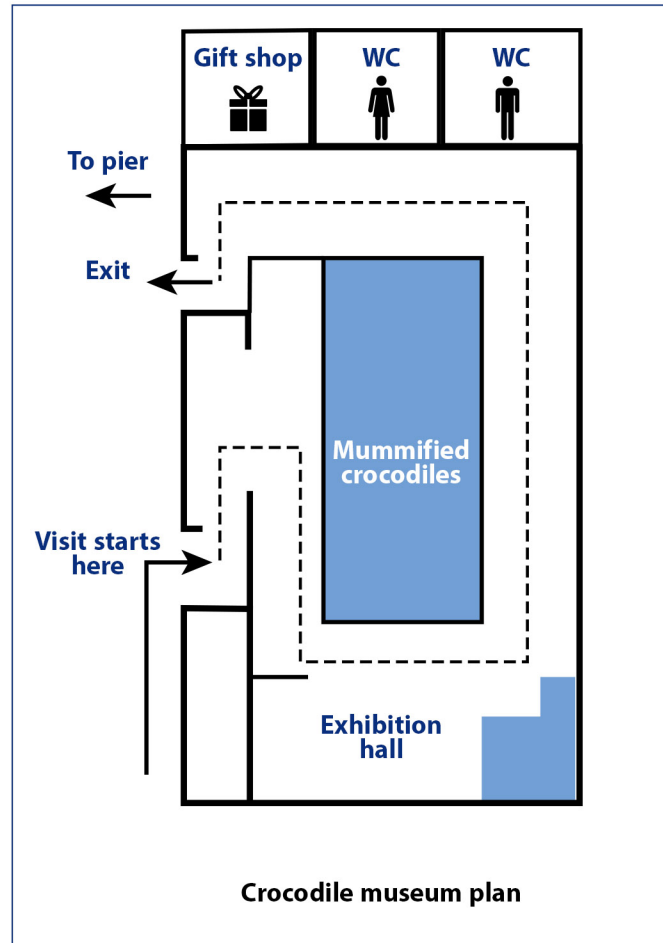
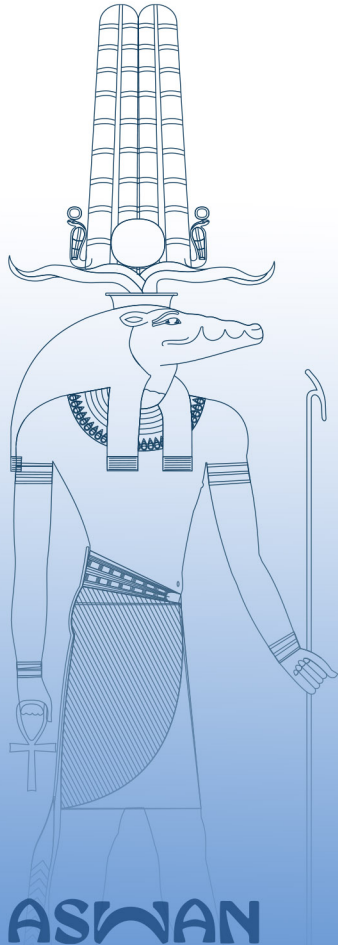




CROCODILE MUSEUM KOMOMBO



Tickets: Included in Komombo temple ticket

Visitor	160 EGP
Student	80 EGP

Opening hours:

Everyday from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm
ticket office closes at 8:30 pm

Hotline for complaints &
suggestion **19654**

mota.gov.eg



ASWAN

Aswan is one of the significant cities in Egypt, as it is the site of the northern-most cataract of the Nile, making it a crucial stopping point in people's journeys. Historically, the site was Egypt's southern gateway, where the town was the link between Africa and Egypt. It was known as "Swnw" to ancient Egyptians.

The governorate of Aswan hosts the temple of Elephantine and the remains of the granite quarries, including the famous Unfinished Obelisk, Philae with its temples and the island of Kalbasha, as well as the Nubian Museum in Aswan city. At a small distance north, you can find the temples of Edfu, Kom Ombo and al-Kab, while in the south, you can reach the monumental High Aswan Dam, Lake Nasser and the impressive temples of Abu Simbel.



Aswan governorate archaeological sites map

Crocodile Museum



The Crocodile Museum is located next to the Kom Ombo temple, north of Aswan. This museum highlights the crocodile-headed god Sobek since it was opened in 2012. Its main exhibition hall displays the mummified mummies of Nile crocodiles. The longest crocodile was 4.30 m, while the smallest was 2m.

In addition to a collection of crocodile fetuses, eyes, golden and ivory teeth of mummified crocodiles. The museum also shows statues of different sizes of the god Sobek and a tomb model that simulates what was discovered in the Shutb cemetery. It shows the burial methods and the pottery coffins that contained this sacred animal's mummy.

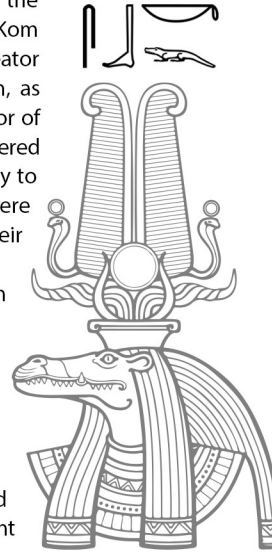


Sobek

The crocodile-headed Sobek was the primary god in the Fayoum and the Kom Ombo regions. He is one of the creator gods in the ancient Egyptian religion, as he appears as a guardian and protector of mankind. The ancient Egyptians revered crocodiles for their strength and ability to devour and capture prey. Crocodiles were also a symbol of fertility because of their association with the Nile.

Sobek was depicted in its human form with a crocodile head; it always wore a feathered wig with a sun disk surrounded by two horns or with the Atef crown. He also sometimes appeared as his symbolic animal, in full crocodile form.

The worship of Sobek began in the Old Kingdom, as mentioned in the ancient pyramid texts, and continued in the era of the Middle Kingdom, especially during the reign of King Amenemhat III. It also united with the idol Ra in the form of (Sobek Ra). Hence, its worship continued until the Greco-Roman period.



The Offerings of God Sobek

Scenes of the god Sobek were carved on sandstone and limestone panels dating to different historical periods, and they show the devotion and adoration of the people to the god Sobek. Some worshippers gave offerings in the form of mummified crocodiles. Depending on the individuals' wealth.

Offerings to the god Sobek were also stone figurines of crocodiles. Some of the stone images might have once been gilded, showing the divine nature of the crocodile god. Many show holes on the head where gilded solar disks were once inserted. With time, these were stolen.



Embalming Crocodiles

The ancient Egyptians preserved the crocodiles' bodies through mummification. They were embalmed after death with the same precision as the kings or princes. After embalming, it was wrapped with rolls of linen, and before burial, its eyes were filled with artificial replicas.

Recent studies conducted on some crocodile mummies confirmed keeping their internal organs preserved, unlike other mummified animals, whose entrails were emptied at the time of embalming.



The Shutb Cemetery

The excavations in the Al-Shutb area near Kom Ombo revealed a complete cemetery where crocodiles were buried. It was used from the beginning of the Middle Kingdom until the Greco-Roman period. Nearly 80 crocodiles were found.

Unfortunately, most of these tombs were looted in ancient times, except for some human mummies or animal mummies, mostly crocodiles, found accompanied by pottery vessels of different shapes and sizes. Crocodile mummies include crocodile eggs and embryos, small and large crocodiles, as well as mummified fish, dogs and falcons.

