# Vintage Cruise on the Nile Cairo to Aswan on the Steamship SUDAN June 2020

"Ladies and gentlemen...welcome aboard!" It was almost a century ago that the first privileged travellers set sail on Cook & Son's steamboats. Today, the Steamship SUDAN is the last



survivor of this steam-powered fleet – the only one still gracing the Nile with her paddlewheels and oiled teak decks. Setting foot on her gangway, strolling along her broad passageways, falling asleep and dreaming in one of her 23 cabins will instantly transport you back in time to the days of Agatha Christie and Howard Carter. In late spring 2020, Egyptologists John and Colleen Darnell will be taking

passengers on an exceptional vintage cruise along a section of the Nile that has been closed to shipping for 20 years. From Cairo to Aswan: 15 magical days in Middle and Upper Egypt. A timeless voyage through Egyptian history and culture, enhanced by leisurely talks, motion pictures, and cocktails.

#### Day 1, Wednesday, June 10, 2020: Cairo - Al Wasta

Upon arrival in Cairo, meet your trip director and transfer to the Steamship SUDAN at Al Maadi. After lunch, check in to your unique Edwardian cabin or suite before visiting the sole survivor of the traditional Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. The Great Pyramid stood almost 500 feet high when it was completed around 2550 BC. Our visit in Giza would not be complete without viewing the Sphinx, standing guard over the pyramids. *Dinner and overnight on board.* 

## Day 2, Thursday, June 11: Faiyum - Beni Suef

After a sumptuous breakfast on board, explore the region of the Faiyum, with visits to the pyramid mortuary complex of Meidum and Hawara – site of the Labyrinth Temple of Greco-Roman tradition. Lunch is served on the banks of Lake Qarun, formed by a tributary of the Upper Nile. The Faiyum oasis has been irrigated since Antiquity, with orange groves, pomegranate fields and prickly pear

orchards flourishing on the banks of "Joseph's Canal." Dinner and overnight on board at Beni Suef.



#### Day 3, Friday, June 12: Beni Suef - Beni Mazar

Today will be leisurely, as we steam southward. In the morning, the SUDAN's chefs will unlock the secrets of Egyptian cuisine during a hands-on cooking class. After lunch, we will have an opportunity to learn about the engineering of the steamship. Built in the 1910's, she is the last authentic Belle Epoque paddle steamer in Africa. Her broad teak decks, brassware, and wood paneling are the stuff of romantic stories. The gangways exude a sweet aroma of beeswax; the woven rattan furniture on the deck provides the perfect place to daydream as you sip tea and watch the desert palms glide past.

Dinner will be served. Overnight on board.

#### Day 4, Saturday, June 13: Jebel et-Teir - Minya

Minya is a pretty Middle Egyptian village whose relaxed way of life is played out in the picturesque cafes and old colonial streets.

Visit the Monastery Deir el-Adhra at Jebel et-Teir, where the Holy Family is believed to have stayed during their flight into Egypt.

Dinner and overnight on board.

#### Day 5, Sunday, June 14: Beni Hasan - Tuna el-Gebel - Tell el-Amarna



Dinner and overnight on board.

The mural paintings of Beni Hasan are the site of important sumptuous tombs of the local governors of the Middle Kingdom. Visit the ancient remains of Tuna el-Gebel including the funerary monument of Petosiris, a well-preserved tomb of 4th century BCE with interesting mixtures of Egyptian and Greek artistic styles. Tour the rarely-visited el-Amarna complex, dedicated to the god Aton and founded by the pharaoh Akhenaton as the "Horizon of the Solar Disc." The royal necropolis takes us back to a period of Pharaonic Egypt that is shrouded in mystery.

#### Day 6, Monday, June 15: Deir el-Muharrag monastery - Asyut

After breakfast, stop at the monastery of Deir el-Muharraq, built in the 4th century, which continues to be an important spiritual center, and is one of the largest seminaries in Egypt. We then navigate the Ibrahimia Canal, a 320-km waterway that supplies water to Faiyum and Middle Egypt.

Dinner and overnight on board.

