

A photograph of the Great Pyramids of Giza in Egypt. The pyramids are made of golden-brown stone and are set against a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The foreground is a vast, flat desert landscape with some small mounds of sand and debris.

OPTIONAL 5 NIGHT

Plus 4 Night

August 3-12 (9

AVAILABLE WITH OPTION

CRUISE-TO-CAIRO

nts in Cairo

9 Nights Total)

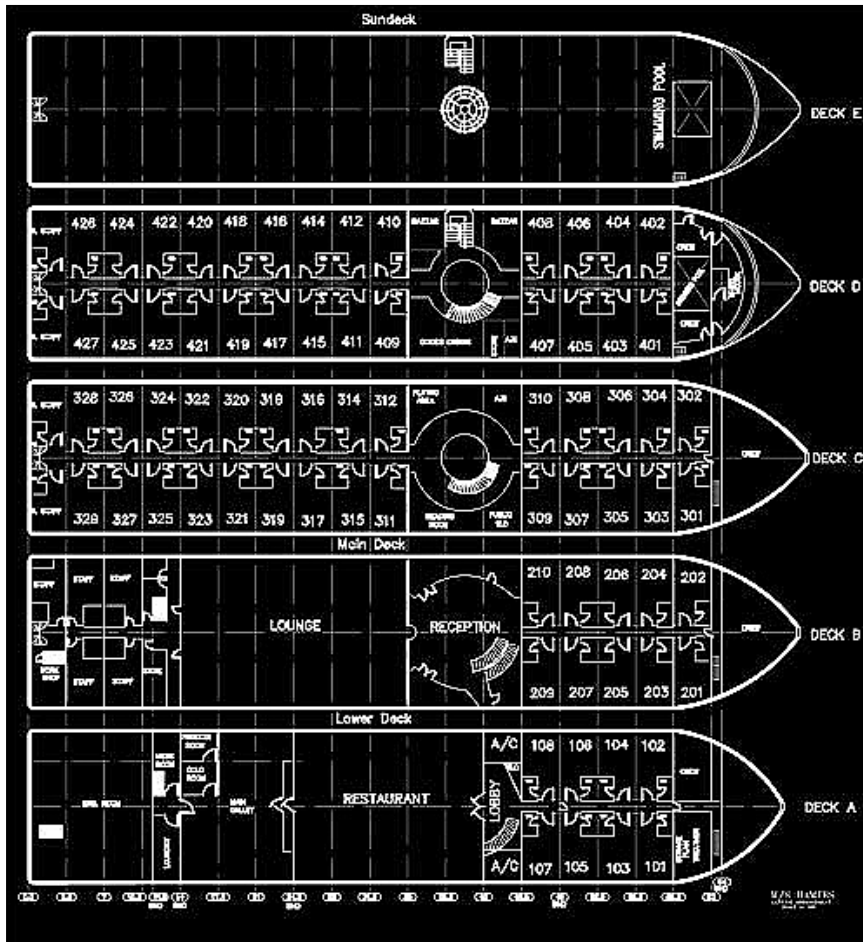
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OPTIONAL CRUISE-to-CAIRO ADD-ON on the *ms DARAKUM* or on the *ms Hamees*

Optional Cruise-to-Cairo add-on:
on the *ms Hamees*
or on the *ms Darakum*
August 3 - 12 ▶





