

# Egypt & the Nile

10 days priced from \$3,995

Limited to 18 guests

Visiting Cairo, the Nile, Luxor, Denderah, Edfu, Kom Ombo, Aswan and Abu Simbel

Jordan Post-Tour Extension

5 days priced from \$1,995

## & A&K ADVANTAGES

- › Sail on a four-night Nile river cruise on board the luxurious and intimate Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III', travelling to off-the-beaten-path Denderah, one of Egypt's best-preserved and less-frequented temples
- › Enjoy guaranteed entry into one of Egypt's legendary pyramids, which you literally explore from the inside out
- › Ride Like a Local on camel back in Giza and sail the Nile in a *felucca* (sail boat)
- › Learn to make an Egyptian delicacy on board 'Sun Boat III' as part of a Chef's Table culinary experience
- › Discover Egypt's ancient capital of Memphis and the famous Step Pyramid of Djoser in Sakkara
- › Stay at the Palatial Mena House Hotel, with views of the Pyramids of Giza from your own private balcony, and at the luxurious Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza
- › Avoid crowds and the hassle of navigating around other ships, with private docking facilities in Luxor and Aswan

### DAY 1: Arrive Cairo, Egypt

Arrive in Cairo where you are met by your A&K representative and transferred to your hotel with fantastic views of the pyramids, which you explore tomorrow. *Mena House Hotel*

### DAY 2: Giza | *The Pyramids & Sphinx*

Embark on a tour of the Giza Plateau, site of the ancient pyramids of Mycerinus, Chefren and the Great Pyramid of Cheops, built in the Fourth Dynasty (approximately 2690 BC) and the oldest and only survivor of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Explore the interior of one of these legendary pyramids. Ride Like a Local on camelback before continuing to the Solar Boat Museum, site of Cheops' funerary boat, the world's oldest intact ship, and the enigmatic Great Sphinx. Tonight, gather with fellow guests at an A&K-hosted welcome dinner. *Mena House Hotel* | *Meals: B L D*

### DAY 3: Cairo | *Legendary Pharaohs*

Visit the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, home to the largest collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts, including treasures from Tutankhamun and artifacts dating back to 4000 BC. The



Witness the great pyramids of the Giza Plateau

museum's most fascinating exhibit is its famous Mummy Room, featuring the remains of ancient Egypt's pharaohs and nobility, including Ramses II. After lunch, drive to Memphis, capital of the ancient kingdom and now home to an open-air museum and giant statue of Ramses II. Continue to Sakkara, home to hundreds of tombs and 14 pyramids, including the famous Step Pyramid of Djoser. Built by Pharaoh Djoser during his 19-year reign, it stands at 204 feet and was the largest building of its time. *Mena House Hotel* | *Meals: B L*



"I designed this itinerary to capture the most remarkable sites and sounds spanning Egypt's 5,000 years of history."

– Amr Badr,  
A&K Egypt

### DAY 4: Luxor | *Karnak and the Valley of the Kings*

Fly to Luxor and journey to the Temple of Karnak, where generations of pharaohs wished to record their names. Walk through the Great Hypostyle Hall, its expertly aligned columns a sight to behold. Board Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III' and enjoy



Absorbing views of the verdant Nile from the sun deck of 'Sun Boat III'

lunch onboard (see page 160 for details on the Nile cruiser). Afterward, explore the west bank of the Nile and the Necropolis of Thebes, the burial site of the Great Pharaohs of the New Kingdom. Discover the Valley of the Kings, the legendary burial ground of the pharaohs, and step inside the tomb of Tutankhamun. Later, explore the lovely Temple of Hatshepsut, ancient Egypt's first female pharaoh).

*Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III' | Meals: B L D*



Gather onboard Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III' for a Chef's Table cooking experience, where you join the chef in preparing and sharing a local Egyptian dish.

