



2012 Cruise Companion and Shore Excursions

Egypt



Dear Valued Traveler,

Welcome to Uniworld Boutique River Cruises. We want to do everything we can to ensure you have the most enjoyable and worry-free vacation possible.

With that in mind, we have prepared this booklet for you, so you can plan your trip with the greatest of ease. Consider it a guideline to help you get ready for your upcoming trip. It contains valuable tips and advice on what to pack, your flight and transfer experience, onboard information, day-to-day details, and much more.







Thank you for selecting Uniworld Boutique River Cruises. We look forward to hosting you onboard our beautifully appointed ships and making your vacation the most memorable and enjoyable experience possible.

Sincerely,
The Uniworld Team

Symbols and Icons


In the following pages, you will find these symbols to help guide you through the daily excursions. You will get an idea of the pace of the excursions; you will find out if meals are provided; and you will learn about any special activities, such as wine tastings, museum visits, or concerts.


Uniworld Signature Icons


	Embark/Disembark		Felucca
	Motorcoach	CB/BB	Continental/Buffer Breakfast
	Flight	L	Lunch
	Museum Visit	D	Dinner
	Performance		

Shore Excursion Symbols

All tours involve walking unless strictly noted as a panoramic tour. In many cases, the walking takes place over uneven ground, or cobblestone or flagstone walkways, and more than a few tours involve stairs or short uphill climbs. We strongly recommend that our guests wear comfortable, non-skid walking shoes while on all of our tours. The symbols below are provided alongside each tour to give you an idea of what to expect on each program.







 Easy walking throughout tour, including walking 15 minutes or less from multiple motorcoach stops to, and while in, historical sights. Possibly some steps or gentle uphill and downhill walks.

 Intermediate activity, including walks of up to two hours on uneven terrain. Limited seating at sites. Multiple stairs and/or uphill/downhill walking.

 Most strenuous activity with a combined walking duration at all sites of up to two and a half hours. Many stairs and uphill/downhill passages. Those with physical limitations and those who may need assistance with private arrangements need to contact the Cruise Manager when onboard.

Tour Duration Symbols

Each tour varies in length. The darkened areas of the symbols indicate approximate tour duration.

	¼ Day AM		¼ Day PM		¾ Day
	½ Day AM		½ Day PM		Full Day

Cruise Companion

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Cruise Companion

Helpful Hints Before You Go

Travel Documents

Passports: All Uniworld river cruise/tours require a passport. In most cases, passports must be valid for six (6) months after the scheduled return date from the trip. Some itineraries will require visas. Each guest is fully responsible for obtaining and carrying the travel documents necessary for his or her travel itinerary. Uniworld will not be responsible for any delays, damages and/or losses, including missed portions of your trip, related to improper travel documents.

Visa requirements for this itinerary for US and Canadian citizens can be found on page 17 or on the Uniworld website, uniworld.com, in the “Before You Go” section. Non-US or non-Canadian citizens must contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their particular trip. Uniworld provides information on our website for obtaining the required visa through Zierer Visa Service as a courtesy only.

Passenger Information Form: By now, you should have completed the Uniworld Passenger Information Form. The information on this form is used to comply with certain foreign government and airline security restrictions in advance of your arrival onboard our ships. If you have completed this form, we thank you for your prompt attention. If you have not completed this form, please visit our website at uniworld.com and complete the online Passenger Information Form in the “Before You Go” section. Each guest must complete the form.

Travel Protection Plan: Uniworld strongly recommends that all guests purchase a travel protection plan and carry all policy information with them during the course of their trip.

Cruise Documentation

Uniworld sends all final cruise and air documents between 21 and 30 days prior to your trip departure, provided that Uniworld has received a completed and signed Passenger Information Form and your booking is paid in full. All documents are sent via a priority mail delivery service, such as UPS or Federal Express.

Final Documentation Includes:

- Cruise/Tour Ticket
- Passenger Ticket Contract (which is binding on each guest)
- Airline Tickets or E-ticket Confirmation (if international air ticket was purchased from Uniworld)
- Cruise and Tour Companion
- Baggage Tags
- Leave-behind Communication Card
- Travel Protection Plan Pamphlet (if Uniworld travel protection was purchased)
- Pre-/Post-cruise Optional Extension Information (if trip extension was purchased)

Baggage Limitations

Airline baggage restrictions change frequently, and each guest needs to check with his or her specific air carrier for limitations concerning baggage weight, baggage size, carry-on regulations, and excess baggage or overweight charges. This information can be found on the carrier's website. The maximum weight limit allowed for baggage on domestic flights from Cairo to Luxor and Cairo to Amman is 43 pounds (20 kg). Remember to check for both international (over the water) and domestic (intracontinental) regulations, since limitations differ depending on flight routings. Overweight or excess baggage charges vary, and guests who exceed an airline's recommended limits may be asked to pay fees ranging from \$25 to \$80 US Dollars (USD), or possibly more, per infraction.

Onboard the ships and motorcoaches, storage space is very limited. Therefore, for your comfort and convenience on the cruise as well as on pre- or post-cruise land stays, we ask that you bring one (1) suitcase per person and one (1) carry-on bag per person (excluding purses). Please note there may be a fee assessed on-site for excess baggage.

Keep an eye on your baggage and all personal belongings; they are your responsibility throughout the trip. Uniworld is not responsible for loss, theft, or damage to baggage and personal belongings. A Travel Protection Plan covering lost, stolen, or damaged baggage is highly recommended.

Travel Essentials

The following items are essential for any destination: comfortable walking shoes, sunglasses, sunscreen, a hat, an umbrella, and a lightweight raincoat or outerwear garment appropriate to the seasonal weather conditions. It is recommended that you bring duplicates of prescription eyewear, copies of prescriptions for any medications, copies of credit card information, and copies of passport information pages. Make sure that your baggage has identification tags both inside and outside, with your contact information and address clearly marked. Do not pack valuables in your checked baggage. You should carry these or important medications with you in your carry-on baggage. Please contact your air carrier for any additional regulations.

Health and Mobility

Physical Limitations: Uniworld trips are exciting, relatively active vacations. While there will be plenty of time to relax, there will also be much to see and do. Your included excursions generally require an extensive amount of walking, as well as the navigation of numerous steps and fairly difficult terrain. Guests with physical limitations will find access to sites

generally restricted. For your safety and enjoyment, we recommend all guests be in good physical condition. In addition, river ships, while spacious and elegant, are not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and most do not have elevators. Uniworld, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to refuse passage to passengers whose state of health or physical condition may preclude safe travel.

Medical: Should you need medical attention, it will be provided at local facilities at your own expense. Uniworld is not responsible for any cost incurred as a result of medical service or for the quality of medical care received. A Travel Protection Plan covering medical expenses is highly recommended.

Special Diets: Please advise us of any special dietary restrictions in advance of your departure. This information will be provided to the proper personnel. To the extent possible, and in consideration of local conditions, every effort will be made to accommodate your needs. It is the guest's responsibility to provide us with as much detail as necessary concerning any medically related dietary concerns. Not all dietary requests can be accommodated, and we appreciate your understanding in this matter.

General Money Matters

ATMs: ATMs connected to bank networks such as PLUS or Cirrus are widely available in most major metropolitan areas in airports, city centers, and, in some instances, hotels. Fees for transactions vary. ATMs are not available onboard the ships. Your bank can tell you which network your ATM card can access and whether a debit or credit card must be used. Make sure you have the correct PIN for the card you plan to use before leaving home, as the PIN is required for all money withdrawals. It is also recommended that you bring an overseas contact number for your bank or credit card company in case you require assistance while traveling.

Credit Cards and Travelers Checks: Most major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express) are accepted worldwide. There may be some stores or locations where cash is preferred or where a particular credit card cannot be used for purchases. We recommend bringing at least one major credit card, as well as an ATM card that is both a debit and credit card, and, if you wish, travelers checks in small denominations. With travelers checks, it is always a good idea to bring your receipt of purchase for your travelers checks with you and to carry it separately from the checks. Please note that travelers checks are not generally accepted as local currency and usually incur a fee when being exchanged into cash. It is also becoming

increasingly difficult to cash them at local banks. On the *River Tosca* and the *Prince Abbas*, Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are all accepted but will incur extra bank charges for transactions, which will be your responsibility.

Please contact your bank and/or credit card companies to let them know that you will be leaving the country to avoid any problems using your credit card(s) overseas.

Getting There

Airport Security and Check-In

It is advisable to contact the airline in advance of your departure to verify that there have been no changes to the flight number or schedule found on your travel documents. After your travel documents are issued and sent to you, Uniworld is not responsible for notifying guests of any changes in flight schedules.

Please make sure you arrive at the airport at least two and a half (2.5) hours prior to scheduled departure to complete check-in and security procedures. For peak travel times, you may even want to arrive three (3) hours prior to your scheduled departure time.

Transfers

Airport Arrival Transfers: If your cruise/tour package includes a group arrival transfer (and your flights coincide with our transfer guidelines), you will be greeted at the Cairo airport by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the hotel. You will be met inside the secure customs area. Please claim all of your baggage before exiting the baggage claim area. Please refer to the visa section of this brochure for entry requirements for Egypt. Transfers will be arranged only for passengers who booked their extra accommodations through Uniworld.

Please note that transfers are non-refundable. There may be a waiting period for scheduled airport transfers, depending on groupings of flight arrivals. This wait can be up to two (2) hours. Uniworld will not be responsible for late arrivals or missed transfers due to delayed, changed, canceled, or missed flights; for missed cruise/trip days; or for extra costs resulting from delayed, changed, canceled, or missed flights.

In accordance with Uniworld's recommended transfer time guidelines, all guests making their own flight arrangements are required to provide Uniworld with their flight information and pre-trip arrangements no later than 45 days prior to departure in order to receive transfers. For complete details, please see the Terms and Conditions section of our current brochure or our website, uniworld.com.

Guests who have purchased extra nights with hotel stays will be provided private transfers as part of the extra night purchase.

