



PETRA TO THE PYRAMIDS & A NILE YACHT CRUISE - A LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEY (2024)

Experience the best of Jordan and Egypt on an intimate journey from Petra and Wadi Rum to Luxor and Cairo, exploring the region's most iconic sites and relaxing in elegant accommodations, like the bespoke dahabeah 'Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau,' your home for a three-night cruise along the Nile.

Small Group Journeys, Luxury Small Group Journeys, Small Ship Cruising



North Africa & Middle East,
Jordan, Egypt



13 days from AU\$26,585 pp



12 Guests

Journey Overview

Experience the best of Jordan and Egypt on an intimate journey from Petra and Wadi Rum to Luxor and Cairo, exploring the region's most iconic sites and relaxing in elegant accommodations, like the bespoke *dahabeah* 'Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau,' your home for a three-night cruise along the Nile.

Journey Highlights

- Explore Petra, the ancient desert city in Jordan carved into solid rock, viewing its famed, pillared Treasury and learning its myriad secrets
- Roam by 4x4 through Jordan's Wadi Rum, watching the sun set over red-hued stone outcroppings and dining like Bedouins beneath desert stars
- Float with ease in the buoyant, mineral-rich waters of the restorative Dead Sea
- Cruise the Nile on intimate, exclusively chartered 'Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau,' visiting many iconic sites, including the Temple of Luxor and the tomb of Tutankhamun
- Enter one of the pyramids on the Giza Plateau
- Discover the stunning temples of Ramses II and Queen Nefertari in Abu Simbel
- Overnight at the historic Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Aswan, where Agatha Christie stayed on the visit to Egypt that inspired her to write *Death on the Nile*

Click [Here](#) to read Susan Kurosawa's account of her Nile journey aboard Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau.



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Amman | Jordan

Arrive in Amman, where you are met by an A&K representative and privately transferred to your hotel.

The St. Regis Amman

Day 2: Amman | Design your Day

This morning, explore Amman, visiting its historic downtown, the Citadel and the impressive Roman Theatre. Later, enjoy one of these **Design Your Day** options.

- **Explore Third-Century Jerash**, “Pompeii of the Middle East,” with its well-preserved Roman ruins, on foot.
- **Explore the Royal Automobile Museum**, where King Hussein’s collection mirrors Jordan’s modern history.
- **Visit the Dar Al Anda gallery**, which features a variety of visual and auditory fine art exhibits. Its terraces also boast spectacular views of both old and new Amman.

Then, return to your hotel.

The St. Regis Amman | BLD

Day 3: Wadi Rum | In the Valley of the Moon

Journey this morning to Mount Nebo, in the footsteps of Moses, for expansive views of the Holy Land. Proceed to Madaba, known as the “City of Mosaics” for its spectacular Byzantine and Umayyad examples of vividly coloured local stone tiles. After lunch, travel to Wadi Rum — the “Valley of the Moon” — which you explore by 4x4, traversing rose-tinted vistas and visiting a place where Lawrence of Arabia once lived. Tonight, embrace Bedouin life with a Chef’s Table dinner beneath twinkling desert skies.

Hyatt Rum Camp | Meals: BLD

Day 4: Petra | The “Rose-Red” City

Explore stunning Petra, the ancient Nabataean city carved from solid rock. Enter through a narrow gap, the Siq, to view the majestic Treasury, Temple of the Winged Lions and Palace Tomb. Once a stop for camel caravans bearing spices and silk, Petra was lost for 1,000 years until it was rediscovered in 1812 by Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhardt. After lunch, relax on a drive to your hotel along the shore of the Dead Sea.

Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea | Meals: BL

Day 5: The Dead Sea | Bethany Beyond the Jordan

This morning, visit Bethany Beyond the Jordan on the eastern bank of the Jordan River, known as the baptism site of Jesus. Afterwards, enjoy time at leisure, free to float in the restorative waters of the Dead Sea.

Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea | Meals: BD

Day 6: Cairo, Egypt | Land of the Pharaohs

Fly to Cairo. This afternoon, visit the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities to view a vast trove of artifacts including the treasures from King Tut's tomb.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: B

Day 7: Luxor | Cruising the Nile, World’s Longest River

This morning, fly to Luxor and journey to the Temple of Karnak, where generations of pharaohs wished to record their names. Walk through the Great Hypostyle Hall with its expertly aligned columns, a sight to behold. Board ‘Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau,’ embarking on a three-night cruise to discover the Nile’s significant impact on ancient Egyptian civilization. After lunch, visit the striking Temple of Luxor. Along the front of the temple pylons, there were six large statues of Ramses II (of which three remain), while behind the East Tower is the Courtyard of Ramses II. Marvel at the Colonnade of Amenhotep III, which consists of 14 papyrus-headed columns, leading to the Court of Amenhotep III.

