



CRUISE OF 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS - REF. 8NL_PP

Cruise on the Nile: The Land of the Pharaohs (port-to-port cruise)

LUXOR - EDFOU - KOM OMBO - ASWAN - ESNA - LUXOR

The cradle of all civilizations—ancient Egypt—has fascinated humankind forever. Since the dawn of time, explorers, diplomats, writers, and painters have used the fertile banks of the Nile as inspiration for their work. Even today, we still seek the answers to the mysteries found within the pharaohs' tombs. Over two thousand years of history are waiting for you on a cruise that promises exciting, spectacular, and unforgettable discoveries. Majestic temples, tombs, pyramids, and lively villages dot the Nile Valley landscapes from Luxor to Aswan. Wind down from your everyday grind and step way back in time on a cruise through Upper Egypt.

Favorite : Abu Simbel, the most impressive imprint left by Ramesses II(1)



CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the most beautiful sites in Upper Egypt: The Karnak Temple Complex, Luxor, Edfu, the Philae Temple Complex, and Kom Ombo
- Local boat tour around the island of Elephantine
- English teatime in a unique setting—taking you back to the golden age of the Nile
- THE MUSTS:
 - The Valley of the Kings and four of its tombs, including Seti I
 - The magnificent Philae Temple Complex
 - Sound and Light Show at the Karnak Temple(3)

CRUISE PROGRAM (8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS)



Day 1 : LUXOR

Boarding, dinner at the restaurant or a light meal in your cabin if you arrive late.



Day 2 : LUXOR - EDFU

Excursion included: The Karnak Temple Complex. Built over a span of 1,000 years, Karnak was one of the largest and most important religious complexes in ancient Egypt. The immense size of Karnak and its various details make it an invaluable historical site and resource for understanding the evolution of ancient Egypt. Our ship will begin to cruise to Edfu. We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.



Day 3 : EDFU - KOM OMBO

Excursion included: The Temple of Horus. Built between 237 and 57 BC, this temple is one of the best-preserved ancient monuments in Egypt. It was excavated in the mid-19th century after being buried under sand and rubble for hundreds of years.

We'll enjoy lunch on board as we continue to cruise towards Kom Ombo. We'll pass by Gebel el-Silsila, a major quarry site from the Eighteenth Dynasty of Egypt to Greco-Roman times.

Join us for a presentation on ancient Egypt.

In the evening, we'll visit the Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to the gods Sobek (the crocodile god) and Haroeris (Horus the Elder). By the late 1800s, much of the temple had been either destroyed by earthquakes, the waters of the Nile, or builders who took stones for other projects. It was cleaned and restored by Jacques de Morgan in 1893. The temple is unique because its dual design shows duplicated courts, halls, sanctuaries, and rooms for two sets of gods.

We'll enjoy an Egyptian-themed dinner and spend the night on board.



Day 4 : ASWAN

Excursion included: The Philae Temple Complex and photo op at the Aswan Dam. After the dam was finished in 1902, the temple complex was partially submerged. In 1960, UNESCO started a project to save the buildings. In the long run, every building was dismantled into units and then transported to a nearby island for reconstruction. The most ancient temple is dedicated to Isis and dates back to 380 BC. We'll visit the Aswan Dam, one of the largest dams in the world. It tames the Nile River and utilizes its power for a variety of reasons, most notably to provide electricity to the country. Since its construction, the dam has been able to control the annual flooding of the river and has allowed the installation of an irrigation system that helps produce two crops per year.

We'll have lunch on board.

Excursion included: Boat tour on the Nile and teatime in a fabulous setting. We'll board small local boats and enjoy a ride on the Nile, between the granite islands and natural reserves, passing close to the island of Elephantine. On Île Mango, step back in time and savor an authentic English teatime in a splendid setting. We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.



Day 5 : ASWAN - ESNA

Enjoy a morning on your own in Aswan. Some of our suggestions for sites to see are a visit to the Nubian Museum, a stroll through the small streets in the souk, or taking in the awesome view at the Old Cataract—where Agatha Christie wrote her famous novel, *Death on the Nile*.

Optional excursion: Abu Simbel.(1) Discovering these amazing rock temples is one of the highlights of any trip to Egypt. Located about 140 miles southwest of Aswan (230 km and three hours driving time), the complex is in the heart of the desert—at the border with Sudan—and is the most impressive imprint left by Ramesses II.

We'll return to the ship in Aswan. We'll have lunch on board.

We'll spend the afternoon cruising to Esna.

We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.



Day 6 : ESNA - LUXOR

We'll spend the morning cruising to Luxor. Join us for a presentation on modern Egypt.

Excursion included: The Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut—one of only a few women to officially serve as pharaoh—and **Tomb KV11**—one of the most intact tombs in the Valley of the Kings—built for Pharaoh Rameses III. The quality of the colors and the scenes represented on the temple walls make it one of the top tourist destinations in the valley.

Optional excursion: Sound and Light Show at the Karnak Temple Complex (you must register for this excursion at your travel agency before your departure).(3) We'll spend the night on board.



Day 7 : LUXOR

Optional excursion: Hot-air balloon ride over the Nile River Valley.(2) Watch the sun rise over one of the most impressive archaeological sites in the world.