If your cruise/tour package does not include transfers (i.e., for flights outside of Uniworld's recommended transfer time guidelines or if flight details have not been communicated to Uniworld in time), then please make your way to the hotel as per your trip itinerary at your own expense.

Airport Departure Transfers: If your cruise/tour package includes a group departure transfer (and your flights coincide with our transfer guidelines) or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight home.

In accordance with Uniworld's recommended transfer time guidelines, all guests making their own flight arrangements are required to provide Uniworld with their flight information and pre-trip arrangements no later than 45 days prior to departure in order to receive transfers. For complete details, please see the Terms and Conditions section of our current brochure or our website, uniworld.com.

Guests who have purchased extra nights with hotel stays will be provided private transfers as part of the extra night purchase.

If your cruise/tour package does not include transfers (i.e., for flights outside of Uniworld's recommended transfer time guidelines or if flight details have not been communicated to Uniworld in time), then please make your way from the hotel as per your trip itinerary at your own expense.

Cruise/Tour-only Guests and Guests with Independent Arrangements

Arrangements: Cruise/tour-only guests may join Uniworld's group transfers for the cruise/tour start and end dates. However, independent flight arrangements must be made in accordance with Uniworld's recommended transfer times and must be provided to Uniworld no later than 45 days prior to departure. Hotel rooms will be available as per designated check-in times.

Late Flight Arrivals/Missed Flights: If your package includes a Uniworld arrival transfer and you experience a flight or travel delay of any kind, please adhere to the following instructions.

Advise an airline representative at the airport that you are a cruise passenger destined for sailing that day or the following day. Typically airlines are able to arrange alternative flights for passengers to continue with their travel to the point of embarkation.

Upon clearing customs in Cairo, look for the Uniworld representative outside the customs area. Depending on the nature of the delay, Uniworld's ground staff can at times track flight changes. If your flight arrangements were drastically altered, it is unlikely that the ground staff will be notified of your specific flight changes in time. And due to security protocols enacted post September 11, 2001, airlines very rarely provide updated flight information to third parties in such cases.

If you cannot find the Uniworld representative, please contact the Transfer Provider. Their contact information is shown in the transfer section of your Cruise/Tour ticket. If unable to match you up with a scheduled group transfer, the Transfer Provider will ask you to make your own way to the ship or hotel at your own expense. Costs incurred due to missed transfers are the responsibility of the guest; and in most cases, compensation can be obtained from your Travel Protection Plan provider or airline carrier.

If your delay is serious enough that you miss the starting point of the hotel stay or cruise, you will need to get to the hotel or the next stop on the ship's itinerary at your own expense. Please contact the Transfer Provider, using the number on your Cruise/Tour ticket, for the exact location of the group and/or ship on your revised date of arrival. The representative will advise you of the best course of action. Uniworld is not responsible for missed transfers or additional costs incurred in getting to the next destination due to missed or delayed flight arrangements.

Baggage Delays: Baggage delays do unfortunately occur from time to time, especially during peak travel periods. First and foremost, do not leave the baggage area without completing a Lost Baggage Report with your air carrier. This report is essential to the tracking of your claim. If traveling with a companion, we recommend that one (1) person stay with the baggage while the other person locates the transfer representative within the baggage claim area to inform him or her of the situation. This will allow the representative to ensure transfers are properly provided. Give the air carrier a copy of your travel itinerary and the hotel and ship's contact information. Report your lost baggage to the Uniworld representative and provide your Uniworld Tour Manager with a copy of your Lost Baggage Report. This will assist our staff in helping to locate your baggage as quickly as possible. Uniworld is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged baggage and/or personal belongings. A protection plan covering lost, stolen, or damaged baggage is available through the Uniworld Travel Protection Plan.

Pre-/Post-cruise Included or Optional Hotel/Land Extensions

All Uniworld land programs are fully hosted and include daily breakfast, transfers, and portage. Most feature at least one (1) special sightseeing program. Your Tour Manager will host a welcome briefing the evening of your first day to familiarize you with the scheduled program and to provide additional information about optional excursion programs, dining recommendations, and shopping tips. Details about your pre-/post-cruise land stay or optional extension are included with your final documents.

Please note that every effort is made to ensure that your hotel room is available and ready for occupancy upon your arrival at the hotel. This is not always possible due to differences in hotel check-in/check-out times and scheduled airport-to-hotel or ship-to-hotel transfers. A short wait for your room to become available may occur.

About Your Cruise and Tour Package and Onboard Services

Dining

The *River Tosca* onboard restaurant accommodates all guests in a relaxed single seating environment and offers international and local cuisine. Breakfast and lunch are sumptuous buffets, while evenings feature specialties of the house. All meal times are scheduled around excursion departures, and breakfast can take place very early in the morning.

On the *Prince Abbas*, all meals are buffet-style except for one lunch and one dinner, which will be served with a set menu.

Please notify Uniworld immediately if you have any special dietary concerns or considerations that need to be taken into account while traveling with us. We will do our best to ensure your request is accommodated, but we cannot guarantee that this will happen in all cases.

Elevators

There are no elevators onboard the *River Tosca* or the *Prince Abbas*. All hotels do have elevators.

Fitness Center

On the *River Tosca*, the Fitness Center is located on the Pyramid Deck. Hours of operation may be adjusted based on each day's program. Use of the fitness equipment is at your own risk. There is no Fitness Center onboard the *Prince Abbas*.

Front Desk

The front desks onboard the *River Tosca* and the *Prince Abbas* are open 24 hours a day. The Front Desk Attendant will make hourly safety checks of the ship in the evening.

Gift Shop

There are gift shops onboard the *River Tosca* and the *Prince Abbas* with a limited selection of toiletries, souvenirs, and other sundries. The hours of operation are adjusted to each day's program. Purchases at the Gift Shop onboard the *Prince Abbas* are payable in cash only at the time of purchase. On the *River Tosca*, purchases at the Gift Shop can be paid for in cash or with a major credit card at the time of purchase. Additional bank charges (3.5-5%) may apply when paying by credit card.

Gratuities

Onboard: Gratuities are customary expressions of appreciation for a job well done, and it is our goal to ensure that the service you receive is as wonderful as the sites you visit. The amount of the gratuity you choose to give is entirely subject to your satisfaction with your travel experience. To assist you in determining the amount of your gratuities, we recommend the following as a guideline:

- Ship staff and crew: \$12 USD per guest, per day to be shared among all staff and crew
- Tour Manager/Egyptologist: \$8 USD per guest, per day
- Driver: \$2 USD per guest, per day

The above is solely a guideline, and the amount you give depends on your personal experience and level of satisfaction. Gratuities cannot be billed to onboard accounts, so please ensure that you have cash on hand for this expense. Travelers checks cannot be used to pay gratuities.

Shoreside and while on Tour: The practice of *baksheesh* is very much part of Egyptian culture. This means that it is customary to tip anyone who provides service to you, including doormen at hotels. Please be aware that you will be approached by a number of seemingly helpful individuals while on tour. Unless the individual is introduced to you by your guide, please disregard any unsolicited advances or requests for *baksheesh*.

Internet Facilities

On the *River Tosca*, the Internet Corner computers will allow you to access the Internet to send and receive emails. In addition, you may use your own laptop computer to access our Wireless Internet (Wi-Fi). Internet Corner and Wi-Fi services are available for a fee. Please note the fees are subject to change without notice and the Internet connection might not be available in remote areas or when transiting locks. Expect the connectivity speed to be slower than your home connection. There is no Internet access or Wi-Fi service available onboard the *Prince Abbas*.

Laundry

The *River Tosca* and the *Prince Abbas* provide washing, drying, and ironing services for a fee. Please note that there is no self-service laundrette and there are no dry cleaning facilities onboard. Your hotel, however, will offer full-service laundry and dry cleaning options at an additional cost.

Local and Onboard Money Matters

Egyptian currency is known as the Pound (EGP). It is divided into Piastres (also spelled Piaster). One Pound (LE) is equal to 100 Piastres. Banknote denominations are 1, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100, and coins come in denominations of 25 and 50 Piastres.

Currency accepted onboard the *River Tosca* and the *Prince Abbas* is US Dollars, Euros, and Egyptian Pounds with an exchange rate based on the international rate of the day.

The ships do not have ATMs onboard, but ATMs linked to major bank networks can be found in Egypt. Most debit or major credit cards can be used for cash withdrawals. All hotels and major tourist sites have exchange facilities. While onboard, guests can sign for all purchases and pay their charges at the end of the cruise with any major credit card.

Please note that currency exchange transactions and ATM cash withdrawals always involve transaction fees. It is always best to inquire as to the fee before exchanging any money. ATMs will typically ask you if you accept the fee before enabling the transaction.

Lounges

The *River Tosca* and the *Prince Abbas* have lovely lounges with spectacular, expansive views at every turn. Relax in the comfort of soft chairs and sofas upholstered in fine fabrics and leathers. Enjoy the full-service bar and local entertainment on select evenings.

Massage

Massage services are available onboard the *River Tosca* only. These services are available for a fee and can be paid for in cash or with a credit card at the time of purchase or at the time you settle any of your onboard charges prior to disembarkation from the ship.

Mooring and Docking Facilities

The local river authorities allocate docking space around ship arrivals and departures in port. Typically, river ships always dock facing upstream, against the current. There are times when port conditions require ships to tie up alongside each other, and guests may be required to walk through another ship to get to their own ship. This is part of the river cruise experience and is perfectly normal. Guests may experience obstructed views from staterooms when the ship is docked.

Safety Deposit Box

There is a safe in your stateroom. We urge you to leave valuable jewelry at home. We are not responsible for any valuables left in the staterooms. Any charge to return "lost and found" property onboard will be at the owner's expense. Please beware of pickpockets when ashore.

