

EGYPT EXPLORATIONS TOUR WITH 4-DAY NILE CRUISE

February 14-23, 2026

COMBINE WITH

JORDAN EXPLORATIONS TOUR

February 22-March 2, 2026

Join us with a unique opportunity to follow the footstep of Moses, Elijah, the children of Israel, and Jesus Christ in the very lands of their sojourns. Our scriptural and historic journey will traverse Lower and Upper Egypt and may be combined with an additional option to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. We will sail on the Nile, walk through magnificent temples and tombs, explore Wonders of the Ancient World, traverse sandstone monuments and view spectacular vistas.

Day 1 (Saturday, February 14) Depart home city to Cairo, Egypt. (Meals on flights.)

Day 2 (Sunday, February 15) Arrive Cairo. Transfer to **Steigenberger Pyramids Hotel, Giza**. (Dinner upon arrival.)

Day 3 (Monday, February 16) 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 begin with 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. Then we will come face to face with the **5,000-year-old Sphinx**. Some may choose to ride a camel to the Sphinx. We will explore the **30,000 treasures of Egyptian antiquity**, including the famous **King Tutankhamen ("King Tut") exhibits** at the new **Grand Egyptian Museum in Giza**. Here also we visit the **Solar Boat Museum** to see the funerary barge used 4500 years ago by Pharaoh Khufu (also known as Cheops, the second pharaoh of the Fourth Dynasty of the Old Kingdom of Egypt), Our visit to the **GEM** will help us learn the history and see life as it existed at the time of the pharaonic dynasties. As time permits, we will include visits to a carpet factory, the Papyri Institute, and some may choose an optional evening light and sound show at Giza. A short distance away is our **hotel near the Pyramids and the GEM**. (B, D)



Sphinx and Great Pyramids of Giza, Egypt

Day 4 (Tuesday, February 17) Cairo/ (Nile Delta) Alexandria.

Today we travel north through the **Egypt Delta** to the famous port **city of Alexandria**, named after Alexander the Great. Here we will visit the **Mediterranean port**, the **Graeco-Roman Museum**, **Pompey's Pillar**, the **Catacombs**, the **Roman Amphitheater**, **Quarry Bay Citadel**, and other fascinating sites before heading through the Nile Delta south to Cairo for a welcome dinner and overnight at the **Steigenberger Pyramids Hotel, Giza**. (B, D)

Day 5 (Wednesday, February 18) Cairo flight to Aswan.

After breakfast we will transfer to Cairo Airport for our flight to **Aswan City**. After checking in to our **Nile Cruise Ship**, we will have lunch onboard and then visit the **Philae Temple**, the **Aswan High Dam**, and the **Unfinished Obelisk**. In the late afternoon, we will sail on a **Felucca** (Nile sailboat) to the **Nubian Village of Hessa**. Our dinner and overnight will be back onboard our cruise ship. Evenings and prior to shore excursions some **lectures on ancient Egyptian cultures and temple ceremonies** will occur throughout the cruise. (B, L, D)



Felucca (Nile sailboat) ride to the Nubian Village of Hessa

Day 6 (Thursday, February 19) Nile Cruise Day – Kom Ombo Temple



Dual Temple of Kom Ombo,

Today we will first visit the **Graeco-Roman Temple at Kom Ombo**. The temple at Kom Ombo is about 30 miles north of Aswan and was built during the Graeco-Roman period (332 BC-AD 395). The temple is unique because it is a double temple, dedicated to **Sobek the crocodile god**, and **Horus the falcon-headed god**. The layout combines **two temples in one** with each side having its own gateways and chapels. Here we will also learn some of the early **Egyptian temple ceremonies** and translate some of the **significant hieroglyphic symbols** associated with those ceremonies. After lunch, we continue down the **Nile River** (north) to **Edfu** and its magnificent temple. Dinner and shipboard entertainment will highlight our evening. (B, L, D)

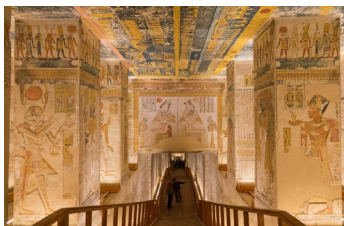
Day 7 (Friday, February 20) Nile Cruise Day – Temple of Horus at Edfu, Pass through Locks of Esna.

