

Splendors of Egypt & the Nile



12

DAYS

1

COUNTRY

For 12 adventure-filled days, experience Egypt and the Nile's most wondrous sites in style and luxury.* Wander amongst the towering ruins of the Temple of Karnak, the world's largest ancient religious complex, and the entrancing Temple of Luxor. Follow in the footsteps of renowned scholars and explorers as you venture forth into the Valley of the Kings, the ancient burial grounds of Egyptian royalty. This captivating itinerary begins and ends in Cairo, gateway to Giza. Here, you'll visit the mighty ancient pyramids, gaze upon the Great Sphinx, and enter the largest archeological museum in the world, the Grand Egyptian Museum. Generations Family Program (select River Tosca sailings): These cruise/tours feature unique, fun-filled adventures for youngsters and are packed with culturally and historically significant experiences. There will also be an opportunity to meet local children—if your family would like to bring a gift to share with the children (such as school supplies, books, balls or games) it is welcomed.



Cairo to Cairo (S.S. Sphinx)

Day 1: Cairo



Arrive at Cairo International Airport. If you have arranged a Uniworld arrival transfer, a Uniworld representative will be on hand to greet you and escort you to the opulent Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza or to the stunning Nile Ritz-Carlton (or similar).

A Night at the Bazaar

€40 per person / US\$45 onboard

The famous medieval marketplace that is the Khan el-Khalili Bazaar is a must-visit for travelers to Cairo. Made up of a seemingly endless system of tight alleyways overflowing with textiles, spices, lanterns, and more, you can easily spend hours here. Get the most out of your visit by going with a local guide, and cap off your evening at the bazaar by sitting for Egyptian tea at a local cafe.

Alexandria (Pre)

€170 per person / US\$195 onboard

NOTE: Alexandria excursion requires an extra night stay. The duration of the excursion is split between approximately 4 hours in destination and 4 hours of driving in each direction.

Once the largest and most prosperous city in the world, Alexandria is a can't-miss destination for your Egypt tour. Embark on a sightseeing expedition to the Jewelry Museum and Pompey's Pillar. You will see the Catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa—one of the Seven Wonders of the Middle Ages. The Catacombs are the largest and most important burial site in Egypt and, due to the time period of its construction, contain Roman, Greek, and Egyptian artistic styles. You will also see Citadel of Qaitbay from the outside. Afterwards, you'll have lunch followed by time to yourself to explore Alexandria on your own.

NOTE: Alexandria excursion requires an extra night stay. The duration of the excursion is split between approximately 4 hours in destination and 4 hours of driving in each direction.

National Museum of Egyptian Civilization

€55 per person / US\$65 onboard

Hatshepsut, the most powerful female Pharaoh of all time, and the expansionist Thutmose the Great boast two of Ancient Egypt's most enduring legacies. They can also both be seen today on a tour of The National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC), amongst 18 other royal mummies displayed in the Hall of Mummies. Step back in time with your expert guide on a visit to this awe-inspiring museum to learn about the evolution of Egyptian civilization from pre-historic times to the modern day.

Day 2: Cairo



The ancient quarter of Cairo is intense—the colors, the sounds, the density of people—and it's likely been this way for thousands of years. Your local expert will show you a 12th-century citadel, the beautiful Alabaster Mosque, and the Grand Egyptian Museum.

A Night at the Bazaar

€40 per person / US\$45 onboard

The famous medieval marketplace that is the Khan el-Khalili Bazaar is a must-visit for travelers to Cairo. Made up of a seemingly endless system of tight alleyways overflowing with textiles, spices, lanterns, and more, you can easily spend hours here. Get the most out of your visit by going with a local guide, and cap off your evening at the bazaar by sitting for Egyptian tea at a local cafe.

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Featured excursions included in your journey

Citadel of Salah Al-Din, The Alabaster Mosque, & Grand Egyptian Museum

Your tour of this historic city includes a visit to the Citadel of Salah al-Din, a massive compound containing mosques and museums and offering breathtaking views of Cairo. Founded in the seventh century by Arab conquerors, the Fatimid dynasty rulers made Cairo their capital and named it al-Qahira (“the Victorious”). The great sultan Salah al-Din built his citadel in the 12th century as a government center and bulwark against invading armies of Crusaders. Located high above the eastern end of Cairo on El-Moqattam Hill, the citadel was the home of Egypt’s rulers for more than 700 years and is one of the oldest attractions in the city.

