqşur.

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16. As Suways (Suez) (29° 42' 00" N 032° 18' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	السويس
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat as Suways
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة السويس
Variant names	Sues, Al Suways, El-Suez, El Sweis
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-SUZ
Centre	As Suways (Suez) (29° 58' 25" N 032° 31' 35" E)
Centre in Arabic script	السويس
Governorate website	http://www.suez.gov.eg/

17. Aswān (23° 18' 00" N 032° 54' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	أسوان
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Aswān
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة أسوان
Variant names	Assoun
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-ASN
Centre	Aswān (24° 05' 36" N 032° 54' 25" E)
Centre in Arabic script	أسوان
Governorate website	http://www.aswan.gov.eg/home.aspx

18. Asyūṭ (27° 12' 00" N 031° 06' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	أسيوط
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Asyūṭ
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة أسيوط
Variant names	Assiut, Assiout
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-AST
Centre	Asyūṭ (27° 10' 51" N 031° 11' 01" E)
Centre in Arabic script	أسيوط
Governorate website	http://assiut.gov.eg/

19. Banī Suwayf (28° 54' 00" N 030° 36' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	بنى سويف
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Banī Suwayf
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة بنى سويف
Variant names	Beni Suweif, Beni-Souef, Beni Suef
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-BNS
Centre	Banī Suwayf (29° 04' 28" N 031° 05' 52" E)
Centre in Arabic script	بنى سويف
Governorate website	http://www.benisuef.gov.eg/

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20. Būr Saʿīd (Port Said) (31° 06' 00" N 032° 18' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	بور سعيد
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Būr Saʿīd
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة بور سعيد
Variant names	Bour Said
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-PTS
Centre	Būr Saʿīd (Port Said) (31° 15' 24" N 032° 17' 03" E)
Centre in Arabic script	بور سعيد
Governorate website	www.portsaid.gov.eg

21. Dumyāṭ (Damietta) (31° 21' 00" N 031° 45' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	دمياط
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Dumyāṭ
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة دمياط
Variant names	Domyat
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-DT
Centre	Dumyāṭ (Damietta) (31° 24' 00" N 031° 48' 00" E)
Centre in Arabic script	دمياط
Governorate website	http://www.domyat.gov.eg/

22. Janūb Sīnā' (29° 00' 00" N 033° 48' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	جنوب سيناء
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Janūb Sīnā'
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة جنوب سيناء
Variant names	South Sinai
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-JS
Centre	Aṭ Ṭūr (28° 14' 11" N 033° 37' 31" E)
Centre in Arabic script	الطور
Variant names of centre	Tor, El Tor, Al Tur, al-Tur
Governorate website	http://www.southsinai.gov.eg

23. Kafr ash Shaykh (31° 18' 00" N 030° 54' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	كفر الشيخ
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Kafr ash Shaykh
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة كفر الشيخ
Variant names	Kafr el Sheikh, Kafr al-Sheikh
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-KFS
Centre	Kafr ash Shaykh (31° 06' 51" N 030° 56' 24" E)
Centre in Arabic script	كفر الشيخ
Governorate website	http://www.kafrelsheikh.gov.eg

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24. Maṭrūḥ (29° 42' 00" N 027° 30' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	مطروح
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Maṭrūḥ
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة مطروح
Variant names	Matrouh
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-MT
Centre	Marsá Maṭrūḥ (31° 21' 09" N 027° 14' 43" E)
Centre in Arabic script	مرسى مطروح
Variant names of centre	Mersa Matrouh
Governorate website	http://www.matrouh.gov.eg/

25. Qīnā (25° 48' 00" N 032° 45' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	قنا
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Qīnā
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة قنا
Variant names	Qena, Kena
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-KN
Centre	Qīnā (26° 09' 51" N 032° 43' 36" E)
Centre in Arabic script	قنا
Governorate Website	http://www.qena.gov.eg

26. Shamāl Sīnā' (30° 30' 00" N 033° 42' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	شمال سيناء
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Shamāl Sīnā'
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة شمال سيناء
Variant names	North Sinai, Shimal Sinai
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-SIN
Centre	Al 'Arīsh (31° 07' 54" N 033° 47' 54" E)
Centre in Arabic script	العريش
Variant names of centre	El-Areesh, Arish
Governorate Website	http://www.northsinai.gov.eg

