

Travel with The Met

October 26–November 6, 2023

Egypt & the Nile: A Journey into Antiquity
Aboard *Sanctuary Sun Boat III*
with Christopher Noey, Lecturer

THE
MET

Egypt & the Nile: A Journey into Antiquity

Aboard *Sanctuary Sun Boat III*

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

The ancient land of Egypt has enthralled travelers for centuries. No one can fail to be moved by the Great Pyramids, the tombs and temples of Luxor, or the romantic Nile River. Add the dynamic city of Cairo, special entrée to archaeological sites, and a wonderful, four-night Nile River expedition aboard the deluxe *Sanctuary Sun Boat III*, and you have an experience that is unforgettable.

Cairo's luxurious Nile Ritz-Carlton will provide a wonderful home base from which to explore the Egyptian capital and surrounding cities. In Sakkara, we will enjoy special access to the reopened underground apartments of Egypt's oldest pyramid, followed by a private visit to the recently uncovered, 4,400-year-old tomb of the priest Wahtye, with its beautiful hieroglyphics, statues, and reliefs. In Cairo, I'm thrilled to introduce you to the vast, recently opened Grand Egyptian Museum, home to a complete collection of Tutankhamun artifacts, some newly unveiled. Of course, we will experience the unmissable Great Pyramids and venture beyond the crowd barriers for exclusive access to the paws of the Great Sphinx.

After a flight by private jet to Abu Simbel, we'll see the colossal statues of Ramses II, which tower seven stories high and were painstakingly moved during construction of the Aswan High Dam. After a night at the legendary Old Cataract Hotel in Aswan, we'll board our elegant riverboat for a four-night Nile River voyage, stopping to visit the Temple of Isis at Philae, the Ptolemaic temple at Kom Ombo, and the beautifully preserved Temple of Horus at Edfu. In Luxor, amidst ancient temples gleaming in the sunlight, we'll feel the majesty of ancient Egypt at its height. We cross the Nile to explore the tombs of the Valley of the Kings, and we have arranged exclusive access to Queen Nefertari's strikingly adorned tomb, whose vividly colorful wall paintings have been meticulously preserved. After disembarking *Sanctuary Sun Boat III*, we fly back to Cairo to explore its Islamic monuments and discover some of the city's little-known contemporary art treasures, a modern bookend to this journey into antiquity.

I hope you will join me for this in-depth adventure into the world's most fabled ancient civilization.

Sincerely,
Christopher Noey
Lecturer
The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Traveling with You

Christopher Noey

Christopher Noey is an art historian, author, and an Emmy award-winning producer of films on art and culture who has been traveling to Egypt for nearly 40 years. An expert in Asian and Islamic art, Mr. Noey has taught at Williams College and the City College of New York. At The Metropolitan Museum of Art, he created video installations for a diverse array of exhibitions, including videos and interactive kiosks in the newly renovated Islamic galleries in 2011, and he was series director of the innovative online features *82nd & Fifth* and *The Artist Project*. He previously led a Travel with The Met tour of Egypt in 2022.

Trip Highlights

- Enjoy up-close access to the Great Sphinx, venturing beyond the crowd barriers to fully appreciate this colossal ancient statue
- Venture behind the scenes of the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum, the world's largest archaeological museum and home to an unprecedented collection of Tutankhamun artifacts
- Delight in the rare opportunity to explore Nefertari's magnificent, 3,000-year-old tomb, where entry is strictly limited to preserve the integrity of its colorful wall paintings
- Experience special inside looks at the recently discovered tomb of Wahtye in Sakkara, as well as the Step Pyramid of King Djoser, Egypt's oldest pyramid, whose impressive underground apartments have been opened for the first time in many decades
- Behold the massive temples of Ramses II and Queen Nefertari at Abu Simbel, carved out of a mountainside and remarkably relocated in the 1960s to save them from submersion after the building of the High Dam



Ibn Tulun Mosque, Cairo



Photos clockwise from top right: Hieroglyphics, Kom Ombo; Temple of Karnak, Luxor; Map of the region; Great Pyramid and the Sphinx, Giza; Interior, Gayer-Anderson Museum, Cairo; Foot of a Statue Temple of Karnak, Luxor. Front cover: Detail of a column from the Temple of Philae. Back cover: *Felucca on the Nile* (top); and Step Pyramid of King Djoser, Sakkara (bottom).

