

OCT. 26 - NOV. 8, 2024



with optional

ALEXANDRIA PRE-TOUR &
JORDAN POST-TOUR

Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley

BOOK WITH
CONFIDENCE

30-day refund
guarantee

*An epic journey through antiquity highlighted by stays
at luxury hotels and aboard a stately dahabiya*



Temple of Luxor

Dear Traveling Owls,

Join alumni and friends as we wander the fabled land of pharaohs and kings—where colossal pyramids, legendary tombs, and towering temples cascade across the terrain. The mighty Nile River welcomes you for an unhurried journey that reveals seemingly limitless vistas of infinite deserts contrasted by metropolitan cities. From biblical times through to modern day, Egypt has been the site of monumental historical events, staggering technological achievements, and compelling human stories.

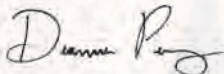
During this 14-day expedition, traverse the Nile Valley like past explorers and discover ancient treasures including the Great Sphinx, the Temple of Horus, and the tombs of El Kab. Accompanied by expert Egyptologists, you'll gain in-depth knowledge of Egypt and its antiquities. Then in the evenings, relax in some of the area's most opulent hotels.

This program also features an exclusive four-night cruise on the Nile River aboard a private dahabiya. This deluxe, 14-guest sailing vessel offers the opportunity to see life on the Nile from a different perspective. As an additional benefit, this unique vessel ports on differing days than larger cruise ships, providing guests a less crowded, more intimate experience while viewing the ancient sites.


Space is limited. With significant savings of more than \$1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today.

Please reserve online at rice.orbridge.com, by calling 866-639-0079 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deanna Perez".

Deanna Perez, Ed.M
Assistant Director, Alumni Engagement

 Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green.



Your 14-Day Itinerary (subject to change)

- Day 1:** En Route from U.S.
- Day 2:** Arrive in Cairo, Egypt
Evening at leisure
Overnight: Marriott Mena House
- Day 3:** Cairo / Memphis / Giza (B,L,D)
Great Pyramid, Great Sphinx, welcome dinner
Overnight: Marriott Mena House
- Day 4:** Cairo (B,L)
Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, Mosque of Sultan Hassan, Old Cairo, Coptic Churches, Khan El-Khalili bazaar
Overnight: Marriott Mena House
- Day 5:** Flight to Luxor / Karnak Temple / Luxor Temple (B,L,D)
Karnak Temple Complex, Luxor Temple
Overnight: Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor
- Day 6:** Abydos (B,L)
Ancient city and temples of Abydos
Overnight: Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor
- Day 7:** Valley of the Kings / Hatshepsut / Temple / Embarkation (B,L,D)
Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut Temple
Overnight: Dahabiya
- Day 8:** Nile River / El Kab / Edfu (B,L,D)
El Kab tombs, Temple of Horus
Overnight: Dahabiya
- Day 9:** Edfu / Nile / Kom Ombo (B,L,D)
Gebel el-Silsila, special island
barbecue dinner
Overnight: Dahabiya
- Day 10:** Kom Ombo / Nile / Aswan (B,L,D)
Temple of Kom Ombo, gala dinner
Overnight: Dahabiya
- Day 11:** Aswan – Disembarkation (B,L)
High Dam, Philae Temple, evening market tour
Overnight: Sofitel Legend Cataract
- Day 12:** Aswan (B,D)
Elephantine Island
Overnight: Sofitel Legend Cataract
- Day 13:** Aswan / Optional Abu Simbel Excursion / Flight to Cairo (B,L,D)
Abu Simbel excursion (additional fee) or leisure time, flight to Cairo
Overnight: Le Méridien Cairo Airport
- Day 14:** Cairo / Depart for U.S. (B)

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)

Activity Level: Activities are generally not very strenuous, however, we expect that guests can enjoy two hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on uneven surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance.

