



**ANCIENT ORIGINS EGYPT TOUR 2024**  
**14 NIGHTS/15 DAYS**  
**DATES - To be confirmed**

*Itinerary*



**Day 1**

**Arrive in Egypt**

Arrive in Egypt. Pick up at Cairo International Airport and transfer to Giza hotel. Orientation in evening. First night in 5\* Giza hotel (Steigenberger Pyramids).  
Overnight in Giza Steigenberger Pyramids Hotel - Pyramid view upgrade



## **Day 2**

### **El Fayyum**

Departure by bus for the el-Fayyum Oasis. In the morning travel by bus to the el Fayyum Oasis. Visit the **Pyramid of Hawara**, built for Amenemhet IV, and also the site of the fabled **Egyptian Labyrinth**, one of the most mysterious constructions of the ancient world finished by Amenemhet IV's daughter, Egypt's fabled first female king, Sobekneferu.

Lunchtime at hotel. Free afternoon with lecture on the next day's visit to Qasr el-Sagha temple. First night in el-Fayyum

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Helnan Auberge Fayoum Hotel



### **Day 3**

#### **El Fayyum**

Journey by 4 x 4 vehicles north of the great **Lake Birket Quran** (the Lake Moeris of classical times) and arrive at the **Qasr el Sagha temple**. Made of polygonal blocks and cyclopean masonry, this mysterious megalithic structure is one of the remaining enigmas of ancient Egypt. We spend the entire day investigating the temple and the surrounding area looking for clues as to who built it, when and why. Experience the evening at the temple site before returning to the hotel. Second night in el-Fayyum.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Helnan Auberge Fayoum Hotel





#### Day 4

#### Saqqara

In the morning leave el-Fayyum for **Saqqara**. See the enigmatic **Serapeum**, a labyrinth of underground catacombs housing gigantic sarcophagi said to have once contained the mummified remains of sacred Apis bulls. See evidence of the advanced technology used in the construction of these massive granite sarcophagi. Visit the **Pyramid of Teti** to see the Pyramid Texts recording the journey of the soul of the pharaoh to the afterlife and visit the Hed-sed court in front the **Step Pyramid**, built for the pharaoh Djoser around 2675 BCE. Journey on to Giza. Second night at Giza.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Giza Steigenberger Pyramids Hotel – Pyramid view upgrade



## **Day 5**

### **Giza Pyramid and Sphinx**

**Private visit to the Sphinx** enclosure to watch the sunrise between 5-7am. The Sphinx is one of the most iconic monuments in the world. It is the head of a pharaoh and the body of a lion, thought to represent Khafre, the builder of the Second Pyramid circa 2550 BCE. Afterwards view the exterior of the **Great Pyramid**, the panorama view, and the **Valley Temple of Khafre. Private visit to the Great Pyramid** at night. Third night at Giza.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Giza Steigenberger Pyramids Hotel – Pyramid view upgrade