After the Ottoman ruler Muhammad Ali seized power in the 1800s, he restored the walls of the citadel and built numerous palaces, schools and government buildings inside. His masterpiece was the great Alabaster Mosque, also known as the Mosque of Muhammad Ali, which you’ll have an opportunity to visit. Its two slender minarets were Muhammad Ali’s declaration of independence from Istanbul, as Ottoman law decreed that only a sultan could build a mosque with two minarets. The mosque’s expansive Turkish-style interior is lit by a beautiful array of lamps suspended from the intricately decorated ceiling. Finally, end your day admiring artifacts from across the millennia of Egyptian history during a guided visit to the Grand Egyptian Museum. Also known as the "GEM," this long-awaited cultural institution is the largest archeological museum in the world.

Day 3: Cairo, Fly to Luxor (Embark) Cruising the Nile River, Dendera



Prepare to be amazed at the legendary Temple of



Karnak, a massive and absolutely astounding site, with gigantic columns, broad avenues lined with stone sphinxes and halls of truly epic proportions. This evening, you'll revel in a Welcome Reception and Dinner onboard.

Featured excursions included in your journey

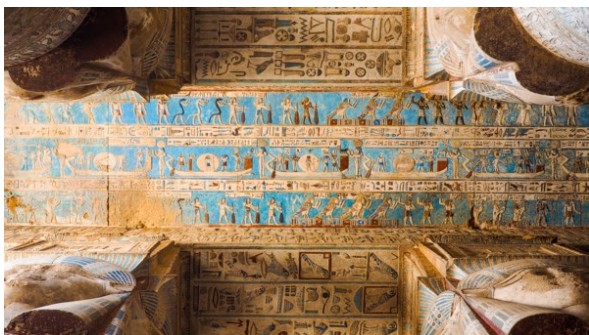
Temple at Karnak

After a short flight to Luxor on the east bank of the Nile, you can stroll through the grand avenues of sphinxes and halls of gigantic columns of the magnificent Temple of Karnak. 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 is dedicated to Amun, a great pharaonic god. 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.

Later, you'll board the magnificent *S.S. Sphinx* or the elegant *River Tosca* and set sail for beautiful Dendera. Enjoy a Gala Reception and dinner onboard this evening.

Day 4: Dendera, Cruising the Nile River, Luxor



Like its twin shrine, the Temple of Karnak, the Temple of Luxor stands on the site of ancient Thebes, the once flourishing capital of Egypt's New Kingdom. It was built over hundreds of years and even in ruins it is still an extraordinary place. You'll also visit the Temple of Hathor, dedicated to the goddess of love and beauty.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Temple of Hathor

The impressive Temple of Hathor at Dendera was dedicated to the goddess of love and beauty. 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.

Return to Luxor for some free time before visiting the ancient Temple of Luxor.

Temple of Luxor

Enter the temple through the great pylon—a ceremonial gateway—where two enormous statues of Ramses II still stand, along with a pink granite obelisk (its mate stands in the Place de la Concorde in Paris, France). Continue on to an enormous interior courtyard, where the Abu Haggag Mosque once stood atop the ruins of the temple. You can still see a ghostly remnant of the mosque on the east side of the courtyard, high above the columns, its arched doorway opening into thin air.

The temple's chief architects were Amenhotep III (Egypt's "Sun King," also known as Amenophis III) and Ramses II, and it was constructed over hundreds of years, beginning around 1400 BC. It was dedicated to the "father of all life," the god Amun, sometimes referred to as Amon or Amon-Ra. Ancient Egyptians came to the temple to pay tribute to this god during the Opet Festival, celebrated during the annual flooding of the Nile. Once a year, a great feast was held and the statue of Amun was transported via a small sailboat from the Temple of Karnak to the Temple of Luxor. (Stages of the festival are depicted in friezes along the Temple of Karnak's grand processional colonnade, the construction of which was started by Amenhotep III and finished by his grandson, Tutankhamen.)

At the rear of the temple is the Sun Court of Amenhotep III, as well as the Bark Shrine that was rebuilt by Alexander the Great (who is depicted bare-chested on the walls). The Luxor Temple complex is at its most stunning at sunset, when it is illuminated with the golden glow of the setting sun.

