

The Great Pyramids of Giza

ARCE Member Tour
Untapped Treasures: Egypt Off
the Beaten Path
October 23 – November 10, 2024



Old Cairo





Dr. Louise Bertini has served as ARCE's Executive Director since April 2019 and previously as Director for Egypt since 2018. She is an Egyptologist and specialist in faunal analysis who has worked on more than 25 archaeological projects in Egypt since 2003. She obtained a M.A. in Egyptology from the University of Liverpool, and a Ph.D. in Archaeology from Durham University. Her research interests include zooarchaeology, bioarchaeology, paleoecology, paleopathology, domestication, subsistence reconstruction, and animal mummification as well as other areas of Egyptology. She was previously a lecturer Egyptology at the American University in Cairo from 2009-2017.

Dear Traveler,

Welcome to Egypt! Ahlan wa sahan! We are honored to have you join us on our special Member Tour, "Untapped Treasures: Egypt off the Beaten Path". This special journey lead by Egyptologist, Melinda Hartwig will explore the diverse cultural heritage of this ancient land.

This tour has been specially curated to include beloved, iconic sights of Egypt, such as the Pyramids of Giza and the Valley of the Kings, as well as lesser-known gems like the Valley of the Whales (Wadi El-Hitan) and Catacombs of Kom Shuqqafa, and of course ARCE conservation projects.

We will be visiting the Red Monastery, a Byzantine church dating back to the fifth century, nestled in Sohag, Egypt. ARCE's dedicated conservation efforts since 2003 have breathed new life into its sanctuary and nave, adorned with breathtaking depictions of saints and the Holy Family. This church is now among the rare few worldwide, from the early Byzantine era, to have survived with a substantial portion of its original, rich decorations intact.

We will also explore the remote Valley of the Whales (Wadi El-Hitan) in Fayoum. This open-air museum displays rare gigantic fossils of ancient whales and sharks, proving that the area was submerged in the Tethys Sea about 40 to 50 million years ago. The site is part of the WRPA (Wadi El-Rayan Protected Area) and was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2005 for its unique natural beauty and scientific significance.

ARCE has maintained a constant presence in Egypt since our inception in 1948, and our deep-rooted partnership with our Egyptian friends and colleagues will allow you to see Egypt like never before. You will have the opportunity to see the sites with the experts who oversee their research and excavation.

While visiting both current and past ARCE projects, I look forward to introducing you to the scholars, archaeologists, and Egyptologists who have dedicated their careers to uncovering Egypt's past and are helping to preserve these places for future generations. It is our sincere honor to have you with us in Egypt to see the sights and experience the culture of this beautiful and magnificent country. Please know our ARCE staff is here to guide and assist you every step of the way.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Louise Bertini". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Louise Bertini
Executive Director, ARCE



The Red Monastery - Sohag

Tour lead

Melinda Hartwig is the curator of ancient Egyptian, Nubian and Near Eastern art at the Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University. Previously, she taught at Georgia State University as a professor of ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern art and archaeology. Besides curating a number of exhibitions, she has authored four books and a wide array of articles. Melinda has worked in Egypt since 1983, directing Theban tomb documentation and conservation projects, as a recipient of NEH and USAID grants, among others. She received her Ph.D. in Near Eastern art and archaeology from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University.



