



October 13 - 26, 2022

with special guest lecturer

Tariq al-Jamil

Associate Professor of Religion

# *Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley*

*An epic journey through antiquity highlighted by stays  
at luxury hotels and aboard a stately dahabiya*



Temple of Luxor





Dear Swarthmoreans,

Wander the fabled land of pharaohs and kings—where colossal pyramids, legendary tombs, and towering temples cascade across the terrain. The mighty Nile River welcomes you for an unhurried journey that reveals seemingly limitless vistas of infinite deserts contrasted by metropolitan cities. From biblical times through to modern day, Egypt has been the site of monumental historical events, staggering technological achievements, and compelling human stories.

During this 14-day expedition, traverse the Nile Valley like past explorers and discover ancient treasures including the Great Sphinx, the Temple of Horus, and the tombs of El Kab. Accompanied by expert Egyptologists, you'll gain in-depth knowledge of Egypt and its antiquities. Then in the evenings, relax among some of the area's most opulent hotels.

This all-meals-included program also features an exclusive four-night cruise on the Nile River aboard a private dahabiya. This deluxe, 14-guest sailing vessel offers the opportunity to see life on the Nile from a different perspective. As an additional benefit, this unique vessel ports on differing days than larger cruise ships, providing guests a less crowded, more intimate experience while viewing the ancient sites.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than \$1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.


Reserve today online at [swarthmore.orbridge.com](http://swarthmore.orbridge.com), by calling (866) 639-0079 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,

Lisa K. Shafer  
Senior Director of  
Alumni & Parent Engagement

Sarah S. Doody  
President,  
Engaging Journeys, Inc.

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 Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. Learn more at [orbridge.com/going-green](http://orbridge.com/going-green).



## Your 14-Day Itinerary (subject to change)

- Day 1:** En Route from U.S.
- Day 2:** Arrive in Cairo, Egypt  
Evening at leisure  
Overnight: Marriott Mena House
- Day 3:** Cairo / Giza (B,L,D)  
Great Pyramid, Great Sphinx, Grand Egyptian Museum, welcome dinner  
Overnight: Marriott Mena House
- Day 4:** Cairo / Memphis / Cairo (B,L,D)  
Sakkara Necropolis, Mosque of Sultan Hassan, Old Cairo, Coptic Churches, Khan El-Khalili bazaar  
Overnight: Marriott Mena House
- Day 5:** Cairo / Flight to Sohag / Abydos / Luxor (B,L,D)  
Abydos temples  
Overnight: Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor
- Day 6:** Luxor (B,L,D)  
Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut, Colossi of Memnon, Luxor Temple by night  
Overnight: Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor
- Day 7:** Luxor / Esna – Embarkation (B,L,D)  
Karnak Temple Complex  
Overnight: Dahabiya
- Day 8:** Nile River / Edfu (B,L,D)  
El Kab tombs, Temple of Horus  
Overnight: Dahabiya
- Day 9:** Edfu / Nile / Kom Ombo (B,L,D)  
Gebel el-Silsila, special island barbecue dinner  
Overnight: Dahabiya
- Day 10:** Kom Ombo / Nile / Aswan (B,L,D)  
Temple of Kom Ombo, gala dinner  
Overnight: Dahabiya
- Day 11:** Aswan – Disembarkation (B,L,D)  
High Dam, Philae Temple, evening market tour  
Overnight: Sofitel Legend Cataract
- Day 12:** Aswan (B,L,D)  
Elephantine Island, lunch at Nubian house  
Overnight: Sofitel Legend Cataract
- Day 13:** Aswan / Optional Abu Simbel Excursion / Flight to Cairo (B,L,D)  
Abu Simbel excursion (additional fee) or leisure time, flight to Cairo  
Overnight: Le Méridien Cairo Airport
- Day 14:** Cairo / Depart for U.S. (B)

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)

## Uncover

- Enjoy two full days exploring Cairo, visiting the Great Pyramid and the Sphinx, the Grand Egyptian Museum, and Khan El-Khalili bazaar.
- In Luxor, view the Karnak Temple Complex—one of the largest religious buildings in the world, which includes contributions from approximately thirty pharaohs over thousands of years.
- Travel beside the Nile to Abydos to marvel at the colorful carvings in the Temple of Seti I and view the Abydos King List, which was instrumental to understanding Ancient Egyptian history.
- On the west bank of Luxor, visit the Valley of the Kings and Nobles, the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, and Colossi of Memnon.
- During an optional excursion (additional fee), view the temples of Abu Simbel carved into a massive rock cliff, which were relocated and perfectly reconstructed after building the High Dam in the early 1960s.

## Sail

- Embark in Esna aboard a private dahabiya—a traditional Egyptian sailing vessel—for four nights on the Nile River.
- Sail to Elephantine Island, the only ongoing excavation site open to tourists, to view its sacred temples and traditional Nubian villages.

