

Grand Voyage Mathilde et Antoine

24/05/16, Newsletter 25

IN A NUTSHELL :

Date: May 24th, 2016 (758th day)

Location: Nuweiba, Egypt

Driven km up to date: 77 500.



PHOTOS

NEWS

The month has been busy. The decision to go back to France by mid-June has made us speed up the pace. In Ethiopia, we've been amazed by the closing ceremony of the Orthodox Easter in Lalibela. We visited Julien and Edhi in Mekele and chose to go to the Danakil region to see the Erta Ale volcano and the multicolored island of Dallol. The trip was physical but beautiful. Back in Mekele, we have witnessed the dance shoulder, typical from the Tigray region. Finally, we drove up North in the loop through the impressive canyons after Axum, on the border of the Simien mountains and to Gondar.

In Sudan, huge and very arid country, Nile banks excepted, we found a very warm and welcoming population! From the markets of Al-Qadarif on, we enjoyed fresh bread, grilled meat and good fruits and vegetables. Sudan has isolated treasures such as the Meroe and Karima pyramids in the desert. We took full advantage of loneliness under the starry sky in our wild camping nights.

The border crossing from Sudan to Egypt has been the toughest of our adventure: 24 hours at the border. Fortunately, we got adopted by truck drives from all countries. We were a bit concerned about the security / military conditions in Egypt, but we have had a great time. Visiting 3,000-year sites is an experience to live: Abu Simbel, Edfu, Karnak, the Valley of the Kings. We found great places to stay that we'd love to visit again (the Nile Compound in Luxor and the Barracuda Camp in Nuweiba). We enjoyed the fish: both in snorkeling and in our plates!

FUNNY PICTURE



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INTENSIVE MOMENTS :

- Spend a night tired without being able to sleep under a heavy rain with no shelter next to a volcano;
- Make the decision to go back to France;
- Shower in open air under the stars;
- Become friends with nice Iraki and Syrian truck drivers;
- Have a warm contact again with local people and be invited for tea.



CURRENT MOOD : Relieved to have crossed Egypt and Sinai without trouble, and after a heavy driving session, we are having a short break by the Red sea, to close to the African chapter and before the last travel piece.



COUNTRIES VISITED : Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kirgystan, Kazakhstan, Russia, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam, South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia, France, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, Egypt.

COMING : Israel, Italy, France.



MAP - ITINERARY :

since the last newsletter

✦ Departure

✦ Arrival



1. Danakil / Dalol (ET)
2. Road close to the Simien (ET)
3. Meroe pyramides (SU)
4. Sudanese desert (SU)
5. Edfu (EG)
6. Luxor (EG)
7. Nuweiba (EG)