ITINERARY

Wednesday, October 23 |

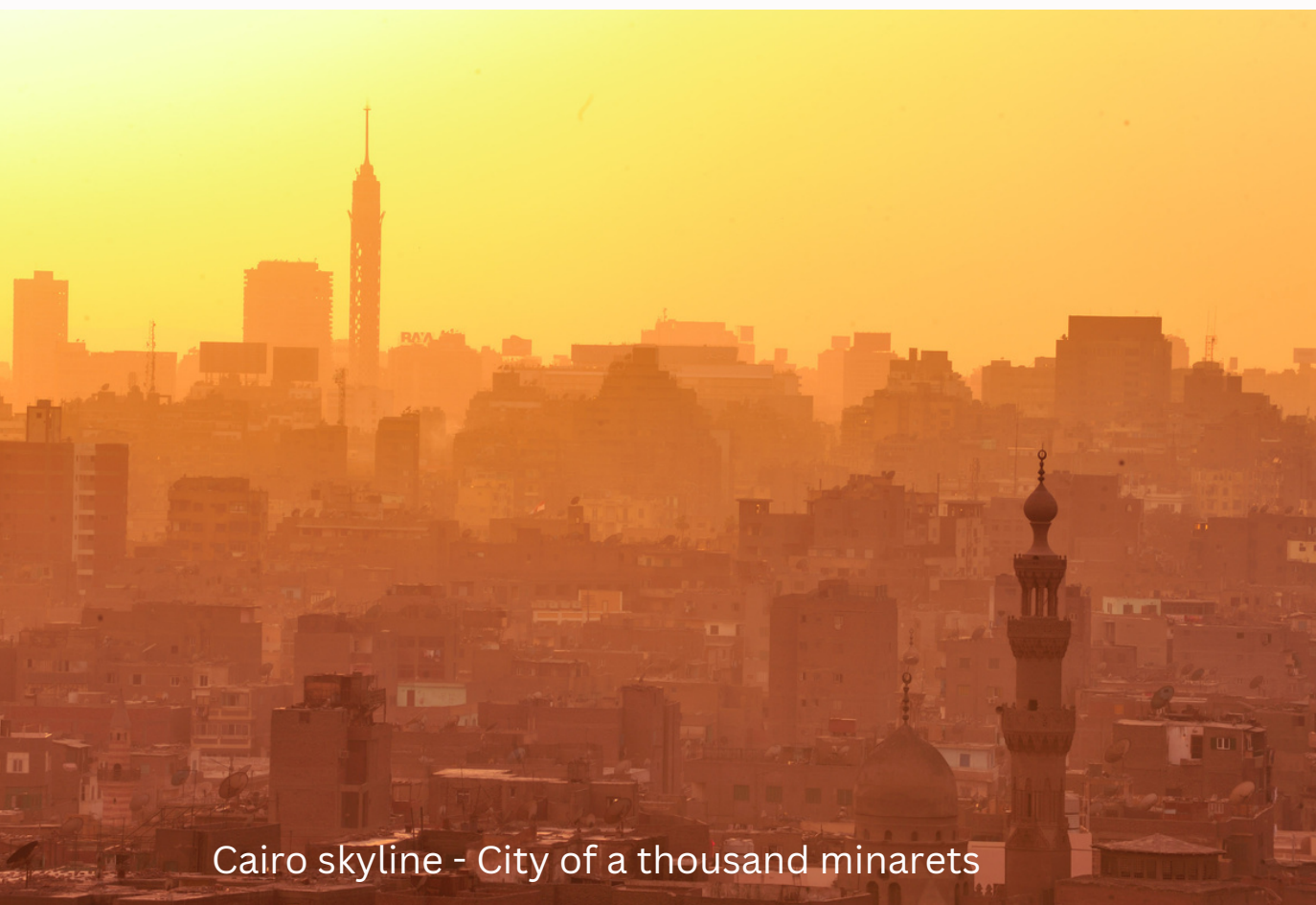
Arrive in Cairo

Meals Included: Dinner

Meet and greet at Cairo Airport.

To ensure your journey is seamless from the start, Egittaloyd representative will meet you before passport control to assist with acquiring your visa stamps, moving through passport control, and collecting your luggage.

Later you will be transferred to Cairo Marriott Hotel for check-in



Cairo skyline - City of a thousand minarets

Thursday, October 24| Dahshur / Saqqara

Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Buffet breakfast at hotel

Meet your guide at the lobby to begin the day by visiting Dahshur, South of Saqqara and an extension of the necropolis to discover the first true Pyramids in the history of Egypt, built during the reign of Sneferu, who was the father of Cheops, in honor of whom the Great Pyramid of Giza was built. Both pyramids date from the 4th dynasty. You will learn more about the development as you explore the imposing Red Pyramid, with its tint of reddish limestone blocks and the Bent Pyramid, this pyramid is probably the best example of the transition from step to straight pyramid.

Lunch at Saqqara Palm Club

Then to Saqqara, the ancient burial site. On the site, visit the Step Pyramid, the world's largest stone building at the time, which Imhotep constructed in the 27th century BC. The pyramid is part of the tomb complex of Djoser, the first Pharaoh of the Old Kingdom. The pyramid began as a simple Mastaba, or long, flat tomb building.

Return to the hotel and enjoy the remainder of the evening at your leisure.

Dinner at hotel



Step pyramid



Sphinx - Giza plateau

Friday, October 25| Pyramids of Giza / Sphinx / GEM

[Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner](#)

Meet your guide at the lobby to begin the day with a visit to Giza Plateau with the famous Great Pyramid and Sphinx. Dominating the plateau and running in a southwest diagonal through the site are the three pyramids of the pharaohs Khufu, Khafra, and Menkaura. The northernmost, and the largest, one belongs to Khufu.