Shopping

There may be time for shopping during your tour; however, it can vary due to time restraints. Fortunately, in Egypt, what you see in one place is generally available somewhere else. Shopping recommendations will be made by your Tour Manager, who is an expert in all things Egyptian and can even provide a lesson or two on the art of bartering. Larger stores accept most major credit cards. Market vendors and small stores will usually only accept local currency. It is a good idea to take a small amount of cash to use as *baksheesh* (tip) or to purchase souvenirs or sundries.

Smoking

The *River Tosca* enjoys a non-smoking environment in all public areas and staterooms. Smoking is only allowed on the Sun Deck. On the *Prince Abbas*, smoking is allowed everywhere except in the restaurant, library, staterooms, and a small front area of the lounge bar.

Stateroom Amenities

Each beautifully appointed suite onboard the *River Tosca* offers handcrafted English Savoir® beds draped in fine linens, a vanity and make-up mirror, generous built-in closets, hair dryer, safe, individual thermostat for air conditioning, direct-dial telephone, LCD television with a selection of viewing choices, an iPod® docking station, a bathroom with plush robes and soothing bath amenities, his and her slippers, and a bottle of water per day. Electrical current is 220V, the European standard, but plug styles may vary. You will need a converter and adapter in order to use any electrical product from the United States. We strongly recommend purchasing a universal adapter/converter prior to your departure. These multi-country plugs can be obtained at any hardware or electronic store.

Swimming Pool

Small swimming pools are located on the Sun Decks of both the *River Tosca* and the *Prince Abbas* for your enjoyment.

Water

Please do not drink the tap water on the ship, in the hotels, or ashore. Bottled water is readily available for purchase on the ships, in hotels, and ashore.

Weather

Most people think Egypt is hot and dry year-round due to the desert climate, and that's basically true. One can certainly expect sunshine all day—up to 14 hours during the peak of the summer. However, the temperatures in this region and along the Nile tend to vary widely between day and night. While the days of spring and fall can be very warm, with highs in the 80s and 90s, the desert evenings can be delightfully cool, with temperatures dropping into the low 60s. Summer highs are steadily in the 90s, yet not uncomfortably so. Most sight-seeing excursions in the summer are scheduled for early-morning departures to avoid the strong midday sun. Winter temperatures are perhaps the most pleasant of all, with temperatures typically in the 70s during the day, dropping into the 50s or even chillier in the evenings. Uniworld's favorite resource for up-to-the-minute international weather is weather.com. [Weather.com](http://weather.com) features a very informative vacation-planner tool that you may find useful.

What to Wear

Loose-fitting, lightweight fabrics designed to be layered are your best option for daytime attire due to the variance in temperatures in Egypt. We recommend short-sleeved shirts, Bermuda-style shorts, sun dresses with sleeves, cotton skirts, and khakis. Mix-and-match solid color schemes work best to help keep baggage light. Modest dress is expected for women in most places. That means no tank tops unless onboard the ship or worn under another shirt; no bare-back or sleeveless sun dresses, again, unless worn onboard the ship; and no short shorts. You'll find that a lightweight jacket may come in handy for the evenings. Hats, sun block, and sunglasses are essential. You will find a significant amount of walking over uneven terrain during your time ashore. We recommend comfortable walking shoes with good ankle support. Sturdy sandals are another good option. For evenings, any resort-type wear is perfectly suitable, though we kindly ask that you refrain from wearing shorts to dinner. Men may want to bring one sport jacket for dressier restaurant venues in Cairo and for the onboard Gala Dinner. Women find that a cocktail dress or two always comes in handy no matter the destination.

Visa Requirements

A visa and passport are required to travel to Egypt. Passports must be valid for at least six (6) months after the return date of the trip. Visa requirements for US and Canadian citizens can be found on the Uniworld website, uniworld.com, in the "Before You Go" section. As a courtesy only, Uniworld's website provides information on obtaining the required visa through Zierer Visa Service. Non-US or non-Canadian citizens must contact the appropriate consular office for Egyptian entry requirements.

Obtaining and carrying the proper travel documents is the sole responsibility of the guest. Uniworld will not be responsible for any delays, damages, and/or losses, including missed portions of your tour that are related to improper travel documentation. All guests are strongly advised to obtain necessary visas well in advance to avoid unnecessary expedited processing charges.

Whenever using a visa service, it is highly recommended that the service be provided with a copy of your entire travel itinerary. There are times when multiple entry visas may be required, or there may be restrictions upon entering one country from another, depending on your nationality. If the service does not have your full itinerary, this may result in improperly issued documentation.

Visitors

Visitors are generally not permitted onboard the ship and are not allowed to join any shore excursions. Please make arrangements to meet your friends and relatives onshore.

Omissions

Uniworld is not responsible for omissions, printing, and/or presentation errors in brochures, on Internet sites, or in any other media where such information may be presented; we reserve the right to make corrections as required.



Splendors of Egypt & the Nile

Cairo to Cairo | 12 Days

Imagine sailing along the Nile in a style once reserved for pharaohs and queens

Experience amazing Egypt onboard the all-suite *River Tosca*. For eight splendor-filled days, Uniworld takes you to the Nile's most fascinating sites in style. Spend time exploring breathtaking Karnak Temple—the largest extant temple complex ever constructed. Visit the Greco-Roman Temple of Hathor, one of the best-preserved temples in Egypt. Wander around the Temple of Hatshepsut, which rises majestically out of the surrounding limestone cliffs, and visit the Valley of the Kings, where many illustrious pharaohs were buried. You'll also get to experience the Nubian culture of Aswan firsthand during a special visit to a private Nubian home.

Enjoy four nights in captivating Cairo, where you'll be taken to the famous Egyptian Museum, an unrivaled warehouse of pharaonic treasures, including the artifacts recovered from the tomb of King Tut, and journey to Giza to pay homage to the mighty Pyramids and the very face of ancient Egypt—the Great Sphinx.

Day 1 | Cairo 🚌

Arrive at Cairo International Airport. If your cruise/tour package includes a group arrival transfer or if you have purchased a private arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza.

Day 2 | Cairo BB

Featured Excursions: Citadel of Salah al-Din, Muhammad Ali Mosque, and Egyptian Museum 🕒 🚶 🚌 🗺

Your tour of this historic city begins with a visit to the Citadel of Salah al-Din, which offers breathtaking views of Cairo. The great sultan Salah al-Din had the citadel built in the 12th century as a government center and defensive barrier against the invading armies of the Crusaders. Located high above the eastern end of Cairo on El-Moqattam Hill, the citadel was strategically positioned to provide those inside with a full view of the city below. The citadel was the home of Egypt's rulers for more than 700 years and is one of the oldest attractions in Cairo. The massive compound contains legendary mosques and museums. 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.

His masterpiece was the great Alabaster Mosque, also known as the Mosque of Muhammad Ali, which you'll visit next. It stands proudly on the highest point inside the citadel's courtyard. Its cascading domes and slender minarets have made the gilded mosque a distinguished part of Cairo's skyline for 150 years. The mosque's expansive interior is lit by a beautiful array of lamps suspended from the ornate ceiling.

In the afternoon, you'll see the Egyptian Museum, which boasts an unrivaled collection of pharaonic treasures. It was established in 1900 and is by far the most extraordinary museum of Egyptian antiquities in the world. Located in the heart of Cairo, the museum exhibits more than 120,000 objects, including the remarkable artifacts recovered from the tomb of King Tutankhamen by renowned archaeologist Howard Carter. The museum is divided into galleries exhibiting items from various periods in more or less chronological order, moving clockwise along the ground floor.

Note: Photography of any kind is forbidden inside the museum, including with digital cameras, mobile phones, or camcorders.

Note: Dressing modestly is recommended as a show of respect for the culture and customs of the Egyptian people. In particular, women should ensure their shoulders are not bare and their legs are covered at least to the knee.

Day 3 | Cairo, fly to Luxor, cruising the Nile, Dendera



Featured Excursion: Temple of Karnak   

In the early morning, you will fly to Luxor, where you'll walk through the avenues of sphinxes and halls of gigantic columns that grace the magnificent Temple of Karnak. This vast complex, situated about 2 miles (3.5 km) from the Temple of Luxor, was built and expanded over a 1,300-year period. It is the largest extant temple complex in the world and represents 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. The Temple of Karnak is composed of three main temples, smaller enclosed temples, and several outer temples. The largest temple within Karnak is dedicated to Amun, a great pharaonic god of fertility and reproduction.

Although Karnak was originally established during the Middle Kingdom, the various dynasties that came afterward continued to add onto it—hence its massive size. Karnak's main compound, the Precinct of Amun, is entered through the Great Court, which then leads to the dazzling Great Hypostyle Hall—sometimes called the Hall of Columns. Just beyond this forest of massive, regimented columns lies the obelisk built by Queen Hatshepsut and, past that, the Festival Temple of Thutmose III.

After reveling in the ancient glory of Karnak, you'll board a motorcoach bound for the banks of the Nile and your luxurious cruise ship, the *River Tosca*. Once onboard, you'll set sail for beautiful Dendera.

In the evening after dinner, enjoy entertainment provided by a folklore group.

Day 4 | Dendera, cruising the Nile, Luxor BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Temple of Hathor   

Featured Excursion: Temple of Luxor   

After breakfast, you will encounter Dendera's Temple of Hathor, dedicated to the cow goddess of love and beauty. The temple belongs to Egypt's Ptolemaic era, which was a time of foreign rulers who adopted Egyptian culture and religion. Built between 125 BC and 65 AD, this is one of the best-preserved temples in Egypt. It also contains a rare depiction of Cleopatra with her son Caesarion, who was fathered by Julius Caesar.

After visiting the temple complex in Dendera, you will cruise the Nile to Luxor, where you can enjoy some free time in the afternoon before an early-evening exploration of the ancient Temple of Luxor. The temple was built over hundreds of years,

beginning in the 14th century BC, and was dedicated to the god Amun; its chief architects were Amenhotep III (Egypt's "sun king," also known as Amenophis III) and Ramses II.

