



# Kottamia Observatory: A Lighthouse for Astronomy Enthusiasts

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## The National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics (NRIAG)

- The first observatory was established in 1839 as “The Royal Observatory” in the Bolak area, then in 1868, it was moved to Abbasia and lastly to Helwan in 1903.
- The National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics (NRIAG) is considered the oldest research institute in North Africa and one of the world heritage sites in Science and technology.



## Kottamia Astronomical Observatory (KAO)

- Due to the urban sprawl, the Kottamia Astronomical Observatory (KAO) was chosen as the new observatory in 1964.
- The Kottamia Observatory has the largest telescope in the Middle East and North Africa (74-inch reflector). The observatory offers a great night sky view away from the city lights.





# NRIAG Visits

- The public gets to visit the astronomical and geophysical museum which contains old telescopes, and astronomical and geophysical instruments. The museum also contains two Clock Rooms that have been used for time correction and adjusting artificial satellite observations.
- Visitors also get to see the Reynolds 30 inch reflector telescope and the solar telescope and how they work.





# KAO Visits

- The Kottamia Observatory welcomes visits from the public of different ages and backgrounds.
- Visitors learn about astronomy and the giant telescope and its work, also they get to enjoy the clear sky and observe different celestial objects through small telescopes.
- They get to learn about stellar constellations and how to find the North.



# Activities

- ◉ We offer the visitors a special experience while visiting KAO, using telescopes alongside other tools like star wheels, sundials, solar system models, and eclipse models. That makes students in particular connect what they learn at school with what they experience at KAO.