Uncover

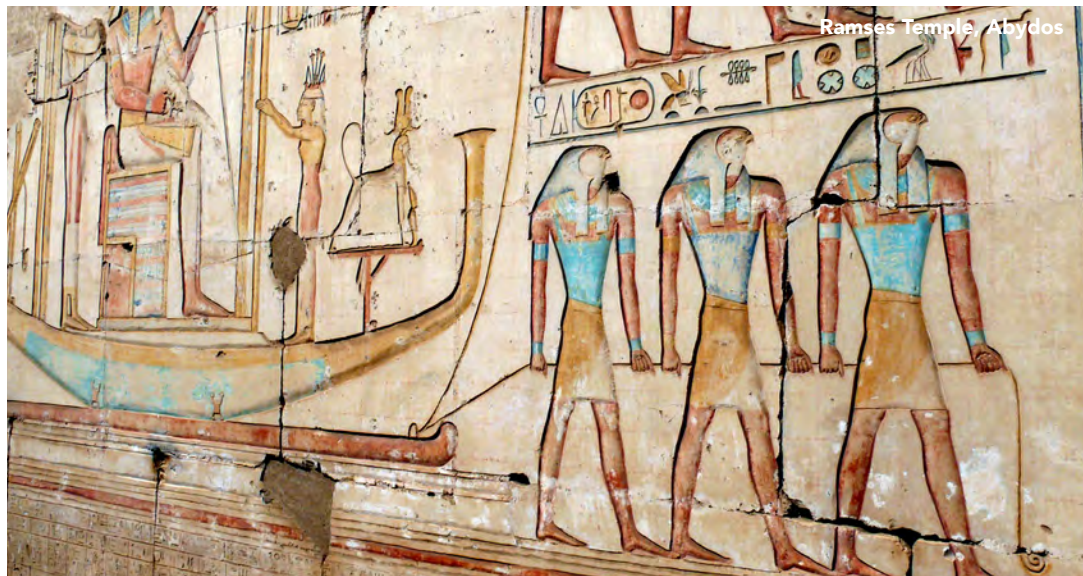
- Enjoy two full days exploring Cairo, visiting the Great Pyramid and the Sphinx, the Museum of Antiquities, and Khan El-Khalili bazaar.
- In Luxor, view the Karnak Temple Complex—one of the largest religious buildings in the world, which includes contributions from approximately thirty pharaohs over thousands of years.
- Travel beside the Nile to Abydos to marvel at the colorful carvings in the Temple of Seti I and view the Abydos King List, which was instrumental to understanding Ancient Egyptian history.
- On the west bank of Luxor, visit the Valley of the Kings and Nobles, the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, and Colossi of Memnon.
- During an optional excursion (additional fee), view the temples of Abu Simbel carved into a massive rock cliff, which were relocated and perfectly reconstructed after building the High Dam in the early 1960s.

Sail

- Embark in Esna aboard a private dahabiya—a traditional Egyptian sailing vessel—for four nights on the Nile River.
- Sail to Elephantine Island, the only ongoing excavation site open to tourists, to view its sacred temples and traditional Nubian villages.

What's Included

- 8 nights luxury hotel accommodations plus 4 nights aboard a stately dahabiya
- 12 breakfasts, 10 lunches, and 8 dinners
- All excursions listed on the 14-day itinerary, including admission to sites and venues
- Excursion transportation
- Internal airfare from Cairo to Luxor and Aswan to Cairo
- Gratuities to hotels, drivers, dahabiya staff, porters, and guides
- Group airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times



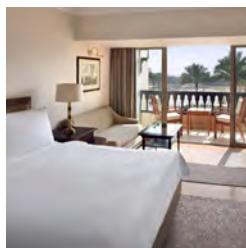
Ramses Temple, Abydos

Hotel Accommodations *(subject to change)*

MARRIOTT MENA HOUSE – CAIRO

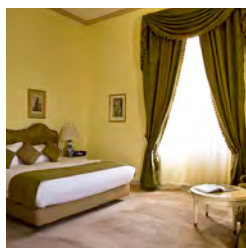
While touring bustling Cairo, spend leisure time and evenings amidst the luxurious and modern comforts of Marriott Mena House, located just 45 minutes outside of the city. Originally built as a hunting lodge in 1869, Mena House served as a private residence until 1886, when it was opened to the public as a hotel. It has hosted a variety of visitors, including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Winston Churchill, Frank Sinatra, and Charlie Chaplin.

