

# 2022

## HARVARD ALUMNI TRAVELS

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### A FAMILY ADVENTURE

Egypt & the Nile Aboard *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer*

December 27, 2022–January 5, 2023

with John “Jay” Ellison, M.T.S. ‘89, M.A. ‘00, Ph.D. ‘02,

Former Associate Dean of Harvard College



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Abu Simbel, photo by Sue Kellerman (above); Front cover: TBD. Back cover: felucca on the Nile; (top) and Karnak Temple, Luxor (bottom).

## A Family Adventure: Egypt & the Nile

On an eight-night journey with timeless wonders for all ages, celebrate the New Year with special access to the ancient treasures of Egypt. Travel by privately chartered plane, motor coach, and deluxe riverboat. Begin in Cairo, where you will be among the first to tour the highly anticipated Grand Egyptian Museum, home to the most extensive collection of Tutankhamun artifacts ever. Behold Giza's Great Pyramids illuminated during a spectacular evening sound-and-light show. In the morning, view the Sphinx up close, beyond the crowd barriers. In Sakkara, experience special inside looks at the recently discovered tomb of Wahtye as well as the Step Pyramid of King Djoser, Egypt's oldest pyramid, whose impressive underground apartments have been opened for the first time in decades.

Fly to Abu Simbel to stand in awe before the enormous rock-cut temples of Ramses and Nefertari. Continue by air to Aswan to board the intimate *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer*. On a four-night Nile cruise to Luxor, step off to roam impressive tombs and temples. Enjoy a range of onboard activities tailored for families, such as an exciting New Year's reception; a cooking class; a festive celebration with music, traditional costumes, and dancing; and educational programs and games for younger travelers. In Luxor, walk among the larger-than-life statues and tombs of Tutankhamun and other pharaohs, and learn to interpret the hieroglyphics and colorful images still visible on the walls of the temples. Return by air to Cairo to conclude this enriching program in one of the world's most unforgettable destinations.

### Activity Level 3:

#### A LITTLE MORE TO IT

This moderately active program includes multiple hotel changes, plus internal flights and/or long drives. Some days are heavily scheduled so that you can see as many of Egypt's ancient wonders as possible. Travelers should be in good health and fit enough to navigate stairs and walk along uneven terrain. The temperatures during your stay in Egypt should range from the mid-40s to low 70s °F. Egypt is a conservative country, especially in terms of dress, focusing on modest Western-style clothing.

## Study Leader



**John "Jay" Ellison** earned his B.A. *summa cum laude* from Southeastern College in Lakeland, Florida. After graduating in 1989, Ellison continued his study of ancient languages at Harvard Divinity School, earning a Master of Theological

Studies in 1991. In that same year, Ellison entered the Ph.D. program in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC) in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard. Ellison conducted doctoral dissertation research in the Arab Republic of Syria in 1997-1998 on a Fulbright fellowship. He then earned both his M.A. (2000) and Ph.D. (2002) in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. In 2002, Ellison became the Allston Burr Senior Tutor (now Allston Burr Dean) for Lowell House and a Lecturer in NELC at Harvard. Ellison moved into the position of Secretary of the Administrative Board of Harvard College in 2005 and was promoted to Associate Dean in 2008. He is now the Dean of Students in the College at the University of Chicago.

He will lecture on the following topics: "The Ancient History of Egypt," "Egypt as a Superpower in the Ancient World," and "Modern Egypt."



Nubian henna hand painting

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Tomb of Nefertari, Luxor, photo by kairoinfo4u (top) and Great Pyramids illuminated, Giza (bottom)



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Map of the region (left) and Philae Temple, Aswan, photo by Warren LeMay (right)

## Schedule by Day

B=Breakfast, L= Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

### Departure

Depart on an overnight flight to Cairo.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

### Cairo, Egypt

Arrive in Cairo this afternoon, and transfer to your hotel. Gather this evening for a welcome reception with introductory remarks by your study leader. The remainder of the evening is at leisure. R

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

### Cairo

This morning, visit the impressive new Grand Egyptian Museum, which is scheduled to reopen in late 2022. For younger participants, a special tour will focus on items related to animals, games, and sports in the museum's collection. Early this evening, attend a sound-and-light show to see the Great Pyramids illuminated. Dinner is at leisure. B,L

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

### Cairo / Giza / Sakkara

This morning, tour the legendary Great Pyramids, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and enjoy up-close access to the Sphinx. This afternoon, view the site of the remarkable Step Pyramid of King Djoser—Egypt's oldest pyramid, built in the 27th century B.C.—at nearby Sakkara. We

plan to have special access to the lavish and recently discovered tomb of Wahtye. Enjoy an evening at leisure. B,L

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

### Cairo / Abu Simbel / Aswan / Embark Sanctuary Nile Adventurer

This morning, board a privately chartered flight from Cairo to Abu Simbel. See the monumental temples of Ramses II and his favorite wife, Queen Nefertari, constructed in the 13th century B.C. to intimidate enemies from the south. Continue by private plane to Aswan, and embark *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer*. Attend a festive New Year's Eve dinner and reception this evening. B,L,D