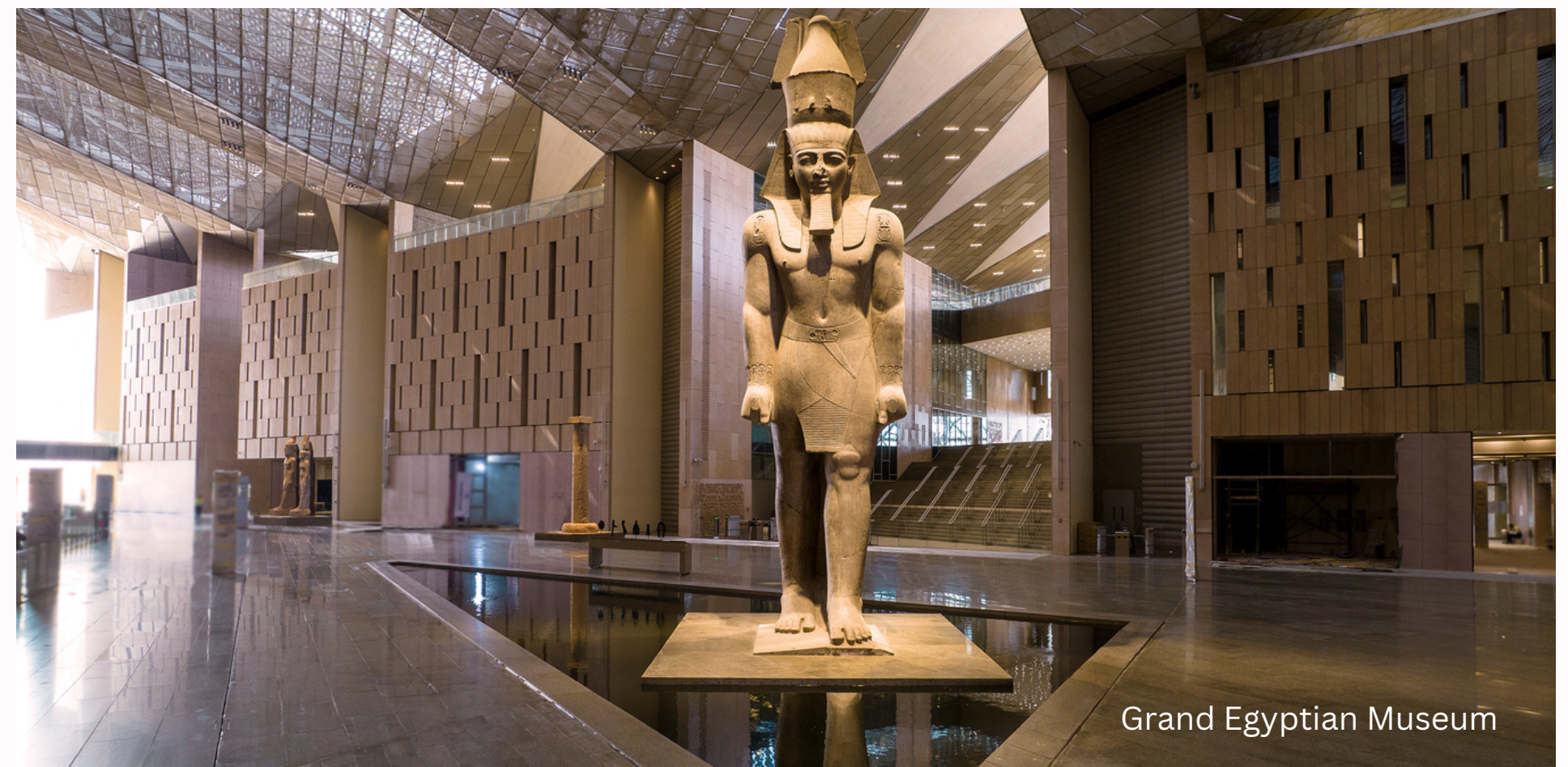
Entry to the Great Pyramid of Khufu

The Sphinx is the largest monolith statue in the world, and it is the oldest known monumental sculpture. Commonly held to have been built by ancient Egyptians of the Old Kingdom during the reign of the Pharaoh Khafra there are some who believe it is much, much older.

Lunch at Andrea restaurant

Continue to the famous Grand Egyptian Museum; The GEM is built on a slope and straddles the 162 foot difference in levels between the Nile valley, where you enter, and the Giza plateau, where the main galleries are situated. There are sculpture gardens in the museum park, while a massive statue of Ramses II greets you upon entry into the main atrium. From here, the Grand Staircase, which leads from valley level to plateau, will be lined with 87 statues of kings and gods.

The main galleries lead left from the staircase and are divided into four eras: pre-dynastic (up to 3100 B.C.) and Old Kingdom (the pyramid builders), Middle Kingdom, New Kingdom (Tutankhamun, Ramses, etc.) and Greco-Roman. These chronological galleries are then organized according to themes, unlike in the old museum: Beliefs and Eternity (religion), Kingship and Power (rulers), and Society (the rest of us). At the end, visitors are led right back to tall glass windows, which look out toward the pyramids and drive home the magnificence of Ancient Egypt—the grand finale of a chronological show celebrating one of the world's greatest civilizations.



Grand Egyptian Museum

Saturday, October 26| Old Cairo / NMEC / Basatin

Meals Included: [Breakfast](#) / [Lunch](#) / [Dinner](#)

We begin our visit to Coptic Cairo, the center of Christianity in Cairo. On the site of a Roman-Byzantine fortress town, Coptic Cairo (or Old Cairo) is a fascinating place to visit. Once we descend the short stairway into the quarter, we will feel removed from the hustle-and-bustle of Cairo.

We will walk the cobblestone streets and stop at a few of the churches here. You will visit the Hanging Church, dating to the late 4th and early 5th Century, this basilica was named "Al-Mu'allaqah" because it was built on top of the south gate of the Fortress of Babylon.

Continue to the Church of St. Sergius, dating back to the beginning of the 5th Century, this basilica is built on the cave where the Holy Family stayed and is regarded by visitors as a source of blessing. As we stroll along, we will come to the recently restored Synagogue of Ben Ezra, the oldest Jewish synagogue in Egypt.

Lunch at a local restaurant

Then to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, which located in Fustat, is one of the most important projects of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, carried out in cooperation with UNESCO, to become one of the largest museum in Egypt and the Middle East, to present a new vision of the ancient Egyptian heritage.

The most important artifacts exhibited in the museum include the breastfeeding statue and the birth plate from the New Kingdom era, statues of King Amenemhat III in the form of the Sphinx and Thutmose III sitting, a statue of the deity Nilus from the Greco-Roman period, about fifty niches from the Islamic era, in addition to a variety of small statues and amulets made of blue vines and a statue of the ancient Egyptian writer made of red granite.

You will have the opportunity to visit the Royal Mummies, which have recently moved from the Egyptian Museum.

Continue to the Jewish cemetery of Basatin is believed to be the second oldest Jewish cemetery in the world, with an original foundation deed dating to the 9th century. At the time, the land provided for the cemetery consisted of 147 acres and was located beyond the boundaries of the Tulunid capital of Egypt. In modern times, the cemetery became fragmented into disconnected plots of land amounting to about 27 acres. The cemetery was previously divided into designated areas for the Rabbanite and Karaite Jews. However, the only remaining part of the Karaite graveyard is a small private plot belonging to the Leishaa and Menasha families.

Cocktail reception at the American Research Center in Egypt, meeting with Executive Director Dr. Louise Bertini and members of her staff. Dr. Bertini will give you the most recent updates on ARCE's activities throughout Egypt.

Dinner at Tabula restaurant



**Sunday, October 27 | Historic Cairo /
Khan El- Khalili / El- Moez Street / Shrine of Ikhwat
Yusuf**

Meals Included: [Breakfast](#) / [Lunch](#) / [Dinner](#)

After breakfast, meet your guide and head to the Bab Zuwayla.

Start the day with visiting the Zawiya-Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq, then begin our walk from Bab Zuwayla, the southern entrance to the original Fatimid settlement of Cairo that was founded in 969 A.D. It was later reconstructed in stone in the late 11th century A.D. by Badr al-Gamali, the ruler of Egypt.