ms Hamees deckplan

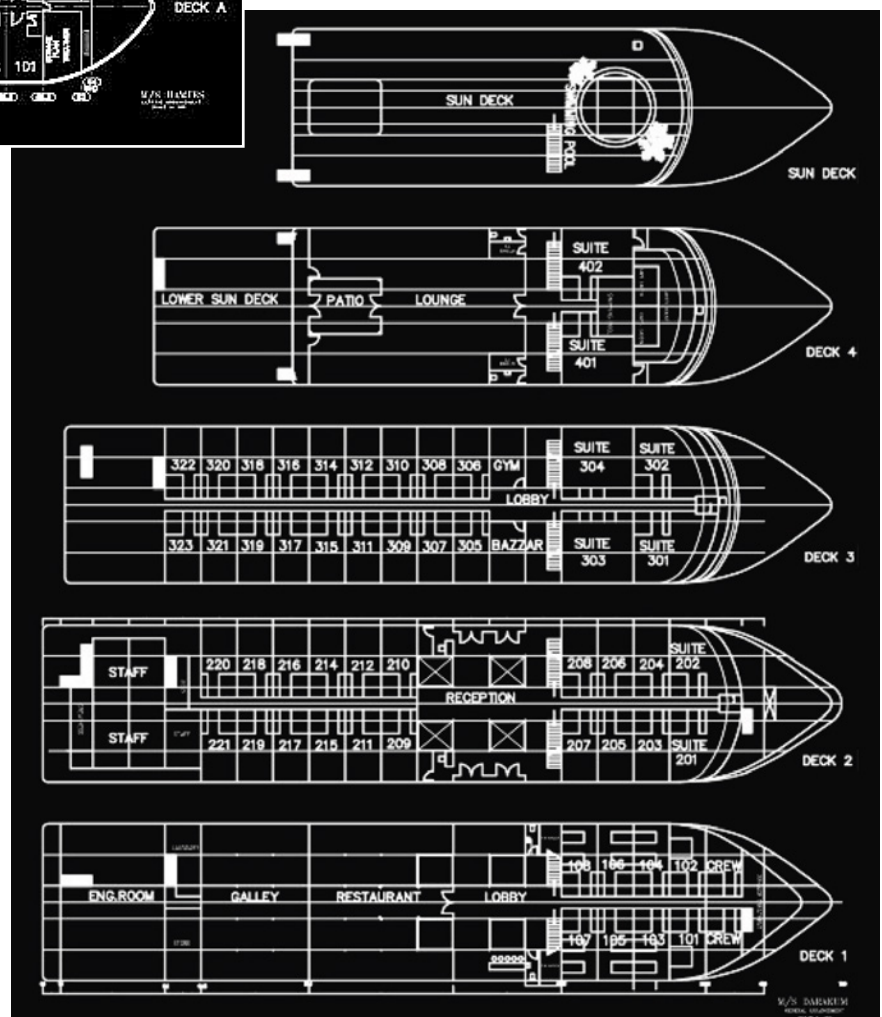


Join us August 3-11, 2027 for a 5-night Nile River cruise to Cairo and then **four (4) nights in Cairo** to experience the culture, archaeology, communities, and daily details that make Cairo the informal capital of the Arab world.

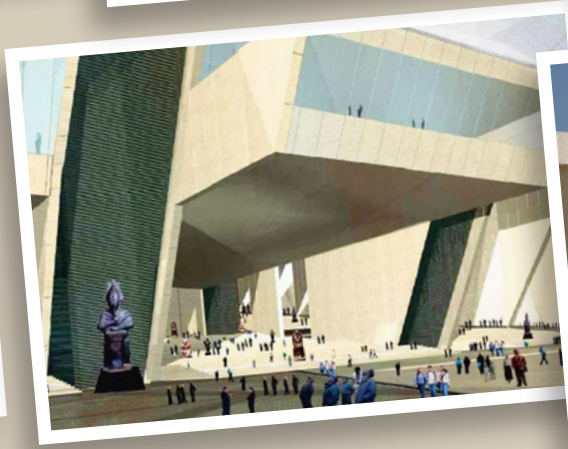
Cap your Luxor Eclipse adventure with a cruise north to Cairo where you'll spend *three full days* amidst the ancient treasures and modern bustle of the Cairo region. Visit the Pyramids at Giza and their ancestors at Saqqara; see Egypt's archaeological treasures in new and modernized comfortable settings.

Whether this is your first trip to Egypt or another chapter in your explorations as a confirmed Egypt buff, gain a sense of why ancient Egypt has such a powerful impact on the imagination through time.

ms Darakum deckplan



(...continued) **OPTIONAL CRUISE-to-CAIRO ADD-ON** on the *ms DARAKUM* or o



in the *ms HAMEES*, available with options:

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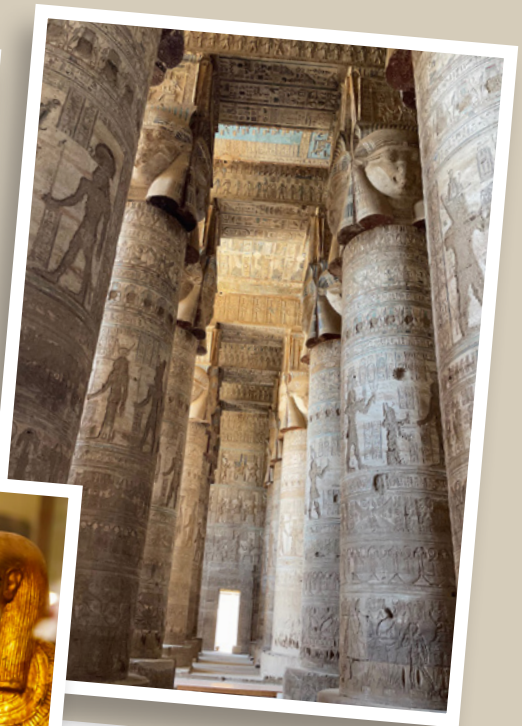
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(...continued) **OPTIONAL CRUISE-to-CAIRO ADD-ON** on the *ms DARAKUM* or o



OVERVIEW AND PRICING (*ms HAMEES*)

Price is \$6,499 (Standard cabin) or \$6,999 (Superior cabin) per person (pp) for nine (9) nights onboard the *ms Hamees* (add 50% premium for singles — or share and pay no premium!). Nile River cruise package price includes: 5-night cruise to Cairo and then four (4) nights onboard the *Hamees* while docked in Cairo; all meals (breakfast only on day of departure); our TOURING PACKAGE; our EXTENDED LECTURE SERIES (three lecturers onboard delivering about a dozen talks/Q&As); entrance to all touring sites and museums with all transportation to/from our ships; and all taxes, fees, gratuities, and port charges. Add a drink package for \$315, which includes an open bar at our nine (9) 90-minute cocktail parties. **NOTE: Program is subject to change. There are only 70 cabins on the Hamees.**



CO-PRODUCED BY:

SKY & TELESCOPE **Insight Cruises**
THE JOURNEY WITHIN

MÖVENPICK
HOTELS, RESORTS & CRUISES

n the *ms HAMEES*, available with options:

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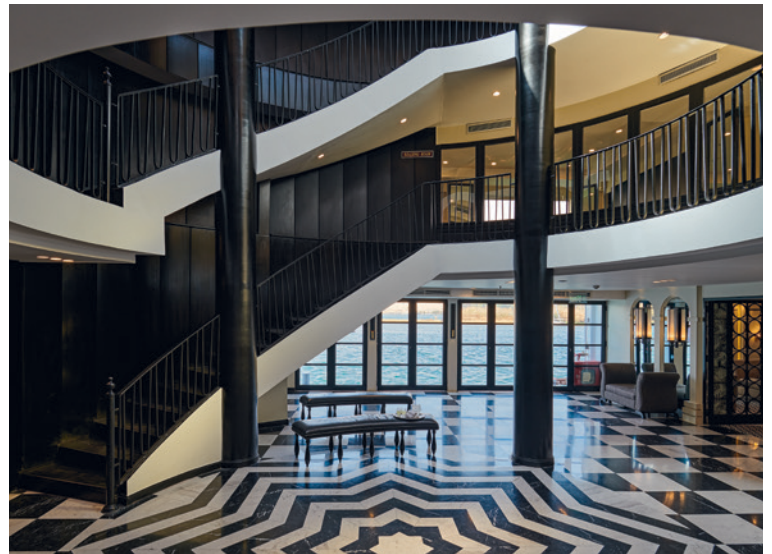
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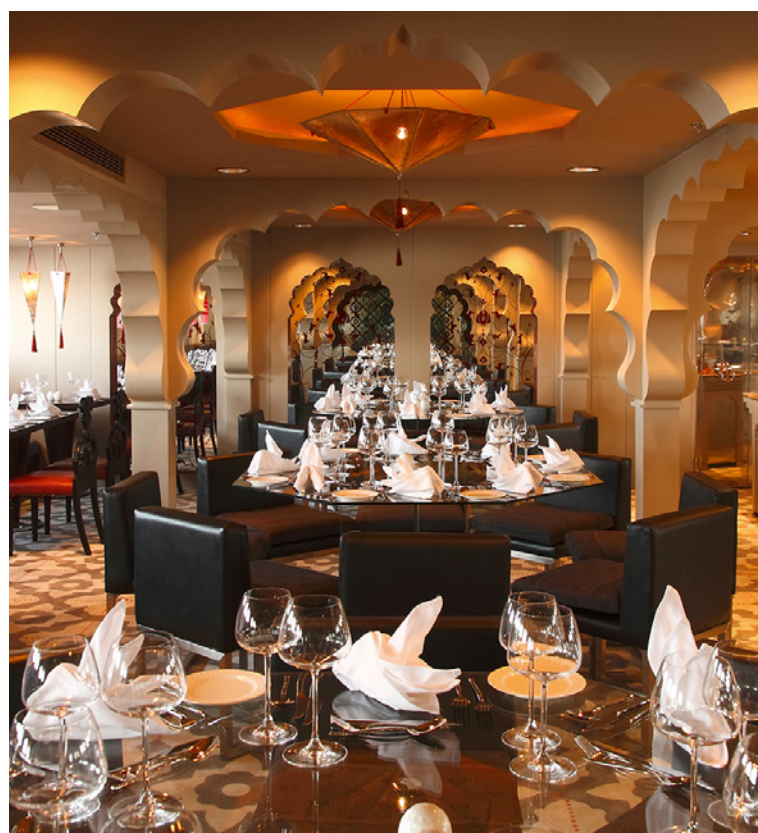


