



WINGS OVER THE ANCIENT WORLD (2025)

Explore three classic and ancient destinations in less than two weeks thanks to the flexibility and convenience of privately chartered air.

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



Europe, North Africa & Middle
East, Greece, Turkey, Egypt



13 days from AU\$82,650 pp



12 Guests

Journey Overview

Wings Over the World itineraries feature private charter flights between destinations, allowing you the convenience of visiting remote places with less time spent getting there.

Explore three classic and ancient destinations in less than two weeks thanks to the flexibility and convenience of privately chartered air, journeying from Athens to Istanbul and onward to set foot inside the tomb of King Tutankhamun, touch the paws of the Sphinx and cruise for four nights along the Nile.

Journey Highlights

- Fly directly between three diverse destinations on exclusive chartered flights
- Discover the ancient sites of Athens, the birthplace of democracy, learning about Greek civilisation at the Acropolis Museum and viewing the Parthenon
- Customise your experience in Istanbul, taking advantage of A&K's Design Your Day feature
- Behold the wonders of legendary Istanbul, including Topkapi Palace and Hagia Sophia, and ferry across the Bosphorus to experience life on its Asian bank
- Embark on a four-night Nile River cruise aboard the intimate dahabeah, Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau, exclusively chartered for your group, and marvel at some of Egypt's greatest temples and tombs
- Explore one of Egypt's legendary pyramids on the Giza Plateau from the inside out
- Touch the paws of the enigmatic Great Sphinx on a once-in-a-lifetime insider-access opportunity



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Athens, Greece

Arrive in Athens, the capital of Greece and birthplace of democracy, where you are met and privately transferred to your hotel.

Hotel Grande Bretagne | Meals: D

Day 2: Athens | Ancient Wonders

Begin your explorations of Athens at the Acropolis Museum, marvelling at artifacts Athenians used in everyday life, as well as finds from the slopes of the Acropolis. Next, stroll the Plaka, filled with flower shops, taverns and charming boutiques, where you also enjoy lunch. Later this afternoon, visit the Acropolis, one of the greatest icons of the ancient world, viewing the Parthenon in the early evening light. Savour an A&K-exclusive dinner at a 19th-century private townhouse, located on the oldest street in Europe.

Hotel Grande Bretagne | Meals: BLD

Day 3: Athens & Istanbul, Turkey | Foodie Tour

This morning, set out on a foodie walking exploration of Athens, visiting some of the city's oldest neighbourhoods and experiencing its charming streets, street food and traditional dishes. Board your private chartered aircraft to Istanbul. On arrival, check in to your hotel.

The Peninsula Istanbul | Meals: B

Day 4: Istanbul | Hagia Sophia & Bosphorus Cruise

Visit the timeless Hagia Sophia, marvelling at the structure's imposing facade, matched only by the grandeur of its towering, vaulted ceilings; and the sixth-century Basilica Cistern. See the nearby Hippodrome and city walls. Later this afternoon, cruise the Bosphorus, toasting to its beauty and your journey with a Scenic Sundowner.

The Peninsula Istanbul | Meals: BLD

Day 5: Istanbul | Suleymaniye Mosque & The Grand Bazaar

Enter the beautiful domed 16th-century Suleymaniye Mosque, created by the great Ottoman architect Sinan, whom Frank Lloyd Wright called “the supreme master builder of all time.” Afterward, explore the dazzling Grand Bazaar, a monument to the “Rise of Istanbul.” Wander, shop and bargain among its 3,500 shops. Explore the Spice Bazaar as well as the Rustem Pasha Mosque, also built by Sinan, to marvel at its breathtaking tile decorations.

The Peninsula Istanbul | Meals: BD

Day 6: Istanbul | Design Your Day

Discover Topkapi Palace, the headquarters for the Turks who once ruled most of the Mediterranean, then briefly visit the Istanbul Archaeological Museum. This afternoon, enjoy one of these **Design Your Day** activities.

- **Savour a Cup of Turkish Coffee** at the historic Pera Palace hotel, and learn the importance of coffee culture in Istanbul.
- **Indulge in a Historic Hammam Experience** at a 16th-century Turkish bathhouse.
- **Explore Dolmabahce Palace** and its impressive collection of 19th-century eclectic Ottoman art.

This evening, gather with your fellow guests for dinner.

The Peninsula Istanbul | Meals: BLD

Day 7: Aswan, Egypt | Private Dahabeah

Fly by private charter to Aswan, where you board the intimate dahabeah Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau. Later, boat to the island of Agilika and view a special show at Philae Temple, a sacred complex that reflects the Egyptian, Greek and Roman eras.

Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau | Meals: BLD

Day 8: Cruising The Nile | Stunning Architecture

Go ashore at Kom Ombo to visit the Greco-Roman temple dedicated to Haroeris (the sun god) and Sobek (the crocodile god), and view the mummified remains of several crocodiles that once basked on the Nile’s banks, just as their descendants do today.

Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau | Meals: BLD

Day 9: Cruising The Nile | Watching History Unfold

Continue sailing toward Esna, a city sacred to ancient Egyptians, passing riverside villages where time has seemingly stood still and taking in the views as history unfolds around you.

Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau | Meals: BLD

Day 10: Cruising The Nile | Tutankhamun & Nefertari

Cruise to Luxor, where you roam through the Valley of the Kings, legendary burial ground of the pharaohs and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was here in 1922 that the tomb of “the boy king”, Tutankhamun, was found by British archaeologist Howard Carter. Now, discover it for yourself as you set foot inside its 35-century-old walls. Also visit the tomb of Seti I, the father of Ramses II, one of the best-preserved tombs in the Valley of the Kings. Continue to the Valley of the Queens, where you visit Queen Nefertari’s tomb, famous for the colourful, well-preserved artwork that adorns its walls. After lunch back on board, visit the Temple of Karnak and walk through the Great Hypostyle Hall. Then, behold the Temple of Luxor, with its massive statues of Ramses II, and marvel at the Colonnade and Court of Amenhotep III.

Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau | Meals: BLD

Day 11: Luxor & Cairo | Immersive Museum Visit

Today, bid farewell to Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau, disembarking to fly aboard chartered aircraft to Cairo. Explore the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities to view a vast trove of artifacts including the treasures of King Tut's tomb. Then, check in at your hotel, located along Cairo’s Corniche.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: BL

Day 12: Cairo | The Pyramids & The Great Sphinx of Giza

Venture across the Giza Plateau to view its iconic pyramids and explore the interior of one of these soaring Fourth Dynasty tombs. Then, go up close to the Great Sphinx, enjoying special private access to the paws of the enigmatic monument, close enough to touch them. After lunch, accompany your A&K Egyptologist for the unveiling of 12 never-before-seen main galleries at the long-awaited Grand Egyptian Museum in Giza, part of a soft opening that showcases 15,000 artifacts spanning Egypt's history. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that 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. This evening, gather for a farewell dinner.

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza | Meals: BLD

Day 13: Depart Cairo

After breakfast, privately transfer to the airport for your departing flight.

Meals: B

Journey Details

Minimum age is 10 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 6:00 p.m. on Day 1.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Day 12.

Aircraft: Challenger 850, Legacy 600 or comparable

Aircraft and seating configuration dependent on final number of guests

Flight Details: Athens–Istanbul (1 hr 15 min) | Istanbul–Aswan (3 hr 20 min) | Luxor–Cairo (1 hr 15 min)

Included with every Wings Over The World Journey

- Unique Itinerary Made Possible by Private Chartered Flights
- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director® and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Luxury Accommodations
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Travelling Bell Boy® Luggage Handling
- 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 for Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support

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

Hotel Grande Bretagne, Athens



This 18th Century landmark is unquestionably Athens most luxurious hotel. Immaculately restored to the height of its old world grandeur, it is perfectly located at Syntagma Square in the heart of the city. The hotel's palatial interior is lavishly appointed, with restored antiques and wonderful fabrics personalising each of the 320 rooms and suites. Opt for a Junior Suite with butler service to tend to your every need.

The Grande Bretagne is ideally located for exploration of the House of Parliament and National Gardens, whilst the trendy bars, cafés and boutiques of Kolonaki Square are a short walk away.

After a day of exploration retreat to the Winter Garden where the hustle and bustle of Athens is left far behind or head to Alexander's Bar for cocktails where the 18th century tapestry of Alexander the Great is the focal point.

The Grande Bretagne not only dominates the skyline around it, meaning you're looking straight at the Parthenon, but glance to your left and you're looking straight at the Greek Parliament, with the Evzones soldiers trooping around the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier every hour.

Why we like it

- A landmark building of stunning classical architecture, the Grande Bretagne is known as the 'Royal Box' of Athens and provides excellent views of the Acropolis
- Dining options include the GB Roof Garden restaurant & Bar overlooking the Acropolis
- GB Spa with its indoor swimming pool and a fully equipped gymnasium
- The splendid outdoor rooftop pool is a welcome rest from the Athenian sun
- A&K recommends the Deluxe Suites, which provide spacious, stylish accommodation, mixing luxurious furnishings with warm décor to create a wonderful retreat in the heart of Athens

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

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

Dates & Pricing

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

Oct 28, 2025 - Nov 9, 2025

Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 1 - Deluxe Cabin	AU\$82,650 pp	AU\$18,360	Included	Call for Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 2 - Napoleon Suite	AU\$84,180 pp	AU\$19,740	Included	Call for Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 3 - Farouk Suite	AU\$85,710 pp	AU\$20,965	Included	Call for Availability

Nov 11, 2025 - Nov 23, 2025

Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 1 - Deluxe Cabin	AU\$82,650 pp	AU\$18,360	Included	Call for Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 2 - Napoleon Suite	AU\$84,180 pp	AU\$19,740	Included	Call for Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Sanctuary Zein Nile Chateau: Category 3 - Farouk Suite	AU\$85,710 pp	AU\$20,965	Included	Call for Availability

Abercrombie & Kent

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