

# SECRETS OF THE NILE

October 2022





**DAY 1            20OCT : HOME - CAIRO (F)**

This afternoon you will be collected from your home, arriving at Wellington Airport prior to our flight to Cairo.

**DAY 2            21OCT : CAIRO (D)**

On arrival into Cairo late morning, we are welcomed by our local host and transferred to our hotel for a relax and refresh after our journey from New Zealand. In the afternoon, we board our coach for a city highlights tour, including a visit to the Grand Mosque. This evening we relax and dine together at our hotel.

**DAY 3            22OCT : CAIRO - ASWAN (B,AT)**

After breakfast today we board our coach for a visit to Memphis, Saqqara before heading to Cairo Airport for our domestic flight to Aswan. On arrival in Aswan we check into the Sofitel legend, Old Cataract Hotel, with time to enjoy the quintessential and famous afternoon tea together. The evening is yours free to explore or just rest and relax.

**DAY 4            23OCT : ASWAN (B,L,D)**

Today is the start of our Nile Cruise as we transfer to our superior class river cruiser, the 5\* Mövenpick MS Darakum, moored on the Nile. Here we just unpack once before we then experience the freedom of a felucca ride around the Aswan Islands and visit a local Nubian family for a cup of tea. This evening we settle in to enjoy dinner & music onboard. Overnight onboard in Aswan

***Meals : Flight Meals (F) : Breakfast (B) : Lunch (L) : Afternoon Tea (AT) : Dinner (D)***



#### **DAY 5            24OCT : ASWAN (B,L,D)**

Today after breakfast we visit the High Dam and Philae Temple, returning to our ship for lunch before an afternoon visit to the Nubian Museum. The museum is a reminder of what was lost beneath Lake Nasser. Exhibits are beautifully displayed in huge halls, where clearly written explanations take you from 4500 BC through to the present day. This evening we experience the delights of a Nubian show after dinner. Overnight onboard in Aswan.

#### **DAY 6            25OCT : ASWAN – KOM OMBU - EDFU (B,L,D)**

This morning we sail the Nile before arriving in Kom Ombo, after lunch we visit the Kom Ombo Temple, one of the Nile Valley's most beautifully sited temples. Unique in Egypt, the temple's twin dedication is reflected in its plan: perfectly symmetrical along the main axis of the temple. Sailing on, we arrive into Edfu and this evening enjoy the Managers Cocktail Party together. Overnight onboard in Edfu.

#### **DAY 7            26OCT : EDFU - LUXOR (B,L,D)**

This morning we begin our day with a visit to the Edfu Temple. This Ptolemaic temple, built between 237 and 57 BC, is one of the best-preserved ancient monuments in Egypt. With its roof intact, it is also one of the most atmospheric of ancient buildings. On return we set sail on to Luxor enjoying the scenery via the Esna Lock and enjoy dinner together this evening. Overnight onboard in Luxor

#### **DAY 8            27OCT : LUXOR (B,L,D)**

After breakfast we have an early start to visit the East Bank. We start with Luxor Temple, largely built by the New Kingdom pharaohs Amenhotep III (1390–1352 BC) and Ramses II (1279–1213 BC). This temple is a strikingly graceful monument in the heart of the modern town. We return to the ship for lunch and refresh, before heading out again mid afternoon to visit Karnak Temple, an extraordinary complex of sanctuaries, kiosks, pylons and obelisks dedicated to the Theban triad but also to the greater glory of pharaohs. The site covers more than two square kilometres, large enough to contain about ten cathedrals. After dinner this evening we enjoy a captivating Belly Dance Show. Overnight onboard in Luxor.

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**DAY 9                    28OCT : LUXOR – QENA – NAG HAMMADI (B,L,D)**

This morning we enjoy breakfast and the sights from the Nile as we sail to Qena. After lunch onboard we visit the Dendara Temple. This complex is one of the best preserved in Egypt. On return to the ship we set sail to Nag Hammadi, sailing through two locks and under the Nag Hammadi Bridge. Overnight onboard in Nag Hammadi.

**DAY 10                    29OCT : NAG HAMMADI – ABYDOS - SOHAG (B,L,D)**

Enjoy breakfast during an early morning sail to El Balyana via Abu Homar's bridge & lock day. Later this morning we disembark and visit the Abydos Temple, the holy city of Osiris God of the Dead. Continuing to the main monument of Abydos, The Temple of Seti I, built around 1300 BC by Seti and his son, Ramses II. It is especially notable for its fine reliefs, considered among the best of the New Kingdom. We lunch onboard today as we sail to Sohag, after spending the afternoon relaxing, we regather for dinner and a fabulous Galabaya party, along with Egyptian Wine Tasting. Overnight onboard in Sohag.

