An epic journey through antiquity highlighted by stays at luxury hotels and aboard a stately dahabiya

Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley

FEB. 21 - MAR. 5, 2020

with optional
ALEXANDRIA PRE-TOUR & JORDAN POST-TOUR
Howdy, Ags!

Join former students and friends as we wander the fabled land of pharaohs and kings—where colossal pyramids, legendary tombs, and towering temples cascade across the terrain. The mighty Nile River welcomes you for an unhurried journey that reveals seemingly limitless vistas of infinite deserts contrasted by metropolitan cities. From biblical times through to the modern day, Egypt has been the site of monumental historical events, staggering technological achievements, and compelling human stories.

During this 14-day expedition, traverse the Nile Valley like past explorers and discover ancient treasures including the Great Sphinx, the Temple of Horus, and the tombs of El Kab. Accompanied by expert Egyptologists, you’ll gain in-depth knowledge of Egypt and its antiquities. Then in the evenings, relax among some of the area’s most opulent hotels.

This all-meals-included program also features an exclusive four-night cruise on the Nile River aboard a private dahabiya. This deluxe, 14-guest sailing vessel offers the opportunity to see life on the Nile from a different perspective. As an additional benefit, this unique vessel ports on differing days than larger cruise ships, providing guests a less crowded, more intimate experience while viewing the antiquities.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than $1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Please reserve online at texas-am.orbridge.com, by calling (800) 633-7514 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Gig ’em,

Jennifer Bohac
Director of Travel
Outreach and Engagement
The Association of Former Students

Marisa Liles
Director of Travel
Operations and Customer Service
The Association of Former Students

Free Expedition Library
AN EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by June 7, 2019, to receive the FREE Orbridge Expedition Library we’ve assembled for this program.

This exclusive gift is to thank you for joining us early. Guests who reserve after the specified date may purchase libraries. Call for details.

Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Starting in 2019, we will annually plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an on-going initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts.
**Program Highlights**

- Enjoy two full days exploring Cairo, visiting the Great Pyramid and the Sphinx, the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, and Khan El-Khalili bazaar.

- In Luxor, view the Karnak Temple Complex—one of the largest religious buildings in the world, which includes contributions from approximately thirty pharaohs over thousands of years.

- Travel beside the Nile to Abydos to marvel at the colorful carvings in the Temple of Seti I and view the Abydos King List, which was instrumental to understanding Ancient Egyptian history.

- On the west bank of Luxor, visit the Valley of the Kings and Nobles, the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, and Colossi of Memnon.

- Embark in Esna aboard a private dahabiya—a traditional Egyptian sailing vessel—for four nights on the Nile River.

- During an optional excursion (additional fee), view the temples of Abu Simbel carved into a massive rock cliff, which were relocated and perfectly reconstructed after building the High Dam in the early 1960s.

- What’s included: 8 nights luxury hotel accommodations plus 4 nights aboard a stately dahabiya; 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches, and 11 dinners; all excursions listed on the 14-day itinerary including admission to sites and venues; excursion transportation; gratuities to hotels, drivers, dahabiya staff, porters, and guides; and group airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

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**Your 14-Day Itinerary** *(subject to change)*

**Day 1:** En Route from U.S.

**Day 2:** Arrive in Cairo, Egypt
- Evening at leisure
- Overnight: Marriott Mena House

**Day 3:** Cairo / Memphis / Giza *(B,L,D)*
- Sakkara Necropolis, Great Pyramid, Great Sphinx, welcome dinner
- Overnight: Marriott Mena House

**Day 4:** Cairo *(B,L,D)*
- Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, Mosque of Sultan Hassan, Old Cairo, Coptic Churches, Khan El-Khalili bazaar
- Overnight: Marriott Mena House

**Day 5:** Cairo / Flight to Luxor *(B,L,D)*
- Karnak Temple Complex, Luxor Temple
- Overnight: Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor

**Day 6:** Luxor / Abydos / Luxor *(B,L,D)*
- Abydos Temples
- Overnight: Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor

**Day 7:** Luxor / Esna – Embarkation *(B,L,D)*
- Valley of the Kings and Nobles, Hatshepsut Temple, Colossi of Memnon
- Overnight: Dahabiya

**Day 8:** Nile River / Edfu *(B,L,D)*
- El Kab tombs, Temple of Horus
- Overnight: Dahabiya

**Day 9:** Edfu / Nile / Kom Ombo *(B,L,D)*
- Gebel el-Silsila, special island barbecue dinner
- Overnight: Dahabiya

**Day 10:** Kom Ombo / Nile / Aswan *(B,L,D)*
- Temple of Kom Ombo, gala dinner
- Overnight: Dahabiya

**Day 11:** Aswan – Disembarkation *(B,L,D)*
- High Dam, Philae Temple, Unfinished Obelisk, evening market tour
- Overnight: Sofitel Legend Cataract

**Day 12:** Aswan *(B,L,D)*
- Elephantine Island, lunch at Nubian house, Soheil Island
- Overnight: Sofitel Legend Cataract

**Day 13:** Aswan / Optional Abu Simbel Excursion / Flight to Cairo *(B,L,D)*
- Abu Simbel excursion (additional fee) or leisure time, flight to Cairo
- Overnight: Le Méridien Cairo Airport

**Day 14:** Cairo / Depart for U.S. *(B)*

**Activity Level:** Activities are generally not very strenuous, however, we expect that guests can enjoy two hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on uneven surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance.

*(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)*
Hotel Accommodations (subject to change)

MARRIOTT MENA HOUSE – CAIRO
While touring bustling Cairo, spend leisure time and evenings amidst the luxurious and modern comforts of Marriott Mena House, located just 45 minutes outside of the city. Originally built as a hunting lodge in 1869, Mena House served as a private residence until 1886, when it was opened to the public as a hotel. It has hosted a variety of visitors, including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Winston Churchill, Frank Sinatra, and Charlie Chaplin. Guest rooms offer glorious panoramic views of the pyramids. The property features 40 acres of lavish gardens, four restaurants and lounges, outdoor pool, heated indoor pool, health club, and full service spa (additional fees for services).

SOFITEL WINTER PALACE LUXOR
Perched peacefully on the bank of the Nile River, Winter Palace's 5-star accommodations provide an alluring atmosphere for a regal respite. During leisure time, roam the manicured gardens, take a dip in the welcoming pool, or simply reflect on your time in Egypt while embracing the spectacular sights from your room.

SOFITEL LEGEND CATARACT – ASWAN
Step back to the time of the pharaohs, surrounded by grandeur and opulence of this 5-star property—with the sights of the Nubian Desert and Elephantine Island at your fingertips. Walk the ravishing grounds, and feel a part of royalty that once frequented the hotel—where King Fouad once entertained Agatha Christie.

LE MÉRIDIEN CAIRO AIRPORT
For your final evening in Egypt, enjoy the stylish accommodations of Le Méridien. This fully soundproofed luxury hotel is conveniently linked to Terminal 3 of Cairo International Airport by a pedestrian bridge. The property features an impressive sports bar, three restaurants serving Chinese, Lebanese or Mediterranean cuisine, a fitness center, and a heated outdoor pool.
Onboard Accommodations

With a capacity of just 14 guests per boat, our two 155-foot dahabiyas are designed to provide the ultimate in comfort and adventure while sailing the Nile River. Each stateroom provides spacious, fully air-conditioned accommodations with en suite facilities.

Guests can savor healthy, fresh, and delicious international and Egyptian cuisine at every meal. Enjoy the large sun deck, dining and lounge areas, and the services of an enthusiastic crew who are committed to your comfort.

STATEROOM CATEGORIES

Standard: Features one full or two single beds, view window, and private en suite bathroom. Approx. 205 sq.ft.
Suite: Features one full or two single beds, view windows, and private en suite bathroom. Approx. 250 sq.ft.
Just a 3-hour drive from Cairo rests the Mediterranean oasis of Alexandria. Founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BCE, the city was once a major intellectual center of the Greek and Roman empires, and home to the rulers of the Ptolemaic dynasty—including Cleopatra. Explore the mythic vestiges of the ancient city, and enjoy leisure time to experience the modern charms along the Corniche, Alexandria’s waterfront promenade.

**Pre-Tour Itinerary** *(subject to change)*

**Day +1:** En Route from U.S.

**Day +2:** Arrive in Cairo, Egypt  
Evening at leisure  
Overnight: Marriott Mena House

**Day +3:** Cairo / Alexandria (B,L)  
Guided touring: Roman Amphitheatre, famous Catacombs, Citadel of Qaitbay, leisure time  
Overnight: Steigenberger Cecil Hotel

**Day +4:** Alexandria (B,L)  
National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, evening at leisure  
Overnight: Steigenberger Cecil Hotel

**Day +5:** Alexandria / Cairo / Main Program  
Begins (B)  
After breakfast, return to Cairo to join guests on the main program

**What’s Included**

- 3 nights luxury hotel accommodations  
- 3 breakfasts and 2 lunches  
- Touring by an English-speaking guide  
- Admission to all sites listed in the 5-day itinerary  
- Guided Alexandria city tour including the Roman Amphitheatre  
- All gratuities and porterage  
- All airport and hotel transfers
Step back in time to the ancient world of the Middle East, where overwhelming historic architecture towers over the present day. Embrace the endless layers of spiritual and religious icons dotting this Holy Land, culminating with a once-in-a-lifetime visit to the Dead Sea.

**Post-Tour Itinerary** *(subject to change)*

**Day 14:** Cairo / Flight to Amman *(L,D)*  
Guided city tour  
Overnight: InterContinental Jordan Hotel

**Day 15:** Amman / Jerash / Ajloun / Amman *(B,L,D)*  
City of 1,000 Pillars, Triple Arched Gate, Hippodrome, Jordan Valley  
Overnight: InterContinental Jordan Hotel

**Day 16:** Amman / Madaba / Mount Nebo / Petra *(B,L,D)*  
Guided touring, Orthodox Church of Saint George, Byzantine mosaics  
Overnight: Mövenpick Resort Petra

**Day 17:** Petra *(B,L,D)*  
Guided city tour  
Overnight: Mövenpick Resort Petra

**Day 18:** Petra / Wadi Rum / Dead Sea *(B,L,D)*  
4x4 Jeep desert excursion, Dead Sea leisure time  
Overnight: Mövenpick Resort & Spa Dead Sea

**Day 19:** Dead Sea / Amman *(B,L)*  
Leisure time, late evening group transfer to Amman's Queen Alia International Airport for tomorrow’s early morning flights home

**Day 20:** Depart for U.S.

**What’s Included**

- 5 nights luxury accommodations plus a day room on departure day
- 5 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 5 dinners
- Admission to all sites listed in the 6-day itinerary
- Touring by an English-speaking guide
- Wadi Rum desert 4x4 Jeep excursion
- All gratuities and porterage
- All airport and hotel transfers
- Internal airfare from Cairo to Amman
Egypt & the Nile Valley

FEBRUARY 21 - MARCH 5, 2020
Alexandria Pre-Tour: February 18-22, 2020
Jordan Post-Tour: March 5-11, 2020

Option 1: Reserve online now at texas-am.orbridge.com or call (800) 633-7514.

Option 2: Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbridge, LLC.

GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation):__________________________
Email:____________________________________Class Year:_______________
Home Phone: ________________________Alt. Phone: ________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
City: __________________________State: _______ Zip: ________________
Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation):__________________________
Email:____________________________________Class Year:_______________
Home Phone: ________________________Alt. Phone: ________________________
Category Preference: 1st choice _______________ 2nd choice _______________

DEPOSIT:

# _________ guests joining pre-tour ($500/person) +
# _________ guests joining program ($850/person) +
# _________ guests joining post-tour ($500/person) ➞ TOTAL DEPOSIT: $__________

ABU SIMBEL OPTIONAL EXCURSION (added to your final invoice):

# _________ guests joining optional excursion ($495/person)

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:

☐ Check Enclosed  ☐ Online Check/ACH  ☐ MasterCard/Visa  ☐ American Express  ☐ Discover
Card #: ___________________________________ Exp. Date: _________ CVV: __________
Name (as printed on card):________________________________________________________
Billing Address (if different from above):________________________________________________________
City: __________________________State: _______ Zip: ________________
I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.
Signature: ____________________________________________________________ Date: _________________________

Mail or fax: Traveling Aggies, The Association of Former Students
reservation form 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, TX 77840
and deposit to: Fax: (979) 845-9263

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of $850 per person per program, a deposit for any extension(s), and any non-refundable advanced payments, payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card, is due at the time of registration. Final payment, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the date the program starts, the entire cost of the program, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is due at the time of registration by check, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds. Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. All payments we receive from you are herein defined as “Payments.”

Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee ("Cancellation Fee") as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 274 and 153 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person per program; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 152 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be $850 per person per program excluding any extension; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person; (d) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between the final payment due date and closer to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

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*Special group rates; limited offer. Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Single availability limited. Internal airfare not included. **A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent upon receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.

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Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley

February 21 - March 5, 2020

Special Traveling Aggies Rate: Save more than $1,000 per couple

When you reserve by June 7, 2019**

What Guests Are Saying...

Traveling with the Aggies is the only way to travel internationally. As soon as you meet your group, you are instant friends and are never alone in a foreign country.
~Cathy Ward

We will forever cherish our amazing memory of trips taken with the Traveling Aggies, as well as wonderful new friendships we have made! Now, whenever we travel on ‘non-Aggie’ trips, we realize nothing can compare!
~Randy '74 and Gail Parker

Traveling Aggie trips are always “special” whether in large groups or small and we look forward to our next one soon.
~Will '71 and Carolyn '81 Dierksen