The Tour Includes:

- Return to Luxor and take the ferry across the Nile to reach the West Bank, home to many of the greatest temples and tombs of the kings of ancient Egypt, including the temple of the Valley of the Kings, the mortuary temple of Hatshepsut, and the temple of Luxor.
- Explore the ancient city of Thebes, including the temple of Karnak, the temple of Luxor, and the temple of Amenhotep III.
- Visit the ancient city of Luxor, home to many of the greatest temples and tombs of the kings of ancient Egypt, including the temple of Luxor, the temple of Karnak, and the temple of Amenhotep III.
- Enjoy a day trip to the Valley of the Kings, home to many of the greatest tombs of the kings of ancient Egypt.
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Monday, March 13: CAIRO
Hotel: Mena House Hotel

This morning we will be at leisure in Old Cairo. We will then be on our way to visit the Giza Necropolis, with its impressive pyramids, Sphinx, and subsidiary shrines. We will also visit Karnak Temple, the largest religious complex of ancient Egypt. This evening we will meet with Dr. Richard Zuckerman of the American Research Center in Egypt, as well as A&E's presentation Egypt: Quest for the Pharaohs. Transfer to the airport for our Lufthansa flight to Chicago.

Optional Alexandria Extension:

Our tour doesn’t have to end in Cairo. Join our optional 4-day extension to the port city of Alexandria. We visit many thrilling sites of this ancient city, including:

• Roman theatrical and residential complex of Kom el Shoqafa
• Roman governor’s palace and amphitheater of Kom el Dikka
• Library of Alexandria
• Catacombs of Kom el Dikka
• Temple of a much older building. On the roof of the Temple of Hathor, goddess of love, music, and magic, there is one of the most beautifully painted walls still surviving from pharaonic times, and the extremely small temple of Edfu (140 BC).

Wednesday, March 16: LUXOR
Meals: Breakfast & lunch

Returning to the Nile banks, we now head for the West Bank of Luxor to explore ancient Thebes, site of the Temples of Luxor and Karnak, and the Valley of the Kings. The Valley contains the tombs of numerous pharaohs, with the final resting place of the greatest of all pharaohs, Tutankhamun. This vast area, which gives us an intimate view of life in ancient Egypt, is the largest open-air museum in the world. You will have the opportunity to see some of the magnificent temples of Thebes, including the valley temple of Amenhotep III, the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, and the three great gates of Pharaoh Ramesses II.

Friday, March 17: LUXOR
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today we will move on to the East Bank of Luxor and explore the City of Thebes. We will visit the Colossi of Memnon and the Valley of the Monuments, referring back to the true meaning and function of these impressive monuments. We will then proceed to the Temple of Amenhotep III, one of his most famous List of Kings and some of the most intact monuments of ancient Egypt. The 12thDynasty temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri, one of the most detailed temple projects, is also open to us.

Saturday, March 18: LUXOR
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today we will tour the West Bank of Luxor. We will visit the Temples of Karnak and Luxor, giving us an opportunity to explore the human and divine aspects of the religion of ancient Egypt. This evening we will visit the swimming pool at our hotel.

Sunday, March 19: LUXOR
Meals: Breakfast & lunch

We will take a walking tour in Islamic Cairo. This will visit the Coptic Museum, Church of St. George, Al-Azhar University, and the Mosque of Sultan Hassan. We will end our tour by enjoying a boat ride on the Nile, passing through the famed Tales of the Nile at the Crocodile Bazaar and lunch at a delightful restaurant.

Monday, March 20: CRUISE/ ASWAN
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

This morning we will be at leisure. This afternoon we will continue our touring on the west bank of Luxor to visit the Tombs of the Nobles and the Valley of the Queens.

Tuesday, March 21: ASWAN
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

As we sail north to Aswan, we will sail through the granite quarries where the Great Obelisk was quarried. We will arrive this afternoon to visit the Buddhist Monastery of Qertassi and the shrine of Ramesses II from the rising waters of the Nile resulting from the construction of the Aswan High Dam.

