

# Exploring Egypt: Cairo/Giza, Luxor, Abydos & Dendara

May 28 – June 4, 2023

(B-Breakfast L-Lunch D-Dinner)

## Saturday, 27 May 2023: Leave USA \*\*

- Departure from USA. Please arrange international flights to leave US on 05/27/23 for arrival to Egypt by 05/28/2023. Search for flights to Cairo International Airport (CAI).
- International flights to/from Egypt are **not** included in the trip cost

## Sunday, 28 May 2023: Arrival in Egypt

- Arrival to Cairo International Airport (CAI)
- Meet & greet, with luggage and customs assistance, by a local representative
- Transfer by A/C vehicle to hotel for check-in



**Overnight Cairo/Giza:** Sheraton Cairo Hotel & Casino - 3 nights

## Monday, 29 May 2023: Egyptian Museum | Nat'l Museum of Egyptian Civilization | Khan el-Khalili Bazaar | Coptic Cairo (B, L)



- Morning greet and itinerary review with tour guide
- Visit the Egyptian Museum, National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, Khan el-Khalili Bazaar & Coptic Cairo
- Lunch at local restaurant in Cairo

**The Egyptian Museum:** The most important depository of Egyptian antiquities anywhere in the world. It features artifacts from the Pharaonic and Graeco-Roman periods, including the celebrated mummies of ancient Egypt's king and Tut Ankh Amun treasures.

**NOTE:** It is likely that the new Grand Egyptian Museum will be open in 2023.

## Tuesday, 30 May 2023: Great Pyramids | Sphinx | Memphis | Saqqara (B, L)

- Morning greet and itinerary review with tour guide
- Full day tour to The Great Pyramids and the Great Sphinx (includes camel ride at the Pyramids), Memphis, Saqqara
- Lunch at local restaurant in Giza

**Pyramids & Sphinx:** Considered to be one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. A single pyramid is built of 2,300,000 blocks, each weighing an average of two and one-half tons. In the face of such immensity, one cannot

help but feel the wonder and awe that so many writers & artists have sought to convey over the centuries. The Cheops Pyramid is especially interesting since its interior burial chambers are open for inspection by the public. Not far from the Pyramids is the Great Sphinx of Giza, which dates from the time of Chephren (2620 BC). Hewn from natural yellowish limestone & standing 65 feet high & 187 feet long, this unforgettable statue combines the head of a Pharaoh with a lion's body.



**Wednesday, 31 May 2023: Fly Cairo to Luxor | Karnak Temple | Luxor Temple (B)**



- Morning greet and itinerary review with tour guide
- Fly to Luxor | Tour Karnak & Luxor Temples

**Overnight Luxor:** Steigenberger Nile Palace Luxor - 3 nights

**Karnak Temple:** Karnak was erected in 1928 BC as a small shrine dedicated to Amun, god of Thebes then. The Temple of Karnak comprises three main temples, smaller enclosed temples, and several outer temples - all constructed over 1300 years. The three main temples of Mut, Monthu and Amun, are enclosed in enormous brick walls, with

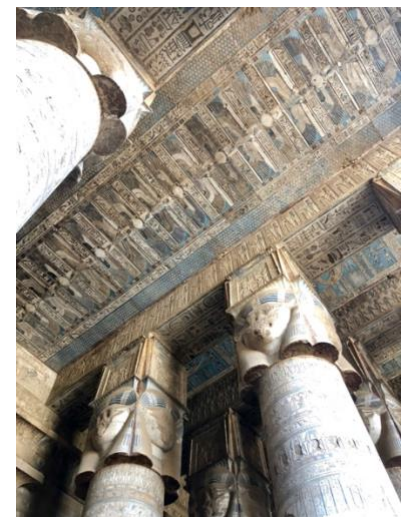
the temple of Amun at the center.

**Luxor Temple:** In ancient times, many festivals were celebrated in Thebes. The Temple of Luxor was the center of the most important one, the festival of Opet. Built largely by Amenhotep III and Ramses II, the temple served as a setting for the rituals of the festival, which were held to reconcile the human aspect of the ruler with his divine office. The procession of images of the current royal family began at Karnak and ended at the Luxor Temple.

**Thursday, 01 June 2023: Abydos and Dendara (B, L)**

- Morning greet and itinerary review with tour guide
- Full day excursion to Abydos and Dendara
- Lunch at local restaurant

**Abydos/Dendara:** Abydos occupies an important place in the religious history of Pharaonic Egypt and is noted for the temple of Seti I, which contains an inscription from the 19th Dynasty, known as the Abydos King List. Dendera, where Egyptians worshipped Hathor in a well-preserved temple.



**Friday, 02 June 2023: Sunrise Hot Air Balloon Ride | Colossi of Memnon | Temple of Queen Hatshepsut | Valley of Kings & Queens (B)**

- Morning greet and itinerary review with tour guide
- Sunrise hot air balloon ride over Valley of the Kings
- Tour West Bank: Colossi of Memnon, the Mortuary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, and the Valley of the Kings & Queens

**West Bank:** The West Bank forms a valley where rock cut tombs were excavated for the pharaohs and powerful nobles of the New Kingdom over a period of 500 years. The most notable tomb (KV62), is that of the young boy pharaoh, Tut Ankh Amun. There is also a stop at an authentic Egyptian Alabaster Workshop, where you will learn how this amazing stone is formed into beautiful pieces of art.



**Saturday, 03 June 2023: Fly Luxor to Cairo (B)**

- Morning breakfast
- Fly to Cairo. Remainder of day at your leisure. Your room at the airport hotel will allow you to relax before your return flight to the US, which will likely be in the early morning hours on Sunday.

**Overnight Cairo: Le Meridien Cairo Airport - 1 night**



**Sunday, 04 June 2023 Return to USA (B)**

- Departure from Cairo will be anywhere from 12am (midnight) to 12:00pm (noon)

**MEET YOUR TRAVEL DIRECTOR**



Hello! My name is Erica Walker, and I am your Travel Director for our amazing trip to Egypt in May 2023!

In my role as Travel Director, I am your main point of contact, ensuring that each of your questions are answered prior to our departure, as well as your Tour Leader once we arrive in Egypt.

As a frequent traveler, both domestically within the US and internationally, I utilize the travel knowledge and experience that I have gained over the years to provide you with an amazing travel experience. My appreciation for culture, art, history, music and food has been highlighted in international travels that have taken me all across the world. Whether traveling solo or in a group, I am always ready for the adventure!

This passion for travel is what drives me to provide the absolute best experience for you. I look forward to meeting each of you and having an amazing experience in Egypt!!

*Erica Walker*

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