A photograph of the Great Pyramids of Giza in Egypt under a clear blue sky. The pyramids are made of golden-brown stone blocks. In the foreground, there is a white silhouette of a camel and rider on the left, and a white silhouette of an acacia tree on the right. The bottom of the image features a white silhouette of a landscape with rolling hills and a circular sun or moon in the sky.

ACACIA HOLIDAYS

History Comes Alive

Small Group Journeys
2023

ITINERARY

History Comes Alive • Small Group Journeys • 2023

DAY 1

ARRIVAL & WELCOME

You will be met upon arrival at Cairo International Airport by an Acacia Holidays representative who will transfer you to your hotel. Purchase your Egyptian visa upon arrival. Few places in the world loom as large in the imaginations of the adventurous as Egypt. Who among us hasn't dreamed about looking up in awe at the Great Pyramid of Giza or gazing upon the enigmatic Great Sphinx? A favorite chapter of world history, Egypt is home not only to the Pyramids of Giza but a wealth of temples, fortresses, tombs, villages, and cities whose history stretches back nearly five millennia. The Cairo Marriott Hotel is located on Zamalek Island in the heart of Cairo and is built around a Nineteenth Century palace. Marvel at the wonderfully preserved interiors and take refuge from bustling Cairo in the hotel's lush grounds while gazing out upon the Nile from your balcony.



OVERNIGHT: CONRAD CAIRO

MEALS: UNDER OWN ARRANGEMENTS

DAY 2

GIZA, SAKKARRA & MEMPHIS

This morning, your Egyptologist will escort you to the Great Pyramids of Giza. The only present-day survivors of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, they are among the world's greatest tourist attractions and never lose their ability to inspire and overwhelm visitors. You will be able to enter inside one of these fabulous monuments and explore the mysteries of its ancient past for yourself. Later, you'll head north along the Nile to Memphis and its necropolis of Sakkara.

Sphinx: Enter the temple of the mysterious Sphinx, an ancient figure shrouded in legend and mystery. Your Egyptologist will enthrall you with the tales told of this fascinating figure.

Pyramids of Sakkara & Memphis: Saqqara is one of the most extensive archaeological sites in Egypt. It was the cemetery for Memphis, the capital of the Old Kingdom, yet it is still one of the country's most productive archaeological sites, even though so much has already been found here. The open-air Museum at Memphis is one of the "must see" sites in Egypt and features a massive reclining Ramses II statue.

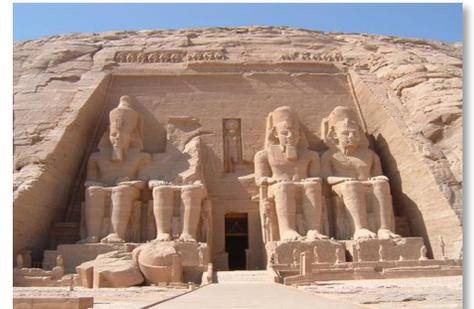


OVERNIGHT: CONRAD CAIRO

MEALS: B

DAY 3**LUXOR & EAST BANK**

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your domestic flight up river to Luxor. You'll be greeted upon arrival and transferred to your deluxe Nile River cruise ship, where you'll enjoy lunch on board and meet your cruise director before heading out for an afternoon of sightseeing on the east bank walking among the sphinx at Karnark and the Luxor temple.



OVERNIGHT: M/S BLUE SHADOW 1 OR SIMILAR

MEALS: B/L/D

DAY 4**WEST BANK & VALLEY OF KINGS**

After breakfast, you set off to the west bank of Luxor, tour Tutankhamen's tomb in the Valley of the Kings, the Colosi of Memnon and the Temple of Hatshepsut, the first female pharaoh. You will start sailing at the end of a full day on the west bank, enjoying sunset on the river and a nice sleep before waking up near Edfu.

The **Valley of the Kings** is a valley in Egypt where, for a period of nearly 500 years from the 16th to 11th century BC, rock cut tombs were excavated for the Pharaohs and powerful nobles of the New Kingdom (the Eighteenth to the Twentieth Dynasties of Ancient Egypt). The West Valley has only one open tomb—that of Ay—and a separate ticket is needed to visit this tomb

Hatshepsut's temple is considered the closest Egypt came to Classical architecture. Representative of New Kingdom funerary architecture, it both aggrandizes the pharaoh and includes sanctuaries to honor the gods relevant to her afterlife. The relief sculpture within Hatshepsut's temple recites the tale of the divine birth of a female pharaoh – the first of its kind. The text and pictorial cycle also tell of an expedition to the Land of Punt, an exotic country on the Red Sea coast.



