



Travel with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte Ancient Egypt with an Optional 3-Day Extension to Jordan

March 2nd - March 13th, 2023 (12 days)

(Optional 3-day extension to Jordan from March 14th - March 16th)

Itinerary subject to change

Join us on this spectacular tour of history, antiquities, and culture through Egypt's spectacular landscape and
Jordan's ancient beauty

All accommodations are top-tier, luxury 5 star hotels.

All breakfasts, 7 lunches, and 6 dinners are included in the cost of the main trip.

Full payment is due no later than Tuesday, January 10, 2022.

Space is limited and payments are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Knight Travel will provide individual airfare quotes on request, as there is no group air pricing. Travelers who have Lufthansa air credits will have to communicate directly with Jeff Knight (iknight111@hotmail.com) to secure your tickets.

For all flight information and reservations, contact Jeff Knight immediately at 704.578-4249

Please contact L.J. Stambuk at the World Affairs Council of Charlotte via <a href="mailto:emai

Day 1: Thursday, March 2, 2023

Charlotte/Munich

Group air will be offered via Lufthansa German Airlines.

Depart from Charlotte-Douglas International Airport at 6:55 pm on Lufthansa Airlines to Munich, Germany. The flight will arrive in Munich the following morning at 9:15 AM local time. **Time** appropriate meals will be served in-flight.

Day 2: Friday, March 3, 2023

Connect in Munich with Lufthansa Airlines departing at 11 a.m. and arriving in Frankfurt at 12:05 p.m. Connect to your next Lufthansa Airlines flight that departs from Frankfurt at 1:30 p.m. and arrives in Cairo at 6:40 p.m.

Upon arrival, you will clear Egyptian customs and immigration. IMPORTANT NOTE: You must have two (2) opposing blank pages in your passport to obtain the required Egyptian visas on-site with the assistance of our Egyptian tour manager. There is no extra charge for the visa.

Welcome to Egypt. All travelers will transfer by private motorcoach to the magnificent Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at the First Residence (5-star) for two (2) nights.

CLASSICAL GRANDEUR IN THE HEART OF CAIRO

"Flanked by zoological gardens and the western bank of the Nile, our address in Giza's prestigious First Mall complex puts you in the center of it all. Catch a glimpse of the river or the Great Pyramids from your room as you head out to explore the ancient wonders, or spend the day by the pool, indulging in an aromatic massage once reserved for Egyptian royalty. Or opt for shopping in the high-end boutiques at the First Mall or experience the best of gastronomy aboard our newly opened First Nile Boat, offering panoramic Nile views and brilliant international cuisine." - Source: Four Seasons Hotel at the First Residence

Time to relax and recover from the journey from Charlotte. Tonight, you will enjoy an independent dinner at your leisure.

Overnight at the luxurious 5-Star Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence.

Munich/Frankfurt/Cairo



Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence (Photos and Videos)



The Great Pyramids of Giza in the horizon (Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence)



Deluxe Room (Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence)

Complimentary breakfast included

Enjoy breakfast in your hotel before a full day of touring this bustling ancient metropolis. We begin with the <u>Egyptian National Museum of Antiquities</u> where our tour guide will escort us on a tour of 7,000 years of Egyptian history and antiquities, including the world-famous golden treasures from the <u>tomb of King Tutenkhamun</u>.

"The Egyptian Museum is the oldest archaeological museum in the Middle East, and houses the largest collection of Pharaonic antiquities in the world. The museum displays an extensive collection spanning from the Predynastic Period to the Greco-Roman Era. The architect of the building was selected through an international competition in 1895, which was the first of its kind, and was won by the French architect, Marcel Dourgnon. The museum was inaugurated in 1902 by Khedive Abbas Helmy II, and has become a historic landmark in downtown Cairo, and home to some of the world's most magnificent ancient masterpieces." - The Egyptian Museum

Enjoy an exquisite complimentary lunch today in the Old Islamic Quarter.

