



SANCTUARY  
ZEIN NILE CHATEAU

# 5 NIGHT

NILE CRUISE  
LUXOR TO ASWAN

The itinerary for the Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau is a bespoke one and offers you the unique opportunity to tailor your sightseeing tours by offering you an "À La Carte" menu. Simply make your selection from the sites offered within this itinerary.



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## DAY ONE | EMBARK IN LUXOR

Check-in on board the Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau followed by lunch on board.

Afternoon visit to the East Bank, with a choice of three of the below:

### 1. Karnak Temple

Visit the Temple of Karnak, built over more than a thousand years by generations of Pharaohs. The great Hypostyle Hall is an incredible forest of giant pillars, covering an area larger than the whole of Notre Dame Cathedral.

### 2. Luxor Temple

Visit the strikingly graceful Temple of Luxor dedicated to the god Amun. Proceed to the Temple of Luxor, once connected to Karnak via the Avenue of Sphinxes, almost 3 kilometers in length. Built by Amenhotep III in 1380 BC, the site was added to by later pharaohs. The temple enjoyed many celebrations, the most important being the Festival of Opet which lasted almost a month.

### 3. Luxor Museum

Visit the surprisingly entertaining Luxor museum. Displays of pottery, jewelry, furniture, statues and

stelae were created by the Brooklyn Museum of New York. They include a carefully selected assortment of items from the Theban temples and necropolis. There are a number of exhibits from Tutankhamun, including a cow-goddess head from his tomb on the first floor and his funerary boats on the second floor. However, some of the real attractions include a statue of Tuthmosis III (circa 1436 BC) on the first floor, and 283 sandstone blocks arranged as a wall from the ninth pylon of the Karnak Temple.

### 4. Sound & Light Show in Karnak Temple

Attend the Sound and Light Show at Karnak Temple, a fascinating walking tour through the history of the world's largest-ever temple complex, narrated by the voices of the pharaohs. Shadows play off the enormous columns in the grand Hypostyle Hall, creating a mysterious effect.

Afternoon tea and dinner on board.  
Overnight in Luxor.



**Please Note:** Wi-Fi strength unavoidably varies depending on geographical locations, especially whilst sailing in the more remote areas of Upper Egypt.



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## DAY TWO | VALLEY OF THE KINGS AND WEST BANK

Breakfast on board followed by a morning visit to the Valley of the Kings; Explore the Valley of the Kings, a vast City of the Dead where magnificent tombs were carved into the desert rocks, decorated richly, and filled with treasures for the afterlife by generations of Pharaohs.

Visit to the West Bank, with a choice of three from the below:

### 1. Valley of the Queens

There are between 75 and 80 tombs in the Valley of the Queens, or Biban al-Harim. These belong to Queens of the 18th, 19th and 20th Dynasties. It is called "Place of Beauty" by the Egyptians, where the pharaohs' wives and children were buried.

### 2. Hatshepsut Temple

Rising out of the desert plain in a series of terraces, the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut (Ancient Egypt's only female Pharaoh) merges with the sheer limestone cliffs that surround it, as if nature herself had built this extraordinary monument.

### 3. Valley of Workers (Deir El Medina)

Visit the remains of the self-contained village on the West Bank where the workmen who built the kings' and queens' tombs lived in mud brick houses with their families. The site gives archeologists a view of how urban people lived in ancient Egypt. You can also visit the tombs that the workmen created for themselves, to admire the art in ordinary people's tombs. Nearby is the Temple of Deir El Medina, from Ptolemaic times.

### 4. Tombs of the Nobles

On the West Bank sit 400 tombs of Theban aristocrats, some of which you can enter. The tomb walls were white-washed and painted with murals of

the nobles' daily lives, making them quite different from royal tombs, where relief work focused on judgment and resurrection. Since the tombs were not sealed, some have deteriorated.

### 5. Medinet Habu

The magnificent Medinet Habu is a series of temples built by the Pharaoh Ramses III (1182-1151 BC) and second only to Karnak Temple in size and complexity. The most impressive is the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III, decorated with relief work depicting his many military victories. With its massive mud brick enclosure that held storehouses, workshops, administrative offices, and residences of priests and officials, Medinet Habu grew into a city that maintained its population well into Coptic times.

### 6. Ramesseum Temple

The Ramesseum, the Mortuary Temple of Ramses II, was built early in the great pharaoh's reign and was 20 years in the making. Here you'll see the broken, awesome Colossus of Ramses II, a 1000 ton statue in which the fingers alone are over 1 meter long; it inspired the famous poem "Ozymandias" by Percy Bysshe Shelley. This great temple reportedly rivaled the wonders of Ramses II's temple at Abu Simbel.

Lunch, afternoon tea while sailing to Esna.

### Afternoon visit to Esna Temple

Visit the Greco-Roman Temple of Khnum at Esna. The beautifully preserved Great Hypostyle Hall was built during the reign of the Roman Emperor Claudius; it was excavated from the silt that had accumulated through centuries of annual Nile floods and is about nine meters below present-day street level.

Overnight in Esna.

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## DAY THREE | EDFU TEMPLE

Breakfast on board.

### **Morning visit to Edfu temple**

Explore the largest and most completely preserved Pharaonic – albeit Greek-built – temple in Egypt, the extraordinary Temple of Horus at Edfu.

Lunch on board.

Afternoon tea on board with the afternoon at leisure.

Dinner on board.

