



VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Egypt & the Eternal Nile

November 11-25, 2024

15 days for \$5,797 total price from Washington, DC

(\$5,095 air, land & cruise inclusive plus \$702 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.



An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Members of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts



VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Dear VMFA Members,

Travel with us on an exclusive 15-day small group journey to Egypt. Led by an expert Egyptian guide, witness thousands of years of history on a unique, exciting itinerary.

The tour begins in Egypt's capital and largest city, Cairo, with the Egyptian Museum and its renowned ancient sites: the Sphinx, Sakkara, and the Pyramids of Giza. Next, enjoy a relaxing three-night cruise on Lake Nasser before going on a classic Nile voyage that includes visits to Edfu's Temple of Horus and Luxor's acclaimed temples and tombs. After exploring both the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens, see Karnak—arguably the greatest temple complex of them all. The tour concludes back in Cairo with a stop at the lively Khan el-Khalili bazaar, followed by an exploration of Old Cairo. A special opportunity to discover the treasures of Jordan is available with an optional 5-day/4-night "Jordan: Petra & Amman" post-tour extension.

Space on this exciting program is limited and will fill quickly. Book today!

Sincerely,

Adele "Hutch" Livingston
Coordinator of Member Travel

THE VMFA RESERVATION FORM: EGYPT & THE ETERNAL NILE

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited's office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

EGYPT & THE ETERNAL NILE • NOVEMBER 11-25, 2024

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an upgrade to _____

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

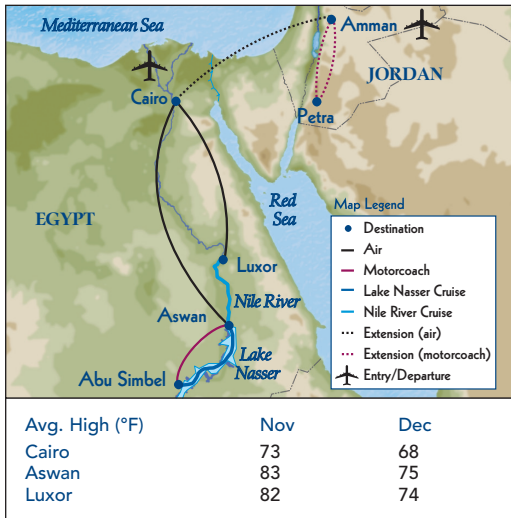
Post-Tour "Jordan: Petra & Amman" Extension: Please sign me/us up

Egypt & the Eternal Nile

15 days for \$5,797 total price from Washington, DC

(\$5,095 air, land & cruise inclusive plus \$702 airline taxes and fees)

Accompanied by an expert Egyptian guide, this singular small group journey through antiquity travels from vibrant Cairo and the Great Pyramids to Abu Simbel and the Upper Nile for a fascinating cruise on Lake Nasser. Then: a classic voyage along the Lower Nile from Aswan to Luxor before returning to Cairo.



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Cairo, Egypt

Day 2: Arrive in Cairo We arrive in the Egyptian capital and transfer to our hotel. As guests' arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities or meals planned.

Day 3: Cairo After a morning briefing, our full-day tour begins at the acclaimed Egyptian Museum, the world's greatest repository of ancient relics. Then we tour the Citadel of Saladin housing the alabaster Mosque of Mohamed Ali. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. *B,L,D*

Day 4: Cairo Today's tour starts at the open-air museum at Memphis, Egypt's first capital (3100 BCE). We continue on to the necropolis at Sakkara then to the astounding Pyramids of Giza, the wonders of antiquity that have drawn visitors for millennia. Here, we encounter the enigmatic Sphinx, whose leonine body and human face were carved from a single piece of limestone. *B,L*

Day 5: Cairo/Abu Simbel/Embark Lake Nasser Cruise Early this morning we fly south to Aswan then continue by coach across the edge of the Sahara to Abu Simbel. We board our Lake Nasser ship in time for lunch, then visit the temples and colossal 65-foot-high statues of Ramses II and his wife Nefertari that were dismantled and moved to higher ground during the construction of the Aswan High Dam. Tonight we watch a dramatic Sound & Light show at Abu Simbel. *B,L,D*

Day 6: Lake Nasser Cruising – Kasr Ibrim/Amada/Wadi el-Seboua Early risers can watch the sun climb over the temples at Abu Simbel before we sail to Kasr Ibrim, the last remaining Nubian settlement in its original location. From the sun deck we learn about this ancient site (it's forbidden to go ashore here), then sail to Amada, followed by Wadi el-Seboua. *B,L,D*

Day 7: Lake Nasser Cruising – Valley of the Lions/Aswan This morning we visit the striking avenue of sphinxes in Wadi el-Seboua's "Valley of the Lions" then cruise to Aswan. *B,L,D*

Small Group Tour Highlights

Cairo's intriguing ancient sites, including the Great Pyramids, Sphinx, Memphis, Sakkara • Old Cairo touring • Renowned Egyptian Museum • Abu Simbel's dramatic temples • Sound & Light show at Abu Simbel • Lake Nasser cruise through ancient Nubian homeland • Aswan's temples at Kalabsha • Nile felucca sail • Nile River cruise • Aswan Dam visit • Ancient temple complexes at Karnak and Luxor • Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens • Egypt's inestimable historic atmosphere

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Cairo		
2-4	Cairo	Sofitel Cairo el Gezirah	Deluxe
5-7	Abu Simbel/Lake Nasser cruise	M/S Prince Abbas	Sup. First Class
8-11	Nile cruise	M/S Sun Ray	Deluxe
12	Luxor	Steigenberger Nile Palace	Sup. First Class
13-14	Cairo	Sofitel Cairo el Gezirah	Deluxe
15	Depart Cairo for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Cover photo: On Day 4 we travel to the Giza plateau to see the legendary pyramids.



