

## SPLENDOURS OF EGYPT & THE NILE

November 3 – 17, 2022

### INCLUDED:

- ❖ Egypt Visa
- ❖ Hotels

CITY	HOTEL	INCLUSIONS
Cairo 3 nights	Ritz Carlton Nile Hotel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nile View Room</li> <li>- WiFi</li> <li>- Porterage</li> <li>- Breakfast Daily</li> </ul>
Luxor 1 night	Hilton Luxor Hotel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Partial Nile View Room</li> <li>- WiFi</li> <li>- Porterage</li> <li>- Breakfast Daily</li> </ul>
Giza 3 nights	Marriott Mena House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Garden View Room</li> <li>- WiFi</li> <li>- Porterage</li> <li>- Breakfast Daily</li> </ul>

- ❖ 7 night River Cruise on the Farah Nile River Ship
  - Includes:
    - WIFI
    - water, coffee, tea, soft drinks throughout the day
    - local beer & wine with lunch and dinner
- ❖ Meals
  - 14 breakfasts
  - 11 lunches
  - 13 dinners
- ❖ Beverages
  - Land Program
    - LUNCH: soft drinks, water, coffee, tea
    - DINNER: soft drinks, water, coffee, tea
  - Cruise Program
    - ANYTIME: coffee/tea, soft drinks, water
    - LUNCH: soft drinks, local wine, local beer, coffee, tea
    - DINNER: soft drinks, local wine, local beer, coffee, tea
- ❖ Tours
  - All tours stated including:
    - entrance fees
    - bottled water
- ❖ Basic Gratuities
- ❖ Travel Insurance (trip cancellation/interruption). Out of country medical insurance additional.

## Cairo

Cairo was founded in 969 AD as the Royal enclosure for the Fatimid Caliphs, while the actual economic and administrative capital was in nearby Fustat. Fustat was established by the Arab military commander 'Amr Ibn Al-'As following his conquest of Egypt in 641, where he established it as the capital, which had previously been in Alexandria. For a brief period, Al-Qatta'i stood as the new capital of Egypt, until 905, when Fustat was restored as Egypt's capital.

At the time, Fustat was considered a new city, built as a military garrison to house Arab troops. It was the closest central location to Arabia that was accessible to the Nile and thus considered of great importance. Later, during the Umayyad period, Fustat became known as a regional center for Islam, and it was here that the Umayyad ruler, Marwan II, made his last stand against the Abbasids.

It was in 969, during the Fatimid era, that Al-Qahira (Cairo) was officially founded as an imperial capital, and over the centuries, Cairo grew to absorb other local cities such as Fustat. However, it was not until Fustat was destroyed in 1168/1169 to prevent it from capture by the Crusaders that the administrative capital of Egypt moved to Cairo, where it has remained ever since.

In 1250, the Mamluks seized Egypt and ruled from Cairo until 1517, when they were defeated by the Ottomans. Napoleon's French army also briefly occupied Egypt from 1798 to 1801, after which an Ottoman officer named Muhammed Aly regained Egypt, making Cairo the capital of an independent empire that lasted from 1805 to 1882. The city then came under British control, which lasted till 1922 when Egypt gained lasting independence.



Photo by [Omar Elsharawy](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## EGYPT AT A GLANCE

*There will be approximately 3 CME hours done via Zoom pre conference.*

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL TIMES ARE PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

DATE	CITY	ACTIVITY	NOTES
November 3, 2022 Thursday D*	Cairo	Transfers	Welcome to Cairo  Transfer from the Cairo Airport to the Ritz Carlton  *For those guests arriving into Cairo prior to 6pm, a dinner voucher will be provided for Culina Restaurant
November 4, 2022 Friday B, D	Cairo	Morning	Breakfast at Culina 630am-1100am  At leisure  CME Lectures (3 hours)  Lunch on your own
		Afternoon	Afternoon Tour:  Coptic Cairo including Old Cairo, the Synagogue, and the Hanging Church  Museum of Civilization
		Evening	Dinner at a local restaurant
November 5, 2022 Saturday B, L, D	Cairo	Morning	Breakfast at Culina 630am-1100am  Tour: The Citadel & Mohamed Aly Mosque
		Afternoon	Lunch at a Local Restaurant
		Evening	Private after hours tour of the Original Egyptian Museum  Dinner Reception at the Ritz Carlton

November 6, 2022 Sunday B, L, D	Cairo – Luxor	Morning	Breakfast Box Charter Flight to Luxor (early morning) Tour: Temple of Karnak
		Afternoon	Check into Hilton Nile & Lunch CME Lectures (2 hours)
		Evening	Dinner by the Nile at the Hilton Luxor
November 7, 2022 Monday B, L, D	Luxor	Morning	Snack boxes & coffee/tea in the Lobby Hot Air Balloon Ride over Luxor Valley Breakfast at Rosetta 730am-930am Tour: Temple of Luxor Check-In to the M/S Farah
	Luxor - Qena	Afternoon	Lunch onboard the M/S Farah 1230pm – 200pm CME (2 hours) Sailaway party on the Sun Deck Cruising the Nile
	Qena	Evening	What to Expect Lecture in the Lounge 600pm Dinner 700pm – 830pm Entertainment in the Lounge
November 8, 2022 Tuesday B, L, D	Qena	Morning	Breakfast 600am-730am Tour: Temple of Dendera & Temple of Hathor
	Qena - Esna	Afternoon	Lunch 1130am – 100pm Cruising the Nile CME (3.5 hours) Afternoon Tea on the Sun Deck
	Esna	Evening	What to Expect Lecture in the Lounge 600pm Dinner 700pm – 830pm Entertainment in the Lounge

November 9, 2022 Wednesday B, L, D	Esna	Morning	Breakfast 600am – 730am Tour: Temple of Khnum at Esna
		Afternoon	1130am – 100pm Free time Cruising the Nile CME (3.5 hours) Afternoon Tea on the Sun Deck
	Esna - Aswan	Evening	What to Expect Lecture in the Lounge 600pm Dinner 700pm – 830pm Entertainment in the Lounge
November 10, 2022 Thursday B, L, D	Aswan	Morning	Breakfast 500am – 600am <i>Breakfast boxes will be available</i>  Tour: Philae Temple & Aswan High Dam (Early morning)
		Afternoon	Lunch at the Old Cataract Hotel Tour: Boat ride on the Nile River in a Felucca
		Evening	What to Expect Lecture in the Lounge 600pm Dinner 630pm – 800pm Entertainment in the Lounge
November 11, 2022 Friday B, L, D	Aswan	Morning	Breakfast boxes & coffee/tea in the Lobby Tour: Abu Simbel (charter flights)
		Afternoon	Lunch 130pm – 230pm POSITIVE FOOTPRINT: Nubian Village
	Aswan - Kom Ombo	Evening	What to Expect Lecture in the Lounge 630pm Dinner 700pm – 830pm Entertainment in the Lounge

November 12, 2022 Saturday B, L, D	Kom Ombo	Morning	Breakfast 600am – 745am  Tour: Kom Ombo Temple
	Kom Ombo - Luxor	Afternoon	Lunch 1200pm – 130pm  Cruising the Nile  CME (3 hours)  Afternoon Tea on the Sun Deck
	Luxor	Evening	What to Expect Lecture in the Lounge 600pm  Dinner 700pm – 830pm  Entertainment in the Lounge
November 13, 2022 Sunday B, L, D	Luxor	Morning	Breakfast 600am – 730am  Tour: Valley of the Kings & Valley of the Queens
		Afternoon	Lunch at a local restaurant  Tour: Colossi of Memnon, Medinet Habu Temple (Time permitting)
		Evening	Farewell Cocktail Reception & What to Expect Lecture in the Lounge 600pm  Farewell to the Nile Dinner 700pm – 830pm  Entertainment in the Lounge
November 14, 2022 Monday B, L, D (dinner credit)	Luxor	Morning	Breakfast 500am – 600am <i>Breakfast boxes will be available</i>  Charter Flight to Cairo (early morning)
	Cairo	Afternoon	Tour: Tour of Saqqara and lunch at a local restaurant  Transfer to Mena House Hotel to check in
		Evening	Dinner on your own (dinner credit)

