

Journey Through the Ages: A 6 nights /7 Days Nile Cruise from Aswan to Luxor & Dendara

This 6-night "Long Cruise" offers a deep exploration of the Nile, combining the classic southern route with an exclusive excursion to the magnificent Temple of Dendara. The schedule is designed to make the most of each day, balancing iconic sights with serene sailing.

- **Tips for Your Trip:** This itinerary involves significant walking at archaeological sites, often on uneven ground. Comfortable shoes, sun protection, and water are essential. The sailing schedule and overnight mooring locations are subject to change based on river and lock conditions

Day 1: Embarkation & The Goddess Isis's Sanctuary

- **Afternoon/Evening:** Arrive in **Aswan** and board your dahabeya. Your journey begins with a visit to the beautiful **Philae Temple**. Travel by motorboat to Agilkia Island to explore this Graeco-Roman temple complex, dedicated to the goddess Isis, famed for its elegant columns and picturesque setting.
- **Overnight:** Docked in **Aswan**.

Philae Temple



Day 2: The Dual Temple & Ancient Sandstone Quarries

- **Early Morning (6:00 AM):** Set sail north towards **Kom Ombo**.
- **Morning (9:00 AM):** Visit the unique **Temple of Kom Ombo**, uniquely dedicated to two gods: the crocodile-headed Sobek and the falcon-headed Horus. Its riverside location and symmetrical design are unforgettable.
- **Late Morning (10:00 AM):** Continue sailing to the historic site of **El Silsila**.
- **Afternoon (2:00 PM):** Explore the **El Silsila** quarries, the primary source of sandstone for ancient Egypt's great temples. Discover the cliff-side chapels and royal stelae carved directly into the rock.
- **Mid-Afternoon (3:00 PM):** Sail onwards to **Edfu**.
- **Overnight:** Docked in **Edfu**.

The Dual Temple of Sobek & Haroeris



El Silsila Quarry & Riverside Shrines



Day 3: The Falcon God's Citadel & Sailing to Thebes

- **Morning (8:00 AM):** Visit the incredibly well-preserved **Temple of Edfu**, the largest temple dedicated to the god Horus. Its massive pylon, courtyards, and intact inner halls are a highlight of Ptolemaic architecture.
- **Late Morning (10:00 AM):** Depart Edfu for a full day of scenic sailing towards **Luxor** (ancient Thebes).
- **Overnight:** Docked in **Luxor**.

Temple of Horus



Day 4: Theban Necropolis & Voyage to the Goddess Hathor

- **Early Morning (6:00 AM):** Cross the Nile to explore the **West Bank of Luxor**. Discover the legendary **Valley of the Kings**, the imposing **Temple of Hatshepsut** at Deir el-Bahari, and the towering **Colossi of Memnon**.
- **Afternoon (1:00 PM):** Embark on a special northward sail to the city of **Qena**, the docking point for visiting Dendara.
- **Overnight:** Docked near **Dendara**.

West Bank: Temple of Hatshepsut



West Bank: Medinet Habu



West Bank: Colossi of Memnon



Day 5: Pilgrimage to Abydos & The Temple of Hathor

- **Full-Day Excursion (via road):** Embark on a significant cultural excursion to two of Egypt's most important and well-preserved cult centers.
 - Travel by road to **Abydos**, one of the oldest and most sacred cities in ancient Egypt, dedicated to Osiris, god of the afterlife. Explore the magnificent **Temple of Seti I**, renowned for its exquisite raised reliefs and the mystical Abydos King List. You may also see the nearby **Osireion**.
 - Return to **Qena** to visit the stunning **Temple of Dendara**, a masterpiece of Ptolemaic and Roman architecture dedicated to Hathor, goddess of love, beauty, and music. Admire its famous astronomical ceiling, vibrant column capitals, and explore the rooftop chapels.
- **Late Afternoon/Evening:** Set sail back to **Luxor**.
- **Overnight:** Docked in **Luxor**.

Temple of Seti I



Temple of Hathor



Day 6: The Grand Temples of Thebes

- **Full Day:** Explore the east bank of ancient Thebes. Stand in awe within the colossal **Karnak Temple Complex**, a vast city of temples, obelisks, and the forest of pillars in the Great Hypostyle Hall. Later, visit the elegant **Luxor Temple**, beautifully located on the Nile Corniche, connecting the world of the gods to the city of the living.
- **Overnight:** Docked in **Luxor**.

East Bank: Karnak Temple



East Bank: Luxor Temple



Day 7: Disembarkation

- **Morning:** After breakfast, disembark in **Luxor**, concluding your deep journey through Egyptian history and spirituality.

Travel Insight

- **Important Note for Day 5:** The excursion to **Abydos and Dendara** involves significant road travel (approximately 1.5 hours each way from Qena to Abydos). This is a full-day tour requiring an early start; the 1:00 PM sail time is not feasible for this combined visit. The itinerary has been adjusted above to reflect a realistic timeline for this exceptional day of sightseeing.
- The inclusion of **Abydos** makes this a uniquely comprehensive "Long Cruise," offering access to one of Egypt's most sacred and historically significant sites, often missed on standard itineraries.
- The sequence of visits, especially on the West Bank, may be arranged by your guide to ensure the best possible experience based on conditions

- **Travel Notes:** This itinerary provides a general framework; the order of visits on specific days may be adjusted by your tour operator. Comfortable walking shoes, sun protection, and water are essential for daily excursions