



JOURNEY 5 TRIP 5

NILE RIVER FACTSHEET

The Nile River is widely considered the longest river in the world and has been the lifeblood of civilizations, particularly Ancient Egypt, for millennia. It flows northward through northeastern Africa, draining into the Mediterranean Sea.

Key Facts About the Nile River

- **Length:** Approximately 4,132 miles (6,650 kilometres) long, though its exact length and status as the "longest river" are sometimes debated with the Amazon River.
- **Flow:** Northward, through diverse landscapes including jungles, plains, and deserts. It is one of the few major rivers in the world that flows from south to north.
- **Mouth:** Mediterranean Sea, via a large delta in Egypt.
Find the mouth of the Nile and draw a ring around it.
- **Basin countries:** Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Egypt.
Draw a line between the name of the country to the country on the map.
- **Tributaries:** The Nile has two main tributaries: the longer White Nile, which originates in the Lake Victoria region, and the Blue Nile, which starts in the Ethiopian Highlands and provides most of the water and silt. The rivers merge at Khartoum, the capital of Sudan.
Highlight or draw a ring around the names of the tributaries and where they merge.
- **Source:** The most distant source is the Kagera River in Burundi, which flows into Lake Victoria.
Can you find the source of the Nile in Burundi? Draw a line along the river that flows from it into Lake Victoria.
- **Significance:** The river is a vital freshwater resource for millions, providing water for irrigation, drinking, fishing, and hydroelectric power (from dams like the Aswan High Dam).
- **Ancient Civilization:** Ancient Egyptian civilization flourished along its banks, relying on the predictable annual flooding that deposited rich, fertile silt, turning the desert land into lush agricultural areas.
- **Wildlife:** The Nile and its surrounding ecosystems are home to diverse wildlife, including the Nile crocodile, hippopotamuses, and various species of fish and birds.
Draw some crocodiles, hippos, fish and birds on the map along the Nile River.
- **Modern Importance:** Today, an estimated 95% of the Egyptian population lives within a few kilometres of the Nile.