Guest rooms offer glorious panoramic views of the pyramids. The property features 40 acres of lavish gardens, four restaurants and lounges, outdoor pool, heated indoor pool, health club, and full service spa (additional fees for services).



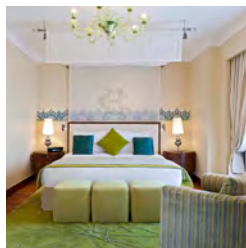
SOFITEL WINTER PALACE LUXOR

Perched peacefully on the bank of the Nile River, Winter Palace's 5-star accommodations provide an alluring atmosphere for a regal respite. During leisure time, roam the manicured gardens, take a dip in the welcoming pool, or simply reflect on your time in Egypt while embracing the spectacular sights from your room.



SOFITEL LEGEND CATARACT – ASWAN

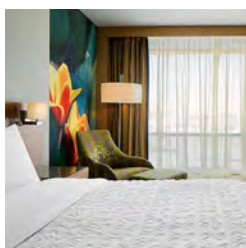
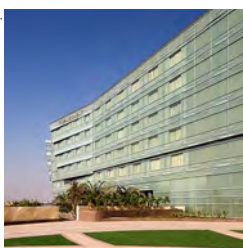
Step back to the time of the pharaohs, surrounded by grandeur and opulence of this 5-star property—with the sights of the Nubian Desert and Elephantine Island at your fingertips. Walk the ravishing grounds, and feel a part of royalty that once frequented the hotel—where King Fouad once entertained Agatha Christie.



LE MÉRIDIEN CAIRO AIRPORT

For your final evening in Egypt, enjoy the stylish accommodations of Le Méridien. This fully soundproofed luxury hotel is conveniently linked to Terminal 3 of Cairo International Airport by a pedestrian bridge.

The property features an impressive sports bar, three restaurants serving Chinese, Lebanese or Mediterranean cuisine, a fitness center, and a heated outdoor pool.





Onboard Accommodations

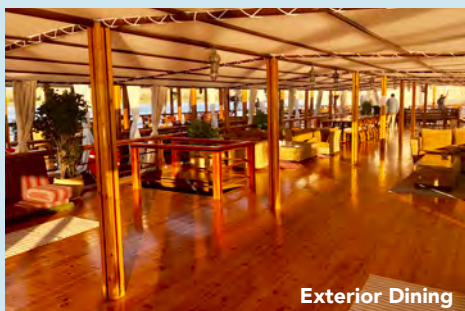
With a capacity of just 14 guests per boat, our 155-foot dahabiyas are designed to provide the ultimate in comfort and adventure while sailing the Nile River. Each stateroom provides spacious, fully air-conditioned accommodations with en suite facilities.

Guests can savor healthy, fresh, and delicious international and Egyptian cuisine at every meal. Enjoy the large sun deck, dining and lounge areas, and the services of an enthusiastic crew who are committed to your comfort.

STATEROOM CATEGORIES

Standard: Features one king or two twin beds, view window, and private en suite bathroom. Approx. 205 sq.ft.

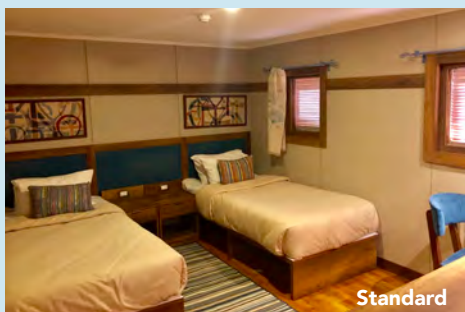
Suite: Features one queen bed, private balcony, view windows, and private en suite bathroom. Approx. 250 sq.ft.