Overnight in Edfu.

## DAY FOUR | SELSELA

Breakfast while sailing to Selsela.

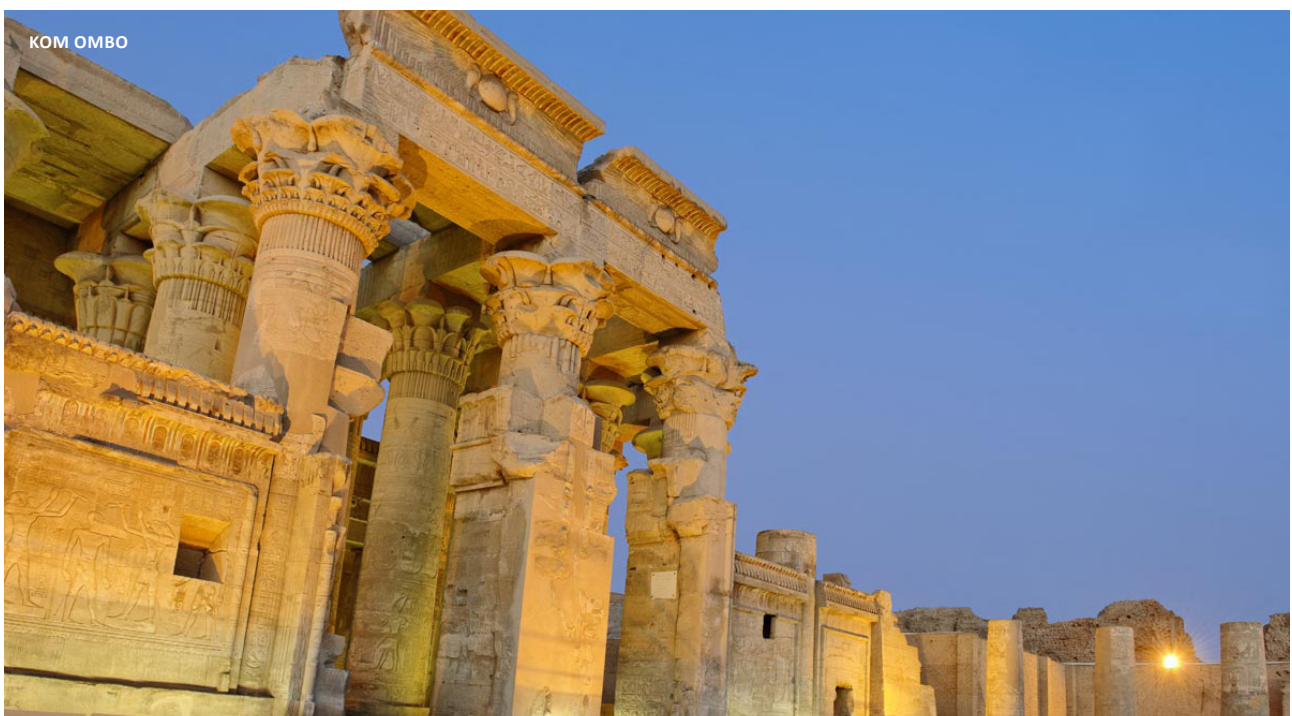
### **Afternoon visit to Selsela**

Selsela (Jebel Selsela) The ancient Egyptian site of Selsela is about 26 miles south of Edfu and 14 miles north of Kom Ombo and located in an area where the Nile River narrows. It was known in ancient times as Khenu (Place of Rowing) and here, the bedrock changes from limestone to sandstone. This is the border of the Egyptian region of Nubia, and in ancient times, Egyptians believed that the Nile originated here.

Lunch on board while sailing to Kom Ombo

Afternoon tea and dinner on board.

Overnight in Kom Ombo.



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## DAY FIVE | KOM OMBO AND ASWAN

Breakfast on board.

### Morning visit to Kom Ombo Temple

In this Ptolemaic temple shared by two gods, Sobek and Horus the Elder, everything is duplicated symmetrically, with double hallways, doors and chambers.

Sailing to Aswan.

Lunch on board.

Afternoon visits in Aswan with a choice of two of the below followed by Spice Market visit

### 1. Philae Temple

According to the Ancient Egyptians, the goddess Isis traveled all over Egypt gathering her husband Osiris's remains after he was cut to pieces by his evil brother. On Philae Island, where she found his heart, the Egyptians built a sacred temple to Isis, goddess of purity, sexuality, nature and protection. During the building of the High Dam, Philae Island was submerged by water, so UNESCO helped transport the temple complex to nearby Agilika Island, where you see it today.

### 2. Unfinished Obelisk

Visit this massive obelisk, which was abandoned in Aswan's Northern Quarry when a crack was found as it was being carved from the red granite. Tools left behind show how builders accomplished such great work.

### 3. Kalabsha Temple

The Temple of Kalabsha (also Temple of Mandulis) is an Ancient Egyptian temple that was originally located at Bab al-Kalabsha (Gate of Kalabsha), approximately 50 kilometers south of Aswan. The temple was situated on the west bank of the Nile River, in Nubia and was originally built around 30 BC during the early Roman era.

### Afternoon visit to the Spice market

Dinner on board.

Overnight in Aswan.

## DAY SIX | DISEMBARK IN ASWAN

Breakfast on board followed by checkout.

*As your cruise comes to an end, we thank you  
for sailing with us and immersing yourself in the history of Egypt.*



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