Today your journey begins! Fly to Cairo overnight

**DAY 1: APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup>**
**WELCOME TO CAIRO, EGYPT**

Upon arrival at Cairo airport, you will meet your local tour guide. They will provide directions for the private transfer to the hotel for check-in. The rest of the day is at your leisure. *Hotel: Pyramids Hotel or similar*

**DAY 2: APRIL 4<sup>th</sup>**
**CAIRO**

After breakfast, visit the Pyramids of Giza, built during the 3rd and 4th dynasties of the Old Kingdom. These monumental undertakings stand as a marvelous testimony to the almost unbelievable skill and determination of their builders. Not too far from the Pyramids, see the great Sphinx of Giza, the legendary statue with the head of a human and the body of a lion, amazingly carved out of a huge piece of limestone.

You can also enjoy camel riding through the desert. After we will visit Memphis, the capital of Egypt during the Old Kingdom, founded by King Menes. Today, Memphis is an open-air museum highlighted by a giant statue of Ramses II. Afterwards, take the optional tour to the Egyptian Museum (US$45), home to one of the world's great collections of antiquities. Wander the treasure-filled halls of the museum, and encounter some of the country's most important queens and pharaohs. From gold jewelry to the famous golden death mask and his gilded sarcophagi, these pharaohs were certainly prepared for the afterlife. After the day-tour of Cairo, you will be transferred back to hotel. *(B)* *Hotel: Pyramids Hotel or similar*

**DAY 3: APRIL 5<sup>th</sup>**
**CAIRO**

After having breakfast at the hotel, transfer to Salah El-Din Citadel, one of the world's greatest monuments to medieval warfare. Resembling a typical early medieval fortress, with large imposing gateways, towers and high defending walls, the Citadel is one of Cairo’s most popular non-pharaonic monument. We then go to the Old Coptic, an area of great historical and cultural importance.

The most attractive sight is the Hanging Church, known in Arabic as al-Muallaqah (The Suspended). This church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary and possibly the first built in Basilican style.
At night, you will have a magnificent evening on a Cario Cruise with dinner and enjoy a scenic view of Cairo from the Nile River. Experience dining under the stars while enjoying the city lights, watching Belly Dancer and listening to Egyptian music. (B)(L)(D) Hotel: Pyramids Hotel or similar

**DAY 4: APRIL 6th**
**CAIRO–LUXOR–NILE RIVER CRUISE**

Today, after breakfast you will be transferred to your ship for embarkation. Once onboard, enjoy lunch as the cruise gets set to depart. Then take a sightseeing tour of the East Bank. Visit the magnificent Temples of Karnak, dating back over 3,000 years. Walk along the avenue of the Sphinxes and marvel at the Hypostyle Hall with its 134 massive sandstone columns. After, visit Luxor Temple to admire the colossal statues of the great pharaoh Ramses II. Transfer back to the cruise and enjoy dinner on board. (B)(L)(D) Hotel: Nile River Cruise Ship

**DAY 5: APRIL 7th**
**NILE RIVER CRUISE**

After breakfast, sit back and view the magnificence of the Luxor West Bank from the comfort of the ship or you may choose an optional 45-minute hot balloon tour (US$180). You will be transferred to the takeoff area to enjoy a balloon ride in the sky high above Luxor.

Later this morning, visit the UNESCO listed Valley of the Kings, the necropolis of Thebes and admire the tombs of ancient Egypt's rulers. Next, head to the Temple of Hatshepsut, a colonnaded structure surrounded by cliffs and learn about the life of Queen Hatshepsut, Egypt's famous female ruler. Conclude the tour at the Colossi of Memnon, two massive stone statues of the Pharaoh Amenhotep II. Return to the ship for lunch and continue sailing onward this afternoon. (B)(L)(D) Hotel: Nile River Cruise Ship

**DAY 6: APRIL 8th**
**NILE RIVER CRUISE–EDFU–KOM–OMBO**

This morning visit the stunning Temples of Horus in Edfu, considered one of the best preserved of all the Egyptian Temples. It was built during the Ptolemaic times and was completed over a 180- year period. The temple is dedicated to the falcon god Horus, son of Isis and Osiris. Its extravagant design and sheer size are an indication of the country's prosperity at the time.

Enjoy lunch on board of the cruise during the sail. Arrive Kom-Ombo and tour the imposing Greco-Roman Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to Horus, the Sky God and Sobek, the Crocodile God. Admire the fascinating detailed reliefs on the walls. Return to the river cruise ship where you'll continue the cruise, with free time relaxing on the sundeck and taking in the surrounding sights – desert hills forming a backdrop to lush riverbanks, fishermen casting their nets and farmers working their land. (B)(L)(D) Hotel: Nile River Cruise Ship

**DAY 7: APRIL 9th**
**NILE RIVER CRUISE–ASWAN**

The Nile, Elephantine Island and white-sailed feluccas: welcome to Aswan, Egypt's southernmost city. Take a tour to Philae Temple dedicated to the goddess Isis. Sit back and take in the beauty and bustle of Aswan on a private horse-drawn carriage ride. Settle aboard a comfortable, open-top carriage and relax as you clip-clop through the city’s streets, gardens and walkways. Then tour by a felucca, the traditional sailboat of Egypt used along the Nile. Glide gently down the river and catch the refreshing breeze while witnessing the beautiful scenery of the Nile Valley. In the evening, have dinner on board and stay overnight on the river cruise ship in Aswan. (B)(L)(D) Hotel: Nile River Cruise Ship

**NOTE:** The itinerary and sailing hours could be changed for reasons beyond cruise control, during the cruise sailing with respect of all visits mentioned in the itinerary.

