

Along the Nile in Egypt and Nubia



Guided and managed by Tarek Swelim and Fetiche Posma-Zaalouk,
offered by Stephen Harby

March 13 through 29, 2008 (includes travel days)

Egypt is one of those places we all dream about, know something about, and are lucky if we have the chance to visit it in our lifetimes. Few of us can be so fortunate as to have the chance to see it under the program that is proposed below and has been organized in a unique way for our small group.

This trip has been organized by the renowned Egyptian scholar and expert, Tarek Swelim, who received his PhD at Harvard studying under Oleg Grabar and writing his thesis on the mosque of Ibn Tulun, which is soon to be published as book. He has led groups from many cultural institutions and universities, and we are lucky to have him to ourselves in our small group. In addition, we will be joined on portions of the trip by Egyptologist Fetiche Posma-Zaalouk, who, in addition to her focus on the ancient monuments, will offer a perspective on women's issues and cultural affairs in the areas we will be visiting.

Some of the additional highlights and features of this trip include:

- 7 days sailing along the Nile aboard intimate 5 star *Salacia*
- Exclusive private visits to sites and homes not often seen and with local scholars and experts
- Visits to all the significant sites of Egypt including:
- Giza (with access to the paws of the Sphinx)
- Day trip to Alexandria
- Valley of the Kings (exclusive access to Tomb of Seti I)
- Luxor and other temple sites
- Abu Simbel
- Cairo's Islamic core
- Egyptian Museum
- Five Star Accommodations throughout (Mena House, Giza; Old Winter Palace Luxor; Four Seasons, Cairo)



Karnak Temple (photo by Tarek Swelim)



Village along the Nile

Daily Itinerary

Day 1: Thursday, March 13th, 2008

Depart from home cities, flying overnight across the Atlantic, reaching Cairo via Europe or directly the next day.

Day 2: Friday, March 14th – Arrival Cairo

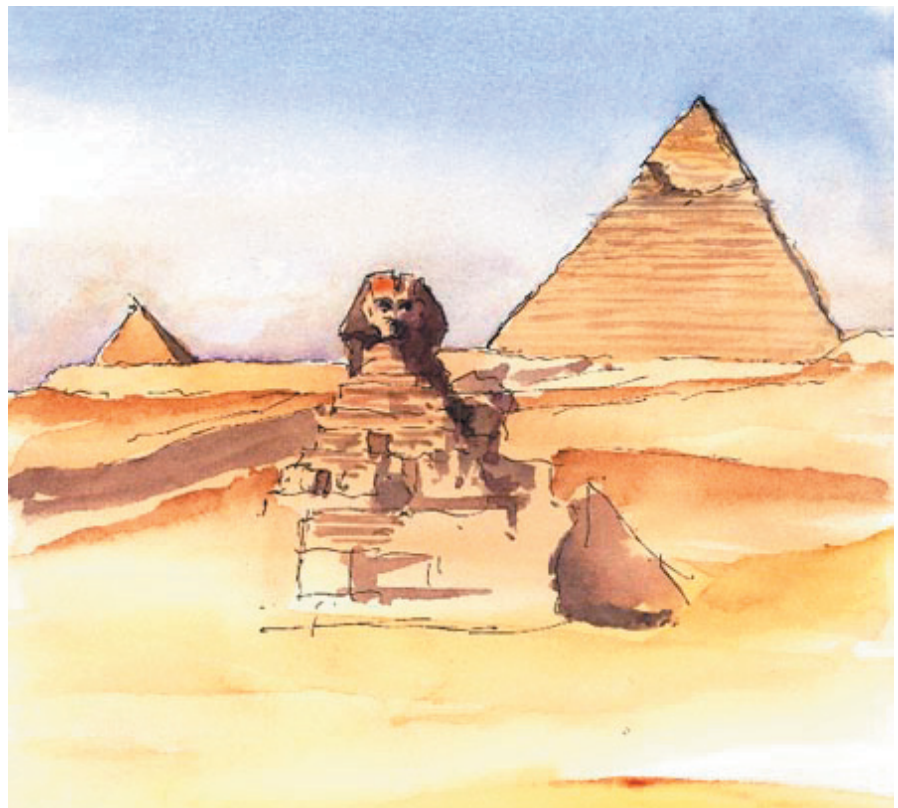
Arrival Cairo – to be met and assisted through custom formalities by our agent –
Meet Tarek Swelim outside the terminal –
Transfer to the Mena House Oberoi Hotel
If time permits – Cocktails with everyone
No planned group activities—use this day to rest or explore on your own.

