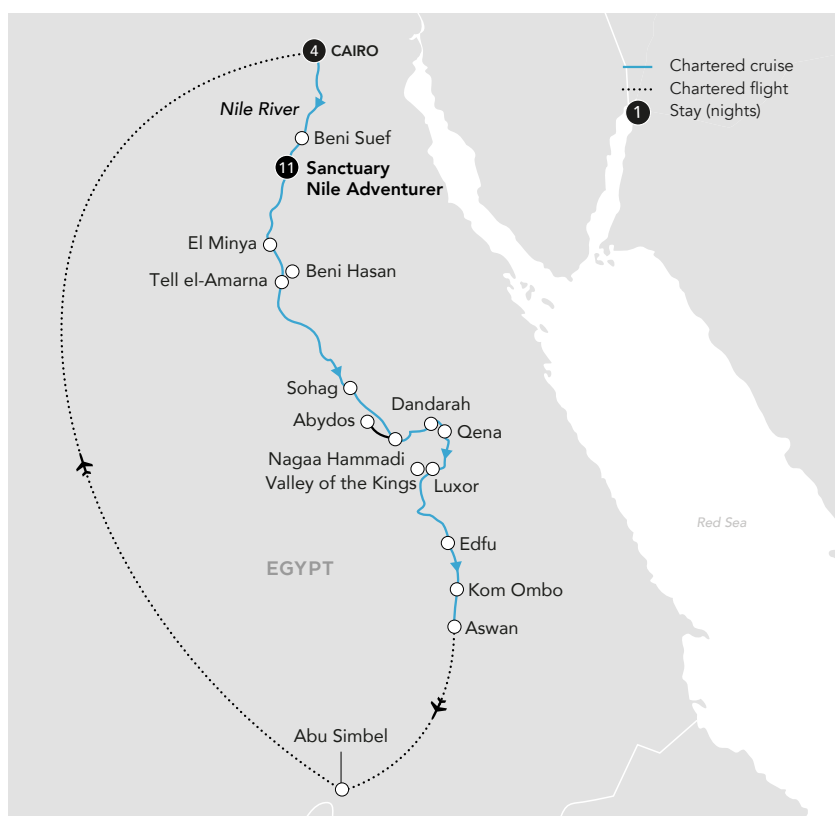


A JOURNEY OF THE GODS

Granted passage along the storied River Nile, we make our home aboard the privately chartered Sanctuary Nile Adventurer. During our in-depth discovery, we come face to face with a curated collection of Egypt's most fascinating and ancient treasures. Our voyage conveniently begins in Cairo and charts a course navigated by only the most seasoned Egyptologists. This discovery takes place for no more than 55 guests.



A JOURNEY OVERVIEW

Cairo - El Minya - Tell el-Amarna -
Sohag - Luxor - Edfu - Aswan -
Abu Simbel - Cairo

16 Day River Cruise & Private Plane
Departing 26 September 2027

Day 1 Cairo

We touch down in Cairo and are led to The St. Regis Cairo, where views of the Nile River abound.

Day 2 Cairo

Cairo is a curated collection of Egypt's most fascinating treasures. Today, we travel back in time to the Old Kingdom, paying homage to the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx that guards the tomb complex. The oldest of the world's seven wonders, the three pyramids were built for the pharaohs Khufu, Khafre and Menkaure. Inside the Chephren Pyramid, built for Pharaoh Khafre, we are afforded unique insight into the construction of the pyramids. Among other sights in the two known chambers is a rare black granite sarcophagus. Away from the tourist crowds, and joined by our Egyptologist, an irreplaceable experience then awaits us. We are granted exclusive access to the feet of the Sphinx where the Dream Stela of Thutmose IV lies.

We then make our way to the new Grand Egyptian Museum. An undertaking of truly epic proportions, the museum features some of Egypt's most iconic artefacts, including the Mask of Tutankhamun and the statue of Ramses II.

Choose where to dine this evening, with many gastronomic delights on offer within our hotel's restaurants.