November 15, 2022 Tuesday B, L, D	Cairo	Morning	Breakfast boxes & coffee/tea in the Lobby  Tour: Privilege Access for the Pyramids of Giza & the Sphinx (Early Morning)  <i>Entrance to the Pyramids &amp; the short Camel Ride will be available by sign-up in advance.</i>  Brunch at the Marriott Mena House
		Afternoon	Free Time
		Evening	Gala Farewell Dinner at the Pyramids
November 16, 2022 Wednesday B, D	Cairo	Morning	Breakfast at 139 Pavilion 630am – 1030am  Morning Free  CME (4 hours)
		Afternoon	Lunch on your own  Tour: New Egyptian Museum
		Evening	Farewell to Egypt Dinner at the Mena House
November 17, 2022 Thursday B	Cairo	Morning	Breakfast at 139 Pavilion 630am – 1030am  <i>Breakfast boxes will be available for those guests on early flights</i>  Transfer to Airport for Flight home

## DETAILED ITINERARY

**November 3, 2022**

### Cairo

Welcome to Cairo! Upon arrival at the Cairo airport, you will be met at the bottom of the escalator in the arrival hall prior to the passport control desks and assisted through immigration clearance, luggage collection and customs control and then escorted to your transfer vehicle.

You will then be transferred to the spectacular Ritz Carlton Nile Hotel.

*For those guests arriving prior to 6pm, dinner vouchers will be provided to use at the Nile Ritz Carlton.*

**November 4, 2022**

### Cairo

B, D

3 CME HOURS

Enjoy a relaxing breakfast at Culina Restaurant from 630am – 1100am.

*Lunch is on your own.*

This afternoon, join Sanjay and the CMEatSEA Team for an afternoon tour including Old Cairo, the Synagogue, and Churches including the famous Hanging Church.

**Old Cairo** – *The famous Coptic Museum is built on the site of the Roman Fortress of Babylon, constructed about 30 BC, under Augustus and rebuilt in the time of Trajan. Inside the fortress are several Coptic Churches and the richest collection of Coptic Art in the World.*

**Al Mo'alaga Church** – *built in the fifth century over the southern gate of the Fort Babylon. The Basilica style Church is rich in antiquities from the early Christian era.*

**Ben Ezra Synagogue** – *stands in a pleasant shady garden in the center of Cairo. Its long existence is attested to by the accounts of many travelers who visited it over the centuries, including Benjamin of Tudela in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, who records that he saw the torah of Ezra the scribe there.*

**Church of Abu Serga** – *The Church of Saints Sergius and Bacchus (Abu Serga) is a 4<sup>th</sup> century church and today is considered to be the oldest of Cairo's Christian Churches. It is dedicated to two early martyrs and traditionally believed to have been built on the spot where the Holy Family, Joseph, Mary and the infant Christ, rested at the end of their journey into Egypt. They may have lived here while Joseph worked at the Fortress.*

**Hanging Church** – *also known as Saint Virgin Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church, is one of the oldest churches in Egypt and the history of the church on this site dates to the third century. It is named for its location above a gatehouse of Babylon Fortress, the Roman Fortress in Coptic Cairo and its nave is suspended over a passage.*





Following the Coptic Tour, you will transfer to the new Museum of Civilization.



*NMEC is the first museum in the Arab world focusing on the earliest civilization in history – the ancient Egyptian Civilization. It is the only museum in Egypt that offers the visitor a general overview of all the different historical periods that encompass Egypt. This has been approached as a layered cumulative product regarding the interaction of the Egyptian people with their land throughout history.*

### **Mummies Hall**

*Considered the crown jewel of the museum, the Royal Mummies' Hall is specially designed to display the ancient Kings and Queens of Egypt. The design aims to give the visitor the feeling of strolling down the Valley of the Kings, where most of these mummies were originally resting. The hall includes 20 Royal mummies, 18 Kings and 2 Queens from the 17<sup>th</sup> until the 20<sup>th</sup> Dynasty. The most famous mummies are Hatshepsut (Maatkare), Thutmose III (Menkheperre), Seqenenre Taa II.*

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\*** Photography in the Mummies Hall is not allowed (phone, DSLR, digital, video)

After the tour, you will transfer to a local restaurant for our 'Welcome to Egypt' dinner.



**November 5, 2022**

**Cairo**

B, L, D

This morning after breakfast, you will visit the Citadel and the Mohamed Ali Mosque.

*Citadel Salah El Din, the Ayyubid ruler of Egypt during the 12<sup>th</sup> century, built a fortress overlooking Cairo in 1176 AD. The original fortifications were later torn down by Sultan El Nasir and Mohammed Ali to make room for their own mosques and palaces. For almost 700 years, to the death of Mohammed Ali in 1849, nearly all of Egypt's rulers lived in the Citadel, held court, dispensed justice and received ambassadors.*

*Within the citadel's towering walls are the Mohammed Ali's Alabaster Mosque (built in the image of the Blue Mosque of Turkey). The decorations and the design of the mosque are very intricate and typically Turkish. The mosque is believed to be the most magnificent Islamic monument in Egypt.*



Lunch will be at a local restaurant.

Late afternoon, meet Sanjay and our team for our exclusive 'Private Visit' to the original Egyptian Museum (after working hours).



*Located in the heart of Cairo, the Egyptian Museum was established in 1900 and it is by far the most valuable museum of Egyptian antiquities in the world. The museum is divided into galleries exhibiting items from various periods in more or less chronological order, moving clockwise along the ground floor. The upper floor currently contains an area where the treasures of Tutankhamen are exhibited. All the items exhibited here came from his tomb found in the Valley of the Kings at Thebes in what is now Luxor. Tutankhamen's gold coffin is made of 450 pounds of solid gold and is considered one of the most beautiful possessions of humanity.*



Cocktail Dinner Reception will be at the Nile Ritz Carlton Hotel.

This evening after our reception, your large luggage will be collected to go via luggage truck to Luxor. You will need a small rolling travel case for your stay in Luxor (please keep all of your toiletries and valuables with you). Your main luggage will be delivered directly to the M/S Farah.



**November 6, 2022**

**Cairo - Luxor**

B, L, D

2 CME Hours

This morning after an early breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your charter flight to Luxor.

Upon arrival into Luxor, you will transfer to the magnificent Temple of Karnak where you will stroll through the grand avenues of sphinxes and halls of gigantic columns. This vast complex, situated about 2 miles (3.5 kilometers) from the Temple of Luxor, was originally established during the Middle Kingdom (1991-1633 BC), and various dynasties over the next 1,300 years continued to expand it. Karnak is a massive and simply astounding site, reflecting the combined achievements of many generations of ancient builders—as many as 80,000 laborers took part in its creation during the 19th Dynasty alone.



Buried under sand for a thousand years, the UNESCO-designated Karnak complex is composed of three main temples, smaller enclosed temples and several outer temples. The largest of these temples is dedicated to Amun, a great pharaonic god. You will enter the main compound, the Precinct of Amun, through the Great Court, and continue on to the dazzling Great Hypostyle Hall—sometimes called the Hall of Columns—an imposing forest of 134 enormous sandstone columns in the form of papyrus stalks.



Lunch will be at the Hilton Luxor prior to check-in to the hotel.