Sometimes referred to as Amon or Amon-Ra, Amun was the god of fertility and reproduction in Egyptian mythology and was considered the "father of all life." The temple paid tribute to Amun during the Opet Festival, which celebrated the annual flooding of the Nile. Once a year, a great feast was held and the statue of Amun was transported via bark (small sailing ship) from the Temple of Karnak to the Temple of Luxor. Stages of the festival are depicted in friezes along the latter temple's 300-foot (91-m) grand processional colonnade, which was begun by Amenhotep III and finished by his grandson, Tutankhamen.

To the rear of the temple are the Sun Court of Amenhotep III and the Bark Shrine, which was rebuilt by Alexander the Great (who is depicted bare-chested on the walls). The Luxor Temple complex is at its most stunning in the evening, when the sunset's gorgeous colors bring to mind the most mystical images of Egypt.

Day 5 | Luxor, cruising the Nile, Kom Ombo BB, L, D

Featured Excursions: Colossi of Memnon, Hatshepsut Temple, and Valley of the Kings   

In the morning, a motorcoach will take you to the west bank of the Nile for an up-close view of the gigantic statues of Pharaoh Amenhotep III known as the Colossi of Memnon. The statues show 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, Hapy. At a height of 60 feet (18 m), the statues gaze eastward toward the rising sun. The figures originally sat in front of the mortuary temple of Amenhotep III, which is thought to have surpassed even Karnak in size. Unfortunately, this temple was destroyed throughout the centuries, but the twin Colossi continue to stand guard as they have done for the past 3,400 years.


Next, you'll visit the 97-foot-tall (29-m-tall) Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri. A member of that rare species—female pharaohs—Hatshepsut is considered by historians to be among the most successful rulers of ancient Egypt. Both its site and its construction make her temple unique among the landmarks of Egypt; built into the face of steep cliffs at the basin of a valley, the temple is made of limestone, not sandstone like most of the other funerary temples of the New Kingdom period.

From here, you'll proceed to one of the most famous archaeological sites in the world: the Valley of the Kings. This valley was used for royal burials from the 18th to the 21st dynasties. Much of our understanding of Egyptian mythology has been garnered from these ancient chambers. The valley lies about 4 miles (7 km) from the Nile on the west bank. It was here that the bodies of great pharaohs such as Ramses II and Thutmose III once lay—and where the famed Tutankhamen lies still. The idea for building this kind of burial ground is thought to have originated with Pharaoh Thutmose I, who—due to the frequency of tomb robberies (even in those days)—decided to have his tomb concealed in a place far from his mortuary temple, rather than near it, as past pharaohs had done. The pharaohs who followed did the same, hence changing a tradition that had reigned 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. Although not all of the tombs are always open to visitors, the more interesting ones usually are.

Filled with a sense of wonder, you'll return to the ship and set sail for Kom Ombo. Onboard, you'll enjoy a *Galabeya* party featuring traditional Egyptian attire and music.

Day 6 | Kom Ombo, cruising the Nile, Aswan BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Kom Ombo Temple   

Featured Excursions: Nubian village visit and bird watching



Following breakfast, you'll journey to Kom Ombo Temple, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and the falcon god Horus the Elder. This unusual double temple was started by Ptolemy VI Philometor (180 BC to 145 BC) at the beginning of his reign and added to by other Ptolemies, most notably Ptolemy XIII (47 BC to 44 BC), who built the inner and outer hypostyle halls. A few of the 300 crocodile mummies discovered in the vicinity are displayed inside the temple.

Next, embark on a small boat for a visit to a Nubian village. Along the way, get a closer look at the various birds that live along the banks of the Nile River. Upon arrival at the village, you'll visit a private Nubian home, enjoying Nubian hospitality and learning about local traditions. Modern Day Nubians are part of an ancient tribe that has inhabited this part of Aswan for ages. Though their ancestral lands were flooded decades

ago by the creation of Lake Nasser (the world's largest artificial body of water), the Nubians have retained their distinctive culture and re-created their traditional dwellings.

Tonight, after dinner onboard, you'll be entertained by a belly dancer.

Day 7 | Aswan BB, L, D

Featured Excursions: Traditional Nile *felucca* ride and high tea at the Mövenpick Hotel   

Irresistible Optional Excursion: Temples of Abu Simbel



Enjoy a peaceful, scenic cruise down the Nile in a *felucca*—a traditional Egyptian boat featuring large twin sails. Then indulge in the spectacular views, sumptuous snacks, and refined refreshments of high tea at the splendid resort hotel Mövenpick. Tea service includes hot drinks and chilled juices, plus a selection of canapés and traditional Egyptian desserts.

After dinner, you'll take in a fun-filled Nubian show featuring traditionally attired performers, live music, and dancing.

But before this exciting afternoon and evening get started, consider spending your morning with us on a sensational optional excursion to the temples of Abu Simbel.


Note: Feluccas are propelled solely by wind power and have no motors; their operation is therefore dependent upon the weather.

Irresistible Optional Excursion: Temples of Abu Simbel

Some 199 miles (320 km) outside Aswan lie the temples of Abu Simbel, carved directly into the sandstone cliffs along the Nile. This 3,500-year-old complex features magnificent structures hewn from the rock during the rule of Ramses II and later rescued from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. Buried for centuries in the sand, the site is extraordinarily well preserved. The face of the temple consists of four huge statues of Ramses seated on his throne; each statue measures nearly 70 feet (21 m) high. In an impressive feat of engineering, the temple was built so that the sun penetrates its inner confines only two days a year. On those two days, the four colossi of Ramses bathed in a solar bronze. When you look at the colossi, you'll notice they're wearing the double crown of Upper and Lower Egypt, a symbol of dominance over the entire kingdom.

Day 8 | Aswan, cruising the Nile, Kom Ombo, Edfu

 BB, L, D

Featured Excursions: Aswan High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk, Philae Temple 

Arrive in historic Aswan in the morning, where you'll encounter the Aswan High Dam. The dam, completed in the 1970s, has colossal dimensions, measuring 11,800 feet (3,597 m) long; 3,215 feet (980 m) wide (at its base); and 304 feet (93 m) high. Its reservoir capacity is nearly five times larger than that of the Hoover Dam.

From this marvel of modern engineering, you'll move on to the enormous Unfinished Obelisk. The structure was commissioned by Queen Hatshepsut, but the sculpting of it was halted when a flaw was discovered in the stone. If the obelisk had been completed, it would have been the largest, heaviest obelisk ever attempted, weighing more than two million pounds (908,000 kg).

Next, you'll visit the beautiful Philae Temple complex, which was originally situated on the island of Philae but was transferred to the island of Agilika after construction of the Aswan High Dam threatened to drown the temple complex. After its move, the complex was reshaped to resemble Philae. The present location was finally opened to visitors in 1980, after completion of the massive, 10-year-long relocation project. The monuments at the temple belong to the Ptolemaic and Roman periods. The three principal monuments are the Kiosk of Trajan, the Temple of Hathor, and the Temple of Isis.

The Kiosk of Trajan, also known as "pharaoh's bed," features 14 large columns and was the original entrance into the temple complex from the river. The kiosk was constructed for the Roman emperor Trajan, who ruled in the first and second centuries AD. The Temple of Hathor lies on the east side of the island. Built during the Ptolemaic period and decorated by Augustus, the temple shows carvings of music and drinking, for the cow goddess Hathor was a symbol of pleasure as well as beauty and love. The third temple, the Temple of Isis, named for the goddess of fertility and motherhood, is the largest, occupying about one quarter of the island. After the end of the New Kingdom in the fourth century BC, the center of Isis worship reached its zenith on Philae, where this great temple was built during the 30th Dynasty. The walls are covered with scenes of Ptolemaic kings and Roman emperors performing traditional ceremonies. Later, when this temple became a church, Christians added crosses to the structure.

As you journey north on the Nile to Edfu, you'll see the picturesque environs of Kom Ombo once more from the ship. This evening, enjoy another fun-filled *Galabeya* party. Toast to your adventures and bask in the beauty of the Egyptian night.

Note: If you intend to climb around the Unfinished Obelisk, please note the climb is physically demanding.


Day 9 | Edfu, cruising the Nile, Luxor BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Temple of Horus 

In the morning you'll visit the well-preserved Temple of Horus, also known as the Temple of Edfu. Edfu, which lies on the left bank of the Nile about 62 miles (100 km) south of Luxor, was an important city in Upper Egypt during the Old Kingdom and enjoyed enormous prosperity. Today the city is known for its grand temple dedicated to the falcon god Horus, god of the heavens. This Ptolemaic temple—the second-largest temple in Egypt—was constructed from 237 to 57 BC. Its walls reveal significant information about the religion and language of Egypt's Greco-Roman period. The pylons of the main temple are about 118 feet (36 m) high and feature scenes of the pharaohs battling their enemies, while the façade of the first hypostyle hall has images honoring Horus and Hathor. Flanking the entrance gate are two immaculate, 10-foot-tall (3-m-tall) colossi of Horus.


Later, while enjoying lunch onboard, you'll take in the majestic Egyptian scenery as you sail to Luxor.

Day 10 | Luxor, fly to Cairo BB

Featured Excursion: Sound and Light Show at the Pyramids of Giza 

You'll disembark in Luxor and transfer to the airport for your return flight to Cairo. Check into the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza and enjoy free time in the city before attending the sensational Sound and Light Show at the Pyramids of Giza. As colorful lights are cast upon these ancient wonders, the amazing story of the people and culture that built them will be revealed.

Day 11 | Cairo BB

Featured Excursions: The Sphinx and the legendary Pyramids of Giza, Memphis and Sakkara 

A motorcoach will take you to the Giza Necropolis, where the face of ancient Egypt—the Great Sphinx—awaits. With the body of a kneeling lion and the head of a man, it is the largest monolith statue in the world. Experts believe the Sphinx, which

was known to the early Arabs as Abu al-Hol (“the Father of Terror”), was built during the 26th century BC, during Khafre’s reign. Unfortunately, much of this monument has either eroded or been deliberately destroyed over the years. Facial features such as the nose and the beard are no longer intact. A number of excavations have been performed in modern times to remove the sand that built up around the Sphinx over the centuries and, for a time, kept much of it buried. Despite its timeworn condition, the Sphinx still kneels gracefully, as it has done for thousands of years, looking thoughtfully toward the east with a smile—calm, mysterious, and hopeful.

