



LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

Egypt & the Nile: A Holiday Journey 2019

10 days

Limited to 34 guests

Spend an unforgettable holiday season in Egypt on board an A&K-exclusive charter of 'Sanctuary Sun Boat III,' experiencing ancient treasures along the Nile. Explore a pyramid from the inside out, set foot inside the tomb of Tutankhamun, sail the Nile in a *felucca* and immerse yourself in the hubbub of an open-air marketplace on a scavenger hunt.

Included With Every Luxury Small Group Journey

- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director® and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Luxury Accommodations
- Travelling Bell Boy® Luggage Handling
- Breakfast in Bed on Select Days
- Traveller's Valet® Laundry Service
- Internet Access (Where Available)
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Full Breakfast Daily; Select Lunches and Dinners
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support
- Guaranteed Departures with Just Two Guests

A&K Advantages

- Discover Egypt on a special holiday departure, including a four-night Nile cruise aboard intimate, elegant 'Sanctuary Sun Boat III,' chartered exclusively for this journey
- Gain special entry into two of the best-preserved tombs in Luxor: Seti I in the Valley of the Kings, and Queen Nefertari in the Valley of the Queens
- Enjoy a visit to the tomb of Mehu in the Saqqara necropolis, recently opened to the public for the first time and featuring wall art from over 4,000 years ago
- Explore one of Egypt's legendary pyramids on the Giza Plateau from the inside out and gain rare private access to the paws of the Sphinx
- Avoid crowds and the hassle of navigating around other ships with private docking facilities in Luxor and Aswan

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE CAIRO, EGYPT

Arrive in Cairo, where you are met by your A&K representative and transferred to your luxury hotel with fantastic views of the Nile.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza

DAY 2 CAIRO | ANCIENT TREASURES

This morning, visit the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, home to the largest collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts, including treasures from Tutankhamun and items dating to 4000 BC. During your visit, view its famed Mummy Room, featuring the remains of ancient Egypt's pharaohs and nobility, among them Ramses II, one of Egypt's most powerful pharaohs. After lunch at a local restaurant, enjoy your afternoon at leisure. Tonight, gather for a welcome dinner hosted by Abercrombie & Kent.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3 LUXOR | LUXOR & THE VALLEY OF THE KINGS

Fly to Luxor, site of the ancient city of Thebes. Begin your full day of exploring here by visiting the striking Temple of Luxor. Behold the three large statues of Ramses II along the front of the temple pylons; the Courtyard of Ramses II behind the East Tower; and the Colonnade of Amenhotep III, with its 14 papyrus-headed columns, some fully 50 feet in height. Then, step aboard 'Sanctuary Sun Boat III,' where you enjoy lunch. Afterward, disembark to explore the west bank of the Nile and the Necropolis of Thebes, and continue to the Valley of the Kings, burial ground of the pharaohs and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. For a period of 500 years beginning in the 16th century BC, tombs were built along this valley for pharaohs and nobles, including that of "the boy king," Tutankhamun. Found in 1922 by British archaeologist and Egyptologist Howard Carter, the tomb of Tutankhamun is yours to discover, as you set foot inside its 35-century-old walls. Also visit the tomb of Seti I, the father of Ramses II, one of the best preserved tombs in the Valley of the Kings. Later, stop at the lovely Temple of Hatshepsut, ancient Egypt's first female pharaoh and regarded today as one of its most successful. Continue to the Valley of the Queens and visit Queen Nefertari's tomb, famous for the colorful, well-preserved artwork that adorns its walls. A photo stop at the Colossi of Memnon precedes your return to 'Sanctuary Sun Boat III.'

'Sanctuary Sun Boat III' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4 CRUISING THE NILE | KARNAK TO ESNA

Journey once more to the east bank of the Nile, this time on a visit to the Temple of Karnak, where generations of pharaohs wished to record their names. Walk through the Great Hypostyle Hall; its expertly aligned columns, the largest of which is 80 feet high with a 33-foot circumference, are a sight to behold. This afternoon, sail to Esna and visit the Temple of Khnum, built during the reign of the Roman Emperor Claudius.

'Sanctuary Sun Boat III' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 CRUISING THE NILE | KOM OMBO

Continue your Nile voyage and join your onboard chef 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 latter considered by some ancient Egyptians to be the creator of the word. While there, view the mummified remains of several crocodiles that once basked along the ancient Nile shore, as their descendants do today. Tonight's dinner on board features an "Egyptian Night" costume party, with a chance to dress up in traditional *galabeyyas*.