This afternoon enjoy time by the pool and relax by the Nile.



This evening we will have our magical Dinner by the Nile as you gaze across at the Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens.



**November 7, 2022**

**Luxor – Qena**

B, L, D

2 CME Hours

This morning, witness the history of Luxor from above in a hot air balloon to enjoy sunrise and the views of ancient Thebes, the temple complexes of Karnak and Luxor, the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens. This will definitely be a magical once in a lifetime experience.



After the hot air balloon ride, you will be transferred back to the Hilton Luxor for breakfast and check out. After breakfast, you will depart for your tour of the Luxor Temple prior to embarking the M/S Farah Nile River Ship for your journey on the Nile.



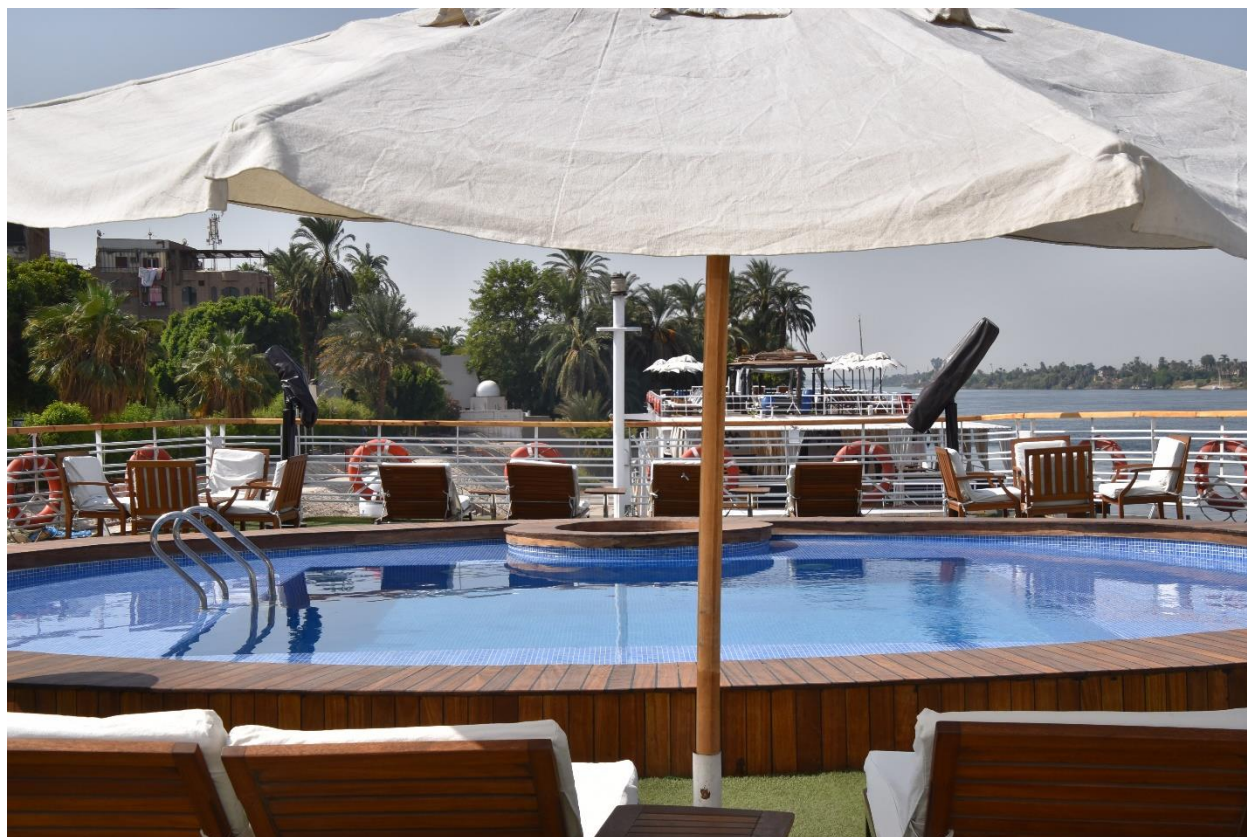


Visit one of the most breathtaking temples in Luxor, spiritual capital of Egypt for 15 centuries. Begin with your guide at the Temple of Luxor. This magnificent Ancient Egyptian Temple complex was built in approximately 1400 BC by Amenhotep III and Ramses II. As you enter through its massive pylons and explore, your guide will interpret the ancient hieroglyphs, some of which illustrate the extravagant Opet festival held to ensure a good harvest. One of the obelisks and several of the temple's statues now reside in Paris. You will also see remains of the Avenue of the Sphinxes, which links Luxor to Karnak. Beyond lies the Great Court of Ramses II, whose walls are adorned with the names and titles of his 17 sons. In 1989, during a period of restoration, a cache of 26 statues was found here, buried by priests in Roman times.



Lunch will be served onboard Farah.

In the late afternoon, join Sanjay and our team up on the top deck for our sail away from Luxor party!



Prior to dinner, join the CMEatSEA team along with your guides and Tour Manager for an overview of what to expect tomorrow in Qena!

This evening enjoy the Welcome Aboard dinner followed by entertainment in the Lounge.



**November 8, 2022**

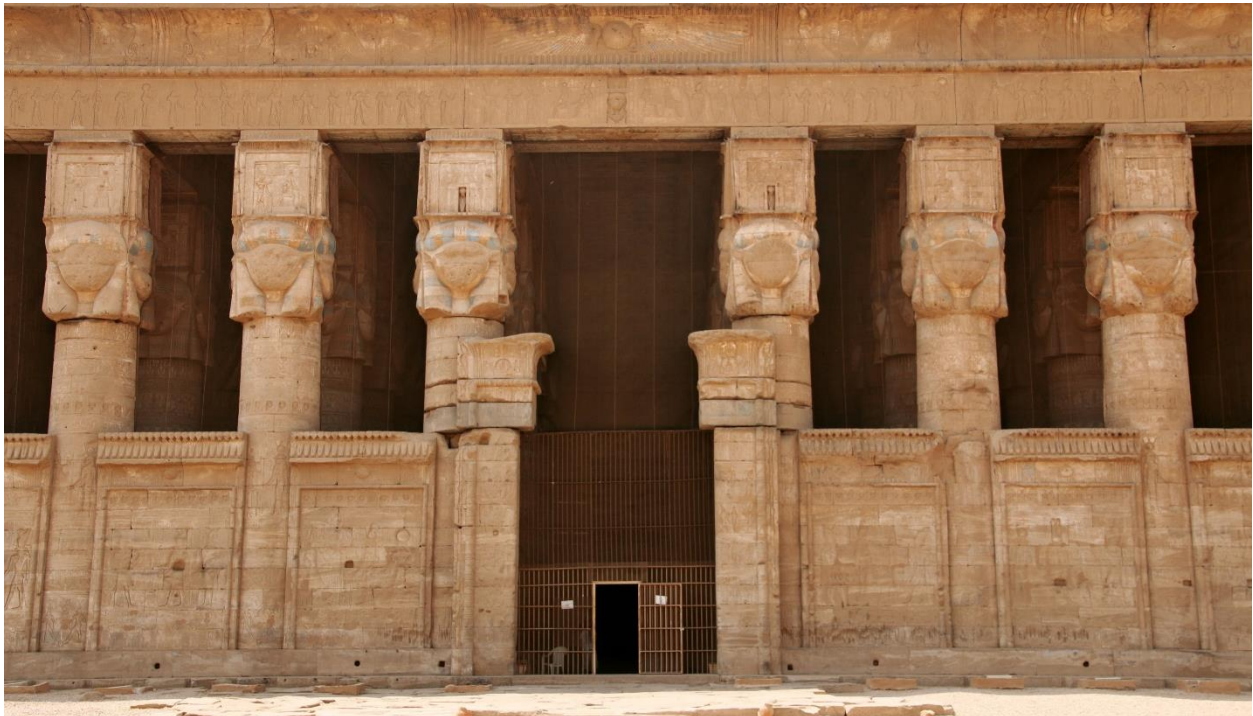
**Qena - Esna**

B, L, D

3.5 CME Hours

Known in ancient Egypt as Caene, Qena's situation on the banks of the Nile River has bolstered its prosperity over the millennia.