After lunch, you will head toward the <u>Old Gates of Cairo - Bab El Fotouh (Gate of Conquests)</u>. The Gates of Cairo were gates at portals in the city walls of medieval Islamic Cairo, within the present day city of Cairo, Egypt. Bab al-Futuh is one of three remaining gates in the city wall of the old city.

You'll walk toward the ancient Islamic quarter with its narrow streets and bustling roadside shops and "wekalas" (trading places), that still actively trade in all sorts of wares. Walk down Al Moez Street until reaching the recently renovated Beit El Seheimi, one of the most impressive homes of the 17th century Islamic era.

"With its fully restored paving stones and elaborate mashrabiyya (wooden lattice screens), Darb Al Asfar alley conjures up the Middle Ages – if the Middle Ages were clean. The first few buildings you pass are part of Beit El Suhaymi, a family mansion



Egyptian National Museum of Antiquities



Egyptian National Museum of Antiquities



Gates of Cairo. (2022, January 22). In Wikipedia



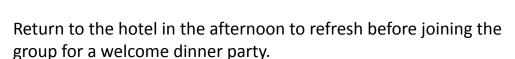
Beit El Seheimi (House of Suhaimi)

Source: Egypt - Ministry of Tourism and

Antiquities

and caravanserai built in the 17th and 18th centuries. After [walking] through a narrow hall, you arrive at a peaceful courtyard surrounded by grand reception halls, bedrooms, storerooms and baths." - Lonely Planet

Continue to the fascinating Khan El-Khalili Bazaar, reputedly the largest bazaar and most picturesque tourist destination in the Middle East. Originally founded as a watering stop for caravanserai in the 14th century, the bazaar is now famous for its labyrinth of narrow streets where you will find leather goods to herbs, perfumes, fabrics, and Pharaonic curiosities from local artisans.



Breakfast, lunch, and dinner included.

Overnight at the luxurious 5-Star Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence.



Khan El-Khalili Bazaar Photo by Heba Otefy (Wikipedia Commons)

Cairo/Giza/Pyramids

Complimentary breakfast included.

Day 4: Sunday, March 5, 2023

After breakfast in the hotel, embark on a full day touring the most famous pyramids of Egypt.

Our Egyptologist will escort you to one of the most important pyramids in Egypt, not normally visited by tourists. This southern extension of the necropolis of Sakkara is a field of Royal tombs about 3.5 k.m. long, only opened to tourists in 1986.

Several pyramids can be found here, including the famed "Bent Pyramid." As one of the most important pyramids in Egypt, it is also one of the best preserved, as much of its casing remains.

"The "bent" Pyramid is one of three built for Fourth Dynasty founding pharaoh Sneferu in Dahshur, at the southern end of the Memphis necropolis, a Unesco world heritage site.



Pyramids of Giza (Public domain)



Bent Pyramid

Its appearance is unusual. The first 49 meters, which have largely kept their smooth limestone casing, are built at a steep 54 degree angle, before tapering off towards the top. It has been reopened to the public for the first time since 1965, when it was closed for restoration works.

The angular shape contrasts with the straight sides of Sneferu's Red Pyramid just to the north, the first of ancient Egypt's fully formed pyramids and the next step towards the Great Pyramid of Giza." - The Guardian

Another of the three pyramids at Dahshour, which were built by the Pharaoh Sneferu, Father of Cheops (of the great pyramid of Giza), is the Red Pyramid. This pyramid gets its common name from the reddish limestone used to build much of its core and is sometimes referred to as the Shining or Northern Pyramid. Significantly, the Red Pyramid was the first successful, true, cased Pyramid built in Egypt, ushering in the era of the Giza style pyramids.

Continue in vast Sakkara to see the famous Step Pyramid of King Zoser (or Djoser), the first freestanding stone structure in the world. Built in the 27th century BC during the 3rd dynasty rule of Djoser, it is the first pyramid built in Egypt and while it is not a 'true pyramid' with smooth sides, like those at Giza and Dahshur, it remains an important stepping stone in their development. It is also the first large-scale cut-stone structure in the world consisting of six distinct layers of diminishing size built on top of one another.