Day 5: Luxor, Cruising the Nile River, Kom Ombo



The word "colossal" will take on a whole new meaning after today's excursion to the gigantic twin statues known as the Colossi of Memnon. And that's just the beginning—you'll also visit the temple of one of Egypt's rare female pharaohs as well as the Valley of the Kings, used as a royal burial place for nearly 500 years and where the mummified remains of Tutankhamen are on display.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Colossi of Memnon, Hatshepsut Temple and Valley of the Kings

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.

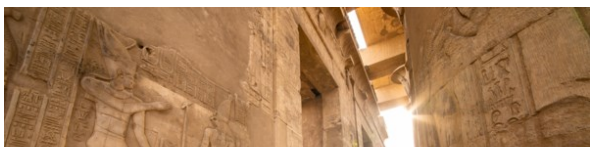
The Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri is another highlight today. One of Egypt's rare female pharaohs, Hatshepsut is considered by historians to have been one of the most successful rulers of ancient Egypt. Both the setting and the construction of her temple make it unique among the landmarks of Egypt; built into the face of steep cliffs at the basin, the temple is made of limestone instead of sandstone, unlike any other funerary temples of the New Kingdom period. Hatshepsut's successor, Thutmose III, attempted to remove her name from the temple, and many images of the queen were damaged or destroyed during his reign.

You'll also 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.

Return to the ship and set sail for Kom Ombo. Tonight, don your *galabeya* (traditional Egyptian attire, samples of which will be available for purchase onboard if you'd like to participate but didn't bring your own) for a festive onboard party featuring traditional Egyptian music.

Day 6: Kom Ombo, Cruising the Nile River, Aswan



After visiting a temple dedicated to a crocodile god today (don't miss the display of some of the 300 mummified crocs found in the local area), take a ride in



a *felucca*—a traditional Egyptian sailboat—and enjoy afternoon tea at a famous hotel depicted in Agatha Christie’s novel *Death on the Nile*.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Kom Ombo Temple

The Kom Ombo Temple, unlike most ancient Egyptian temples, 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.

Boat Ride in Traditional Nile River Felucca and Sunset Tea at the Old Cataract Hotel Aswan

Today you will sail serenely down the Nile 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. Later, relax over tea at the historic Old Cataract Hotel Aswan, 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*.

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

Dune Surfing & Swimming the Nile

€25 per person / US\$28 onboard

Add this tour onto today’s boat tour to experience the environment of the Nile from a different perspective. Start by surfing the sand dunes of the Aswan desert, then cool off from this thrilling adventure with a dip in the Nile River before riding a motorboat back to the ship. Please note: this excursion departs directly from the Life on the Nile Tour by Motorboat excursion. You must participate in the earlier excursion to be able to join this tour.

Day 7: Aswan



Today is an epic day, filled with wonders from start to finish. You’ll visit a marvel of modern engineering—the Aswan High Dam—as well as the Unfinished Obelisk and the beautiful Philae Temple complex, which was moved from one island to another back in the 1970s.



But wait, there's more. You'll also hop aboard a small boat for a bird-watching excursion along the Nile.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Aswan High Dam, Unfinished Obelisk and Temple of Isis

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 that of the Hoover Dam. You'll also visit the Unfinished Obelisk, commissioned by Queen Hatshepsut yet never completed due to a flaw discovered in the stone. If completed, it would have been the largest and heaviest obelisk ever attempted, weighing more than two million pounds (907,185 kilograms).

Another highlight today is the beautiful Philae Temple complex, originally situated on the island of Philae. It was painstakingly transferred to the island of Agilkia 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.

Note: Guests are welcome to climb around the Unfinished Obelisk, but please note the climb is physically demanding.

Life on the Nile Tour by Motorboat

After a scenic cruise to Aswan, take a small boat along the banks of the Nile on a bird-watching excursion. Watch out for colorful native birds, different species of herons, kingfishers, vultures, sunbirds and other wildlife that thrive in the marsh grass along the riverbanks.

Please note: We do not recommend that you pack binoculars in anticipation of this tour, as Egypt prohibits their use and may confiscate them at airport security. We'll be close enough to the wildlife to observe them without the need for additional tools.

