CRUISE UP THE NILE

Mummies to Mosques to Maritime Trade

January 3–15, 2020 • Led by Eric Tagliacozzo
DEAR CAU FRIENDS,

Follow the course of the Nile River on a 13-day exploration of Egypt's rich heritage—ancient and more modern—including seven nights aboard the intimate 18-cabin Sun Boat III. Our faculty leader for the study tour is Eric Tagliacozzo, Cornell history professor and Director of Cornell's Comparative Muslim Societies Program. Throughout the program, Eric will lecture about the maritime trade and cultural richness of the area—in existence for millennia and greatly intensified by the opening up of the Suez Canal in 1869—and about the history of Islam in Egypt. In his company, we will visit Al-Azhar in Cairo, one of the most important mosques in the world, and Abu Haggag in Luxor, built atop the ruin of a millennia-old pharaonic temple.

The Nile River, on whose waters we travel between Luxor and Aswan, is the heart of Egyptian civilization; most of the cultural and historical sites of ancient Egypt are found along its banks. As we enjoy the Art Deco elegance and modern amenities of the Sun Boat III, we'll cruise to the sites of millennia-old pyramids, monuments, and tombs, enjoying their exquisite reliefs and stylized paintings and carvings. We'll learn about the unparalleled architectural and engineering skills of master pyramid builders and relish distinctive behind-the-scenes access to archaeological sites. Noted Egyptologist Fetiche Posma-Zaalouk will bring these monuments to life for us.

With a capacity of just 28 travelers, we expect the Sun Boat III to fill quickly. I encourage you to reserve your space now on this unforgettable exploration of the treasures of Egypt.

Sincerely,

Lora Gruber-Hine
Director
Cornell's Adult University

Eric Tagliacozzo is a professor of history at Cornell, where he primarily teaches Southeast Asian and Indian Ocean studies. He directs Cornell's Comparative Muslim Societies Program and the Cornell Modern Indonesia Project.

Eric is the author of Secret Trades, Porous Borders: Smuggling and States along a Southeast Asian Frontier, 1865-1915 (Yale, 2005), which won the Harry J. Benda Prize from the Association of Asian Studies (AAS) in 2007. In recent years, he has been publishing about the history of the pilgrimage to Mecca (or Hajj) across the Indian Ocean. He is author, editor, or co-editor of a dozen books.

Fetiche Posma-Zaalouk is a noted Egyptologist specializing in the culture, history, and architecture of ancient Egypt as well as issues relating to women and village life. A graduate of Helwan University in Cairo, she is passionate about her native country's long and distinguished history, and has been leading tours for educational groups and eminent dignitaries for many years.
Depart U.S. / Cairo, Egypt
Friday & Saturday, January 3 & 4
Depart home on overnight flights to Cairo. On arrival, transfer to the historic Mena House Hotel. From its early days as a royal hunting lodge and later transformation to a deluxe hotel, Mena House has hosted dignitaries and world leaders visiting the Egyptian capital. Spend the afternoon at leisure, then gather for a welcome orientation meeting and reception. Afterward, stroll the grounds and admire the pyramids lit in the evening shadows.
Mena House Hotel (R, Jan 4)

Cairo
Sunday, January 5
Marvel at the last standing monument of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Great Pyramids on the Giza Plateau, then enjoy specially arranged access to the “paws” of the 4,500-year-old half-man, half-lion known as the Great Sphinx. Gather this evening for a festive welcome dinner.
Mena House Hotel (B,L,D)

Cairo / Luxor
Monday, January 6
Fly to Luxor and explore the fabulous Karnak Temple complex, the largest ancient religious site in the world. Wander among the enormous 134 stone columns, and marvel at the myriad well-preserved obelisks telling stories of the ancients. Embark the Sun Boat III for an afternoon at leisure on board.
Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

Dendera
Tuesday, January 7
Leisurely cruising this morning allows for a glimpse of daily life in villages along the Nile riverbanks. Arrive in Qena for a visit to the temple complex of Dendera, dedicated to Hathor, the goddess of love, music, wine, and procreation.
Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

Luxor / Valley of the Kings
Wednesday, January 8
Enjoy special access to the evocative tombs in the Valley of the Kings, hidden for thousands of years—including the young pharaoh Tutankhamun. In the Valley of the Queens, visit the grandiose mortuary temple dedicated to Hatshepsut, Egypt’s iconic female pharaoh. Continue to the Colossi of Memnon, two massive stone statues of Pharaoh Amenhotep III that have stood in the Theban necropolis since 1350 B.C.E. This evening visit Luxor Temple, brilliantly lit against the darkening Egyptian sky.
Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

Valley of the Nobles
Thursday, January 9
Cross the Nile to Thebes, ancient capital of Egypt. Early this morning visit the unique tombs of two ancient nobles: Rekhmire, who served as vizier during the reigns of Thutmose III and Amenhotep II, and Sennufer, the mayor of Thebes and overseer of the gardens of Amun during the reign of Amenophis III. Then marvel at the size, architecture, and artwork of the mortuary temple of Ramesses III at Medinet Habu, an important New Kingdom structure acclaimed for its inscribed reliefs depicting the rise and fall of the Sea Peoples. This evening enjoy a festive galabeyya (traditional Egyptian garment) party featuring lively music and dancing aboard ship.
Sun Boat III (B,L,D)
Kom Ombo
Friday, January 10
Cruise to Kom Ombo to explore its unusual double temple, half of which is dedicated to the crocodile god, Sobek, the other half to the falcon god, Horus. Continue cruising to Aswan to visit the island of Agilkia, where the Temple of Isis, once on Philae Island, was relocated when the Aswan Dam project got underway in the 1960s. Now a UNESCO World Heritage site, the island has numerous ruins including the Kiosk of Trajan.
Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

Aswan / Abu Simbel
Saturday, January 11
Take a short flight to see the astounding monuments at Abu Simbel, located in former Nubian lands. At the twin temples built by Pharaoh Ramesses II, huge statues depict him and his favorite wife, Nefertari. Between 1964 and 1966, during construction of the Aswan High Dam, both temples were dismantled and reconstructed 65 meters higher than their original site to protect them from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. Return to Aswan to view the “unfinished obelisk”—the largest known ancient obelisk—at a nearby quarry. Weather permitting, board a traditional felucca sailboat and sail past Nile River islands Kitchener and Elephantine.
Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

Edfu
Sunday, January 12
Enjoy the educational program en route to Edfu. Upon arrival, visit the best-preserved ancient temple in Egypt, dedicated to Horus, the ubiquitous falcon-headed god of the Egyptians. The main building includes a great Hypostyle Hall and, just outside, an entrance colonnade that still has original, colored reliefs. This evening enjoy a festive farewell dinner on board.
Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

Cairo / Home
Wednesday, January 15
After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights home.
(B)

OPTIONAL EXTENSION
Jordan
January 15–19
Extend your visit to this remarkable region with a five-night pre-tour extension to enjoy Jordan’s archeology, history, desert culture, and rich cuisine. View the magnificent “rose-red” city of Petra; Embark on a 4-wheel-drive adventure through Wadi Rum; And walk among soaring columns and arches on a guided tour of the ancient city of Jerash.
**SUN BOAT III**

The *Sun Boat III* was built in 1992 and extensively refurbished to reflect the graceful style of the 1920s and 1930s. Of the more than 200 cruisers now sailing the Nile, none surpasses this elegant vessel in comfort, service, or cuisine. Its limited capacity and old-world elegance evoke the feeling of sailing the Nile on a private yacht. Secure, well-located, private docking facilities in Luxor and Aswan ensure that the *Sun Boat III* is always convenient and easy to board. All cabins face outside with two picture windows and are equipped with full en suite bathrooms with shower and hair dryer, individually controlled air-conditioning, satellite television, internal telephone and external telephone with international line access, safe deposit box, individual CD player, and mini-bar. The *Sun Boat III* has large, inviting lounges rimmed with windows for comfortable observation of the passing scenery. On the vessel’s spacious sun deck, comfortable lounge chairs surround a plunge pool, perfect for a refreshing dip under brilliant Egyptian skies. Other amenities include a gift shop, restaurant, laundry service, and wifi (intermittent).

**PROGRAM RATES** (per person)

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**Program Rates Include**

Educational program lectures and discussions with study leader Eric Tagliacozzo • All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary including four hotel nights in Cairo and seven nights aboard *Sun Boat III* • On-tour flights (Cairo/Luxor/Cairo and Aswan/Abu Simbel/Aswan) • Group airport transfers on group arrival and departure days • Baggage handling • Wine, beer, and soft drinks with welcome and farewell dinners and at all dinners aboard the *Sun Boat III* • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel for all group activities • Entrance fees • Bottled water on motor coaches • Professional tour manager and Egyptologist throughout the program
GENERAL INFORMATION

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
Please Note: U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare between New York and Cairo is approximately $950 per person as of May 2019 and is subject to change without notice. AirTreks is our preferred provider of airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (415) 977-7111. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE
U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport and visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Private transfers and transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Travel insurance • Deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess-baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Laundry or dry cleaning • Room service • Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges • Other items of a personal nature

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this to be a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Daily activities can involve one to three miles of walking in hot, dusty conditions, often on uneven terrain where stairs are not available or do not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health.

NOTE ABOUT COSTS
Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE
Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Trip-cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

GROUP SIZE
This program is exclusive to Cornell Adult University and is limited to 28 participants.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed “Agreement, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release” is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

To reserve space, return the completed reservation form with your $2,000 deposit per person as of May 2019 and is subject to change without notice. AirTreks is our preferred provider of airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (415) 977-7111. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check for $________($2,000 per person, payable to Cornell University), to reserve___place(s) on EGYPT.

I will pay online at www.sce.cornell.edu/cau/registration with □ VISA □ MasterCard □ AmEx

I/we understand that final payment is due September 5, 2019, 120 days prior to departure. After September 5, 2019: full payment is due at registration.

NAME #1 (as on passport) DATE OF BIRTH
NAME #2 (as on passport) DATE OF BIRTH
CITY STATE ZIP/POSTAL CODE
PHONE #1 PHONE #2
FAX EMAIL

SINGLE TRAVELERS

□ I prefer to have single accommodations. □ I plan to share accommodations with □ I’d like to know about roommates

I am a □ Non-smoker □ Smoker

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of September 5, 2019, I will pay the single rate.

I/we have read the tour information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated therein.

SIGNATURE DATE

SIGNATURE DATE