



## City Guide: Cairo, Egypt

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*Sip kakadeh I – hibiscus tea – in the Khan's all-night ahwas or dance in a jazz club in hip Agouza.*

### *Lively: Downtown*

For a quiet cocktail, go to a civilised hotel bar, or follow Cairene party-lovers to Midan Orabi for live music till the wee hours and slightly ropey local drinking dens. Play backgammon in an *ahwa* – some stay open all night.

### *Decadent: Zamalek*

Indulge along with locals in this smart area, with its all-night casinos in plush hotels. Relax on a plump cushion in a riverside bar and smoke a fruity *sheesha* pipe. Dress up at the more discerning joints and reserve the best table – or cushion – in the house.

### **Nile View: Sequoia**

**For a decadent night with an upmarket crowd, reserve a your cushion or sofa space at Sequoia near the water for a good view of the Nile and relax with a *sheesha* in one hand and a chilled glass of wine in the other. The chic décor, low tables and draped canopy overhead attract the wealthy Cairenes for cocktails or cappuccino. Come here to see and be seen.**

### *Nightlife Tips*

During the fasting month of Ramadan, no alcohol is served apart from at some five-star hotels, but the streets of Khan-el-Khalili are alive until dawn with traditional music recitals. Avoid the sleazy 'belly dancing' clubs, which aren't much more than brothels, and watch the show in good hotels. Locals are living proof that you don't need to be drunk to have a good time.

### *Soundtracks*

Trip through the Khan to *Noor el Ain* (Light of my Eyes) by heart throb Amr Diab; stroll by the Nile to *Sawah* (Wanderer) by the great Abdel Halim Hafez; undulate your belly to *Inte Omri* (You Are My Life) by diva Uum Kalsoum.