Philae - Sound & Light Show

€55 per person / US\$60 onboard

While many visit Philae Temple to explore the during daylight hours, tonight guests will take advantage of an entertaining and educational option instead—the Philae Temple Sound and Light Show. In order to save the temple from the rising waters of the lake, a massive operation went underway to physically move the temple to higher ground, and today, Philae Temple stands on nearby Agilkia Island. This achievement in itself makes the area worth visit. When you see the temple standing today, it really is astounding to think than the entire complex was actually moved from one location to another. This magical show gives guests an approach to the island after sunset on the water. The lights of the temple and other buildings on the island reflect back from the surrounding waters, and when the show begins it is told by actors dramatically playing the roles of Isis and Osiris. Guests get to learn about the temple itself, and the history of the site, but they also learn a great deal about this popular story from the Ancient Egyptian lore. The show also uses special lighting and sound effects to add to the drama, sure to give an overall fascinating experience.

Day 8: Aswan, Cruising the Nile River, Edfu



Spend the day at leisure or join us for an optional excursion to see the magnificent temples of Abu Simbel.

Temples of Abu Simbel

€350 per person / US\$395 onboard

The Temples of Abu Simbel were constructed by King Ramses II—one of Egypt's most celebrated Kings. Built in 1244 B.C., Abu Simbel sat on the west bank of the Nile River for 3,000 years. In the 1960s, the entire temple complex was dismantled and rebuilt on a higher hill to accommodate Aswan High Dam—a remarkable effort co-operated by the Egyptian government and UNESCO. Today, the temples are still one of the most recognizable ancient sites in Egypt. From Aswan, you will take a short flight to Abu Simbel. Once arriving on site, your guide will give you a history of the temple. Afterwards, take time to marvel at the exquisite detail as you wander through the temples yourself. Don't forget to take pictures! You will then take a flight back to Aswan.'

Day 9: Esna, Cruising the Nile River, Luxor



On today's excursion, you'll 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.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Temple of Khnum

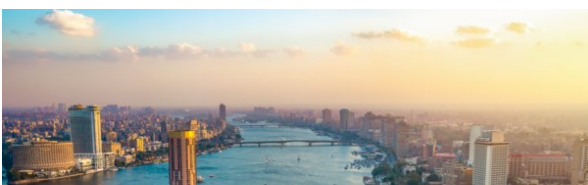
The Late Roman Temple of Esna lies on the west bank of the Nile about 34 miles (55 kilometers) south of Luxor. Buried under debris for many centuries, the temple is just a short walk from the ship through the local market. It dates from the Ptolemaic and Roman period (180 BC to AD 251) and is one of 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's 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. At the foot of this façade are the last known hieroglyphic inscriptions ever recorded in Egypt.

Day 10: Luxor (Disembark), Fly to Cairo



Disembark in Luxor and transfer to the airport for your return flight to Cairo. After checking in to your luxury hotel, you'll have time to relax on your own and explore Cairo at your leisure.

Day 11: Cairo



It's a day of Bucket List Moments today as we venture to see a number of amazing monuments—including the enigmatic Great Sphinx. You'll have a thrilling



opportunity to view the pyramids from an up-close perspective, the only way to fully appreciate their remarkable size and grandeur.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Pyramids at Giza, the Great Sphinx, and Sakkara Visit

At the Giza Necropolis, the face of ancient Egypt—the Great Sphinx—awaits your visit. With the body of a crouching lion and the head of a man, it is the largest monolith statue in the world. Experts believe that the Sphinx (known to the early Arabs as Abu al-Hol, “Father of Terror”) was built in the 26th century BC during Khafre’s reign, perhaps as a portrait of the pharaoh himself. Unfortunately, much of this monument has either eroded or been deliberately destroyed over the years. Some of its facial features are no longer intact, such as the beard and the nose—the latter of which was not shot off by Napoleon’s soldiers, as widely believed, but chiseled away many centuries earlier. A number of excavations in modern times have removed the sand that built up around the Sphinx over the centuries and kept much of it buried. Despite its timeworn condition, the Sphinx still kneels gracefully as it has for thousands of years, looking toward the east with an enigmatic smile.

Today you’ll also visit the only surviving Wonder of the Ancient World, the Pyramids of Giza. Beholding these legendary structures up close lets you appreciate their stone masonry and awe-inspiring architectural precision. Until as recently as the 19th century, the oldest and largest of the three pyramids—Khufu—was the tallest building in the world; when it was completed around the 26th century BC, it stood about 50 stories high.

