

# ESSENTIAL EGYPT

February 15 -  
28, 2025



## February 15: Arrival

You will be met at Cairo International Airport by a meet-and-assist agent, who will help you through customs and arrivals, and then escort you to the Ramses Hilton. Relax and get settled in for the evening, or explore on your own.

Hotel: [Ramses Hilton](#)

Meals included: None



## February 16: Welcome to Cairo

After sleeping in, head out to explore Coptic Cairo and Moez Street, two medieval Christian and Islamic Districts, one of which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Check out the hustle and bustle of Khan el Khalili Bazaar and enjoy dinner at a rooftop restaurant along this street with 1,000 years of Islamic history.

Hotel: [Ramses Hilton](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

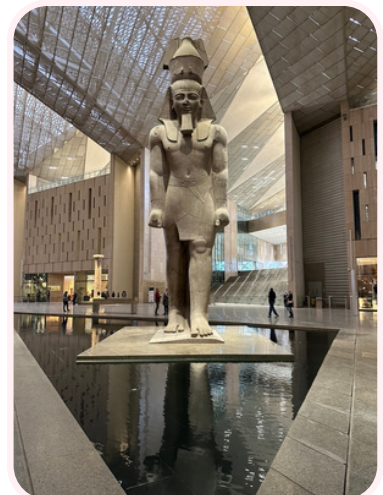


## February 17: Giza and GEM

Visit the Pyramids and the Sphinx, enter the Great Pyramid (extra ticket, approximately \$30), and ride a camel to the panoramic viewing area (around \$20). Then visit the Grand Egyptian Museum, the largest archaeological museum in the world (not currently fully open, but hopefully it will be by our trip).

Hotel: [Ramses Hilton](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



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## February 18: Saqqara & Dahshur

Visit the Old Kingdom sites of Saqqara and Dahshur, taking in the original pyramids that inspired the world-famous Giza ones you saw the previous day. That night, head out in the evening to try street food in Cairo.

Hotel: [Ramses Hilton](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



## February 19: Aswan

Take an early morning flight to Aswan, the most beautiful city on the Nile River. Visit Philae Temple and the Aswan High Dam, and check into the Mövenpick Aswan, our gorgeous hotel on Elephantine Island.

Hotel: [Mövenpick Aswan](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



## February 20: Abu Simbel

With a very early morning wakeup, visit Abu Simbel Temple by private vehicle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and ancient temple that was moved piece by piece to save it from the flooding due to the Aswan High Dam's construction. After taking in Ramses the Great's masterpiece, return to Aswan, and take an optional afternoon exploring the city's bustling souq (market).

Hotel: [Mövenpick Aswan](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## February 21: Embarkation

Embark on the Dahabeya Minya, our privately chartered yacht and home as we sail north up the Nile River. We will stop at the temple of Kom Ombo to take in the mummified crocodiles resting there.

Hotel: [Minya Dahabeya](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

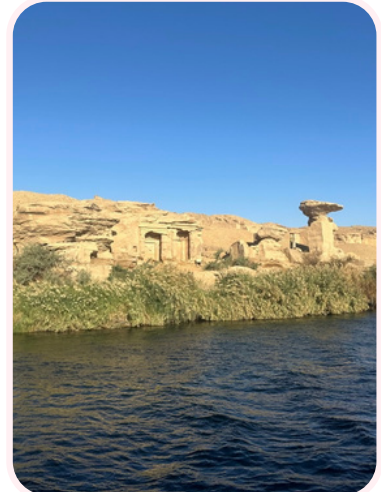


## February 22: Cruising the Nile

Continue sailing northward, stopping at the seldom-visited Gebel el Sisila Temple. Let time pass by enjoying the scenery from the Dahabeya's sun deck.