#### Day 7, Tuesday, June 16: Asyut - Sohag

Enjoy a leisurely day on board. Relax and gaze at the scenery as we steam past, take a cookery course with the chef, or watch a classic film. There will also be a talk organized by your guide.

Dinner and overnight on board.

#### Day 8, Wednesday, June 17: Sohag - Al Balyana

This morning after breakfast, visit two remarkably well-preserved sites, architecturally influenced by Ancient Egyptian styles. Begin at the White Monastery, founded by monks in the 4th century in the town of Atripe, followed by the Red Monastery (named for its burnt brick walls), home to important examples of Roman period Christian paintings.

Dinner and overnight on board.

#### Day 9, Thursday, June 18: Abydos - Nag Hammadi

Today, visit the sacred city of Abydos, city of Osiris, ruler of the underworld and god of the resurrection. A pilgrimage destination since the days of the Old Kingdom, Abydos is famous for its temple whose exquisite bas-reliefs mark the birth of Ramessean art.

Dinner and overnight on board.

#### Day 10, Friday, June 19: Denderah - Qena

Visit Denderah and the temple of Hathor, protector of women. Isolated on the edge of civilization and the desert, the ancient complex of Denderah is among the best-preserved in Egypt. *Dinner and overnight on board.* 

#### Day 11, Saturday, June 20: Valley of the Kings - Luxor

Today, we will get an early start. Crossing the Nile, we will begin our exploration with the



Theban Necropolis at the Valley of the Kings, the burial site of the major rulers of the New Kingdom Egypt. Here incomparable tomb paintings decorate the passages and chambers of the pharaohs. After the discovery of King Tut's tomb and the resulting Egyptomania, the Valley became the most famous archeological site in the world. In the evening, discover the Temple of Luxor where important scenes and inscriptions from the time of Tutankhamun record the festival of Opet, an annual

rite renewing divine and royal power. Join your fellow adventurers at dinner in the SUDAN's sumptuous dining room.

Dinner and overnight on board.

#### Day 12, Sunday, June 21: Karnak - Esna - Edfu

After breakfast, visit the Temple of Karnak. Walking among the obelisks, pylons and sanctuaries, we will be astounded by the beautiful relief decoration and the thousands of hieroglyphic inscriptions. Lunch awaits back onboard. The afternoon will be at leisure as we bid Luxor farewell and steam southward, sipping chilled white wine on deck. Dinner will be served before we pass through the fascinating Esna lock. Watch the stars appear as SUDAN steams through the night to Edfu.

Dinner and overnight on board.

#### Day 13, Monday, June 22: Edfu - Kom Ombo

After breakfast this morning, visit the Temple of Edfu, one of the best-preserved buildings from ancient Egypt. Built in honor of the falcon-headed cosmic deity Horus, the temple lay partially



buried under a protective covering of debris and sand until French Egyptologist Auguste Mariette cleared the structure in the 1860s. Back on board, lunch awaits. Relax on the upper deck in the afternoon as we steam deeper into the heart of Upper Egypt. As tea is served, we will pass Gebel Silsila, one of the largest quarries of the ancient world and site of important shrines and stelae relating to the Nile flood and associated nautical festivals. Take in the relaxing rhythm of the voyage, as we continue our journey to

the pillars of the temple at Kom Ombo on the banks of the Nile. Dedicated to Sobek, the crocodile god, the surviving temple dates back to about 180 BCE during the Ptolemaic era with later Roman additions.

Dinner is served onboard SUDAN.

#### Day 14, Tuesday, June 23: Kom Ombo - Aswan

This morning, SUDAN steams toward Aswan at the frontier of traditional Egypt, where ancient Nubia begins. The mighty desert slowly replaces cultivated land as we proceed up the Nile. It is easy to see that this is where pharaonic civilization once ended. The lands above the great cataracts nourished the Nile Valley with mineral-rich silt during the floods. Nubia also provided Egypt with gold, precious woods and ivory, as well as soldiers for its military machine. In the afternoon, journey to the temple of Isis, once located on the island of Philae, and moved in the 1960s to the island of Agilka when the Aswan High Dam was constructed.

