

YOUR SAFARI

EXPLORING THE LANDS OF MOSES AND JESUS

AN EDUCATIONAL PILGRIMAGE THROUGH
EGYPT, ISRAEL & JORDAN

DAY 1 - ARRIVAL IN CAIRO, EGYPT.

Likely to be an afternoon arrival. Free evening to rest, relax and recover from the long flight. Transfer to Hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 2

Overview of tour. Fly to Luxor. Drive to the cruise ship. Morning carriage ride tour (2 per cart) of the back streets of Luxor. See the local market and street scenes that haven't changed in 500 years. Visit a field still irrigated by a water wheel driven by ox power and smoke (sheehsa). Come on...just one puff! Embarkation before lunch. Visit Karnak and Luxor Temples. Overnight on River Cruiser.

DAY 3

Luxor/Esna. Cross the West Bank to visit Thebes Necropolis, Valley of the Kings, El Deir El Bahari of Hatshepsut and Colossi of Memnon facing the Nile. Sailing to Esna. Overnight on River Cruiser at Esna.

DAY 4

Esna/Edfu/Kom Ombo/Aswan. Sailing to Edfu, Visit the Temple of Horus. Sailing to Kom Ombo. Visit the Temple shared by the two gods, Sobek & Haroeries. Sailing to Aswan. We cruise down the Nile watching life; that is essentially unchanged for 5000 years. Remarkable! Overnight on River Cruiser at Aswan.

DAY 5

Visit the Temple Phelae: The unfinished 700-ton obelisk and High Aswan Dam. Overnight on River Cruiser at Aswan.

DAY 6

Aswan. Disembarkation after breakfast. Sailing by Felucca and view of Agha Khan Mausoleum. Fly to Abu Simbel. Visit the Great Temples of Ramses II. They should have been a wonder of the Ancient World! Fly back to Aswan. Overnight in 5 Star Hotel in Aswan.

DAY 7

Fly from Aswan to Cairo. Free Day to explore markets and old churches at leisure. Overnight at Hotel in Cairo.

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DAY 8

Full day Cairo: Cairo Museum (see the amazing King Tut exhibit). Visit Memphis and the Pyramids at Sakkara. Afternoon: Coptic Quarter and if time permits, Old Cairo (Napoleonic Cairo).

DAY 9

Leave Cairo and Drive through Sinai Peninsula where the twelve tribes wandered 40 years. The holy family crossed Sinai fleeing to Egypt from Herod's persecution. Arrive at the Mountain of Moses. Overnight: St. Catherine at El Wadi el Mokadass hotel.

DAY 10 - EGYPT TO JORDAN

Climb Mt. Sinai (the best sunrise in the world) and the Greek Orthodox Monastery of St. Catherine: Its icon-filled church and Burning Bush Chapel. Transfer through the Sinai Desert to the shores of the Red Sea. Travel to Jordan via ferryboat from Sinai to Aqaba, Jordan and explore the Lost City of Petra. At the crossroads between Arabia Egypt and Syria-Phoenicia, this Nabataean caravan city was the nexus of the ancient trade routes during Jesus' life. Overnight: Petra.

DAY 11

Tour Petra: Explore tombs, temples and ancient Byzantine Church. Petra is half built, half carved in the rock within a ring of mountains and riddled with passages and gorges. It is one of the most famous archeological sites in the world, where ancient Eastern traditions blend with Hellenistic architecture. Overnight: Petra.

DAY 12 - JORDAN TO ISRAEL

Breakfast. Travel desert highway to Amman: Tour Amman and the burial place of Moses. Cross into Israel Overnight: Amman, Jordan.

DAY 13

Arrive Sea of Galilee and overnight. The Sea of Galilee is the only natural lake in the Middle East and although North America has thousands of lake - some far larger in size and others far more beautiful - the Sea of Galilee beats them all because it simply is THE most famous lake in the world. It is a lake in a desert zone; effect of water and dryness makes it a stupendous place. A great setting for miracle events. Overnight: Sea of Galilee.

DAY 14

Full Day in and around the Sea of Galilee. Capernaum--home to Jesus for most of his life. See St. Peters house and the ancient Synagogue. Also by the shore visit Tabgha and the Church of Peters Primacy to see the ancient mosaic of the loaves and fishes. Next the Mount of Beatitudes or site of the Sermon on the Mount. This area affords some special views of the lake. Overnight: Sea of Galilee.

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DAY 15

Morning: Galilee. 17Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Galilee to Jerusalem
Visit the source of the Jordan River at Caesera Phillipi. Travel to Jerusalem via Samaria and ancient Roman city of Beit Shean, now a major archeological site. Arrive in Jerusalem – perhaps the most dreamed about and thought about city in human history. Walk the way of the cross, traditional site of Dornit Flevit. Overnight: Jerusalem.

DAY 16

Full day Jerusalem: The Mount of Olives and the place of Ascension for a panoramic view. Gardens of Gethsemane, Mt Zion and room of the Last Supper. Visit the Western or Wailing Wall and Temple Mount rebuilt by Herod the Great where Jesus preached. Pass through the Coptic Monastery to enter the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. See the traditional site of the cross and place where Jesus' body lay. Overnight: Jerusalem.

DAY 17

Pass the Inn of the Good Samaritan and proceed to Qumran and the Dead Sea, the lowest point on Earth. See Mount Nebo from where Moses only glimpsed the Promised Land before his death. Follow the shores of the Dead Sea through Ein Gedi, then take the Cable Car (or hike) up to Masada – place of the Zealots last stand against the Romans. Overnight: Jerusalem.

DAY 18

Jerusalem: Visit traditional site of the upper room, Tomb of King David and the Church of Dormition. See the Israel Museum and Shrine of the Book to see the Dead Sea Scrolls. Via Delarrosa [way of the cross-place of crucifixion and burial] plus a free afternoon O/n: Jerusalem. See the Pater Noster church and walk the Palm Sunday route in the footsteps of Jesus. Overnight: Jerusalem.

DAY 19 - TOUR ENDS

Prayer service at the Garden Tomb. Bethlehem (if possible) or free day. Early to bed for those setup for Group Airfare departure. Early morning Sunday April 11 drive to the Tel Aviv airport and fly home.

NOTE FROM OUR GUIDE: Itinerary changes may occur but will not impact on the Quality of the tour. Egypt is an amazing tourist country but a challenging one organizationally where the ability to be flexible is key. Things can go a bit awry now and then, but I believe that with fun, humor and your sense of being on holiday adventure we'll have a brilliant time. Best regards, Leslie

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