

March 14 - March 27, 2027



Layers of EGYPT

Tour by Egypt with Hart - Itinerary & Details

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Why Egypt with Hart?

After more than 20 years exploring Egypt as an archaeologist, I am excited to share the side of this country that stole my heart. Egypt is an endlessly explorable place, from the energy of Cairo and the beauty of Nile-side farm fields, to the breathtaking brilliance of ancient temples and tombs. But what truly makes it special is the warm, witty personality of the Egyptian people, who are always ready with a laugh or a helping hand.

This trip is designed for lifelong learners who want a deeper, first-hand look at antiquity without forgetting the modern world it is set in. My goal is to make the tombs come alive, help you navigate the day-to-day logistics (like finding the good bathrooms!), and have a lot of fun along the way.

We will hit the iconic monuments, along with off-the-beaten-path experiences like a local village visit, traditional meals, and staying at a charming, locally owned hotel on Luxor's West Bank.

Come see why I keep returning year after year. I can't wait to show you the Egypt I love.





TRIP OVERVIEW

Day 1 Arrival into Cairo & Welcome

Day 2 Giza



Day 3 GEM



Day 4 Medieval Cairo



Day 5 Saqqara



Day 6 Aswan & Philae



Day 7 Abu Simbel



Day 8 Local Village



Day 9 Edfu & Elkab



Day 10 Esna & Luxor



Day 11 Valley of Kings



Day 12 Karnak



Day 13 Mummies



Day 14 Farewell & Departure from Cairo



TRIP OVERVIEW





Daily Itinerary



This 14-day trip will introduce you to all the layers of Egypt, from ancient to modern, and from iconic to unique. Our meals will be a combination of local Egyptian cuisine and more familiar fare. Throughout this active trip, everything is optional, you can rest when you choose. With a group size limited to 16, and your own personal archaeologist to accompany you, this is a once in a lifetime trip.

Included meals: B= Breakfast, L= Lunch, D= Dinner



3-14

DAY 1 - ARRIVAL

Arriving in Cairo, a **meet-and-greet service** will help you navigate customs and bring you to the hotel. There we will all meet up for a **Welcome dinner**.
D



3-15

DAY 2 - PYRAMIDS & SPHINX

We start the trip with the iconic highlights of **Giza**. You will be able to go **inside** one of the pyramids, and see the enigmatic **Sphinx**. We will have lunch with a view before heading back to the hotel. After some rest we will have dinner and our first talk by Dr. Beth Hart to learn how we know the pyramids were not built by aliens!
B/L/D



3-16

DAY 3 - GRAND EGYPTIAN MUSEUM (GEM)

Today we explore the GEM, home of **Tutankhamun's mask** and the treasures of his tomb. After a guided tour we will have lunch together at the museum then you will have time to explore on your own. In the evening we will enjoy Cairo from the Nile, with dinner on an open-air **felucca boat**.
B/L/D



Daily Itinerary



DAY 4 - MEDIEVAL CAIRO

To explore the Islamic-era monuments of Cairo, we start with the **Citadel & Mosque of Muhammad Ali**, then visit the maze-like historic **Gayer-Anderson house museum** with gorgeous **mashrabiya**. Walking through a local market will take us to **Bab Zuweila**, the old city gate, where the brave can ascend the minaret for stunning views. We will have a lunch of local fare at the Naguib Mahfouz restaurant, then end the day with a chance to shop in **Khan-el-Khalili**, Egypt's market bazaar that has been active for hundreds of years.

B/L

3-17

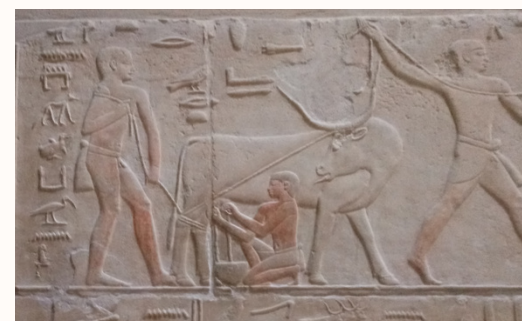


DAY 5 - FIRST PYRAMIDS: SAQQARA & DAHSHUR

Egypt is home to over 100 pyramids, and today we will see the *first* one- the **Step pyramid of Saqqara**, built by King Djoser and his architect Imhotep. While there, we visit gorgeous **painted tombs** that show idealized daily life in the age of the pyramids. After a local lunch stop we will understand first-hand the development of pyramids by going to the rarely-visited Dahshur, home of the **Bent pyramid** (showing trial and error) and the **Red pyramid**, the first straight-sided pyramid.