This morning you will have the opportunity to visit the impressive Temple of Hathor at Dendera which was dedicated to the goddess of love and beauty. This sprawling complex was built not by the ancient Egyptians, but by Ptolemies and Romans in classic Egyptian style. The temple dates to Egypt's Ptolemaic era, when the heirs of Alexander the Great ruled over Egypt and adopted Egyptian culture and religion as their own. Built between 125 BC and AD 65, it is one of the best-preserved temples in all of Egypt and features a rare bas-relief of Cleopatra with Caesarion, the son she bore to Julius Caesar.



This afternoon enjoy some relaxation as you sail to Esna.

Ancient Egyptians knew Esna as Latopolis, named for the largest of the perch species that swam in the Nile's sacred waters.

Prior to dinner, join the CMEatSEA team along with your guides and Tour Manager for an overview of what to expect tomorrow in Esna!

This evening enjoy dinner followed by entertainment in the Lounge.

**November 9, 2022**

**Esna - Aswan**

B, L, D

3.5 CME hours

This morning you will 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.



The Temple of Esna was dedicated to the God Khnum (God of Creation), his consorts Menhit and Nebtu, their son Heka and the goddess Neith. The temple lies on the west bank of the Nile about 34 miles (55 kilometers) south of Luxor and was buried under debris for many centuries. It dates from the Ptolemaic and Roman period (180 BC to AD 251) and is one of the last Egyptian temples ever built. Visitors can see two large inscriptions praising Khnum, the ram-headed god of creation, who fashioned mankind on a potter's wheel from the clay mud of the Nile. There is also a hypostyle hall with 24 pillars and a ceiling depicting Egyptian astronomical figures and Roman zodiac signs. On the temple's western wall, look for images of Horus, the god of victory, and Khnum, dragging a net full of fish.

After a guided tour, enjoy some free time to take in more of this fascinating site on your own or, alternatively, head to Esna Village on foot for a full tour of the town and its lively market scene.

The temple is 200 meters from the River and 9 meters below street level. To reach the temple, you will have to descend a long flight of steps.

This afternoon you will sail for Aswan.

Prior to dinner, join the CMEatSEA team along with your guides and Tour Manager for an overview of what to expect tomorrow in Aswan!

This evening enjoy dinner followed by entertainment in the Lounge.

### **November 10, 2022**

#### **Aswan**

B, L, D

Today is an epic day, filled with wonders from start to finish. You will visit a marvel of modern engineering—the Aswan High Dam and the beautiful Philae Temple complex, which was moved from one island to another back in the 1970s. But wait, there's more! You will enjoy lunch at a famous hotel depicted in Agatha Christie's novel *Death on the Nile* followed by a ride on a Felucca —a traditional Egyptian sailboat— back to the Farah River Ship.

This morning will be an early start for our tour of the beautiful Philae Temple complex, originally situated on the island of Agilkia.

The Philae Temple was painstakingly transferred to Agilkia Island after the construction of the Aswan High Dam to save it from the rising waters of Lake Nasser, a daunting UNESCO-funded endeavor that took 10 years to complete. The three principal monuments on the island all date from the Ptolemaic and Roman periods—the Kiosk of Trajan, the Temple of Hathor and the Temple of Isis.







After our exploration of the Philae Temple, you will go to the Aswan High Dam, completed in the 1970s, is a marvel of modern engineering that boasts some truly epic dimensions—it is 11,800 feet (3,597 meters) long; 3,215 feet (980 meters) wide at its base; and 304 feet (93 meters) high—with a reservoir capacity nearly five times of the Hoover Dam.



You will have a short visit to see the Soviet-Egypt Friendship Monument which is located not far from the Aswan Dam. It was built in the early 1970s in order to commemorate the former Soviet Union's assistance to Egypt in the construction of the Aswan Dam. The tower is 70 meters high and is shaped as five standing lotus petals.

Our next stop will be for lunch at the Old Cataract Hotel for lunch, a colonial-era gem that counts Winston Churchill and Princess Diana among its former guests. This famous hotel was depicted in Agatha Christie's acclaimed mystery novel *Death on the Nile*.

*The Old Cataract Hotel is a historic British Colonial hotel in Aswan.*

*The hotel was built in 1899 by Thomas Cook to house European travelers. Its guests have included Tsar Nicholas II, Winston Churchill, Howard Carter, Margaret Thatcher, Jimmy Carter, François Mitterrand, Princess Diana, Queen Noor and Agatha Christie, who set portions of her novel *Death on the Nile* at the hotel. The 1978 film of the novel was shot at the hotel.*

*The Old Cataract Dining Room was added in 1902. The architect was H. Favarger.*

*A new modern tower wing was built in 1961. It operated as a budget wing of the hotel for many years, and was known as the **New Cataract Hotel**.*

*In 1973 United States Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger and his aides stayed in the New Cataract Hotel during the negotiations to end the Yom Kippur War*

*The hotel was closed from 2008 to 2011 for a complete restoration, during which the tower was combined with the historic Old Cataract wing into one hotel. The Old Cataract wing, which had 131 rooms and eight suites, was renamed the Palace Wing, with 76 rooms and 45 suites. The New Cataract Wing, which had 144 rooms, was turned into the Nile Wing, with 62 rooms including 37 suites, all with a balcony with a river view.*

*Egypt's CBC used the Old Cataract as the primary filming location for its musical adaptation of the popular Spanish series *Gran Hotel* in 2016.*





After lunch, you will sail serenely down the Nile back to Farah in a *felucca*— a small traditional boat with large triangular sails—a wonderful way to experience the river as Egyptians have for a thousand years.

*Please Note: Feluccas are wind-powered and thus will operate only if weather conditions permit.*

Prior to dinner, join the CMEatSEA team along with your guides and Tour Manager for an overview of what to expect tomorrow in Abu Simbel and Aswan!

This evening enjoy dinner followed by entertainment in the Lounge.

**November 11, 2022**

**Aswan – Kom Ombo**

B, L, D

This morning after breakfast (breakfast boxes will be available for those who prefer), we will leave for one of the highlights of the trip – Abu Simbel.

After a short charter flight from Aswan to Abu Simbel, you will have a tour followed by free time before the charter flight back to Aswan.



The most magnificent of the monuments Ramses II built, Abu Simbel is both the perfect example of the ambition of this pharaoh's reign and also a model illustration for modern engineering. The entire temple was transplanted from its original location and lifted piece by piece to its current site by an International UNESCO team working against the clock to preserve it from being flooded by the Aswan High Dam in the 1960s.

The colossal stone statues that grace the facade are Pharaoh Ramses II's attempt to achieve immortality. It has worked. Today, visitors here still crane their necks in disbelief at the behemoth temples just as the pharaoh's subjects would have done when the temples were first raised.

This afternoon after lunch onboard, we will have our “Positive Footprint” program at a local Nubian Village.