Bab Zuwayla remained famous into the 19th century as a setting for the public execution of criminals. At times the severed heads of the criminals would be displayed along the tops of the walls, the most famous of which were the Mamluks killed in the Citadel massacre of 1811

Continue to Sabil Mohammed Ali. This elegant Sabil (public fountain) built-in 1820 was the first in Cairo to have gilded window grilles and calligraphic panels in Ottoman Turkish. ARCE has meticulously restored it with interesting displays about Muhammed Ali, who built the Sabil to honor his son Tusun after his passing. It is also possible to visit the cistern below the Sabil and school rooms in the Qutab (Quranic School) upstairs, which welcomed students until 1992.



Head to El Moaz Street, the old main boulevard of medieval Cairo, with its magnificent examples of Mamluk architecture, passing el Azhar mosque, the center of Sunni jurisprudence, and then we explore the Khan el Khalili suq, located within a warren of ancient buildings.

Lunch at Naguib Mahfouz Restaurant

Finally visit the shrine of Ikhwat Yusuf.

Return to the hotel and enjoy the remainder of the evening at your leisure.



Monday, October 28| St. Anthony Monastery / St. Paul Monastery

[Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch box / Dinner](#)

Meet your guide at the lobby and drive to Soma Bay, visit St. Anthony & St. Paul Monasteries enroute.

Believed to have been initially constructed in the 4th century A.D., the Monastery of St. Anthony is located at the foot of Khelsm Mountain overlooking the Red Sea. It is almost 12 km south of Zafarana City. It is believed to be where St. Anthony once lived in a cave and is situated next to a well. St. Anthony was the first monk to move to this wilderness and the first to create a monastic community in Coptic Egypt.

During the 9th century A.D., additional land was added to the monastery, increasing its area to almost three acres. High walls and watchtowers were built around it to protect from the Bedouins, giving it the appearance of a fortress. Today these walls are 12 meters high and two meters wide.

Dating to the 4th century, the Monastery of St Paul began as a grouping of hermitages on the cliffs around the site where Paul had his cell. The complex's heart is the Church of St Paul, built in and around the cave where Paul lived. It's cluttered with altars, candles, ostrich eggs (the symbol of the Resurrection), and murals representing saints and biblical stories. The fortress above the church was where the monks retreated during Bedouin raids.

Later you will be transferred to Sheraton Soma Bay Hotel for check-in

Tuesday, October 29| Mons Claudianus / Mons Porphyrites

[Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch box/ Dinner](#)

Meet your guide at the lobby and head to Mons Claudianus, and Mons Porphyrites by 4x4 vehicles.

On 21st of July AD 18, a Roman geologist discovered porphyry. Porphyry is a magic stone, dark purple in color, and the emperors immediately fell in love with it and demanded to have it in huge quantities. There was only one problem: it is only found in one of the most inhospitable places on earth, high up in the eastern deserts of Egypt, five days from the Nile. A huge quarrying operation was set up at two sites- Mons Porphyrites itself and nearby Mons Claudianus, which produced a superb black marble. The columns were quarried high-up on the mountain side – the picture shows a column that broke and was left in position. They were then dragged down the mountain side, 70 miles across the desert to the Nile, then shipped down the Nile, and across the Med to Rome.

The recent excavations have not only revealed the well-preserved quarries and the dwelling places of the quarry men, but have also revealed thousands of ostraca, that is potsherds with inscribed messages, that provide fascinating details of how the quarrying took place, and of how the quarrymen ordered their food.



Wednesday, October 30 | Drive to Luxor / Wadi Hammamat

Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch box / Dinner

Drive to Luxor, Visit Wadi Hammamat enroute. The main route between the Nile and Red Sea for thousands of years, Wadi Hammamat runs from Qift, just north of Luxor, to Al Quseir. Inscriptions, remains of old wells and other evidence of the area's long history can be seen along the way. Part of the route is marked on what might be the world's earliest map, drawn up for Ramses IV's quarrymen in 1160 BC, found in Luxor in the 1820s and now in Turin's Museo Egizio.

A collection of rock inscriptions lies along the high, smooth walls of Wadi Hammamat, about halfway along the road between Al Quseir and Qift. This remarkable graffiti dates from Pharaonic times to Egypt's 20th-century King Farouk. In Graeco-Roman times, watchtowers were built along the trail at short enough intervals for signals to be visible, and many of them are still intact on the barren hilltops on either side of the road.

Lunch box is included

Later you will be transferred to Steigenberger Nile Palace for check-in.

Thursday, October 31| West Bank of Luxor

Meals Included: [Breakfast](#) / [Lunch](#)

Meet your guide at the lobby for your tour to the West Bank of Luxor.

Head to the Valley of the Kings. Here you will visit the tombs of Egypt's New Kingdom Pharaohs. The magnificent tombs of spellbinding construction and decoration are cut deep into the rocky mountainside. Entry to the tombs of Kings Tutankhamun and Ramses VI.

Continue to the Tombs of the Nobles; these are the private tombs of dignitaries and priests during the New Kingdom and are remarkable for their colorful scenes of everyday life.

Then to the Colossi of Memnon, the magnificent colossi, each cut from a single block of stone and weighing 1000 tons, sat at the eastern entrance to the funerary temple of Amenophis III, the largest on the west bank. Egyptologists are currently excavating the temple and their discoveries can be seen behind the colossi.

Pass by the House of Howard Carter who discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun. The house has recently been conserved and restored by ARCE.

We also visit the Tomb of Menna (Dynasty 18) to see the beautiful wall paintings that were conserved, documented, and published by ARCE.

Lunch at New Memnon Restaurant



Tomb of Nefertari

Friday, November 01| West Bank of Luxor / East Bank of Luxor

Meals Included: [Breakfast](#) / [Lunch](#) / [Dinner](#)

Meet your guide at the lobby for your private tour to the West Bank: Begin with Habu Temple, the site dominated by the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III (1194 – 1163 B.C.), the largest on the west bank and one of the best-preserved. Many fine paintings and reliefs bear the usual scenes of the King's military exploits, including a unique portrayal of a sea battle.