The magnificent temples at Abu Simbel commemorate Ramses II and his queen, Nefertari.

Day 8: Disembark/Aswan/Embark Nile Cruise

Ship We set out early this morning to visit New Kalabsha, site of the largest freestanding Nubian temple, which was relocated here for the construction of the Aswan High Dam. We return to our ship for breakfast then bid farewell to the crew as we embark on a tour of the Aswan High Dam. Next we visit the imposing temple to Isis on Agilkia Island before boarding our Nile cruise ship. This afternoon we embark small *feluccas*, replicas of ancient Nile sailboats, for a relaxing sail. Back on board our ship tonight we enjoy dinner together. *B,L,D*

Day 9: Nile Cruising – Kom Ombo/Edfu/Luxor

This morning we sail to the ancient trading town of Kom Ombo, with outstanding Nile views from the Temple of Sobek. After returning to our ship, we sail on to Edfu where we explore Edfu's Temple of Horus, Egypt's best-preserved temple (built between 237 BCE–57 BCE). We return to our ship for lunch as we sail to Luxor (our final sail), enjoying a quiet afternoon on the Nile. Tonight we enjoy the Captain's welcome cocktail party. *B,L,D*

Day 10: Nile Cruising – Luxor/West Bank Known in antiquity as Thebes, Luxor boasts vast temple complexes, tombs, and statues dating from 2755 BCE that represent the pinnacle of Egyptian architecture. Today we explore the West Bank, site of the haunting Valley of the Kings, where 34 royal tombs feature magnificent paintings; the Valley of the Queens; and the Temple of Hatshepsut honoring one of the few female pharaohs. We also see the massive Colossi of Memnon, two 64-foot-high statues of Amenhotep III that once guarded the gates of his mortuary temple. *B,L,D*

Day 11: Nile Cruising – Luxor/East Bank Today we tour Luxor's East Bank, home of Karnak, the greatest

temple complex of them all, whose ruins stretch for more than a mile to connect with Luxor. Built over a period of 1,500 years, Karnak boasts a breadth and diversity of buildings not seen elsewhere. We also explore Luxor Temple, whose builders included both Tutankhamun and Alexander the Great. Here, at the Great Court of Ramses II, we see the ancient obelisk whose twin presides over Place de la Concorde in Paris. *B,L,D*

Post-Tour Extension

November 25-29, 2024

Jordan: Petra & Amman

5 days/4 nights for \$1,795 total price

Single Supplement: \$435

Discover the fabled "rose-red city, half as old as time" on this exciting exploration. Plus: ancient Jerash and the capital of Amman.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Air transportation Cairo/Amman
- 4 nights' accommodations: 2 nights in Petra at Mövenpick Resort Petra (Sup. First Class), 2 nights in Amman at Grand Hyatt Amman (Deluxe)
- 9 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Extensive included sightseeing: Madaba (City of Mosaics), Mt. Nebo pilgrimage site, full day at Petra, Amman's Roman theatre and Citadel, Roman ruins of Jerash
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



ONE MUST TRAVEL,
TO LEARN.”

– MARK TWAIN

Day 12: Disembark/Luxor We have the choice to rise early to see the West Bank from above on a hot air balloon ride. We disembark our ship later this morning and visit the Luxor Museum, housing relics discovered at the site. After lunch together, we transfer to our hotel. Dinner tonight is on our own. *B,L*

Day 13: Luxor/Cairo Early this morning we fly to Cairo. After checking in at our hotel, we visit the lively Khan el-Khalili bazaar. This afternoon is free for independent exploration. *B*

Day 14: Cairo This morning we encounter Old Cairo, the district where early capital cities once stood and now only remnants remain. We visit 5th-century St. Sergius Church, the Coptic church of el-Muallaqa, and the active 10th-century St. George’s church. Mid-day we return to our hotel where tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner. *B,D*



We sail traditional feluccas along the Nile.

Day 15: Depart for U.S. Very early this morning we transfer to the airport for our return flight to the U.S. *B*

Lake Nasser Cruise

M/S Prince Abbas



Nile Cruise

M/S Sun Ray



Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within Egypt
- 13 nights’ accommodations: 6 nights in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels; 7 nights aboard Deluxe and Superior First Class ships
- 32 meals: 13 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 9 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip, including shore excursions
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Departs: November 11, 2024

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$5,497
Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Washington, DC	\$5,797
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Miami, Philadelphia	\$5,897
Denver, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$5,997
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$4,395

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy in an outside cabin on both cruises and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$702, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,395. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: \$4,995 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,695 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrades subject to availability and pricing subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking on uneven terrain and at sites of ancient ruins. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

For further information, contact VMFA Member Travel at 804-340-1519



GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing or shore excursions; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **Cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 64-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

Responsibility: The liability of VMFA, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

VMFA Member Travel reserves the right to use photos that might include you in marketing materials and for other purposes unless you specify otherwise.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

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JOIN US FOR
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Guaranteed Small Group