

FEBRUARY 18 – MARCH 2, 2023

Sophisticated
EGYPT
A PHARAONIC
DISCOVERY



VANDERBILT
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Alumni Association

EXPLORE THE NEW GRAND EGYPTIAN MUSEUM (GEM)

PLUS PRIVATE VISITS TO THE SPHINX PAWS & QUEEN NEFERTARI'S TOMB

JORDAN & PETRA PRELUDE • FEBRUARY 14 – 19, 2023 • *SIWA OASIS POSTLUDE* • MARCH 2 – 6, 2023

Sophisticated **EGYPT** A PHARAONIC DISCOVERY

Dear Vanderbilt Traveler:

The Alumni Association is pleased to offer another extraordinary journey to Egypt - this time with many new "firsts" in the program.

Among many highlights is a visit to the long-awaited Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM). Be one of the earliest visitors to the largest archaeological museum in the world dedicated to a single civilization.

Not far from the GEM, Vanderbilt travelers will have the exclusive chance to go "mano-a-mano" with the Sphinx with behind-the-scenes access to the Sphinx Paws. This puts you face to face with the famous Dream Stela of Pharaoh Thutmosis IV, telling the story of the king as a young boy falling asleep in the shadow of the Sphinx. Additionally, see the new Royal Mummies Hall at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization. Also featured is a private visit to Queen Nefertari's Tomb, considered to be the most beautiful of all Pharaonic tombs. Nefertari was Ramses II's favorite wife, and he ordered this tomb built to guarantee her eternal status.

The hotels selected for this program are extraordinary. Starting with the Four Seasons Nile Plaza on the banks of the Nile in Cairo, to the famous Sofitel Old Winter Palace in Luxor, and the incredible Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Hotel in Aswan built by the British in 1902. All exude an elegance and historical significance to enrich your experience.

This itinerary has been specially designed for Vanderbilt alumni to include the country's most iconic treasures as well as unusual and unique points of interest often overlooked by other programs. In Cairo, along with your special day of Pyramids & Sphinx touring in Giza, visit King Djoser's famous Step Pyramid at Sakkara and see select Old Kingdom Tombs. Stroll along famed El Moaz Street in the Khan el Khalili Bazaar in Islamic Cairo, past a cascade of stunning Islamic architecture. Take a leisurely three-night Nile cruise on the 5-star M/S Farah between Aswan & Luxor.

Enhance this program with a Prelude to Jordan featuring the long-lost, rose-colored city of Petra, and/or a Postlude to the Sahara's legendary Siwa Oasis, visited by Alexander the Great in 332 BCE when he searched for the Temple of Amun to be declared a God.

We look forward to having you join us on this spectacular journey of discovery through Egypt. Call **615.322.3673** or email us at alumni.travel@vanderbilt.edu to register for this program.

Sincerely,

Cary DeWitt Allyn
Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program

For more details: WWW.VUCONNECT.COM/TRAVEL
615.322.3673



VANDERBILT
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SOPHISTICATED EGYPT HIGHLIGHTS

Explore the new, much anticipated Grand Egyptian Museum GEM scheduled to open in November 2022

See the famous Dream Stela of Pharaoh Thutmosis VI hidden between the paws of the inscrutable Sphinx

Tour the Royal Mummies Hall in the newly minted National Museum of Egyptian Civilization

Stroll the streets of Old Cairo in the Khan el Khalili Bazaar with a dazzling array of beautiful Islamic architecture

Marvel at the granite sarcophagus of King Djoser located 100 feet below the center of the Step Pyramid

Stand in awe at the recently excavated and incredibly colorful Old Kingdom Tombs in the Sakkara Necropolis

Spend two nights each in Aswan and Luxor giving you a chance to deep dive into the richness of Egyptian history

Visit Queen Nefertari's Tomb in the Valley of the Queens considered to be the most beautiful of all Pharaonic tombs

Climb down into King Tutankhamon's Tomb in the Valley of the Kings as you walk in the footsteps of Howard Carter



EGYPT A PHARAONIC DISCOVERY • FEBRUARY 18 – MARCH 2, 2023

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18: DEPART USA

EN ROUTE

Depart USA on your overnight flight(s) to Cairo, Egypt.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19: ARRIVE CAIRO

FOUR SEASONS NILE PLAZA

Arrive Cairo. Meet & transfer to your elegant hotel located on the Nile River. Remainder of day at leisure.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20: CAIRO

FOUR SEASONS NILE PLAZA

Go “mano-a-mano” with the inscrutable Sphinx on a private visit to the paws of the giant man/beast that has puzzled men for generations. See the three Great Pyramids of Giza: Khufu, Khafre, & Menkaure. Your day ends at Sakkara touring King Djoser’s famous Step Pyramid and select Old Kingdom Tombs. Welcome to Egypt Dinner! (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21: CAIRO

