



**WONDERS OF THE MIDDLE EAST TOUR:  
EGYPT & JORDAN  
ITINERARY PREPARED FOR  
NEWMARKET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

## Day by day itinerary:

### Egypt...

#### Day 1, 30 October, 2020

##### Depart Toronto

Make your way to the airport for flight to Cairo.

#### Day 2, 31 October, 2020

##### Arrival in Cairo

Welcome to Egypt, the birth of civilization. Purchase your Egyptian Visa then clear customs and immigration. You will be warmly welcomed by a Tourcan Vacations representative and transferred to your hotel. **This evening enjoy a Welcome dinner at the hotel.**

**Overnight: Cairo Marriott Hotel**

**Meals: Dinner**

#### Day 3, 1 November, 2020

##### Full Day Cairo City Tour

Start your day with a guided tour of the Egyptian Museum where you will find artifacts of the Pharaonic era and the treasures of King Tutankhamen's tomb. Drive to Old Cairo, where early Judaism and Christianity flourished in Egypt. Visit the Ben Ezra Synagogue and Saint Sergius Church. After lunch, drive to the Citadel of Saladin and visit Mohamed Ali Alabaster Mosque. Enjoy a walking tour of the largest 13th century covered oriental market, Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

**Overnight: Marriott Hotel**

**Meals: Breakfast & Lunch**

#### Day 4, 2 November 2020

##### Cairo - Pyramids & Sphinx Giza Tour

After breakfast, a scenic drive will take you to the Pyramids & Sphinx of Giza, which have stood for the last 5000 years. Complete your visit at Giza with a tour of the Solar Boat Museum. After lunch, continue to the ancient city of Memphis, the first capital of United Upper and Lower Egypt, and then visit Sakkara, site of the Step Pyramid of Zoser. This evening Return to the Pyramids area in the evening for a Sound & Light Show. After the show you will be transferred back to your hotel.

**Overnight: Marriott Hotel**

**Meals: Breakfast & Lunch**

**Day 5, 3 November 2020**  
**Cairo - Luxor**

After breakfast, transfer to Cairo domestic airport for your flight to Luxor. On arrival you will be met and transferred to the cruise ship for a 4 night Nile cruise. This afternoon you will start visits and leave for the East Bank of Luxor where you will enjoy discovering the complexes of Karnak and Luxor temples with your guide. The Karnak Temple Complex—usually called Karnak—comprises a vast conglomeration of ruined temples, chapels, pylons, and other buildings, notably the Great Temple of Amen and a massive structure begun by Pharaoh Ramses II (ca. 1391–1351 BC). An ancient sacred lake is part of the site as well. It is located near Luxor, some 500 km south of Cairo, in Egypt.

The area around Karnak was the ancient Egyptian Ipet-isut ("The Most Selected of Places") and the main place of worship of the eighteenth dynasty Theban Triad with the god Amun as its head. It is part of the monumental city of Thebes. The Karnak complex takes its name from the nearby and partly surrounded, modern village of el-Karnak, and some 2.5 km north of Luxor.

Luxor Temple is a great temple complex in modern Luxor dedicated to Amun, a creator god often fused with the sun-god Ra into Amun-Ra. Luxor Temple is a large Ancient Egyptian temple complex located on the east bank of the River Nile in the city today known as Luxor (ancient Thebes) and was founded in 1400 B.C.E. , Known in the Egyptian language as ipet resyt, or "the southern sanctuary", the temple was dedicated to the Theban Triad of Amun, Mut, and Chons and was built during the New Kingdom, the focus of the annual Opet Festival, in which a cult statue of Amun was paraded down the Nile from nearby Karnak Temple (ipet-isut) to stay there for a while, with his consort Mut, in a celebration of fertility – whence its name.

The earliest parts of the temple still standing are the barque chapels, just behind the first pylon. They were built by Hatshepsut, and appropriated by Tuthmosis III. The main part of the temple - the colonnade and the sun court were built by Amenhotep III, and a later addition by Rameses II, who built the entrance pylon, and the two obelisks (one of which was taken to France, and is now at the centre of the Place de la Concorde) linked the Hatshepsut buildings with the main temple. To the rear of the temple are chapels built by Tuthmosis III, and Alexander. During the Roman era, the temple and its surroundings were a legionary fortress and the home of the Roman government in the area.

Return to the boat for afternoon tea and dinner on board.

In the evening enjoy night entertainment.

**Overnight: Sonesta St. George Cruise**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

**Day 6, 4 November 2020**

**Luxor - Esna - Edfu**

Breakfast on board.

This morning we shall visit Luxor's West bank. Visit the burial places of the Pharaohs - the Valley of the Kings - where Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamen in 1922. Then visit Thebes Necropolis, El Deir El Bahari of Hatshepsut and Colossi of Memnon facing the Nile. Lunch on board, Sailing to Edfu via Esna and enjoy Afternoon tea and later dinner on board. In the evening enjoy night entertainment.

**Overnight: Sonesta St. George Cruise**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

**Day 7, 5 November 2020**

**Edfu -Kom Ombo - Aswan**

Breakfast on board.

