

# SECRETS OF THE NILE

15 April 2020



**18 Day Fully Escorted Small Group Tour**



## SECRETS OF THE NILE ITINERARY April 2020

### WED 15 New Zealand - Abu Dhabi

Home pick-up from your front door. Meet fellow tour members prior to your departure flight to Abu Dhabi. Meals in-flight.

### THU 16 Abu Dhabi (B) (L)

On arrival in Abu Dhabi, you will settle into your hotel in the early morning. In the afternoon, you'll board a coach for a city tour to see the highlights and visit the Grand Mosque. In the evening, enjoy some free time for a leisure walk about the city and make your own arrangements for dinner.

### FRI 17 Abu Dhabi - Cairo (B) (L) (D)

After a mid-morning flight to Cairo, transfer to your superior class cruiser, the Mövenpick MS Sunray, moored on the Nile. Unpack just once before enjoying dinner onboard and music in the bar.

### SAT 18 Cairo (B) (L) (D)

After breakfast onboard, visit Coptic Cairo including the Hanging Church, Coptic Museum and Jewish Synagogue. After lunch onboard, the tour continues to the Egyptian Museum containing treasures from Egypt's ancient past, including the magnificent Tutankhamun collection. Enjoy dinner onboard and Takht music in the bar. Overnight in Cairo.

### SUN 19 Cairo (B) (L) (D)

Depart after breakfast to visit Giza, where the famous Pyramids stand as monuments to the Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt and the Great Sphinx which has kept its secrets for centuries. After lunch at a local restaurant, travel to Memphis and Saqqara, a vast ancient burial ground with the world's oldest standing step pyramid. Back onboard for a sumptuous dinner and Manager's Cocktail Party. Overnight in Cairo.

### MON 20 Cairo - Beni Suef (B) (L) (D)

Enjoy the beauty of the Nile whilst sailing from Cairo to Beni Suef. Enjoy local Egyptian wines at a tasting session. All meals served onboard today. Overnight in Beni Suef.

### TUE 21 Beni Suef - Minya (B) (L) (D)

Enjoy the scenery of the Nile and music in the bar whilst cruising to Minya. Overnight in Minya.

### WED 22 Minya (B) (L) (D)

After breakfast, visit the Tuna El Gebel, the necropolis of Khmun. Continue to Ashmunein to visit its open air museum, Temple of Thoth, and the Sanctuary of Amun. Return to the boat for lunch, then visit the rock tombs of Beni Hassan that are carved into the high limestone cliffs to the east bank of the Nile. This evening after dinner you will be treated to a Folkloric show. Overnight in Minya.

### THU 23 Minya - Asyut (B) (L) (D)

We set sail early while breakfast is served. We explore the Tel El Amarna site, once the city of Akhenaten, the Pharaoh known for his revolutionary religion that worshipped Aten. Back onboard, lunch is served as we sail to Asyut. We stop to view the Prince Tawdrous Monastery from the boat and learn of its importance. Dinner will be served onboard and you will enjoy dancing and games at a Galabeya party. Overnight in Asyut.

### FRI 24 Asyut - Sohag (B) (L) (D)

Today we sail for 8 hours enjoying the beautiful scenery along the way. After dinner, kick up your heels at the Black & White Party. Overnight in Sohag.

All in flight meals included.

(B) Breakfast

(L) Lunch

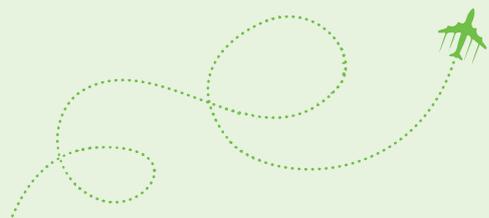
(D) Dinner

# SECRETS OF THE NILE

Sail from Cairo to Aswan and onwards down the Nile in waters less known to others. Be part of a fully escorted tour that few will experience due to limited sailings in this part of the Nile.

Unpack only once as we use the MOVENPICK Sun Ray River Cruise Boat as our 5\* floating hotel for the entire tour.

We will experience sights and sounds from the water's edge that are often missed when flying from Cairo to Aswan (where most travellers connect with their ship to sail the South part of the Nile).