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Grand Egyptian Museum (artist's rendering), Cairo

Departure

Thursday, October 26

Depart on an overnight flight to Cairo.

Cairo, Egypt

Friday, October 27

Arrive in Cairo this afternoon, and transfer to the elegant Nile Ritz-Carlton, our home for the next three nights. Gather this evening for introductory remarks by Chris Noey, and toast the beginning of the program at a welcome reception. R

Cairo / Sakkara

Saturday, October 28

Start with a morning lecture, followed by a visit to the remarkable Step Pyramid of King Djoser, built in the 27th century B.C. at Sakkara. Stop to visit the tomb of Mereruka, and enjoy special access to the recently discovered tomb of the priest Wahtye, which dates to as early as the 25th century B.C. Return to the hotel for a group dinner. B, L, D

Cairo / Giza

Sunday, October 29

Begin the day in nearby Giza with a tour of the Great Pyramids, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Then, gain exclusive, up-close access to the Great Sphinx, going beyond the protective crowd barriers to view this marvelous ancient statue up close. This afternoon, discover the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum, which houses a complete collection of Tutankhamun treasures. B, L

Cairo / Abu Simbel / Aswan

Monday, October 30

Board a privately chartered flight to Abu Simbel, where you will behold the monumental temples of Ramses 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 air to Aswan, and check in at Sofitel Legend Old Cataract. This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for a group dinner. B, L, D

Aswan / Embark *Sanctuary Sun Boat III*

Tuesday, October 31

This morning, take local boats to reach the Temple of Philae, built for the goddess Isis and relocated due to the rising flood waters of the Nile. See the unfinished obelisk at the ancient stone quarries. Embark the privately chartered *Sanctuary Sun Boat III* and attend lunch onboard. This afternoon, discover the Nubian Museum, which showcases more than 3,000 objects from the civilization of Nubia. B, L, D

Kom Ombo / Edfu

Wednesday, November 1

Sun Boat III will arrive at Kom Ombo, where you will view its picturesque Ptolemaic temple. Dedicated to the ancient crocodile god Sobek, the temple is decorated with a series of beautiful reliefs. After lunch, attend a lecture on board as you cruise to Edfu. Step ashore for a visit to the magnificent Temple of Horus, one of the world's best-preserved temples, with its massive gateways, fully intact roof, and imposing sandstone walls adorned with hieroglyphs and wall paintings. B, L, D

Luxor

Thursday, November 2

Arrive in Luxor in the morning, and explore the treasures of the West Bank, the site of ancient Thebes's vast necropolis. Visit Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings and the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari. Return to the ship for lunch, and enjoy a leisurely afternoon. At twilight, visit the sprawling Luxor Temple. B, L, D

Luxor

Friday, November 3

Return to the West Bank, and head to the Valley of the Queens. Visit Nefertari's awe-inspiring tomb, where access is strictly limited to protect its vividly colorful wall paintings, which depict the Queen's journey into the afterlife. Pending schedules, venture to the less-visited Tombs of the Nobles. Then, stop to see the famed Colossi of Memnon, which features two massive statues of King Amenhotep III seated on a throne, both dating to 1350 B.C. This afternoon, enjoy the outstanding collection at the Luxor Museum, which exhibits treasures from the necropolis of Thebes. Dinner is on board. B, L, D