## Day 6

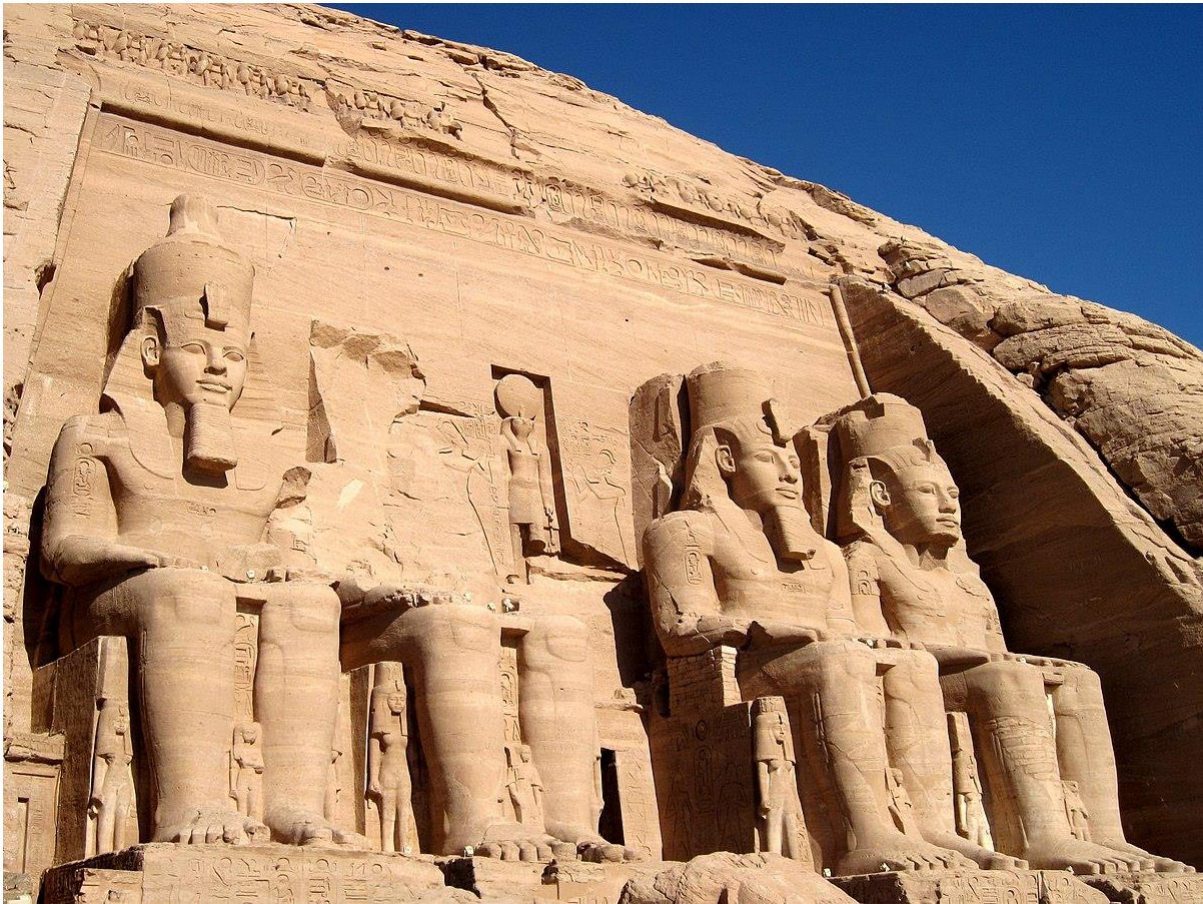
### Grand Egyptian Museum

Visit the **Grand Egyptian Museum**. Depart to Cairo Airport for a flight to Aswan. First night in Aswan. *Note, the museum is not yet open but hopefully it will be by Feb 2023.* In case the Grand Museum is not open, we will provide visits to the Egyptian Museum and the Museum of Civilization, including the Mummy Hall.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Movenpick Hotel, Aswan Island - Nile View upgrade





## Day 7

### Abu Simbel

Drive by bus to **Abu Simbel**. On the way stop off to inspect a natural rock mesa on the edge of the Libyan Desert. Examine its geology and take in the ambience of the desert environment. In the afternoon visit the iconic rock-cut temple of Abu Simbel, built during the reign of Rameses II and moved to its current position during a mammoth engineering project following the building of the Nasser Dam in the 1960s. See also the rock-cut temple of his wife Nefertari. Second night in Aswan.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Movenpick Hotel, Aswan Island - Nile View upgrade



## Day 8

### Philae Temple & Unfinished Obelisk

Visit the **Temple of Philae** dedicated to the Goddess Isis. Later, visit the **gigantic unfinished granite monolith** still attached to the bedrock in a quarry. Examine the methods used to extract obelisks and statues from the living rock including the inexplicable scoop marks suggestive of the use of a lost technology. **Felucca ride** to Elephantine Island where you can see the ruins of the Khnum Temple. Free time in the evening for wandering in Aswan's old markets. First night on Nile Cruise.

Meals: B L D

Overnight on 5\* Nile Cruise Ship





**Day 9**

**Kom Ombo Temple**

Sail north to Luxor. Disembark to visit the **Temple of Sobek at Kom Ombo**, built under the rule of the Ptolemaic kings circa 180–150 BC. Second night on Nile Cruise.

