



# 15-Day Egypt – Jordan “Journeys of Moses” Tour with 4-Day Nile Cruise May 3-17 2020

Join us in a unique opportunity to follow the footsteps of Moses and the Children of Israel in the very lands of their sojourns. Our scriptural and historic journey will traverse Lower and Upper Egypt and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. We will sail on the Nile, ride camels, walk through magnificent temples and tombs, explore sandstone monuments, and view spectacular vistas. Both ancient and modern cultures and histories will blend together with scriptural insights.

**This is the preliminary itinerary, price TBA. If you desire to learn more about this tour, contact by email [travelstudiesinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:travelstudiesinstitute@gmail.com).**

**Days 1-2 (Sunday-Monday, May 3-4) Fly to Cairo**

Arrival in Cairo will include a deluxe motor coach to our hotel.

**Day 3 (Tuesday, May 5) Cairo, Memphis, Saqqara, Giza**

After breakfast our first visit is to Memphis (capital of the Pyramid Age) and Saqqara (Djoser's famous step pyramid); we'll then transfer to Giza. We will begin with a camel ride to the world-famous Pyramids of Giza, classified among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Here we'll stand in awe of their size and magnificent engineering. We will also visit the boat museum to see the barge used for one of the pharaohs. Then we will come face to face with the 5,000-year-old Sphinx. Our visit to the Pharaonic Village will help us see life as it existed at the time of the pharaohs. We will return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

**Day 4 (Wednesday, May 6) National Museum, Khan Khalil Bazaar, Old Cairo (night flight to Aswan)**

After breakfast, our first stop today is the famous Cairo Museum. Here discoveries from King Tut's Tomb are on display, as well many other interesting exhibits from the various periods of ancient Egyptian history. We will tour Old Cairo, the Citadel Mohammed Ali (Alabaster) Mosque, and pay a visit to the world-famous Khan Khalili Bazaar for shopping. In the late afternoon or evening we board a flight to Aswan. Upon arrival we will transfer to our hotel for dinner and a one-night stay.

**Day 5-9 (Thursday-Sunday, May 7-10) Aswan to Luxor Nile Cruise -- start the trip from Aswan City.**

Visit Aswan, the High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk and Philae Temple. Then the Nile Cruise Sail to Luxor. On the Way the Nile Cruise Stops at Kom Ombo City to visit Kom Ombo Temple and at Edfu City to visit Edfu Temple. At the End the Nile Cruise Arrive to Luxor. In Luxor you visit the West Bank of Luxor such as Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut Temple and the Colossi of Memnon. Night flight to Cairo.

**Day 10 (Monday, May 11) Cairo/ (Nile Delta) Alexandria (afternoon/evening flight to Amman)**

Awaking early, we will travel north through the Delta of Egypt to the famous port city of Alexandria, named after Alexander the Great. Here we will visit the Mediterranean port, the Greco-Roman Museum, Pompey's Pillar, and other fascinating sites before heading east to Rashid where the Rosetta Stone was uncovered and then south back to Cairo and a dinner before boarding our flight to Amman, Jordan.

**Day 11 (Tuesday, May 12) Amman to Petra via Madaba, Macharaeus, Karak Castle**

After breakfast we board our bus and travel about south to Petra, a marvel long before Indiana Jones and the Holy Grail. As we journey south along the King's Highway through the biblical lands of Moab and Edom (tribal inheritances of Reuben), we stop at Madaba where the oldest mosaic map of the Holy Land is displayed on the floor of the Byzantine church. Then we travel further south to the New Testament site of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD palace of Herod Antipas – Macharaeus. From this vantage point we can look across the Dead Sea to the Judean fortress of Masada and recall also that this site of Macharaeus is where John the Baptist was beheaded. Still further south we stop al-Karak, one of the largest crusader castles in the Levant. Along the Kings Highway we will pass many of the biblical cities and locations from the days of the Patriarchs through the Exodus of the Children of Israel. We will arrive at our hotel in Petra for dinner and overnight after a very memorable day.

**Day 12 (Wednesday, May 13) Petra explorations in morning and journey to Amman via Desert Road in afternoon.**

After breakfast we will head to the ancient ruins of Petra by entering through the Siq. Most people recognize Petra for the Treasury Building, but there is so much more to see. There are 2 ways into and out of Petra. One is by buggy pulled by a donkey (additional fee). The other method is by foot. After lunch we will leave along the Desert Highway for about a 3 hours bus journey to return to Amman (ancient Philadelphia) and visit its famous bazaar. Following this visit we will return to our hotel for dinner and a well-deserved sleep.

**Day 13 (Thursday, May 14) Amman and northern journey to Mt. Nebo, Al-Maghtas (Bethany beyond the Jordan, Bethabara), Pella, Umm Qais (Gadara, May 15), Irbid, Jerash, Penuel, Amman**

After an early breakfast, we journey to the western mountains where Moses made his last stopping place before departing the tribes of Israel and entrusting their leadership to Joshua at Mt. Nebo. After taking in the panorama of modern Israel and the Palestinian Territories and reviewing the events on this mount, we descend to the Jordan River Valley and close to the city of Palms, Jericho. We do not make the crossing as Joshua and the Children of Israel but stop at spot where that event probably took place – Al-Maghtas or "Bethany beyond the Jordan". Here is the probable site of the baptism of Jesus and we will reminisce those events as we too may choose to dip our fingers in its waters. Heading north along the Jordan River Valley, we will make our next stop at Pella, one of the cities of the Decapolis, where the 1<sup>st</sup> Century Christian community fled from Jerusalem before its destruction as prophesied by Jesus Christ. Climbing up on the Dome of Gilead we will stop at the ruins of Gadara (another one of the ten Greek cities or Decapolis) called today Umm Qais. From here we can have a view of the Sea of Galilee, recount the Biblical stories in this region in the Roman Theater and find a lunch stop. Heading south, we will pass through Irbid, and stop at the monumental Greco-Roman city of Jerash, visiting its magnificent ruins and recall Old and New Testament events that occurred near here. Finally on our journey south we will cross the Penuel river and recall that the patriarch Jacob was renamed "Israel" at its banks after wrestling with an angel all the night. Ending this day, we return to Amman and our last night on our unforgettable journey in the "Journeys of Moses".

**Day 14-15 (Friday-Saturday, May 16-17) Depart Amman, arrive at destinations.** Depending on your flight times you may have time in the morning for final shopping and packing.