



# ANCIENT EGYPT & MODERN DUBAI

12 DAYS



Departure Dates: 16 Mar, 2020

Twin Sharing price per person

C\$ **3899**

Single Supplement

C\$ **899**



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## TOUR LODGING INFO: 10 Nights + 01 Night onboard flight

Accommodation will be provided on a twin sharing basis

CITIES	NIGHTS	DELUXE HOTELS
Cairo	02 Nights	Steigenberger Hotel
Luxor - Aswan Cruise	04 Nights	Amwaj Livingstone Nile Cruise
Cairo	01 Night	Steigenberger Hotel
Dubai	03 Nights	Coral Al Barsha

*(If any of the above mentioned hotels are not available we will provide a similar alternative)*

## TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation on a twin sharing basis at listed hotels or similar
- Daily Buffet Breakfast
- Full board during your four-night cruise
- Meet & Greet at Cairo & Dubai International airport by our Representative
- Arrival & Departure transfers in Egypt & Dubai
- Transportation in a private AC chauffeur driven vehicle
- Sightseeing & Entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Tours from the cruise ship
- Half Day Dubai City Tour
- Desert 4X4 Safari with BBQ dinner in Dubai
- Service of English-speaking local guide during sightseeing tours
- International airfare from Edmonton
- Domestic airfare in Egypt:  
Cairo - Luxor & Aswan - Cairo
- All Air taxes and fuel surcharges
- All local applicable taxes

## TOUR ITINERARY:

### DAY 01: MON EDMONTON

Make your own way to the International Airport to check in for your flight to Dubai. Enjoy in-flight meals and services.

### DAY 02: TUE DUBAI – CAIRO

Welcome to Cairo! Cairo, called Al-Qahirah in Arabic, with a population of 17 million, is not only Africa's largest city but the political and cultural center of the Arab World. Cairo's old quarters retain their ancient charm with many streets still known by descriptions given to them by medieval chroniclers. Modern Cairo's architecture is distinguished by Ottoman and later European influences, especially in commercial architecture, particularly as the city's population boomed during the 19th century. On arrival at Cairo International Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel for check in. Overnight in Cairo

### DAY 03: WED CAIRO

Today you will visit the **Pyramids & Sphinx** - reckoned by the Greeks to

be one of the Seven Wonders of the World. A single pyramid is built of 2,300,000 blocks, each weighing an average of two and one-half tons. In the face of such immensity, one cannot help but feel the wonder and awe that so many writers & artists have sought to convey over the centuries. The Cheops Pyramid is especially interesting since its interior burial chambers are open for inspection by the public. Not far from the Pyramids is the Great Sphinx of Giza, which dates from the time of Chephren (2620 BC). Hewn from natural yellowish limestone & standing 65 feet high & 187 feet long, this unforgettable statue combines the head of a Pharaoh with a lion's body. Afterwards return to the hotel, with the rest of the day at leisure or perhaps book one of the following optional tours. Overnight in Cairo

### Optional: Visit the incredible Egyptian Museum – CAD 60 per person on a minimum of 2pax

In the afternoon, you have the opportunity to experience the most important depository of Egyptian antiquities anywhere in the world. The Egyptian Museum boasts 107 halls filled with approximately 160,000 objects covering 5,000 years of Egypt's past. It features artifacts from the Pharaonic and Graeco-Roman periods, including the celebrated mummies of ancient Egypt's king and Tut Ankh Amun treasures.

### Optional: Half Day Tour to Khan el Khalili – CAD 60 per person on a minimum of 2pax

An afternoon half day tour visit to the Khan El Khalili, known as the Turkish bazaar during the Ottoman period, built in 1382 by Emir Djaharks ElKhalili, in the heart of what was then Fatimid City. To this day, the bazaar is a center of trade and communion in the city, and offers a wide array of antiques, handicrafts of gold, silver and copper as well as numerous old coffee shops and local restaurants which attract both Egyptians and tourists alike.

### Optional: Sound and Light show at the Pyramids - CAD 80 per person on a minimum of 4pax

After dinner on your own, return to Giza for a spectacular Sound & Light show. Nothing compares to seeing the Pyramids and the Sphinx illuminated at night; the visual effects as well as dramatic commentary make for an unforgettable evening.

### DAY 04: THU CAIRO - LUXOR (B/L/D)

This morning we are transferred back to Cairo International Airport for a flight to Luxor. Upon arrival in Luxor, we will be escorted to our cruise ship for our embarkation. This will be our home for the next four nights. Lunch on board and in the afternoon, we will visit Luxor and Karnak Temples.

**Luxor Temple** was the center of the most important festival, the festival of Opet. Built largely by Amenhotep III and Ramses II, the temple served as a setting for the rituals of the festival, which was held to reconcile the human aspect of the ruler with his divine office. The procession of images of the current royal family began at Karnak and ended at the Luxor temple.

