

**Nile Classic
Cairo and Nile Cruise
9 days - 8 nights****Cairo, Memphis, Sakkara, Giza, Aswan, Philae, Kom Ombo, Edfu, Luxor, Valley of the Kings
Relaxation, History, Culture, Cruising****Day 1: Cairo**

Arrival at Cairo International Airport where you will be met and assisted through passport and customs procedures. You will then be transferred to your hotel for check-in and overnight.

Day 2: Cairo (Memphis, Sakkara, Giza)

After breakfast, we will meet in the hotel lobby to begin our day by exploring desert antiquities dating back from the beginnings of a civilization that arose more than 5,000 years ago. In the company of our Egyptologist guide, we venture through the countryside to visit some of Egypt's oldest sites. We first go to Memphis, where remnants of the nation's first capital and once the most cosmopolitan city in Egypt now lie scattered in the desert. We'll also see the carved limestone Colossus of Ramses II. Nearby, we visit the necropolis at Sakkara, where King Djoser's Step Pyramid was "built to last till the ends of time." This vast site in the heart of a desert plateau is the largest necropolis in Egypt. Extending for almost five miles, the complex forms a collection of pyramids, temples and tombs that is fundamental to understanding the history of ancient Egypt. We then visit the Pyramids of Giza. Nothing evokes the long and intriguing history of Egypt as powerfully as the Pyramids. Rising from the desert, Khufu (Cheops), Khafra and Menkaura seems to symbolize the enigmatic tug of Egypt in our imaginations. The Great Pyramid immortalizes the son of Sneferu and Hetepheres. Though little is known of this pharaoh, his monument (the largest of the three) is comprised of 2.3 million stone blocks, each weighing an average 2.5 tons. You will get to enter Great Pyramid and visit the King's Chamber. You will continue to visit the colossal statue of the Great Sphinx. The Sphinx has stood guard over the pyramids for more than 4,500 years. Carved from an outcrop of rock, the Sphinx remains the ultimate symbol of Ancient Egypt, with its lion's body and human head. You will also visit the Solar Boat Museum. The history and the lifestyle of ancient Egyptian pharaohs come alive before our eyes through the skilled narrations of our specialist guide. We return to our hotel for overnight. [B/L]

Day 3: Cairo (Egyptian Museum, Citadel, Mosque, St. Sergius Church, Ben Ezra Synagogue, Khan el Khalili Bazaar)

Following breakfast, we will start our special tour of the Museum of Antiquities in Cairo. The museum houses the greatest collection of pharaonic treasures in the world. We see these artifacts, including Tutankhamen's Collection of Golden Treasures and discover the museum's expansive collections. We will continue to Old Cairo, starting with the Citadel and Mohamed Ali's Alabaster Mosque, where you get a complete view of Cairo and the Nile River. Continuing to Coptic Cairo, where we visit the famous Suspended Church (Hanging Church), dating to the late 4th and early 5th century. The basilica was named "Al-Mu'allaqah" because it was built atop the south gate of the Fortress of Babylon. Then we see the Church of St. Sergius, a fifth century Coptic Church. This basilica is built on the cave in which the Holy Family stayed and is regarded by visitors as a source of blessing. As we stroll along, we come to the recently restored Synagogue of Ben Ezra, which marks the place where Moses was rescued by Pharaoh's water girl. This is the oldest Jewish synagogue in Egypt, built in AD 882. After the tour, you will be transferred to your hotel for overnight. [B]

Day 4: Cairo, Aswan (Nile Cruise)

After breakfast, we will transfer to Cairo Domestic Airport for our short flight to Aswan. Upon arrival you will be transferred to your cruise for check-in before lunch. [B/L/D]

Day 5: Aswan (High Dam, Philae, Kom Ombo)

Breakfast then visit the highlights of the beautiful city of Aswan, which include the High Dam, the Granite Quarries and return to your cruise for lunch. In the afternoon visit the Temple of Philae, located on a beautiful island. The construction of the temple of Philae began under the reign of one of the last

pharaohs of the Pharaonic era, Nectanebo I (XXXth Dynasty). It is later, under Greek rule, that the majority of buildings will be added, including the large temple of Isis. It will be finished by the Romans with the addition of the kiosk of Trajan, among others. This temple is one of the best-preserved Ptolemaic temples in Egypt (with the Edfu Temple and the Abydos Complex) and was one of the most important sanctuaries in Egypt and Nubia until in 551 CE, when Emperor Justinian ordered its closure. Isis was very popular in the Roman era and its cult was maintained in the island until the early sixth century CE, even after the closure of Egyptian temples (at that time almost all of Egypt had been Christianized) imposed by the decree of Theodosius in 391 CE.