Today, we will be having lunch at the <u>9 Lounge Restaurant</u> overlooking the pyramids.

No trip to Egypt would be complete without a ride on a "ship of the desert" and so today you have the opportunity to mount your individual camel for a short ride across the sands of Giza.

Enter the temple of the mysterious Sphinx, an ancient figure shrouded in legend and mystery. Your Egyptologist will enthrall you with tales told of this fascinating figure.

"In ancient Egypt, the sphinx was a spiritual guardian and most often depicted as a male with a pharaoh headdress—as is the

Elias Rovielo, Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 2.0 Generic (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)



Step Pyramid

By Charles J. Sharp - Own work, from Sharp

Photography, sharpphotography, CC BY-SA

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Red Pyramid

<u>Bykairoinfo4u</u>

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<u>Generic (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)</u>



Step Pyramid of Djoser at Saqqar

By David Broad Attribution 3.0 Unported

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Great Sphinx—and figures of the creatures were often included in tomb and temple complexes. For instance, the so-called Sphinx Alley in Upper Egypt is a two-mile avenue that connects the temples of Luxor and Karnak and is lined with sphinx statues." - History.com

Return to the hotel for some free time and an independent dinner.

Overnight at the luxurious 5-Star Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence.



Camel ride



Sphinx

Cairo/Luxor

Day 5: Monday, March 6, 2023

Complimentary breakfast included

René Hourdry
<u>Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC BY-SA 4.0)</u>

After breakfast in the hotel, transfer to the Cairo Domestic Air Terminal for your short flight to Luxor. Upon arrival in Luxor, meet your guide and proceed to visit the Temple of Karnak, built over more than 1,000 years by generations of Pharaohs. The great "Hypostyle Hall" is an incredible forest of giant pillars, covering an area larger than the whole of Notre Dame Cathedral.

"Karnak is considered to be the largest ancient religious site in the world, and once you're there, you can truly believe it is—that's how big it is! Approximately thirty pharaohs contributed to the buildings, allowing it to reach a size, complexity, and diversity not found elsewhere in Egypt. The most famous aspect of Karnak is the oversized Hypostyle Hall. It is the largest hypostyle hall in the world, containing 134 massive columns in the shape of open and closed papyrus flowers. This is considered an engineering marvel, as it is believed that the weight of the columns is capable of sinking



Template of Karnak (Public Domain)



Temple of Karnak

By kairoinfo4u

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Generic (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)



Farah Nile Cruise (Photo gallery)

the entire hypostyle hall under the desert soil. But still to this day, they all stand." - Seven Amazing Temples You Must See in Luxor

Did you know that Luxor means in Arabic as "The Palaces" and during ancient times it used to be known as "The city of Hundred Doors?

9 Best Things to Do in Luxor - USA Today

Continue to the Embarkation Pier to board your luxury Nile Cruise Ship, the <u>Farah Nile Cruise</u>, your home for the next four (4) nights.

Enjoy your first meal on board at lunch.

The cruise ship will remain docked in Luxor for the night and will be your hotel.

"Farah Nile Cruise offers 60 Deluxe cabins and 2 Royal Suites, where you can experience the fine flavor of our hospitality in every detail from the handmade Egyptian cotton sheets to the natural dark wood furniture. All designed to tickle your senses and enhance your comfort." - farahnilecruise.com

Watch Now: Farah Nile Cruise on YouTube

In the afternoon, enjoy a guided sunset visit to the strikingly graceful <u>Temple of Luxor</u> dedicated to the God Amon.

Return to the ship for an overnight stay. Dinner is included this evening along with onboard entertainment which may feature a belly dance.