You’ll also see the Step Pyramid of King Zoser (or Djoser) in nearby Sakkara, the oldest pyramid in the world and the prototype for all subsequent pyramids. The ancient architect and sage Imhotep initially designed the pyramid as a single story, then later added five more levels and covered the structure with a shell of fine limestone. In front of the pyramid, Imhotep built a stone structure containing a wooden box with two peepholes; peer inside and you’ll see a life-size painted statue of King Zoser. The peepholes were created to allow the king’s ka (life spirit) to communicate with the outside world.

A Night at the Bazaar

€40 per person / US\$45 onboard

The famous medieval marketplace that is the Khan el-Khalili Bazaar is a must-visit for travelers to Cairo. Made up of a seemingly endless system of tight alleyways overflowing with textiles, spices, lanterns, and more, you can easily spend hours here. Get the most out of your visit by going with a local guide, and cap off your evening at the bazaar by sitting for Egyptian tea at a local cafe.

Day 12: Depart Cairo



Check out of your hotel. If you have arranged a Uniworld departure transfer, you will be transferred to the Cairo International Airport for your flight home. Or, extend your trip with a memorable optional extension in Jerusalem or on the Red Sea.

Alexandria (Post)

€170 per person / US\$195 onboard

NOTE: Alexandria excursion requires an extra night stay. The duration of the excursion is split between approximately 4 hours in destination and 4 hours of driving in each direction.

Once the largest and most prosperous city in the world, Alexandria is a can't-miss destination for your Egypt tour. Embark on a sightseeing expedition to the Jewelry Museum and Pompey's Pillar. You will see the Catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa—one of the Seven Wonders of the Middle Ages. The Catacombs are the largest and most important burial site in Egypt and, due to the time period of its construction, contain Roman, Greek, and Egyptian artistic styles. You will also see Citadel of Qaitbay from the outside. Afterwards, you'll have lunch followed by time to yourself to explore Alexandria on your own.

NOTE: Alexandria excursion requires an extra night stay. The duration of the excursion is split between approximately 4 hours in destination and 4 hours of driving in each direction.

Optional Extensions

PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION

Jordan Pre-Cruise Extension

Included in your 6-day stay:

- 3 nights at The St. Regis Amman (or similar)
- 1 night at Al Manara, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Saraya Aqaba (or similar)
- 1 night at Palmera Camp, Wadi Rum (or similar)
- Breakfast daily, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- All service charges, taxes and portorage
- Explore Jordan—4 days of excursions
- Flight between Amman and Cairo
- Services of a local host/guide

Day to Day:

2026 Jordan Pre-Cruise/Tour Day to Day Overview ([click here for details](#))

Day 1: Amman

Arrive at Queen Alia International Airport. If you have arranged a Uniworld arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to The St. Regis Amman hotel for the night.

Day 2: Amman, Jerash (BB)

FEATURED EXCURSIONS: *Jerash Visit; MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences: Iraq al-Amir Women's Cooperative Visit; and Amman Panoramic City Tour*

After breakfast, you'll head off to the ancient city of Jerash, which has been inhabited since the Bronze Age. As one of the original 10 great Roman cities, Jerash is now the site of one of the best-preserved Roman provincial towns in the world. After being hidden for centuries in the sand and only uncovered in recent decades, Jerash features some of the finest examples of ancient Rome's colonnaded streets, hilltop temples, theaters, spacious public squares, and city walls.

Afterward you'll pay a visit to the Iraq al-Amir Women's Cooperative. This TreadRight Foundation-supported endeavor is where local women come together and share special skills with visitors, such as traditional weaving, paper making, ceramics, and soap making. Enjoy a lunch prepared by the local women.

Later, you'll embark on a panoramic tour of dynamic and multifaceted Amman that will take you past the Citadel, Archaeological Museum, Folklore Museum, and Roman Amphitheater. Marvel at the 6,000-seat, 2nd-century landmark that today is home to the majority of the city's cultural activities. Journey through the residential suburbs flanked by tree-lined avenues and white houses, then head into downtown for a look at traditional life. Your day then ends in Amman, where you will return to The St.

Regis Amman for the night.