B/L

3-18





Daily Itinerary



3-19

DAY 6 - ASWAN & PHILAE

After taking a short morning flight to Aswan we will explore **Philae**, the temple to Isis and Egypt's last functioning temple. Next we board our **private dahabiya boat**, which will be our home for the next 4 nights, and have lunch. Then we visit **Elephantine archaeological site** to see the stratified layers of a settlement thousands of years old, and how temples were often built on top of each other. In the evening you will have the option to visit the **Aswan market**, a great place to buy Nubian baskets or spices.

B/L/D

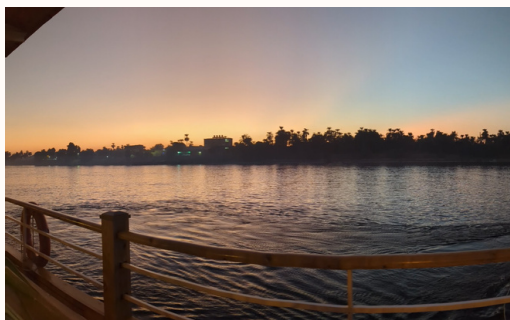


3-20

DAY 7 - ABU SIMBEL

We will wake up early to take a drive to see **Abu Simbel** on the banks of lake Nasr, built to trumpet Ramses the Great's presence to Nubia. It was the focus of a major UNESCO project to save it from the rising waters of the Aswan High Dam. Upon return, our dahabiya will start **sailing on the Nile**, and you can relax and observe the tranquil life of the Nile passing by. Keep an eye out for the amazing bird life that follows the Nile for migration! In the evening we will have our second talk by Dr. Beth Hart, about Hieroglyphs.

B/L/D





Daily Itinerary



DAY 8 - KOM OMBO & VILLAGE

In the morning we will visit the unique double **temple of Kom Ombo** dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and to the falcon god Horus the elder. The adjacent crocodile museum is small but impressive, housing crocodile mummies, statues, and stelae, offering a chance to consider how animals factored into ancient Egyptian religion. After lunch and more sailing we will stop at the lush **Bisaw** island and visit the **village** to learn about cooking, farming, and even try fishing using traditional methods!

B/L/D

3-21



DAY 9 - EDFU & ELKAB

Continuing to travel down the Nile, we will next reach **Edfu**, arguably the best preserved temple in Egypt. Marvel at the massive gateway and pillars as we follow in ancient footsteps through the courtyards, and see the myth of Horus and Seth carved on the walls. The afternoon takes us to **Elkab**, where we will see the monumental town walls and walk to the well-preserved **cliff tombs** that few travelers ever get to see. On the walk back through the village, be ready to chat with the local kids as they try to sell their baskets! Dinner will be a **BBQ** on the banks of the Nile.

B/L/D

3-22





Daily Itinerary



3-23

DAY 10 -Esna & Luxor Temple

Our last boat stop is the temple of **Esna** where recent conservation work has revealed a beautifully painted **astrological ceiling**- you can even find your own sign! From there we will check into our Luxor hotel and have lunch in the garden and some rest before heading to the other side of the river to see **Luxor temple at night**. The ambient lighting and the sparse crowds make it a unique experience. Those who want can explore the nearby souq (market). You can choose your own adventure for dinner, Luxor offers many options.