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner provided

Overnight on the majestic Farah Night cruise ship

Day 6: Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Luxor/Valley of the Kings and Queens



Valley of the Kings

By Catherine Poh Huay Tan

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Tomb of Nefertari

<u>By kairoinfo4u</u>

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Template of Queen Hatsheput (Public Domain)

Complimentary breakfast included

Enjoy breakfast before heading toward the West Bank of Luxor to explore the <u>Valley of the Kings</u>, including the famous tomb of <u>King Tut</u>. This is a vast ancient City of the Dead where magnificent tombs were carved into the desert rocks, decorated richly, and filled with treasures for the afterlife by generations of Pharaohs.

King Tut Mysteries Endure 100 Years after Discovery - Scientific America

Visit the <u>Tomb of Nefertari</u> which is long praised as the most beautifully decorated of all the tombs on the West Bank. This masterpiece of Egyptian art was restored by the Egyptian Antiquities Authority and the Gerry Conservation Instituted in the US. This tomb is currently open for a limited number of visitors, but the World Affairs Council of Charlotte has been granted admission.

"Nefertari, known as the 'Most Beautiful of Them', is depicted wearing a divinely transparent white gown and a golden headdress featuring two long feathers extending from the back of a vulture. The ceiling of the tomb is festooned with golden stars. In many places the queen is shown in the company of the gods and with associated text from the Book of the Dead." - Lonely Planet

Continue to the <u>Temple of Queen Hatshepsut</u>, then return to the ship for lunch where you'll passing by the famed Colossi of Memnon, two monumental statues representing Amenhotep III (1386-1353 BCE) of the 18th Dynasty of Egypt

While enjoying lunch, the ship will venture through the Esna lock. The lock is a scenic photo spot for Nile travelers when crossing on board



<u>Colossi of Memnon</u>
By Marc Ryckaert, Attribution 3.0 Unported (CC BY 3.0)

their Nile cruises onto Edfu coming from Luxor or onto Luxor from Edfu departing from Aswan.

Relish in the scenery on both sides of the Nile while enjoying afternoon tea and the sunset in an elegant atmosphere.

Before dinner, all passengers are invited for a welcome drink with the captain and crew in the main lounge. Complimentary dinner will be served on board the Farah Nile.

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner provided

Overnight on the majestic Farah Night cruise ship

Day 7: Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Complimentary breakfast included

Enjoy breakfast at leisure on the ship. After breakfast, you will enjoy a visit to the <u>Temple of Horus in Edfu</u> by horse carriage. The temple itself is dedicated to the worship of the Egyptian god Horus, who was frequently merged with the Greek god Apollo. In fact, the city of Edfu was renamed Apollonopolis Magna during Greco-Roman rule in Egypt.

"This Ptolemaic temple, built between 237 and 57 BC, is one of the best-preserved ancient monuments in Egypt. Preserved by desert sand, which filled the place after the pagan cult was banned, the temple is dedicated to Horus, the avenging son of Isis and Osiris. With its roof intact, it is also one of the most atmospheric of ancient buildings." - Lonely Planet

Return to the ship and set sail while enjoying lunch and the Nile scenery.

In the afternoon, visit the <u>Kom Ombo Temple</u> which is unique in Egypt as a double temple and dedicated to two deities, Sobek (the crocodile god) and Horus (the falcon god Horus).

Edfu/Kom Ombo



Temple of Horus in Edfu

<u>By Ad Meskens</u>

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"The temple's twin dedication is reflected in its plan: perfectly symmetrical along the main axis of the temple, there are twin entrances, two linked hypostyle halls with carvings of the two gods on either side, and twin sanctuaries. It is assumed that there were also two priesthoods." - Lonely Planet

Enjoy afternoon tea from the top deck while cruising up the Nile.

Dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by a colorful Galaba party.

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner provided

Overnight on the majestic Farah Night cruise ship

Kom Ombo Temple
By Olaf Tausch
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Statue of Horus (Public Domain)

Day 8: Thursday, March 9, 2023

Complimentary breakfast included

We'll have breakfast on board the ship before a visit to the temple of Philae and to the engineering marvel, the <u>Aswan High Dam</u>, the world's largest embankment dam.