**Day 8: APRIL 10th**
**ASWAN**

This morning, disembark from the cruise.
After, you will go on a day trip to Abu Simbel. A flight from Aswan transports you back in time to the mighty Temple of Abu Simbel, reclaimed from the floodwaters of the Aswan High Dam and totally reconstructed in the present location.

The site is dominated by the looming twin temples of Ramses II and his wife Queen Nefertari. It is one of the most recognizable ancient sites of Egypt. Afterwards, fly back to Aswan. Visit the spectacular Aswan High Dam, an engineering miracle when originally constructed in the 1960s. The dam brought an end to the Nile’s devastating floods. This afternoon, you will be transferred to your hotel to rest. (B) Hotel: Helnan Aswan Hotel or similar

**DAY 9: APRIL 11th**
**ASWAN–CAIRO**

Today fly from Aswan to Cairo. Upon arrival, you'll be met at Cairo airport and transferred to your hotel.

Tonight, you will enjoy the Sound and Light show at the Giza Pyramids. Images are be projected onto the ancient monuments and you are whisked away on a narrated journey of Egypt’s history by dramatic combination of storytelling, lights, and music. (B) Hotel: Pyramids Hotel or similar

**DAY 10: APRIL 12th**
**CAIRO–AMMAN**

This morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Amman, the capital of Jordan. It is a city situated on a series of seven hills. Today, you will be greeted upon your arrival at Queen Alia Airport in Amman and will be escorted to your hotel. (B)(D)

**DAY 11: APRIL 13th**
**AMMAN–MADABA–Mt. NEBO–PETRA**

After breakfast we will drive along the King’s Highway, the ancient Silk Road and transfer to Madaba; “The City of Mosaics” a typical East Bank town: underneath almost every house lies a fine Byzantine mosaic. Many of these mosaics have been excavated and are on display in the town's museum, but it is estimated that many more lie hidden waiting to be discovered. We will visit the Church of St. George to see the earliest surviving original map of the Holy land in a mosaic floor dating back to 560 A.D. Next we arrive at Mt. Nebo, where Moses went to get a view of the Promised Land before he died. From a platform in front of the church you can enjoy a breathtaking view across the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea. After the day tour, we will head to Petra. (B)(D) Hotel: Hyatt Zaman Village Hotel

**DAY 12: APRIL 14th**
**PETRA**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, and start a full day tour to discover the Nabateans City of Petra, the “pink city”, which has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site and was voted one of the 7 New Wonders of the World in 2007. It’s the home of the Nabateans, the complete city is carved in a mountain with the huge colorful rocks and is known as “the red rose city”. It impresses travelers from all over the world with its desert rock carved monumental tombs, palaces, temples and the treasury which was starred in Indiana Jones. The tour will start by crossing the “Siq” which is an impressive, deep and narrow gorge of stunning natural beauty.

The Siq is hemmed in by cliffs soaring up to 80 Meters. Along the city tour, our guide will give us a brief introduction about whole City of Petra while we are walking through the 1.2 km canyon to reach the magnificent treasury. Then through Wadi Farsa & Wadi Kharrouba and visit the Royal Tombs.

Enjoy a round trip horse carriage ride that has been set up to take you through the Canyon. (B)(D) Hotel: Hyatt Zaman Village Hotel

**DAY 13: APRIL 15th**
**PETRA–WADI RUM–DEAD SEA**

In the morning drive to Wadi rum, the biggest desert in Jordan and protected area where Sir Laurence wrote the seven pillars of wisdom. Take the optional jeep ride tour (US$40) tour in Wadi Rum visiting: Bburrah canyon via alameleh,
In the afternoon continue the trip to the Jordan valley and Dead Sea, which is one of the most spectacular natural and spiritual landscapes in the world. It is the lowest point on earth, and the world's richest source of natural salts, hiding wonderful treasures that accumulated throughout thousands of years. **Hotel: Valley Marriott Resort**

**DAY 14: APRIL 16th**  
DEAD SEA–AMMAN–EDMONTON

The Dead Sea is one of the most incredible places in the world. As the name suggests, the Dead Sea is devoid of life! Swimming in the dead sea is quite an incredible feeling as it is impossible to sink in the thick brine which is four times as salty as regular sea water. Due to an extremely high content of salts and minerals it is known for its curative powers and its mud is used as various treatments. **Hotel: Valley Marriott Resort**

**DAY 15: APRIL 16th & 17th**  
AMMAN–EDMONTON

After dinner, return to Amman for your flight back home. (Note: you will have access to your hotel room until the group departs the hotel)