Then to Deir El Medina, where the workers and sculptors who built the tombs in the Valley of the Kings lived. Written evidence shows the skill of these artisans – and the value of metal tools: Scribes recorded the date of issue and return of every bronze chisel.

Continue to the Valley of the Queens, a gorge in the hills along the western bank of the Nile River in Upper Egypt. It served as the burial site of the queens and some royal children of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Dynasties (1292–1075 BC). The queens' necropolis is located about 2.5 km west of the mortuary temple of Ramses III.

Entry to the tomb of Queen Nefertari

Lunch at Al Marsam restaurant

Back to hotel

Before sunset visit Luxor Temple, which was once joined to the Temples of Karnak by a two-kilometer long Avenue of Sphinx, a portion of which marks the entrance to the temple. Dominated by statues of the great warrior pharaoh Ramses II, Luxor Temple has survived Nile floods, foreign invasion and thousands of years exposed to the elements.

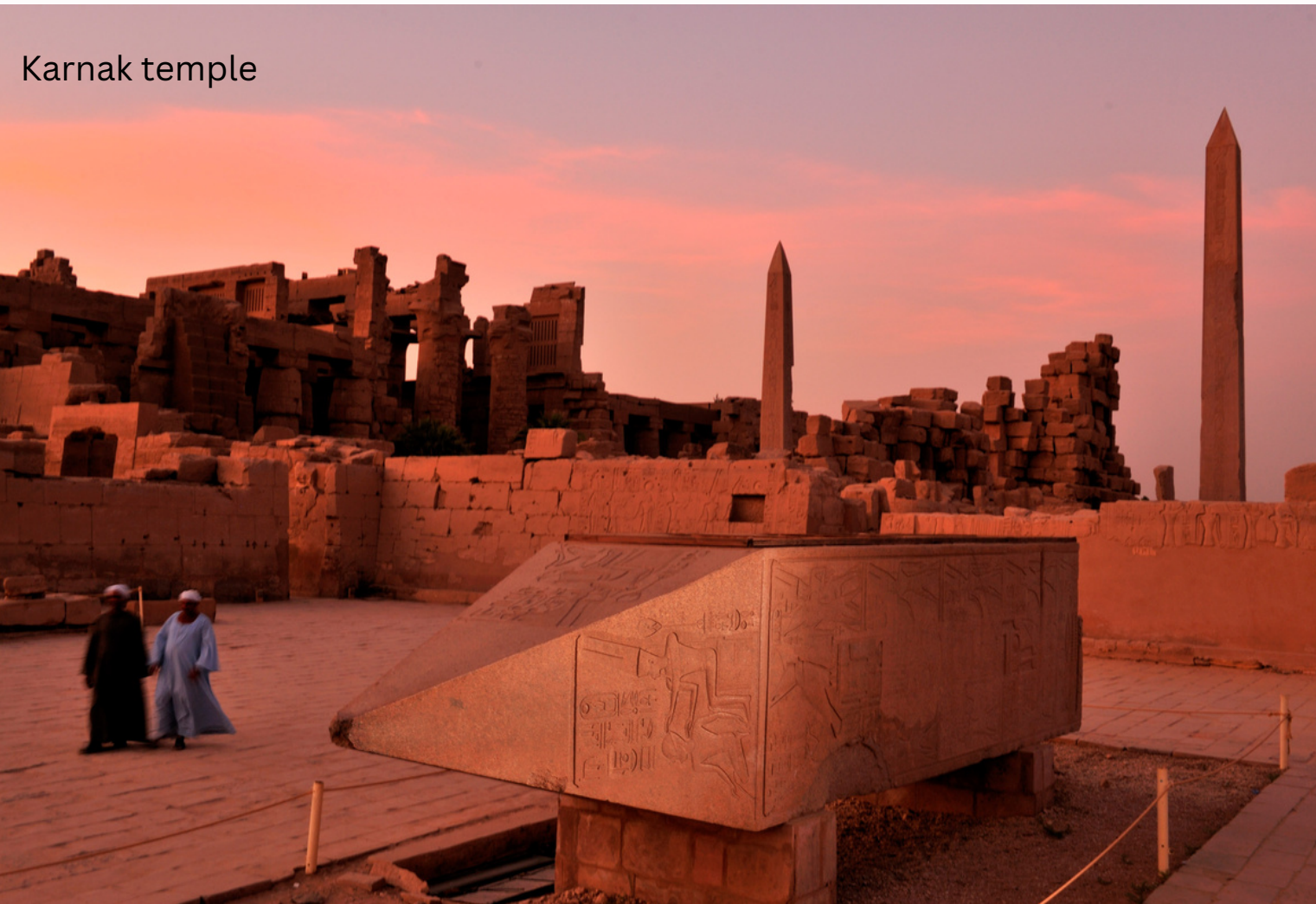
Saturday, November 02| East Bank of Luxor

Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch

We spend the day on the east bank, exploring the great temple of Amun. We approach the Karnak Temple via the newly restored Avenue of Sphinxes. Of special interest is the Khonsu Temple dedicated to the son of Amun and Mut. There we see the ARCE site management and conservation projects to clean the wall reliefs and repair the flooring and roof blocks.

Continue to Luxor Museum, the home of the god Amun and site of rituals of the king's rejuvenation.

Lunch at the hotel



Karnak temple

Sunday, November 03| Dendera / Abydos

Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch box / Dinner

Visit the temple of Hathor at Dendera, one of the best-preserved Ptolemaic temples. The temple has recently been conserved, revealing the brightly painted astronomical ceilings.

Considered one of the most important archaeological sites of Ancient Egypt, the sacred city of Abydos was the site of many ancient temples, including Umm el-Qa'ab, the royal necropolis where early pharaohs were entombed. These tombs began to be seen as highly significant burials, and in later times, it became desirable to be buried in the area, leading to the growth of the town's importance as a cult site.