## What's Included

- 8 nights luxury hotel accommodations plus 4 nights aboard a stately dahabiya
- 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches, and 11 dinners
- All excursions listed on the 14-day itinerary, including admission to sites and venues
- Excursion transportation
- Internal airfare from Cairo to Sohag and Aswan to Cairo
- Gratuities to hotels, drivers, dahabiya staff, porters, and guides
- Group airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times

**Activity Level:** Activities are generally not very strenuous, however, we expect that guests can enjoy two hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on uneven surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance.





Ramses Temple, Abydos

## Hotel Accommodations (subject to change)

### MARRIOTT MENA HOUSE – CAIRO .....

While touring bustling Cairo, spend leisure time and evenings amidst the luxurious and modern comforts of Marriott Mena House, located just 45 minutes outside of the city. Originally built as a hunting lodge in 1869, Mena House served as a private residence until 1886, when it was opened to the public as a hotel. It has hosted a variety of visitors, including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Winston Churchill, Frank Sinatra, and Charlie Chaplin.

Guest rooms offer glorious panoramic views of the pyramids. The property features 40 acres of lavish gardens, four restaurants and lounges, outdoor pool, heated indoor pool, health club, and full service spa (additional fees for services).



### SOFITEL WINTER PALACE LUXOR .....

Perched peacefully on the bank of the Nile River, Winter Palace's 5-star accommodations provide an alluring atmosphere for a regal respite. During leisure time, roam the manicured gardens, take a dip in the welcoming pool, or simply reflect on your time in Egypt while embracing the spectacular sights from your room.



### SOFITEL LEGEND CATARACT – ASWAN .....

Step back to the time of the pharaohs, surrounded by grandeur and opulence of this 5-star property—with the sights of the Nubian Desert and Elephantine Island at your fingertips. Walk the ravishing grounds, and feel a part of royalty that once frequented the hotel—where King Fouad once entertained Agatha Christie.



### LE MÉRIDIEN CAIRO AIRPORT .....

For your final evening in Egypt, enjoy the stylish accommodations of Le Méridien. This fully soundproofed luxury hotel is conveniently linked to Terminal 3 of Cairo International Airport by a pedestrian bridge.

The property features an impressive sports bar, three restaurants serving Chinese, Lebanese or Mediterranean cuisine, a fitness center, and a heated outdoor pool.





## Onboard Accommodations

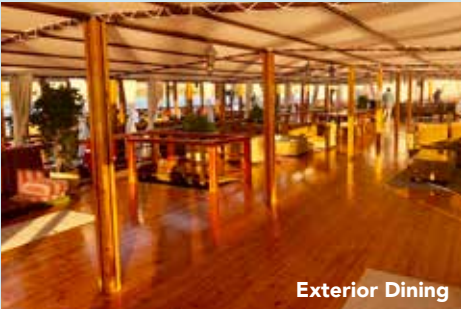
With a capacity of just 14 guests per boat, our 155-foot dahabiyas are designed to provide the ultimate in comfort and adventure while sailing the Nile River. Each stateroom provides spacious, fully air-conditioned accommodations with en suite facilities.

Guests can savor healthy, fresh, and delicious international and Egyptian cuisine at every meal. Enjoy the large sun deck, dining and lounge areas, and the services of an enthusiastic crew who are committed to your comfort.

### STATEROOM CATEGORIES

**Standard:** Features one queen or two twin beds, view window, and private en suite bathroom. Approx. 205 sq.ft.

**Suite:** Features one queen bed, private balcony, view windows, and private en suite bathroom. Approx. 250 sq.ft.



Exterior Dining



Dining



Standard



Suite



Lounge



Deck





## Optional Pre-Tour Alexandria

Just a 3-hour drive from Cairo rests the Mediterranean oasis of Alexandria. Founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BCE, the city was once a major intellectual center of the Greek and Roman empires, and home to the rulers of the Ptolemaic dynasty—including Cleopatra. Explore the mythic vestiges of the ancient city, and enjoy leisure time to experience the modern charms along the Corniche, Alexandria's waterfront promenade.

### Pre-Tour Itinerary *(subject to change)*

**Day +1:** En Route from U.S.

**Day +2:** Arrive in Cairo, Egypt

Evening at leisure

Overnight: Marriott Mena House

**Day +3:** Cairo / Alexandria (B,L)

Guided touring: Roman Amphitheatre,  
famous Catacombs, Citadel of Qaitbay,  
leisure time

Overnight: Steigenberger Cecil Hotel

**Day +4:** Alexandria (B,L)

National Museum of Egyptian Civilization,  
Bibliotheca Alexandrina, evening at leisure

Overnight: Steigenberger Cecil Hotel

**Day +5:** Alexandria / Cairo / Main Program  
Begins (B)

After breakfast, return to Cairo to join guests  
on the main program



Sarcophagus at the Catacombs



Roman Amphitheatre



Citadel of Qaitbay



Alexandria Harbor

### What's Included

- 3 nights luxury hotel accommodations
- 3 breakfasts and 2 lunches
- Touring by an English-speaking guide
- Admission to all sites listed in the 5-day itinerary
- Guided Alexandria city tour including the Roman Amphitheatre
- All gratuities and portage
- Airport transfers for guests arriving during the suggested times

## Optional Post-Tour Jordan



Petra

Step back in time to the ancient world of the Middle East, where overwhelming historic architecture towers over the present day. Embrace the endless layers of spiritual and religious icons dotting this Holy Land, culminating with a once-in-a-lifetime visit to the Dead Sea.