One of the beauties of the Nile is the Aswan High Dam and the artificial lake that it generates: Lake Nasser. Although the dam has caused environmental impacts, the view, especially from above, is breathtaking. Strongly desired by Nasser to solve the problem of drought, Egypt at the time was one of the driest countries in the world, it made it possible to cultivate miles and miles of desert. - Aswan High Dam

This afternoon, enjoy a <u>felucca cruise</u> on the Nile.

"Simply speaking, a felucca is a traditional Egyptian wooden boat with a canvas sail, but they do come in lots of different shapes and sizes. Aswan is the usual boarding point for felucca rides, although you can also hop on at Luxor. Once aboard you'll journey along the

Philae/Aswan



Aswan High Dam

<u>By Jorge Lascar</u>

<u>Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0)</u>



Felucca Cruise

By Catherine Poh Huay Ta

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river between these two spots, but how far you travel is heavily dependent on the wind and water current." - Felucca cruise

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner provided.

Overnight on the majestic Farah Night cruise ship.



Photo by Mohammed Moussa
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Day 9: Friday, March 10, 2023

Complimentary breakfast included

After enjoying breakfast, you will disembark the ship before transferring to the Aswan Airport. A most unusual excursion awaits everyone this morning!

You will take a flight from Aswan to Abu Simbel where we are met and transferred to the <u>Great Temple of Ramses II</u>. The two temples of Ramses II at Abu Simbel are each fronted by colossal statues up to 20 meters high and are famed as the most impressive monuments remaining of Ancient Egypt in modern times. The temples were threatened by the waters of <u>Lake Nasser</u>, and with the help of a UNESCO campaign they were cut into blocks, raised piece-by-piece and reassembled in a new position higher up the hillside in a massive undertaking.

"Carved out of the mountain on the west bank of the Nile between 1274 and 1244 BC, this imposing main temple of the Abu Simbel complex was as much dedicated to the deified Ramses II himself as to Ra-Horakhty, Amun and Ptah. The four colossal statues of the pharaoh, which front the temple, are like gigantic sentinels watching over the incoming traffic from the south, undoubtedly designed as a warning of the strength of the pharaoh." - Lonely Planet

After the visit, return to the airport for the short flight back to Aswan where we will connect with a flight back to Cairo.

Aswan/Abu Simbel/Cairo



Great Temple of Ramses II (Public Domain)



Lake Nasser
Carol Raddato, Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0
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<u>Riviera</u>

In Cairo, you will return to the Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence for some free time and an independent dinner.

Overnight at the upscale and elegant 5-Star Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence.



<u>Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence</u> (Photos and Videos)

Cairo/Alexandria

Day 10: Saturday, March 11, 2023



Alexandria



Catacombs of Kom el Shukafa

<u>By Jerrye & Roy Klotz, MD - Own work, CC</u>

<u>BY-SA 3.0</u>



Pompey's Pillar

Complimentary breakfast included

You will have breakfast in the hotel before departing on an excursion toward the ancient city of <u>Alexandria</u>, the second largest city in Egypt bustling with culture and unique history.

"Once among the greatest cities of the Mediterranean world and a center of Hellenic scholarship and science, Alexandria was the capital of Egypt from its founding by Alexander the Great in 332 BCE until its surrender to the Arab forces led by 'Amr ibn al-'Āṣ in 642 CE." - Britannica.com

The excursion today includes the <u>Catacombs of Kom el</u> <u>Shukafa</u>, Graeco-Roman tombs from the 1st century A.D., <u>Pompey's Pillar</u>, and the 15th century fortifications at the <u>Citadel of Qaitbay</u>.