This morning you visit Horus Temple in Edfu. (07:00)

Visit the Temple of Horus - dedicated to the falcon headed god; it was built during the reigns of six Ptolemies. We have a great deal of information about its construction from reliefs on outer areas. It was begun in 237 BC by Ptolemy III Euergetes I and was finished in 57 BC. Most of the work continued throughout this period with a brief interlude of 20 years while there was unrest during the period of Ptolemy IV and Ptolemy V Epiphanes. This is not only the best preserved ancient temple in Egypt, but the second largest after Karnak. It was believed that the temple was built on the site of the great battle between Horus and Seth. Hence, the current temple was but the last in a long series of temples build on this location. It is said that the original structure housing a statue of Horus was a grass hut built in prehistoric times.

Sail to Kom Ombo. (08:45)

Lunch on board.

Visit Kom Ombo Temple.

Located in the town of Kom-Ombo, about 28 miles north of Aswan, the Temple, dating to the Ptolemies, is built on a high dune overlooking the Nile. The actual temple was started by Ptolemy VI Philometor in the early second century BC. Ptolemy XIII built the outer and inner hypostyle halls. The outer enclosure wall and part of the court were built by Augustus sometime after 30 BC, and are mostly gone. There are also tombs from the Old Kingdom in the vicinity of Kom-Ombo village. The Temple known as Kom Ombo is actually two temples consisting of a Temple to Sobek and a Temple of Haroeris. In ancient times, sacred crocodiles basked in the sun on the river bank near here. The Temple has scant remains, due first to the changing Nile, then the Copts who once used it as a church, and finally by builders who used the stones for new buildings. Continue Sailing to Aswan. Tonight Enjoy Dinner on board and the evening night entertainment..

**Overnight: Sonesta St. George Cruise**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

## Day 8, 6 November 2020

### Aswan Sightseeing

Today visit the High Dam, Unfinished Obelisk and Philae Temple. Visit the High Dam, located near Aswan, this world famous Dam was an engineering miracle when it was built in the 1960s. It contains 18 times the material used in the Great Pyramid of Cheops. The Dam is 11,811 feet long, 3215 feet thick at the base and 364 feet tall. Today it provides irrigation and electricity for the whole of Egypt and, together with the old Aswan Dam built by the British between 1898 and 1902, 6km down river, wonderful views for visitors. From the top of the two Mile long High Dam you can gaze across Lake Nassar, the huge reservoir created when it was built, to Kalabsha temple in the south and the huge power station to the north.

The High Dam created a 30% increase in the cultivatable land in Egypt, and raised the water table for the Shara as far away as Algeria. The electricity producing capability of the Dam doubled Egypt's available supply.

Visit the Unfinished Obelisk. Much of the red granite used for ancient temples and colossi came from quarries in the Aswan area. Around these quarries are many inscriptions, many of which describe successful quarrying projects. The Unfinished Obelisk located in the Northern Quarry still lies where a crack was discovered as it was being hewn from the rock. Possibly intended as a companion to the Lateran Obelisk, originally at Karnak but now in Rome, it would have weighed over 2.3 million pounds and would have been the world's largest piece of stone ever handled. However, a crack in the stone occurred, which caused it to be abandoned. Tools left by its builders have given us much insight into how such work was performed. The site has recently been renovated and equipped with tourist facilities. Nearby is the Fatimid Cemetery. You will also visit the Philae Temple.

Philae in Greek or Pilak in ancient Egyptian, meaning 'the end,' defined the southernmost limit of Egypt. It was begun by Ptolemy II and completed by the Roman Emperors.

The Temple was dedicated to the goddess Isis, the wife of Osiris and mother of Horus. These three characters dominate ancient Egyptian culture and their story possesses all the drama of a Shakespearian tragedy. The god Osiris is murdered and dismembered by his brother Seth. Isis searches for the fragments, collects them together and with her magic powers brings Osiris back to life. They then conceive the god Horus. Osiris becomes god of the underworld and judge of the dead - who must answer to him for their deeds on Earth. Meanwhile Isis gives birth to Horus and protects the young god. Later when Horus is grown he avenges his father by defeating Seth in combat. Lunch on board.

**Overnight: Sonesta St. George Cruise**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

**Day 9, 7 November 2020**

**Aswan - Abu Simbel (optional) - Cairo**

After breakfast, transfer to Aswan airport for your flight back to Cairo. *Or you may participate in an optional tour to Abu Simbel by air: visit the colossal Temple of Ramses II and the temple of his beloved Queen Nefertari, both temples carved out of a hillside beside the Nile in the 13th century BC.* Transfer back to the airport for your flight to Cairo.

**Overnight: Le Meridien Airport**

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Jordan...**

**Day 10, 8 November 2020**

**Cairo/Amman**

Transfer to Cairo international airport for your flight Amman, Jordan. Upon arrival, our local representative will meet you at Queen Alia International Airport for assistance with customs and immigration procedures. Transfer to hotel in Amman.