Today, Abydos is notable for the memorial temple of Seti I, which contains an inscription from the nineteenth dynasty known to the modern world as the Abydos King List. It is a chronological list showing cartouches of most dynastic pharaohs of Egypt from Menes until Ramesses I, Seti's father. The Great Temple and most of the ancient town are buried under the modern buildings to the north of the Seti temple. Many of the original structures and artifacts are considered irretrievable and lost; the new village constructions may have destroyed many.

Abydos was occupied by the rulers of the Predynastic period, whose town, temple, and tombs have been found there. The temple and town continued to be rebuilt at intervals down to the times of the thirtieth dynasty, and the cemetery was used continuously.

Later you will be transferred to House of Life Hotel for check-in.

Monday, November 04| Red Monastery / White Monastery / Athribis

[Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner](#)

Meet your guide at the hotel and head to Minya, visit White Monastery, Red Monastery, and Athribis.

Short drive west of Sohag, the White Monastery (Deir al-Abyad) dates from the early 5th century AD. Named for the color of its masonry, the monastery was built by the Coptic saint Shenouda using chunks of white limestone taken from local Pharaonic temples.

The monastery was once home to 2,000 monks. Today little remains within its high fortress walls apart from a church dedicated to its founder.



White Monastery

Four kilometers (2.5 miles) north of the White Monastery lies the Red Monastery (Deir al-Ahmar). Built in the 4th century AD by Shenouda's disciple Bishay. Since 2003, ARCE has undertaken a massive conservation project of its sanctuary and the nave with its spectacular paintings of saints and the Holy Family which, until ARCE's intervention, were almost completely obscured by centuries of soot.

Athribis, the site of a temple dedicated to the goddess Repyt (Triphis) by Ptolemy XV Caesarian and subsequent Roman Emperors. South of this temple was an earlier temple of Ptolemy IX Soter II. One of the tombs nearby, belonging to the brothers Ibpemeny "the younger" and Pemehyt of the late 2nd century BC, has two zodiacs on its ceiling.

Later you will be transferred to Grand Aton Hotel for check-in.

Tuesday, November 05 | Tel el Amarna / Tuna El Gebel

Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch box/ Dinner

Meet your guide and head to Tel el Amarna; where you can see the northern tombs among which are the tomb of Ahmose & Huya. Represents the remains of the capital city newly established (1346 BC) and built by the Pharaoh Akhenaten of the late Eighteenth Dynasty and abandoned shortly after his death (1332 BC). The name for the city employed by the ancient Egyptians is written as Akhetaten which means "Horizon of the Aten". The area is located on the east bank of the Nile River in the modern Egyptian province of Minya, some 58 km (36 mi) south of the city of al-Minya, 312 km (194 mi) south of the Egyptian capital Cairo and 402 km (250 mi) north of Luxor.

Proceed to Tuna El Gabal where you can see the tomb of Petosiris (4th century BC), Ibis catacombs & Isadora tomb. This tomb goes back to the 2nd century AD and belongs to Isadora, renowned for her beauty in the city of Hermopolis.

Return to hotel and enjoy the remainder of the evening at your leisure.

Wednesday, November 06 | Drive to Fayoum

Meals Included: Breakfast / Lunch box / Dinner

Meet your guide at the lobby, Drive to Fayoum; visit Meidum Pyramid.

About 30km northeast of Medinat Al Fayoum is the ruin of the first true pyramid attempted by the ancient Egyptians. It began as an eight-stepped structure, with the steps later filled in and an outer casing added to form the first pyramid shell. There were design flaws and, sometime after completion (possibly as late as the last few centuries BC), the pyramid's own weight caused the sides to collapse. Today, only the core stands, though it is still an impressive sight.

Then to El-Lahun Pyramid of Senusret II (Dynasty 12). The builders of this 48-meter-high pyramids reduced the amount of work necessary to construct it by ingeniously using an already existing 12-meter high limestone hill as its foundation and core.

At the western end of Lake Qarun, just east of the village of Qasr Qarun, are the ruins of ancient Dionysius, once the starting point for caravans to the Western Desert oasis of Bahariya. All that remains of the ancient settlement is a Ptolemaic temple, known as Qasr Qarun, built in 4 BC and dedicated to Sobek, the crocodile-headed god of Al Fayoum.

The temple is built of blocks of yellow limestone, but unusually for Egypt there are no inscriptions, except over the entrance, where there is a winged sun, and on the roof, a headless relief of Sobek on the left and a king on the right. The internal structure has been reinforced.



Tel El Amarna style art

Thursday, November 07| Wadi El- Hitan / Dimeh Al-Siba

Meals Included: [Breakfast](#) / [Lunch box](#) / [Dinner](#)

Meet your guide at the lobby, and drive to Alexandria, visit Wadi El-Hitan, and Dimeh Al-Siba enroute.

Head to the Valley of the Whales (Wadi El-Hitan), where you will discover a yet more impressive meaning of 'Ancient' Egypt. The remote valley of Wadi El-Hitan is more of an open-air museum displaying rare gigantic fossils of ancient whales and sharks, proving that some 40 to 50 million years ago, the area was submerged in the waters of what is known as the Tethys Sea.

After lying trapped in the sands of the Western Desert, the fossil skeletons have been revealed by winds and erosion, and thanks to human intervention through a number of ongoing archaeological excavations sponsored by the National Geographic Society and by the University of Michigan. The landscapes surrounding the valley are just as impressive and amazing as the discoveries: gigantic sand rocks and mountains, dunes, and hills.

The Valley of the Whales is part of the WRP (Wadi El-Rayan Protected Area) and it has also been added in 2005 to the UNESCO's World Heritage List for its unique natural beauty and scientific significance.

