



Archaeological cruise on the Nile in dahabeya

EGYPT



8 days

April 2025

English speaking guide



The 'unforgettable' of the trip:

- **Cruising the Nile** aboard a 6-cabin *dahabeya*
- **Luxor's** superb **archaeological sites**, from the temple of Karnak to the tombs of the kings
- **The temple of Edfu**, dedicated to the falcon-headed god Horus
- The wonderful **temple of Kom Ombo**, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek
- The **fishing village of Basaw** and the **dromedary market of Daraw**
- The **Temple of Philae**, a majestic work from the Ptolemaic period
- The lively **markets of Aswan**, where you can buy spices and karkadè

DEPARTURES 2024/2025:

APRIL: 05 - 12 April, 12 - 19 April, 19 - 26 April



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Day 1: Saturday

Outward flight/Luxor (LXR)

Flight to Luxor. Meeting with Kanaga Africa Tours staff who will arrange transfer to the Hotel Pavillon Winter Palace or similar. Overnight stay in a double room with services.

Day 2: Sunday

Luxor/Navigation: Esna/El Hegz

After breakfast, meet your guide for a visit to the famous KARNAK site, an impressive temple complex covering more than 100 hectares. The centrepiece is the immense temple of Amun-Ra, which, from an initial core built during the Middle Kingdom by Pharaoh Sesostri I, gradually grew to colossal proportions and became a veritable 'divine city'. We will also visit the temples of Seti I and Ramesses III, the Hypostyle Hall with its 134 gigantic columns, the work of Amenhotep III, the 'feast hall' of Thutmosi III, the Sacred Lake and the Open-Air Museum, where we will see the Red Chapel of Hatshepsut and the White Chapel of Sesostri I. Afterwards, we will cross the Nile via the bridge to reach the Theban Necropolis on the left bank to discover the VALLEY OF THE KINGS, where about seventy underground tombs, commissioned by the pharaohs of the New Kingdom as their burial place, open up on the steep cliff walls. You will visit three of the most beautiful tombs among those open to visitors. Leaving the necropolis, we will cross the countryside and in 30 minutes by road south of Luxor we will reach the town of ESNA, where our *dahabeya*, a traditional 6-cabin boat with which we will continue our journey, will be moored at the port. We embark and are welcomed by the on-board staff who will serve us a drink typical of the region, karkadé, an infusion of hibiscus flowers or mint lemon juice. We will enjoy a few moments on deck before settling into our cabins. Lunch on board. NAVIGATION ALONG THE NILE RIVER to El Hegz, where we will have dinner and spend the first night on board, in double cabins with private facilities.



Welcome to Nubia!



Kalabsha Temple



Tomb in the Valley of the Kings



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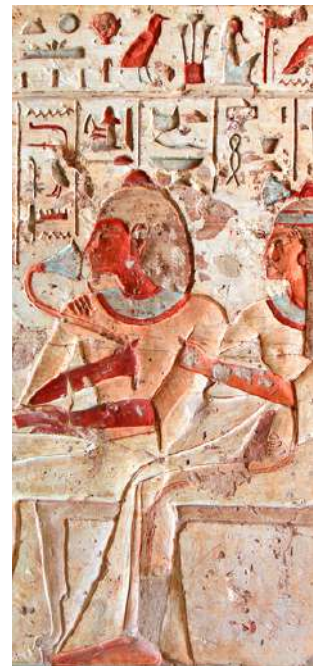
Day 3: Monday

Navigation: El Hegz/El Kaab/Edfu/Fawanza

Breakfast on board. Navigation to EL KAAB, an approximately 5,000-year-old city founded during the Neolithic period, surrounded by an earthen brick wall, erected between 747 and 332 BC. Visit to the tombs of the governors of Nekheb, the ancient city dedicated to the vulture goddess Nekhbet; here we will be able to observe the bas-reliefs and polychrome paintings decorating the walls of the tombs, dating from the end of the Middle Kingdom and the First New Kingdom, which tell of scenes from daily life and military campaigns such as that of Ahmose, son of Ibana, which is of great historical interest as it is one of the main sources narrating the expulsion of the Hyksos from the country. We will resume sailing to Edfu. Lunch on board. Departure by horse-drawn carriage to the site of EDFU, where we will visit the great temple dedicated to the god Horus, the falcon god, son of Isis and Osiris, one of the most beautiful and best preserved in Egypt. The temple stands on a site that was already considered sacred in pre-dynastic times and around the ancient shrine of Thutmosi III the great complex of the Ptolemaic era was erected as it appears today. A place of divine worship, where the feast of 'The Beautiful Union' was celebrated, the moment of the meeting between the falcon god Horus and his bride, the goddess Hathor, who came from Dendera; the site was also the site of the great annual feast of the coronation, a solemn liturgy that reaffirmed the power of the sovereign, the representative on earth of the falcon god Horus. Return on board and resume sailing to FAWANSA ISLAND. Dinner-barbecue on the island in the palm grove and dance show accompanied by Nubian songs and music. Overnight stay on board.