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

### Aswan

While in Aswan, take local boats to visit the exquisite Philae Temple, relocated due to the rising flood waters of the Nile. Afterwards, choose between a sail on a Nile *felucca* (traditional sailboat) or a visit to the unfinished obelisk at the ancient stone quarries. Afterwards, attend a hieroglyphics lesson followed by a Nubian henna hand-painting session. Younger travelers will prepare and rehearse for a retelling of an ancient Egyptian myth. B,L,D

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

### Kom Ombo / Edfu

Today, visit Kom Ombo's picturesque Ptolemaic temple, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and decorated with a series of beautiful reliefs. Young travelers will gather for an exciting scavenger hunt. Lunch is on

board while you cruise along the Nile to Edfu. Guests of all ages can learn how to bake Egyptian-style bread during a cooking class. This afternoon, see the well-preserved Temple of Horus, whose reliefs still retain some of their original colors. This evening, savor a buffet of Egyptian specialties, and dress up in traditional clothing for a festive night of music and dancing. B,L,D

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

### Luxor

Today, arrive in Luxor. View the famed Colossi of Memnon. Head to the West Bank to visit the tomb of Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings and the temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari. This afternoon, discover the outstanding collection at the Luxor Museum and continue to Luxor Temple, remarkable for its size and exceptional state of preservation. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner. B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

### Luxor / Disembark / Cairo

Early this morning, return to the west bank to see Nefertari's magnificent tomb in the Valley of the Queens. Then, walk along the Avenue of Sphinxes at Karnak Temple and see the Hypostyle Hall, with its enormous columns. After lunch, board a privately chartered flight to Cairo, and continue to your hotel. B,L,D

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

### Cairo / Return

Depart the hotel early this morning for the flight home.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### InterContinental Cairo Semiramis

Located in the heart of the city center next to the Egyptian Museum, this Cairo hotel features a 280-square-foot rooftop pool, fine dining with exquisite cuisine for every taste, complimentary Wi-Fi, state-of-the-art spa, and shopping arcade.

### Sanctuary Nile Adventurer

With a sleek contemporary design and only 32 cabins, *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer* offers a mix of intimacy and luxury. This elegant riverboat features a sun deck with swimming pool and private cabanas, and a shaded deck with an outdoor bar. All cabins offer Nile River views.

### Hilton Cairo Heliopolis

This five-star hotel features three tennis courts, a hot tub, and three swimming pools surrounded by a landscaped garden. All rooms feature decorative touches highlighting Egypt's illustrious heritage.



Hilton Cairo Heliopolis

## Rates Per Person

CATEGORY/DECK	DOUBLE RATES	SINGLE RATES
<b>108-111</b> Nile Deck / Standard Cabin	<b>\$10,999</b>	<b>\$14,999</b>
<b>201-208</b> Main Deck / Standard Cabin	<b>\$11,499</b>	<b>Inquire</b>
<b>301-310</b> Bridge Deck / Standard Cabin	<b>\$12,499</b>	<b>Inquire</b>
<b>401-404</b> Promenade Deck / Standard Cabin	<b>\$13,499</b>	<b>Inquire</b>
<b>209 &amp; 210</b> Main Deck / Deluxe Cabin	<b>\$15,999</b>	<b>Inquire</b>
<b>405 &amp; 406</b> Promenade Deck / Presidential Suite	<b>\$16,999</b>	<b>Inquire</b>

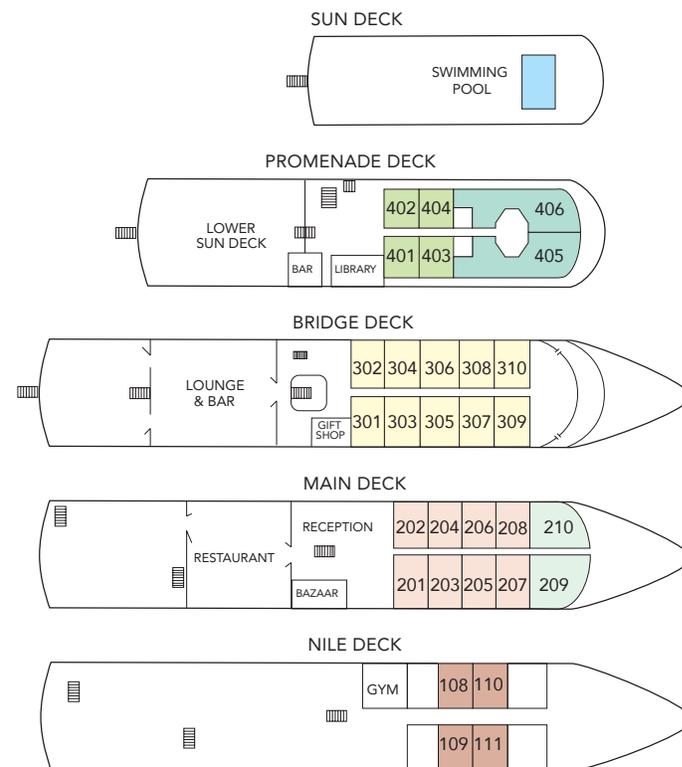
A \$1,500 discount applies for children ages 15 and under (at time of travel) for triple occupancy in select cabins: Staterooms on Nile Deck, Deluxe Cabins on Main Deck, and Presidential Suites on Promenade Deck.



Sanctuary Nile Adventurer



Sanctuary Nile Adventurer lounge



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