## Trip Highlights

- THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM AND THE TUTANKHAMUN COLLECTION
- PYRAMIDS AND THE GREAT SPHINX
- ROCK-TOMBS OF BENI HASSAN
- TEL EL AMARNA, ONCE THE CITY OF AKHENATEN
- ABYDOS AND TEMPLE OF SETI I
- SAIL TO NAGA HAMMADI PASSING THROUGH BEAUTIFUL SCENERY ALONG THE NILE
- EAST AND WEST BANKS IN LUXOR
- ASWAN - HIGH DAM AND TEMPLE OF ISIS ON PHILAE ISLAND
- TOUR OF ABU SIMBEL (A MUST SEE)

### SAT 25 Sohag - Qena

(B) (L) (D)

Enjoy breakfast during an early morning sail to El Balyana. We visit the Abydos Temple, the holy city of Osiris God of the Dead. Continuing to the main monument of Abydos, The Temple of Seti I, built around 1300 BC by Seti and his son, Ramses II. It is especially notable for its fine reliefs, considered among the best of the New Kingdom. We return to the boat for lunch and set sail to Qena via Naga Hammadi Bridge, sailing through two locks and under the railway bridge to reach Qena. This evening after dinner, get your team together for Quiz Night. Overnight in Qena.

### SUN 26 Qena - Luxor

(B) (L) (D)

After breakfast we visit Dendarah Temple. This complex is one of the best preserved in Egypt. The duration of the day is spent relaxing while we sail to Luxor. You might like to participate in a traditional cookery lesson. After dinner enjoy a captivating Belly Dancer Show. We overnight in Luxor.

### MON 27 Luxor

(B) (L) (D)

After breakfast we visit the West Bank, to the Valley of the Kings. During Egypt's New Kingdom (1539-1075 B.C.), the valley became a royal burial ground for pharaohs such as Tutankhamun, Seti I, and Ramses II, as well as queens, high priests, and other elites of the 18th, 19th, and 20th dynasties. We also visit the dramatic rugged limestone cliffs that rise nearly 300m above the desert plain, beneath which lies a monument even more extraordinary, the dazzling Temple of Hatshepsut. We are welcomed by a local West Bank family for a cup of tea before returning to the boat for lunch. We have a relaxing afternoon on board followed by dinner and music in the bar. Overnight in Luxor.

### TUE 28 Luxor - Esna - Edfu

(B) (L) (D)

An early morning start to visit the East Bank. We start with Luxor Temple, largely built by the New Kingdom pharaohs Amenhotep III (1390-1352 BC) and Ramses II (1279-1213 BC). This temple is a strikingly graceful monument in the heart of the modern town. We also visit Karnak Temple, an extraordinary complex of sanctuaries, kiosks, pylons and obelisks dedicated to the Theban triad but also to the greater glory of pharaohs. The site covers more than two square kilometres, large enough to contain about ten cathedrals. Back on board we sail the afternoon away, enjoy the magnificent scenery and overnight in Edfu.

### WED 29 Edfu - Kom Ombo - Aswan

(B) (L) (D)

This morning we visit the Edfu Temple. This Ptolemaic temple, built between 237 and 57 BC, is one of the best-preserved ancient monuments in Egypt. With its roof intact, it is also one of the most atmospheric of ancient buildings. We then set sail to visit the Kom Ombo Temple, one of the Nile Valley's most beautifully sited temples. Unique in Egypt, the temple's twin dedication is reflected in its plan: perfectly symmetrical along the main axis of the temple. Enjoy the afternoon sailing to Aswan where we overnight.

### THU 30 Aswan

(B) (L) (D)

This morning we visit the High Dam and Philae Temple. In the afternoon we visit the Nubian Museum. The museum is a reminder of what was lost beneath Lake Nasser. Exhibits are beautifully displayed in huge halls, where clearly written explanations take you from 4500 BC through to the present day. We then experience the freedom of a felucca ride around the Aswan Islands and visit a local Nubian family for a cup of tea. Experience the delights of a Nubian show after dinner. Overnight in Aswan.