‘Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau’ | Meals: BLD

Day 8: Nile Cruise | Ancient Storied Structures

Discover the Valley of the Kings, the legendary burial ground of the pharaohs, including entrance into the tomb of “the boy king,” Tutankhamun. View the impressive Temple of Hatshepsut before returning to ‘Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau’.

‘Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau’ | Meals: BLD

Day 9: Nile Cruise | Stunning Temple of Horus

Cruise to the Temple of Horus, the falcon-headed god. Built in 230 BC by Ptolemy III and having spent much of the modern era buried in sand and debris, this well-preserved and colourful structure reveals what temple worship in ancient Egypt was like. Sail toward Aswan while enjoying a Scenic Sundowner overlooking the Nile.

'Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau' | Meals: BLD

Day 10: Aswan | Riverine Heritage

Disembark in Aswan and ride a motorised boat to Philae Temple on the island of Agilika. Continue to the impressive granite quarries and site of the Unfinished Obelisk, thought to have belonged to Queen Hatshepsut. Arrive at your historic luxury hotel. Dating back to 1899, the property was built by Thomas Cook to house European travellers, among them Sir Winston Churchill, Margaret Thatcher and Agatha Christie, whose novel, *Death on the Nile*, included this Victorian palace. Board a *felucca* (traditional sailboat) and sail around Elephantine Island and dine in your hotel's famed 1902 restaurant.

Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Aswan | Meals: BD

Day 11: Abu Simbel & Cairo | Twin Temples

Fly to Abu Simbel and discover the commanding twin temples of Ramses II — Egypt's longest-ruling pharaoh — and his wife, Queen Nefertari. Located on the banks of Lake Nasser, this site is both an ancient and a modern engineering marvel. Return to the airport and fly to Cairo via Aswan. Check in to your hotel and spend the remainder of the day at leisure.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: B

Day 12: Cairo | Immersed in Antiquity on the Giza Plateau

This morning, visit the necropolis of Sakkara, site of the storied Step Pyramid of King Djoser and the oldest-known Egyptian pyramid. Alternatively, you may choose to visit the Grand Egyptian Museum for the unveiling of 12 never-before-seen main galleries, part of a soft opening that showcases 15,000 artifacts spanning Egypt's history. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity puts you up close with items, from the stone tools and pottery of the earliest human settlements along the Nile to the artifacts of the Graeco-Roman era, that reflect the evolution of one of the world's most remarkable civilizations. After lunch, discover the pyramids built for Cheops, Chephren and Mycerinus on the Giza Plateau. Take in the panorama of the Giza Plateau, backdropped by the soaring pyramids. Also see the fabled Great Sphinx, a monumental limestone statue. Tonight, toast to your travels with fellow guests at a farewell dinner.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: BLD

Day 13: Depart Cairo

Transfer to the airport and board your flight home.

Meals: B

Journey Details

Internal air included: Amman/Cairo/Luxor; Aswan/Abu Simbel/Aswan/Cairo

This journey contains some active elements.

Minimum age is 10 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 8:45 a.m. on Day 2.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 8:00 p.m. on Day 12.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

Included with every Luxury Small Group Journey

- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Luxury Accommodations
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Travelling Bell Boy Luggage Handling
- Breakfast in Bed on Select Days
- Full Breakfast Daily; Select Lunches and Dinners
- Your Choice of Activity on Design Your Day
- Traveller's Valet Laundry Service
- Internet Access
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support
- Guaranteed Departures with Just Two Guests

Customise this Journey

Talk to one of our expert Journey Designers or your travel agent about booking this tour as a private journey for your own small group with family or friends. Or, if you would prefer to travel privately, find out more about creating the perfect bespoke Tailor-Made Journey based on this itinerary.

Map



Accommodation

The St. Regis Amman



Embracing the sophistication and timeless heritage of the world-famous St. Regis New York, The St. Regis Amman is now an established luxury hotel in Amman, Jordan's capital city. Showcasing a 5th Circle location in the district of Abdoun, is the hotel moments away from a wealth of noteworthy attractions in Amman.

The hotel provides a locally inspired take on established traditions, with an extensive art collection predominantly composed of works from local Amman artists and the surrounding Levant, Jordan, area. The curated collection represents our unwavering commitment to hospitality – a quintessential trait of Jordan's culture. From the azure waters of the Red Sea to the sculpted rose stones of Petra.

The St. Regis Amman offers 258 hotel rooms, suites and serviced apartments, that capture the essence of comfort, with refined decor, top-quality amenities and a sophisticated butler service for guests seeking a bespoke travel itinerary here in Jordan. At your stay you will explore a new definition of luxury.

With dining services with specialties from Spain, Middle Eastern and the international kitchen. There are five different restaurants to choose from at the St. Regis Amman.