Meals: B L D

Overnight on 5\* Nile Cruise Ship



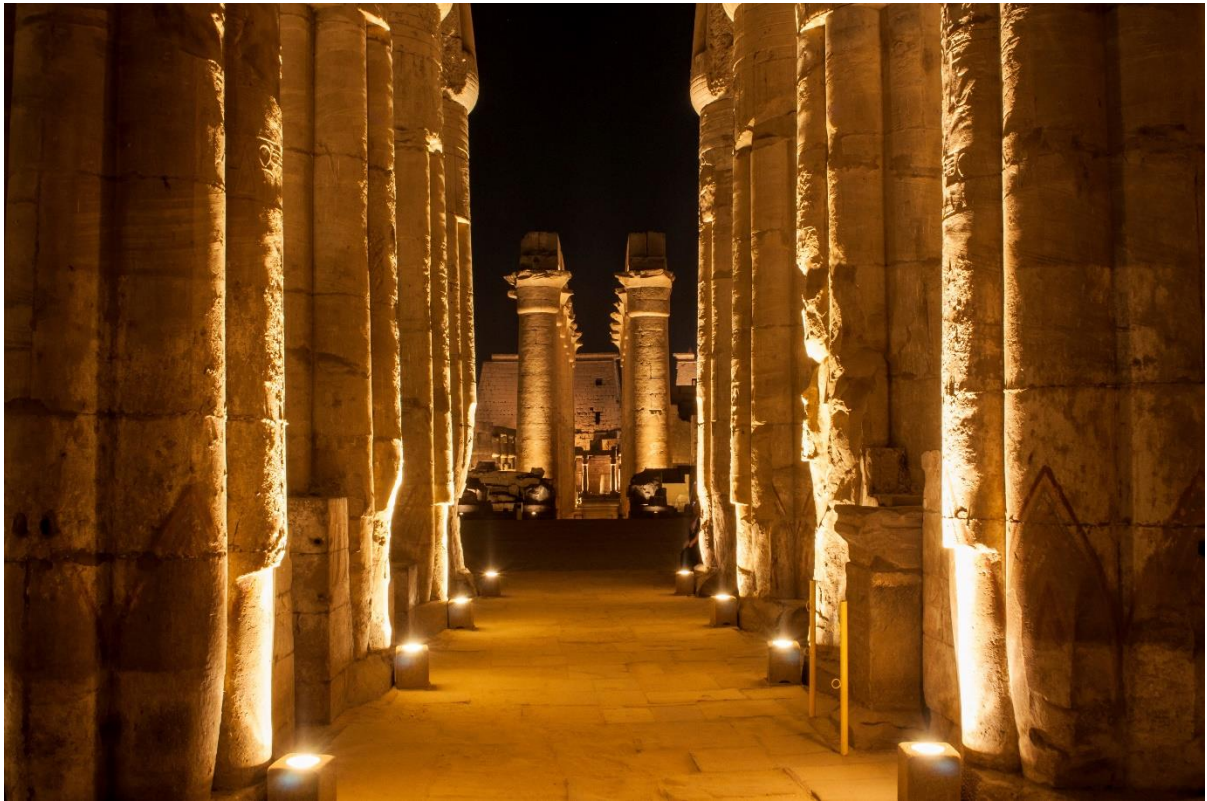
## Day 10

### Edfu Temple

Continue on Nile Cruise. Disembark during the day to visit the magnificent **temple of Horus** at Edfu, built during the Ptolemaic period circa 175 BC. Its walls contain the most complete accounts of the creation of the world and the coming of the gods during the age of zep tepi, the First Time. See the temple's holy of holies which includes a wooden boat on which the God Horus came down from heaven. Third night on Nile cruise.

Meals: B L D

Overnight on 5\* Nile Cruise Ship



## Day 11

### **Karnak Temple & Luxor Temple**

Arrive in Luxor, ancient Thebes, the capital of Egypt in the south. Disembarkation, followed by a visit to Karnak Temple. Transfer to the hotel and check in for some rest. In the early evening visit the **Temple of Luxor**, illuminated by lights. Built during the New Kingdom period, 1575-1050 BCE, it marks the beginning of the newly reopened Sphinx Avenue, which has 1600 sphinxes - 800 on either side - lining the ceremonial site to Karnak temple. First night in Luxor.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Steigenberger or Sonesta Luxor Hotel - Nile View upgrade