### FRI 1 MAY Aswan

(B) (A)

After breakfast we disembark and transfer to the Sofitel Legend, Old Cataract Hotel, before our tour of Abu Simbel (a must see). In the afternoon we will take an Old Cataract famous afternoon tea together as we approach our last night of the tour.

### SAT 02 Aswan - Cairo - New Zealand

(B)

It's time to say goodbye today as we hop onto the internal Airport transfer from Aswan to Cairo. We will arrive in time for our international flight connections home. This will be a great time to reflect on our amazing journey together and swap our contact details with the new friends we have made. Meals in-flight.





## Secrets of the Nile

### 18 Day Tour Includes

YOURTravel home pick up

Fully escorted by YOURTours Manager

International flights ex New Zealand

Luxury 5\* MOVENPICK Sun Ray Cruise Boat

Services of local Egyptologists throughout

Meals as per itinerary

Gratuities

Departs 15 Apr 2020

Price from \$10,985 p/p twin share

Single supplement \$2,663

**You are invited to join us on one of our fully escorted small group tours, with a maximum of 16 guests.**

We are based on the beautiful Kapiti Coast with our guests joining us from all corners of New Zealand. We believe you'll be pleasantly surprised by just how much we include in our tour price.

You can be reassured that your Tour Manager will always be one of our friendly well-experienced YOURTravel Team Members, ensuring you are looked after from start to finish.

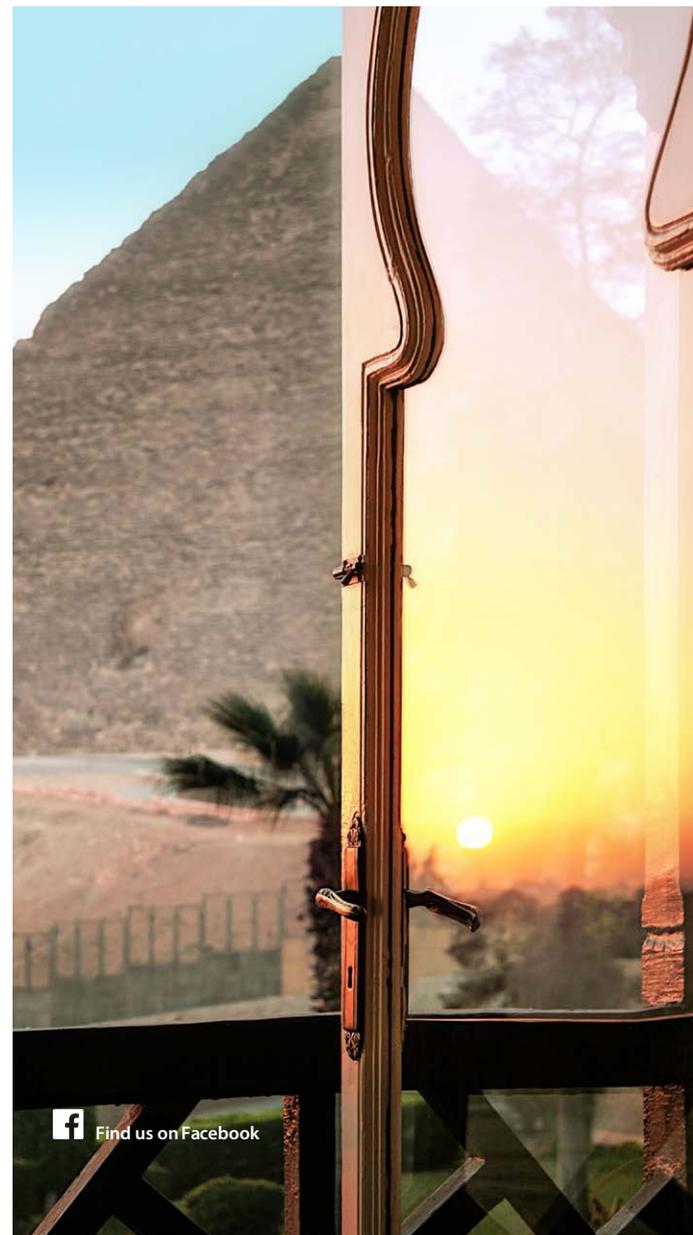
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