Embarking on the dahabeya



Interior of a tomb at El Kab

Day 4: Tuesday

Navigation: Basaw/Gebel Silsila/Beshir

Breakfast on board. We will enjoy a morning swim before resuming our navigation towards BASAW, a place off the beaten track, which will allow us more direct contact with the local reality. We will observe the travel scenes of the pilgrimage to Mecca depicted on the facades of the village houses and here we will have the opportunity to discover the fishing that the locals practise on their small boats with traditional nets. Return on board and lunch. Navigation and landing at GEBEL SILSILA or the 'Mountain of the Chain' where the Nile squeezes between two rocky massifs and where the most important sandstone quarries were located, from which many of the building materials for the buildings of various Upper Egyptian localities were taken. Back on board and sailing along a narrower stretch of the Nile with increasingly wild scenery and steep cliffs. We will see the speos of HOREMHEB, a small rock sanctuary containing seven statues, and stelae and chapels erected by various pharaohs that served as places of veneration of the Nile during solemn festivals. Dinner and overnight on board.



Temple and statue of Horus at Edfu



Along the banks of the Nile



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Day 5: Wednesday

Navigation: Beshir/Kom Ombo/Herbiab

Breakfast on board and sail to KOM OMBO, with its extraordinary temple from the Ptolemaic period, which dominates the fields below from the top of the hill. A unique 'double' temple, built for the worship of the crocodile god Sobek and the healer god Horus Haoeris, with two entrances, a double row of parallel doors and two shrines separated by a dividing wall. On the walls of the majestic temple we will be able to observe scenes of offerings, an array of surgical instruments and even an Egyptian calendar. We will have the opportunity to see crocodile mummies in an exceptional state of preservation inside a small museum near the temple. We then visit one of the largest local markets, at DARAW, the dromedary trade capital of Egypt, which arrives from Sudan via the '40-day trail' through ancient Nubia. This is an ancient trade route between the north and south of the Kingdom that was travelled by caravans of dromedaries and through which all kinds of merchandise from the various regions of Africa were transported. Return to the ship and lunch. Navigation to reach the VILLAGE OF HERBIAB, where we can discover the methods of millenary agriculture dating back to Pharaonic times and have time to enjoy a last swim on the beach before setting off again in the direction of Aswan. Dinner on board and overnight stay.



High Relief in the Temple of Kom Ombo



Daraw dromedary market



Encounters along the Nile



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Day 6: Thursday

Navigation: Herbiab/Aswan, Philae

Breakfast on board and navigation, lunch on board. We will leave by vehicle to reach the pier where we will embark to the island of Aglikia, where the temple complex of PHILAE has been relocated. Visit to the site dedicated to the goddess Isis, with its temple from the Ptolemaic period of rare beauty, the temple of Hathor, erected under Ptolemy VI and enlarged in Roman times by Augustus, the elegant kiosk of Trajan, the temple of Augustus and the monumental gate of Diocletian. After the visit we can enjoy a wonderful sunset with a view of the temples. Back on board, dinner and overnight stay.



Philae Temple on Aglikia Island



Portal of the Ptolemaic Temple

Day 7: Friday

Aswan

Breakfast on board and disembarkation. Morning dedicated to visiting ASWAN, such as the Nubian Museum and the so-called unfinished obelisk, a gigantic monument whose construction was interrupted due to cracks in the granite. Lunch in a restaurant. Following this, we will cruise the Nile in a FELUCCA, the traditional sailing boat of Nubia, and visit the HELLPHANTINE ISLAND, with the temples of Khnoum and Satet, and the botanical garden on KIRCHNER ISLAND, a splendid tropical paradise transformed into a garden in 1928. We end the day with a visit to the souk in Aswan, where we can buy spices, karkadè and characteristic Nubian souvenirs. Accommodation at the Hotel Basma or similar and overnight stay in a double room with private facilities.



In a felucca on the Nile

Day 8: Saturday

Aswan (ASW)/Return flight

After breakfast transfer to the airport in time for your return flight or onwards to other destinations. End of services.



At the Aswan market



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Individual participation fee in double room
(min. 2/max. 12 pax)

2,390 €/pax



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Supplements:

- Enrollment fee: **free!**
- Visa service: **60 €**
- Single room/cabin: **660 €**
- Suite: **350 €/pax**
- Holidays (Christmas/New Year/Easter): **100 €/pax**
- Extensions **on request**: Luxor, Abu Simbel, Cairo/Giza/Saqqara, Red Sea, Siwa/Fayoum/White Desert, Dahabeya cruise on Lake Nasser from Aswan to Abu Simbel...

The fee includes:

- English-speaking guide on board;
- English-speaking guide in Luxor and Aswan;
- Visits and excursions as scheduled;
- 5-night cruise on board a dahabeya in a standard cabin with private bathroom;
- All transfers by private transport (depending on the size of the group);
- Full board except for dinners in Luxor and Aswan;
- Mineral water, tea, coffee and infusions on board;
- 7 overnight stays as mentioned in the itinerary (2 in hotels, 5 in cabins).

The fee does not include:

- The visa for Egypt;
- Insurance for cancellation, health, luggage;
- Air flights ;
- Mineral water (except on board);
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages;
- Dinners in Luxor and Aswan;
- Tips for photos and videos;
- Tips and expenses of a personal nature;
- Everything mentioned in 'supplements';
- Anything not expressly mentioned in 'the fee includes'.

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