**Karnak Temple** was erected in 1928 BC as a small shrine dedicated to Amun, god of Thebes. The Temple of Karnak comprises three main temples, smaller enclosed temples, and several outer temples - all constructed over 1300 years. The three main temples of Mut, Monthu and Amun, are enclosed in enormous brick walls, with the temple of Amun at the center. Karnak is now the largest and oldest temple compound on earth. Dinner and overnight on board in Luxor.



**DAY 05: FRI LUXOR – EDFU (B/L/D)**

After breakfast, cross the newly constructed Luxor Bridge to visit the Valley of the Kings, which includes the tombs of the Theban rulers, Seti I and Tutankhamen. The **Valley of the Kings** in Upper Egypt is home to many pharaonic tombs of the New Kingdom, including those of King Tutankhamun and Ramses the Great. Each king's formal name and title is inscribed in his tomb, which are also adorned with his images and statues. Most of the tombs were cut into limestone following a similar pattern: three corridors, an antechamber, and a sunken sarcophagus chamber. Explore several amazing Royal Tombs. Then visit the **Valley of the Queens** which includes between 75 and 80 tombs. These tombs belong to queens of the 18th, 19th and 20th Dynasties. Among these is the famous tomb of Nefertiti, one of the five wives of Ramses II. Afterwards tour the mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, the only woman Pharaoh to rule ancient Egypt. The mortuary temple of **Queen Hatshepsut** of the 18th dynasty was built just north of the Middle Kingdom temple of Mentuhotep Nebhepetre, amid the bay of cliffs known as Deir El-Bahri. In ancient times the temple was called Djoser-djeseru, meaning the sacred of sacreds. The female pharaoh chose to build her temple in a valley sacred to the Theban Goddess of the west, on a direct axis with Karnak Temple of Amun on the East Bank. After lunch on board we sail to Edfu via Esna. Ancient Nubia was known to the pharaohs as the "Land of Gold," and its wealth and lands were eventually incorporated into Egypt around 1500 BC. This afternoon, join your shipmates for afternoon tea. Dinner and overnight on board in Edfu

**Optional: Hot air ballooning over the valley at sunrise - CAD 205 per person on a minimum of 2pax**

Enjoy the splendours of the ancient historical sights of Luxor from the air. See this spectacular landscape from the unique viewpoint that only hot air ballooning can provide. Glide majestically over the temples and burial grounds of the Pharaohs and allow history to come to life before your eyes.

**DAY 06: SAT LUXOR - EDFU - KOM OMBO - ASWAN (B/L/D)**

Enjoy breakfast on board before visiting the Temple of Edfu. This temple is not only the best-preserved ancient temple in Egypt, but also the second largest after Karnak. It was believed that the temple was built on the site of the great battle between Horus and Seth. Hence, the current temple was but the last in a long series of temples build on this location. We then sail to Kom Ombo and have lunch and afternoon tea on board the ship. This afternoon, disembark and enjoy a short walk to the **Temples of Kom Ombo**. This temple complex actually consists of two temples: the Temple of Sobek and the Temple of Haroeris. In ancient times, sacred crocodiles basked in the sun on the riverbank near here. The Temple has scant remains, due first to the changing Nile, then the Copts who once used it as a church, and finally by builders who used the stones for new buildings. As we sail toward Ancient Nubia, participate in an Egyptian Galabeya Party. Overnight on board in Aswan

**DAY 07: SUN ASWAN (B/L/D)**

After breakfast, Visit the Aswan High Dam (completed in 1971); the Old Dam (completed in 1902). You will also visit the Philae Temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis, a structure rescued from the rising waters of Lake Nasser at the time of the High Dam's construction. The High Dam, Just north of the border between Egypt and Sudan lies the Aswan High Dam, a huge rock fill dam which captures the world's longest river, the Nile, in the

world's largest artificial reservoir, Lake Nasser. The dam, known as "Sadd El-Aali" in Arabic, was completed in 1970 after 10 years of work. Later take a short trip on a motorboat to Discover the Philae Temple. The Boat ride will bring the visitor to a magnificent vista of the island, before landing at what would have been the ancient quay on the south side. The temple was dedicated to the goddess Isis and has many legends connected to it. The most well-known legend tells the story of how Isis found the heart of Osiris here after his murder by his brother Seth. Dinner and Overnight onboard in Aswan

**DAY 08: MON ASWAN - CAIRO (B/-/-)**

Disembark the cruise after breakfast before being transferred to Aswan Airport for our flight back to Cairo where we will be met and escorted back to the hotel. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure or perhaps take an optional tour. Overnight in Cairo

**Optional: Morning visit to Abu Simbel – CAD 510 per person on a minimum of 2pax**

This morning transfer to Aswan airport to board a flight to Abu Simbel. Upon arrival in Abu Simbel you will be transferred to the temple site. Visit the Temple of Ramses and Temple of Queen Nefertari; not only are the two temples located at Abu Simbel among the most magnificent monuments in the world but their removal and reconstruction was an historic event in itself. When the temples (280 km from Aswan) were threatened by submersion in Lake Nasser the two temples that of Rameses II primarily dedicated to Re-Harakhte, and that of his wife, Nefertari dedicated to Hathor were moved to their new location. After touring you will be transferred back to the airport for a short flight back to Aswan.