Included excursion: The Valley of the Kings. Join us for a visit to the Valley of the Kings and four of its tombs, including the longest and deepest of the royal tombs built for Seti I. It was also the first tomb to feature decorations on every passageway and chamber with highly refined bas-reliefs and colorful paintings. When Giovanni Battista Belzoni first entered the tomb, the paint on the walls was still fresh looking, and some of the artists' paints and brushes were still on the floor. We'll also stop for a photo op at the Colossi of Memnon.

We'll have lunch on board.

Excursion included: The Luxor Temple, a strikingly graceful monument in the heart of the modern town. Its main function was during the annual Opet celebrations, when the statues of Amun, Mut, and Khonsu were reunited during the flooding of the river.

We'll have dinner and spend the night on board. Enjoy a show of traditional Egyptian entertainment.



Day 8 : LUXOR

Enjoy breakfast on board (or a takeaway bag in case of an early morning departure).

This offer includes

Your cruise in the cabin of your choice - your cruise with all meals from dinner on the first day to breakfast on the final day - all visits and excursions mentioned in the program (except for the optional excursions) - the assistance of English-speaking Egyptologists for all visits - the services of our CroisiEurope cruise director on board - drinks at all meals (mineral water + 1 soft drink or 1 beer* or 1 glass of wine* + 1 tea or coffee per person at each meal) - travel assistance and repatriation insurance - all port fees.

This offer does not include

Transfers to/from departure/arrival points - Egyptian visa - cancellation and baggage insurance - optional excursions - tips.

Transport

Port-to-port cruise without transfers

Formalities

For French, Swiss, and Belgian nationals: Passport that is valid for 6 months after your date of return, with at least three side-by-side pages free of any markings and mandatory Egyptian visa.

Egyptian visa information: You must apply for your Egyptian e-visa before you arrive in the country. You can do this yourself directly through the government website: <https://visa2egypt.gov.eg/eVisa/>

For other nationalities: Please consult the competent authorities (consulate/embassy) before your trip.

THE CROISIEUROPE DIFFERENCE

- All meals included - **DRINKS INCLUDED** with meals
- **Refined local cuisine**
- Headsets are included for excursions
- Official welcome from the captain and crew
- Tour leader or cruise director on board
- Onboard **activities** and/or **lectures**
- Travel assistance and repatriation insurance
- All port fees included

USEFUL INFORMATION

PRECAUTIONS

Vaccines are not mandatory for this trip. It is nevertheless advisable to be up to date with the following vaccinations: tetanus, polio, hepatitis A and B, diphtheria and typhoid fever. The use of mosquito repellent is highly recommended.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

The official currency in Egypt is the Egyptian pound (symbolized as E£).

For the current exchange rates, please consult websites such as www.xe.com or www.onada.com/currency/converter.

There are ample bank machines available, and they accept credit or debit cards to withdraw cash. We recommend not using credit or debit cards in the bazaars.

WEATHER

The climates vary from region to region. Cairo and its surroundings are considered semi-arid, while the south is a desert climate.

Spring is brief in Egypt, and summer arrives quickly between March and May. Temperatures can change swiftly between 68° and 95° F (20° and 35° C) over a full day.

From the end of September to the end of November, temperatures vary between 77° and 95° F (25° to 35° C) from the north to the south of the country, with the sun still shining brightly.

In the winter months—from December to the end of February—we recommend a warm coat for Cairo, although Luxor and Aswan usually remain balmy.

TIME DIFFERENCE:

You can consult www.worldtimezone.com to see the time difference between your home and your destination.

MENTIONS

These cruises and tours are not recommended for persons with reduced mobility. There are no elevators on the ship, and many tours and visits are done on foot.

The ship is not a part of the CroisiEurope fleet.

(1) The Egyptian government can decide to close the roads to the Abu Simbel site at any time. Departure for the Abu Simbel excursion takes place very early in the morning. You must reserve this excursion before you leave for your cruise.

(2) The balloon ride will be at either sunrise or sunset, depending on the weather. Reservations can only be made on board.

(3) The sound and light show is in English. You must reserve this excursion before you leave for your cruise.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION :

- For the safety of our passengers, the captain and crew of the boat may decide to modify the navigational itinerary.
- The excursions may be modified or reversed for technical requirements or in case of cultural events... Please note that Egyptian authorities can unexpectedly close certain sites or museums. If this occurs, we will propose an alternative.
- The excursions will take place by either air-conditioned coaches or small local boats.
- The excursions are guided by an English-speaking Egyptologist. Passengers are equipped with audio guides for more comfort during the visits.
- Certain places we will visit have very high levels of security. We cannot be held liable for any unforeseen closings, but we will commit to doing our best to ensure comparable substitute excursions.
- Frequent traffic jams in Luxor and Cairo caused by intense traffic or religious events can disturb the sequence of certain excursions.
- If necessary, the itinerary, stopovers or visits may be modified by the cruise company or our local representatives
- There is no heating on board.
- In Egypt, it is customary to cover your shoulders, head and knees while visiting religious sites.

*Alcohol can be dangerous to your health. Please drink in moderation.

EXCURSIONS

Day 5

1 Excursion (s)



Abu Simbel *(Optional)*

Classic



Day 6

1 Excursion (s)



Sound and Light show at the Karnak Temple Complex *(Optional)*

Classic

