

Tuesday, May 26th, 2026

Destination Experience & Excursions

7:30 am – 10:30 am (Whisper) recommended

Visit to Dendera Temple by coach.

Photo opportunity

Amazing Nile view during sailing.

Approx. 5:30 pm

S.S Sphinx arrives in Luxor (overnight)

5:30 – 7:00 pm (Whisper) recommended

Luxor temple visit.

Information about Dendera Temple

The Dendera temple complex which contains the Temple of Hathor-is one of the best preserved temples, if not the best, in all Egypt. The whole complex covers some 40,000 square meters and is surrounded by a hefty mud brick enclosed wall. The present building dates back to the times of the Ptolemaic dynasty and was completed by the Roman emperor Tiberius, but it rests on the foundations of earlier buildings dating back at least as far as Khufu (pyramid builder Cheops, second king of the 4th dynasty [c. 2613–. 2494 BC], in which was found the celebrated zodiac now in Paris; there are also the Roman and pharaonic mammisi (birth houses), ruins of a Coptic church and a small chapel dedicated to Isis, from the Roman or Ptolemaic epoch. The area around the temple has had extensive landscaping, and now has a modern visitor center, bazaar and small cafeteria.

Onboard Service & Activities

6:00 – 7:30 am

Breakfast buffet in the restaurant

10:30 am

Sail away party on the Sun Deck (weather permitting)

10:45 – 11:15 am

Spa treatments Introduction will be offered by the onboard Wellbeing Coach on Sun Deck (weather permitting)

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Lunch buffet in the restaurant

7:00 – 8:00 pm

Happy hour in the lounge
Enjoy our Egyptian's selection

7:30 pm

Dinner is served in the restaurant

Egyptian's Happy hour cocktail

Egyptianna

Whisky, Pineapple Juice and Lemon Juice

Special attention to...

Docking Address: Marsa Spring Tours,
Gazerat Al Awamya
Near to Qasr El Thaqafa

All aboard Time:

10:30 am

S.S Sphinx sets sail on the Nile

Expected Weather

Today: Sunny

Temp. min. 21° C / 70° F – max. 36° C / 96° F

Practical Tips

°Comfortable walking shoes are recommended

Wellness & Spa treatments

While onboard, unwind with a spa treatment at S.S Sphinx Spa and visit our fitness center

Gift shop opening time

10:00 am – 9:30 pm

Qena

Qena is one of the South Upper Egypt region's governorates which include Luxor, the Red Sea, Qena, Suhag, and Aswan. Qena is an agricultural and also industrial governorate. It ranks first in production of hibiscus, sesame, bananas, tomatoes and sugarcane.

It is most famous for its proximity to the ruins of Dendeara.

The governorate also has Islamic shrines such as the mosques of Seedy Abdel Rehem el-Qenae, and the Omari Mosque in Qoos, and also Coptic monasteries in Naqada markaz.

It owes its modern prosperity to the opening of the Wadi Qena to the Red Sea, which is a major traffic route between Upper Egypt and the Red Sea.

Highlights

Dendeara Temple

Dendeara is a little town in Egypt on the west bank of the Nile, about 5 km south of Qena, on the opposite side of the river. Located rather isolated on the desert edge, about 2.5 km south-west of the town, lie what Dendera is known for, the mostly Greco-Roman Temple Complex, Dendera, known in ancient Egyptian as lunet or Tantere. The modern Arab town is built on the ancient site of Ta-ynt-netert which means 'She of the Divine Pillar', or Tentyra which is Greek for Dendera. It was once the capital of the 6th Nome (Pharaonic province) of Upper Egypt, also named Nikentori or Nitentori, which signifies willow wood or willow earth. Others give the derivation from the sky and fertility goddess Hathor, also associated with the Greek Aphrodite, who was worshipped there. The crocodile is recognized as the deity of the city and was also venerated as such in other Egyptian cities, which caused many quarrels, notably with Ombos. It is still the seat of a titular see, suffragan of Ptolemais, in the former Roman province of Thebaïda Secunda. Little is known of Christianity in that place, as only the names of two ancient bishops are given: Pachymius, companion of Melece at the beginning of the fourth century; and Serapion or Aprion, contemporary and friend of the monk St. Pachomius, who had in the diocese his celebrated convent of Tabennisi. It became the Arab Denderah, under late Ottoman rule a town of 6000 inhabitants in Qena.

Local specialties

FATTA OF LAMB

Roasted Egyptian bread, white rice, garlic vinegar, tomato sauce

Ethnic points for Egypt

Family values, honor and social class

The family is the most significant unit of Egyptian society.

Kinship plays an important role in all social relations.

The individual is always subordinate to the family, tribe or group.

Nepotism is viewed positively, since it is patronage of one's family.

Honor is an important facet of interpersonal relationships. Respect and esteem for people is both a right and an obligation. Honor requires that Egyptians demonstrate hospitality to friends and guests. It also dictates that people dress as well as their financial circumstances allow, and show proper respect and deference to their elders and those in authority.

Social class is very apparent in Egypt since it determines your access to power and position. There are three social classes: upper, middle, and lower. Status is defined more by family background than by absolute wealth.

The Egyptians are always happy to hear compliments about the beauty of their country.