Hotel: [Minya Dahabeya](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

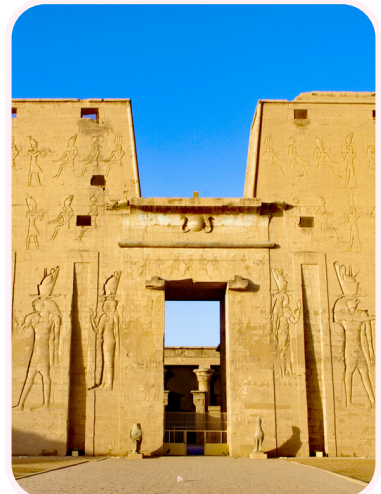


## February 23: Cruising the Nile

On our last full day sailing on the Nile River, we will stop at Edfu, the best preserved ancient Egyptian temple. There will also be an opportunity to swim in the Nile, and to walk around the pristine countryside.

Hotel: [Minya Dahabeya](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## February 24: Luxor

After completing our sailing in Esna, we will disembark from our Dahabeya and explore the temple there, with the best preserved coloration of any ancient temple. Then after a 1.5 hour drive to Luxor, we will explore Karnak Temple, and Luxor Temple in the evening.

Hotel: [Steigenberger Nile Palace](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

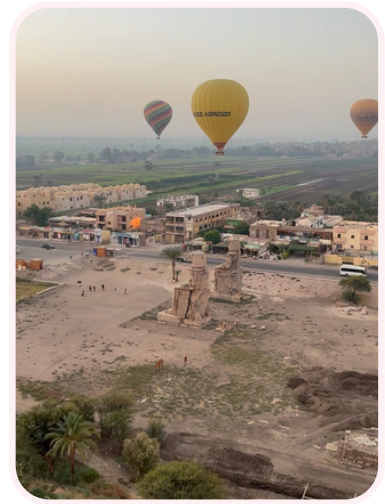


## February 25: Luxor to Cairo

After an optional sunrise hot air balloon ride (\$120 per person), check out from our Dahabeya Yacht, and then visit the Valley of the Kings (including King Tut's Tomb, and the magnificent tomb of Ramses V/VI), the Colossi of Memnon, and Hatshepsut's Temple, before flying back to Cairo and checking into the Marriott Hotel.

Hotel: [Cairo Marriott Hotel and Omar Khayyam Casino Zamalek](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



## February 26: Cairo Museums

Spend a relaxed day visiting two of Egypt's best museums, the original Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square, and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization. A delicious lunch of Egyptian *koshary* (a must-try Egyptian dish!) will provide a great break in between the museums. That evening head out to an (optional) posh dinner on a boat in the Nile River.

Hotel: [Cairo Marriott Hotel and Omar Khayyam Casino Zamalek](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



## February 27: Alexandria Day Trip

After an early morning, 3-hour drive, arrive to Alexandria, on Egypt's Mediterranean coast. Visit Qaitbey Citadel, the Library of Alexandria, the Roman Catacombs and Theatre Ruins, and then enjoy a fresh-caught seafood (late) lunch at a local, family-run restaurant that Gus has been going to for years. Drive back to Cairo, and that evening, either relax at the hotel or head out with Gus to explore Cairo by night.

Hotel: [Cairo Marriott Hotel and Omar Khayyam Casino Zamalek](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, late Lunch



## February 28: Departure

If this is the end of your journey, you will be escorted from the hotel to Cairo International Airport, where a meet-and-assist agent will take you through the check-in process and ensure you are ready to board your flight leaving Egypt.

