

Egypt & River Cruises  
30° 3' N 31° 14' E

## Passage Through Egypt Aboard Oberoi Philae

Travel to storied Egypt, delve into its legendary past, and connect with the spirit still illuminating today. With expert Egyptologists and a certified photo instructor by your side, spend six nights aboard the Nile's finest vessel beholding landscapes that have sustained life for millennia. From the Pyramids to Valley of the Kings, Sphinx, and Tomb of Nefertari to mesmerizing Luxor guarded by massive Ramses II, nothing compares to this scale of grandness.

From  
**\$ 9,580** / per person  
Includes required flights



### DATES

Jan, Feb, Mar,  
Oct, Nov and  
Dec



### DURATION

12 Days



### SHIPS

*Oberoi Philae*



### STARTS AT

Luxor, Egypt



### ENDS AT

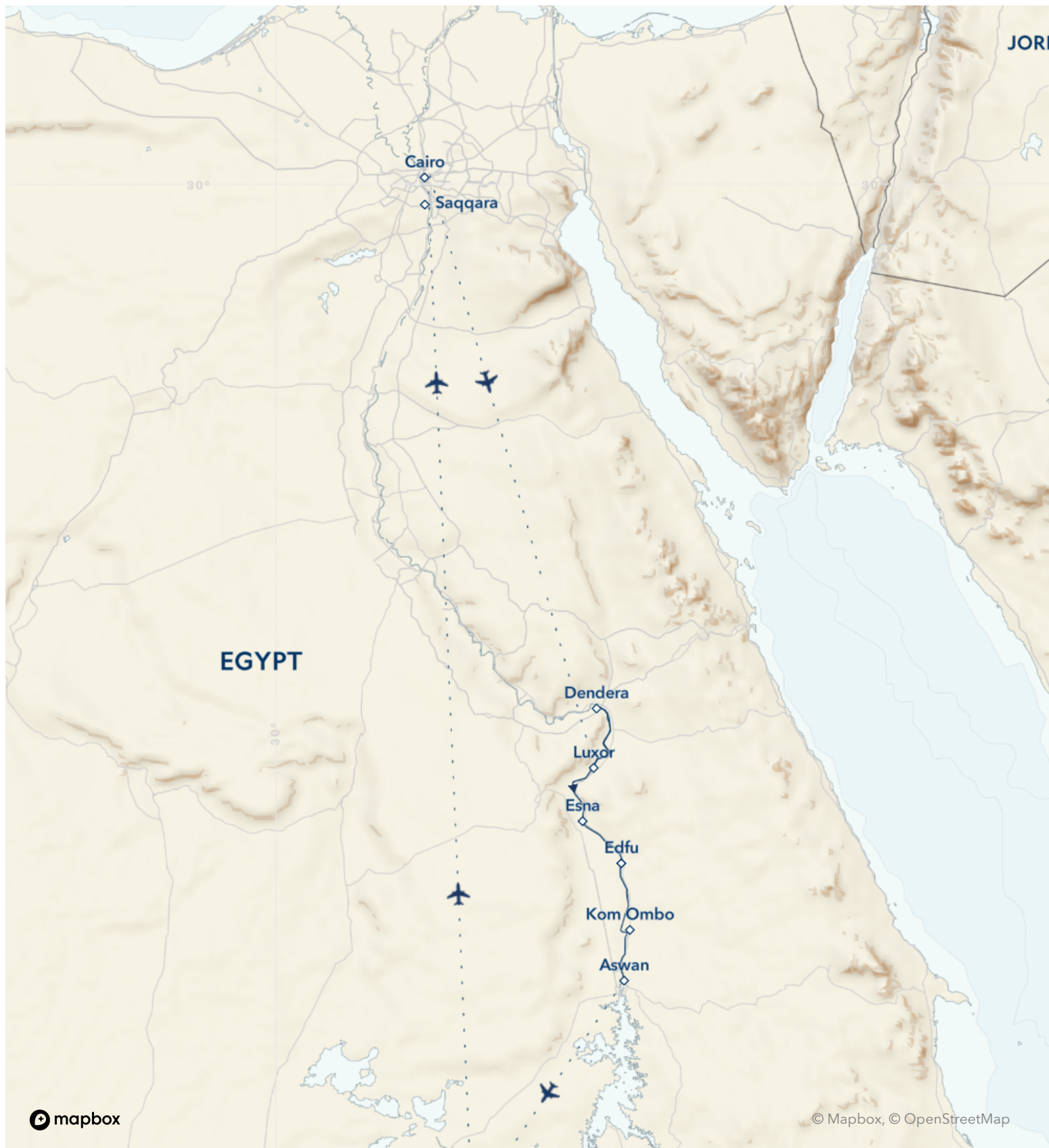
Aswan,  
Egypt



## Highlights

- ★ Sail the Nile, seamlessly connected to the landscape by floor-length windows and gracious open spaces, making the *Oberoï Philae* the elegant centerpiece of your trip
- ★ Travel effortlessly and in style with first-class hotels and private internal flights
- ★ Look to seasoned Egyptologists to balance the deluge of discovery with stories, daily recaps, and modern updates
- ★ Capture each moment in perpetuity with your National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions Certified Photo Instructor's guidance and encouragement







## Day by day

### ■ DAY 1

#### Cairo, Egypt

Arrive in Cairo, the ancient capital of Egypt, and check in to the five-star St. Regis hotel, your home for the next three nights.

**Arrival Time:** Arrive after 3:00 p.m. local time.

**Arrival City:** Cairo, Egypt

### ◇ DAY 2

#### Cairo / Pyramids / Sphinx / