

Egypt & the Eternal Nile

December 6-20, 2024

15 days from \$6,497 total price from Boston, New York
(**\$5,795 air, land & cruise inclusive plus \$702 airline taxes and fees**)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.



An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Alumni and Friends of Brandeis University

*Featuring Jonathan Decter, Edmond J. Safra Professor of
Sephardic Studies in the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies*

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join Brandeis Travelers on a spectacular 15-day journey to experience the ancient wonders of Egypt. Discover thousands of years of history, art, and culture as you explore storied lands and cruise the legendary Nile River.

Begin your journey in Cairo with a visit to Memphis, Egypt's first capital. Next, visit Sakkara, a 3,000-year-old burial site and the astounding Giza Pyramids guarded by the Great Sphinx. After touring Aswan's massive dam, embark upon a four-night Lake Nasser cruise through ancient Nubia. Return to Aswan for a three-night Nile voyage aboard a felucca — a traditional wooden sailboat. Discover Kom Ombo's unusual temple and Edfu's remarkably preserved Temple of Horus. In Luxor, experience awe-inspiring temple complexes. Conclude in Cairo with a tour of the exotic Khan el-Khalili bazaar, historic Old Cairo, and the acclaimed Egyptian Museum, the world's largest repository of Pharaonic relics.

In partnership with local guides and experts our tour will be led by Jonathan Decter, Edmond J. Safra Professor of Sephardic Studies in the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis, who will enrich and inform the journey with his knowledge of Egypt and Jews of the Islamic world.

Join us for a uniquely Brandeis experience — one that offers stimulating conversation, camaraderie, and connection with other intellectually-curious alumni and friends.

Make your reservation today as space is limited and we expect this small-group tour will fill quickly.

Sincerely,



F. Patricia Fisher
Vice President, Alumni Relations
Brandeis University

BRANDEIS RESERVATION FORM: EGYPT & THE ETERNAL NILE

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited's office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

EGYPT & THE ETERNAL NILE • DECEMBER 6-20, 2024

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender ____ Class Year _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender ____ Class Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

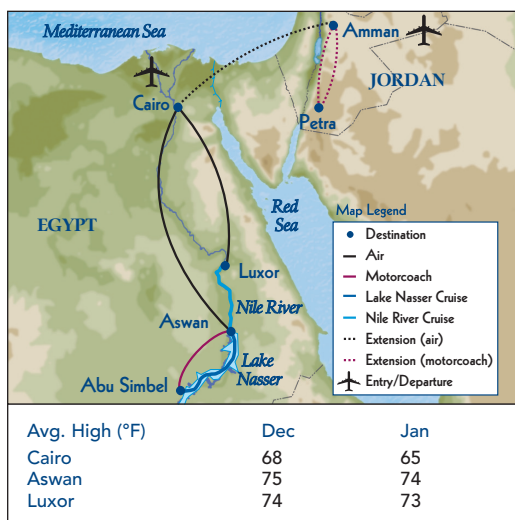
Post-Tour "Jordan: Petra & Amman" Extension: Please sign me/us up

Egypt & the Eternal Nile

15 days from \$6,497 total price from Boston, New York

(\$5,795 air, land & cruise inclusive plus \$702 airline taxes and fees)

Accompanied by an expert Egyptian guide, this singular small group journey through antiquity travels from vibrant Cairo and the Great Pyramids to Abu Simbel and the Upper Nile for a fascinating cruise on Lake Nasser. Then: a classic voyage along the Lower Nile from Aswan to Luxor before returning to Cairo.



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Cairo, Egypt

Day 2: Arrive Cairo We arrive in the Egyptian capital and transfer to our hotel. As guests' arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities or meals planned.

Day 3: Cairo After a morning briefing, our full-day tour begins at the open-air museum at Memphis, Egypt's first capital (3100 BCE). We continue on to the necropolis at Sakkara then to the astounding Pyramids of Giza, the wonders of antiquity that have drawn visitors for millennia. Here, too, we encounter the enigmatic Sphinx, whose leonine body and human face were carved from a single piece of limestone. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. *B,L,D*

Day 4: Cairo/Aswan/Embark Lake Nasser Cruise

Early this morning we fly to Aswan. Upon arrival we visit the Aswan High Dam, considered a marvel of engineering when completed in 1965. Then we visit the Nubia Museum, an acclaimed showcase of Nubian art and architecture with more than 3,000 ancient relics and 90 monumental pieces. From here we board our Lake Nasser ship in time for lunch then disembark to explore the ruins of the acclaimed Temples of Philae. Tonight we dine on board as we overnight in Aswan. *B,L,D*

Day 5: Lake Nasser Cruising – Kalabsha Temples/Wadi el-Seboua

Today we see some sights of ancient Nubia, Egypt's neighbor in antiquity but with a distinct culture and traditions. We stop first at "new" Kalabsha, the largest freestanding temple of them all that was moved and reconstructed on higher ground after the construction of the Aswan High Dam (and the subsequent flooding that created Lake Nasser). Then we sail on to Wadi el-Seboua, where we dock for the night. *B,L,D*

Day 6: Lake Nasser Cruising – Wadi el-Seboua/Amada

This morning we see two important New Kingdom temples that, like Kalabsha, were dismantled and relocated to make way for Lake Nasser. We explore Wadi el-Seboua, the next largest of all the pharaonic temples after Abu Simbel, and see the Temple of Dakka, with its huge, well-preserved pylon. Returning

Small Group Tour Highlights

Cairo's intriguing ancient sites, including the Great Pyramids, Sphinx, Memphis, Sakkara • Old Cairo touring • Renowned Egyptian Museum • Abu Simbel's dramatic temples • Sound & Light show at Abu Simbel • Lake Nasser cruise through ancient Nubian homeland • Aswan's temples at Kalabsha • Nile felucca sail • Nile River cruise • Aswan Dam visit • Ancient temple complexes at Karnak and Luxor • Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens • Egypt's inestimable historic atmosphere

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Cairo		
2-3	Cairo	Kempinski Nile Garden City	Deluxe
4-7	Aswan/Lake Nasser cruise	M/S Steigenberger Omar el Khayam	Sup. First Class
8-10	Nile cruise	M/S Premium	Deluxe
11	Luxor	Steigenberger Nile Palace	Sup. First Class
12-14	Cairo	Kempinski Nile Garden City	Deluxe
15	Depart Cairo for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



The magnificent temples at Abu Simbel commemorate Ramses II and his queen, Nefertari.

to our ship, we sail on to Amada, where we encounter the oldest of Nubia's Egyptian temples, the 18th-dynasty Temple of Amada. *B,L,D*

Day 7: Lake Nasser Cruising – Amada/Kasr Ibrim/ Abu Simbel We sail this morning to Kasr Ibrim, the last remaining Nubian settlement in its original location. As it is forbidden to go ashore here, we learn about this ancient site while overlooking it from the ship's sun deck. Then we continue on to Abu Simbel's massive complex of temples guarded by statues of Ramses II and his wife Nefertari, with well-preserved murals inside. *B,L,D*

Day 8: Disembark/Abu Simbel/Aswan/Embark Nile Cruise Ship We disembark then travel by coach to Aswan, where we board our Nile ship. This afternoon we take a relaxing sail aboard small *feluccas*, replicas of ancient Nile sailboats. *B,L,D*

Day 9: Nile Cruising – Aswan/Kom Ombo/Edfu We cruise today to the site of the ancient trading town at Kom Ombo, with its unusual double temple and outstanding Nile views. Then we sail on to Edfu, where tonight we attend a shipboard party. *B,L,D*

Day 10: Nile Cruising – Edfu/Luxor/East Bank This morning we visit Edfu's Temple of Horus, Egypt's best preserved ancient temple. Then we cruise to Luxor, the world's "greatest open-air museum," whose vast temple complexes, tombs, and statues dating from 2755 BCE represent the pinnacle of Egyptian architecture. Today we explore the East Bank, home of Karnak, the greatest temple complex of them all, whose ruins stretch for more than a mile. We also visit Luxor Temple, whose builders included both Tutankhamun and Alexander the Great. Back on board, tonight we enjoy a show of Middle Eastern belly dancing. *B,L,D*