**DAY 09: TUE CAIRO - DUBAI (B/-/-)**

Today you will be transferred back to Cairo International airport for your flight to Dubai. Upon arrival to Dubai you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight in Dubai

**Optional: Dhow Dinner Cruise - CAD 65 Per person**

Experience dinner aboard a traditional wooden dhow – a great way to see Dubai by night. Dine on an international buffet-style dinner with seating available either indoor with air-conditioning or outdoors on the upper or lower deck.

**DAY 10: WED DUBAI (B/-/-)**

This morning enjoy a half-day sightseeing tour of the cosmopolitan city of Dubai. Even with all its modern buildings Dubai has maintained its Islamic architecture through such monuments as the Jumeirah Mosque. You will have a chance to make various photo stops as the still of the moment guides you towards the oldest part of the city, Batakia. Batakia remains nestled within the bustling city where one can admire the serenity of the old wind-tower houses built by wealthy merchants at the beginning of the century. "Al Fahidi Fort' nearly 200 years old houses the Dubai museum and reveals the history of this city. Walk through the vibrant colors of the textile market to the 'abra' station. Then drift across the creek in 'water-taxis' to feel the warmth of the city. On the other side we proceed across the busy alleys where the aroma of the 'spice souk' filters through the air to the dazzling glitter of the famous Gold Souk to round off the tour. At approx. 3.30 PM you will meet your safari guide and head out on a dune drive at the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve. The mysterious desert beckons you for a magical evening out – an adventure you'll never

forget. Leaving behind the bustle of the city in the afternoon, our safari guides will transport you for a thrilling journey over rolling dunes deep into the heart of the desert. From the crest of a high dune, watch the sun cast its orange glow over the vast expanse of rippling sand all round you as it sets. Like a shimmering mirage in the distance you will see the flickering lights of your camp where a traditional Arabian welcome awaits you. The encampment conjures up images of the Arabian nights. Relax on comfortable low cushions in Bedouin tents and quench your thirst, have your hands painted with intricate henna designs, experience a short camel ride, or just enjoy the aromatic shisha. A feast of grilled meats, fresh salads and delectable Arab sweets is served and under a galaxy of stars, you will be entertained by the bewitching belly dancer swaying to the haunting strains of Arabian music. You won't want this enchanting evening to end. Overnight in Dubai

**DAY 11: THU DUBAI (B/-/-)**

Enjoy the day at leisure. Overnight in Dubai

**Optional: Full Day Abu Dhabi Tour - CAD 55 Per person**

At Noon proceed on a full day city tour of Abu Dhabi. Abu Dhabi is the capital of the United Arab Emirates and the residence of the Federal National Council. One of the world's largest producers of oil, Abu Dhabi, has actively attempted to diversify its economy in recent years through investments in financial services and tourism. Your journey begins in Dubai, where you will travel past the world's largest man-made port at

Jebel Ali and onward for the two-hour drive to Abu Dhabi. You will be mesmerised by the grandness of the new additions to Abu Dhabi's skyline, as well as the majestic Grand Mosque, which is one of the largest mosques in the world. You will then be driven through the heart of the city where you can see the famous Union Square, which houses symbolic themes inspired by the customs of the country. After a drive along the Corniche, you will visit the Heritage Village, specially designed by late HH Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan al Nahyan, as a reminder of the past for the younger generation. You will also have the opportunity to enjoy shopping at Abu Dhabi Marina Mall, home to a large array of luxury boutiques and souvenir stores. Come back in Dubai in time to be transferred to the international airport and catch your flight back home.

\*\*Please note to visit the Sheikh Zayed Mosque you need to adhere to the following dress code:

- Men must wear long trousers and no sleeveless shirts. No tight clothing
- Women must cover their arms to the wrists with a long-sleeved shirt, cover their hair, décolleté and neck with some headscarf and long trousers covering their ankles, and nothing white. No tight clothing

**DAY 12: FRI DUBAI - EDMONTON**

Very early this morning depart back to Toronto; arriving at Toronto Pearson International airport the same day.

**END OF OUR SERVICES**

