

CLASSICAL EXCURSIONS

Magic Along the Nile:

Aswan, Luxor and Cairo | Includes a 3-night Nile Cruise

January 8 to 18, 2025 – Wednesday to Saturday



Tuesday, 7 January Day for departures from USA: We recommend you consider Egypt Air departing New York's JFK for non-stop flight to Cairo with a connection onto Aswan – this is the most direct and easiest way to reach Aswan to start our tour. Other options include connecting flights through Europe or the Middle East. If overnighting in Cairo we can recommend the Le Meridien, Cairo Airport. A meet & Greet Transfer service is included in the tour price at all airports in Egypt,

Wednesday, 8 January · Arrive Egypt, fly to Aswan. Check-in to the Old Cataract Hotel Aswan. Day to rest and recoup. Meet our tour co-host and expert Cosmo Brockway, who will be with us for the entire journey. Dinner in the 1902 Restaurant tonight.

Thursday, 9 January · Optional morning flight and private tour to the **Temple of Abu Simbel**, return in the afternoon for a sailing on the Nile on a traditional Dahabiya with a stop in a Nubian Village.

Friday, 10 January · Ship: At Noon we board the historic Nile River steamer SS Misr. Originally built by the British Royal Navy in 1918 and later converted into a luxury Nile steamer for King Farouk. Lunch on board, then touring in the afternoon to the Temple of Philae, and the unfinished obelisk. Welcome cocktail reception on board that evening, followed by dinner.

Saturday, 11 January · Ship: Morning visit to the Temple of Kom Ombo, lunch aboard while sailing to Edfu. Late afternoon visit to the Temple at Edfu. Afternoon Tea aboard while sailing to Esna for the night.

Sunday, 12 January · Ship: Morning sailing to Luxor. After lunch, visits to Karnak and the Luxor Temples.

Monday, 13 January · Luxor: Disembark the SS Misr. Today visit the West Bank and Valley of the Kings and Queens, the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and more. Afternoon textile shopping. Check-in to the Al Moudira Hotel for 2-nights.

Tuesday, 14 January · Luxor: Special visit to see Howard Carter's villa, the Tombs of Nobles, and Alabaster shopping.

Wednesday, 15 January · Cairo: Depart this morning for flight to Cairo. Afternoon visit to the Egyptian Museum. Check-in to the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at the First Residence for 3-nights. Dinner on a rooftop in Old Cairo.

Thursday, 16 January · Cairo: Full day of touring, including the Mosque of Ibn Tulum, Manial Palace, and Gayer Anderson Curated shopping with Cosmo Brockway. Dinner in a private location.

Friday, 17 January · Cairo: Morning visit to the Great Pyramids at Giza, and the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM). Farewell Dinner in a special location.

Saturday, 18 January · Day for departures.



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Our Nile cruise will be on the **SS Misr**. The Misr cruises on Nile River between Aswan and Luxor. The 1918-built steamship was constructed in Preston (Victoria, Australia) for the Royal Navy. In 1938, the vessel was bought and converted into a luxurious "floating palace" for King Farouk I (Egypt's last monarch/reign 1936-1952). The name Misr means "Kingdom of Egypt". The vessel is currently owned by Movenpick Group

When in 1952 Egypt's monarchy was overthrown, steamship Misr became state property. The boat was allocated to the Ministry of Irrigation, where languished in a shipyard in Cairo. Bought in 2003 and with special permission from state authorities, SS Misr was entirely rebuilt according to the original drawings. In 2006, the vessel was relaunched and since then is operated as a top-luxury hotel ship.

Today, the fully restored to a 5-star propeller steamship accommodates passengers in air-conditioned, spacious cabins and suites. Misr cruise ship is elegantly furnished throughout. Saraya Lounge, Dahabia Bar and Marasem Restaurant are on the higher decks and offer wonderful views of Nile River. The period-style restaurant is situated on the main deck and serves international cuisine. Breakfast and lunch are buffet-style while dinner is waiter-served. And there is Afternoon Tea service. Special dietary requests should be made (in writing) in advance.

There is a lower sun deck with wicker chairs and Upper Sun Deck with comfortable sunbeds for relaxation and a pool. The attentive staff are always at hand to offer a cool beverage.



THIS INCLUDES:

- **ACCOMODATIONS:** Hotel and Ship for 10-nights at the Old Cataract Aswan Hotel, SS Misr, Hotel Al Moudira in Luxor and the Four Seasons Cairo Hotel at First Residence. Optional upgrades to a Senior Suite on the ship for three-nights at \$4,680 additional for the suite (one or two people); Panorama Suite at \$6,675.
- **MEALS:** Breakfast daily, all lunches and eight dinners (there is one night free in Cairo to enjoy on your own). A number of dinners will be in private venues.
- **TOURING:** All tours and admissions are included. We will be joined by Cosmo Brockway, an expert with great connections for some private and very special visits and meals.
- **MOTOR COACHES:** All buses are air conditioned.
- **FLIGHTS:** We include the flight from Luxor to Cairo.
- **TIPS & TAXES:** Gratuities for guides and drivers are included; and local taxes are included as well.

Please contact the Office of Classical Excursions to register or ask any questions: Office@ClassicalExcursions.com

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7 Club Circle, Pittsfield MA 01201 | T. 413-446-8728

Information updated as of February 2024 | Itinerary subject to change without notice.

A few photos from the January 2024 by Lani Summerville



Top: The pyramids at Giza, Cairo
Left: The tower at the Ibn Tulun Mosque, Cairo | Right: Column at the Temple of Esna on the Nile