Also known as the "hill of treasure," Catacombs el Kom el Shukafa is regarded as a huge necropolis and royal cemetery that dates back to the second century AD. The necropolis features a unique mixture of Roman, Hellenistic, and pharaonic art elements reflected in the paintings on the walls, and the style of the statues, funeral objects, and tombs. Pompey's Pillar is one of the remains of Roman antiquities that still exist today in the city of Alexandria, and is one of the oldest and highest memorial columns in the world. Additionally, the Citadel of Qaitbay was constructed by Sultan Qaitbey during the 14th century as a picturesque fortress to defend Alexandria from the advances of the Ottoman Empire.

By Daniel Meyer, Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC BY-SA 4.0)



Qaitbey Citadel

By ASaber 91, Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0

International (CC BY-SA 4.0)



Bibliotheca Alexandrina
By Shivani Singh, Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0
International (CC BY-SA 4.0)

Did you know that some people called Alexandria the "The Paris of Antiquity?" Read More

Finally, enjoy a visit to the city's new library, the <u>Bibliotheca</u> <u>Alexandrina</u>, a major library and culture center on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea. It was built in commemoration of the Library of Alexandria, once one of the largest libraries worldwide, which was lost in antiquity.

Complimentary lunch is included in today's itinerary.

Return to your hotel in the late afternoon for an independent dinner.

Breakfast and lunch are provided.

Overnight at the upscaleand elegant 5-Star Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence.

Day 11: Sunday, March 12, 2023

Complimentary breakfast included

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a half day guided tour of <u>Coptic Cairo</u>. Travel into the captivating neighborhood, also known as Old Cairo and visit a medley of early icon-adorned churches including the "<u>Hanging Church</u>," the oldest in Egypt and Abu Serga, where the Holy Family was said to have found refuge. Learn about Egypt's rich Coptic heritage, and visit the <u>Coptic Museum</u>, a treasure trove of ancient artifacts that tell the story of the Christian community, one of the world's oldest.

"According to legend, it was St. Mark who introduced Christianity to Egypt, and it was here that Africa's first Christian church – the Coptic Church of Egypt – thrived. Past visitors said visiting Coptic Cairo is a must, even if you're not religious. History lovers will appreciate the area's abundance of historic sights, while architecture buffs will enjoy gazing at the neighborhood's beautiful mosaics and woodwork. Plus, Coptic Cairo's narrow alleys are lined with street vendors selling a variety of goods." Read More

Also, if renovations are complete, visit the <u>Ben Ezra</u> <u>Synagogue</u>, one of the oldest in Egypt.

Return to the hotel for a free afternoon. Enjoy an independent lunch.

Everyone will meet later in the evening for a festive farewell dinner.

Breakfast and dinner are included.

Travelers NOT participating in the optional 3-day extension to Jordan and returning to the U.S. on March 13, 2023:

Note that you will head to the airport around midnight for your flight back to the U.S. as long as you are on the group block on Lufthansa. All travelers will have access to their rooms until departure time from the hotel.

Travelers participating in the optional 3-day extension:

Overnight at the upscale and elegant 5-Star Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at First Residence.



The Hanging Church

<u>By Berthold Werner</u>

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BY-SA 3.0)



Coptic Museum

By Radosław Botev, Attribution 3.0

Poland (CC BY 3.0 PL)

Day 12: Monday, March 13, 2023

Cairo/Munich/Charlotte

Depart for the Cairo Airport to check in for the Lufthansa flight to Munich which departs at 4:05 a.m. and arrives at 6:15 a.m.

Connect to the nonstop flight from Munich to Charlotte departing at 12:55 p.m., arriving in Charlotte at 6:00 p.m. Time appropriate meals will be served in-flight.

WELCOME HOME

Optional 3-day extension Day 13: Monday, March 13, 2023

Cairo/Amman

Complimentary breakfast included

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before a mid-morning departure for the Cairo Airport for the short (1 hour 20 minute) flight to Amman in the Kingdom of Jordan.

On arrival, our Jordanian tour guide will meet the group and assist with obtaining the necessary visas. No additional fees are required.