*Nubian Villages greet you with an abundance of hues, and each of the colours and patterns hold a meaning. Historically, Nubians were from Southern Egypt and North Sudan, and they settled along the banks of the Nile to farm. They were also known to be skilled archers.*

*The Nubian Villages are some of Egypt's oldest ancient ruins. Residents are known to be extremely friendly and hospitable and they have their own customs and traditions. Nubians also speak their own language called Nuba which is sacred to the community and not taught to any outsider. Throughout the generations, they have managed to keep their culture alive.*

*Crocodiles are an important part of the Nubian culture as a totem of blessings. At one time, they were used to guard residences but now they have become a tourist attraction in themselves. Various locals have domesticated these reptilian predators as tourists from far and wide come to view them. When they pass over, they are skinned and mummified as well. A mummified crocodile hung above the door of a house indicates that the owner has domestic ones that you can view. The aggressive nature of the creature has been modified with care by the owners. These crocodiles play a very significant role in the supplementary income of the Nubians.*

Positive Footprint is our charitable activity to benefit the places we visit. Details of our Positive Footprint program in the Nubian Village will be sent out when finalized.

Prior to dinner, join the CMEatSEA team along with your guides and Tour Manager for an overview of what to expect tomorrow in Abu Simbel and Aswan!

This evening enjoy dinner followed by entertainment in the Lounge.

Late in the evening we will set sail for Kom Ombo.

**November 12, 2022**

**Kom Ombo - Luxor**

B, L, D

3 CME Hours

This morning you will have the opportunity to visit the Kom Ombo Temple. Unlike most ancient Egyptian temples, it is dedicated to two gods—the crocodile god Sobek and the falcon god Horus the Elder. Construction began under the reign of Ptolemy VI Philometor (180-145 BC) and continued under later rulers, most notably Ptolemy XIII (47-44 BC), who built the inner and outer hypostyle halls. Several of the 300 crocodile mummies discovered in the vicinity are displayed inside the temple.



This afternoon enjoy some relaxation as we sail back to Luxor.

Prior to dinner, join the CMEatSEA team along with your guides and Tour Manager for an overview of what to expect tomorrow in Luxor!

This evening enjoy dinner followed by entertainment in the Lounge.



**November 13, 2022**

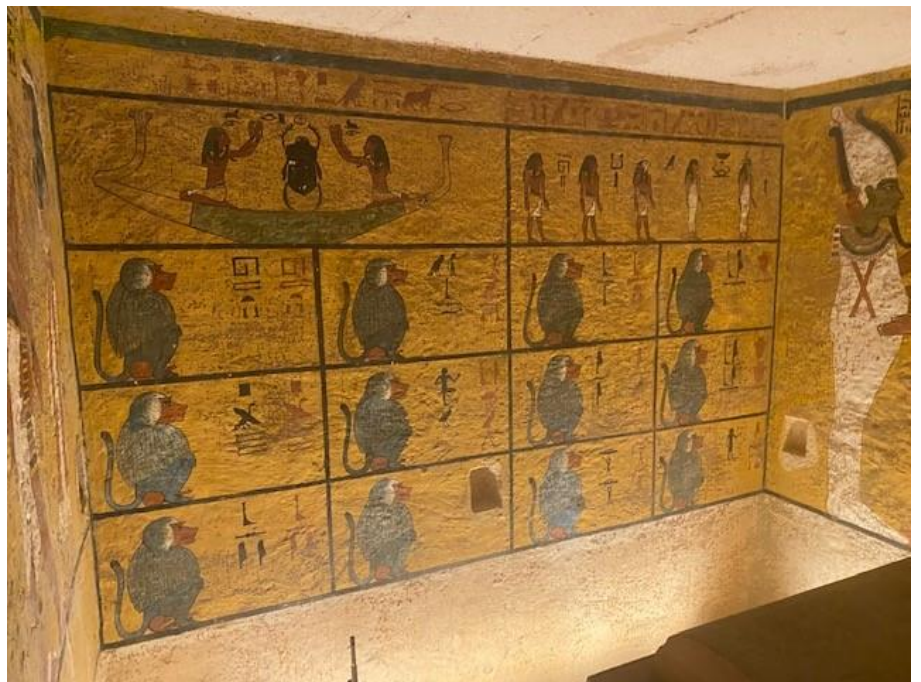
**Luxor**

B, L, D

During your last full day of tours in Luxor, you will visit one of the most famous archeological sites in the world—the remote and barren Valley of the Kings, used for royal burials for nearly 500 years. Much of our understanding of Egyptian mythology has been garnered from these ancient chambers, located about four miles (seven kilometers) inland on the west bank of the Nile. It was here that the bodies of great pharaohs such as Ramses II and Thutmose III were once laid to rest and where the mummified remains of the boy king Tutankhamen are still on display. The idea for establishing this royal burial ground is thought to have originated with Thutmose I, who opted to conceal his tomb far from his mortuary temple in an effort to deter tomb robbers. Subsequent pharaohs did the same, changing a tradition that had endured for close to 2,000 years.

Within the tombs and along the walls of the Valley of the Kings, inscriptions from the Book of the Dead provided instructions on how the pharaohs could safely journey to the next world and avoid the dangers that lay on the way. For the sake of preservation, only a handful of the most interesting tombs are open to visitors at any given time.

Everyone will have the opportunity to visit a few of the tombs including the tomb of King Tutankhamen.

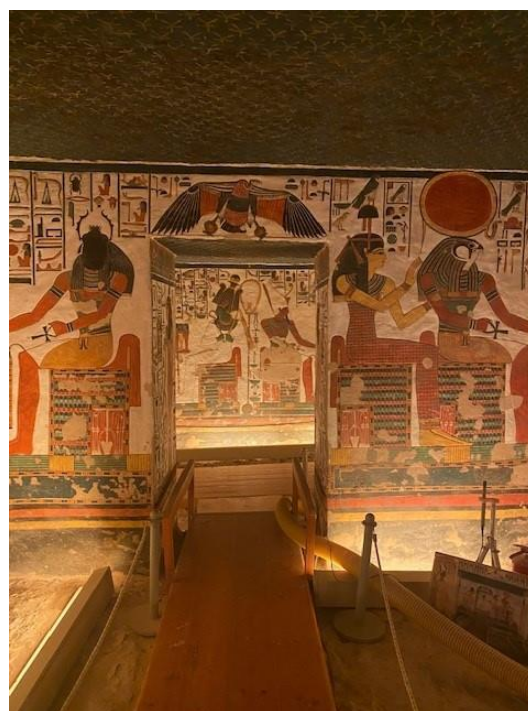




After visiting the Valley of the Kings, you will have the opportunity to spend time at the Valley of the Queens. This is where the wives of pharaohs were buried in ancient times. It was known then as Ta-Set-Neferu, meaning "the place of beauty" and was most famous for being the burial site of many wives of Pharaohs. You will enjoy privilege access to Queen Nefertari's tomb.

*\*\*Please note that cameras (including cell phone) are not allowed in Queen Nefertari's Tomb.*

Lunch will be at a local restaurant.



After lunch, get an up-close view of two gigantic statues of Pharaoh Amenhotep III, better known as the Colossi of Memnon. Sixty feet (18 meters) tall and gazing eastward toward the rising sun, the statues depict Amenhotep seated on his throne. Carved next to his legs are his mother and his wife, with side panels depicting the god of the Nile, Hapi. The figures originally sat in front of the mortuary temple of Amenhotep III and are believed to have surpassed even Karnak in size. Unfortunately, the temple itself was slowly dismantled over the centuries to provide building materials for new temples; the twin Colossi continue to stand guard nonetheless, just as they have done for the past 3,400 years.

Prior to dinner, join the CMEatSEA team along with your guides and Tour Manager for an overview of what to expect tomorrow on our journey back to Cairo and the sites at Saqqara!

Tonight is our Farewell to the Nile River Dinner followed by entertainment in the Lounge.