MASTERPIECE COLLECTION*: *Jordanian Cooking Class*

Enter The Jordanian Kitchen in Amman for an interactive lesson on local cuisine led by a chef who is passionate about sharing home-style recipes. Develop a rich connection to the cuisine and culture of Jordan as you work with local ingredients to prepare traditional favorites such as *maqlubeh*, a fragrant dish of rice cooked with various vegetables, spices, and meat. At the end of your experience, you and your fellow guests will enjoy a delicious feast of the meal you prepared.

MASTERPIECE COLLECTION*: *Jordan River Wine Tasting*

Not only was Jordan River the first wine-tasting experience to be established in Jordan, it was also the first state-of-the-art winery in the country, reinvigorating a millennia-old viticultural tradition that has been lost for centuries. Enter their tasting room in the Boulevard, a trendy pedestrian district, where an expert will walk you through a series of pours and explain the unique basalt desert terroir of Jordan's vineyards. Each wine will also be paired with a light bite for an elevated tasting experience.

Day 3: Madaba, Amman, Aqaba (BB, L)

FEATURED EXCURSION: *Madaba Visit with Saint George Church and Mount Nebo and Dead Sea Visit*

Venture to one of the holiest sites of Jordan—Mount Nebo, where Moses was buried. Next up is a visit to Saint George Church, the home of the Madaba Mosaic Map. The map is the oldest surviving cartographic depiction of the Holy Land and Jerusalem. Only a quarter of the original map, which dates from the sixth century AD, still remains.

Next, we'll head to the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth. Jordan's coastline along the Dead Sea is one of the most miraculous natural and spiritual landscapes in the world and has enticed travelers for centuries. With a salinity of over 30%, the Dead Sea is so dense with salt that swimmers float naturally at the top of the water. If you'd like to experience this unique natural phenomenon for yourself, we suggest you bring a swimsuit with you on this outing.

Day 4: Aqaba, Wadi Rum (BB, L, D)

FEATURED EXCURSION: *Bedouin Jeep Tour of Wadi Rum Desert*

Today you'll venture to the coastal city of Aqaba, where you can spend your time exploring ancient sites, trying traditional food or shopping at local vendors. Later, you will travel to the Wadi Rum desert, where you will check-in, have dinner, and spend a night glamping under the stars at Palmera Camp Wadi Rum. Following check-in, climb aboard a Bedouin jeep for a tour of the Wadi Rum desert, a place seemingly untouched by the outside world. As you drive through a maze of canyons and rock-scapes, you'll uncover natural wonder after natural wonder among this sprawling wilderness.

MASTERPIECE COLLECTION*: *Stargazing Wadi Rum*

The view of the night sky from the Wadi Rum desert, so far from the light pollution of cities, is spectacular. On the best nights, countless stars and constellations fill the sky, and even the band of the

Milky Way can be visible. On this excursion to the Rum Sky Observatory, you'll get an even closer look at our galaxy through professional stargazing telescopes, accompanied by a fascinating astronomy lesson.

Day 5: Petra, Wadi Rum, Amman (BB)

FEATURED EXCURSION: “Rose-Red City” of Petra

Today, you'll explore the “Rose-Red City” of Petra, with its massive red mountains and vast mausoleums. Although much has been written about Petra, nothing truly prepares you for this astonishing city. You'll enter the city through the Siq, a narrow walkway that's flanked by colorful, towering cliffs on both sides. As you reach the end, you'll witness the stunning Al-Khazneh, one of the most intricate and iconic temples in the city. You'll then enter the indescribable Petra Valley, with its overwhelming natural beauty and outstanding architectural achievements—there are hundreds of elaborate rock-cut tombs with intricate carvings.

Day 6: Amman (CB/BB)

Today, you'll check out of your hotel and transfer to the Queen Alia International Airport for your flight to Cairo, where you'll embark on your Splendors of Egypt & the Nile cruise/tour.

*Masterpiece Collection are optional experiences that go above and beyond our daily selection of included excursions and can be booked for an additional fee. Select Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences can be pre-booked. Please note that requests to pre-book must be made by calling our Reservations Team no later than 6 days prior to departure and are subject to availability. Some venues are limited in the number of guests they can accommodate. Guests can book onboard (space permitting) and pay in USD. Pre-booked Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences are refundable up to 48 hours prior to the cruise/tour start date; if inside of 48 hours they are non-refundable. Select Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences require a minimum number of participants and are subject to cancellation (with full refund) if minimum is not met. Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences are non-commissionable. Prices are subject to change. Masterpiece Collection excursions may not operate if they occur on a holiday or if they require a minimum number of participants and that minimum is not met.