Exterior Dining



Dining



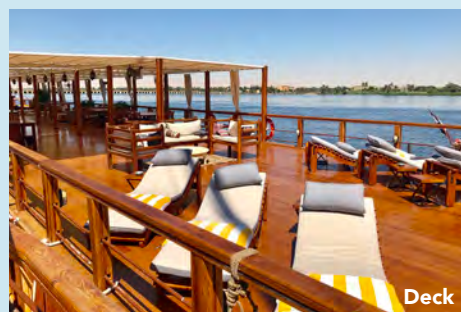
Standard



Suite



Lounge



Deck

Optional Pre-Tour Alexandria



Just a 3-hour drive from Cairo rests the Mediterranean oasis of Alexandria. Founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BCE, the city was once a major intellectual center of the Greek and Roman empires, and home to the rulers of the Ptolemaic dynasty—including Cleopatra. Explore the mythic vestiges of the ancient city, and enjoy leisure time to experience the modern charms along the Corniche, Alexandria's waterfront promenade.

Pre-Tour Itinerary *(subject to change)*

Day +1: En Route from U.S.

Day +2: Arrive in Cairo, Egypt

Evening at leisure

Overnight: Marriott Mena House

Day +3: Cairo / Alexandria (B,L)

Guided touring: Roman Amphitheatre,
famous Catacombs, Citadel of Qaitbay,
leisure time

Overnight: Steigenberger Cecil Hotel

Day +4: Alexandria (B,L)

National Museum of Egyptian Civilization,
Bibliotheca Alexandrina, evening at leisure

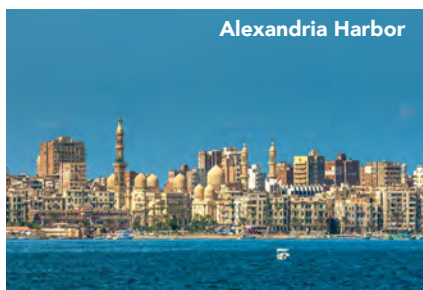
Overnight: Steigenberger Cecil Hotel

Day +5: Alexandria / Cairo / Main Program
Begins (B)

After breakfast, return to Cairo to join guests
on the main program

What's Included

- 3 nights luxury hotel accommodations
- 3 breakfasts and 2 lunches
- Touring by an English-speaking guide
- Admission to all sites listed in the 5-day itinerary
- Guided Alexandria city tour including the Roman Amphitheatre
- All gratuities and portage
- Airport transfers for guests arriving during the suggested times



Optional Post-Tour Jordan



Step back in time to the ancient world of the Middle East, where overwhelming historic architecture towers over the present day. Embrace the endless layers of spiritual and religious icons dotting this Holy Land, culminating with a once-in-a-lifetime visit to the Dead Sea.

Post-Tour Itinerary *(subject to change)*

Day 14: Cairo / Flight to Amman (L,D)

Guided city tour

Overnight: InterContinental Jordan Hotel

Day 15: Amman / Jerash / Ajloun /
Amman (B,L,D)

Roman city ruins, 12th-century castle

Overnight: InterContinental Jordan Hotel

Day 16: Amman / Madaba / Mount Nebo /
Petra (B,L,D)

Orthodox Church of Saint George, Byzantine
mosaics, Memorial Church of Moses, Jordan Valley
Overnight: Mövenpick Resort Petra

Day 17: Petra (B,L,D)

Guided city tour

Overnight: Mövenpick Resort Petra

Day 18: Petra / Little Petra / Dana / Dead
Sea (B,L,D)

Nabatean frescoes, stone village, biosphere
reserve, Dead Sea leisure time

Overnight: Mövenpick Dead Sea

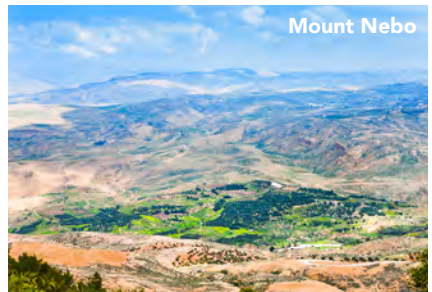
Day 19: Dead Sea / Amman (B,L)

Leisure time at Dead Sea for a mud mask and dip

Overnight: Mövenpick Dead Sea

Day 20: Depart for U.S.

