

# 12 Days Splendors of Egypt & the Nile

CAIRO to CAIRO

APRIL 17-28, 2021

UNIWORLD S.S. SPHINX



## DAY 1: CAIRO

Arrive at Cairo International Airport. If your cruise/tour package includes a group arrival transfer or if you have purchased a private arrival transfer, a Uniworld representative will be on hand to greet you and escort you to the opulent Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza.

## DAY 2: CAIRO

The ancient quarter of Cairo is intense—the colors, the sounds, the density of people—and it's likely been this way for thousands of years. Your local expert will show you a 12th-century citadel, the beautiful Alabaster Mosque and an unsurpassed collection of priceless artifacts, including mind-boggling treasures once buried with the boy king Tutankhamen. Featured Excursion: Citadel of Salah al-Din, Alabaster Mosque and Egyptian Museum

## DAY 3: CAIRO, FLY TO LUXOR (EMBARK) CRUISING THE NILE RIVER, DENDERA

Prepare to be amazed at the legendary Temple of Karnak, a massive and absolutely astounding site, with gigantic columns, broad avenues lined with stone

sphinxes and halls of truly epic proportions. This evening, you'll revel in a Welcome Reception and Dinner onboard. Featured Excursion: Temple at Karnak

## DAY 4: DENDERA, CRUISING THE NILE RIVER, LUXOR

Like its twin shrine, the Temple of Karnak, the Temple of Luxor stands on the site of ancient Thebes, the once flourishing capital of Egypt's New Kingdom. It was built over hundreds of years and even in ruins it is still an extraordinary place. You'll also visit the Temple of Hathor, dedicated to the goddess of love and beauty. Featured Excursions: Temple of Hathor, Temple of Luxor

## DAY 5: LUXOR, CRUISING THE NILE RIVER, KOM OMBO

The word "colossal" will take on a whole new meaning after today's excursion to the gigantic twin statues known as the Colossi of Memnon. And that's just the beginning—you'll also visit the temple of one of Egypt's rare female pharaohs as well as the Valley of the Kings, used as a royal burial place for nearly 500 years and where the mummified remains of Tutankhamen are on display. Featured Excursion: Colossi of Memnon, Hatshepsut Temple and Valley of the Kings

## DAY 6: KOM OMBO, CRUISING THE NILE RIVER, ASWAN

After visiting a temple dedicated to a crocodile god today (don't miss the display of some of the 300 mummified crocs found in the local area), hop aboard a small boat for a bird-watching excursion along the Nile. Featured Excursions: Kom Ombo Temple, Bird watching boat ride and tea with a Nubian family

## DAY 7: ASWAN

Today is an epic day, filled with wonders from start to finish. You'll visit a marvel of modern engineering—the Aswan High Dam—as well as the Unfinished Obelisk and the beautiful Philae Temple complex, which was moved from one island to another back in the 1970s. But wait, there's more. You'll also take a ride in a felucca—a traditional Egyptian sailboat—and enjoy afternoon tea at a famous hotel depicted in Agatha Christie's novel Death on the Nile. Featured Excursions: Aswan High Dam, Unfinished Obelisk and Philae Temple Boat ride in traditional Nile River felucca, and afternoon tea at the Old Cataract Hotel Aswan

## DAY 8: ASWAN, CRUISING THE NILE RIVER, KOM OMBO, EDFU

Spend the day at leisure or join us for an optional excursion to see the magnificent temples of Abu Simbel.

## DAY 9: ESNA, CRUISING THE NILE RIVER, LUXOR

On today's excursion, you'll learn how the Temple of Esna was buried under debris for many centuries and is one of the last great Egyptian temples ever built. Your Egyptologist guide will share all sorts of fascinating insights about this significant cultural site and show you the façade bearing the last known hieroglyphic inscriptions ever recorded in Egypt. Featured Excursion: Temple of Esna Later, savor the Nile's majestic scenery as the ship cruises to Luxor.

## DAY 10: LUXOR (DISEMBARK), FLY TO CAIRO

Disembark in Luxor and transfer to the airport for your return flight to Cairo. Then, check in to the Four Seasons Hotel at Nile Plaza where you'll have time to relax before tonight's Farewell Dinner at the elegant Mena House Hotel. Featured Excursion: Farewell Dinner at the Mena House

## DAY 11: CAIRO

It's a day of Bucket List Moments today as we venture to Ancient Memphis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with a number of amazing monuments to see—including the enigmatic Great Sphinx. After seeing the pyramids from afar last evening, you'll have a thrilling opportunity to view them from an up-close perspective, the only way to fully appreciate their remarkable size and grandeur. Featured Excursion: Ancient Memphis sites, including the Pyramids of Giza, the Great Sphinx and Sakkara visit

## DAY 12: DEPART CAIRO

Check out of your hotel and transfer to the Cairo International Airport for your flight home, or extend your trip with a memorable optional extension in Jerusalem.