Extensions may not be offered on all departure dates—please check with our Reservations team for availability.

POST-CRUISE EXTENSION

The Red Sea Post-Cruise Extension

The Red Sea area is one of the best places in the world for diving, snorkeling and sea sports. Discover why on this post-cruise/tour extension to our Egyptian river cruises, during which you'll stay at a remarkably elegant resort in Sharm El Sheikh.

Please note: A local host will be with you throughout the itinerary to facilitate flights, excursions, hotel changes and any other needs guests may have.

Included in your 5-day stay:

- 3 nights at the Four Seasons Resort Sharm El Sheikh (or similar)
- 1 night at the Waldorf Astoria Cairo Heliopolis (or similar)
- Breakfast daily

- All service charges, taxes, and portorage
- Explore Saint Catherine’s Monastery, Dahab City, and Sea Scope Submarine
- Flights between Cairo and Sharm El Sheikh
- Services of a local host/guide

Day to Day:

2026 The Red Sea Post-Cruise/Tour Day to Day Overview ([click here for details](#))

Day 1: Cairo, Sharm El Sheikh

Upon your arrival at Sharm El Sheikh Airport, you’ll be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the Four Seasons Resort Sharm El Sheikh for the night. You’ll have the afternoon and evening to settle into your room and enjoy this elegant hotel at your leisure.

Day 2: Sharm El Sheikh (BB)

FEATURED EXCURSION: *A Visit to St. Catherine’s Monastery*

In a corner of the world suffused with sites of great historical and spiritual note, the Red Sea is certainly amongst the most significant. The Red Sea is best known for its place in the biblical story of Exodus, in which the prophet Moses is said to have parted the sea to aid the Jewish people’s escape from Egypt.

This area is also the site of the oldest working Christian monastery in the world, St. Catherine’s Monastery, which follows the Greek Orthodox tradition and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. St. Catherine’s was built around 550 CE at the foot of Mount Sinai, also known as *Jabal Musa* in Arabic, which translates to the “Mountain of Moses.” It is believed that Moses received the 10 Commandments in this very place.

After visiting the monastery, we’ll drive to Dahab, where you’ll have some free time to explore the city, shop and have lunch on your own at a local restaurant.

Day 3: Sharm El Sheikh (BB)

MASTERPIECE COLLECTION EXCURSION*: *Snorkeling the Ras Muhammad Reef*

Today is your opportunity to take full advantage of the luxurious amenities and experiences your hotel offers. The Four Seasons Resort Sharm El Sheikh is an Arabic-style oasis, perched on private beaches by the sea. Treat yourself to a spa service, dine at some of the many restaurants and bars available on the property or partake in a few of the exciting activities curated by the hotel—some of which take you into the water or off to the surrounding desert.

Alternatively, you can join us on an optional *Masterpiece Collection* experience to Ras Muhammed National Park, bookable with your local host for an additional cost. Ras Muhammed is the southeast point in Sinai Peninsula and is Egypt’s first national park. The vast majority of the park protects marine land, including the Red Sea Reef—our destination for today.

We’ll set off for a relaxing day of sailing and snorkeling. Crystal clear waters will give us the perfect viewing conditions for observing the 1000+ species of fish native to the area, in addition to approximately 150 varieties of coral.

Day 4: Sharm El Sheikh, Cairo (BB)

FEATURED EXCURSION: *Above and Below the Red Sea*

Explore the Red Sea and its famous coral reef without ever having to get wet by boarding a semi-submarine—a sea scope boat with both an upper deck for appreciating the scenery above-water and a lower deck for getting an up-close look at fish and coral in their natural environment.

After the excursion, we'll transfer to Sharm El Sheikh Airport for our flight to Cairo International Airport. Upon your arrival, a Uniworld representative will transfer you to your hotel, the Waldorf Astoria Cairo Heliopolis.

Day 5: Cairo (CB/BB)

This morning, check out of your hotel. If you have arranged a Uniworld departure transfer, you will be transferred to the Cairo International Airport for your flight home.

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