You’ll drive from Giza to Memphis, the famous capital of Egypt’s Old Kingdom. Here you’ll admire the colossal statue of Ramses II and the Alabaster Sphinx of Memphis.

Next, you’ll journey to Sakkara to see the Step Pyramid of King Zoser (or Djoser), the oldest pyramid in the world and the prototype for all the pyramids that followed. The Egyptian architect Imhotep began the pyramid as a single story, then added five more levels and covered it with fine limestone. In front of the pyramid, Imhotep built a stone structure that contains a wooden box with two peepholes; looking through them, one can view 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.

You’ll end your day of adventure by visiting the only surviving Wonder of the Ancient World, the Great Pyramid of Khufu in Giza. Beholding this legendary treasure up close lets you appreciate its impeccable stone masonry and awe-inspiring architectural precision. Until as recently as the 19th century, this was the tallest building in the world; when it was completed around the 26th century BC, it stood about 50 stories high. Without question, the three Pyramids of Giza are the iconic images most associated with Egypt, and they have been the country’s main tourist draw for over 3,000 years. The Pyramid of Khafre is the second largest of the Giza pyramids. It is the resting place of the Fourth Dynasty pharaoh Khafre. The smallest of the Giza pyramids is the Pyramid of Menkaure, which bears the scar of 12th-century vandals across its north face. Enjoy an inside visit to either the Pyramid of Khafre or the Pyramid of Menkaure.

Day 12 | Depart Cairo CB/BB

Check out of your hotel. If your cruise/tour package includes a group departure transfer or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to Cairo International Airport for your flight home. Or you might choose to extend your vacation with a journey to the holy city of Jerusalem.

Note: The order of sightseeing may change due to weather conditions.



Jewels of Egypt, the Nile & Lake Nasser

Cairo to Cairo | 12 Days

Egyptian jewels—both natural and manmade—will capture your mind and beguile your heart forever





Perfectly designed to blend the wonders of ancient and modern Egypt while showcasing the country’s greatest natural and manmade treasures, this itinerary takes you across beautiful Lake Nasser to see mighty Abu Simbel, up the legendary Nile River, and into the heart of bustling Cairo. Discover ancient Egypt’s most exciting sites: the awe-inspiring Pyramids and Great Sphinx of Giza; the majestic temples of Karnak and Luxor; the splendidly preserved Temple of Edfu; and Wadi el-Seboua, the “Valley of the Lions.” The Nubian jewels you’ll find on this itinerary aren’t available on any of our other tours.

Cruise onboard the *Prince Abbas* across stunning Lake Nasser—the world’s largest artificial body of water. Along the way, encounter awe-inspiring Abu Simbel—a 3,500-year-old complex displaying magnificent structures hewn from the rock during the rule of Ramses II. Visit the engineering marvel that created Lake Nasser in the 1960s—the massive Aswan High Dam. Then transfer to the *River Tosca* to discover all the wonders the great Nile River Valley has to offer.

Day 1 | Cairo

Arrive at Cairo International Airport. If your cruise/tour package includes a group arrival transfer or if you have purchased a private arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza.

Day 2 | Cairo BB

Featured Excursions: Citadel of Salah al-Din, Mosque of Muhammad Ali, Egyptian Museum, and Khan el-Khalili Bazaar    

Your tour of this historic city begins with a visit to the Citadel of Salah al-Din, which offers breathtaking views of Cairo. The great sultan Salah al-Din had the citadel built in the 12th century as a government center and defensive barrier against the invading armies of the Crusaders. Located high above the eastern end of Cairo on El-Moqattam Hill, the citadel was strategically positioned to provide those inside with a full view of the city below. The citadel was the home of Egypt's rulers for more than 700 years and is one of the oldest attractions in Cairo. The massive compound contains legendary mosques and museums. 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.

His masterpiece was the great Alabaster Mosque, also known as the Mosque of Muhammad Ali, which you will visit next. It stands proudly on the highest point inside the citadel's courtyard. Its cascading domes and slender minarets have made the gilded mosque a distinguished part of Cairo's skyline for 150 years. The mosque's expansive interior is lit by a beautiful array of lamps suspended from the ornate ceiling.

In the afternoon, you'll see the Egyptian Museum, which boasts an unrivaled collection of pharaonic treasures. It was established in 1900 and is by far the most extraordinary museum of Egyptian antiquities in the world. Located in the heart of Cairo, the museum exhibits more than 120,000 objects, including the remarkable artifacts recovered from the tomb of King Tutankhamen by renowned archaeologist Howard Carter. The museum is divided into galleries exhibiting items from various periods in more or less chronological order, moving clockwise along the ground floor.




You will also have the chance to see the Khan el-Khalili Bazaar, located in the heart of Islamic Cairo. Sometimes called simply the Khan, this world-famous *souk* (market) has been selling jewelry, clothing, perfume, spices, and much more since 1382.

Note: Photography of any kind is forbidden inside the museum, including with digital cameras, mobile phones, or camcorders.

Note: Dressing modestly is recommended as a show of respect for the culture and customs of the Egyptian people. In particular, women should ensure that their shoulders are not bare and their legs are covered at least to the knee.

Note: While shopping at the Khan el-Khalili Bazaar, please do not pay by credit card. Please use cash only to purchase items.

Day 3 | Cairo BB

Featured Excursions: Sakkara and Memphis, the Sphinx and the legendary Pyramids of Giza   

Take a motorcoach to Memphis, the famous capital of Egypt's Old Kingdom. Here you'll admire the colossal statue of Ramses II and the Alabaster Sphinx of Memphis.

Next, you'll journey to Sakkara to see the Step Pyramid of King Zoser (or Djoser), the oldest pyramid in the world and the prototype for all the pyramids that followed. The Egyptian architect Imhotep began the pyramid as a single story, then added five more levels and covered it with fine limestone. In front of the pyramid, Imhotep built a stone structure that contains a wooden box with two peepholes; looking through them, one can view 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 motorcoach will then take you to the Giza Necropolis, where the face of ancient Egypt—the Great Sphinx—awaits. With the body of a kneeling lion and the head of a man, it is the largest monolith statue in the world. Experts believe the Sphinx, which was known to the early Arabs as Abu al-Hol (“the Father of Terror”), was built during the 26th century BC, during Khafre's reign. Unfortunately, much of this monument has either eroded or been deliberately destroyed over the years. Facial features such as the nose and the beard are no longer intact. A number of excavations have been performed in modern times to remove the sand that built up around the Sphinx over the centuries and, for a time, kept much of it buried. Despite its timeworn condition, the Sphinx still kneels gracefully, as it has done for thousands of years, looking thoughtfully toward the east with a smile—calm, mysterious, and hopeful.

You'll end your day of adventure by visiting the only surviving Wonder of the Ancient World, the Great Pyramid of Khufu in Giza. Beholding this legendary treasure up close lets you appreciate its impeccable stone masonry and awe-inspiring architectural precision. Until as recently as the 19th century,

this was the tallest building in the world; when it was completed around the 26th century BC, it stood about 50 stories high. Without question, the three Pyramids of Giza are the iconic images most associated with Egypt, and they have been the country's main tourist draw for over 3,000 years. The Pyramid of Khafre is the second largest of the Giza pyramids. It is the resting place of the Fourth Dynasty pharaoh Khafre. The smallest of the Giza pyramids is the Pyramid of Menkaure, which bears the scar of 12th-century vandals across its north face. Enjoy an inside visit to either the Pyramid of Khafre or the Pyramid of Menkaure.

Day 4 | Cairo, fly to Aswan BB, L, D

Fly from Cairo to Aswan in the morning and embark on your Lake Nasser cruise aboard the *Prince Abbas*.

Day 5 | Aswan, cruising Lake Nasser, Kalabsha, Wadi el-Seboua BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Kalabsha Temple

You'll arrive at Kalabsha Temple during the morning. Built around 30 BC, Kalabsha is the largest preserved temple in Nubia. Originally, it stood about 30 miles (48 km) south of the Aswan High Dam. After the dam was built, the temple was relocated immediately south of the dam to its present site, New Kalabsha, to protect it from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. Begun during the New Kingdom but substantially reconstructed during Augustus's reign, the temple honored Mandulis (a Nubian god), Isis, and Osiris. The carved reliefs and Roman-era inscriptions make it one of the most fascinating architectural works in Nubia. Like other Nubian temples, it was later converted into a church.

You'll have the rest of the day to relax onboard as you sail along beautiful Lake Nasser. This vast, unspoiled reservoir was created by the Aswan High Dam. The lake covers a total surface area of 3,262 square miles (5,250 sq km) from Aswan, Egypt, into northern Sudan, where it is known as Lake Nubia. You'll take in the lake's ever-changing scenery until the ship arrives at Wadi el-Seboua in the evening.

Day 6 | Wadi el-Seboua, cruising Lake Nasser, Amada BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Wadi el-Seboua and Dakka Temple

Featured Excursion: Temple of Amada

In the morning, you'll visit Wadi el-Seboua, the "Valley of the Lions," which was named after the great avenue of sphinxes that led to the temple of Ramses II. In 1964, this complex

was moved 2.5 miles (4 km) west of its original ancient site because of the Aswan High Dam. You'll also see the remains of the Greco-Roman Temple of Dakka, which was dedicated to Thoth, the god of wisdom.

In the afternoon, you'll arrive at Amada, where you'll visit the oldest surviving temple in the Nubian region. The Temple of Amada was commissioned by the 18th Dynasty pharaoh Thutmose III (sometimes called Tuthmosis III) and added to by other pharaohs of the 18th and 19th dynasties. Originally located about 112 miles (180 km) south of the Aswan High Dam, the temple was moved as a single unit to New Amada. The structure's interior boasts amazing, colorful carved reliefs.