OVERNIGHT: M/S BLUE SHADOW 1 OR SIMILAR

MEALS: B/L/D

DAY 5**EDFU – KOM OMBO**

You'll spend the morning touring the Edfu temple before setting sail at lunch time. You will also have time to visit the colorful local bazaars and bargain for mementos of your stay. Lunch will be served on board the cruise. The afternoon will be spent relaxing, enjoying the pool if your ship has one and taking in the local river side life before visiting the Kom Ombo Temple just as the sun starts to set. Back on board, you'll enjoy a themed dinner before heading to bed and sail to Aswan.

**OVERNIGHT: M/S BLUE SHADOW 1 OR SIMILAR****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 6**ASWAN**

You'll wake up this morning in Aswan – perhaps very early if you want to take the day trip to Abu Simbel or just spend the day sightseeing at the Aswan High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk, and the Philae Temple. End the day with entertainment or an onboard lecture.

**OVERNIGHT: M/S BLUE SHADOW 1 OR SIMILAR****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 7**ASWAN - CAIRO**

Today morning spend the morning at leisure within the Aswan where you can opt for the Abu Simbei excursion. You will check out and are transferred to the airport for your late morning flight to Cairo. Spend the afternoon at leisure to catch up on your postcard writing or souvenir shopping. Enjoy the afternoon with a Cairo tour with stops the Egyptian National Museum where seven millennia of history comes alive. After lunch (under own account) we head to the medieval Cairo Citadel of Saladin and Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

The **Saladin Citadel of Cairo** is a medieval Islamic fortification in Cairo, Egypt. The location, on Mokattam hill near the center of Cairo, was once famous for its fresh breeze and grand views of the city. It is now a preserved historic site, with mosques and museums. In 1976, it was proclaimed by UNESCO as a part of the World Heritage Site Historic Cairo which was the new center of the Islamic world, reaching its golden age in the 14th century.

The **Egyptian Museum of Antiquities** contains many important pieces of ancient Egyptian history. It houses the world's largest collection of Pharaonic antiquities. The Egyptian government established the museum built in 1835 near the Ezbekeyah Garden and later moved to the Cairo Citadel

The **site of Khan el-Khalili** was originally the site of the mausoleum known as the Saffron Tomb which was the burial site of the Fatimid caliphs. The mausoleum was part of the Fatimid Great Eastern Palace complex, begun in 970 AD by Gawhar al-Siqilli, the general who conquered Egypt for the Fatimid dynasty and founded Cairo that same year. Today, it is mainly occupied by Egyptian shop holders, significantly geared towards tourists buying souvenirs, antiques and jewelry.

**OVERNIGHT: CONRAD CAIRO****MEALS: B**

DAY 8**FAREWELL**

A private transfer after breakfast to the Cairo International Airport follows for your scheduled flight back home from. Sadly, the African safari comes to an end but the memories will definitely live forever.

**Your flight departs Cairo at 0925P, so kindly consider dayrooms as your transfer to the airport will be three hours before your flight.*

DAYROOMS: UPON REQUEST**MEALS: B****** END OF ACACIA HOLIDAYS ARRANGEMENTS ****

S U M M A R Y

History Comes Alive • Small Group Journeys • 2023

ITINERARY: Cairo | Luxor | East & West Bank | Edfu | Kom Ombo | Aswan | Cairo Excursions

DURATION: 8 days / 7 nights safari

LAND ONLY (USD)

	05 JAN-30 APR 01 SEP-15 DEC	01 MAY-31 AUG
Per Person Sharing	\$2,975	\$3,080
Single Room Supplement	\$845	\$945
Optional Supplement	Abu Simbel Excursions: \$345 per person Dayrooms in Cairo: \$110 per person	

Add 3.5% to all Credit Card payments

Accommodations listed are subject to availability.

A supplemental holiday surcharge of \$45 per person per night may apply for travel over Easter & Christmas holidays.

Costs Include

- Overnight accommodation and breakfast at Conrad Cairo or simila
- Overnight accommodation and all meals on board cruise ship
- All airport, hotel & excursions transfers.
- Cairo excursions on Day 2: *Pyramids & Sphinx, Memphis, Sakkara*
- Cairo excursion on day 7: *Citadel, Mohamed Ali Mosque, Egyptian Museum, Khan El Khalili Bazar*
- East bank: *Karnak & Luxor temples*
- West Bank: *Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut temple, Colossi of Memnon*
- Edfu, Kom Ombo temples
- Aswan visits: *High Dam, Unfinished Obelisk, Philae temple*
- Domestic flight: **Cairo>>Luxor & Aswan>>Cairo**
- All temple and archaeological site general entrance fees
- Entrance fee to access inside of Great Pyramid of Giza

Costs Exclude

- **International flights to/from Cairo (CAI)**
- **Abu Simbel Excursions**
- All items of a personal nature
- Laundry
- Tips and gratuities
- Telephone calls
- Egypt entry visa
- Travel insurance
- Camel ride
- Abu Simbel excursion (incl. flights, guides, fees, transfers)
- All other items not mentioned in inclusions