#### **DAY 5: Cruising the Nile | Temple of Hathor at Denderah**

Today you cruise north on a scenic route — far from other ships and crowds — to the Temple of Hathor at Denderah, which is among the best-preserved temples in Egypt. This complex is a rare sight to behold, complete with a massive stone roof, dark chambers, underground passages and columns inscribed with

hieroglyphs. From here, return to your deluxe Nile cruiser and sail back to Luxor. Later this afternoon, journey once again to explore the east bank of the Nile, this time visiting the city of Thebes and the striking Temple of Luxor. Along the front of the temple pylons, there were six large statues of Ramses II (of which three remain), while behind the East Tower resides the Courtyard of Ramses II. Meanwhile, the Colonnade of Amenhotep III contains 14 papyrus-headed columns, some fully 50 feet in height and 32 feet in circumference, leading to the Court of Amenhotep III.

*Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III' | Meals: B L D*

#### **DAY 6: Cruising the Nile | Edfu to Kom Ombo**

Continue cruising to Edfu and the Temple of Horus, the falcon-headed god. Built in 230 BC by Ptolemy III and spending much of the modern era buried in sand and debris, this stunningly well-preserved and colorful structure reveals what temple worship in ancient Egypt was like. Join your chef onboard for a local cooking lesson. Later, disembark at Kom Ombo (hill of gold) to visit the Greco-Roman temple dedicated to Haroeris (the sun god) and Sobek (the crocodile god). The temple was so dedicated because crocodiles once basked on this stretch of Nile shore; inside, find several of these mummified crocodiles on display. *Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III' | Meals: B L D*



## The Nile's Hidden Jewel

In Egypt, one is transported to another place and time. From exploring the belly of a 4,000-year-old pyramid to coming face to face with cryptic hieroglyphs, visualizing the pharaohs of a bygone era is nowhere easier to do across this land brimming with ancient relics than in Denderah, Qena.

Denderah is one of the most isolated and least-known sites along the Nile. Yet thousands of years ago, this tiny town at the edge of a desert used to be the capital of the sixth nome of Upper Egypt and a bustling Greco-Roman temple complex, which remain extraordinarily well preserved. One of the main highlights of the site is the beautiful Temple of Hathor, the patron deity of fertility and thus worshipped by pregnant women. She was married to Edfu's falcon god Horus, and twice a year, the two deities met in a grand celebration, with ancient Egyptians bringing a fine statue of Horus to Denderah on a barge along the Nile.

Sailing to Denderah on board the luxurious Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III,' removed from the crowds, you are almost transported to the celebration and waterborne procession. View the famous Denderah zodiac. Explore traces of the pharaonic temple built underneath the existing temple when you descend to a mysterious crypt. And see the well-preserved Roman mammisi (birth house) and the sacred bark shrine. The temple wall exteriors are also a treasure, depicting a rare scene of a massive figure of Cleopatra VII and her son by Julius Caesar, Caesarion.

### DAY 7: Aswan | *Majestic Philae*

Today, cruise to Aswan and ride a motorized boat to Philae Temple on the island of Agilika, painstakingly moved and reconstructed here to avoid flood damage from Aswan's High Dam. Afterward, continue to the impressive granite quarries and site of the Unfinished Obelisk. Illustrating the skills of Egypt's stonemasons, this monolith structure measures one-third taller than any other ancient Egyptian obelisk — even in its unfinished state. End the day sailing around the Aswan islands like a local in a *felucca* (small sailboat), weather permitting. *Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III'* | *Meals: B L D*

### DAY 8: Abu Simbel | *Temples of Ramses II & Nefertari*

Bid farewell to 'Sun Boat III' and disembark to catch your flight to Abu Simbel. There, discover the site of the commanding twin temples of Ramses II, Egypt's longest-ruling pharaoh, and his wife, Queen Nefertari. The former's façade is dominated by four imposing statues of the pharaoh. All four towering sculptures — each nearly 70 feet tall — are impressive enough; but perhaps more astonishing is the fact that this entire site was disassembled and moved to its present location to save it from the floodwaters of the Aswan High Dam. Afterward, return to Cairo for an afternoon at leisure.

*Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza* | *Meals: B L*

### DAY 9: Cairo | *Bustling Souk*

Walk from Bab el-Fotouh to Khan el-Khalili Bazaar, one of the city's major *souks* (open-air marketplace), where tightly packed stalls display everything from spices and leather goods to jewelry and vegetables, and all on a street that has hardly changed for centuries. Bargaining is expected, so prepare to negotiate. Explore the Mosque and Madrasa of Sultan Hassan, built in AD 1356. Among the finest examples of early Mamluk architecture, the mosque is one of the largest in the world.

*Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza* | *Meals: B D*

### DAY 10: Depart Cairo

Board your international departure flight or extend to Jordan (see right). *Meals: B*

TAKE THIS  
JOURNEY  
PRIVATE

This itinerary is available as a private journey, **Signature Egypt & the Nile**, which departs regularly throughout the year. **Priced from \$3,995.**  
See pg. 167 for more details.

## Jordan Post-Tour Extension

5 days, priced from \$1,995; internal air priced from \$495



**DAY 1:** Arrive in Amman and tour the Archaeological Museum and Roman Theater. Visit Jerash before transferring to your hotel. *InterContinental Amman Hotel* | Meals: L

**DAY 2:** Visit Madaba and Mount Nebo before taking a dip in the Dead Sea. *Mövenpick Petra* | Meals: B L

**DAY 3:** Spend a full day exploring Petra, including its markets, baths, tombs and temples. *Mövenpick Petra* | Meals: B L

**DAY 4:** Discover the mountains, desert vistas and Bedouins of Wadi Rum. *InterContinental Amman Hotel* | Meals: B L D

**DAY 5:** Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Available on the Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 20, Oct 9, Oct 23, Nov 13 and Dec 18 departures.

## YOUR INSPIRING ACCOMMODATIONS

Here is a preview of your journey's best-in-class accommodations.



### Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III'

This 18-cabin cruiser was dubbed "Jewel of the Nile" by *Architectural Digest* and calls at unique destinations such as Denderah.



### Mena House Hotel

*Travel + Leisure* 500 World's Best Hotels for 2014, with pyramid views.



### Four Seasons Hotel at Nile Plaza

A luxurious hotel, situated on the legendary Corniche along the Nile.



## DATES & PRICING

All departures are guaranteed to operate.

Departure Dates	Nile Deck	Promenade Deck	Presidential Suite	Royal Suite
Jan 9-18, Jan 23-Feb 1, Feb 13-22, Mar 6-15, Mar 20-29	\$7,495 \$4,995	\$7,795 \$5,295	\$8,495 \$5,995	\$9,495 \$6,995
Single Supplement	\$2,295 \$1,395	\$2,495 \$1,595	\$3,195 \$2,295	\$3,895 \$2,995
Sep 18-27	\$6,495 \$3,995	\$6,795 \$4,295	\$7,495 \$4,995	\$8,495 \$5,995
Single Supplement	\$1,795 \$1,295	\$1,995 \$1,495	\$2,695 \$2,195	\$3,395 \$2,895
Oct-9-18, Oct 23-Nov 1, Nov 6-15, Nov 13-22, Nov 20-29, Dec 11-20	\$7,495	\$7,795	\$8,495	\$9,495
Single Supplement	\$2,295	\$2,495	\$3,195	\$3,895
Dec 18-27	\$7,595	\$7,895	\$9,395	\$10,595
Single Supplement	\$2,695	\$2,895	\$3,695	\$4,695

Internal airfare Economy class from \$685

Cairo/Luxor; Aswan/Abu Simbel/Cairo

Minimum age 10 years old. Please note that two groups of 18 A&K guests may be travelling on board Sanctuary 'Sun Boat III.'