Luxor / Disembark / Cairo

Saturday, November 4

Walk along the Avenue of Sphinxes at Karnak Temple in the morning, and see the Great Hypostyle Hall, with its intricately carved columns. Following lunch, fly back to Cairo, and check in at the St. Regis Cairo for two nights. Dinner and the evening are at leisure. B, L

Cairo

Sunday, November 5

This morning, tour the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, the permanent home of the nation's famous royal mummy collection, and gain special access to the restoration center. After lunch, head to Ibn Tulun Square for a tour of Islamic Cairo, featuring the Gayer-Anderson Museum, the ninth-century Ibn Tulun Mosque and/or the splendid Sultan Hassan Mosque. Gather with your fellow travelers this evening for a festive farewell dinner. B, L, D

Cairo / Return

Monday, November 6

Depart the hotel early this morning for your flights home. B

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.

Cruise Rates

Cabin Categories	Cabin	Decks	Double Rates	Single Rates
Standard Cabins	102 to 108	Nile Deck	\$16,999	\$25,499
	183 sq. ft., queen bed (QB) or twin beds (TB)			
Standard Cabins	201 to 206	Promenade Deck	\$17,499	Inquire
	183 sq. ft., queen bed (QB) or twin beds (TB)			
Presidential Suites	207 & 208	Promenade Deck	\$18,999	Inquire
	312 sq. ft., queen bed (QB)			
Royal Suites	301 & 302	Tower Deck	m \$19,999	Inquire
	388 sq. ft., king bed (KB) or twin beds (TB)			



Sun Deck, *Sanctuary Sun Boat III*

Rates Include

- Six nights hotel accommodations
- Four nights accommodation aboard *Sanctuary Sun Boat III*
- 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
- Internal flights by privately chartered aircraft (Cairo-Abu Simbel / Abu Simbel-Aswan / Luxor-Cairo)
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Taxes, service, and portage charges

Not included in rates

International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses (e.g. laundry services); airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Accommodations



The Nile Ritz-Carlton, Cairo

The Nile Ritz-Carlton, Cairo

The Nile Ritz-Carlton carries a rich legacy of tradition and luxury. Overlooking the Nile River lies the iconic luxury hotel, offering travelers an opulent retreat in the heart of Cairo.

Sofitel Legend Old Cataract, Aswan

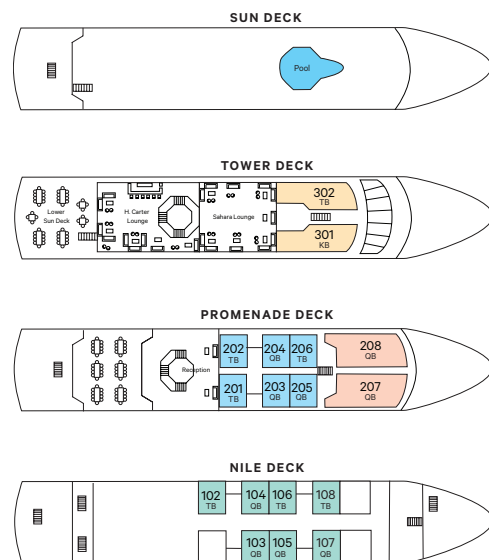
Journey back in time in a 19th-century Victorian palace that has welcomed Agatha Christie and Winston Churchill.

Sanctuary Sun Boat III



Sanctuary Sun Boat III

With just 17 cabins, the intimate *Sanctuary Sun Boat III* represents the ultimate in Nile cruises. This graceful river yacht features a sun deck with a swimming pool and private cabanas, a lounge, and a gourmet restaurant staffed by award-winning chefs. All cabins offer Nile River views. *Sanctuary Sun Boat III* has been repeatedly ranked among the most beautiful boats in the world by readers of *Condé Nast Traveler*.



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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 per person (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.

Names in full as on passports. Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

Accommodations

Sanctuary Sun Boat III cabin preference 1) _____ 2) _____

I wish to share a room / cabin with _____

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



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**The Metropolitan
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1000 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10028



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