Tour Scanner: 46 things to do in Amman

Welcome to the capital of Jordan, bustling Amman dating back to the 8th millennium BCE.

"As Middle Eastern cities go, Amman is a relative youth, being mostly a creation of the 20th century. But though it lacks the storied history and thrilling architectural tapestry of other regional capitals, there's plenty here to encourage you to linger awhile before making for Petra, the Dead Sea or Wadi Rum. In fact, Amman is one of the easiest cities in which to enjoy the Middle East experience." - Read More



Amman
By Freedom's Falcon, Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0
International (CC BY-SA 4.0)

Transfer to your hotel for one night, the ritzy <u>Fairmont</u> <u>Amman</u> (5-star), centrally located within walking distance of the city's most affluent neighborhoods.

The rest of the afternoon could be used for a diplomatic visit or an independent visit to The Jordan Museum.

Tour The Jordan Museum Virtually (YouTube)

Located in the dynamic new downtown area of Ras al-'Ayn, The Jordan Museum presents the history and cultural heritage of Jordan in a series of beautifully designed galleries while serving as a comprehensive national center for learning and knowledge that reflects Jordan's history and culture.

Enjoy the evening and dinner at your leisure as you explore this incredible city.

Overnight at the ritzy and elegant Fairmont Amman Hotel (5-Star)



Royal Tank - Museum of Jordan
By Freedom's Falcon, Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0
International (CC BY-SA 4.0)



The Fairmont Amman Hotel

Day 14: Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Complimentary breakfast included

After breakfast, you will have a guided city tour of Amman which includes the Citadel, Archaeological Museum, Roman Theater, and Folklore Museum.

"If you've never been to the Middle East, Amman (and Jordan as a whole) is your perfect introduction. Not only was Amman a central crossing point of and the birthplace of several great civilizations, but it is also a city that is constantly in development, with a stark contrast between its east and west. Amman is westernized but maintains its Middle Eastern flair, brimming with mouth-watering food and incredibly hospitable people. Particularly remarkable is Amman's

Amman/Petra



Roman Theatre
By Dudva, Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC
BY-SA 4.0)

bowl-shaped center, monochrome as far as the eye can see. A city law required all houses to be built in the same light color palette, resulting in a beautiful sandy view best seen from the top of the hill at the Citadel."

Read More

You will continue on to the market town of <u>Madaba</u>, best known for its collection of Byzantine-era mosaics and colorful city steeped in history. The most famous of these is the map on the floor of St. George's Church.

Next, visit <u>Mount Nebo</u>, the mountaintop memorial of Moses with captivating views of the Jordan Valley, Dead Sea and the River Jordan. It is also said to be where Moses saw the Promised Land, a land he was himself not allowed to enter.

Complimentary lunch included.

After lunch, head to the luxurious <u>Movenpick Petra</u>
<u>Resort (5-star)</u> in Jordan. Located at the entrance of the historic city of Petra, this luxury resort with an oriental flair blends natural stones, handcrafted wood, and Middle Eastern fabrics and textures to create a one-of-a-kind experience.

Evening to relax and enjoy an independent dinner.

Breakfast and lunch included.

Overnight at the magnificent Movenpick Petra Resort (5-Star)



Roman Theater

<u>By Carol Roddato, Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 Generic</u>

(CC BY-SA 2.0)



Madaba Mosaic Map (Public Domain)



Movenpick Petra Resort By Mervat Salman - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0

Complimentary breakfast included

Enjoy breakfast before heading out on a private guided tour of Petra, the fabled "rose red city, half as old as time." It is a well known ancient Nabataean city in the south of Jordan. Due to its breathtaking grandeur and fabulous ruins, Petra was recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1985.

Photo Gallery of Petra - Click Here

"Ancient city of Petra - one of most popular tourist destinations in Middle East, UNESCO World Heritage Site in Jordan" - Read More

Enjoy a horse carriage ride from the entrance to the "Siq," a narrow gorge that runs its way to Petra's most elaborate ruin.