Day 3: Saturday, March 15th – Giza Pyramids

Breakfast
Meeting for Orientations, Briefings
Introductory Lecture by Tarek: "The Pyramids of Egypt"
Visit the Pyramids of Giza, to include:
The Great Pyramid of Khufu (Cheops) – walk around the Great Pyramid – visit the so-called "Solar Boat" (Khufu's Boat) – walk to the Pyramid of Khafra (Chefren) – Drive to the Panorama spot to take photos – Visit an



"Bent" Pyramid at Dashur



The Sphinx at Giza (watercolors and sketches by Stephen Harby)

opened pyramid (if you wish) – Visit the Sphinx and the Valley Temple of Khafra (Chefren)
Special Permit to walk to the paws of the Sphinx and touch it (no one is allowed to do so) for which we have secured exclusive permission
Lunch at Mena House Hotel – Khan Khalili Restaurant viewing the Pyramid of Khufu
Afternoon free
Leave for Welcome Cocktail & Dinner hosted by Tarek's family at his home

Day 4: Sunday March 16th – Saqqara Pyramids

Visit the Saqqara Necropolis to include:
The newly-opened museum of Imhotep (architect of the Step Pyramid) – the tomb/mastaba of Meri-ruka – enter the Pyramid of Teti – visit the Step Pyramid Complex
Lunch at the Saqqara Palm Restaurant

nearby
Visit the site of Dahshur to see the Red and Bent Pyramids of Senefru (exterior)
Back to the hotel
Dinner on your own

Day 5: Monday March 17th – Cairo: Egyptian Museum of Antiquities / Luxor

Breakfast
Lecture (2) by Tarek: An Overview on Egypt's History
Check out and leave the Mena House Oberoi
Visit the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities
Lunch at the Nile Hilton Hotel
Transfer to airport - Fly to Luxor
Transfer to the Old Winter Palace – Garden View Rooms
Dinner en-route, depending on the flight's time

Or Dinner at the Old Winter Palace

Day 6: Tuesday March 18th- In Luxor:
East

Breakfast

First Visit of the West Bank in Luxor to
include:

Tombs of the Nobles, Hatshepsut's
Temple & the

Colossi of Memnon

Lunch at Moudira Restaurant

Visit the Artisans' tombs at Deir El-
Madina

Back to the hotel

Dinner on your own

Day 7: Wednesday March 19th
– Dendera – Luxor

Breakfast

Drive to Dendera by special convoy – 2
hours

Arrive & Visit Temple of Hathor – 2
hours

Drive back by convoy

Arrive Luxor & Lunch

Free afternoon

Dinner at the elegant 1896 Restaurant
of the Old Winter Palace

Day 8: Thursday March 20th – Luxor
– M/S Salacia Cruise Ship



Luxor Temple



Kom Ombo Temple

Breakfast

Lecture

Visit the Luxor Museum

Check into the M/S Salacia – for 7

Nights

Lunch on board (all meals and snacks
included for the duration of the cruise)

Visit the Luxor Temple in the evening

Day 9: Friday March 21st – Luxor: West
Bank 2 / To Esna

Second Visit of the West Bank to

include: Habu Temple

Valley of the Kings (including King
Tutankhamon tomb & the Tomb of Seti
the First by very special permission)

Back to the ship for lunch

Start cruising south

Arrive the Esna Locks and wait to go
through

Day 10: Saturday March 22nd – Esna
/ Edfu

Visit the Temple of Khnum at Esna

Cruise to Edfu

Visit the Temple of Horus at Edfu

Temple – cruise

Cruise to Komombo

Day 11: Sunday March 23rd –

Komombo / Aswan

Visit the Temple of Sobek & Horus

Cruise to Aswan

Visit the Temple of Isis at Philae

Lecture by Fetiche: The Temples of
Abusimbel

Day 12: Monday March 24th –
Abusimbel / Aswan

For the day we will fly to Abusimbel
and visit the site and then return to
Aswan and our ship