*Please Note: Basic Gratuities have been included for the onboard team but we know that any additional gratuities would be appreciated.*

## **November 14, 2022**

### **Luxor - Giza**

B, L, D

This morning after breakfast onboard, you will be transferred to the airport for your charter flight back to Cairo.

Upon arrival into Cairo, the tour will continue to Saqqara (Sakkara) which served as the necropolis for the ancient Egyptian capital, Memphis.





Saqqara is a vast, ancient burial ground and best known for the Step Pyramid, the oldest known of Egypt's 97 pyramids. It was built for King Djoser of the 3rd Dynasty by the architect and genius Imhotep, who was also a High Priest and famous doctor. He designed it and its surrounding complex to be as grand as it was unique and revolutionary. Imhotep was the first to build stone tombs in honor of the king's majesty. His many titles included 'Treasurer of the King of Lower Egypt', 'Administrator of the Great Palace', and 'Imhotep the Builder, the Sculptor, the Maker of Stone Vessels'. Although his tomb has not yet been located, it is thought to be near Zoser's funerary chamber.

Lunch will be served at a local restaurant before going to the Marriott Mena House Hotel to check in for your stay at Giza.



Enjoy a relaxing evening at the Marriott Mena House. Everyone will receive a voucher for dinner on your own.

**November 15, 2022**

**Giza**

B, L, D

Today is the absolute highlight of the trip – the Great Pyramids of Egypt! AND will experience the Pyramids of Giza at both sunrise and sunset! We have received 'Privilege Access' to visit the Pyramids of Giza prior to any other guests. After our early morning visit (between 5am and 7am before it opens to the general public), we will visit the Sphinx along with a short camel ride!

The **Great Pyramid of Giza** (also known as the **Pyramid of Khufu** or the **Pyramid of Cheops**) is the oldest and largest of the three pyramids in the Giza pyramid complex bordering present-day Giza in Greater Cairo, Egypt. It is the oldest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the only one to remain largely intact.



Egyptologists believe that the pyramid was built as a tomb for the Fourth Dynasty Egyptian pharaoh Khufu over a 20-year period concluding around 2560 BC. Initially standing at 146.5 metres (481 feet), the Great Pyramid was the tallest man-made structure in the world for more than 3,800 years. It is estimated to weigh approximately 6 million tonnes, and consists of 2.3 million blocks of limestone and granite, some weighing as much as 80 tonnes. It was originally covered by limestone casing stones that formed a smooth outer surface; what is seen today is the underlying core structure, although a few casing stones can still be seen at the base. It was built by extracting huge stones from a quarry and lifting them into place, but there are varying scientific and alternative theories about the exact construction technique.

There are three known chambers inside the Great Pyramid. The lowest chamber is cut into the bedrock upon which the pyramid was built and was unfinished. The Queen's Chamber and King's Chamber are higher up within the pyramid structure. The main part of the Giza complex is a set of buildings that included two mortuary temples in honour of Khufu (one close to the pyramid and one near the Nile), three smaller pyramids for Khufu's wives, an even smaller "satellite" pyramid, a raised causeway connecting the two temples, and small mastaba tombs for nobles surrounding the pyramid.

Normally, all visitors are only allowed to visit the Sphinx from the ramp facing it, but for our exclusive visit, you will be able to visit from the feet of the Sphinx where the Dream Stele of Thutmoses IV lies.



The Great Sphinx is to the northeast of Chephren's Valley Temple. Where it sits was once a quarry where Chephren's workers shaped the stone into the lion and gave it their king's face over 4,500 years ago. The Sphinx faces the rising sun with a temple to the front of which resembles the sun temples which were built later by the kings of the 5<sup>th</sup> Dynasty.

*For those who wish to explore the inside of the Pyramids and/or take a short Camel Ride, we will have a registration form.*

After our magical morning head back to the Marriott Mena house for brunch and relaxation by the pool!

In the late afternoon, meet the CMEatSEA Team for our Exclusive Gala Farewell event at the Pyramids.

**November 16, 2022****Giza**

B, D

4 CME Hours

This morning will be at leisure to relax and enjoy the hotel and lunch is on your own.

In the early afternoon, meet for a visit to the new Grand Egyptian Museum (subject to it opening prior to November 16 2022).

*Described as the largest archaeological museum in the world, the museum is scheduled to open in late 2022. This colossal building will house 100,000 antiquities, some of which have never before been shown in public. The collection consisting of King Tut's tomb and tens of thousands of other rare and unique archaeological finds has found a new home in a museum built on the plateau of the pyramids of Giza. The part to be opened will house all of the objects discovered in Tutankhamen's Tomb. In the original Egyptian Museum (in downtown Cairo), there were 1500 pieces on display and in the new Grand Museum all of the 5000 pieces will be displayed.*

This evening we will have our Farewell to Egypt dinner at the Mena House Hotel.

**November 17, 2022****Giza**

B

Breakfast is at the hotel and transfers will be arranged for your flights back to North America.



## INCLUDED IN THE FARE:

### ❖ VISA

- Egypt Entry

### ❖ HOTELS

- Nile Ritz Carlton (Nile View Room)  
<https://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/middle-east/cairo>
- Luxor Hilton (Partial Nile View Room)  
<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/luxhitw-hilton-luxor-resort-and-spa/>
- Marriott Mena House (Garden View Room)  
<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/caimn-marriott-mena-house-cairo/overview/>

### ❖ FARAH RIVER SHIP

<https://farahnilecruise.com/>

- 7 night River Cruise on the Farah Nile River Ship
- Includes:
  - WIFI
  - water, coffee, tea, soft drinks throughout the day
  - local beer & wine with lunch and dinner

### ❖ MEALS

- 14 breakfasts
- 11 lunches
- 13 dinners

### ❖ BEVERAGES

*please note that some restaurants do not serve alcoholic beverages*

- Land Program
  - LUNCH: soft drinks, water, coffee, tea
  - DINNER: soft drinks, water, coffee, tea
- Cruise Program
  - ANYTIME: coffee/tea, soft drinks, water
  - LUNCH: soft drinks, local wine, local beer, coffee, tea
  - DINNER: soft drinks, local wine, local beer, coffee, tea



## ❖ **Tours**

- All tours stated including:
  - entrance fees
  - Privilege Access to select sites
  - bottled water
  - whisper headsets
  - camera fees
    - for most sites a phone camera is fine
    - if using a DSLR professional camera, fees will apply
    - Photography is prohibited inside the tombs.
    - Video permits may be required for some sites

## ❖ **AIR**

- Charter Flights within Egypt (economy)

## ❖ **TRANSFERS**

- Group Transfers

## ❖ **GRATUITIES**

- Basic Gratuities

## ❖ **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

- Travel Insurance (trip cancellation/interruption).
  - **pre-existing condition waived**
  - **no age limit**
  - **no medical questionnaire**
- Out of country medical insurance additional

### **Additional Optional Coverage**

#### **Umbrella Package:**

Emergency Medical Expense:

Coverage limit up to \$2,000,000

Emergency Evacuation & Repatriation of Remains:

Coverage limit up to \$250,000

### **Umbrella Package Plan Costs:**

AGE	PLAN COST	
	Trips 1 – 30 Days	Trips 31 – 180 Days
0–54	\$159	Additional \$6/day
55–64	\$249	N/A
65–69	\$299	N/A
70+	\$399	N/A

**PLEASE NOTE:**

❖ **COVID 19**

- Everyone needs to be fully vaccinated, with a booster shot at least 28 days before the trip
- All guests will be required to send a copy of their government vaccine card with the verifiable QR code, along with passport copy in advance to Cruise Connections / CMEatSEA. This will be sent to our vendors and used for your entry Visa to Egypt
- Rapid Antigen tests will be done at the Nile Ritz Carlton and prior to boarding the M/S Farah River Ship

❖ **FUEL SURCHARGE** – In the event that our suppliers announce and start assessing fuel surcharges, such fuel surcharges will be in addition to the charges outlined in the pricing.