Continue to Dimeh Al-Siba located eleven kilometers to the north of Lake Qarun. It was founded by Ptolemy II in the third century BC on top of a Neolithic residential area.

Later, you will be transferred to Steigenberger Cecil Hotel for check-in.

Friday, November 08| Kom El- Shuqqafa / Serapeum / Roman Amphitheatre / National Museum

Meals Included: [Breakfast](#) / [Lunch](#) / [Dinner](#)

Meet your guide at the lobby, and head to Catacombs of Kom Shuqqafa, the largest known Roman burial site in Egypt; they consist of three tiers of burial tombs, chambers and hallways.

Kom Al Dikka was a well-off residential area in Graeco-Roman times, with lovely villas, bathhouses and a theatre. The area was known at the time as the Park of Pan, a pleasure garden where citizens of Alexandria could indulge in various lazy pursuits. Although the ruins aren't terribly impressive in scale, they remain a superbly preserved ode to the days of the centurion and include the 13 white-marble terraces of the only Roman amphitheater found in Egypt.

The Serapeum of Alexandria; the Serapeum was the sanctuary dedicated to Serapis, the head of the Alexandrian divine triad during the Graeco – Roman period (306 BCE – 325 CE). In later periods, the Serapeum became known as Amoud el – Sawary and also as Pompey's Pillar, due to a mistaken identification of Diocletian's Column, which dominated the site. Serapis was a syncretic deity created by the Ptolemies, with traits of the Egyptian gods Osiris and Apis, and a physical appearance similar to the Greek gods. Appealing to both Egyptians and Greeks, Serapis became one of the most important Alexandrian cults. Such a popular cult needed a central temple to welcome pilgrims. The sanctuary was situated on a hill in Rhakotis, the oldest and largest neighborhood of the city, which was populated by Egyptians.

Continue to the New National Museum (If Open), which contains statues, bas reliefs, pottery, jewelry, marble pieces and other artifacts, all of which give you a picture of the grandeur of Alexandria in its Greek and Roman days, also contains some of the Pharaonic statues. Then to the Jewish Cemetery.



Saturday, November 09| Drive to Rosetta / Rashid Museum / Citadel of Qaitbay / Drive to Cairo

Meals Included: [Breakfast / Lunch](#)

Head to Rosetta, this is to enjoy an untraditional trip to an exciting place that connects the end of the River Nile to the Mediterranean Sea.

It is a chance to see houses and buildings from the 18th century. Rosetta is the famous site where French soldiers found the Rosetta stone in 1799. Rosetta lies 65 km Northeast of Alexandria. This town has been an important military site since early times. The city has witnessed many important events in ancient and modern times.

The significant number of Islamic monuments here does not exist in any other city except Cairo. Unfortunately, most of these unique monuments are neglected, modern buildings surround them, and unplanned urbanization affects them badly, causing much damage.

House of Amasyali, One of the most impressive of all Rosetta's fine buildings, with beautiful lantern lights on the facade and vast expanses of windows with mashrabiyya (lattice), which circulate cool breezes around the house. The main reception room upstairs is overlooked by a screened wooden gallery, behind which the women would sit, obscured from view. The gorgeous ceilings are painted in red and blue.

Fort of Qaitbay, About 5km north of Rosetta along the Nile, this fort was built in 1479 to guard the mouth of the Nile 6km further on. It was on this spot that the famous Rosetta Stone was found.

Rashid Museum; In 1952, President Gamal Abd El-Nasser, ordered the conversion of Arab Killy House into the National Museum of Rashid, in celebration of its National Day. The museum houses ancient Egyptian artifacts as well as remarkable Islamic artifacts with magnificent Kufic Arabic writing.

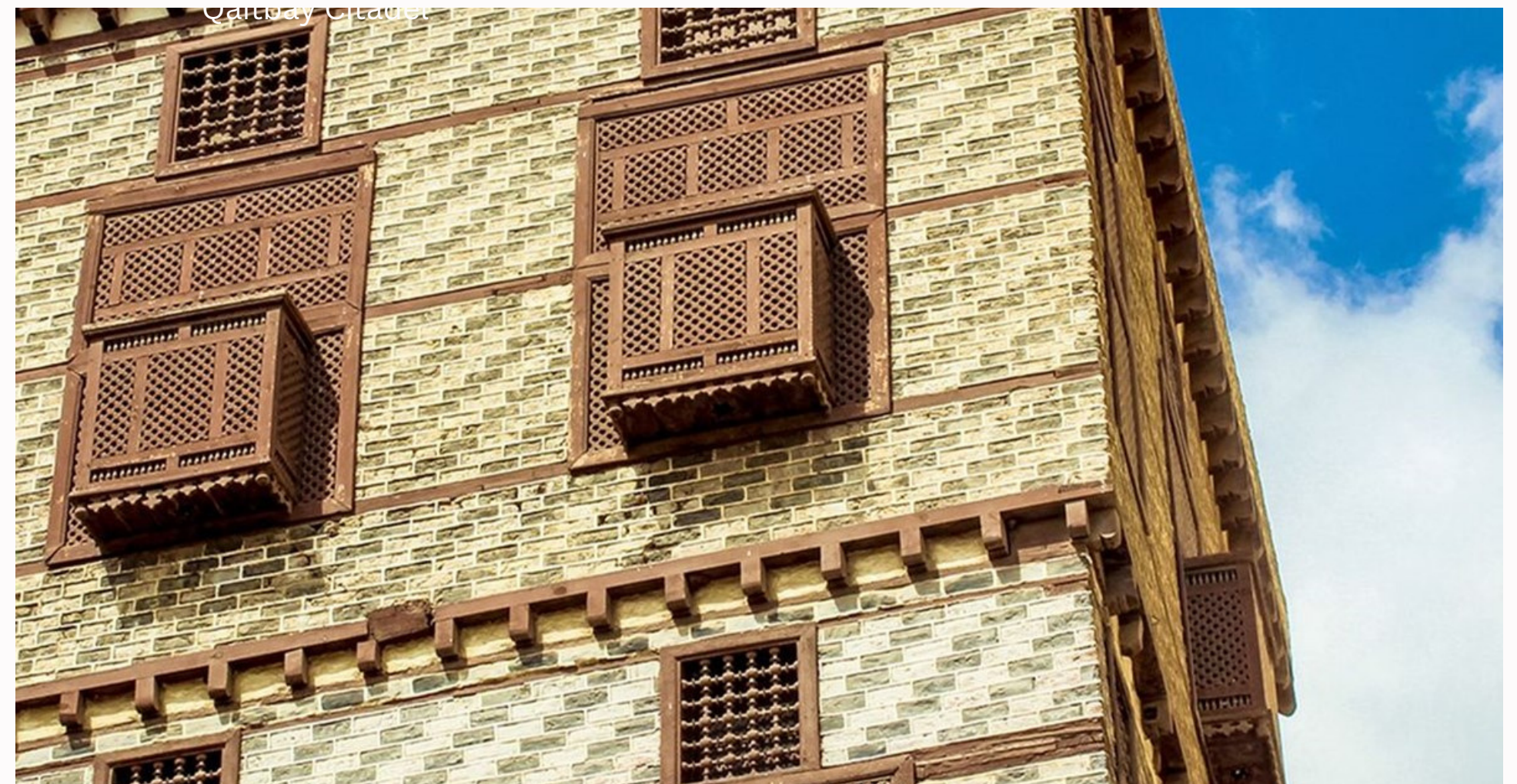
Upon arrival in Cairo, you will be transferred to InterContinental Citystars Hotel for your check-in.