Our first visit this morning is to the **Temple of Horus in Edfu**, the **second largest temple in Egypt**. The Egyptian god Horus was also portrayed as the falcon-headed god. Returning to our ship, we have lunch as we continue down the Nile passing through the **Esna Lock**. Passing through the Esna Lock is a thrilling experience for Nile cruise passengers. The lock is an engineering marvel, and watching the gates open and close is a sight to behold. At this point we are about 485 miles south of Cairo. We will participate with the many rowboat merchants that toss their wares from their boats to the passengers on our cruise vessel as we sail. We will continue to sail down the Nile **through the Esna lock** and on to **Luxor**. (B, L, D)



Esna Lock on the Nile

Day 8 (Saturday, February 21) West Bank of Nile, Valleys of the Kings and Nobles, Hatshepsut's Funerary Temple, Colossi of Memnon, Karnak Temple, Luxor Temple



*Ramses IV Tomb
Valley of the Kings, Egypt*

Arriving in **Luxor**, some may choose to take an optional hot-air balloon ride over the Nile West Bank. Others will disembark our cruise ship and visit the fabulous **tombs and funerary temples on the West Bank**, including the elaborate tombs of Ramses V & VI. Crossing the Nile once again we will tour the famous **temples of Luxor and Karnak** (the largest religious building ever constructed). We will also walk the newly opened **"Avenue of the Sphinx."** After dinner at the **Luxor Steigenberger Hotel** some may choose to have a **carriage ride to the "Light and Sound Show"** before retiring overnight at our hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 9 (Sunday, February 22) Temple of Dendera, Life along the Nile, Flight to Cairo.

Our stay in upper Egypt is completed with a visit to the **Temple of Dendera**, where worship of the gods of Egypt is found as early as 3,000 B.C. The Temple of Dendera was one of the last completed temples and has **the son of Julius Caesar and Cleopatra VII** (famous Cleopatra of Shakespeare) and **Pompeii** carved on wall reliefs. It is considered one of the best preserved and beautiful temples of Egyptian antiquity. Here we will review the ancient temple ceremonies before returning to Luxor for some shopping and our **return flight to Cairo**. We will return to the **Steigenberger Pyramids Hotel, Giza** for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

Days 10 (Monday, February 23) Egyptian Museum, Old Cairo, Citadel, Alabaster Mosque, Khan Khalili Bazaar

After breakfast, our first stop today is the famous **Cairo Egyptian Museum**. Here discoveries from the tombs and cities throughout Egypt are exhibited. The **treasures of Tanis** that rival the “King Tut” collections, the Narmer Pallet (earliest unification of Upper and Lower Egypt about 5,000 years ago), as well as many other interesting exhibits from the various periods of ancient Egyptian history are on display. We will tour **Old Cairo Coptic and Jewish communities**, the **Citadel**, **Mohammed Ali Alabaster Mosque**, and pay a visit to the world-famous **Khan Khalili Bazaar** for shopping. After a farewell dinner at the **Steigenberger Pyramids Hotel, Giza**, we spend our last night in Egypt having explored the wonders of this ancient land of the scriptures. (B, D)



Day 11 (Wednesday, February 24) Departure Day, Cairo International Airport, Queen Alia International Airport, Dead Sea Resort and Spa, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Those who choose the 7-day Post-Egypt Jordan Option will rise in the early morning and after breakfast, transfer to the **Cairo International Airport** for a flight to **the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**. Those who are going on to other destinations will also transfer to the Cairo International Airport for their departures. Upon arrival at **the Queen Alia International Airport** near **the capitol of Jordan, Amman**, the Post-Egypt Jordan Explorations Tour participants will transfer to the **Mövenpick Resort and Spa at the Dead Sea** for a relaxing day at the private beaches and swimming pools. The Jordan tour will be link up with additional participants coming from other locations who chose to join this eight-day Jordan tour. Please see the separate detailed brochure for the Eight-day Post-Egypt Jordan Exploration Tour to get details, prices, and the daily itinerary. (B, D)



Scenes of Egypt & Jordan

For Application and Reservation contact:

Morris Murdock Escorted Tours

mmetours.com

Phone: 800-809-9910

Email: groups@morrismurdock.com

Morris Travel Agent: Daniell Edmunds

Email: dedmunds@morrismurdock.com

Phone: 801-494-9964

For Country information

Tour Host: Dann W Hone

Phone or Text: 801-636-8593

Email: dannhone@gmail.com

travelstudiesinstitute.org



The School of International Studies

Ein Bev Galilee Center for Biblical & Middle Eastern Studies

Visit Bi-monthly Zoom Seminars every 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:00 PM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85450624837?pwd=M0U0cFpnSWRYSU1GU0Nmb0pvYUtudz09>

Meeting ID: 854 5062 4837

Passcode: 955143

For one-tap mobile, find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85450624837?pwd=M0U0cFpnSWRYSU1GU0Nmb0pvYUtudz09>

Your Tour Hosts and Faculty: Dann & Shirley Hone



Dann and Shirley Hone will serve as your tour hosts and faculty on this travel adventure. Dann, with nearly 50 years of travel and living in the Near East, is one of the founding members of the BYU Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies and served in numerous positions at the Center, including Academic Coordinator where he was responsible for training and teaching all Jerusalem Center faculty in history, archaeology, geography, and scriptures. His studies include 13 modern and ancient languages and scripts. Dann lived in Israel for many years and received his graduate degree in Biblical History from the Jerusalem University College. A published author, Dann has written study guides and books on the Near East and recently has published volume one of an eight volume "Scriptural Reference and Exploration Series". Dann is one of the founders of the BYU Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies and taught in the Department of Ancient Scripture at BYU. After over thirty years at BYU, he entered back into teaching as an adjunct faculty in the Department of History and Political Science at Utah Valley University. He currently serves as the Managing Director and faculty member for the School of International Studies. Shirley has traveled with Dann on numerous trips to Egypt and Jordan where she has served as assistant director with her husband. Shirley and Dann have been married 51 years and are the parents of four sons, two daughters, 23 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. The family resided in Jerusalem for seven years. For this tour experience, Dann will prepare both pre-departure orientation materials, daily travel guides and LDS insight lectures.

What is Included with the Egypt Explorations land tour:

- Comprehensive Egypt
- Four-day/three-night Nile River cruise
- Sightseeing and admissions as per itinerary
- Expert guide services with local English-speaking guide
- Tour Hosts Dann and Shirley Hone
- Meals as per itinerary (B: breakfast, L: lunch, D: dinner)
- All group airport/hotel transfers with group flight itinerary
- Comprehensive sightseeing as per itinerary
- All entrance fees as per itinerary
- First Class hotels as listed or similar:
 - Cairo: Cairo Steigenberger Pyramids Hotel
 - Cruise Accommodations (Aswan to Luxor)
 - Luxor: Steigenberger Luxor Hotel
- Group tips and gratuities
- Pre-departure orientation materials
- Daily travel guides
- LDS insight lectures
- All applicable taxes and fees

What is not included:

- International airfare home city to Cairo and return
- Egypt tourist visa (currently about \$30 for USA citizens)
- Meals and drinks not listed in the itinerary
- Travel protection/insurance is mandatory per the Egypt government for all international visitors (talk to your Morris Murdock Escorted Tours travel advisor for coverage that meets requirements)
- Anything purely of a personal nature

Land Tour Price:

- \$???? per person based upon double occupancy
- Single supplement: + \$????

Deposit, Payment, Cancellation, & Refund:

- \$??? per person at the time of reservation
- Final payment date: ?
- Land Tour Cancellation: All cancellations must be in writing and received by Columbus Travel. If cancelled:
 - On or before ?: \$??? per person
 - On or after ?: non-refundable

International Airfare:

- Your Morris Murdock Escorted Tours travel agent will assist you with your international flights to Cairo and return. If you wish to join the Post Jordan Explorations Tour or to travel Europe or elsewhere before or after the tour, your agent is pleased to assist you with your travel plans. You are also welcome to arrange your own international flights. If you do, please consult your Morris Murdock Escorted Tours travel agent before purchasing or finalizing your flights to ensure the times and dates match the group itinerary.