### Post-Tour Itinerary *(subject to change)*

**Day 14:** Cairo / Flight to Amman (L,D)

Guided city tour

Overnight: InterContinental Jordan Hotel

**Day 15:** Amman / Jerash / Ajloun /

Amman (B,L,D)

Roman city ruins, 12th-century castle

Overnight: InterContinental Jordan Hotel

**Day 16:** Amman / Madaba / Mount Nebo /

Petra (B,L,D)

Orthodox Church of Saint George, Byzantine

mosaics, Memorial Church of Moses, Jordan Valley

Overnight: Mövenpick Resort Petra

**Day 17:** Petra (B,L,D)

Guided city tour

Overnight: Mövenpick Resort Petra

**Day 18:** Petra / Little Petra / Dana / Dead

Sea (B,L,D)

Nabatean frescoes, stone village, biosphere

reserve, Dead Sea leisure time

Overnight: Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea

**Day 19:** Dead Sea / Amman (B,L)

Leisure time, late evening group transfer to Amman's Queen Alia International Airport for tomorrow's early morning flights home

Day Room: Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea

**Day 20:** Depart for U.S.



Roman Amphitheatre



Mount Nebo



Dana



Dead Sea

### What's Included

- 5 nights luxury accommodations plus a day room on departure day
- 5 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 5 dinners
- Admission to all sites listed in the 6-day itinerary
- Touring by an English-speaking guide
- All gratuities and portorage
- Internal airfare from Cairo to Amman
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times



Discover Egypt & the Nile Valley

October 13 - 26, 2022

Alexandria Pre-Tour: October 9 - 13, 2022

Jordan Post-Tour: October 26 - November 1, 2022

Reserve by Credit Card:

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639-0079

Fax: (206) 452-5655

Reserve by Check:

Made payable to Orbridge, LLC

Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 10339 Bainbridge

Island, WA 98110

Comprehensive travel insurance is not included in your tour package. Orbridge strongly advises that you purchase travel insurance for your upcoming trip. Information will be mailed to you by Engaging Journeys upon receipt of your registration. Questions may be directed to Sarah Doody at [sarah@engagingjourneys.com](mailto:sarah@engagingjourneys.com) or (904) 432-3141.

GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:

☐ Check ☐ ACH (Automated Clearing House) ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CW: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (as printed on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY SELECTION & DEPOSIT:

Category Preference: 1st choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining pre-tour (\$500/person) +

# \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining program (\$850/person) +

# \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining post-tour (\$500/person) = TOTAL DEPOSIT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ABU SIMBEL OPTIONAL EXCURSION (added to your final invoice):

# \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining optional excursion (\$595/person)

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at [terms.orbridge.com](https://terms.orbridge.com) and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration, Deposits and Final Payment.** To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of \$850 per person and \$500 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour is due at the time of registration, payable by check, automated clearing house (ACH), money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card. Final payment, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour and optional excursion(s) fee(s), is payable by check, ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, and is due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the date the program starts, the entire cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour and optional(s), is due at the time of registration by check, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds. Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. All payments we receive from you are herein defined as "Payments."  
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**Cancellations and Refunds.** All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 275 or more calendar days prior to the program's scheduled departure date, all deposits will be fully refunded; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 274 and 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be \$500 per person per program and \$300 per person per program for any pre-tour and/or post-tour; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 150 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person per program including any pre-tour and/or post-tour; (d) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge on the final payment due date or closer to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

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\*Special group rates; limited offer. Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Single availability limited. Internal airfare between Cairo, Luxor, Abu Simbel, and Aswan is included. Airfare otherwise not included. For the Post-Tour, internal airfare from Cairo to Amman is included. Airfare otherwise not included. \*\*A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.





# Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley

October 13 - 26, 2022

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per couple

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Library we've assembled for this program.\*\*

## Special Guest Lecturer: Professor Tariq al-Jamil

Professor al-Jamil is an expert on medieval Islamic social history and law, with a particular focus on Shi'ism. He has conducted research on Sunni-Shi'i relations and can address issues related to the academic study of Islam and the social history of Iraq, Iran,



Egypt and Saudi Arabia. His published works and research interests include: Islam and inter-communal violence, pre-modern religious identity, religious dissimulation, the transmission of knowledge in Islam, and women in Islamic jurisprudence. al-Jamil received his B.A. from Oberlin College, M.T.S. from Harvard University, and M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University.



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