27. Sūhāj (Sohag) (26° 30' 00" N 031° 42' 00" E)

Name in Arabic script	سوهاج
Long form name	Muḥāfaẓat Sūhāj
Long form name in Arabic script	محافظة سوهاج
Variant names	
ISO 3166-2 code	EG-SHG
Centre	Sūhāj (Sohag) (26° 33' 25" N 031° 41' 41" E)
Centre in Arabic script	سوهاج
Governorate Website	http://www.sohag.gov.eg

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Other Significant Locations

PCGN Romanization	Name in Arabic Script	Conventional or Anglicised Name ²²	Variant Names or Spellings	Feature Type	Location
Abū Qīr	ابو قير		Abo Ir, Abou Kir Abu 'ir	Populated place	31° 19' 11" N 30° 03' 38" E
Abū Sunbul	ابو سنبل	Abu Simbel	ابو سمبل	Ancient temple	22° 20' 00" N 031° 37' 00" E
Abū Sunbul	ابو سنبل	Abu Simbel	ابو سمبل	Populated place	22° 20' 45" N 031° 36' 58" E
Al 'Alamayn	العلمين	Alamein	El Alamein	Populated place	30° 49' 48" N 028° 57' 18" E
Al Ahrām	الاهرام	The Pyramids	The Pyramids of Giza	Ancient monument	29° 59' 00" N 031° 08' 00" E
Al Baḥr al Aḥmar	البحر الأحمر	Red Sea*		Sea	25° 00' 00" N 035° 00' 00" E
Al Baḥr al Abyaḍ al Mutawassiṭ	البحر الأبيض المتوسط	Mediterranean Sea*	Al Baḥr al Mutawassiṭ (البحر المتوسط), Al Baḥr al Abyaḍ (البحر الأبيض)	Sea	35° 00' 00" N 020° 00' 00" E
Al Wāḥāt al Baḥrīyah	الواحات البحرية		Bahriya, El Bahariya	Oases	28° 15' 00" N 028° 57' 00" E
As Sadd al 'Ālī	السد العالي	Aswan High Dam	Aswan Dam, High Dam	Dam	23° 58' 13" N 032° 52' 39" E
Aṣ Ṣaḥrā' al Gharbīyah	الصحراء الغربية	Western Desert	Libyan Desert ²³ (الصحراء الليبية)	Desert	27° 00' 00" N 028° 00' 00" E
Aṣ Ṣaḥrā' ash Sharqīyah	الصحراء الشرقية	Eastern Desert	Arabian Desert ²⁴ (الصحراء العربية)	Desert	28° 00' 00" N 032° 00' 00" E
As Sallūm	السلوم		Saloum, Salum ²⁵	Border crossing (Egypt-Libya)	31° 33' 13" N 025° 09' 29" E
Buḥayrat Nāṣir	بحيرة ناصر	Lake Nasser*	Lake Nubia (بحيرة نوبية)	Lake	22° 50' 00" N 032° 30' 00" E

²² For places in Egypt the conventional or anglicised name can be included in brackets after the romanized Arabic name. For international features (marked with an asterisk) the conventional name only should be used.

²³ The Western Desert and the Eastern Desert are the names used in Egypt for the desert either side of the River Nile. These two deserts form part of the larger Libyan Desert and Arabian Desert respectively.

²⁴ See footnote 15.

²⁵ The town on the Libyan side of the border is called Umm Sā'd (أم ساعد), also seen as Musaad.