Day 11: Disembark/Luxor/West Bank We have the choice to rise very early to see the West Bank from above on an optional hot air balloon ride. After we disembark our ship later this morning, we tour the haunting Valley of the Kings, where 34 royal tombs feature magnificent paintings; the Valley of the Queens; and the dramatic Temple of Hatshepsut honoring one of the few female pharaohs. We also see the massive Colossi of Memnon, two 64-foot-high statues of Amenhotep III that once guarded the gates of his own tomb. *B,L*

Post-Tour Extension

December 20-24, 2024

Jordan: Petra & Amman

5 days/4 nights for \$1,795 total price

Single Supplement: \$435

Discover the fabled "rose-red city, half as old as time" on this exciting exploration. Plus: ancient Jerash and the capital of Amman.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Air transportation Cairo/Amman
- 4 nights' accommodations: 2 nights in Petra at Mövenpick Resort Petra (Sup. First Class), 2 nights in Amman at Grand Hyatt Amman (Deluxe)
- 9 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Extensive included sightseeing: Madaba (City of Mosaics), Mt. Nebo pilgrimage site, full day at Petra, Amman's Roman theatre and Citadel, Roman ruins of Jerash
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



ONE MUST TRAVEL,
TO LEARN.”

– MARK TWAIN

Day 12: Luxor/Cairo We fly to Cairo today, where this afternoon we visit the Khan el-Khalili bazaar. *B*

Day 13: Cairo Our touring today begins at the acclaimed Egyptian Museum, the world’s greatest repository of ancient relics. Then we tour the Citadel of Saladin housing the alabaster Mosque of Mohamed Ali. *B,L*

Day 14: Cairo This morning we encounter Old Cairo, the district where early capital cities once stood. We visit 5th-century St. Sergius Church, the Coptic church of el-Muallaqa, and and the active 10th-century St. George’s church. Mid-day we return to our hotel where tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 15: Depart for U.S. Very early this morning we transfer to the airport for our return flight to the U.S. *B*

Faculty Lecturer



Jonathan Decter is the Edmond J. Safra Professor of Sephardic Studies in the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University. He is a specialist in the Jews of the Islamic world (including Egypt)

during the medieval period and in the Jews of medieval Spain. His research focuses on the literature, thought, and social history of Arabic-speaking Jewry, and on the interplay of Islamic and Jewish traditions throughout the medieval Mediterranean. His most recent book, *Dominion Built of Praise: Panegyric and Legitimacy Among Jews in the Medieval Mediterranean* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018) won the National Jewish Book Award in Sephardic Culture and was a finalist for the Jordan Schnitzer Book Award. His first book, *Iberian Jewish Literature: Between al-Andalus and Christian Europe* (Indiana University Press, 2007), was awarded the 2008 Salo W. Baron Prize for best first book in Jewish Studies.

Lake Nasser Cruise

M/S Steigenberger Omar el Khayam



Nile Cruise

M/S Premium



Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within Egypt
- 13 nights’ accommodations: 6 nights in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels; 7 nights aboard Deluxe and Superior First Class ships
- 32 meals: 13 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 9 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip, including shore excursions
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Departs:

December 6, 2024

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$6,497
Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Washington, DC	\$6,797
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Miami, Philadelphia	\$6,897
Denver, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$6,997
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,395

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy in an outside cabin on both cruises and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$702, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,395. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$4,995 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,695 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking on uneven terrain and at sites of ancient ruins. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

For questions about the tour or to make a booking, call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at

888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

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Brandeis University, Mailstop 124
415 South Street
Waltham, MA 02454-2110

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas, if required; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; optional sightseeing or shore excursions; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 64-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.**

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Responsibility: The liability of Brandeis University, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Brandeis University and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Brandeis University and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of our operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase nonrefundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

Please Note: The professor's participation is contingent on a minimum number of booked guests.



JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
TOUR TO EGYPT!

*Guaranteed Small Group:
Limited to 24 Guests*