

CARAVAN's Egypt Journey

“The Cradle of Civilization”

with special guest Brian McLaren

Bestselling author, internationally acclaimed spiritual teacher, activist

November 7 – 17, 2027
(9 days, 10 nights)

Join us on a caravan to explore the wonder of Egypt,
through the lens of its artistic culture and spirituality.



9 days and 10 nights in Egypt

All expenses covered except international travel and personal expenses.

Double occupancy (*one or two beds*): \$5,350
Single occupancy: \$5,750

www.oncaravan.org/tours/egypt

“In the desert of life, the wise person travels by caravan...”
(Arab proverb)

An Introduction

Our journey to Egypt, often referred to as the “Mother of the World,” will introduce you to the culture, art and spirituality of this ancient and living civilization. Our caravan will explore the Nile River cities of Cairo and Luxor, as well as down the Red Sea coast to the Arab desert to stand in the sand of ageless time. Our travels will take us from the Great Giza Pyramids, to magnificent mosques, Pharaonic temples and to the oldest monastery in the world.

We will sail on the life-giving waters of the great Nile River, smell the aromas of exotic spices piled high in a bustling *souk*, savor flatbread freshly baked in a clay oven, visit a Bedouin tent-shaped cathedral, hear the Muslim call to prayer from over a thousand minarets, swim in the Red Sea, experience the Sufi dancing of a whirling dervish, explore whale bones in the Western desert and so much more. All along, we will experience ancient and living spiritual traditions – Pharaonic, Islamic, Sufi, Coptic, Jewish, and desert spirituality.

To enhance our journey, art will be woven throughout our caravan - Coptic, Islamic, Ancient Pharaonic and contemporary Egyptian art. We will visit the new Grand Egyptian Museum on the Giza Plateau, marvel at the architecture of Pharaonic temples, see rock carvings in a sandstone amphitheater, contemplate ancient monastic frescoes and Coptic iconography, admire Islamic calligraphy, visit the studios of today’s premier Egyptian artists, and so much more.

Join us on a caravan to explore the creative wonder of another world!

The CARAVAN Team

DAILY ITINERARY

Nov 6 – begin international travel to Egypt depending on departure country

Nov 7 Sunday	“Meet and Greet” before passport control at Cairo International Airport, transfer to hotel, dinner on own at hotel due to international travelers arriving at different times. Cairo hotel: JAZ Pyramids Resort – Giza (a garden resort near the Pyramids) 
Nov 8 Monday	ISLAMIC CAIRO <u>Breakfast:</u> at hotel followed by a welcome/orientation meeting Morning: • Museum of Civilization • Sultan Hassan Mosque (experience the Muezzin call to prayer). • The Citadel (Mohamed Ali Mosque) <u>Lunch:</u> • Granita at Azhar Park with Whirling Dervish Dancing Afternoon: • Visit Bab Zuweila City Gate, Al-Salih Tala'i Mosque and Tentmakers' Street • Khan El Khalili bazaar – shopping in souk • Tea at El Fishawy Café - one of oldest continually functioning cafes in the world <u>Dinner:</u> Naguib Mahfouz Cafe



**Nov 9
Tuesday**

COPTIC CAIRO (Souq al Fustat)

Breakfast: at hotel

Morning:

- Coptic Christian Old Cairo including the Coptic Museum, Hanging Church, Ben Ezra Synagogue, Abu Serga Church, St. Barbara Church, St. Mercurius Church

Lunch: On a Nile sailboat (felucca)
(catered lunch from Abou Tarek Koshari)

Afternoon:

- Visit to St. Simon "The Tanner" Monastery and Cave Church and Recycle Craft Center in the Mokattam area of Cairo (where many garbage collectors live, and where up to 13,000 people meet in a cave church each Thursday evening). Known as well for its rock sculptures.

Dinner: Hotel



**Nov 10
Wednesday**

RED SEA & ARAB DESERT MONASTERY

Check out of hotel

Breakfast: at hotel

Morning:

- Travel to western shore of the Red Sea / Suez Canal
- Visiting oldest monastery in the world - St. Anthony's

Afternoon:

- Check in at Mövenpick Resort El Sokhna on the Red Sea for one night.
- Afternoon to swim in or relax by the Red Sea.