(...continued) **OPTIONAL CRUISE-to-CAIRO ADD-ON** on the *ms DARAKUM* or o



OVERVIEW AND PRICING (*ms DARAKUM*)

Price is \$6,999 (Standard cabin) or \$9,999 (Panorama Suites) per person (pp) for nine (9) nights onboard the *ms Darakum* (add 50% premium for singles – or share and pay no premium!). Nile River cruise package price includes: 5-night cruise to Cairo and then four (4) nights onboard the *Darakum* while docked in Cairo; all meals (breakfast only on day of departure); our TOURING PACKAGE; our EXTENDED LECTURE SERIES (three lecturers onboard delivering about a dozen talks/Q&As); entrance to all touring sites and museums with all transportation to/from our ships; and all taxes, fees, gratuities, and port charges. Add a drink package for \$315, which includes an open bar at our nine (9) 90-minute cocktail parties. **NOTE: Program is subject to change. There are only 52 cabins on the *Darakum*.**



CO-PRODUCED BY:

SKY & TELESCOPE **Insight Cruises**
THE JOURNEY WITHIN

n the *ms HAMEES*, available with options:

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OPTIONAL CRUISE-to-CAIRO ADD-ON (...continued) **SPEAKERS** on the *ms D*

DAY	ACTIVITY	ARRIVE	DEPART	NOTES
TUE., AUG 3	DAY 7 (CRUISE DAY 1): DENDERA		1pm	Lunch onboard
WED., AUG 4	DAY 8 (CRUISE DAY 2): ABYDOS	—	—	Visit the Temple of Seti I
THUR., AUG 5	DAY 9 (CRUISE DAY 3): AMARNA	—	—	Tel El Amarna (images)
FRI., AUG 6	DAY 10 (CRUISE DAY 4): TUNA EL GEBEL	—	—	Petosiris (images); Ibis Catacombs (slide show)
SAT., AUG 7	DAY 11 (CRUISE DAY 5): BENI HASSAN	—	—	Tomb of Khnumhotep II, more
SUN., AUG 8	DAY 12 (CRUISE DAY 6): ARRIVE CAIRO	1pm	—	National Museum of Egyptian Civilization
MON., AUG 9	DAY 13 (CRUISE DAY 7): DAY 2 IN CAIRO	—	—	The Great Pyramids, Sphinx, Saqqara
TUE., AUG 10	DAY 14 (CRUISE DAY 8): DAY 3 IN CAIRO	—	—	Museum of Egyptian Antiquities, more
WED., AUG 11	DAY 15 (CRUISE DAY 9): DAY 4 IN CAIRO	—	—	Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) Cairo
THUR., AUG 12	DAY 16: DISEMBARK	9am		Fly home anytime

Egyptian sites will be visited in the morning (before 12 Noon approximately) or after 4pm, unless not possible.!



J. KELLY BEATTY



Kelly Beatty joined the staff of *Sky & Telescope* in 1974 and served as the editor of *Night Sky*, a spinoff magazine for beginning stargazers, in 2004–07. He retired from full-time work in 2018 but remains actively involved in many *Sky & Telescope* articles, tours, and other projects. Specializing in planetary science and space exploration, Kelly has been honored twice by the Division for Planetary

Sciences (DPS) of the American Astronomical Society. In 2005 he received the Harold Masursky Award for meritorious service, and in 2009 he was honored with the inaugural Jonathan Eberhart Journalism Award. He is also a recipient of the American Geophysical Union's Cowen Award for Sustained Achievement in Science Journalism (2009).

