

Travel with The Met

December 29, 2023–
January 9, 2024

Egypt & the Nile: A Journey into Antiquity Aboard *Sanctuary* *Nile Adventurer*

with Diana Craig Patch,
Lila Acheson Wallace
Curator in Charge
Department of
Egyptian Art



THE
MET

Egypt & the Nile: A Journey into Antiquity Aboard *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer*

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Egypt, the land of pharaohs, is home to some of the world's most exciting archaeological discoveries and impressive museum collections. I invite you to join me on an extraordinary New Year's journey through a country that has captured the imaginations of travelers for centuries. This exclusive Met program includes travel by private plane, a four-night Nile River cruise, and unparalleled behind-the-scenes access to many of Egypt's most legendary sites.

Our journey begins with four nights in Cairo. We will travel to nearby Giza for a guided exploration of the Great Pyramids and enjoy up-close access to the Great Sphinx, venturing past its protective barriers to admire this colossal ancient statue away from the crowds. We will also visit the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, where you will come face to face with Egypt's ancient kings. A highlight will be private access to the museum's restoration center.

In Sakkara, we will see the recently opened underground apartments of King Djoser's Step Pyramid, Egypt's oldest pyramid. Then we will make our way to the tomb of Wahtye, a priest who lived around 2450 B.C. On an exclusive tour, we will explore the tomb's four chambers, which are adorned with many statues, paintings, and hieroglyphic inscriptions.

After a private flight to Luxor, we will visit the UNESCO-listed necropolis at Thebes. In the Valley of the Queens, we will enjoy rare access to the tomb of Queen Nefertari, the wife of Ramesses II. Entry is limited to preserve the tomb's brilliantly colorful wall paintings. Then we will embark on our four-night Nile River voyage aboard a deluxe riverboat, the privately chartered *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer*, going ashore to explore sublime tombs and temples in Luxor, Edfu, Kom Ombo, and Aswan. Afterwards, we will travel by private plane to Abu Simbel, where we will stand in awe before the massive rock temples of Ramesses II and Nefertari, relocated here from their original site in the 1960s. We will conclude the journey with a return to Cairo.

I hope you will join me on this spectacular journey during which you will discover the richness and beauty of one of the world's most awe-inspiring civilizations.

Sincerely,

Diana Craig Patch

*Lila Acheson Wallace Curator in Charge, Department of Egyptian Art
The Metropolitan Museum of Art*



Traveling with You

Diana Craig Patch

Diana Craig Patch is the Lila Acheson Wallace Curator in Charge of the Department of Egyptian Art. She specializes in the art and archaeology of ancient Egypt, earning her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania with a dissertation on settlement patterns and early state development. She curated *The Dawn of Egyptian Art* (2012), exploring the contributions of Predynastic art to Pharaonic culture, and *Cleopatra's Needle* (2013–14), celebrating the Central Park icon. She co-curated *Jewelry: The Body Transformed* in 2017–2018. She also co-curated the reinstallation of the Predynastic and Early Dynastic gallery (2003). Patch teaches and lectures frequently and has carried out extensive fieldwork in Egypt. She directed the Joint Expedition to Malqata (2008–19), the festival-city of Amenhotep III in Thebes.

Trip Highlights

- Enjoy intimate access to the **Great Sphinx**, venturing beyond the crowd barriers to fully appreciate this colossal ancient statue
- Take a special inside look at **the recently discovered tomb of Wahtye in Sakkara**, as well as the **Step Pyramid of King Djoser**, Egypt's oldest pyramid.
- Board the elegant ***Sanctuary Nile Adventurer*** for a four-night Nile River voyage and explore the **Valley of the Kings** as well as tombs and temples in Luxor, Edfu, Kom Ombo, and Aswan
- Explore the **National Museum of Egyptian Civilization**, the new permanent home of Egypt's ancient kings, and gain special access to the restoration center
- Delight in the rare opportunity to explore **Nefertari's magnificent, 3,000-year-old tomb**, where entrance is strictly limited to preserve the integrity of its colorful wall paintings
- Discover the vast, **UNESCO World Heritage Site of Thebes**, with its exquisite array of temples and tombs