For Application and Reservation contact:



MORRIS MURDOCK
ESCORTED TOURS

Morris Murdock Escorted Tours

mmetours.com

Phone: 800-809-9910

Email: groups@morrismurdock.com

Morris Travel Agent: Daniell Edmunds

Email: dedmunds@morrismurdock.com

Phone: 801-494-9964

For Country information contact Dann Hone:

Phone or Text: 801-636-8593

Email: dannhone@gmail.com

travelstudiesinstitute.org



The School of International Studies

**Ein Bev Galilee Center for Biblical &
Middle Eastern Studies**

Visit Bi-monthly Zoom Seminars every 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85450624837?pwd=M0U0cFpnSWRYSU1GU0NmYU0pYU0tUdz09>

Meeting ID: 854 5062 4837

Passcode: 955143

For one-tap mobile, find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85450624837?pwd=M0U0cFpnSWRYSU1GU0NmYU0pYU0tUdz09>

2025 Eight-DAY JORDAN EXPLORATIONS TOUR

FEBRUARY 21-28, 2025

(This tour is open to non-Egypt Tour participants; Egypt arrival-departure days included)

Day 1 (Sunday, February 22, 2025) USA Departure to Amman, Jordan. (Meals in flight for USA group.)

Day 2 (Monday, February 23) Arrival to Dead Sea Resort.

USA and Post-Egypt participants arrive to the **Queen Alia International Airport outside Amman, Jordan** and transfers to the **Mövenpick Resort and Spa at the Dead Sea** for dinner and overnight. The groups are all together by dinnertime. (B, D for Post-Egypt group; D for USA/Jordan group)

Day 3 (Tuesday, February 24) Dead Sea

Open Day for relaxation on the shores of Dead Sea. Our beautiful hotel is a great place to relax and either float in healing waters of the Dead Sea or swim in the hotel's freshwater pools. This day allows for possible late flights or recuperation from the Egypt tour. Those who choose to join us who did not participate on the Egypt tour will join us also on this day.

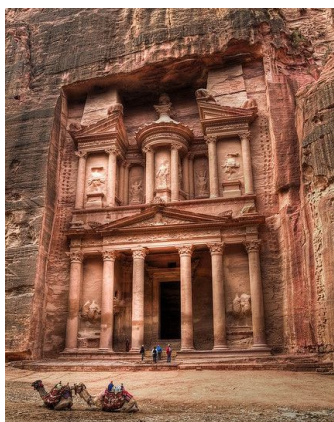
Day 4 (Wednesday, February 25) Nount Nebo, Madaba, Petra

This morning, after time to enjoy the Dead Sea, we travel by our motor coach up the **Pisgah** mountains to **Mount Nebo**, where Moses made his last stopping place before departing the tribes of Israel and entrusting their leadership to Joshua. After taking in the **panorama of modern Israel and the Palestinian Territories** and reviewing the events on this mountain we head south, stopping in route to tour a **mosaic factory** before having lunch and visiting the **Church of St. George in Madaba**. Here is found the **oldest mosaic map in the world of the Holy Land** displayed on the floor of this Byzantine church. After our visit, we journey southeast along **the King's Highway** through the biblical lands of **Moab and Edom** (tribal inheritances of Rueben). Time permitting, we stop to view the **ruins of Herod Antipas' fortress-palace** overlooking



Byzantine Mosaic Map of Holy Land
St. George Church, Madaba, Jordan

the Dead Sea, Machaerus. This is the location of Salome's dance and the beheading of John the Baptist. Traveling further south 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 continue traveling south to **Petra**, a marvel long before "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade" opened in theaters. After a memorable day, we will arrive at our **Petra Old Village Hotel Resort in Wadi Musa** for dinner and overnight. The hotel is a unique experience with the true **ambience of the Bedouin-Nabatean cultures.** (B, D)



The Treasury in Petra, Jordan

Day 5 (Thursday, February 26) Petra, Wadi Rumm, Camel Ride, Bedouin Camping

After an early morning breakfast, we will head to the **ancient ruins of Petra** by entering through **the Siq**. Most people recognize Petra for **the Treasury**, but there is so much more to see. There are three ways into and out of Petra. One is by horseback riding (additional personal tip). The second is by a motorized golf cart (additional fee).

