A FAMILY ADVENTURE
Egypt & the Nile Aboard Sanctuary Nile Adventurer
December 27, 2024 – January 5, 2025
with Alison Frank Johnson, Professor of History
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 first discover the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, the new permanent home of Egypt’s Royal Mummies, and enjoy a spectacular evening sound-and-light show at the Great Pyramids. In Sakkara, experience special inside looks at the tomb of Wahtye, discovered in 2018, as well as the Step Pyramid of King Djoser, Egypt’s oldest pyramid. Return to Giza for a closer look at the Great Pyramids and view the Sphinx up close, beyond the crowd barriers.

Fly to Abu Simbel to stand in awe before the enormous rock-cut temples of Ramesses II and his favorite wife, 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

Alison Frank Johnson is Professor of History at Harvard University and a resident faculty member at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES). She also serves as chair of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at Harvard. She specializes in the history of German-speaking Europe and the Habsburg monarchy in the modern period. She has published articles on dueling, the Mediterranean slave trade, the role of multinational corporations in international diplomacy, Alpine spa towns, pilgrimage, and popular religiosity, among other diverse topics.

Her lecture topics for this program will be announced closer to departure.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL
Schedule by Day

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

**Departure**

Depart on an overnight flight to Cairo.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

**Cairo, Egypt**

Arrive in Cairo this afternoon and transfer to the Marriott Mena House, your five-star hotel near the Great Pyramids. Gather this evening for a welcome reception with introductory remarks by your study leader.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

**Cairo / Giza**

Attend a morning lecture, then visit the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, the permanent home of Egypt’s famous Royal Mummies, which opened in 2021. Enjoy guided access to the Mummies Hall. For younger participants, a special tour will focus on items related to animals, games, and sports in the museum’s collection. This evening, enjoy light refreshments (snack) before attending a sound- and light show to see the Great Pyramids illuminated. Dinner is at leisure.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

**Cairo / Sakkara / Giza**

This morning, travel to Sakkara for special access to the lavish tomb of Wahtye, a prominent priest from the Old Kingdom’s Fifth Dynasty around 2450 B.C. Discovered in 2018, the complex boasts an ornate, above-ground chapel adorned with painted reliefs, inscriptions, and statues. Continue the site of the remarkable Step Pyramid of King Djoser—Egypt’s oldest pyramid, built in the 27th century B.C. Transfer to Giza and join an expert guide at the eagerly anticipated Grand Egyptian Museum, home to the world’s largest collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts, including many never exhibited before, and the complete collection of Tutankhamun treasures. After lunch at the museum, visit the legendary Great Pyramids, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Enjoy up-close access to the Great Sphinx beyond the crowd barriers. Return to the hotel for a lecture and Young Voyager activities followed by dinner.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL](http://ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL)
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31
Cairo / Abu Simbel / Aswan
Embark Sanctuary Nile Adventurer

Board a privately chartered flight to Abu Simbel this morning. See the monumental temples of Ramesses II and his favorite wife, Queen Nefertari, constructed in the 13th century B.C. to intimidate enemies from the south. Incredibly, the temples were relocated to this location in the late 1960s to save them from submersion after the building of the High Dam. Continue by private plane to Aswan and embark Sanctuary Nile Adventurer. Gather for a festive New Year’s Eve dinner this evening.

B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1
Aswan

While in Aswan, take local boats to an island for a visit to the exquisite Temple of Philae, which was relocated due to the rising flood waters of the Nile. Afterwards, choose between a visit to the Nubian Museum or a visit to the unfinished obelisk at the ancient stone quarries. Then attend a hieroglyphics lesson followed by a Nubian henna hand-painting session. Younger participants will prepare and rehearse for a retelling of an ancient Egyptian myth. B,L,D

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2
Edfu / Kom Ombo

Step ashore this morning in Edfu to visit the well-preserved Temple of Horus, dedicated to the revered falcon god. Marvel at the temple’s reliefs, which still retain some of their original colors. Lunch is on board while you cruise along the Nile. Guests of all ages can learn how to bake Egyptian-style bread during a cooking class. In the late afternoon, admire a series of beautiful reliefs at the one-of-a-kind double Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated both to Sobek the crocodile god and Horus the falcon god. 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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3
Luxor

Arrive in Luxor, known as the “World’s Largest Outdoor Museum.” Stop to see the famed Colossi of Memnon, which consists of two awe-inspiring statues of King Amenhotep III seated on a throne, both dating to 1350 B.C. 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. Then take an exclusive inside look at Nefertari’s magnificent tomb in the Valley of the Queens. Access is limited to protect its vividly colorful wall paintings depicting Queen Nefertari’s journey into the afterlife. This evening, discover the Luxor Temple, remarkable for its sprawling size and exceptional state of preservation. Gather for a festive farewell dinner aboard ship.

B,L,D

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4
Luxor / Disembark / Cairo

This morning, discover the outstanding collection of antiquities at the Luxor Museum. Then walk along the Avenue of Sphinxes to the great Karnak Temple, and see the massive columns of the Hypostyle Hall. After lunch, board a privately chartered flight to Cairo and transfer to the Hilton Cairo Heliopolis for check-in. This evening, gather for dinner at the hotel.

B,L,D

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5
Cairo / Return

Depart the hotel early this morning and transfer to the airport for the flight home.

B

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL
**Accommodations**

**Marriott Mena House, Cairo**
A frequent stop for visiting celebrities and dignitaries, this five-star hotel comprises 331 luxury rooms and suites, many boasting views of the Great Pyramids, the lavish gardens, or the swimming pool. Enjoy the hotel’s four restaurants and lounges, the heated swimming pool, a 24-hour gym, and a health club. Double rooms with an extra bed (triple occupancy) are available only for those sharing with children 12 years old and under.

**Sanctuary Nile Adventurer**
With a sleek contemporary design and only 30 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.

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**Rates Per Person**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/DECK</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>106-109 Nile Deck / Standard Cabin</td>
<td>$11,999</td>
<td>$15,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>201-208 Main Deck / Standard Cabin</td>
<td>$12,499</td>
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<tr>
<td>301-310 Bridge Deck / Standard Cabin</td>
<td>$13,499</td>
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<tr>
<td>401-404 Promenade Deck / Standard Cabin</td>
<td>$14,499</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
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<tr>
<td>209 &amp; 210 Main Deck / Deluxe Cabin</td>
<td>$16,999</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>405 &amp; 406 Promenade Deck / Presidential Suite</td>
<td>$17,999</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
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*A $1,000 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. Children need to be at least 10 years old.

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**Rates Include**

- Four nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary; four nights cabin accommodations aboard Sanctuary Nile Adventurer
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, S=Snack, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with meals; thoughtfully selected wine/beers at dinners
- Internal flights by privately chartered aircraft (Cairo-Abu Simbel / Abu Simbel-Aswan / Luxor-Cairo)
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits

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**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. Double rooms with an extra bed (triple occupancy) are available.

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**Not Included:**
International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.
Trip Registration is Easy

**Step 1:** Click this link: alumni.harvard.edu/haatripform

**Step 2:** Fill out the online form with your contact information and payment details.

**Step 3:** Look for an email confirmation from Harvard Alumni Travels.

To review this program’s terms and conditions, visit alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/family-egypt-2024.

TRAVEL WITH HARVARD

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