Sunday, November 10| Final Departure

Meals Included: [Breakfast](#)

Check out after breakfast.

Egyptalloyd representative will help you with all the departure procedures.



National museum of Rasheed

Payment information

	20 paying passengers
Per person in double	USD 10,975.00
Single supplement	USD 1,725.00

In case you booked an early flight on October 23, arriving Cairo before the check in time, you are requested to book an extra night at the Marriott Omar Khayyam so you can check in upon arrival (check in time at hotel 02:00PM):

Extra night at Marriott Omar Khayyam from October 22 - 23

<u>Nile view room</u>	\$ 160.00 \$ 280.00	Per person per night in double Per person per night in single
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City	Hotel/Cruise	Dates	Nights	Category
Cairo	Marriott Omar Khayam	Oct 23-28	5	Nile view rooms
Soma bay	Sheraton	Oct 28-30	2	Sea view rooms
Luxor	Steigenberger Nile Palace	Oct 30 - Nov 03	4	Nile view rooms
Abydos	House of Life	Nov 03-04	1	Standard rooms
Minya	Grand Aton	Nov 04-06	2	Nile view rooms
Fayoum	Helnan Auberge	Nov 06-07	1	Standard rooms
Alexandria	Cecil	Nov 07-09	2	Sea view rooms
Cairo	Intercontinent al City Stars	Nov 09-10	1	Standard rooms



Rate includes:

- All accommodation based on double occupancy per itinerary with daily breakfast
- All meals as shown in itinerary (B, L, D)
- Vehicle for group arrival and departure transfers on the first and last days of the program
- Land transportation per program by private coach
- All sightseeing and excursions, including entrance fees per program
- Private English-speaking guide throughout program
- Services of a professional Egitalloyd Tour Manager throughout the land tour program
- Water provided in bus during all visits transfers and all included meals
- Baggage handling at all hotels
- Tipping for Guide, Egitalloyd Tour Manager, hotels, restaurants, drivers
- Contribution to ARCE

Rate excludes:

- International airfare between the U.S and the start and the end point of the trip
- Individual arrival and departure airport transfers
- Pre- or post-tour services
- Egypt entry visa fees
- Medical and trip interruption insurance; evacuation costs.
- Food or beverages not included in group meals.
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, alcohol, telephone expenses, excess package fees, photo/video expenses inside sightseeing or museums (where allowed)
- Other items not expressly listed as included
- Travel insurance for medical and political reasons

Important Notes:

- Prices are based on a minimum group size of twenty paying passengers and are subject to increases if the number of paying passengers is less than twenty.

Payment Schedule & Cancellation Policy

Payment Schedule

- \$750 Deposit Per person Due on Confirmation
- Final Payment Per person Due 16 weeks before departure

Cancellation Policy

- 0% Cancellation fees From 16 weeks to 12 weeks before departure
 - (Less \$300.00 Per person handling fee)
- 35% Cancellation fees From 12 weeks to 8 weeks before departure
- 55% Cancellation fees From 8 weeks to 6 weeks before departure
- 75% Cancellation fees From 6 weeks to 3 weeks before departure
- 100% Cancellation fees Any cancelation from 21 days before departure

A full refund will apply in case of “Force Majeure”

Force Majeure is identified as acts of God, war, and revolution, acts of terrorism preventing travel to Egypt, natural disasters happening within Egypt and not outside the country.

Payment through bank wire transfer for DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENTS

Please find below Egitalloyd bank details and contact information:

Account name: Egitalloyd Travel

Bank name: Export Development Bank of Egypt

Address: 71 Mesadak street, Dokki

Giza – Egypt - Post code: 12311

Account Number: 16258

Swift: EXDEEGCXXXX

IBAN # EG540061008502020001625801021

Phone: +202-33-386-810

Payment by Credit card for DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENTS (Visa & Mastercard ONLY)

- 3% to be added to the per person rate (Credit card fees)
- Needed:
 - Credit Card holder name
 - Cell phone number

To participate, individuals must be ARCE members in good standing.



Contact Information

Egitalloyd

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ARCE

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