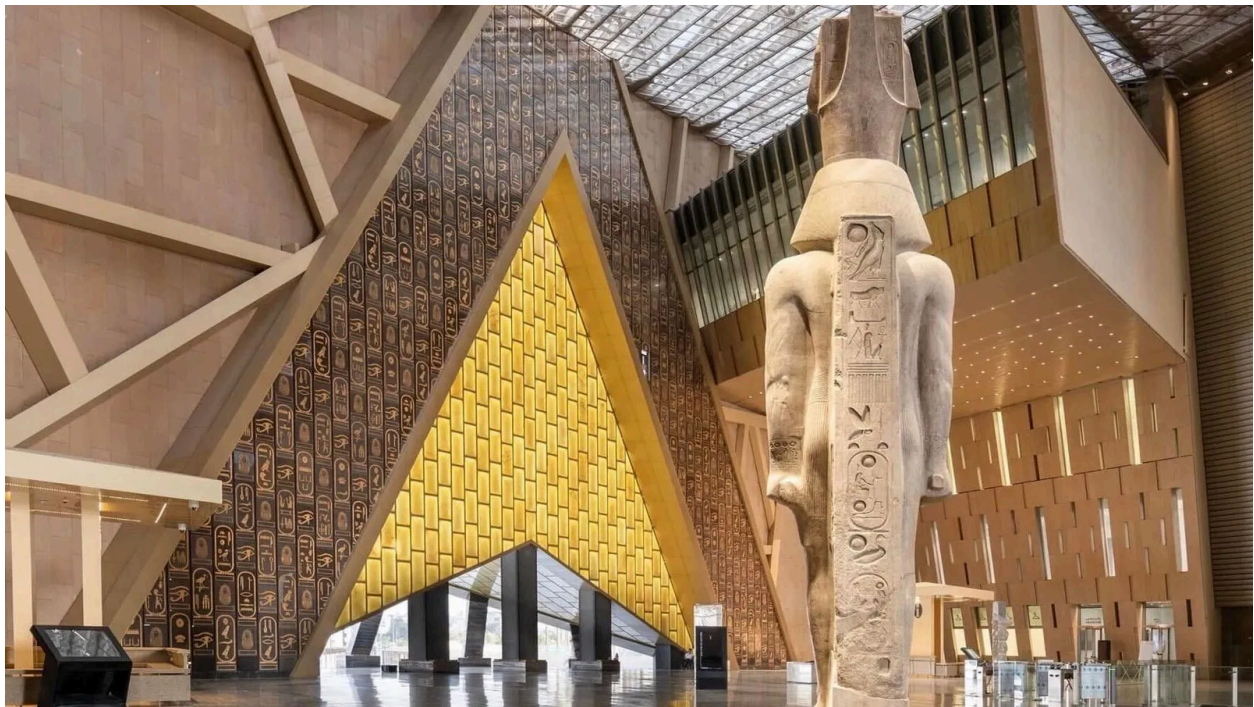


World's Largest Ancient Egypt Museum

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. **artifact** (noun) /'ɑː.tɪ.fækt/ – An object made by humans, usually from a past culture.
Example: The museum displayed ancient artifacts from thousands of years ago.
2. **pharaoh** (noun) /'feə.rəʊ/ – A king of ancient Egypt.
Example: Ramesses was one of the most powerful pharaohs in Egyptian history.
3. **inauguration** (noun) /ɪ.nəʊˈɡjuː.reɪ.ʃən/ – The official opening of a building or event.
Example: Many people attended the inauguration of the new museum.
4. **collection** (noun) /kəˈlek.ʃən/ – A group of similar objects gathered and kept together.
Example: The museum has a collection of artifacts from King Tutankhamun.
5. **display** (verb) /dɪˈspleɪ/ – To show something to people.
Example: The museum displays over 50,000 ancient objects.
6. **transform** (verb) /trænsˈfɔːm/ – To completely change something in form or appearance.
Example: The area around the pyramids has been transformed by new buildings.
7. **tourist** (noun) /ˈtuə.rɪst/ – A person who travels to visit places for pleasure.
Example: Millions of tourists visit Egypt every year.



The Grand Egyptian Museum has finally opened after nearly twenty years of preparation. It is located just outside Cairo, close to the famous Giza Pyramids. The museum cost one billion dollars and contains more than 50,000 artifacts from ancient Egypt. This is a very large number compared to the Louvre Museum in Paris, which displays about 35,000 items. The opening marks a major moment in modern Egyptian history.

Construction of the museum began in 2005, and many artifacts were moved from the old Egyptian Museum in downtown Cairo. That earlier museum had been used for more than a century but no longer had enough space. The new museum was designed to show both small and large objects more safely and clearly. One of its most impressive features is a huge statue of Ramesses the Great at the entrance. This 11-meter statue once stood in a busy roundabout in front of Cairo's main train station.

Inside the Grand Egyptian Museum, visitors are welcomed by a long staircase that rises six stories. The stairs lead to the main galleries where many priceless objects are displayed. From the top, people can enjoy an amazing view of the nearby pyramids. A special bridge connects the museum to the pyramid area, allowing visitors to walk easily between the two sites. This design helps people experience both ancient history and modern architecture in one trip.

The area around the museum has also been transformed to welcome more visitors. A new subway station is being built right outside the museum gates. In addition, Sphinx International Airport has opened only 40 minutes away to help travelers arrive more conveniently. During the museum's inauguration on November 1, two halls of King Tutankhamun's artifacts were revealed. This is the first time all 5,000 pieces from his collection have been displayed together since his tomb was discovered in 1922.

Egypt's government hopes the new museum will attract more tourists from around the world. The country welcomed a record 15.7 million visitors in 2024, and it hopes to double that number by 2032. Museum officials expect between 15,000 and 20,000 visitors every day. Many experts believe the museum will become one of the world's most popular cultural destinations. As one leader said, "The world has been waiting," and now the excitement is truly beginning.

DISCUSSION

1. If you could visit the Grand Egyptian Museum, what artifact would you want to see first and why?
2. How do you feel about museums that take many years to build—do you think it makes them more special?
3. Would you rather explore the museum or the pyramids first during a trip to Egypt?
4. Do you enjoy learning history through objects, stories, or documentaries? Which is most effective for you?
5. How important is it for a country to preserve its ancient history for future generations?
6. If Japan were to build a massive new history museum, what theme or period should it focus on?
7. Imagine you are a museum curator—how would you design an exhibit to make it exciting for visitors?