

The Valley of the Kings

by

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Where is the Valley of the Kings?

The Valley of the Kings is located on the Western bank of the Nile, near the ancient city of Thebes (now Luxor).

The map shows the location of The Valley of the Kings



The valley of the kings is the burial ground for many Egyptian Pharaohs.

Who else was buried here?

The first Pharaoh to be buried in the Valley of the Kings was Tutankhamun. Over the next 500 years many more Pharaohs were buried here including many of the Ramesses (I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, IX, X), Hatshepsut, Amenhotep I, and Tutankhamun.

When did Queen Hatshepsut reign? *Queen Hatshepsut reigned from 1472-1458 B.C.*



Queen Hatshepsut

Tutankhamun

Biography of Howard Carter

- Howard Carter was born on 9th May 1874 in Kensington, London.
- When he was 17 years old, Carter worked in Egypt as an archaeological artist. He produced drawings and diagrams of important Ancient Egyptian finds and sites for the Egypt Exploration Fund.
- In 1907, Lord Carnarvon hired Howard Carter to lead an excavation of an Ancient Egyptian tomb.
- On 4th November 1922, a stone step was discovered in the sand. This led to the tomb of Tutankhamun.
- Howard Carter spent years drawing, cataloguing, and removing the artefacts which were put on display in the museum of Cairo.
- Howard Carter died on 2nd March 1939, aged 64. He was suffering from lymphoma.



Burial Mask

Tutankhamun's Tomb

Tutankhamun was more commonly known as King Tut.

He was born Tutankhaten in 1341 BC. He was the son of

Pharaoh Akhenaten. Tut was made Pharaoh at the age of

9, after his father's death. Tut changed back some of the laws his father had passed and changed his name to Tutankhamun.

Tut died at the age of 19 and was mummified and buried in a

Sarcophagus - there were 3 nested coffins and in the smallest was a golden burial mask, decorated with coloured glass and gemstones. Surrounding Tut were his treasured possessions and artefacts that he would need for his journey to the afterlife.

The tomb had been broken into but not much had been taken. The tomb was again

discove

Howard Carter

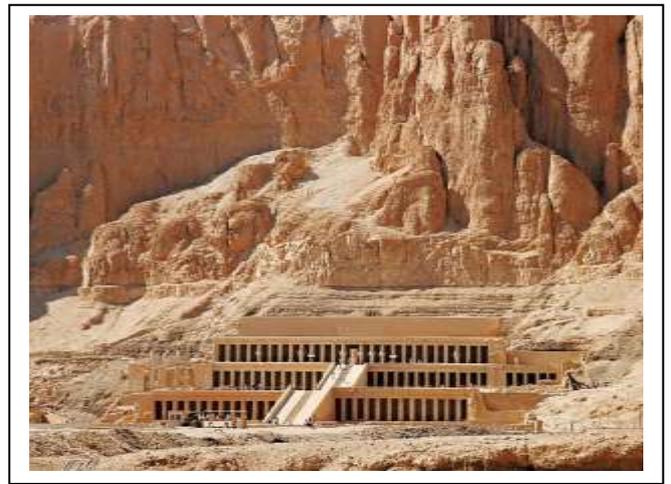
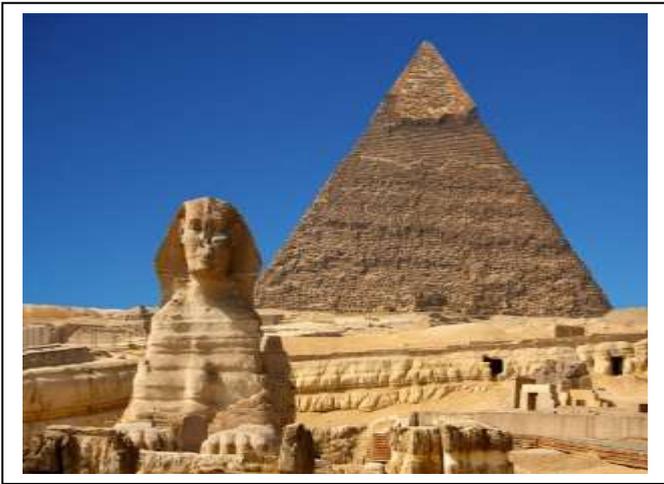
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Grave Robbers

Why did the Egyptians change from using Pyramids to the using the Valley of the Kings to bury their dead Pharaohs? *Grave robbers were attracted to steal from the magnificent pyramids, so the Pharaohs were then buried in the underground tombs of the Valley of the Kings.*



How many tombs are there?

There are over 60 tombs in the Valley of the Kings. They vary from small tombs that are little more than a large hole in the ground to very large tombs with over 100 underground chambers.

Unfortunately, most of the tombs were looted thousands of years ago and the treasure was stolen or removed by thieves. There is artwork on the walls, however, that allows archaeologists to learn much about the lives of the Pharaohs and other leaders who were buried here.

The artwork inside one of the tombs