You'll occasionally hear his interviews and guest commentaries on The Weather Channel and National Public Radio, and his work has appeared in numerous other magazines, newspapers, and encyclopedias. In fact, Kelly enjoys speaking to audiences of all ages and interest levels about his passion for astronomy. He observes when he can through one of his eight telescopes, and he is active nationally in the fight against light pollution.

Kelly hails from Madera, California. He holds a Bachelors degree in geology from the California Institute of Technology and a Master's degree in science journalism from Boston University. During the 1980s he was among the first Western journalists to gain firsthand access to the Soviet space program. Asteroid 2925 Beatty was named on the occasion of his marriage in 1983, and in 1986 he was chosen one of the 100 semifinalists for NASA's Journalist in Space program.

JUAN ANTONIO BELMONTE, PH.D.



Juan Antonio Belmonte, Ph.D. is a Research Professor of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias (IAC), where he lectures and investigates in exoplanetology and cultural astronomy. He holds a degree in Physics from the University of Barcelona and a Ph.D. in Astrophysics from the University of La Laguna, where he has also studied Egyptian hieroglyphs.

Prof. Belmonte has been Director of the Science and Cosmos Museum of Tenerife (MCC, 1995–2000), President of the European Society for Astronomy in Culture (SEAC, 2005–2011), the International Society for Archaeoastronomy and Astronomy in Culture (ISAAC, 2017–2020) and the Time Allocation Committee (CAT) of the Canary Islands Observatories (2003–2012). He received in 2012 the "Carlos Jäschek" Award in Cultural Astronomy for his contribution to the field. He is Advisory Editor of the *Journal*

for the History of Astronomy.

He is author or co-author of more than 200 scientific papers and author or editor of more than 20 books on these topics, among them *In Search of Cosmic Order: Selected Essays on Egyptian Archaeoastronomy* (2009), with Mosalam Shaltout, and *Pirámides, Templos y Estrellas: Arqueología y Astronomía en el Egipto Antiguo* (2012, in Spanish); he is finishing, with José Lull, *Ancient Egyptian Astronomy: a Cultural Approach* (to be published by Springer in 2023).

For over a decade, he has been deeply involved in the development of the "Astronomy and World Heritage" initiative within UNESCO and the IAU. Since August 2021, he has been President of the IAU Commission C4 "World Heritage and Astronomy". A tireless field researcher, he has carried out cultural astronomy fieldwork in the Megalithism of the Atlantic Façade, the Indian temples, Caral in Peru, Nabataean Petra, Hattusha in Turkey, Easter Island, and the Amazigh World from his base in the Canary Islands, among many other places.

Prof. Belmonte has been coordinator of the Egyptian-Spanish Mission for Archaeoastronomy of ancient Egypt and a member of the Spanish Archaeological Mission in Heracleopolis Magna. For 20 years, he has performed research fieldwork searching for and documenting astronomical relationships in more than one hundred archaeological sites in Egypt, from Nubia to the Delta, and from Siwa Oasis to Sherabit el Khadim, in the Sinai.

DENISE M. DOXEY, PH.D.



Dr. Denise M. Doxey is an Egyptologist and Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nubian, and Near Eastern Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Denise received her M.Phil. in Classical Archaeology from Oxford University and her Ph.D. in Ancient History from the University of Pennsylvania. Her teaching experience includes Egyptology courses at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University. She

has participated in excavations in Egypt at the sites of Abydos and Saqqara. In addition to numerous articles, she is the author or co-author of five books, most recently *Arts of Ancient Nubia* and *Jewels of Ancient Nubia*. She is a sought after lecturer for both academic conferences and public lectures. Currently, she is Vice President of the Board of Governors of the American Research Center in Egypt, the leading North American organization promoting research on Egyptian history and culture. She also serves on the Board of the International Council of Museum's International Committee for Egyptology.

In her more than 25 years as a museum professional, Dr. Doxey has overseen the renovation of galleries for Predynastic and Early Dynastic art, Old Kingdom art, and Middle Kingdom funerary art. She curated special exhibitions, including co-curating *Secrets of Tomb 10A: Egypt 2000 BC* and serving as curator for *Ancient Nubia Now*. She is currently the curator for an international traveling exhibition featuring art of Nubia.