❖ **DIFFICULTY LEVEL** - medium (activities by foot may contain difficult, unpaved surfaces and/or multiple stairs and steep inclines)

❖ **WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY** - the sights on this tour are not wheelchair accessible

❖ **TOUR SEQUENCE/TIMES** – Tour Sequence and times may change

**NOT INCLUDED IN THE FARE:**

- ❖ International Flights
- ❖ Optional Excursions
- ❖ Meals where not identified
- ❖ Beverages where not identified
- ❖ Out of Country Medical Insurance

**THE NILE RITZ CARLTON HOTEL****Overview**

*Experience Cairo, Egypt's iconic capital with a luxury hotel set along the Nile River.*

The Nile Ritz-Carlton, Cairo carries a rich legacy of tradition and luxury. Overlooking the Nile River lies the iconic luxury hotel, offering leisure and business travelers an opulent retreat in the heart of Cairo. The hotel marries the “bucket-list” city with world-class services; offering splendid amenities including more than nine distinctive restaurants and bars, a lavish spa and unprecedented service promising you an unforgettable getaway.

The elegantly appointed rooms and suites are designed to pamper your senses with the finest amenities. Overlooking either the legendary Nile or the historical Egyptian Museum.

**Property Features & Amenities**

- ❖ 4 restaurants
- ❖ 3 bars
- ❖ 2 lounges
- ❖ Sweet Boutique
- ❖ 24-hour fitness center
- ❖ Recreation & leisure facilities
- ❖ Hair salon
- ❖ Outdoor Pool
- ❖ The Ritz-Carlton Spa

### Deluxe Nile View Room

Authentic designs in a spacious and luxurious guest room with breathtaking views of the River Nile.

- 474 SQ FT

#### Service & Amenities

- ❖ Plus terry robes
- ❖ Luxurious Asprey bath amenities
- ❖ Egyptian Cotton linens
- ❖ Marble bathroom with enclosed rainshower and bathtub
- ❖ Complimentary bottled water daily
- ❖ High Speed Internet





## HILTON LUXOR RESORT & SPA

### *Overview*

Facing the West Bank, our resort rests on the edge of the River Nile, less than seven kilometers from central Luxor. Perks include our holistic spa and two infinity pools.



### Partial Nile View Room

Take in stunning views of the River Nile from the French Balcony or window.



## MARRIOTT MENA HOUSE HOTEL

*Historical Background*

The origin of the Mena House was of a royal hunting lodge for the Khedive Ismail, then ruler of Egypt.

1869 with the opening of the Suez Canal, specifically for the visit of the Empress Eugenie, a road was laid between Cairo and the Pyramids, and a pair of lodges were built. One was on the rocky plateau next to the Great Pyramid, and the other on lower ground.

1880s: Egypt was becoming a fashionable and chic winter resort for European travelers. The climate near the Great Pyramid of Giza, outside Cairo, was obviously better than in town. This peaceful environment was the right place for a young couple to settle in front on the Great Pyramid.

1883: Frederick and Jessie Head, a couple on their honeymoon, acquired a former Khedival hunting lodge near the Great Pyramid. They enlarged the house and added a second floor. Finding the air beneficial, Frederick began to erect a small sanatorium, hoping that invalids like himself might resort there, and gain a longer lease of life. Seeking a name for their estate, Professor A. H. Sayce made the suggestion that it should be called Mena House, after the first king referenced in the Tablet of Abydos.



A few years later, Frederick died suddenly during one of his trips to England and Mena House was sold to another wealthy couple, Hugh and Ethel Locke-King, who while wintering in Egypt for their health, had discovered the salubrious properties of the air at the Pyramids. One of the reasons the Lock-Kings had bought Mena House was because they could not find a hotel with the standard of comfort that Ethel required for an anchorage for six months at a time.

Once the couple had settled into their desert house, Ethel decided to create a hotel. Mrs. Locke-King hired a Cairo-based English architect, Henri Favarger, to create their hotel which was plotted out in the desert beside the lodge. The lodge was retained as their own private residence.

Favager was an architect of some talent and for the hotel, he drew inspiration from the vernacular and religious architecture of old Cairo. The main façade of the hotel was formed of irregular sections of different heights, some recessed, and some set forward, each with terraces and proof parapets. Capitalizing on the view was a large front terrace with wooden framing in an arabesque style, a part of which was glazed for protection against sand whipped up by the wind.

The Mena House "Family Hotel" with 80 guest rooms was opened in 1887. The rooms were spacious with 10 foot high ceilings, fire places and furnished with English furniture. The hotel was appointed with a billiard room, a darkroom for the use of amateur photographers, a studio for artists, a modish dining room, a library and the services of a French chef in the fashionable restaurant as well as of the Italian photographer Fasani, who had his studio at the hotel.

Four years after the opening, a swimming bath was added to the hotel, the first of its kind in Egypt. The Egyptian Gazette described it as a revolutionary pool, 85 feet long and 25 feet wide, with water supplied from the same spring which the hotel drew its drinking water. The same year, it was the first hotel to announce that it would stay open all year long and no longer close during the hot summer season.

Despite all the wealthy visitors who came to Cairo, Mena House was run at a loss because the Locke-Kings were very extravagant. Finally, Mrs. Locke-King decided to appoint their Polish friend, Baron Ernest de Rodakowsky as hotel manager. It was Rodakowsky, with the architect Henri Favarger, who built the stables, the stand for gymkhana and later in 1899, the Golf Course.

1896: Later the hotel was leased to Schick and Weckel who managed the hotel until 1904 when the Locke Kings sold the hotel to George Nungovich Egyptian Hotels for the sum of 65,000 pounds.

1898: Cairo received electricity (gas since 1870). Ernst Rodakowski sold his shares in the Mena House for 45,000 pounds.

1899: In December 1899 the Golf Course was opened as a sandy Golf Course, and was turned into a grass course in 1917 by Roy Wilson.

The 1913-1914 tourism season was great in Egypt, but the First World War came to Egypt amongst martial law. A camp was erected behind the Mena House to host the Australian troops, and was known as Mena Camp, but later during the First World War, the Mena House became one of the hospitals, and remained so for the rest of the war. The 5<sup>th</sup> December 1924, the Prime Minister Saad Zaghloul decided to retreat at Mena House, after the resignation of his government.



1943: the Mena House saw one of its most exciting years. Plans for Operation Overlord, the invasion of Europe had to be discussed by Churchill and Roosevelt and operations in Southeast Asia needed consultation with General Chiang Kai-Shek. It was decided that the Big Three conference should take place at the Mena House Hotel, where they announced the Independence of the Korean Peninsula.

1954: Mena House was nationalized.

1972: The hotel was meticulously renovated and expansions incorporated. A new wing with 300 rooms was built at the hotel garden, a new swimming pool, and a new lobby was founded in place of the old tennis court.

1974: US President Richard Nixon lunched at the Mena House.

1977: In December, the Mena House as the venue for MENA HOUSE CONFERENCE, the preCamp David peace talks between Egypt and Israel. The hotel was fully closed for the public and only open to delegates. Every visitor, including children needed a pass-badge.

1979: US President Jimmy Carter and President Sadat spent the afternoon at Mena House in March.