Ceremonial Implement in the Shape of an Ank, ca. 1400–1390 B.C. Faience. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Theodore M. Davis Collection, Bequest of Theodore M. Davis, 1915 (30.8.30)



Photos clockwise from top right: Regional map; Charles K. Wilkinson, *Queen Nefertari being led by Isis*, ca. 1279–1213 B.C. Facsimile by Charles K. Wilkinson, Tempera on paper. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Rogers Fund, 1930 (30.4.142); The Nile River, Aswan; Karnak Temple; Abu Simbel, photo by Brynn Hyland; National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, Cairo, photo by hewy. Front cover: Karnak Temple, Luxor. Back cover: Abu Simbel, Small Temple, photo by Brynn Hyland (top); Karnak Temple, Luxor (bottom).

Accommodations

The St. Regis Cairo

This 36-story landmark delights with its lavishly appointed rooms and suites, state-of-the-art facilities, and seven thoughtfully crafted restaurants and bars.

Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa

Nestled on the banks of the Nile, this resort offers stylish rooms with uninterrupted views from the water's edge, luxurious spa facilities, and stunning infinity pools.

Sanctuary Nile Adventurer

The elegant *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer* has just 32 cabins. Decorated in a contemporary style, the ship's design combines modern Egyptian culture with 7,000 years of heritage.



Sanctuary Nile Adventurer

Rate Includes

- Six nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Four nights cabin accommodations aboard *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer* as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Internal flights by privately chartered aircraft (Cairo-Luxor / Aswan-Abu Simbel / Abu Simbel-Cairo)
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach; entrance fees for included visits
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

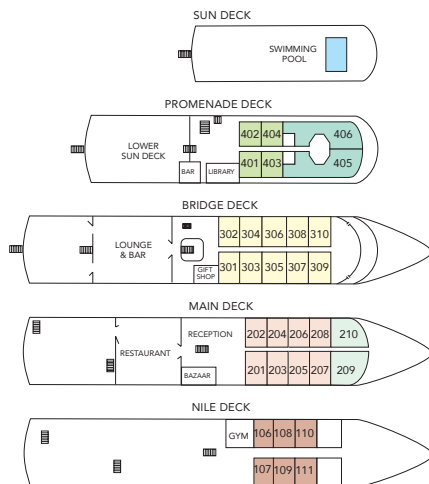
Not included in rate

International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; optional Jordan postlude; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Sanctuary Nile Adventurer

Cruise Rates

Cabin Categories	Cabin	Decks	Double Rates	Single Rates
Standard Cabins	106 to 111	Nile Deck	\$13,999	\$17,999
177.6 sq. ft., cabins 106 & 110 have king beds, all others have twin beds				
Standard Cabins	201 to 208	Main Deck	\$14,499	Inquire
177.6 sq. ft., cabins 203 & 204 have king beds, all others have twin beds				
Standard Cabins	301 to 310	Bridge Deck	\$14,999	Inquire
163.4 sq. ft., cabins 305 & 309 have king beds, all others have twin beds				
Standard Cabins	401 to 404	Promenade Deck	\$15,499	Inquire
153.4 sq. ft., cabin 401 has a king bed, all others have twin beds				
Deluxe Cabins	209 & 210	Main Deck	\$17,499	Inquire
230 sq. ft., circular windows, cabin 209 has twin beds, 210 has a king bed				
Presidential Suites	405 & 406	Promenade Deck	\$18,999	Inquire
456.8 sq. ft., private balconies, cabin 405 has twin beds, 406 has a king bed				



Egypt & the Nile: December 29, 2023–January 9, 2024

Reservation Form

To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638); email: met@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

Accommodations

Sanctuary Nile Adventurer cabin preference (1) _____ (2) _____

I wish to share a room/cabin with _____

Optional Postlude

- I/We wish to join the optional postlude in Jordan
- Hotel Room Preference One bed Two beds Single

Form of Payment

- Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in program documents. I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

For additional information, please call 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638) or to opt out from receiving mail, email travelwiththemet@metmuseum.org



Egypt & the Nile Aboard *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer*

December 29, 2023–January 9, 2024



Abu Simbel, Small Temple, photo by Brynn Hyland

Departure

Friday, December 29

Depart on an overnight flight to Cairo.