Iridium Spa is the perfect sanctuary to relax and revive your senses here in Amman. Offering spacious suites with customised treatment packages, the hotel's luxury spa offers all you need to feel energised and

completely rejuvenated. There is also an exercise room which is open 24/7.

Why we like it:

- Luxurious and spacious hotel rooms, accented with thoughtful design touches, a marble bathroom and cityscape views from your private balcony
- Ensures a peaceful night's rest, thanks to premium Frette linens and St. Regis Signature Bed
- St Regis Amman offers an outdoor pool, Iridium Spa and fitness

Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea



In true Kempinski style, the Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea is elegant and contemporary in design with direct access to the Dead Sea. Quiet enclaves set amidst gardens, lagoons, winding rivers and waterfalls are ideal places to snatch a quiet moment, whilst the terrace provides stunning views of the Dead Sea - especially at sunset as you relax with a classic cocktail in hand. Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea is beautifully appointed, based on a Babylonian-inspired theme - carved in natural stone and styled with contemporary fittings. There is a real sense that every detail has been pored over to create an immaculate living space.

Why we like it

- The longest private beach in Jordan
- All rooms offer enchanting sea view balconies
- Four restaurants serve delicious Thai, Italian and world cuisine
- The Ishtar Spa by Resense, tennis court, bowling centre and Children's Club ensure guests are well occupied
- The Health Centre is full of whirlpools, steam rooms and saunas, also has meditation and yoga rooms

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza



The majestic Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza is a beacon of sophisticated hospitality on the legendary Corniche along the bank of the river. The hotel provides stunning views of the Nile and is within easy reach of the other-worldly sights and sounds of Cairo.

Reflecting the vibrancy of modern Cairo, the airy guest room interiors feature natural wood finishes and comfortable, stylish furnishings. Most have private outdoor terraces for relaxing or dining, and all have triple-glazed windows to ensure that interiors remain cool and quiet

Why we like it

- This hotel is located in the exclusive Garden City in the heart of Cairo and near the Cairo Museum on the banks of the Nile
- The rooms and suites offer views of the Nile or the Citadel and Garden City
- Three heated pools are located on the secluded rooftop terrace and surrounded by lush landscaping, shaded alcoves, cabanas and umbrellas
- Dining options amongst the hotel's seven restaurants include cucina rustica in Bella, authentic Cantonese cuisine in Spice, the genuine flavours of Egypt in Zitouni and tasty barbecues in the sunlit Shisha Lounge
- The Spa offers a comprehensive range of massages and all-natural treatments

Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau



Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau is a stunning dahabiya, available only for private charter. An oasis of calm, the vessel is reminiscent of the glamour of old-world sailing. It is the smallest of the Sanctuary fleet with only 6 cabins, and its intimate size means it can dock at smaller ports - there's almost nowhere it cannot reach, so your fully-personalised touring itinerary can take you off the beaten track and away from the busy tourist spots. This is enhanced further thanks to private docks in Luxor and Aswan.

THE VESSEL

The Sanctuary Nile Chateau is the ideal way for families and small groups to experience the Nile. Combining modern elegance and old world glamour, this traditional sailing boat or 'dahabiya', has been completely redesigned and decorated to deliver the most exclusive, serene and elegant private sailing experience on the river.

Built to exacting international standards the vessel resembles the traditional sailing boats of old which transported people and goods up and down the Nile. Today a party of up to 12 guests can enjoy an elegant and intimate week long cruise sailing past some of the river's most beautiful scenery and important sights.

ACCOMMODATION

The Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau is state-of-the-art and the first dahabiya to be built to international luxury standards. Fully air conditioned and fitted with luxury amenities throughout, there are four spacious cabins and two suites.

The Farouk Suite is a spacious 90 m² and is located on the Upper Deck for added privacy. Its calm colours and decor reflect the natural surroundings of Upper Egypt. Influences from Egypt's Royal era are integrated in the furnishings and décor. The Napoleon Suite, at 40 m², is located on the Main Deck and reflects Egypt's influential Napoleonic era.

The four signature cabins; Nubia, Balady, Lake Nasser and Philae Temple are approximately 24 m² each. Each of the cabins is decorated in its own original style.

FACILITIES

The Upper Deck Salon and Dining Room are simply but tastefully decorated with white linen furnishings, coloured scatter cushions, timber floors and ceilings. There are floor-to-ceiling glass bi-fold doors which can be left closed in hot weather for air conditioned comfort or opened to the breeze on milder days.

There is also a Cigar Lounge and Library located on the Main Deck which can alternately be used as a private lounge and office area. The Sun Deck has a small plunge pool, sun lounges, outdoor shower and an open Arabian-style sky lounge ideal for star gazing under the clear Egyptian skies.

