

Egypt & Nile River Cruise
October 24-31
7 nights / 8 days
Approximate Cost \$1,356 Double / \$1,731 Single

Day 1 - Arrive in Cairo

Welcome to Egypt's capital and largest city. Take some time to relax and get settled before gathering for a welcome dinner.

Overnight – Cairo (D)

Day 2 - Pyramids & Sphinx

Our destination today: the wondrous Pyramids of Giza. Built during the Third and Fourth Dynasties, these monuments stand as a testimony to the skill and strengths of their builders. We'll get up close to study the Great Pyramid, as well as see as the Pyramids of Khefren and Mycerinus in the distance. Nearby, we'll gaze at the mythical Sphinx of Giza, which famously combines a reclining lion with the head of an Egyptian king. After these amazing sights, we'll lunch like the Egyptians do at a local restaurant. Free time after lunch.

Overnight – Cairo (B, L)

Day 3 - Flight from Cairo to Luxor (included)

We'll visit the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens, including the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, Egypt's second confirmed female Pharaoh and regarded as one of its most successful rulers. The Nile River cruise begins.

Overnight – Nile River Cruise (B, L, D)

Day 4 - Visit Luxor & Karnak Temples

Often considered the most extraordinary open-air museum in the world, Luxor boasts an imposing array of ruins and monuments. The modern name for Thebes (the "city of palaces"), Luxor is also the inspiration for the word luxury, and we'll see quite a bit of architectural extravagance today. The graceful Temple of Luxor was built over several centuries by Amenhopis III, Tutankhamun, Ramses II and Alexander the Great and features an avenue of sphinxes. We'll also tour the ancient temple complex of Karnak. The immense wealth of Thebes was spent embellishing and building temples in honor of Amun-Ra, the most important and powerful of ancient Egyptian gods.

Overnight – Nile River Cruise (B, L, D)

Day 5 – Edfu / Kom Ombo

We'll sail on to Edfu, an Egyptian city on the west bank of the Nile River and enjoy a horse drawn carriage ride. Our day continues with a tour of the immense, well preserved Temple of Edfu, built between 237 and 57 B.C. and also dedicated to Horus. Legend says that this was the site where Horus avenged his father's murder by his uncle, the god Seth. In Kom Ombo to visit an unusual

double temple, built in the Ptolemaic period and dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and the falcon-head god Horus.

Overnight – Nile River Cruise (B, L, D)

Day 6 – Aswan

Arrive in Aswan by Nile Cruise. Visit the modern-day architectural wonder, the Aswan High Dam, as well as Philae's Temple of Isis, which was nearly lost to rising water in 1960's until the dam was built. Free time to explore Aswan on your own. Possible visit to the market.

Overnight – Nile River Cruise (B)

Day 7 - Fly Aswan to Cairo

Upon arrival in Cairo, visit the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities (newly built museum in 2020!), which houses the world's largest collection of artifacts from the era of the pharaohs including some belonging to King Tut. Afterwards, we'll wander through the bustling, colorful Khan el Khalili Bazaar. Farewell Dinner and last night in Egypt.

Overnight – Cairo (B, D)

Day 8 - Travelers fly home