Note: Today's tours involve strenuous physical activity.

Day 7 | Amada, Kasr Ibrim, Abu Simbel BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Temples of Abu Simbel with Sound and Light Show

During the morning, you will sail past the only major archaeological site to survive the flooding that took place in Lower Nubia after the construction of the Aswan High Dam: the Kasr Ibrim fortress. During pharaonic times, the fortress was strategically placed at the top of a 235-foot (72-m) cliff; that cliff has since been transformed into a rocky island in the center of Lake Nasser. Kasr Ibrim was a major city until 1840. Today, it is only open to archaeologists exploring its vast resources of old Nubian culture. You'll be able to see the long-standing Kasr Ibrim fortress from the ship.

You'll reach Abu Simbel, some 199 miles (320 km) outside Aswan, in the afternoon. The temples of Abu Simbel were carved directly into the sandstone cliffs along the Nile. This 3,500-year-old complex features magnificent structures hewn from the rock during the rule of Ramses II and later rescued from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. Buried for centuries in the sand, the site is impressively well preserved. The face of the temple consists of four huge statues of Ramses seated on his throne; each statue measures nearly 70 feet (21 m) high. In a feat of engineering, the temple was built so that the sun penetrates its inner confines only two days a year. On those two days, the four colossi of Ramses are bathed in a solar bronze. When you look at the colossi, you'll notice they're wearing the double crown of Upper and Lower Egypt, a symbol of dominance over the entire kingdom.

During the evening, the monuments will appear even more impressive during a spectacular Sound and Light Show. You will not want to miss this incredible display of history accompanied by laser lights and amphitheater-quality background music.

Day 8 | Abu Simbel, fly to Aswan BB, L, D

Featured Excursions: Aswan High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk, and Philae Temple   

In the morning, you'll fly to Aswan, where the Middle East blends with Africa. Then you'll visit the Aswan High Dam. The dam, completed in the 1970s, has colossal dimensions, measuring 11,800 feet (3,597 m) long; 3,215 feet (980 m) wide (at its base); and 304 feet (93 m) high. Its reservoir capacity is nearly five times larger than that of the Hoover Dam.

From this marvel of modern engineering you'll move on to the enormous Unfinished Obelisk. The structure was commissioned by Queen Hatshepsut, but the sculpting of it was halted when a flaw was discovered in the stone. If the obelisk had been completed, it would have been the largest, heaviest obelisk ever attempted, weighing more than two million pounds (908,000 kg).

Next, you'll visit the beautiful Philae Temple complex, which was originally situated on the island of Philae but was transferred to the island of Agilika after construction of the Aswan High Dam threatened to drown the temple complex. After its move, the complex was reshaped to resemble Philae. The present location was finally opened to visitors in 1980, after completion of the massive, 10-year-long relocation project. The monuments at the temple belong to the Ptolemaic and Roman periods. The three principal monuments are the Kiosk of Trajan, the Temple of Hathor, and the Temple of Isis.

The Kiosk of Trajan, also known as "pharaoh's bed," features 14 large columns and was the original entrance into the temple complex from the river. The kiosk was constructed for the Roman Emperor Trajan, who ruled in the first and second centuries AD. The Temple of Hathor lies on the east side of the island. Built during the Ptolemaic period and decorated by Augustus, the temple shows carvings of music and drinking, for the cow goddess Hathor was a symbol of pleasure as well as beauty and love. The third temple, the Temple of Isis, named for the goddess of fertility and motherhood, is the largest, occupying about one quarter of the island. After the end of the New Kingdom in the fourth century BC, the center of Isis worship reached its zenith on Philae, where this great temple was built during the 30th Dynasty. The walls are covered with scenes of Ptolemaic kings and Roman emperors performing traditional ceremonies. Later, when this temple became a church, Christians added crosses to the structure.

You'll board the ultra-luxurious *River Tosca* in the afternoon, and after dinner you'll enjoy a fun-filled Nubian Show featuring traditionally attired performers, live music, and dancing.

Note: If you intend to climb around the Unfinished Obelisk, please note that the climb is physically demanding.

Day 9 | Aswan, cruising the Nile, Kom Ombo, Edfu

BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Kom Ombo Temple   

After a morning of scenic sailing, you'll visit the only temple in Egypt dedicated to two gods. Kom Ombo Temple honored both the crocodile god Sobek and the falcon god Horus the Elder. This unusual double temple was started by Ptolemy VI Philometor (180 BC to 145 BC) at the beginning of his reign and added to by other Ptolemies, most notably Ptolemy XIII (47 BC to 44 BC), who built the inner and outer hypostyle halls. A few of the 300 crocodile mummies discovered in the vicinity are displayed inside the temple.

Later, you'll set sail for Edfu. This evening, don your *Galabeya* (traditional Egyptian attire) for a fun-filled party featuring traditional Egyptian music and activities.

Day 10 | Edfu, cruising the Nile, Luxor BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Temple of Edfu   

Featured Excursion: Temple of Luxor   

In the morning, you'll visit the well-preserved Temple of Edfu, also known as the Temple of Horus. Edfu, which lies on the left bank of the Nile about 62 miles (100 km) south of Luxor, was an important city in Upper Egypt during the Old Kingdom and enjoyed enormous prosperity. Today the city is known for its grand temple dedicated to the falcon god Horus, god of the heavens. This Ptolemaic temple—the second-largest temple in Egypt—was constructed from 237 to 57 BC. Its walls reveal significant information about the religion and language of Egypt's Greco-Roman period. The pylons of the main temple are about 118 feet (36 m) high and feature scenes of the pharaohs battling their enemies, while the façade of the first hypostyle hall has images honoring Horus and Hathor. Flanking the entrance gate are two immaculate, 10-foot-tall (3-m-tall) colossi of Horus.

While enjoying lunch onboard, take in the majestic Egyptian scenery en route to Luxor. Then embark on an early-evening exploration of the ancient Temple of Luxor. The temple was built over hundreds of years, beginning in the 14th century BC, and was dedicated to the god Amun; its chief architects were Amenhotep III (Egypt's "sun king," also known as Amenophis III) and Ramses II.

Sometimes referred to as Amon or Amon-Ra, Amun was the god of fertility and reproduction in Egyptian mythology and was considered the “father of all life.” The temple paid tribute to Amun during the Opet Festival, which celebrated the annual flooding of the Nile. Once a year, a great feast was held and the statue of Amun was transported via bark (small sailing ship) from the Temple of Karnak to the Temple of Luxor. Stages of the festival are depicted in friezes along the latter temple’s 300-foot (91-m) grand processional colonnade, which was begun by Amenhotep III and finished by his grandson, Tutankhamen.

To the rear of the temple are the Sun Court of Amenhotep III and the Bark Shrine, which was rebuilt by Alexander the Great (who is depicted bare-chested on the walls). The Luxor Temple complex is at its most stunning in the evening, when the sunset’s gorgeous colors bring to mind the most mystical images of Egypt.

Day 11 | Luxor, fly to Cairo    BB

Featured Excursions: Colossi of Memnon, Hatshepsut Temple, Valley of the Kings, and Temple of Karnak



This is an exciting day filled with visits to many of Egypt’s most unforgettable sites. In the morning, a motorcoach will take you to the west bank of the Nile for an up-close view of the gigantic statues of Pharaoh Amenhotep III known as the Colossi of Memnon. The statues show 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, Hapy. At a height of 60 feet (18 m), the statues gaze eastward toward the rising sun. The figures originally sat in front of the mortuary temple of Amenhotep III, which is thought to have surpassed even Karnak in size. Unfortunately, this temple was destroyed over the centuries, but the twin Colossi continue to stand guard as they have done for the past 3,400 years.

Next, you’ll visit the 97-foot-tall (29-m-tall) Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri. A member of that rare species—female pharaohs—Hatshepsut is considered by historians to be one of the most successful rulers of ancient Egypt. Both its site and its construction make her temple unique among the landmarks of Egypt; built into the face of steep cliffs at the basin of a valley, the temple is made of limestone, rather than the sandstone used for most of the other funerary temples of the New Kingdom period.

From here, you’ll proceed to one of the most famous archeological sites in the world: the Valley of the Kings. This valley was used for royal burials from the 18th to the 21st dynasties. Much of our understanding of Egyptian mythology has been garnered from these ancient chambers. The valley lies about 4 miles (7 km) from the Nile on the west bank. It was here that the bodies of great pharaohs such as Ramses II and Thutmose III once lay—and where the famed Tutankhamen lies still. The idea for building this kind of burial ground is thought to have originated with Pharaoh Thutmose I, who—due to the frequency of tomb robberies (even in those days)—decided to have his tomb concealed in a place far from his mortuary temple, rather than near his temple as past pharaohs had done. The pharaohs who followed did the same, changing a tradition that had reigned 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. Although not all of the tombs are always open to visitors, the more interesting ones usually are.

Filled with a sense of wonder, you’ll be taken to the magnificent Temple of Karnak. This vast complex, situated about 2 miles (3.5 km) from the Temple of Luxor, was built and expanded over a 1,300-year period. It is the largest extant temple complex in the world and represents 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. The Temple of Karnak is composed of three main temples, smaller enclosed temples, and several outer temples. The largest temple within Karnak is dedicated to Amun, the great pharaonic god of fertility and reproduction.

Although Karnak was originally established during the Middle Kingdom, the various dynasties that came afterward continued to add onto it—hence its massive size. Karnak’s main compound, the Precinct of Amun, is entered through the Great Court, which then leads to the dazzling Great Hypostyle Hall—sometimes called the Hall of Columns. Just beyond this forest of massive, regimented columns lies the obelisk built by Queen Hatshepsut and, past that, the Festival Temple of Thutmose III.

After reveling in the ancient glory of Karnak, you’ll fly back to Cairo and check into the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza.