Friday, March 24: ASWAN
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Our optional 4-day extension to the port city of Alexandria.

Saturday, March 25: CAIRO
Meals: Breakfast & lunch

This morning we will be at leisure in Luxor. This afternoon we will drive north through villages of Upper Egypt to Aswan. We will see the beautiful Aswan Dam, Lake Nasser, and the High Dam. Today’s touring includes the granite quarries where the Great Obelisk was quarried. We will arrive this afternoon to visit the Buddhist Monastery of Qertassi and the shrine of Ramesses II from the rising waters of the Nile resulting from the construction of the Aswan High Dam.

Friday, March 24: ASWAN
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

We will board our cruise boat this morning. We will be thrilled to see the remaining monuments of the temple complex of Kom Ombo, built in the reign of Augustus on the site of an in-situ temple of Horus and Hathor. The temple complex dedicated to Horus, lion-headed god of Edfu, and Hathor, goddess of love, music, and magic, can be seen. For the next nine days we will sail up the Nile, camping on the beaches at night in order to explore the spectacular monuments in Egypt, and the remains of more than 200 ancient cities. We will have a full crew to give us an exceptional tour of the Nile. At night we will camp on the Nile banks and have a good bed to sleep on. We will have a full crew to give us an exceptional tour of the Nile.

Wednesday, March 15: CAIRO
Meals: Breakfast & dinner

This morning we will be at leisure in Luxor. This afternoon we will sail from Luxor to Aswan.

Thursday, March 23: CRUISE/ ASWAN
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today’s touring includes the granite quarries where the Great Obelisk was quarried. We will arrive this afternoon to visit the Buddhist Monastery of Qertassi and the shrine of Ramesses II from the rising waters of the Nile resulting from the construction of the Aswan High Dam.

Wednesday, March 22: CRUISE/ ASWAN
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today our leg up the Nile will be leisurely, perhaps the only true leisurely leg of the entire cruise. This evening we will sail north to the village of Kitchener to board our cruise boat. We will arrive this afternoon to visit the Buddhist Monastery of Qertassi and the shrine of Ramesses II from the rising waters of the Nile resulting from the construction of the Aswan High Dam.

Friday, March 24: ASWAN
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

This morning we will be at leisure. This afternoon we will board our cruise boat this morning. We will be thrilled to see the remaining monuments of the temple complex of Kom Ombo, built in the reign of Augustus on the site of an in-situ temple of Horus and Hathor. The temple complex dedicated to Horus, lion-headed god of Edfu, and Hathor, goddess of love, music, and magic, can be seen. For the next nine days we will sail up the Nile, camping on the beaches at night in order to explore the spectacular monuments in Egypt, and the remains of more than 200 ancient cities. We will have a full crew to give us an exceptional tour of the Nile. At night we will camp on the Nile banks and have a good bed to sleep on. We will have a full crew to give us an exceptional tour of the Nile.

Friday, March 17: LUXOR
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today our leg up the Nile will be leisurely, perhaps the only true leisurely leg of the entire cruise. This evening we will sail north to the village of Kitchener to board our cruise boat. We will arrive this afternoon to visit the Buddhist Monastery of Qertassi and the shrine of Ramesses II from the rising waters of the Nile resulting from the construction of the Aswan High Dam.

Saturday, March 16: LUXOR
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Thursday, March 15: CAIRO
Meals: Breakfast & dinner

This morning we will be at leisure in Luxor. This afternoon we will sail from Luxor to Aswan.

Thursday, March 23: CRUISE/ ASWAN
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Today’s touring includes the granite quarries where the Great Obelisk was quarried. We will arrive this afternoon to visit the Buddhist Monastery of Qertassi and the shrine of Ramesses II from the rising waters of the Nile resulting from the construction of the Aswan High Dam.