

Wednesday, January 14th, 2026

Destination Experience & Excursions

6:45 am – 1:00 pm (Whisper) recommended

Visits to Luxor West Bank

Afternoon

S.S Sphinx cruises along the Nile River

Approx. 6:00 pm

S.S Sphinx arrives Esna Lock

Photo opportunity

Natural view while sailing and crossing the Lock

Information about

Hatshepsut's Mortuary Temple

The Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut is one of the most beautiful temples of Ancient Egypt. It is located at Deir el-Bahri "the Northern Monastery", at the head of the valley beneath the peak of the mountain Hatshepsut is an intriguing character. She initially ruled as regent for her step-son Thutmose III but promoted herself to the role of pharaoh instead of passing power to him when he came of age. Her temple is one of the most striking monuments in Ancient Egypt even in its semi-ruined state. It was designed by Senenmut as a -garden for her father- (Amun) and exotic trees and shrubs from Punt (possibly Somalia) were planted in the lower courtyard. However, after her death Thutmose III and Akhenaten both intentionally damaged the monument. The former directed his attacks at Hatshepsut herself, either replacing her image with his own or simply obliterating references to her, the later damaged her temple because of the frequent references to the god Amun.

Onboard Service & Activities

5:30 – 6:45 am

Breakfast in the restaurant

1:00 pm

Lunch buffet in the restaurant

4:00 – 4:30 pm

Tea time on the Sun Deck (weather permitting)

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Sip and sail hour in the lounge

Enjoy our Egyptian's selection

6:45 – 7:00 pm

Daily talk with the Egyptologist in the lounge

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Egyptian buffet in the restaurant

After dinner

Galabiya party in our lounge please feel free to wear Your galabiya for an authentic experience. Galabiya is a traditional dress.

Egyptian's Happy hour cocktail

Pharaoh

Rum, Mango Juice, Orange Juice and Cinnamon

Special attention to...

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

All aboard Time

1:00 pm
S.S Sphinx sets sail for Kom Ombo (overnight)

Expected Weather

Today: Sunny
Temp. min. 9°C / 47° F – max. 20°C / 68° 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

1:00 – 9:00 pm

Luxor

The Pyramids of Giza and the Nile Delta were the tombs of choice for pharaohs of Egypt's Old Kingdom. But New Kingdom pharaohs, who wanted to be closer to the source of their dynastic roots in the south, built their crypts in the hills of this barren tract west of Luxor, now called the Valley of the Kings. During Egypt's New Kingdom (1539-1075 BC) the valley became a royal burial ground for pharaohs such as Tutankhamen, Seti I, and Ramses II, as well as queens, high priests, and other elites of the 18th, 19th, and 20th dynasties. The tombs evidence elaborate preparations for the next world, in which humans were promised continuing life and pharaohs were expected to become one with the gods. Mummification was used to preserve the body so that the deceased's eternal soul would be able to reanimate it in the afterlife. The underground tombs were also well stocked with all the material goods a ruler might need in the next world. Treasures like the golden masks found with King Tut are dazzling, but the tombs also contained the more mundane items such as furniture, clothes and jewelry. Tombs were also well provisioned with enough food and drink, including wine and beer, for royal feasting in the next world, as well as sacred objects meant to help the deceased achieve eternal life even favored companions.

Highlights

More Mysteries Waiting

Tomb robbers, treasure hunters, and archaeologists have been combing the Valley of the Kings for centuries yet it continues to yield surprises. Many thought that the 61 tombs discovered before 1922 represented all that would be found in the valley until Howard Carter discovered the resting place of a boy king called Tutankhamun. In 2005 a team led by archaeologist Otto Schaden discovered the valley first unknown tomb since Tutankhamun. The site, dubbed KV 63, was found only about 50 feet (15 meters) from the walls of Tut's resting place. KV 63 had no mummy but housed sarcophagi, pottery, linens, flowers, and other materials. Some believe it heralds the presence of another as yet undiscovered tomb. Clues to such discoveries may be found in period Egyptian writings that mention notables who likely rated tombs but have not been identified - You try to find out what hasn't been discovered, and figure out where they might possibly be, and then look in those areas, said David P. Silverman, an Egyptologist at the University of Pennsylvania. "You never know what you are going to find." It's possible perhaps, that any tomb yet to be found was so well hidden that it also escaped the notice of ancient thieves. Only time will tell.

Local Specialties

"Koshary"

Chick peas, lentils, pasta, rice, fried onions, oriental sauce

ETHNIC POINTS FOR EGYPT

MEET & GREET

It is important to address all colleagues, to acknowledge everyone present. Among Egyptians there is an elaborate greeting ritual in which one asks the other how they are, how their health is, how their family is, and often invoking God's favour, etc. Foreign colleagues may not be expected by Egyptian colleagues to imitate exactly this ritual, but acknowledging the presence of even lower ranking employees, showing respect and genuine interest, perhaps with some reference to local custom asking about health, family creates a good working relationship and atmosphere. Your behavior should be different based on whether you are meeting a man or woman. With a man, there is no problem if the distance between both of you is close; in fact, do not worry if they get close, it is totally normal and acceptable that men get close to you to show that they are friendly with you. They may shake hands very often, in fact, if they say a nice remark or a nice joke, they would shake hands again as a sign of friendship and unity. Also, eye contact is fine (as long as it is not meant to be a threat). In case of a dispute, eye contact means daring and usually it is asking for trouble.