Lunch: at hotel

Dinner: Hotel



**Nov 11
Thursday**

SAKKARA NECROPOLIS

Breakfast: at hotel

Check out of hotel and drive to Sakkara

Morning:

- Sakkara Necropolis and Step Pyramid
- Visit an Artisan Tapestry Workshop

Lunch: at Blue Lotus organic farm

Afternoon:

- Merit Papyrus Shop (on return to Giza area)
- Check in at JAZ Pyramids Resort - Giza

Dinner: At Hotel or Abu El Sid Restaurant on Zamalek (island on the Nile)



**Nov 12
Friday**

TUNIS/FAYOUM OASIS IN THE WESTERN DESERT

(whale bones, contemporary Egypt artist)

Breakfast: at hotel

Morning:

- Visit Whale Bones Valley (UNESCO World Heritage Site) via 4 x 4 SUVs

Lunch: picnic in Bedouin camp in desert by Wadi Al Rayan

Afternoon:

- Visit with celebrated Egyptian contemporary artist Mohammed Abla at his Fayoum Art Center and see his Middle Eastern Caricature Museum and contemporary art museum

Dinner: Ibis Restaurant in Tunis Oasis Village



**Nov 13
Saturday**

PHARAONIC CAIRO (THEN FLY TO LUXOR)

Breakfast: at hotel

Morning:

- Giza Pyramids and The Sphinx
(option of camel rides near the Pyramids)

Lunch: 9 Pyramids Lounge overlooking the Giza pyramid plateau

Afternoon:

- Drop-off at Cairo Domestic Airport and fly to Luxor:
- Transfer to Hilton Hotel Luxor on the Nile

Dinner: at Hilton Hotel Luxor





Hilton Hotel Luxor – on the Nile

**Nov 14
Sunday**

LUXOR

Breakfast: at hotel

Morning:

- Valley of Kings (i.e. tomb of King Tut) and Hatshepsut Temple
- Visit an Alabaster workshop

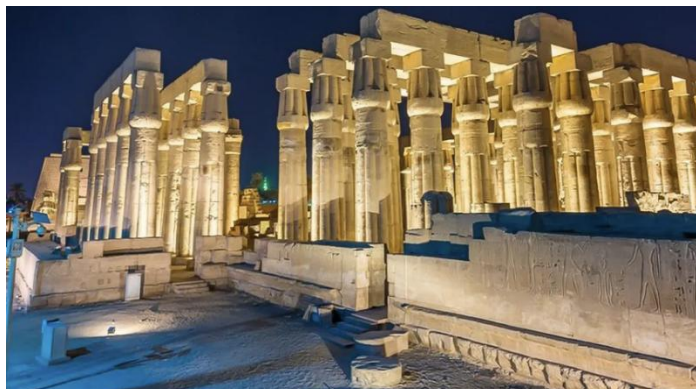
Lunch: Marsam Hotel

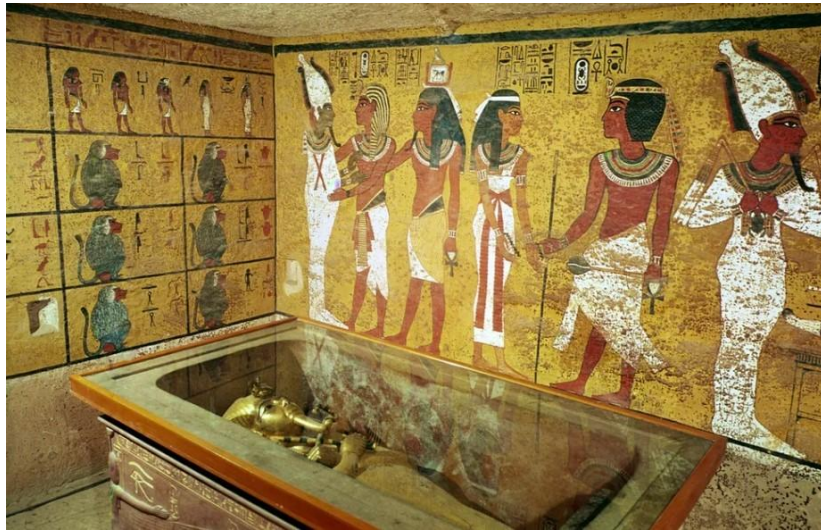
Afternoon and Evening:

- Rest/Relax at hotel
- Sunset Tour of Luxor Temple & the Sphinx Avenue

We will explore how the ancient Egyptians left behind an immense collection of spiritual knowledge through their architecture, hieroglyph, art and symbols.

Dinner: at Hilton Hotel Luxor





King Tut's tomb

**Nov 15
Monday**

LUXOR during the morning - then fly to CAIRO

Breakfast: at hotel (then check out)

Morning:

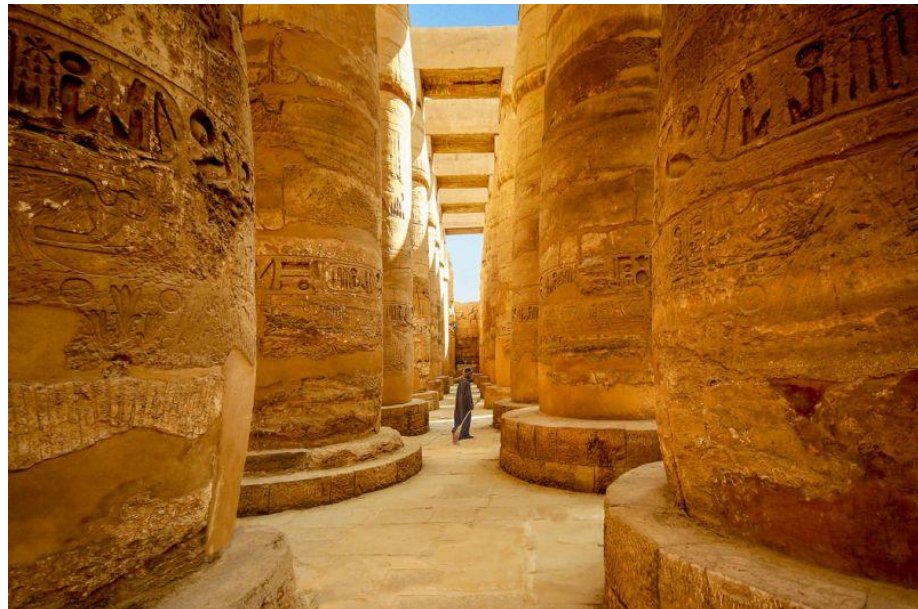
- Visit Karnak Temple complex in ancient Thebes (in Luxor)
The Karnak Temple took over 2,000 years to build and is the largest building ever constructed for religious purposes, which includes the Temple of Amun-Re, Hypostyle Hall, and the Sacred Lake.

Lunch: Sofra restaurant in downtown Luxor

Afternoon:

- Mid-afternoon flight to Cairo:
-Transfer back to hotel in Cairo
Steigenberger Hotel Giza Pyramids

Dinner: at hotel



Karnak Temple

**Nov 16
Tuesday**

GRAND EGYPT MUSEUM

Breakfast: at hotel

Morning:

- Visit the new Grand Egyptian Museum, the largest museum in the world, including the spectacular display of King Tut and King Khufu's solar ship.

Lunch: at Zooba restaurant in museum

Afternoon:

- Last minute shopping in Giza area or a time of rest and packing at hotel

Dinner: Hotel



**Nov 17
Wednesday**

DEPARTURE - morning departure (morning hotel check out required on Nov 17). *Note: international flights often depart late night of Nov 16 / early morning hours Nov 17.*

COSTS

Double occupancy (one or two beds): \$5,350

Single occupancy: \$5,750

If you are traveling alone but wish to share a room, please let us know when you register and we will attempt to find a suitable traveling companion. If we are unable to find someone, we will notify you of the supplemental cost needed for a single room.

INCLUDED IN JOURNEY COSTS:

- “Meet and Greet” before passport control at airport, transfer from/to airport
- Egyptian visa – provided upon arrival by “Meet and Greet” agent before passport control
- All ground transportation
- In country flight: Cairo to/from Luxor - Star Alliance Partner EgyptAir
- Hotel lodging at 4 and 5 star hotels
- All meals of breakfast, lunch and dinner (drinks: bottled water at meals and on bus)
- Private tour bus throughout the trip
- All entrance fees to sites
- Our own dedicated tour guides throughout the trip
- Journey hosted by President of CARAVAN Arts

NOT INCLUDED IN JOURNEY COSTS:

- International travel to and from Egypt
- Suggested travel health insurance and recommended comprehensive travel insurance (protection for cancellations, trip interruptions, lost baggage)
- Personal expenses
- Beverages: (coffee/tea/juice included at breakfast & water at meals and bus)

PAYMENTS:

After reviewing your inquiry form, we will email you further instructions on the registration process, including needed forms and payment options to submit a deposit of \$500 per person, along with a schedule of payments due. You will be able to pay via credit card (via PayPal), US check, Zelle or bank wire transfer.

1. \$500 deposit per person due with journey registration forms
2. 50% of costs due 6 months ahead of the journey
3. 100% of costs due 3 months ahead of the journey

CONFIRMATION AND CANCELLATION POLICY:

The \$500 deposit is nonrefundable unless the journey is cancelled or rescheduled. Payments are 50% refundable up to 6 months before the journey begins; after that, any refund will depend on someone else taking your place on the journey, or you can request to join us on a future journey within twelve months, where your installments minus the deposit and any non-refundable deposits made by the supplier, will be credited to that journey. **We strongly recommend that all participants purchase comprehensive trip cancellation and interruption insurance in the event you need to cancel your travel plans.**

Egypt requires a passport that is valid for 6 months beyond your scheduled return date. A tourist visa is required and will be arranged ahead of time and given to you by our Meet and Greet agent upon your arrival at Cairo International Airport.