## Day 12

### Abydos Temple & Dendera Temple

Journey north by luxury bus to the **Temple of Abydos**, built for King Seti I around 1290-1279 BCE. See also the extraordinary ancient structure known as the Osireion, a subsurface temple located beyond the present temple and thought to be a symbolic representation of the Tomb of Osiris, god of the dead. See the building's cyclopean masonry and polygonal walls similar to those of the Qasr el Sagha temple in the el-Fayyum Oasis and the Valley Temple of Khafre at Giza. Ponder on its immense age and unique construction. After lunch continue on to the **Temple of Hathor at Dendera**. Visit its underground crypts where strange reliefs indicate the use by ancient Egyptians of advanced technologies. Return to Luxor. Second night in Luxor.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Steigenberger or Sonesta Luxor Hotel - Nile View upgrade



### Day 13

#### **Valley of the Kings, Ramesseum & Queen Hatshepsut's Temple**

Cross the Nile by boat and enter the Theban **West Bank**, the ancient Egyptian realm of the dead. Visit the **Valley of the Kings** and see **the Tomb of Tutankhamun** as well as other tombs decorated with reliefs showing the books of the underworld. Also visit **the Ramesseum** with its astronomical ceiling and colossal statues of Rameses II, as well as the mortuary **temple of Queen Hatshepsut**. Stop off for photos at **the Colossi of Memnon**, gigantic statues of the pharaoh Amenhotep IV dating to circa 1375 BCE. Third night in Luxor.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in Steigenberger or Sonesta Luxor Hotel - Nile View upgrade





#### **Day 14**

#### **Habu Temple, Deir Medina & Howard Carter's House**

Visit the West Bank again to cover the rest of the important sightseeing which can't be missed there, including the Habu Temple, Deir Medina, and Howard Carter's House. In the early evening fly back to Cairo, transfer to a hotel in the Heliopolis area.

Meals: B L D

Overnight in 5\* Cairo Heliopolis area hotel





## Day 15

### Cairo departure

Final goodbyes and transfer to Cairo airport.

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## Pricing

### ANCIENT ORIGINS TOUR OF EGYPT

**14 NIGHTS/15 DAYS - Dates to be confirmed**

**Price per person based on double occupancy: US\$6,495**

Please note prices are based on a single person sharing a room with another tour guest

**Single occupancy supplement: US\$945**

### TOUR DEPOSIT US\$1000 PER PERSON

A deposit of US\$1000 per person is required to secure immediate booking. The remainder of the payment will be required ten weeks before the start date of the tour.

### PRICE PER PERSON INCLUDES

- All enquiry handling and follow-ups
- Tour liaising and trip documentation for booked clients
- Financial trust account protection for all clients
- Public liability insurance
- Arrival transfers for all clients and tour leaders (international flight)
- One shared group departure transfer at Cairo Airport (international flight)

- Accommodation: 14 nights in luxury hotels including daily breakfast:
- Three nights in 5\* hotel Giza (Steigenberger Pyramids – Pyramid view upgrade)
- Two nights in 5\* hotel el-Fayyum (Helnan Auberge Fayoum Hotel)
- Two nights in 5\* hotel Aswan (Movenpick, Aswan Island - Nile View upgrade)
- Three nights full board on 5\* Nile Cruise
- Three nights in 5\* hotel Luxor (Steigenberger or Sonesta Luxor - Nile View upgrade)
- One night in 5\* hotel Cairo (Heliopolis area).
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner on all days (except arrival and departure)
- Sundry tips (for local porters, local reps, etc.)
- Professional local tour guide/escort
- Tour leader
- Private visits to the Great Pyramid and the Sphinx Enclosure
- Domestic flights (Cairo - Aswan; Luxor-Cairo)
- All sightseeing tours as per itinerary
- All entrance fees as per itinerary
- All transportation, including 4x4 vehicles for el-Fayyum Oasis expedition
- Transfers at arrival and departure at all Egyptian airports (for domestic flights)
- Entry to King Tut's Tomb in the Valley of the Kings
- All service charges and taxes

**PRICE PER PERSON EXCLUDES**

- International flights
- Entry visa for Egypt (US\$25 on arrival)
- Travel insurance (mandatory)
- Bottled mineral water (discouraging plastic waste)
- Laundry
- Personal items
- Drinks during meals
- Tips for the local tour escort