OPTIONAL CRUISE-to-CAIRO ADD-ON (...continued) TOURING PACKAGE, from the

On your optional 9-night add-on cruise from Luxor to Cairo, you will visit the 11 sites below. These site visits, as well as all entrance fees, are **included** in your optional (post-eclipse) Cruise-to-Cairo add-on package. Two (2) of these sites require “**Special Access**” which we have secured.*



DENDERA — Be overwhelmed (in a good way!) at the intensity of ancient worship of Hathor, the multifaceted goddess of love, fertility, the sky, festivity, and fate. Create a lasting impression of the Zodiacal art of Dendera.

*Archaeological sites go under frequent restoration and repair and some may not be available to us when we visit in 2027.



ABYDOS — Examine the superb bas reliefs and Cosmology of Nut and walk among some of the earliest astronomically aligned buildings. We hope the ruins of what may be the world’s oldest brewery will be accessible on our visit, too.

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TUNA EL GEBEL (Tomb of Petosiris) — See the god Thoth's many duties documented at Tuna el Gebel. You'll visit the Greco Roman tomb of Petosiris, the chief priest of the god Thoth. This god's responsibilities included maintaining the universe, judging the dead, and overseeing systems of magic, writing, and science. Thoth was symbolized as both a baboon and an ibis, so you'll add animal mummies to your Egypt memories.



AMARNA (Royal Tomb, Palace, Temple of Aten, and more) — Today we delve in to Amarna, Pharaoh Akhenaten and Queen Nefertiti's city designed for the worship of the sun disk Aten, center of Akhenaten's new religion. Learn about the distinctive naturalistic style of Amarna art, with a focus on the royal family, not the gods, the depiction of movement, and the use of sunk relief. Walk the streets of Amarna and get a sense of the vision and scope of Akhenaten's bold initiative.



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION — Get the big picture of the world's oldest civilization at the NMEC. You can use its artifacts to chart the evolution of Egypt's culture through prehistoric, pharaonic, Greco-Roman, Coptic, and Islamic eras. You'll have the opportunity to see the Royal Mummies Hall, resting place of 20 kings and queens of ancient Egypt's New Kingdom.

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Insight Cruises
THE JOURNEY WITHIN

OPTIONAL CRUISE-to-CAIRO ADD-ON (...continued) TOURING PACKAGE, from the



GIZA PYRAMIDS AND SPHINX — Visit the Great Pyramid and its Old Kingdom royal kin, the only surviving members of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Getting your bearings on the Giza Plateau gives you a sense of the precision (achieved with astronomical skills) with which the Egyptians aligned the Pyramids to the cardinal directions and to symbolic topographic features.

Sites with toothed borders have astronomical interest.



BENI HASSAN (Tombs of Baquet III, Khety, Amenemhet, Khnumhotep) — Time travel to the Middle Kingdom period of Egyptian history at Beni Hassan where regional governors and military figures were buried. Gain a sense of ancient life in the desert, and see scenes of life in the provinces — hunting, wrestling, weaving, baking, fishing, and wine-making.