Day 12 | Depart Cairo CB/BB

Check out of your hotel. If your cruise/tour package includes a group departure transfer or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to Cairo International Airport for your flight home. Or you might choose to extend your vacation with a journey to the holy city of Jerusalem.

Note: The order of sightseeing may change due to weather conditions.



Classic Egypt & the Nile

Cairo to Cairo | 8 Days

Experience the mythical wonders and ancient treasures of Egypt and the Nile





Uniworld's Classic Egypt & the Nile itinerary is designed to take you into the heart of ancient Egypt, where a host of wonders await you. You'll be swept away by romantic history and powerful legends as you explore this magnificent land with your professionally trained and educated Egyptologist.

Spend time in Cairo, where the ancient and the modern coexist in perfect harmony. Come face to face with the mysterious Sphinx, which for thousands of years has been kneeling gracefully and gazing toward the east. See the sole survivor of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Great Pyramid of Khufu in Giza. Explore the Egyptian Museum, home to the treasures culled from King Tutankhamen's tomb. Traverse the Nile onboard the *River Tosca*, and let yourself be whisked away to magnificent sites: Karnak Temple, known to the Egyptians as Ipet-Isut, "The Most Perfect of Places"; the Temple of Hathor; the Valley of the Kings; and Kom Ombo.

Day 1 | Cairo

Arrive at Cairo International Airport. If your cruise/tour package includes a group arrival transfer or if you have purchased a private arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza.

Day 2 | Cairo BB

Featured Excursions: The Sphinx and the legendary Pyramids of Giza, and the Egyptian Museum    

A motorcoach will take you to the Giza Necropolis, where the face of ancient Egypt—the Great Sphinx—awaits. With the body of a kneeling lion and the head of a man, it is the largest monolith statue in the world. Experts believe the Sphinx, which was known to the early Arabs as Abu al-Hol (“the Father of Terror”), was built during the 26th century BC, during Khafre’s reign. Unfortunately, much of this monument has either eroded or been deliberately destroyed over the years. Facial features such as the nose and the beard are no longer intact. A number of excavations have been performed in modern times to remove the sand that built up around the Sphinx over the centuries and, for a time, kept much of it buried. Despite its timeworn condition, the Sphinx still kneels gracefully as it has done for thousands of years, looking thoughtfully toward the east with a smile—calm, mysterious, and hopeful.

Then, you’ll visit the only surviving Wonder of the Ancient World, the Great Pyramid of Khufu in Giza. Beholding this legendary treasure up close lets you appreciate its impeccable stone masonry and awe-inspiring architectural precision. Until as recently as the 19th century, this was the tallest building in the world; when it was completed around the 26th century BC, it stood about 50 stories high. Without question, the three Pyramids of Giza are the iconic images most associated with Egypt, and they have been the country’s main tourist draw for over 3,000 years. The Pyramid of Khafre is the second largest of the Giza pyramids. It is the resting place of the Fourth Dynasty pharaoh Khafre. The smallest of the Giza pyramids is the Pyramid of Menkaure, which bears the scar of 12th-century vandals across its north face. Enjoy an inside visit to either the Pyramid of Khafre or the Pyramid of Menkaure.

In the afternoon, you’ll see the Egyptian Museum, which boasts an unrivaled collection of pharaonic treasures. It was established in 1900 and is by far the most extraordinary museum of Egyptian antiquities in the world. Located in the heart of Cairo, the museum exhibits more than 120,000

objects, including the remarkable artifacts recovered from the tomb of King Tutankhamen by renowned archaeologist Howard Carter. The museum is divided into galleries exhibiting items from various periods in more or less chronological order, moving clockwise along the ground floor.

Note: Photography of any kind is forbidden inside the museum, including with digital cameras, mobile phones, or camcorders.

Note: Dressing modestly is recommended as a show of respect for the culture and customs of the Egyptian people. In particular, women should ensure that their shoulders are not bare and their legs are covered at least to the knee.

Day 3 | Cairo, fly to Luxor, cruising the Nile, Dendera

    **BB, L, D**

Featured Excursion: Temple of Karnak   

In the early morning, you will fly to Luxor, where you’ll walk through the avenues of sphinxes and halls of gigantic columns that grace the magnificent Temple of Karnak. This vast complex, situated about 2 miles (3.5 km) from the Temple of Luxor, was built and expanded over a 1,300-year period. It is the largest extant temple complex in the world and represents 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. The Temple of Karnak is composed of three main temples, smaller enclosed temples, and several outer temples. The largest temple within Karnak is dedicated to Amun, a great pharaonic god of fertility and reproduction.

Although Karnak was originally established during the Middle Kingdom, the various dynasties that came afterward continued to add onto it—hence its massive size. Karnak’s main compound, the Precinct of Amun, is entered through the Great Court, which then leads to the dazzling Great Hypostyle Hall—sometimes called the Hall of Columns. Just beyond this forest of massive, regimented columns lies the obelisk built by Queen Hatshepsut and, past that, the Festival Temple of Thutmose III.

After reveling in the ancient glory of Karnak, you’ll board a motorcoach bound for the banks of the Nile and your luxurious cruise ship, the *River Tosca*. Once onboard you’ll set sail for beautiful Dendera.

In the evening after dinner, enjoy entertainment provided by a folklore group.

Day 4 | Dendera, cruising the Nile, Luxor BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Temple of Hathor   

Featured Excursion: Temple of Luxor   




After breakfast, you will encounter Dendera's Temple of Hathor, dedicated to the cow goddess of love and beauty. The temple belongs to Egypt's Ptolemaic era, which was a time of foreign rulers who adopted Egyptian culture and religion. Built between 125 BC and 65 AD, this is one of the best-preserved temples in Egypt. It also contains a rare depiction of Cleopatra with her son Caesarion, who was fathered by Julius Caesar.

After visiting the temple complex in Dendera, you will cruise the Nile to Luxor, where you can enjoy some free time in the afternoon before an early-evening exploration of the ancient Temple of Luxor. The temple was built over hundreds of years beginning in the 14th century BC, and was dedicated to the god Amun; its chief architects were Amenhotep III (Egypt's "sun king," also known as Amenophis III) and Ramses II.

Sometimes referred to as Amon or Amon-Ra, Amun was the god of fertility and reproduction in Egyptian mythology and was considered the "father of all life." The temple paid tribute to Amun during the Opet Festival, which celebrated the annual flooding of the Nile. Once a year, a great feast was held and the statue of Amun was transported via bark (small sailing ship) from the Temple of Karnak to the Temple of Luxor. Stages of the festival are depicted in friezes along the latter temple's 300-foot (91-m) grand processional colonnade, which was begun by Amenhotep III and finished by his grandson, Tutankhamen.

To the rear of the temple are the Sun Court of Amenhotep III and the Bark Shrine, which was rebuilt by Alexander the Great (who is depicted bare-chested on the walls). The Luxor Temple complex is at its most stunning in the evening, when the sunset's gorgeous colors bring to mind the most mystical images of Egypt.

Day 5 | Luxor, cruising the Nile, Kom Ombo BB, L, D

Featured Excursions: Colossi of Memnon, Hatshepsut Temple, and Valley of the Kings   

In the morning, a motorcoach will take you to the west bank of the Nile for an up-close view of the gigantic statues of Pharaoh Amenhotep III, known as the Colossi of Memnon. The statues show 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, Hapy. At a height of 60 feet (18 m), the statues gaze eastward toward the rising sun. The figures originally sat in front of the mortuary temple of Amenhotep III, which is thought to have surpassed even Karnak in size. Unfortunately, this temple was destroyed over the centuries, but the twin Colossi continue to stand guard as they have done for the past 3,400 years.



Next, you'll visit the 97-foot-tall (29-m-tall) Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri. A member of that rare species—female pharaohs—Hatshepsut is considered by many historians to be one of the most successful rulers of ancient Egypt. Both its site and its construction make her temple unique among the landmarks of Egypt; built into the face of steep cliffs at the basin of a valley, the temple is constructed of limestone, rather than the sandstone used in most of the other funerary temples of the New Kingdom period.

From here, you'll proceed to one of the most famous archeological sites in the world: the Valley of the Kings. This valley was used for royal burials from the 18th to the 21st dynasties. Much of our understanding of Egyptian mythology has been garnered from these ancient chambers. The valley lies about 4 miles (7 km) from the Nile on the west bank. It was here that the bodies of great pharaohs such as Ramses II and Thutmose III once lay—and where the famed Tutankhamen lies still. The idea for building this kind of burial ground is thought to have originated with Pharaoh Thutmose I, who—due to the frequency of tomb robberies (even in those days)—decided to have his tomb concealed in a place far from his mortuary temple rather than near it, as past pharaohs had done. The pharaohs who followed did the same, changing a tradition that had reigned 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. Although not all of the tombs are always open to visitors, the more interesting ones usually are.

Filled with a sense of wonder, you'll return to the ship and set sail for Kom Ombo. This evening, don your *Galabeya* (traditional Egyptian attire) for a fun-filled party featuring traditional Egyptian music and activities.

Day 6 | Kom Ombo, cruising the Nile, Aswan BB, L, D

Featured Excursion: Kom Ombo Temple   

Featured Excursions: Aswan High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk, Philae Temple, and traditional Nile *felucca* ride



Following breakfast, you'll journey to Kom Ombo Temple, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and the falcon god Horus the Elder. This unusual double temple was started by Ptolemy VI Philometor (180 BC to 145 BC) at the beginning of his reign and added to by other Ptolemies, most notably Ptolemy XIII (47 BC to 44 BC), who built the inner and outer hypostyle halls. A few of the 300 crocodile mummies discovered in the vicinity are displayed inside the temple.

After seeing this fascinating site, you'll return to the ship to sail to historic Aswan, where the Middle East blends with Africa. Then you'll visit the Aswan High Dam. The dam, completed in the 1970s, has colossal dimensions, measuring 11,800 feet (3,597 m) long; 3,215 feet (980 m) wide (at its base); and 304 feet (93 m) high. Its reservoir capacity is nearly five times larger than that of the Hoover Dam.