Enjoy some free time on deck before the farewell dinner on board SUDAN.

#### Day 15, Wednesday, June 24: Aswan

Disembark at Aswan after breakfast.

### **REGISTRATION FORM on Page 6**

**TOUR COST** (Space is limited. The program is first come, first served):

**\$4999** per person based 20 guests in double occupancy

**\$1669** single supplement (limited availability)

**\$709** suite upgrade (limited availability)

#### INCLUDED:

- Fifteen days and fourteen nights on the vintage Steamship SUDAN
- Transfers between airports and the steamship
- Guided tour of the Sphinx and Pyramids of Giza
- Porterage of bags on the Steamship SUDAN
- Sumptuous breakfasts, lunches, teas and dinners on the Steamship SUDAN
- Guided exploration of the mortuary complex of Meidum and Hawara
- Cooking classes on board
- Guided exploration of the Monastery Deir el-Adhra
- Guided exploration of the ancient remains of Tuna el-Gebel, and el-Armarna complex
- Guided exploration of the Monastery Deir el-Muharraq
- Guided exploration of the White and Red Monasteries
- Guided visit the sacred city of Abydos
- Guided exploration the Temple of Denderah
- Guided exploration of the Temple of Philae
- Guided exploration of the Temple of Kom Ombo
- Shipboard viewing of the ancient quarries of Gebel Silsila
- Guided explorations of the Temple of Edfu, Temple of Karnak, the Temple of Luxor and the Valley of the Kings
- Tour of the engine room of the Steamship SUDAN

#### **OPTIONAL ITEMS AND ITEMS ON YOUR OWN:**

- Airfare
- Entrance fee increases (this is possible before departure)
- Extensions before or after the voyage
- Upgrades for any services or accommodations
- Any meal listed as "optional" or "on your own" or not specifically included
- Any beverages (cocktails, beer, wine, Champagne) not included with the meals
- Any gratuity to the guides, ship crew or trip director
- Porterage of baggage except on the SUDAN
- Any item of a personal nature (i.e. binoculars, pith helmets, leg gaiters)
- Any item not mentioned in the itinerary
- Trip protection is available and recommended by Goodspeed & Bach, Inc.

#### **Land Deposit Schedule**

\$200 per person deposit due upon registration

Final payment due 90 days prior to departure

#### **Land Booking Conditions and Refunds**

\$100 is non-refundable upon registration

Up to 90 days prior to departure: Full refund less \$200 per traveler.

65 days prior to departure: **No refund** *Travel protection is strongly recommended and available from Goodspeed & Bach, Inc. All terms and conditions found at www.goodspeedandbach.com apply* 

## Vintage Nile June 2020 Registration Form

#### PLEASE SUBMIT ONE FORM PER TRAVELER

The Steamship SUDAN

A per person tour deposit of US \$100 payable to Goodspeed & Bach is enclosed. PLEASE SEND A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT BIO PAGE.

Your full name **EXACTLY** as it appears on your valid passport: Your nationality & passport number Passport expiration date Address City, ST, ZIP Contact Phone Travel companion name \_\_\_\_\_ Travel preferences (please check all that apply) \_\_\_\_Double stateroom share \_\_\_\_I would like a single cabin (US \$1,669 additional cost per person) Space is limited Please choose: Double Bed or Twin Beds (first come, first served) \_I would like to upgrade to a suite on SUDAN (\$709 per person additional cost) I would like Goodspeed & Bach to make my flight arrangements (Booking fees apply) \_\_\_\_I prefer to make my own flight arrangements I would like travel coverage, please send me information \_\_\_\_ Dietary requests \_\_\_\_\_ I (we) have read the itinerary and terms and conditions as found below and also available on www.goodspeedandbach.com and agree to abide by all the stipulations contained therein.

Please make tour checks payable to Goodspeed & Bach, Inc. and mail registration to:
34 Church Street # 5, Burlington, VT 05401
Call 1-802-652-0245 or email travel@goodspeedandbach.com