In the afternoon the chance for a Feluka
sail on the Nile

Visit the Nubia Museum

Day 13: Tuesday March 25th – Cruising
north

Cruise north with a stop at Edfu

Cruise to Esna locks



*Medinet Habu Temple (photo by Tarek
Swelim)*

Day 14: Wednesday March 26th
– Arrival Luxor

Visit Karnak Temples

Day 15: Thursday March 27th – To
Cairo

Breakfast

Check out – Leave the M/S Salacia

Transfer to Luxor airport

Fly back to Cairo

Visit Old Cairo & Coptic Museum

Lunch at Azhar Park

Check in the Four Seasons Plaza

Dinner on your own

Day 16: Friday March 28th – Alexandria

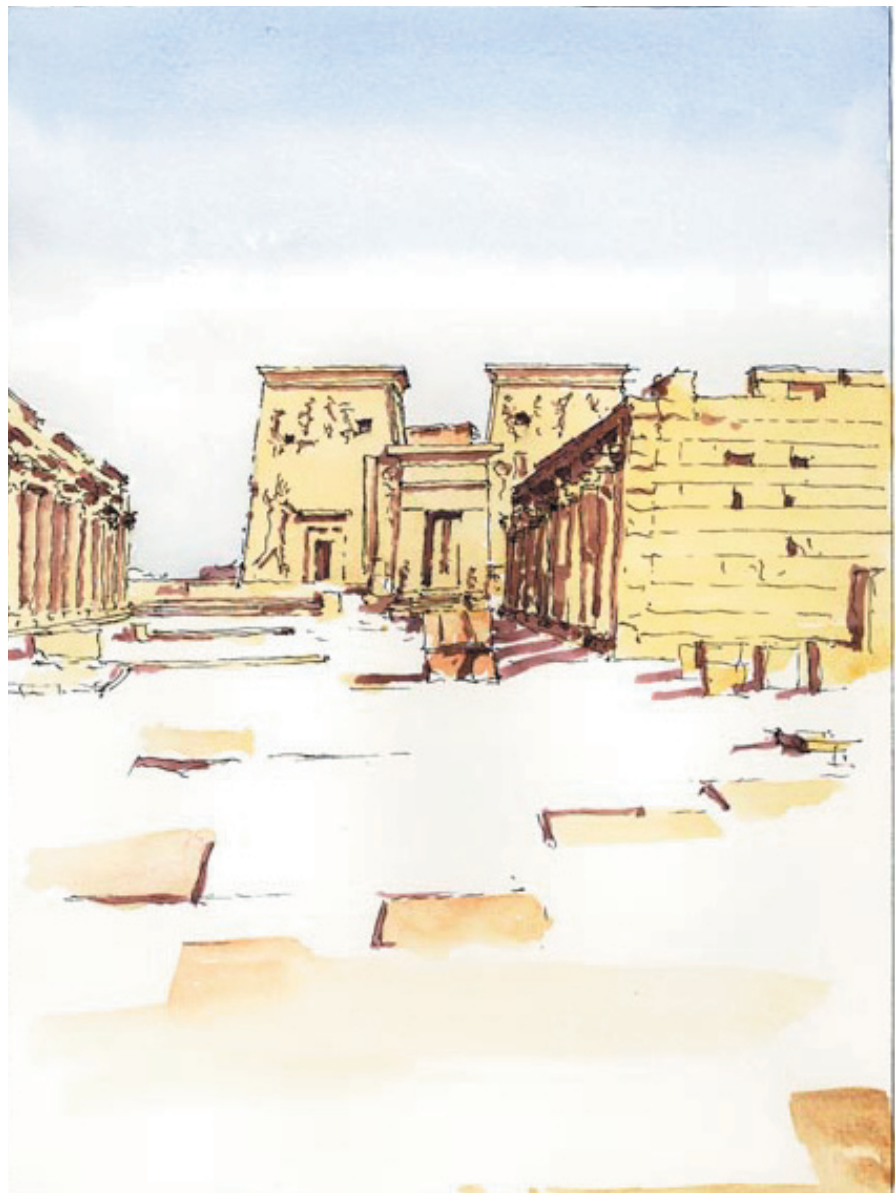
Breakfast

Day Trip to Alexandria

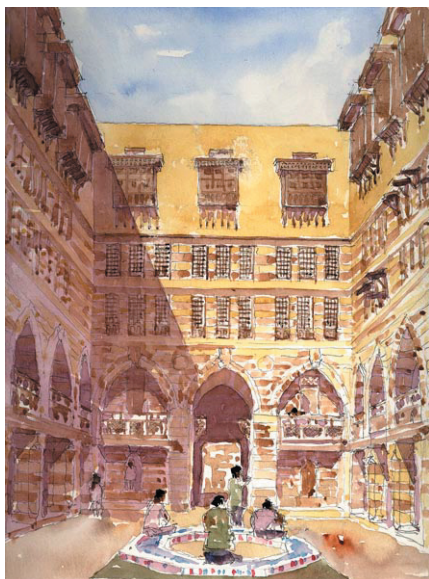
Our visit will include

- Lunch at Fish Market
- Restaurant overlooking the Fort of
Qaitbay and Eastern Royal Bay of the
ancient city of Alexandria
- Bibliotheca Alexandrina
 - Archaeological Museum
 - Dr. Muhammad Awad

Collection of historical paintings on



Isis Temple at Philae



Alexandria

- Shadi Abd El-Salam

Exhibition

- Manuscript Museum
- Tour of the Library Building, recently constructed by international design competition to the designs of Norwegian firm, Snohetta
- After later return to Cairo dinner will be on your own

Day 17: Saturday March 29th – Islamic
Cairo I

Breakfast

Lecture by Tarek Swelim: “Islamic
Egypt: History & Architecture”

Visit the Mosque of Ibn Tulun – Gayer
Anderson House/ Museum - Sultan
Hasan Mosque