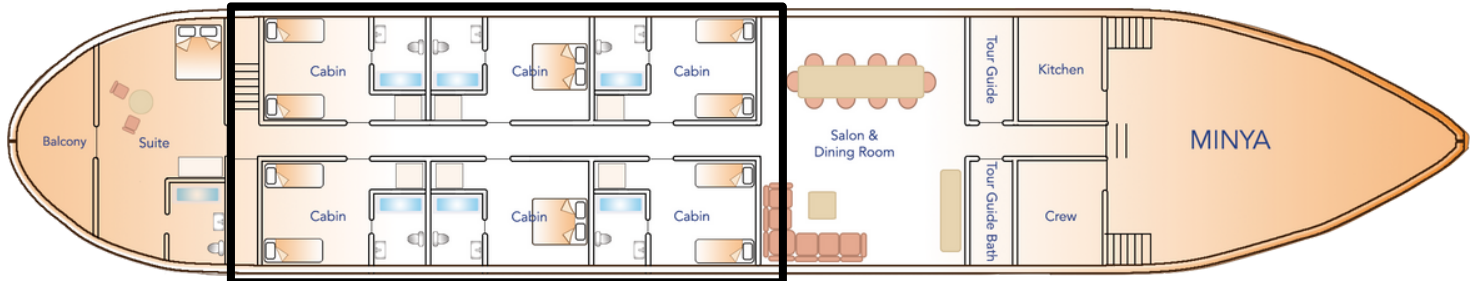
Hotel: N/A

Meals included: Breakfast

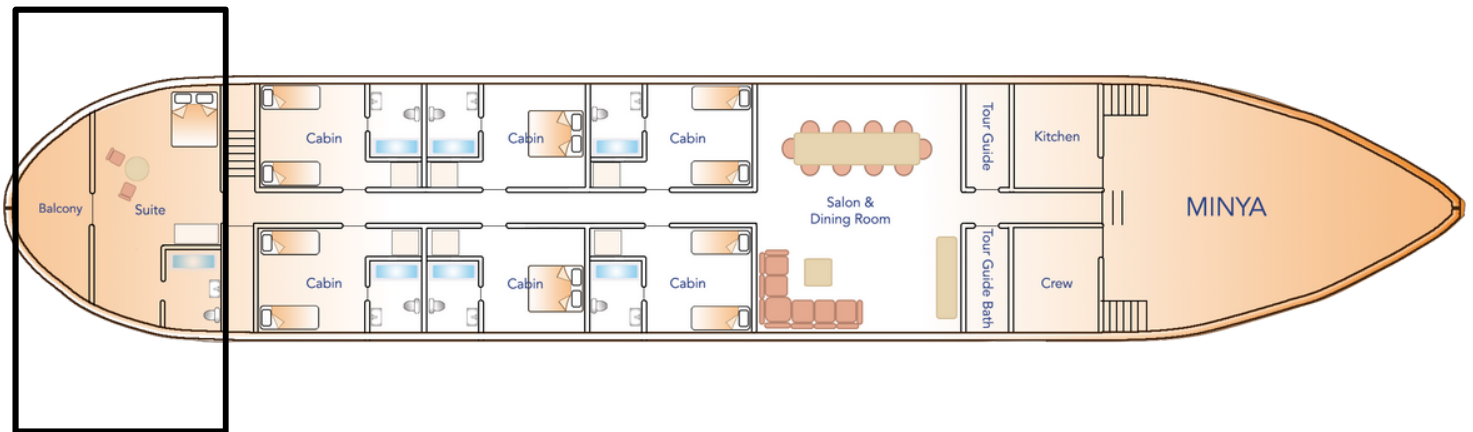


# Costs and Inclusions

**Standard cabin (see photos here)** (3 available): **\$5820 per person** for double occupancy (solo travelers add \$3235)



**Deluxe suite with private balcony (see photos here)** (just one available!): **\$6860 per person** for double occupancy (solo travelers add \$4275)



**Includes:** Accommodation for 13 nights, all meals and drinks (except 7 dinners), private Egyptologist tour guide for all of our site visits, Gus with you every step of the way, privately chartered Dahabeya Yacht for our Nile Cruise, 2 domestic flights, **all tips and gratuities**, and all tickets to enter tourist sites.

**Excludes:** International airfare to/from Egypt, \$25 entry visa fee to Egypt, 7 dinners, personal expenses, optional hot air balloon ride (\$120), optional ticket to enter the Great Pyramid (around \$30), optional camel ride at the Pyramids (around \$20), alcoholic beverages, optional tips for hotel cleaning staff.



**[See Minya Dahabeya on YouTube!](#)**

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