FOUR SEASONS NILE PLAZA

Today is special as you visit the long awaited Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM)! See all of Egypt’s greatest Pharaonic treasures in their new home at the foot of the Giza Plateau. Stroll through the Khan el Khalili Bazaar in Old Cairo past the most beautiful Islamic architecture in the Middle East. See the new Royal Mummies Hall in the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization. (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22: CAIRO / ABU SIMBEL / ASWAN

SOFITEL LEGEND OLD CATARACT HOTEL

Morning flight to Aswan via Abu Simbel to visit the great temples of Ramses II and his favorite wife Nefertari, saved from inundation by the monumental efforts of UNESCO. Remainder of day at leisure. (B)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23: ASWAN

SOFITEL LEGEND OLD CATARACT HOTEL

Visit the excavations currently being conducted on Elephantine Island followed by a delightful felucca sailing excursion around Kitchener’s Island. Dinner this evening is at the famed 1902 Restaurant in your hotel. (B,D)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24: ASWAN / EMBARK NILE CRUISE

M/S FARAH NILE CRUISE

Morning at leisure. Embark your five-star Nile cruise boat at noon. This afternoon visit the Aswan High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk and Philae Temple. (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25: ASWAN / KOM OMBO / EDFU / LUXOR

M/S FARAH NILE CRUISE

Cruise to Kom Ombo and explore the temple shared by two gods, Sobek and Haroeris. Continue north to Edfu and the spectacular Temple of Horus, the best preserved of all Egyptian temples. (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26: LUXOR

M/S FARAH NILE CRUISE

Tour Karnak Temple with its massive hypostyle hall consisting of 134 columns. Continue to Luxor Temple with its famous Avenue of the Sphinxes. (B,L,D)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27: LUXOR / CAIRO / ALEXANDRIA

SOFITEL OLD WINTER PALACE

Travel to the West Bank of ancient Thebes to explore the Valley of the Kings and the tombs of King Tutankhamon, Seti I and Ramses VI. Marvel at the colorful columns at Medinat Habu Temple and see the giant Colossi of Memnon. (B)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28: LUXOR

SOFITEL OLD WINTER PALACE

Return to the West Bank for further exploration including the colorful Tombs of the Nobles where vivid wall paintings show scenes from everyday life. Visit the Valley of the Queen’s to see the spectacular tomb of Queen Nefertari, reputed to be the most beautiful of all Pharaonic tombs! Take a motorized felucca to lunch. (B, L)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1: LUXOR / CAIRO

INTERCONTINENTAL CITYSTARS

Return flight to Cairo. Afternoon at leisure. Farewell to Egypt Dinner! (B,D)

THURSDAY, MARCH 2: DEPART CAIRO

EN ROUTE

Morning return flight to the USA. Welcome home! (B)

PRELUDE JORDAN & PETRA *February 14 – 19, 2023*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14: Depart USA on your overnight flight(s) to Amman, Jordan.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15: Arrive Amman. Meet & transfer to hotel. **Fairmont Amman**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16: Morning visit to Jerash. Afternoon culinary walking tour of Amman. **Fairmont Amman** (B,L)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17: Take the King's Way to Petra via Madaba, Mt. Nebo, and Shobak Crusader Castle. **Movenpick Petra** (B,L)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18: Full day exploring Petra including hike or donkey ride to the Monastery. **Movenpick Petra** (B,L)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19: Return to Amman. Afternoon flight to Cairo. Meet and transfer to hotel. (B)

POSTLUDE SIWA OASIS *March 2 – 6, 2023*

THURSDAY, MARCH 2: Drive to Siwa Oasis. Stop at El Alamein & WWII Museum. **Adrere Amellal** (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, MARCH 3: Visit to the Temple of Amun and Cleopatra's Spring and Shali. **Adrere Amellal** (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MARCH 4: Explore the "Great Sand Sea", the Sahara Desert, by 4X4 vehicle. **Adrere Amellal** (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, MARCH 5: Return drive to Cairo. Final overnight. **InterContinental CityStars** (B, L)

MONDAY, MARCH 6: Morning return flight to the USA. Welcome home! (B)

EGYPT • A PHARAONIC PROGRAM: \$7,495 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$2,995

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INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED • GUIDANCE PROVIDED

Included in your program are:

- Accommodation in hotels and Nile Cruise as indicated with breakfast daily • All touring on a private basis including all entrance fees
- All transfers by private air-conditioned vehicles • Internal flights and Abu Simbel air excursion (rates listed separately) • Meals as indicated by (B), (L), (D), (R) B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner R=Reception • Meet & greet services at all airports for arrivals and departures
- All gratuities for guides, drivers, and porters • Luggage service for two pieces of luggage per person
- Services of a private hand-selected DAI Egyptologist throughout the program.

Not Included are:

- International airfare • Cost of Passports, visas, and departure taxes • Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone, internet/Wi-Fi, all drinks not mentioned in the itinerary, incidental expenses at the hotel and aboard the ship, etc. • Travel insurance (highly recommended).

Payment Schedule:

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There is no refund for a partially completed tour or for unused services of any kind.

TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED



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