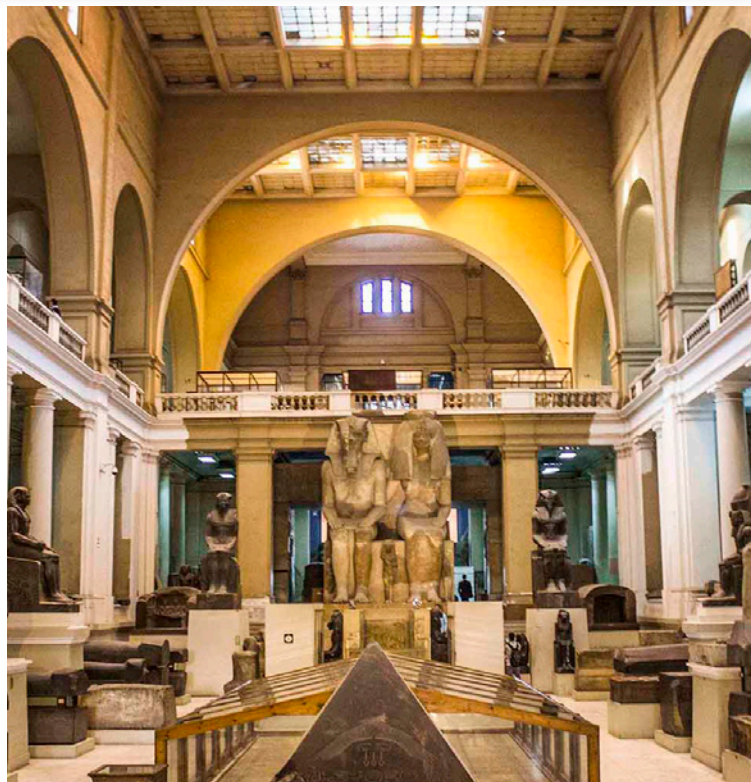


SAQQARA WITH PYRAMIDS OF DJOSER, UNAS (Special Access Visit), AND TETI; AND MASTABA OF TI (Special Access Visit) — Visit the ancestor of the Pyramids of Giza — the Step Pyramid complex of Djoser. Venture into the small Pyramid of Unas, and see the earliest known Pyramid Texts, spells guiding the pharaoh to the afterlife. The Pyramid of Teti offers you a written mention of Sirius, Orion, and the Big Dipper, solidifying your proof of the astronomical underpinnings of Giza and Saqqara.

CO-PRODUCED BY:



GRAND EGYPTIAN MUSEUM (GEM) AT GIZA — GEM is home to 100,000+ artifacts of Egypt's ancient history! Immerse yourself in the richness of Egyptian culture and put a memorable concluding chapter on your eclipse adventure.



EGYPTIAN MUSEUM AT TAHRIR SQUARE (aka Museum of Egyptian Antiquities) — A fabulous collection of antiquities focused on Ancient Egypt. Dedicated guides will curate our visit so you can be assured you have seen the most important artifacts.

In Egypt accessibility standards are lower than those you are used to at home, particularly in the areas of unpaved surfaces, curbs, stairs, uneven surfaces, and handrails. Regrettably there are no accommodations for people with mobility issues at the sites we visit.

Walking, stair-climbing, steep ramp walking, and standing around for lengthy periods are unavoidable aspects of this tour. These features should not present problems for anyone of normal fitness, but these tours are not suitable for those who walk slowly, need support such as canes, walking sticks, or scooters; or lack stamina. You need to bluntly assess the status of your joints, your sense of balance, and your mobility skills as you contemplate this adventure.

If during the tour, in the judgment of the tour leaders, you are not able to cope and keep pace with the group, you may be asked to opt out of certain visits or to leave the tour altogether. This would be at your own expense.

CO-PRODUCED BY:

ABYDOS



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DENDERA TEMPLE



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION



ms Hamees or Darakum, available with options:

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AMARNA: NORTHERN TOMBS OF THE NOBLES



BENI HASSAN MIDDLE KINGDOM TOMBS



ms Hamees or Darakum, available with options:

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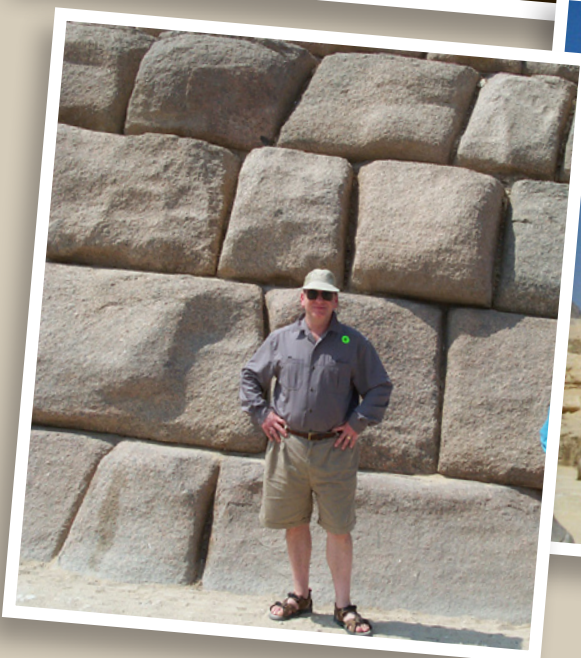
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PYRAMIDS OF GIZA & THE GREAT SPHINX



SAQQARA WITH PYRAMIDS OF DJOSER, UNAS, TETI, AND MASTABA OF TI



MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES IN TAHRIR SQUARE



TOMB OF PETOSIRIS & IBIS MUMMY CATACOMB



ms Hamees or Darakum, available with options:

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GRAND EGYPTIAN MUSEUM IN GIZA



Health and safety in Egypt regarding Insight Cruises' Egypt TOURING PACKAGES



We have a safety auditing process in place and, as a minimum, request that all of our suppliers comply with local health and safety regulations. In Egypt accessibility standards are lower than those you are used to at home, particularly in the areas of unpaved surfaces, curbs, stairs, uneven surfaces, and handrails. Regrettably there are no accommodations for people with mobility issues at the sites we will visit.



