Alexandria is the largest city on the Mediterranean – also called the “Bride of the Mediterranean” by locals – the sixth-largest city in the Arab world and the ninth-largest urban area in Africa.

The city extends about 40 km (25 mi) at the northern coast of Egypt along the Mediterranean Sea.

During the Hellenistic period, it was home to a lighthouse ranking among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World as well as a storied library. Today the library is reincarnated in the disc-shaped, ultramodern Bibliotheca Alexandrina. The city also has Greco-Roman landmarks, old-world cafes and sandy beaches. Its 15th-century seawall Qaitbay Citadel is now a museum.

Alexandria was founded in c.331 BC by Alexander the Great, king of Macedon and leader of the Greek League of Corinth, during his conquest of the Achaemenid Empire.