B/L

3-24

DAY 11 - VALLEY OF THE KINGS & LUXOR WEST BANK

We will get up early to visit the **Valley of the Kings** before the crowds and heat. This is where pharaohs built hidden tombs filled with brightly painted esoteric reliefs that hint at what it meant for Pharaohs to enter the afterlife. We will then see the **Temple of Hatshepsut**, one of Egypt's Female pharaohs, the **Colossi of Memnon**, statues that guard a temple that has now vanished, and end with painted tombs of artisans at **Deir el-Medina**, followed by dinner under the stars at the Marsam restaurant.

B/L/D



Daily Itinerary



DAY 12 - KARNAK

Today we visit **Karnak Temple**. Dedicated to three gods and expanded by many Pharaohs, it is one of the largest religious complexes in the world. The Great Hypostyle Hall alone has a forest of 134 towering, papyrus-shaped columns. We will have an Egyptian lunch at the beautiful Sofra restaurant, then you will have the rest of the afternoon to spend as you please, visiting more temples, tombs, the Luxor museum, or just relaxing! In the evening Dr. Beth Hart will give a talk about mummies.

B/L

3-25



DAY 13 - MUMMIES

We fly back to Cairo in the morning, and head straight to the **National Museum of Egyptian Civilization**. There you can walk through the underground gallery and meet the mummified pharaohs who built many of the monuments we saw. After lunch you have the option of visiting Coptic Cairo to see a Church said to be built over a stopping point for Mary and Jesus. We will end our trip with a celebratory farewell dinner.

B/L/D

3-26

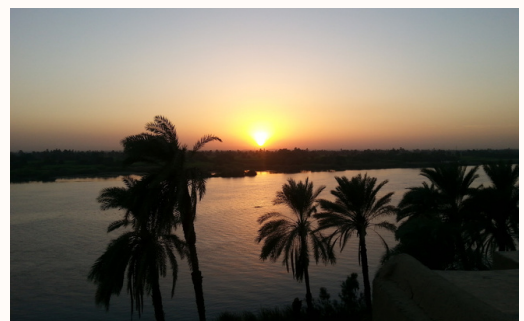


DAY 14 - DEPARTURE

Today everyone heads back home, taking with them the rich experiences and memories that can only be found in Egypt. We will arrange transportation to Cairo airport.

B

3-27





Dahabiya Boat

SAILING ON THE NILE

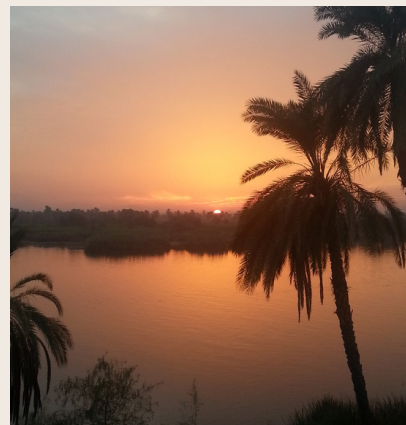
A *dahabiya* is a private traditional-style sail boat. Our dahabiya is the “Nile Soul” and will be our home for 5 days and 4 nights. We will have the boat all to ourselves with an expert crew to sail us down the Nile, stopping to see temples, and just relaxing and watching the farm fields and palm trees pass by. There is even a small jacuzzi!

WHAT MAKES A DAHABIYA SPECIAL?

With a dahabiya rather than a large cruise boat, besides having it to ourselves, we will be able to stop for smaller sites and experiences that the large ships can't access.

Elkab settlement and tombs: this site is close to my heart as I spent 3 seasons excavating in the settlement with a Belgian archaeological mission. We will dock at the local village (the kids will want to sell you their handmade baskets!), and walk past the monumental town wall, then up to the well-preserved tombs famous for a scene of ancient wine making.

Bisaw village: We will also get the chance to have some insight into local village life well away from the tourist sites. Stopping in Bisaw we will get an introduction to cooking, farming, and can even try our hand at fishing!





New Memnon

YOUR HOME IN LUXOR

I first found the wonderful locally owned New Memnon Hotel when I stayed here while on an archaeological project in the Valley of the Kings. Run by tireless Sayed Hassan, it is my home away from home whether I am working or showing travelers the wonders of Luxor.

Located on the west bank amidst the farmers' fields and just a stone's throw from the grand tombs and temples, it is the perfect jumping-off place for visiting the sites, and also slowing down to feel the easy pace and village roots of this area.