We therefore ask that you take note of the safety and cautionary information provided below.

Eligibility

You must be in good health, free of infectious illness, and have a level of physical and mental fitness that would not impair other participants' enjoyment by slowing them down or by absorbing disproportionate attention from the tour leaders. Please read 'Fitness', below, and take the self-assessment tests described there; by signing the booking form you are stating that you have understood what we are asking of you and are fit to participate. If you have a medical condition or a disability which may affect your trip or necessitate special arrangements being made for you, please discuss this with us before booking; or, if a condition develops or changes subsequently, as soon as possible before departure. Our Egypt TOURING PACKAGES are not suitable for those who walk slowly, need support such as canes, walking sticks, or scooters, or lack stamina. You need to bluntly assess the status of your joints, your sense of balance, and your mobility skills as you contemplate this adventure.

If during the tour it transpires, in the judgment of the tour leaders, that you are not able to cope, you may be asked to opt out of certain visits or to leave the tour altogether. This would be at your own expense.

Fitness

With the exception of our museum visits, the land portions of our Egypt tours will be active. Walking, stair-climbing, extensive hill climbing, and standing around for 10-minute

periods are unavoidable aspects of tours in Egypt. These features should not present problems for anyone of normal fitness, but these tours are not suitable for those who walk slowly, need support, or lack stamina.

For example, in several of our site visits there is a lot of walking on dirt and/or poorly paved streets. On some paths you may need to scramble over large rocks and very uneven ground. Mostly, fortunately, it is just a case of walking from one place to another – and getting on and off a coach a few times a day.

Secondly, the tours are group events. The presence of even one person who is not fit enough to cope can spoil the experience for everyone else. We therefore ask that everyone wishing to join our Egyptian TOURING PACKAGES take the quick and simple self-assessment fitness tests described below.

If during the tour it transpires that you are not adequately fit, you may be asked by the tour manager to opt out of certain visits, or requested to leave the tour altogether. Each day's visits can vary in their physical demands.

Some of our site visits require walking (for an hour, to and from), through hilly and dry desert, and require a different scale of fitness and agility.

Fitness tests

1. Chair stands: Sit in a dining chair, with arms folded and hands on opposite shoulders. Stand up and sit down at six times in thirty seconds.

2. Step test: Mark a wall at a height that is halfway between your knee and your hip bone. Raise each knee in turn to the mark at least 30 times in two minutes.

3. Agility test: Place an object three yards from the edge of a chair, sit, and record the time it takes to stand up, walk to the object and sit back down. You should be able to do this, somewhat easily, in under 10 seconds.

An additional indication of the fitness is that you should be able to walk unaided at a pace of three miles per hour for at least half an hour at a time, and to stand unsupported for at least 20 minutes.

Middle Eastern Conflicts

In reference to recent developments between Israel and Gaza, it is imperative to acknowledge that this is not the first time such events have taken place -- and it is possible that they will occur again in the future. Egypt has traditionally played a crucial role in facilitating peace between the two parties. It is also worth pointing out that the distance from the Gaza border to Luxor is 400 miles.

Tourist Police

The police presence is all over Egypt, but especially in touristic areas. It is not uncommon to see police at almost every intersection in Cairo and other cities and there will be larger numbers of security personnel around certain institutions and important buildings. Nearly all of the police will be equipped with rifles. This might be an unusual sight in your home country, but in Egypt this is normal. It is not a reflection of any additional danger or instability. In fact, most Egyptians are glad to have the police back in the street in such numbers after they were largely absent in the year following the 2011 revolution (read more).

<https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/egypts-sisi-authoritarian-leader-with-penchant-bridges-2023-12-08/>

At tourism sites you will find police officers with a special badge on their shoulders that says, "Tourism Police". These officers are designated specifically to make sure that visitors to Egypt are safe and as a convenience to tourists since they speak English. If you have any concerns, do not hesitate to seek out the tourist police. You can be confident that the Egyptian tourist police will ensure your safety throughout your stay.

Booking detail

We reserve the right to refuse to accept a booking without necessarily giving a reason.