### ***Hotel Overview***

- Cairo's Iconic Marriot Mena House Hotel has earned a spot on Times Magazine's list of the world's greatest places to stay in 2018.
- two restaurants and two bars
- heated swimming pool and fitness center
- only 700 meters from Giza Pyramids plateau
- 40 acres of manicured gardens

### ***AWARDS AND ACCOLADES***

<b>AWARD</b>	<b>AWARDED BY</b>
The World's 100 Greatest Places 2018	Time Magazine
Award of Excellence 2017	Trip Advisor
Award of Excellence 2016	Trip Advisor
Top 10 Hotels in Africa & Middle East	Travel & Leisure Magazine
Award of Excellence 2015	Trip Advisor
Award of Excellence 2014	Trip Advisor
Award of Excellence 2014	Booking.com
World's Top 500 Hotels	Trip Advisor

### Garden View Room

*Upgrades for Partial and Full Pyramid View rooms available for \$299 for 3 nights –**WAITLIST***

Recharge at the Mena House - an oasis in Cairo, Egypt, with fantastic views. Sleep soundly on luxury bedding and crisp linens.

- 387 SQ FT

### Service & Amenities

- ❖ Robes
- ❖ Acca Kappa bath amenities
- ❖ Luxury Cotton linens
- ❖ Marble bathroom
- ❖ Complimentary bottled water daily
- ❖ High Speed Internet



## FARAH NILE RIVER CRUISE

### *Overview*

In Arabic, Farah means Happiness and Joy. In this spirit, you'll sail on the MS Farah-one of Egypt's most elite ships on the Nile. Cruise in style and comfort, while enjoying the mysterious and magnificent sights and experiences only found in the Egyptian landscapes. The MS Farah ship offers deluxe cabins that feature style and comfort with oversized French balconies that are virtually wall-sized. You will have the best view and the best crew to treat you like royalty while exploring the treasures of the pharaohs on this Nile River cruise! Exploring the Nile River aboard the MS Farah is an elegant, first-class experience with a touch of mystery combined with an old world spirit of adventure, and state-of-the-art comfort, of course! Our Nile River cruise aboard the MS Farah carries you into the exotic world of pharaohs, explorers, and legends, while introducing you to locals who share the traditions of generations. Relax with onboard features, including spa services, Wi-Fi, gourmet dining, and a caring crew who create an exceptional experience in comfort, customer service, and classic adventure on board one of the Nile's most elite river ships.



## DELUXE STATEROOM

Contemporary, stylish, and utterly relaxing; Farah staterooms evoke an experience of intimacy and tranquillity demonstrated in a natural palette design and complemented with facilities and amenities for your comfort and convenience.

- 239 SQ FT
- Panoramic view





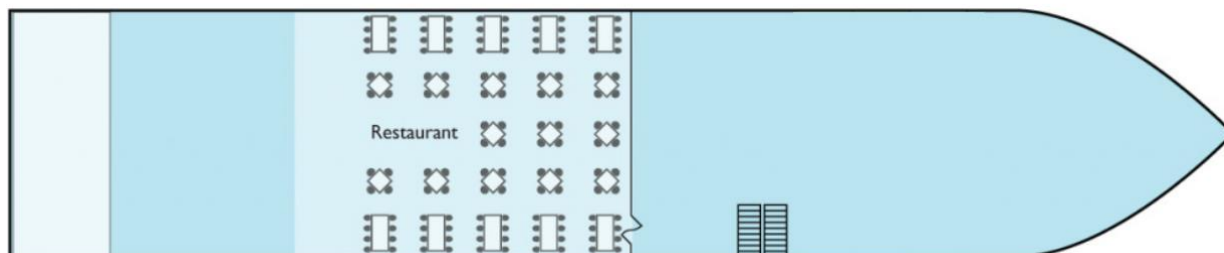


#### **DELUXE STATEROOM FEATURES**

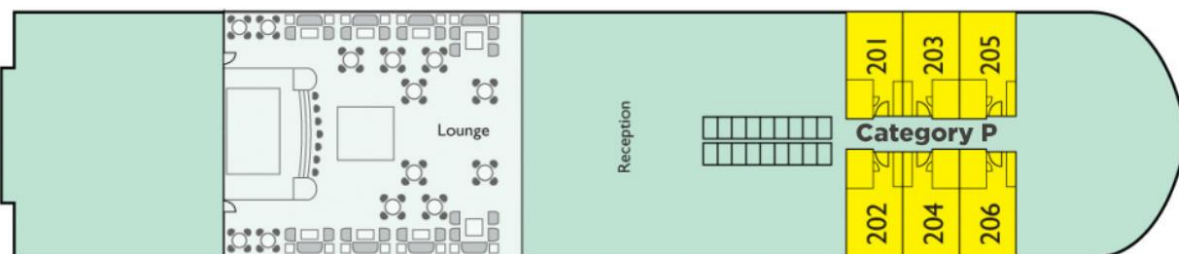
- LCD TV
- Mini bar
- Private safe box
- Internet connection
- Private bathroom
- Bathtub
- French balcony
- Hairdryer
- Individually controlled air-conditioned system
- Pillow menu included: you will be able to choose from a range of soft, water pillow, orthopedic, sponge pillows.
- Kettle with tea packets available and Nescafe available in room.

## DECK PLAN

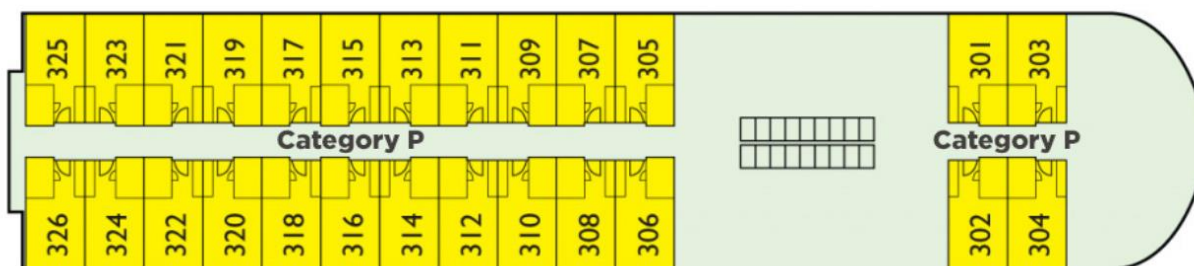
### Lower Deck



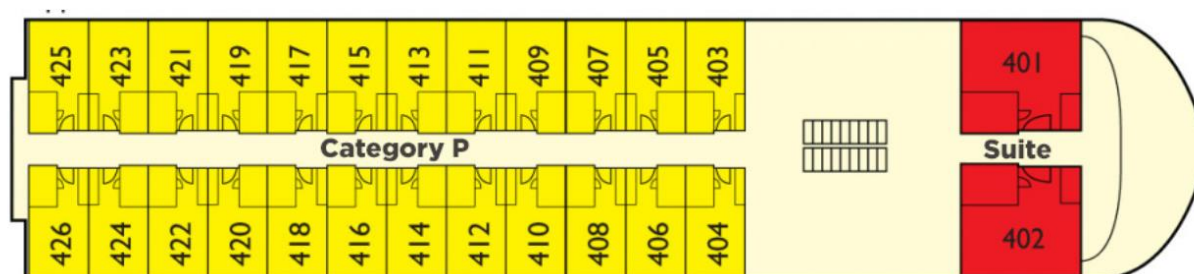
### Main Deck



### Second Deck



### Wheelhouse Deck



## Sun Deck









## SHIP AMENITIES

- All staterooms feature French balconies.
- On board Egyptian cooking class by the chef.
- Pillow menu included: you will be able to choose from a range of soft, water pillow, orthopedic, sponge pillows.
- Free use of gym - sauna and steam (massages à la carte excluded).
- Wide TV LED Screen with free cable.
- Free Wi-fi internet connection throughout the ship.
- Telescope at disposal on the sundeck.
- Special library dedicated to Paulo Coelho.