THE DAHABIYA EXPERIENCE

Your dahabiya serves as a floating hotel which allows greater exploration beyond Luxor and the Valley of the Kings to see some of the most beautiful scenery and rarely visited sites. These include the Temple of Horemheb, cut into the riverside rocks at Gebel Silsila and the pre-Dynastic capital of Upper Egypt, El-Kab, with its tombs and temples dedicated to the vulture goddess, Nekhbet.

Your journey is accompanied by the services of one of our Egyptologists, who will illuminate your voyage with tales and facts of the river's incredible history.

Why we like it

- The first 'dahabiya' (sailing boat) built to international luxury standards
- All cabins and suites benefit from air-conditioning and expansive windows
- On board this boat it is possible to go beyond Luxor and the Valley of the Kings, continuing past some of the most beautiful scenery along the river
- Gourmet food is served in the light and airy dining room
- Other facilities include a cigar lounge, pool, a library, and an Arabian style 'sky lounge'
- Exclusive private docking areas at Luxor and Aswan
- This boat can dock almost anywhere and, with air-conditioning throughout, is ideal for families or groups of friends

Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Aswan



A favourite hotel in Egypt for old world charm with a delightful old world elegance. Positioned on a pink granite outcrop overlooking the Nile opposite Elephantine Island, this hotel with its Oriental interior became a legendary name in hospitality almost as soon as it opened its doors in 1889. Rising from the desert, the Sofitel Old Cataract was built on a granite promontory overlooking the sacred river, providing views of the splendor of the Nile in the heart of luminous Aswan. The Old Cataract hotel takes its name from the meeting of the river with the granite barrier, which creates the first cataract of the Nile. Behind its Victorian facade, the hotel retains its original beauty, receiving visitors in an historic lobby with polished marble floors and high, classic Islamic arches. The 76 rooms and suites in the Old Palace Wing are complimented by 62 rooms and suites in the contemporary Nile Wing.

To relax after a day's exploration retire to the So Spa with its indoor swimming pool, Jacuzzi, sauna, hammam and gymnasium. Enjoy the two outdoor pools, one heated for when the weather is cooler. Experience one of the massages in the So Spa to truly relax before a good nights sleep.

The dreamlike history of the Old Cataract began in 1899. Prestigious guests have honored this place: Sir Winston Churchill, The Aga Khan, King Farouk, and also the former French president, François Mitterrand, who often came here for rest and relaxation.

Why we like it

- Gateway to Nubia the ancient province of Egypt
- Famous location that inspired Agatha Christie's 'Death on the Nile'
- Views over the famed River Nile

- Choose between the Palace wing where heritage is preserved and the Nile wing with its contemporary elegance
- 1902 fine dining restaurant with a 75-ft Qualawun Mausoleum dome

Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

Nov 23, 2024 - Dec 5, 2024

Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 1 - Deluxe Cabin	AU\$26,585	Supplement	(From)	Call for
	pp	AU\$6,455	Included	Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 2 - Napoleon Suite	AU\$28,155	Supplement	(From)	Call for
	pp	AU\$7,530	Included	Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 3 - Farouk Suite	AU\$29,725	Supplement	(From)	Call for
	pp	AU\$8,760	Included	Availability

Nov 30, 2024 - Dec 12, 2024

Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 1 - Deluxe Cabin	AU\$26,585	Supplement	(From)	Call for
	pp	AU\$6,455	Included	Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 2 - Napoleon Suite	AU\$28,155	Supplement	(From)	Call for
	pp	AU\$7,530	Included	Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 3 - Farouk Suite	AU\$29,725	Supplement	(From)	Call for
	pp	AU\$8,760	Included	Availability

Dec 7, 2024 - Dec 19, 2024

Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 1 - Deluxe Cabin	AU\$26,585 pp	AU\$6,455	Included	Call for Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 2 - Napoleon Suite	AU\$28,155 pp	AU\$7,530	Included	Call for Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 3 - Farouk Suite	AU\$29,725 pp	AU\$8,760	Included	Call for Availability

Dec 14, 2024 - Dec 26, 2024

Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 1 - Deluxe Cabin	AU\$26,585 pp	AU\$6,455	Included	Call for Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 2 - Napoleon Suite	AU\$28,155 pp	AU\$7,530	Included	Call for Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 3 - Farouk Suite	AU\$29,725 pp	AU\$8,760	Included	Call for Availability

Dec 21, 2024 - Jan 2, 2025

Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 1 - Deluxe Cabin	AU\$33,335 pp	AU\$7,225	Included	Call for Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 2 - Napoleon Suite	AU\$34,900 pp	AU\$8,300	Included	Call for Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 3 - Farouk Suite	AU\$36,470 pp	AU\$9,530	Included	Call for Availability

Abercrombie & Kent

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