



NILE CRUISE AND LUXOR:



CLICK ON THE PLAYER ABOVE TO SEE WHY YOU NEED TO MAKE THIS TRIP!

DAY 1 – Saturday – NEW YORK / ISTANBUL

Tour members are welcomed for our departing flight to Istanbul via wide-body aircraft arriving the next day. Meals served on board.

DAY 2 – Sunday - ISTANBUL / CAIRO

This afternoon we arrive in Istanbul where we board our flight to Egypt. Upon arrival in Cairo we will be met and taken to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – Monday -CAIRO /LUXOR / KARNAK / NILE CRUISE

This morning after breakfast we will transfer to the airport where we board our flight to Luxor. Upon arrival we will be met and transferred to our cruise ship where we will check in.

This afternoon we will visit the Luxor Temple on the bank of the Nile as well as the complex of temples at Karnak -- including Amun Temple, the largest columnar structure ever raised. Continue our exploration amid massive columns and inscrutable statues at Luxor's fertility shrine of the sun god. Then horse-drawn caleches continue to the Avenue of the Sphinxes and Karnak's colossal wonders. Dine aboard as the felucca sails zigzag across the sunset.

DAY 4 – Tuesday -LUXOR / ESNA / EDFU / NILE CRUISE

After breakfast, a ferry boat takes us across the river to the West Bank of the Nile, to visit the fabled Colossi of Memnon. We then continue to the mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, Egypt's only female pharaoh, and the Valley of the Kings, where we step from a dramatic landscape of sun, sand and rugged mountain peaks into the dark silence of some of the sixty-four tombs discovered here to date. Return to our cruise for lunch.

Threading through the Esna Locks, we arrive at Esna an hour later. We go ashore to visit the ornately hewn Temple of Khnum with its gracious, colonnaded vestibule. Return to the ship where we enjoy dinner as we sail to Edfu.

DAY 5 – Wednesday -EDFU / KOM OMBO / NILE CRUISE

This morning we explore the birth house at the Temple of Horus and other engaging sights.

This afternoon we cruise the Nile, enjoying the splendid poolside facilities of our luxurious barge en route to Kom Ombo. In Kom Ombo see its unique and spectacular temple, dedicated to two gods: Horus, the sun god and Sobek,

the crocodile god. Tonight we enjoy dinner aboard, followed by a lively Galabeya Party with a display of oriental dancing.

DAY 6 – Thursday -KOM OMBO / ASWAN / NILE CRUISE

This morning we sail to Aswan where we see the Aswan High Dam. We then head for the quarries of ancient Thebes and a chance to walk on the Unfinished Obelisk.

After a relaxing lunch on board, we take a sailboat cruise to Elephantine Island and the Aga Khan's mausoleum. Here the tombs reveal the colossal space concepts of the early Memphis architects. Dinner on board the ship.

DAY 7 – Friday - ASWAN / CAIRO

This morning we will be at leisure before we leave our cruise ship and be taken to the airport for our flight to Cairo.

This afternoon we will board our flight to Cairo. Continue our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 8 – Saturday - PYRAMIDS / SPHINX / EGYPTIAN MUSEUM / COPTIC CAIRO

After breakfast, our first stop will be at the Pyramids. We will walk around Cheops Pyramid, the largest, that was built approximately 2690 B.C. We also visit the Pyramid of Chephren and see the Great Sphinx, who has stood guard over the pyramids all these years. The Sphinx was carved from a single piece of stone. It is a lion with a Pharaoh's head thought to be a portrait of the Pharaoh Chephren. Here we will be able to ride a camel by the Pyramids area.

Travel through Cairo crossing the Nile to Old Cairo to explore the City's medina and alabaster mosque. Continue on to visit the greatest collection of Pharaonic treasures in the world at the famous Egyptian Museum. Visit the Old Kingdom Collection, Middle and New Kingdom galleries and Greco-Roman periods and you do not want to miss Tut-Ankh-Amon treasures that visited the USA several years ago. We will go to Coptic Cairo, where we will visit the famous Hanging Church, named "Al-Mu'allaqah". Continue to the Church of St. Sergius, a 5th century Coptic Church. Here is where the Holy Family stayed and is regarded by visitors as a source of blessing. We go to the recently restored Synagogue of Ben Ezra. This is the oldest Jewish synagogue in Egypt built in 882 AC. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 9 – Sunday - CAIRO / HOME

This morning we will transfer to the airport for our flight home with unforgettable memories to cherish always. Knowing we have walked in the footsteps of Jesus and the early Christians on such a memorable tour will bring new meaning to our Bible reading.



Why you should visit Egypt with Hallie Lindsay
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