Cairo, Egypt

Saturday, December 30

Arrive in Cairo this afternoon and transfer to the elegant St. Regis, our home for the next four nights. Gather this evening for introductory remarks by Diana Craig Patch and toast to the beginning of the program at a festive welcome reception.

R

Cairo / Giza

Sunday, December 31

Begin the day in nearby Giza with a tour of the Great Pyramids, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Then enjoy exclusive, up-close access to the Great Sphinx, going beyond the protective crowd barriers to stand below this colossal ancient statue. This afternoon, attend a lecture before ringing in the New Year during a festive dinner.

B, L, D

Cairo / Sakkara

Monday, January 1

Join Egyptologists for a special morning tour of the Egyptian Museum and delve into over 5,000 years of Egyptian culture, arts, beliefs, traditions, and daily life. After lunch, head to the remarkable Step Pyramid of King Djoser, built in the 27th century B.C. at nearby Sakkara. Stop to visit the tomb of Mereruka, and enjoy special access to the recently discovered tomb of Wahtye, a priest in the 25th century B.C.

B, L, D

Cairo

Tuesday, January 2

Take a morning tour of the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, the permanent home of the nation's ancient

pharaohs, and gain exclusive access to the restoration center. After lunch, head to Ibn Tulun Square for a tour of Islamic Cairo. The Gayer-Anderson Museum, featuring two restored 16th- and 17th-century houses decorated with *mashrabiya* screens and marble inlays, and the ninth-century Mosque of Ibn Tulun are must-see sites here. Dinner is at your leisure.

B, L

Cairo / Luxor

Wednesday, January 3

Board a privately chartered flight to Luxor, known as the "World's Largest Outdoor Museum," and continue to the Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa. This afternoon, walk along the recently reopened Avenue of Sphinxes, connecting the elegant Luxor Temple to the great Karnak Temple, and gaze upon the massive columns of its Hypostyle Hall. This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for a group dinner.

B, L, D

Luxor / Embark *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer*

Thursday, January 4

Spend the morning exploring the archaeological treasures of the West Bank, site of the vast necropolis of ancient Thebes. Start in the Valley of the Queens and visit Nefertari's awe-inspiring tomb, where access is limited to protect its vividly colorful wall paintings depicting the Queen's journey into the afterlife. Afterwards, see the famed Colossi of Memnon, two awe-inspiring statues of King Amenhotep III seated on a throne, both dating to 1350 B.C. Embark the privately chartered *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer* and enjoy lunch on board. This afternoon, enjoy the outstanding collection at the Luxor Museum, which exhibits treasures from the necropolis of Thebes.

B, L, D

Luxor

Friday, January 5

Early this morning, return to the West Bank. Explore the tomb of Tutankhamun, the famous boy pharaoh, in the Valley of the Kings, as well as the beautiful temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari, whose walls are covered with lovely painted reliefs depicting temple rituals and religious festivals. Return to the ship for lunch, and enjoy a leisurely afternoon. At twilight, visit the sprawling Luxor Temple.

B, L, D

Edfu / Kom Ombo

Saturday, January 6

Arrive this morning in Edfu for a visit to the Temple of Horus, one of the best-preserved temples in the world, with its massive gateways, fully intact roof, and imposing sandstone walls adorned with hieroglyphs and ritual scenes. Lunch is on board as we sail towards Kom Ombo to view the Ptolemaic temple, which is dedicated to the ancient crocodile god Sobek and decorated with a series of beautiful reliefs. Partake in a festive Egyptian dinner this evening.