Day 3 Cairo

A collection nearing 120,000 artefacts is on display in the Egyptian Museum, and before doors are open to the public, we take a private tour of the exhibits. Among towering statues and delicate jewels, we uncover treasures found in the tomb of Tutankhamun, as well as a room containing several royal mummies – the most famous of which being that of the prolific builder Pharaoh Ramses II.

We are then escorted to the Cairo Citadel. Home to Egypt's rulers for some 700 years and a monument to medieval warfare, the fortress houses several unique mosques and palaces. Should it be a clear day, we may be able to see the Pyramids of Giza from certain vantage points. Our afternoon in Cairo is spent weaving between stalls at the Khan el-Khalili bazaar, where dried thyme and bowls of hazelnuts decorate brightly coloured shopfronts.

Day 4 Embark Sanctuary Nile Adventurer

This morning, we stand before the Sakkara Step Pyramid, not only the first pyramid built by the Egyptians, but also the country's oldest stone structure. Not far from here, we arrive at Memphis, the first capital of ancient Egypt, to marvel at its impressive ruins.

We then make our way to the port to meet our luxuriously appointed Nile River vessel, Sanctuary Nile Adventurer. The contemporary decor and distinctive Egyptian style of our graceful river ship enhance an already captivating onboard experience.

An appetising lunch is prepared by the ship's onboard chefs. Later, meet our boat manager and crew during a cocktail reception, while savouring some regional wine and beer. A lavish dinner is then served in the ship's elegant dining room.

Our ship remains docked in Cairo tonight and we retire to our comfortable cabins.

Day 5 Beni Suef

We begin our voyage from the capital, enjoying the rare opportunity to cruise this less-frequented section of the river. Perhaps bid farewell to Cairo from your position poolside, as we raise our anchor and prepare to depart. The first leg of our voyage sees us cruising south to the city of Beni Suef. Take advantage of our ship's amenities, relaxing on deck and taking in the Nile River views. Gentle lapping sounds of the Nile offer us a unique lullaby as we dock overnight in Beni Suef.

Day 6 El Minya

We spend the day aboard on our own schedule while cruising further south. You may like to mingle with your fellow travellers in our vessel's stylish lounge. Venture up to the sun deck for a relaxing swim in the pool, perhaps followed by a drink while taking in the views along the lounge bar terrace. This evening, a gourmet dinner is served and we overnight along the shores of El Minya, its nearby lights dazzling in reflection upon the water.

Day 7 Beni Hassan

This morning, we reach neighbouring Beni Hassan. It is here that the richest and best-preserved Middle Kingdom tombs can be found. Carved high into the limestone cliffs of the Nile's east bank, the tombs were built for the state's provincial rulers. Four of the 39 tombs are open to visitors. Inside, their walls portray scenes of the rulers and their families, involved in everyday activities from hunting and fishing, to weaving and crop gathering. Depictions of several historical battles can also be seen here.

Sanctuary Nile Adventurer welcomes us back on board. This afternoon, take the opportunity to advance your culinary repertoire with an Egyptian cooking lesson aboard our vessel. This evening, we enjoy an Egyptian-themed dinner and galabaya party.

Day 8 Tell el-Amarna

The buried city of Tell el-Amarna rests along a stretch of the east bank. A sense of the uncanny pervades this desolate landscape, strewn as it is with the ancient tombs of rulers and nobles. It was here that the one-time pharaoh, Akhenaten, denounced Egypt's polytheistic system of worship, declaring instead that Aten, the sun disc, be exalted as the one true god. Akhenaten was dubbed 'the heretic king' for this stance – as well as for his earlier decision to move the capital from Thebes – and his opponents did their best to erase him from history. Upon his death, the city was destroyed and abandoned.

Following our survey of Tell el-Amarna, Sanctuary Nile Adventurer welcomes us back on board. We enjoy lunch aboard our vessel as we depart for the city of Sohag. A delicious selection of pastries and fresh fruit is also at hand during afternoon tea, while a gourmet dinner is served within the ship's stylish dining room this evening.

