

Fustat Wadi El Gemal Camp

The Fustat Wadi El Gemal Camp, in Wadi El Gemal National Park, is the first tented facility of its kind in one of Egypt's National Parks.

Fustat Wadi El Gemal is a privately funded Egyptian ecotourism project. A group of local entrepreneurs, in cooperation with the Red Sea Protectorate, created a delightful getaway to accommodate the ever-increasing demand of eco/cultural tourists.

The camp provides tours and excursions offering a breathtaking, environmentally friendly experience in the Eastern Desert. Standards upheld by the camp includes superb service, informative adventures, and appreciation for the natural and cultural heritage of the area.

Short excursions include an opportunity for visitors to experience traditional Bedouin hospitality. Camel safaris into the nearby desert and mountains provide a chance to discover the variety of native plants and animals. A variety of camel breeds are available; all have been trained by members of the Amirab tribe from Gebel Elba, known for their incredible skill and knowledge of camels. Everyone will find a camel that suits his/her experience. A Bishari guide accompanies each safari to ensure safety and answer questions about life in such a remote place.

The camp focuses on conservation of the culture of the Bedouin communities living in and around the wadi.

USAID, through its LIFE Red Sea and other development projects, is actively supporting a number of ventures that improve the livelihoods of those in the local communities along Egypt's Red Sea coast, ensuring that they benefit economically from tourism and that local interest are considered in the development of regional tourism initiatives.

The Fustat Wadi El Gemal Camp provides an excellent operational model for supporting livelihood and income generation through direct employment and involvement of local residents in camp operations. The Camp and the LIFE Red Sea Project are currently exploring ways to collaborate on the development, promotion, and sale of traditional Bedouin handicrafts.