**DAY 11                    30OCT : SOHAG – ASYUT – TELL EL AMARNA (B,L,D)**

We set sail while breakfast is served before we arrive at Asyut's lock, passing the lock we continue on to Tell El Amarna. Arriving in Tell El Amarna, once the city of Akhenaten, the Pharaoh known for his revolutionary religion that worshipped Aten we visit the Amarna Visitor Centre to view a presentation on Akhenaten. Back onboard, with time for a refresh, we take part in a traditional cookery lesson before enjoying dinner together this evening. Overnight onboard in Tell El Amarna.

**DAY 12                    31OCT : TELL EL AMARNA – TUNA el-GABAL – MINYA (B,L,D)**

This morning we have an early start with a visit to Tuna el-Gebel, the necropolis of Khmun and continuing on to El Ashmunein to visit its open-air museum, Temple of Thoth, and the Sanctuary of Amun. We return to the ship early afternoon and take lunch, with the rest of the afternoon free to relax, as we set sail to Minya. Dinner this evening is followed by a folkloric show. Overnight onboard in Minya.

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**DAY 13      01NOV : MINYA – BENI SUEF (B,L,D)**

Following breakfast we begin our day with a visit to the rock tombs of Beni Hassan Baqet III, Tomb of Khety, Tomb of Amenemhat and the Tomb of Khnumhotep II. On return to the ship early afternoon, we set sail to Beni Suef. Tonight we take part in a fun filled quiz night together after dinner. Overnight onboard in Beni Suef.

**DAY 14      02NOV : BENI SUEF – CAIRO (B,L,D)**

This morning we set sail for Cairo with breakfast and lunch onboard before arriving this afternoon in time to visit Coptic Cairo including the Hanging Church, Coptic Museum and Jewish Synagogue. Dinner is onboard tonight and we will be entertained with Takht (*middle eastern music*).

**DAY 15      03NOV : CAIRO (B,L,D)**

We have our breakfast onboard this morning before heading off to Giza, where the famous Pyramids stand as monuments to the Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt and the Great Sphinx, which has kept its secrets for centuries. We return for lunch onboard and a refresh before we head out again to explore the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities, containing treasures from Egypt's ancient past. This evening no doubt we will regale with our stories, as we share our Farewell Dinner together onboard. Overnight onboard in Cairo.

**DAY 16      04NOV : CAIRO – DISEMBARKATION – DUBAI (B, F)**

It's time to say goodbye today as we transfer from our river cruise ship to Cairo International Airport for our flight home. This will be a great time to reflect on our amazing journey together and swap our contact details with the new made friends.

Our flight departs Cairo early afternoon and tonight we have an overnight stopover in Dubai, prior to our onwards departure tomorrow morning.

**DAY 17      05NOV : DUBAI - HOME (B,F)**

This morning we return to Dubai Airport for our flight home, arriving back in Wellington on 6<sup>th</sup> November, where will be collected for our onwards transfers home.

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# Secrets of the Nile

17 Day Tour Includes:

- YOURTours home pick up
- Fully hosted by a YOURTours Host
- International flights ex New Zealand
- 5\* MOVENPICK MS Dakarum River Cruise Ship
- Services of local Egyptologists throughout
  - Meals as per itinerary
  - Gratuities/Tips
- Departs 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022
- Price from \$10,985 p/p twin share : single supplement \$2,663

*“Ms Dakarum is one of the smaller ships on the Nile, with just 52 cabins and suites, the five-star MS Darakum has been designed with a low draft in order to navigate the full length of the Nile in Egypt. It is currently the only vessel regularly operating this route, so this cruise is very much a unique experience!”*

*Appointed to the highest specification and imaginatively furnished with a distinctive Moroccan theme, the MS Darakum offers extensive open deck space on three levels, with plenty sun loungers, sofas and armchairs to relax in. The pool on the sun deck is perfect for a cooling dip. The spacious, yet cosy lounge bar is the social hub of the ship, with board games and evening entertainment including music, wine-tasting and cookery lesson, a black & white party, the ever-popular ‘galabiya’ party and even a belly dancer!”*

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# Secrets of the Nile

Sail from Aswan to Cairo along the Nile in waters less known to others. Be part of a fully hosted tour that few will experience due to limited sailings in this part of the Nile. Unpack only once as we board the 5\* MOVENPICK MS Dakarum River Cruiser, our floating hotel for the entire river cruise. Experience sights and sounds from the water's edge that are often missed when flying from Aswan to Cairo

## *Trip Highlights*

- THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM
- PYRAMIDS AND THE GREAT SPHINX
- ROCK-TOMBS OF BENI HASSAN
- TEL EL AMARNA, ONCE THE CITY OF AKHENATEN
- ABYDOS AND TEMPLE OF SETI I
- SAIL TO NAGA HAMMADI PASSING THROUGH  
BEAUTIFUL SCENERY ALONG THE NILE
- EAST AND WEST BANKS IN LUXOR
- ASWAN - HIGH DAM AND TEMPLE OF ISIS ON  
PHILAE ISLAND

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