With an indoor and outdoor (covered) restaurant, balconies, a rooftop terrace, and even a pool, you'll find the perfect place to unwind and chat with fellow tripmates, other travelers, and possibly even other archaeologists!





Pricing Information

14 days, 13 nights, maximum of 16 travelers

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

\$5,225 USD per person

- Cairo: 1 King or 2 Queen beds
- Nile Boat: 2 twin beds (226sq ft)
- Luxor: 1 King or 2 Queen beds
- All rooms, including boat cabins, have AC, private bathrooms



Available Upgrades:

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SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT

+\$1,300 USD

- Great for solo travellers or those who just want their own space at night

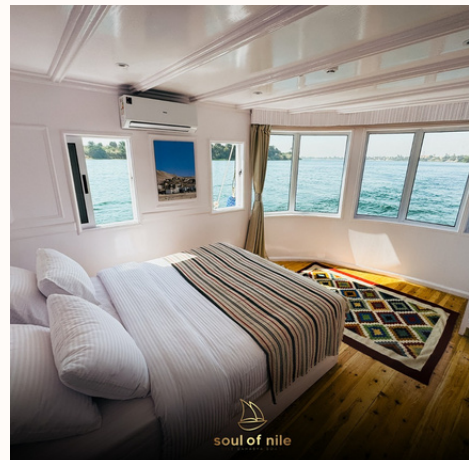


CRUISE DELUXE ROOM

+400 USD pp double occupancy

+600 USD pp single occupancy

- Deluxe cabins: 1 King bed (280 sq ft), panoramic view
- Only **two** deluxe cabins are available!
- We will spend 4 nights, 5 days on our own private boat



How to Book: email beth@egyptwithhart.com



Inclusions & Exclusions

INCLUDED

- Accommodations for 14 days/ 13 nights trip, including a privately chartered dahabiya yacht
- In-Egypt flights (Cairo-Aswan, Luxor-Cairo)
- Meet-and-greet service and transfer to hotel upon arrival into Egypt
- Transfer from last hotel in Cairo to Cairo airport for international departure
- Egyptian certified tour guide for site visits
- Archaeologist (Dr. Beth Hart) accompanying you for the whole trip, and providing 3 (optional) group talks to contextualize the visits
- Entrances to sites, museums, monuments listed in the itinerary
- Transportation for getting to and from group site visits and activities
- Daily breakfast, 12 Lunches, 9 dinners
- Tips for drivers, porters, and restaurant staff at included meals

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to/from Egypt
- Visa for entering Egypt (\$30 USD)
- Tips for Egyptian tour guide
- Tips for hotel cleaning staff
- 4 dinners
- Alcoholic drinks
- Beverages/food not part of set menus
- Laundry
- Personal expenses





Additional Details



GUIDING

Only Egyptian citizens who are certified guides are legally allowed to give tours at the sites and Museums. We will be accompanied by a talented and wonderful guide, Ahmed Sharid, to guide us through the sites. Dr. Beth Hart will also accompany you throughout the whole trip including to sites and at meals to answer questions and discuss. She will give three lectures in the comfort of our hotels to help contextualize and further deepen your understanding of the sites.



DAHABIYA YACHT

To ensure we stay on schedule for all our site visits, our Dahabiya is regularly pulled by a small tugboat. However, whenever wind conditions allow, the captain will gladly raise the sails so we can experience the peace of pure wind power moving us along the Nile.



FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Before confirming your tour participation with a deposit we will share our full terms and conditions which cover other aspects such as travel insurance, itinerary changes, cancellation policy, and more. You can also find them online at egyptwithhart.com.



EGYPT WITH HART

ARCHAEOLOGY TRAVEL

- Ph.D. Archaeologist with 20+ years experience in Egypt
- Curated tours blend the iconic and the unique
- Small groups ensure a personalized experience
- See all sides of Egypt: Ancient, Medieval, Modern
- Private traditional Dahabiya cruise on the Nile

EGYPT ITINERARY MARCH 14 - 27, 2027