From this marvel of modern engineering, you'll move on to the enormous Unfinished Obelisk. The structure was commissioned by Queen Hatshepsut, but the sculpting of it was halted when a flaw was discovered in the stone. If the obelisk had been completed, it would have been the largest, heaviest obelisk ever attempted, weighing more than two million pounds (908,000 kg).

Next, you'll visit the beautiful Philae Temple complex, which was originally situated on the island of Philae but was transferred to the island of Agilika after construction of the Aswan High Dam threatened to drown the temple complex. After its move, the complex was reshaped to resemble Philae. The present location was finally opened to visitors in 1980, after completion of the massive, 10-year-long relocation project. The monuments at the temple belong to the Ptolemaic and Roman periods. The three principal monuments are the Kiosk of Trajan, the Temple of Hathor, and the Temple of Isis.

The Kiosk of Trajan, also known as "pharaoh's bed," features 14 large columns and was the original entrance into the temple complex from the river. The kiosk was constructed for the Roman emperor Trajan, who ruled in the first and second centuries AD. The Temple of Hathor lies on the east side of the island. Built during the Ptolemaic period and decorated by Augustus, the temple shows carvings of music and drinking, for the cow goddess Hathor was a symbol of

pleasure as well as beauty and love. The third temple, the Temple of Isis, named for the goddess of fertility and motherhood, is the largest, occupying about one quarter of the island. After the end of the New Kingdom in the fourth century BC, the center of Isis worship reached its zenith on Philae, where this great temple was built during the 30th Dynasty. The walls are covered with scenes of Ptolemaic kings and Roman emperors performing traditional ceremonies. Later, when this temple became a church, Christians added crosses to the structure.

After Philae, you'll enjoy peaceful, scenic sailing around the botanical gardens of Aswan in a *felucca*—a traditional Egyptian boat featuring large twin sails.

Tonight, after dinner onboard, you'll be entertained by a belly dancer.

Note: If you intend to climb around the Unfinished Obelisk, please note that the climb is physically demanding.

Note: Feluccas are propelled solely by wind power and have no motors; their operation is therefore dependent upon the weather.

Day 7 | Aswan, fly to Cairo BB

Irresistible Optional Excursion: Temples of Abu Simbel



Disembark the *River Tosca*. Before flying back to Cairo you'll have the opportunity to spend the morning at leisure in Aswan or join us on a sensational optional excursion to the magnificent temples of Abu Simbel. When you arrive in Cairo later in the day, you'll check into the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza.

Irresistible Optional Excursion: Temples of Abu Simbel

Some 199 miles (320 km) outside Aswan lie the temples of Abu Simbel, carved directly into the sandstone cliffs along the Nile. This 3,500-year-old complex features magnificent structures hewn from the rock during the rule of Ramses II and later rescued from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. Buried for centuries in the sand, the site is extraordinarily well preserved. The face of the temple consists of four huge statues of Ramses seated on his throne; each statue measures nearly 70 feet (21 m) high. In an impressive feat of engineering, the temple was built so that the sun penetrates its inner confines only two days a year. On those two days, the four colossi of Ramses are bathed in a solar bronze. When you look at the colossi, you'll notice they're wearing the double crown of Upper and Lower Egypt, a symbol of dominance over the entire kingdom.

After breakfast, check out of your hotel. If your cruise/tour package includes a group departure transfer or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to Cairo International Airport for your flight home. Or you might choose to extend your vacation by exploring exotic Cairo and romantic Alexandria on a post-cruise optional extension.

Note: The order of sightseeing may change due to weather conditions.

Tour and General Information

Frequently Asked Questions

What about the weather?

Prepare for a variety of weather conditions depending on your travel season and the river you will be cruising on. Layering clothing items is always your best bet, as this allows each person to adjust to any temperature, including artificially maintained temperatures, by removing or adding items throughout the day.

What should I wear ashore?

Comfortable, sporty, smart-casual daywear is appropriate both onshore and onboard. Basic pants, khakis, walking shorts, and everyday skirts/dresses are recommended. For warmer temperatures and summer departures, we suggest lightweight clothing that can be layered, such as a mix of sweaters, lightweight knit shirts, pants, and walking shorts. For early spring, late fall, and winter departures, you'll find sweatshirts, heavier cotton or wool tops and long-sleeved shirts, and corduroy or heavy khaki pants perfectly suitable. You will engage in a significant amount of walking over uneven terrain during your time ashore. We recommend comfortable walking shoes with good ankle support. Don't forget to pack a lightweight, waterproof jacket (preferably hooded), or even a heavier weight windbreaker, for colder temperatures.

Note: Dressing modestly is recommended as a show of respect for the culture and customs of the Egyptian people. In particular, women should ensure that their shoulders are not bare and their legs are covered at least to the knee.

I have concerns about my physical ability.

What do I do?

Guests with mobility concerns need to discuss their concerns with Uniworld staff in advance of their departure. Guests requiring the use of a mobility device, such as a wheelchair, motorized scooter, or walker, may not be able to participate in many shore excursions or use such devices onboard the ships. Also, guests who may be limited in their ability to walk long distances may also have difficulties, as there is often uneven terrain on many shore excursions.

How accurate are the shore excursion/tour descriptions?

Uniworld does everything possible to ensure that shore excursions are performed as promoted and as outlined in the previous pages. In certain circumstances or for reasons beyond the control of Uniworld, it may not be possible or practical for the excursion to be performed exactly as written. The decision to not operate, to alter the operation, or change the content of and/or otherwise adjust or modify any element of the excursion as advertised is at the sole discretion of Uniworld, always taking into account the safety and best interests of the guests, and the intent of the overall product delivery. Any such modifications to excursions will not result in eligibility for a refund.

Can the itinerary change? What happens if it does change?

You can count on the value of Uniworld's experience and regional knowledge to make sure you enjoy your cruise/tour even when conditions beyond our control occur. The very nature of a river, its sources, and its networks of bridges and locks means that there will be times when weather or other conditions in a region require Uniworld to make adjustments and modifications to the operation of an itinerary. Although every effort is made to keep itineraries as advertised, Uniworld reserves the right to make changes and substitutions as may be necessary to ensure the safety of our guests and the vessels. Itineraries may need to be altered specifically because of water levels. Time permitting, every possible effort will be made to alert guests in advance of boarding of any known changes. Otherwise, all guests will be informed onboard of changes and amendments. Any changes to itineraries, including the addition of extensive motorcoach touring to effect delivery of the intended itinerary operation, will not result in eligibility for a refund.

What time will excursions depart?

On the second day of the land portion of each itinerary the Tour Manager will brief all guests about what activities will be offered.

All shore excursions are carefully coordinated to the ship's daily schedule. Just prior to dinner each evening (or perhaps earlier) your Tour Manager will brief all guests about what activities will take place the next day. This briefing includes information about departure times, specifics about any shore excursions/tours not covered in this booklet, suggested shopping and restaurant recommendations, and other important information about the port of call. In addition

to the briefing, a daily program will be distributed to each guest's stateroom every evening. This program provides a written overview of all onboard and onshore events taking place the next day.

How can I book the optional excursions listed in the booklet?

Reservations for the optional excursions on your cruise can be made directly with your Tour Manager onboard the ship. Charges for optional excursions will be added to your onboard account. In Egypt, and on pre- and post-cruise extensions, payment for optional excursions will be made directly to your Tour Manager via credit card. We cannot accept cash payments for optional excursions. A briefing will be held the day prior to any optional excursion to go over any information you may need to make an informed purchase decision. Operation of optional excursions is subject to a minimum number of participants. No refunds are available for any optional excursions canceled by the guest within 24 hours of the start of the excursion or if the excursion was pre-purchased.

Does each motorcoach or walking group have its own tour guide?

The services of an English-speaking, professionally trained and educated Egyptologist will be provided throughout your trip to give you an "insider's view" of Egypt's ancient wonders.

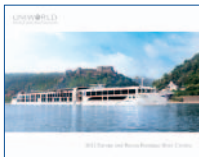
What about tipping?

Gratuities should be in accordance with each guest's personal satisfaction. Please refer to the "Gratuities" section of this book for specific recommendations and guidelines (page 12).

What is the transportation like on excursions?

Uniworld works with some of the world's best tour companies, all of which are chosen with our exacting standards in mind. To ensure your maximum enjoyment of each excursion, all motorcoaches seat 40 – 45 people and are air-conditioned whenever possible. There are a few destinations where the equipment may not be of a similar standard and, in such cases, the best possible transportation will be arranged. Rest stops are provided throughout the course of the excursion, as most motorcoaches used for excursions will not have onboard toilets.

The world's only authentic boutique cruise line™



Europe and Russia Boutique River Cruises

There are many ways to travel through Europe and Russia, but none compare to the luxury, comfort, and convenience of a Uniworld Boutique River Cruise. Uniworld offers 32 itineraries ranging from 8 to 32 days along the great rivers and waterways of Europe and Russia.



Egypt & the Nile Boutique River Cruises and Tours

The Nile River is the gateway to Egypt's most magnificent treasures, and now you can discover them in first-class style while sailing onboard the luxurious all-suite *River Tosca*.



Asia River Cruises and Tours

From the Great Wall of China to Cambodia's Angkor Wat. From spiritual Tibet to bucolic Vietnam. And from the mighty Yangtze to the languid Mekong, discover the places you've longed to see in China, Vietnam, and Cambodia while traveling onboard the finest ships and staying in deluxe, luxury hotels.



UNIWORLD®
BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISE COLLECTION®



Uniworld is a member of the family-owned The Travel Corporation and is renowned and trusted for its outstanding quality, service, value, reliability, and financial stability.

www.TheTravelCorporation.com

For more information, please contact your preferred Travel Professional. Call Uniworld at 1-800-733-7820 or visit uniworld.com.