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PCGN Romanization	Name in Arabic Script	Conventional or Anglicised Name ²²	Variant Names or Spellings	Feature Type	Location
Būr Safājah	بور سفاجة	Safaga	Port Safaga	Populated place	26° 43' 45" N 033° 56' 11" E
Dayr ath Tha'ālib	دير الثعالب		Deir El Taalib, Deir el Ta'ālib, دير الثعالب	Depression	30° 53' 00" N 028° 28' 00" E
Dhahab	ذهب	Dahab	دهب	Populated place & resort	28° 29' 51" N 034° 30' 58" E
Diltā an Nīl	دلتا النيل	Nile Delta	The Delta	River delta	31° 00' 00" N 031° 00' 00" E
Ḥalwān	حلوان	Helwan	Heloun, Hulwan, Hilwan	Populated place	29° 50' 29" N 031° 18' 03" E
Idfū	إدفو	Edfu		Populated place & Ancient temple	24° 58' 45" N 032° 52' 38" E
Jabal Mūsá	جبل موسى	Mount Sinai	Gebel Musa, Mount of Moses, Jebel Mousa	Mountain	28° 32' 15" N 033° 57' 59" E
Kawm Umbū	كوم امبو	Kom Ombo	Kum Ambu,	Populated place	24° 28' 36" N 032° 56' 47" E
Khalīj as Suways	خليج السويس	Gulf of Suez	Khalig Sues, Khalij Suweis	Gulf	28° 10' 00" N 033° 27' 00" E
Ma'bad Kawm Umbū	معبد كوم امبو	Kom Ombo Temple	Temple of Ombos	Ancient temple	24° 27' 00" N 032° 55' 00" E
Madīnat as Sādis min Uktūbar	مدينة السادس من أكتوبر	6 October City	Madīnat Sittat Uktūbar, Medina 6 October	Populated place	30° 00' 00" N 031° 06' 00" E
Marsá 'Alam	مرسى علم		مرسى العلم Marsa Alam, Marsah Alam, Mersa el Alam	Populated place	25° 04' 04" N 034° 52' 58" E
Mīnṭaqat an Nūbah	النوبة منطقة	Nubia*	Nuba	Region	20° 00' 00" N 032° 00' 00" E
Miṣr as Suflá	مصر السفلى	Lower Egypt	Miṣr Baḥr, Al Wajh al Baḥrī, El Masr el Bahari, Masr al-Sofla	Region	31° 00' 00" N 031° 00' 00" E

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PCGN Romanization	Name in Arabic Script	Conventional or Anglicised Name ²²	Variant Names or Spellings	Feature Type	Location
Munkhafaḍ al Qaṭṭārah	منخفض القطارة	Qattara Depression	Qatarah Depression	Depression	30° 13' 52" N 027° 45' 56" E
Muthalath Ḥalā'ib	مثلث حلايب	Halaib Triangle*	Mersa Halaib, Halayeb	Area	22° 13' 00" N 036° 38' 00" E
Nahr an Nīl	نهر النيل	River Nile*	Nahr el Nil, Nahr al Nil, Al Nil	River	30° 10' 00" N 031° 06' 00" E
Qanāt as Suways	قناة السويس	Suez Canal	Al Suweis	Canal	29° 55' 53" N 032° 33' 46" E
Rafaḥ	رفح	Rafah		Border crossing (Egypt-Gaza)	31° 17' 16" N 034° 14' 13" E
Ṣa'īd Miṣr	صعيد مصر	Upper Egypt	Aṣ Ṣa'īd, El Said, Es Sa'id, الصعيد	Region	26° 00' 00" N 032° 00' 00" E
Sharm ash Shaykh	شرم الشيخ	Sharm el Sheikh	Sharm	Populated place	27° 51' 07" N 034° 18' 18" E
Shibh Jazīrat Sīnā'	شبه جزيرة سيناء	Sinai, Sinai Peninsula	سيناء	Peninsula	29° 30' 00" N 034° 00' 00" E
Wādī an Nīl	وادي النيل	Nile Valley*		River valley	30° 10' 00" N 031° 06' 00" E
Wāḥat ad Dākhilah	واحة الداخلة		El Dakhla, Dakhleh, El Dakhilah, Wahat El Dakhilah	Oasis	25° 30' 00" N 029° 10' 00" E
Wāḥat al Khārijah	واحة الخارجة		El Kharga Oasis, Khargah	Oasis	25° 19' 27" N 030° 34' 44" E
Wāḥat Sīwah	واحة سيوة	Siwa Oasis	سيوه Siwa	Oasis	29° 11' 32" N 025° 31' 39" E

TOPONYMIC FACTFILE**Useful references**

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