B, L, D

Aswan

Sunday, January 7

In Aswan, take local boats to reach the temple of Philae, built for the great goddess Isis and relocated due to the rising flood waters of the Nile. See an unfinished obelisk at the ancient stone quarries. After lunch on the ship, you may wish to relax on board or visit the Nubian Museum. The museum features landscaped gardens, artificial lakes, and more than 3,000 objects going as far back as 3500 B.C. that tell the full story of Nubian culture. Tonight, enjoy one last dinner on the Nile.

B, L, D

Aswan / Disembark / Abu Simbel / Cairo

Monday, January 8

Depart for the airport this morning to board a privately chartered flight to Abu Simbel. See the massive, rock-cut temples of Ramesses II and his favorite wife, Queen Nefertari. Constructed in the 13th century B.C., the temples were relocated in the 1960s to save them from submersion after the building of the High Dam. Continue by private plane to Cairo, and check in at your hotel. Gather this evening for a farewell dinner.

B, L, D

Cairo / Return

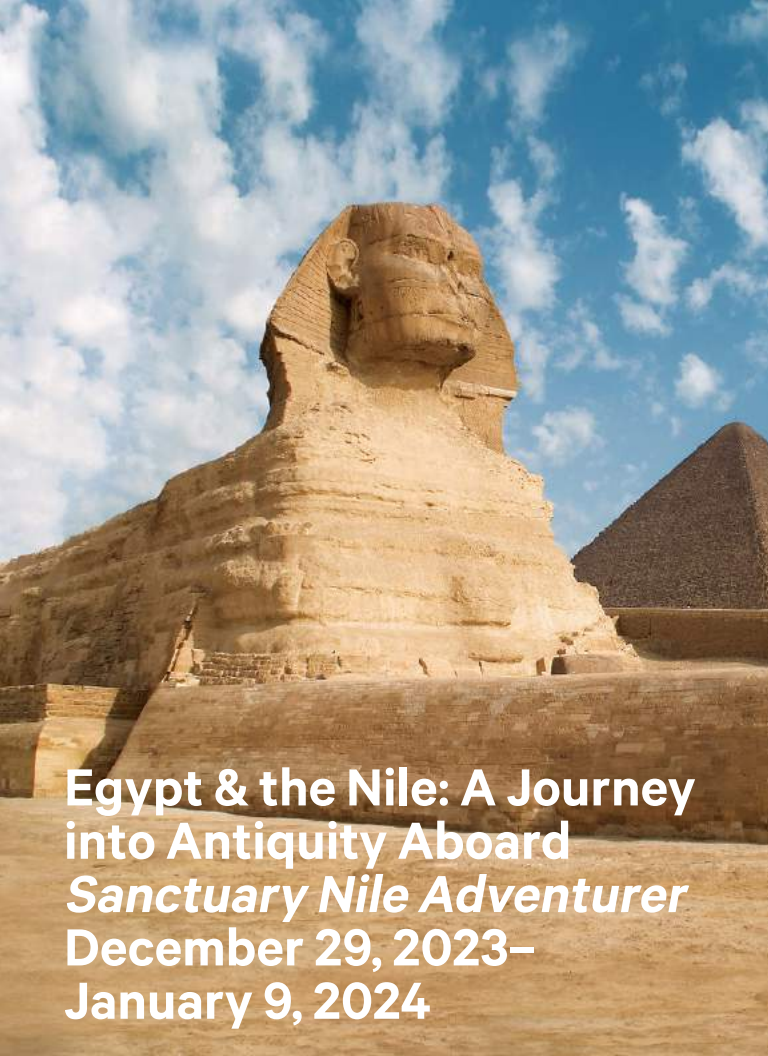
Tuesday, January 9

Depart the hotel early this morning for your flights home.

B

An optional postlude in Jordan is offered January 9-13, 2024.

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.



**The Metropolitan
Museum of Art**

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New York, NY 10028

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