

<u>Four Nights</u> Embarkation Luxor to Aswan

<u>Day 1</u>

12:00 noon - Embarkation

12:30 Lunch

15:00 Visit Karnak and Luxor temple

Spread out on the east bank of the Nile and built on the site of the New Kingdom capital city of Thebes, Luxor is the tourist Mecca of the Nile Valley. The exciting excavations in the 19th and early 20th centuries, especially the discovery of King Tutankhamen's tomb, aroused international interest in the town.

The bustling town is centered on the magnificent Luxor Temple, an enduring symbol of its glorious past.

Located at the northern end of the town of Luxor, Karnak Temple is the country's most important temple. It covers two hectares (five acres) of land. The temple lay buried under sand for more than 1,000 years before excavation work began in the mid-19th century. Today, the huge task of restoration continues.

17:00 Tea at club Lounge19:00 cocktail reception19:30 Dinner

Overnight in Luxor

<u>Day 2</u>

5:00 Breakfast

6:00 Visit West bank valley of kings, king Tut's tomb, Ramses "the six", Dier Elmadina, Habu and colossus of Memnon.

Visit the West Bank. Explore the West Bank of ancient Thebes. Visit Valley of the Kings, with its royal tombs, King Tut's tomb, Ramesses the 6th. This is followed by a visit to Temple of Medinet Habu, Dier El Madina. On the way back stop at the Colossi of Memnon.

The remote barren Valley of the Kings was the necropolis of the New Kingdom pharaohs. By digging their tombs deep into the Theban Hills pharaohs from 1500 BC had hoped to stop robbers stealing the priceless possessions buried with them. Sixty two tombs have been found in the Valley of the Kings including Tomb of Ramesses VI, Tomb of Tutankhamen and Tomb of Seti. The beautiful temple of Medinet Habuis second only to Karnak in size and detail. Soaring 18 meter (60 feet) into the sky, the two enthroned statues are the first monuments most visitors see on arriving in the West Bank. All that

remains today are the two faceless colossi called the Colossi of Memnon, which, despite the ravages of time, are an impressive sight.

12:00 Sail to Essna12:30 LunchCross the Essna Lock.17:00 Tea at club Lounge19:30 DinnerOvernight in Essna

<u>Day 3</u>

5:00 Sail to Edfu7:30 Breakfast10:00 Visit the Temple of Edfu,

The Temple of Horus at Edfuwas buried under sand and silt for nearly two thousand years. It is the largest and best-preserved Ptolemaic temple in Egypt. Construction of the temple began in 237 B.C. and the main temple complex took 25 years to complete.

12:00 Sail to Komombo

13:00 Lunch

17:00 Tea at club Lounge

18:00 Visit the twin temple of Komombo.

One side of the temple is dedicated to the Crocodile God Sobek, God of Fertility and Creator of the World. The other side is dedicated to the Falcon God Haroeis, also known as Horus, the Elder. The construction of the Temple of Komombo began in the 2nd century and completed in the 1st century BC. The temple is built in imposing Graeco – Roman style and is in a particularly beautiful setting overlooking the Nile. The Chapel of Hathor to the south of the temple now houses a few crocodile mummies from the nearby crocodile necropolis.

19:30 Dinner

Overnight in Kom Ombo

Day 4

05:00 Sail to Aswan

07:00 Breakfast

08:00 Visit the High Dam and Philae temple

High Dam Built between 1960 and 1971, the immense High Dam is 3,830 meters(12,562 feet) across, 111 meters (364 feet) high and 980 meters (3,214 feet) wide at its base. At the eastern end of the dam there is a visitors' pavilion detailing the construction of the dam and at the western end there is a lotus shaped tower, built to commemorate the Soviet Union's support in the building of the dam.

The Philae Temple is dedicated to the Goddess Isis and was built in Ptolemaic times. The oldest parts of the temple were built by Nectanebo I (380 - 362 B.C.) and a large portion of the temple was constructed during the regime of Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285 - 246 B.C.). With the building of the High Dam this monument was relocated to the nearby island of Agilika. The UNESCO led project took eight years to complete during which Agilikawas landscaped to look like Philae.

12:30 Lunch

16:00 Visit Nubian Museum.

In the early 1960's, when Egypt built the High Dam at Aswan, Egyptologists and archaeologists the world over heeded UNESCO's appeal to salvage the monuments of Egyptian Nubia before the rising waters of Lake Nasser submerged them forever. More than sixty expeditions ultimately joined the "Nubian Rescue Campaign", which resulted in the excavation and recording of hundreds of sites, the recovery of thousands of objects, and the salvage and translocation of a number of important temples to higher ground.

19:30 Dinner

Overnight in Aswan

<u>Day 5</u>

07:30 Breakfast 08:00 Disembarkation

The above itinerary is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.