Guests departing during suggested times take
complimentary group transfer to Amman's Queen
Alia International Airport for flights home



What's Included

- 6 nights luxury accommodations
- 6 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 5 dinners
- Admission to all sites listed in the 6-day itinerary
- Touring by an English-speaking guide
- All gratuities and portorage
- Internal airfare from Cairo to Amman
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times

Discover Egypt & the Nile Valley

OCTOBER 26 - NOVEMBER 8, 2024

Alexandria Pre-Tour: October 23-27, 2024

Jordan Post-Tour: November 8-14, 2024

Reserve by Credit Card:

Online: [rice.orbridge.com](https://www.rice.orbridge.com)

Phone: 866-639-0079

Fax: 206-452-5655

Reserve by Check:

Made payable to **Orbridge, LLC**

Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 1376

Poulsbo, WA 98370

For questions and to learn more, call the Traveling Owls at 713-34-TRIPS (87477)

or email travelingowls@rice.edu.

GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:

Check ACH (Automated Clearing House) MasterCard/Visa American Express Discover

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Name (as printed on card): _____

Billing Address (if different from above): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

CATEGORY SELECTION & DEPOSIT:

Category Preference: 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

_____ guests joining pre-tour (\$500/person) +

_____ guests joining program (\$850/person) +

_____ guests joining post-tour (\$500/person) = **TOTAL DEPOSIT: \$** _____

ABU SIMBEL OPTIONAL EXCURSION (added to your final invoice):

_____ guests joining optional excursion (\$695/person)

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at [terms.orbridge.com](https://www.rice.orbridge.com); and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Reservations, Deposits and Final Payment. To secure your reservation, deposits are due upon placing a reservation as follows: \$850 per person per program and \$500 per person for any pre/post-tour. Orbridge accepts payment by check, ACH, wire or major credit card. Final payment is due 90 days prior to the departure date. Reservations made after the final payment due date are due at the time of registration. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. CST#2098750-40 WST#602828994

Reservation Grace Period. Reservations made 121+ days prior to the departure date may be cancelled within 30 days from the reservation date ("Grace Period") for a full refund. Notice of cancellation must be received in writing during the Grace Period. The date of receipt will be used for the effective date.

Reservation Cancellations and Refunds. Notice of cancellation must be submitted to Orbridge in writing. The date of receipt will be used for the effective date. If the cancellation notice is received after the Grace Period (if applicable): (a) 91+ days prior to the departure date, all monies paid will be refunded less an administrative fee of \$350 per person for the main program and \$200 per person for a pre/post-tour; (b) 90-76 days prior to the departure date, a 25% cancellation fee for the full cost of the program and the balance will be refunded; (c) 75-61 days prior to the departure date, a 50% cancellation fee for the full cost of the program and the balance will be refunded; (d) 60-46 days prior to the departure date, a 75% cancellation fee for the full cost of the program and the balance will be refunded; (e) within 45 days prior to the departure date, a 100% cancellation fee for the full cost of the program. A 100% cancellation fee applies to all non-refundable airfare. Refunds, if any, will be processed within 30 days of our receipt of your written notice.

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*Special group rates; limited offer. Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Single availability limited. Internal airfare between Cairo, Luxor, Abu Simbel, and Aswan is included. Airfare otherwise not included. For the Post-Tour, internal airfare from Cairo to Amman is included. Airfare otherwise not included. **A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.



Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley

OCTOBER 26 - NOVEMBER 8, 2024

Special Alumni Rate: **Save more than \$1,000**
per couple

What Guests Are Saying...

What can I say? I had read and studied about Egypt for years. I had extremely high expectations and they all were surpassed. I loved everything we did and the kindness shown to us by our guides. Even on very busy days, and days with early starts, I was thrilled to see so much and to learn from our guides. They did a great job pacing us, bus rides or meals, to give us time to rejuvenate on busy days. Thanks to the amazing itinerary and special features added by our Egypt team, I "saw it all."

~Gale K., Charleston, SC

From the time of booking until we landed back in the US, this was an amazing experience. It might be the best trip we have ever taken, stimulating but not stodgy, engaging and knowledgeable guides, marvelous and historic accommodations, simply the best.

~Mary & Hank Z., Fairfax, VA

FREE Expedition Library
AN EXCLUSIVE EARLY
RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by

July 26, 2024

to receive the FREE Orbridge Expedition Library we've assembled for this program.**

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