Furthermore, spend the morning visiting sites such as the "Al Khazneh" or Treasury, with facades richly decorated with floral and figurative elements, that reference the Ptolemaic palace architecture of Alexandria. Continue to The Street of Facades, the row of monumental Nabatean tombs carved in the southern cliff face that lies past the Treasury and the Court House. You'll also visit the Amphitheater, a monumental theater with a semicircular auditorium for eight thousand spectators, built directly from the rock in the early first century AD.

After time for an independent lunch, transfer to the Dead Sea, a salt lake bordered by Jordan via the scenic road of Wadi Araba (Zara Road) for your final night. There will be time for a swim (or float) in the Dead Sea.

10 Interesting Facts About the Dead Sea - Read More

Your hotel for the night is the world-class gorgeous <u>Kempinski</u> <u>Dead Sea Ishtar Hotel</u> (5-Star). Located at the lowest point on earth and inspired by the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the hotel offers elegant rooms with the finest views of the Dead Sea or the Babylonian.



Carriage Ride Through Petra

<u>Tobias Verbuss</u>

<u>Attribution-NonCommercial 2.0 Generic (CC</u>

BY-NC 2.0)



Dead Sea <u>By Joi Ito</u> <u>Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0</u>



The Amphitheater

By Andres Miguez

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Time to relax and enjoy an independent dinner before the group departure around midnight for the drive to Amman Airport.

Day 16: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Amman/Frankfurt/Munich/Charlotte

Check in for the Lufthansa Airlines flight to Frankfurt departing at 3:40 a.m. arriving at 6:25 a.m. local time. You will connect via Lufthansa to Munich departing at 10:15 a.m. arriving at 11:10 a.m.

With one final transfer, you'll be on a nonstop Lufthansa flight to Charlotte, departing at 12:55 p.m. and arriving in Charlotte at 6:00 p.m.



Lufthansa Airlines

Welcome home!

EGYPT

LAND-ONLY PRICE PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY* (*IMPORTANT NOTE: Price for the flights from Egypt to Jordan included)

Price includes 12 days of luxury accommodations, all breakfasts, seven (7) lunches, five (6) dinners, local transportation, several tours, and highly qualified and dedicated local guides

Airfare not included in pricing

Minimum 15 passengers:

\$6,360 (additional 3% processing fee if paying by credit card)

Minimum 20 passengers:

\$6,112 (additional 3% processing fee if paying by credit card)

Minimum 25 passengers:

\$5,830 (additional 3% processing fee if paying by credit card)

For single occupancy:

\$1,380 (additional 3% processing fee if paying by credit card)

JORDAN: 3-Day Extension

Price per person based on double occupancy **Airfare from Cairo to Amman included in pricing**

Minimum 15 passengers:

\$1,775 (additional 3% processing fee if paying by credit card)

Minimum 20 passengers:

\$1,652 (additional 3% processing fee if paying by credit card)

Minimum 25 passengers:

\$1,505 (additional 3% processing fee if paying by credit card)

For single occupancy:

\$520 (additional 3% processing fee if paying by credit card)

AIR TRAVEL TO USA:

Please contact Knight Travel immediately for individualized air travel info and pricing.

Travelers must be members in good standing with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte. If you are not a member, please contact mneesmith@worldaffairscharlotte.org or call 704-687-7757. Click here for information on WACC memberships. Please note WACC memberships are fully tax-deductible.

- Trip payments are due by Tuesday, January 10, 2022 to fully secure your seat for this fabulous trip.
- If you are traveling alone but would like a roommate, please let us know as soon as possible and we will do our best on matching you with a roommate.
- Business or First Class air travel is available. Please contact Jeff Knight (<u>jknight111@hotmail.com</u>) as soon as possible for flight information.
- Please note that an approx. 3% processing charge will be added to your payment if you choose to pay by credit card due to travel agency requirements. Processing charge is considered a tax-deductible donation. No additional charge if you pay by check.