Egypt

Itinerary

Day 1Arrive in Cairo, Egypt

Check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free for you to explore this exciting city. Later, meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner this evening. (D)

Day 2Cairo

This morning, drive to the Giza Plateau to visit the three PYRAMIDS of Kings Cheops, Chephren, and Mykerinos, as well as the Valley Temple with the SPHINX. In the afternoon, visit the NATIONAL EGYPTIAN MUSEUM and listen to the historic commentary given by your Tour Director as you walk around the exhibit halls. Also admire the treasure of the “Boy King,“ Tutankhamun. Tonight, join the optional evening Nile dinner cruise, which includes belly dancing and a folklore show. (B)

Day 3Cairo–Alexandria

Discover the oldest part of the city, known as Coptic Cairo, originally a Roman fortress town called “Babylon.” Today, some of the Roman walls can still be seen. Next, visit the CITADEL OF SALADIN with its beautiful MOSQUE. Leave Cairo and drive north through the Nile Delta area. Lunch is included en route. More vistas of the Egyptian countryside come alive before reaching Alexandria for three overnights. (B,L,D)

Day 4Alexandria

Alexandria, the “Pearl of the Mediterranean,” is the very essence of everything Egyptian—cosmopolitan, cultured, elegant, architecturally contrasting, effervescently alive, and, above all, conscious of its beauty and magnetism. On the included city sightseeing, see the CATACOMBS, POMPEY’S PILLAR, and the new ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY. Stop by the Fort of Qait, and enjoy a stroll around the GARDENS of the royal Montaza Palace. Afternoon and evening are at leisure. (B)

Day 5Alexandria. Excursion to El Alamein

Drive along the Mediterranean coastal road for a stop in El Alamein, made famous by the decisive victory of the Allies during WWII. Visit the MUSEUM and CEMETERY and enjoy the included lunch before heading back to Alexandria. (B,L,D)

Day 6Alexandria–Wadi El Natrun–Cairo

Experience completely different scenery today as you travel back to Cairo on the desert road. Stop in Wadi el Natrun, situated in a valley dotted with oases. Visit one of the COPTIC MONASTERIES of this area and learn about the Coptic faith. Arrive in Cairo in time for some last-minute shopping at the KHAN-EL-KHALILI bazaar. (B,D)

Day 7Cairo

Start the day with the included visit to the ancient Memphis OPEN-AIR MUSEUM. Then, see SAKKARA'S “stairway to the sky,“ the oldest of all pyramids. Later, time at leisure. (B)

Day 8Cairo–Luxor (Embarkation)

Fly to Luxor. On arrival, enjoy a visit to the colossal TEMPLE OF AMUN-RA in Karnak and the TEMPLE OF LUXOR. Board your CRUISE ship, the Mövenpick Royal Lily. Overnight in Luxor. (B,L,D)

Day 9Luxor–Nile Cruise to Edfu

This morning, focus on the Valley of Kings, situated on the West Bank of the Nile. Visit Deir el-Bahri, Queen Hatshepsut’s monumental rock temple, and take pictures of the two Colossi of Memnon guarding the valleys. Return to the ship and sail down the Nile toward Edfu. (B,L,D)

Day 10Edfu–Nile Cruise to Aswan

Board a horse-drawn carriage for the drive through Edfu to the Temple of Horus. Return on board for lunch, then sail to Kom Ombo. Enjoy a short walk to its bluff-top temple dedicated to the crocodile and falcon gods. Cruise to Aswan. (B,L,D)

Day 11Aswan

Start the day with a visit to the HIGH DAM and the TEMPLE OF PHILAE. Afternoon at leisure. (B,L,D)

Day 12Aswan (Disembarkation)–Cairo

The day is at leisure for last-minute shopping or relaxation. Fly to Cairo in the late afternoon. (B)

Day 13Cairo

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. (B)