Day 9 Sohag

Today we discover the Red and White monasteries, which date back to the earliest period of Christian monasticism. Named for their respective red brick and white limestone construction, these churches house significant sculptures and paintings created between the fifth and fourteenth centuries. Following our explorations here, we return to our luxury vessel to nourish ourselves with the delicious creations of its award-winning chefs. Our ship remains docked in Sohag this evening.

Day 10 Abydos

The nearby holy city of Abydos, dedicated to Osiris, god of the afterlife and underworld. It's said that while facing Osiris, one's heart was presented upon a set of scales, to be weighed against the feather of Maat, goddess of truth and justice. If the heart weighed the same as the feather, that person was deemed to have been virtuous and achieved their immortality. If not, the soul would not be permitted to proceed into the afterlife. While here, we also learn of the many pre-dynastic kings and pharaohs who were buried in this city, as far back as 4,000 BC.

Day 11 Dandarah, Luxor

Hathor, the Egyptian goddess of beauty and love, is often depicted in ancient sculptures and paintings as a woman with a cow's head, or as a cow in its entirety. We see some of these images today at her temple in Dandarah. Enjoy lunch and afternoon tea as we sail toward Luxor. Our Egyptologists are eager to guide us along the east bank, where we find the striking Luxor Temple, built for the king of gods, Amun. Share your highlights of the day during this evening's dinner.

Day 12 West Bank, Karnak Temple

Our morning is spent at the Valley of the Kings, richly decorated with carvings and bursting with treasures for generations of pharaohs to use in the afterlife. We continue to the Valley of the Queens, and a temple built for ancient Egypt's only female pharaoh, Hatshepsut. On the way back to the ship, we also pass by the two seated figures of the Colossi of Memnon. These striking stone statues, built in honour of Pharaoh Amenhotep III, have survived the earthquakes and floods that destroyed the pharaoh's mortuary complex. Each statue weighs around 700 tons. We then proceed to the revered temple complex of Karnak, arriving at its most sacred spot, the Precinct of Amun-Ra, dedicated to the god of gods.

The rest of our day is dedicated to dining aboard our floating hotel, with lunch, afternoon tea, and a gourmet dinner. This evening, we are also treated to belly dancing and dervish performances.

Day 13 Edfu, Kom Ombo

We discover Edfu Temple, the largest pharaonic temple in Egypt. It remains completely preserved and is dedicated to Horus, the hero of the popular Osiris myth. After exploring the temple this morning, we sail farther downstream to Kom Ombo. Resting on a bend in the Nile, the Temple of Kom Ombo was built to worship the crocodile god, Sobek, as the cold-blooded creatures were seen to frequent the warm riverbank. We return to our boat for dinner and a relaxed evening, as we sail onward to Aswan, where we dock later this evening.

Day 14 Agilika, Aswan

After breakfast this morning, we are whisked toward the island of Agilika aboard a private motorboat. Here, the Philae Temple honours one of the most influential deities in ancient Egypt – Isis, the goddess of healing. At the nearby Granite Quarries, we see an unfinished obelisk laying curiously buried in the ground. We then visit a Nubian village, whose friendly residents trade in a variety of spices and handicrafts. Another striking aspect of the village is its brightly coloured mudbrick homes. A gala dinner is served aboard our river ship by white-gloved waiters this evening.

Day 15 Disembark Sanctuary Nile Adventurer, Abu Simbel, Cairo

We bid farewell to our ship's captain and crew and transfer to the airport. From here, a swift charter flight soon lands us in the fascinating town of Abu Simbel, where an exploration of the Temple of Ramses II awaits. The walls of the temple depict the epic Battle of Kadesh, which pitted Ramses' army against the Hittites. This afternoon, we rejoin our chartered aircraft for the return to Cairo, where we enjoy a final evening and Farewell Dinner.

Day 16 Cairo

Today we are transferred to Cairo airport. Having been enlightened by the revelations of Egypt's history, culture and gods, we return home.