You will return to your cruise for lunch then begin sailing to Kom Ombo where you'll make your next visit. Located on the eastern bank of the Nile, this sanctuary enjoys a very exceptional situation overlooking the river and an entire palm grove. The particularity of this building lies in its double character. This particular conception, unique in Egypt, responds to a strictly theological necessity since the temple is dedicated to two distinct divine triads: The left half, to the north, is reserved for the god Haroéris falcon, "Horus the Elder" or "Horus the Great", the goddess Tasentnefret, the "Good sister" and the god son Panebtaoui, the "Master of Two Lands". The right side, to the south, is dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek, to the goddess Hathor and to the god son Khonsu. Return to the cruise for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Day 6: Aswan, Edfu, Luxor

This morning after breakfast you will visit the Horus of Edfu, the best-preserved temple of all ancient Egypt. Dedicated to the falcon god Horus, it was erected during the time of Ptolemy III. On the side walls of the first hypostyle hall, it can be read that the first stone of this temple was laid on the 7th epiphany of the year X of the reign of Ptolemy III (the father of Cleopatra) on 23 August 237 BC after the pharaoh, assisted by the god Horus and his wife the goddess Hathor, marking the temple's perimeter. You will then begin sailing to Luxor and enjoy the rest of the day on the cruise. [B/L/D]

Day 7: Luxor (East and West Banks)

After breakfast, you will begin your sightseeing of the western bank of the Nile River to see the Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens, Deir El Bahari and the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon. In Deir el-Bahari, "The Northern Convent" as it translates from Arabic, is the funerary monument to Queen Hatshepsut, Deir el-Bahari located at the foot of the cliffs that determine the mountainous circus of Thebes, on the left bank of the Nile, facing the city of Luxor and the temple of Karnak, south of the Valley of the Kings. Lunch on board. Then visit the East bank, composed of the temples of Karnak and the Luxor. Here is how Jean-François Champollion (1829) described his visit: "I finally went to the palace, or rather to the city of monuments, to Karnak. There appeared to me all of the Pharaonic magnificence, all the greatest that men have imagined and executed. All that I had seen at Thebes, all that I had enthusiastically admired on the left bank, seemed to me miserable in comparison to the gigantic conceptions with which I was surrounded. It will suffice to add, that in Europe we are only Lilliputians, and that no ancient or modern people have conceived the art of architecture on a scale so sublime, so large, so grand, as the old Egyptians did; they conceived of man a hundred feet high, and we have at most five feet eight inches. The European imagination, which rises well above our porticoes, stops and falls helpless at



the foot of the one-hundred-and-forty-columns of the hypostyle hall of Karnak.” Overnight in Luxor. [B/L/D]

Day 8: Luxor, Cairo

Disembarkation after breakfast and transfer to Luxor airport for your flight back to Cairo. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel for check-in and overnight

Day 9: Cairo, USA

Breakfast then meeting at the hotel lobby for transfer to Cairo International Airport for your departure flight.

[B] = Breakfast | [B/L] = Breakfast and Lunch | [B/L/D] = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

You Tour includes:

- All transfers
- Assistance at airports
- 8 nights’ accommodation:
 - Cairo – 4 nights
 - On cruise – 4 nights
- Meals
 - Breakfast daily
 - 5 lunches
 - 4 dinners
- Sightseeing in Cairo
- Full day tour of Memphis, Sakkara, the Pyramids of Giza, the Sphinx and the Solar Boat Museum
- Sightseeing in Luxor and Aswan
- Private English-speaking Egyptologist guide in Cairo

- English-speaking guide while on cruise
- Entrance fees for visited sites

Tours does not include:

- International airline tickets
- Taxes or surcharges related to airline tickets
- Visas
- Travel insurance
- Other meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Entrance fees for sites not included
- Alcoholic, non-alcoholic beverages
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check-out
- Expenses of personal nature
- Tourism and Harbor taxes

Hotels in your Tour:

Location	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
Superior First Class		
Cairo	Ramses Hilton	4
	Sonesta Cairo	4
	Le Meridien Pyramids	4
Cruise	Sonasta Moon	5
	Goddess	5
	Movenpick Royal Lily	5
Deluxe		
Cairo	Intercontinental Semiramis	4
	Conrad	4.5
Cruise	Sonasta Moon	5
	Goddess	5
	Movenpick Royal Lily	5
Super Deluxe		
Cairo	Four Seasons	4.5
	Nile Ritz-Carlton	4.5
	St. Regis	NR
Cruise	Sonasta Moon	5
	Goddess	5
	Movenpick Royal Lily	5

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

Tour Prices:

Season	Double	Single
Suprior First Class		
May 1 – September	\$1,125	\$1,625
October – December 24	\$1,265	\$1,839
December 25 – April '21	\$1,455	\$2,115
Deluxe		
May 1 – September	\$1,279	\$1,879
October – December 24	\$1,585	\$2,225
December 25 – April '21	\$1,825	\$2,559
Super deluxe		
May 1 – September	\$1,959	\$2,835
October – December 24	\$2,519	\$3,535
December 25 – April '21	\$2,899	\$4,059

Prices are per person and may change without notice

Domestic airfare:

Routing	Class	Cost
Cairo – Aswan/Luxor – Cairo	Economy	\$295

This fare may be cheaper if integrated in your international itinerary.
Consult your travel agent or HWDT

Tour Code: EG01CAI20TP