Lunch at the Naguib Mahfouz

Restaurant at Khan-khalili Bazaar area
More of Islamic Cairo after lunch



Mosque of Ibn Tulun

Day 18: Sunday March 30th – Islamic
Cairo 2

Breakfast

Visit the Citadel of Cairo & the Mosque
of Muhammad Ali

Drive to the North Gates of the
Mediaeval City of Cairo

Walk along Al-Muezz Street - to the
Bayt Suhaymi House/Museum restored
by Tarek's family, where a picnic lunch
has been arranged on the terrace
Continue on through the "Palace Walk
Area"

Some time in the Souq of Khan Khalili

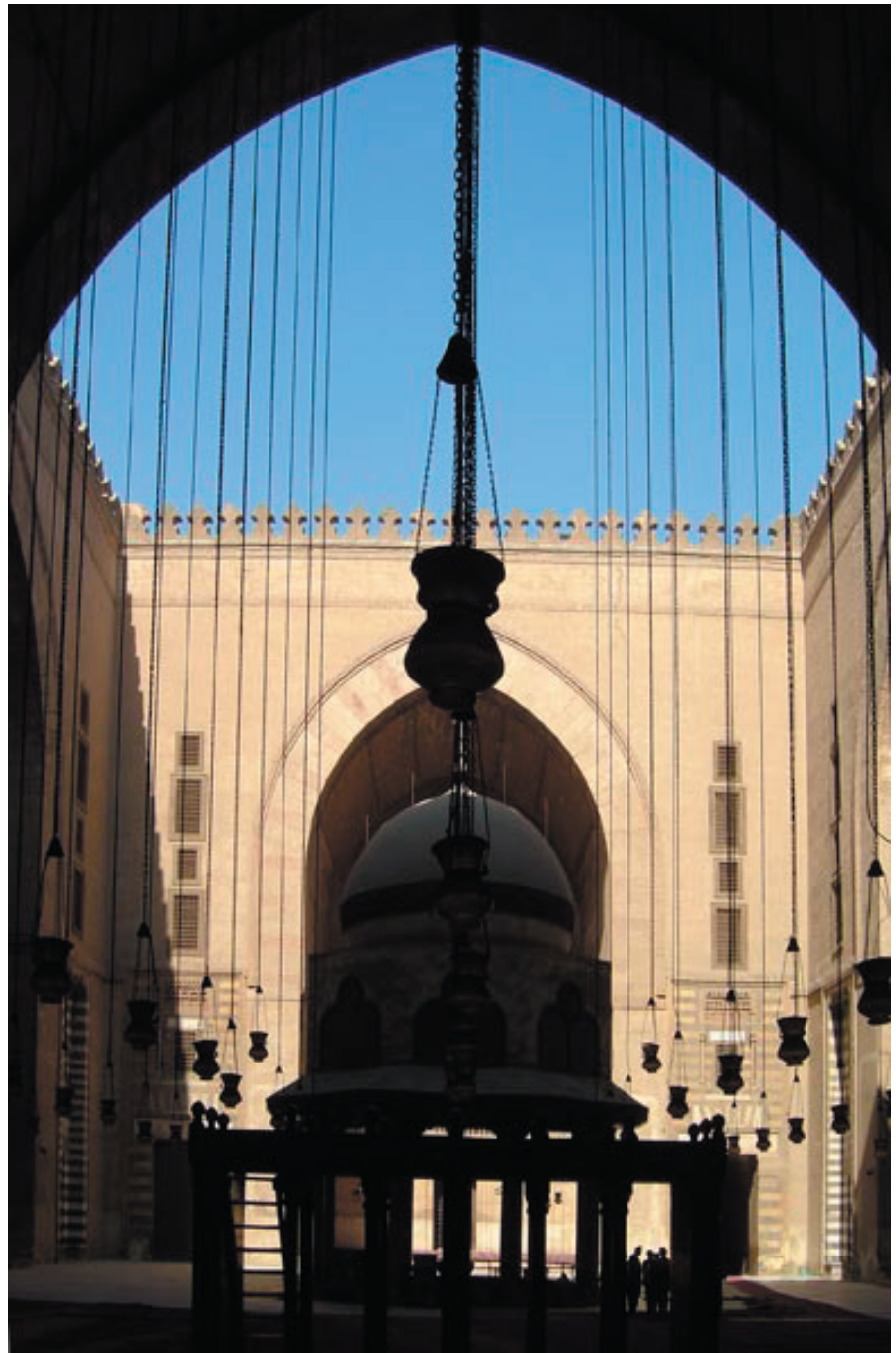
Back to the hotel

Farewell Dinner

Day 19: Monday March 31st – Back
Home

Breakfast

Transfer to Cairo airport for flights to
Europe or the US and onward home.



Sultan Hassan Mosque (photo by Tarek Swelim)