The most popular method is on foot, which allows for a scenic and memorable experience and is not a difficult walk. After visiting the ruins of Petra and the **Petra Museum** followed by a quick lunch, we will head south to **Wadi Rumm**, where the events of **Lawrence of Arabia** took place. Stopping briefly at the **Wadi Rumm Visitors Center**, we continue across the desert to our **Bedouin camp**. Here we have an hour-long **camel trek**, followed by the traditional **Sarb** (a traditional Bedouin style of cooking where marinated meat and vegetables are buried in an oven dug in sandy ground) dinner accompanied by a lecture from a local Bedouin about their lifestyles and family structure. Following dinner, we see the magnificent night sky and learn about local star-gazing legends before retiring to our camping facilities. (B, D)



Camel Trek & Camping

Day 6 (Friday, February 27) Karak Castle, Jesus' Baptismal Site (Al Mughtas), Amman

After breakfast, we depart Wadi Rumm heading north past **Shobek Castle** to visit **al-Karak Castle**, one of the **largest crusader castles in the Levant**. Going west from Karak we move once again into the **Dead Sea Valley** where we visit areas close to **Sodom and Gomorrah**, another winter hot-springs **palace of Herod the Great**, and cross significant canyons that feed the waters of the Dead Sea. Eventually, we drive past the Dead Sea to **the confluence of the Jordan River** where the **children of Israel crossed** with Joshua and **Elijah with Elisha crossed** before **Elijah's ascension to Heaven**. This crossing is called today **Al Mughtas** and was known in Jesus' day as "Bethbara" or "Bethany beyond Jordan" where Jesus would be baptized by John. Our final Journey this day is back in the eastern mountains to Amman, capitol of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for dinner and overnight at the **Grand Palace Hotel** where USA Presidents have stayed. (B, D)



Karak Castle, Jordan

Day 7 (Saturday, February 28) Amman, Jabbok River, Jerash, Amman Citadel, Jordan Museum, Amman Suk

Today we journey north from the **Jordanian capital city of Amman** (known in **Greco-Roman times as Philadelphia**) **Jerash**, the monumental Graeco-Roman **Decapolis** city, visiting its magnificent ruins and review Old and New Testament events that occurred along the route. We will cross the **Jabbok River near Penuel** and recall that the patriarch Jacob was renamed "Israel" at its banks after wrestling with an angel all through the night. We return to Amman for a visit to the **Jordan Museum** that houses some of the Dead Sea Scrolls and history from ancient to modern eras of the country. Other visits include the **Amman Citadel** (location of the Jordan **Archaeological Museum** and the **Temple of Hercules**), the famous downtown **Souk** (open-air market), and other significant sites. We will also view the **Roman Theater** and the **Odeon** before returning the **Grand Palace Hotel** for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

Days 8-9 (Sunday-Monday, March 1-2) Amman, Irbid, Umm Qais, Jordan Valley, Pella, Wadi Al Yarbis, Amman



Sea of Galilee from Umm Qais (Gadara, Jordan)

This morning, we take a journey few tours provide throughout the **northwestern areas of Jordan**. Our adventure begins with a drive north of Amman through the **land of Gilead** (tribal territory of Gad) and pass through the provincial capital of northern Jordan, the modern city of **Irbid**. Traveling a little farther north, we come to the northern borders of Jordan to the site of the New Testament city of **Gadara (Umm Qais)**, where we have a view of **the Sea of Galilee**. This was also a city of the Decapolis where Jesus and his disciples must have taught. From this vantage point, we can see **the borders of Israel, Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan**. After our tour we go west through the scenic western hills of **Bashan** (tribal allotment to half the tribe of Manasseh) to the **Jordan River Valley**, then following the valley south we arrive at the city of **Pella**, where the Jewish Christians fled from Jerusalem in AD 66, following the prophetic instructions of Jesus and his disciples. Finally, leaving Pella we travel east climbing once again through the picturesque **mountains of Gilead** and will stop along the spring Cherith at a spot called in Arabic, **Wadi Al Yarbis**, where Elijah was fed by a raven while hiding from Queen Jezabel. Here is one of the largest and oldest olive trees and old mills in the country. Finally, we will reminisce those events as we continue southeast through the highlands of Jordan to **Amman**. As time permits, we will have a **farewell dinner** before going to the **Queen Alia International Airport** and departing the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan ending our journeys through this Holy Land. USA bound participants will arrive on March 2. (B, D)

2025 Eight-Day Jordan Explorations Tour Details (costs and other) TBA



MORRIS MURDOCK
ESCORTED TOURS

mmetours.com

Phone: 800-809-9910

Email: groups@morrisemurdock.com

Morris Travel Agent: Daniell Edmunds

Email: dedmunds@morrisemurdock.com

Phone: 801-494-9964