**Overnight: Qasr Metropole Hotel Amman**

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Day 11, 9 November 2020**

**visit to Madaba, Mt Nebo & Kerak /Petra**

You are met by your driver after breakfast for your journey to Petra. En route visit the following

**Madaba:**

Here you get to visit St George's Church home to the Mosaic Map. Unearthed in 1864, the mosaic was once a clear map with 157 captions (in Greek) of all major biblical sites from Lebanon to Egypt. The mosaic was constructed around AD 560 and once contained more than 2 million pieces - only about 1/3 of it survived.

**Mt Nebo:**

Mount Nebo, where it is believed that Moses died. It is here where Moses stood on the windswept summit of Mount Nebo and viewed the Promised Land of Canaan after having been told by God "you shall not cross over there". On a clear day one can see the panorama Moses must have seen: The Dead Sea, The Jordan River Valley and even Jericho, Bethlehem and the hills of Jerusalem.

**Kerak:**

An ancient Crusader stronghold, Kerak sits 900 meters above sea level and lies inside the wall of the old city. Kerak Castle is a dark maze of stone-vaulted halls and endless passageways. The castle is an impressive insight into the architectural military genius of the Crusaders. The drive continues to Petra where you spend the next two nights.

**Overnight: Movenpick Petra Hotel**

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Day 12, 10 November 2020**

**Tour of Petra**

Breakfast at the hotel where you are met by the local guide for a tour of Petra, Jordan's most valuable treasure and a world wonder! You will take a walk through the Siq a narrow gorge, over 1km in length, which is flanked on either side by soaring, 80m high cliffs that will eventually lead you to the Rose City of Petra. The Treasury offal-Khazneh appears dramatically at the end of the Siq. Petra is a vast, unique city, carved into the sheer rock face by the Nabataeans, an industrious people who settled there more than 2000 years ago, turning it into an important junction for the silk, spice and other trade routes that linked China, India and southern Arabia with Egypt, Syria, Greece and Rome.

**Overnight: Movenpick Petra Hotel**

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Day 13, 11 November 2020**

**Petra/ Wadi Rum**

Following breakfast you are transferred by your driver to Wadi Rum. "Vast, echoing and God-like are the words T.E. Lawrence used in describing Wadi Rum, the largest of Jordan's desert landscapes. Here, a maze of monolithic rocks capes rises up from the desert floor to heights of 1,750 meters. Home to canyons, water holes and 4000 year old rock drawings, Wadi Rum will leave you mesmerized. Your visit to Wadi Rum includes a 1.5hr jeep safari into the desert **& A CAMEL RIDE.**

**Overnight: Mazayen Rum Camp**

**Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

**Day 14, 12 November 2020**

**Wadi Rum/Dead Sea/Amman/Depart**

Breakfast at the camp & check out. Transfer to Holiday Inn Dead Sea hotel for 2-4 hours swim. After, you will be transferred to Amman airport for your departure Flight home.

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Day 15, 13 November 2020**  
**Arrival in Toronto**

Depart on your early morning flight home.

**\*\*\*\*END OF SERVICES\*\*\*\***

**EGYPT Price includes:**

- 4 night's accommodation in Cairo
- 4 nights' accommodation aboard a Nile Cruise including all sightseeing as mentioned in the itinerary
- Meals as per itinerary
- Comprehensive sightseeing in Cairo guided by licensed Egyptologist
- All Transfers and Luggage Handling Within Egypt
- All transportation provided by deluxe air-conditioned Motor coach or private car
- All hotel Taxes and services charges
- All Entrance fees as per itinerary
- Domestic flights within Egypt: Cairo/Luxor-Aswan/Cairo

**EGYPT Not included:**

- International and taxes
- Egypt Visa (**Canadians require a Visa for Egypt & Jordan and both Visas may be obtained on Arrival**)
- Travel and baggage Insurance
- All items of a personal nature such as tips for meals, gratuities to driver/guides, telephone calls, laundry, etc
- All services not mentioned as "included" in the itinerary

**JORDAN Price includes:**

- Meet & Assist (With Free visa) upon arrival to Amman airport (Need passport manifest one week prior to arrival).
- All transfers as below (It is a must that all guests to arrive and depart at the same time):
- 10-15 pax in small bus.
- 16-24 pax in medium bus.
- Entrance fees to the mentioned sites as per the program.
- A National English speaking guide on touring days.
- 1.5 hours Bedouin jeep tour at Wadi Rum.
- 1 dinner at Wadi Rum Camp.
- Accommodation sharing double/twin rooms on BB Basis as mentioned in the program.
- Bottled water on board of the vehicle.
- Camel Ride in Wadi Rum for one hour

**JORDAN Not included:**

- Visa in case we did not receive the passports manifest 1 week prior to arrival.
- Airfare.
- Lunches & Dinners en route.
- Beverages.
- Portages, at the hotels- Airport.
- Carriages at Petra.
- Gratuities /tips are not included in our offer.
- Tips to hotels' staff.
- Meet and assist services.
- Gratuities: tips to the driver, local guides... etc.
- Any expense of personal nature.
- Any item not mentioned above.