'Sanctuary Sun Boat III' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 ASWAN | MAJESTIC PHILAE

Cruise to Aswan and proceed to the impressive granite quarries and site of the Unfinished Obelisk. Illustrating the skills of Egypt's stonemasons, this monolith is one-third taller than any other ancient Egyptian obelisk. Then, ride a motorized boat to Philae Temple on the island of Agilika. This sacred complex was dedicated to the goddess Isis and reflects a fusion of three great civilizations: Egyptian, Greek and Roman. The temple was dismantled and then painstakingly reassembled when the Aswan High Dam was constructed. Enjoy lunch followed by a session of henna hand painting. Later, Ride Like a Local around the Aswan islands in a *felucca*, weather permitting.

'Sanctuary Sun Boat III' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 ABU SIMBEL | TEMPLES OF RAMSES II & NEFERTARI

Today, bid farewell to 'Sanctuary Sun Boat III,' disembarking to fly to Abu Simbel. There, discover the commanding twin temples of Ramses II and his wife, Queen Nefertari. The former's façade is dominated by four statues of the pharaoh, each nearly 70 feet tall. Perhaps even more impressive, this entire site was disassembled and moved here to save it from the floodwaters caused by the Aswan High Dam. Return to Cairo for an afternoon at leisure.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 8 GIZA | THE PYRAMIDS & PAWS OF THE SPHINX

Drive to Sakkara, site of hundreds of tombs and 14 pyramids, including the Step Pyramid of Djoser. Admire beautiful tomb art, which gives great insight into the lives of the ancient Egyptians. You are among the first visitors in the world to see the tomb of Mehu, dating back 4,000 years but open barely a year. Marvel at the Serapeum of Sakkara, burial place of the Apis bulls, sacred animals said to be incarnations of the deity Ptah. Ponder along with the scholars as to why the sarcophagi are so much larger than the animals themselves. Next, tour the Giza Plateau, site of the pyramids of Mycerinus and Chepren as well as the Great Pyramid. Built in the Fourth Dynasty (approximately 2690 BC), it is the only survivor of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. You also visit the Solar Boat Museum, site of Cheops' funerary boat. For a very special treat, meet the Great Sphinx and enjoy rare private access to the paws of this enigmatic monument.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



DAY 9 CAIRO | ISLAMIC CAIRO & BUSTLING SOUKS

This morning, explore the Mosque and Madrasa of Sultan Hassan, built in AD 1356 and among the finest examples of early Mamluk architecture. Next, walk from the twin-towered Bab el-Foutouh, a fortified gate in Cairo's Old City walls, to Khan el-Khalili Bazaar, one of the city's major *souks* (open-air marketplaces), where you enjoy a free-wheeling treasure hunt and put your bargaining skills to the test. Browse the tightly packed stalls displaying everything from spices and leather goods to jewelry and vegetables, all on a street that has hardly changed in centuries. After lunch, choose to visit Coptic Cairo or return to your hotel for an afternoon at leisure. This evening, gather with your fellow guests to reflect on your journey through Egypt and along the Nile at a farewell dinner.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 10 DEPART CAIRO

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and depart.

Extensions



Pre-Tour Extension: Jordan

5 days from \$2,695 per person
Single Supplement from \$995 per person
Internal air from \$435
✈ Amman/Cairo

DAYS 1-2

Arrive in Amman, Jordan, and transfer to your hotel on the Dead Sea. The next day, tour the White City of Amman and visit the Roman ruins in Jerash. Later, gather for dinner.

Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (Day 2)

DAYS 3-4

Drive to Petra, visiting Mount Nebo en route, from which the Bible says Moses beheld the Holy Land, and view the Byzantine mosaics in Madaba. On Day 4, tour Petra, an ancient, rock-cut city and UNESCO World Heritage Site, famed for its rose-red stone and stunning, pillared Treasury.

Mövenpick Resort Petra | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5

Today, transfer to the airport and fly to Cairo.

Dates & Prices

Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.

Journey Details

Minimum age is 6 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 8:30 a.m. on Day 2.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Day 9.

Triple occupancy cabins are limited, contact A&K for details. Triple pricing is available on request.

Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Internal and international air not included. See complete terms and conditions [here](#).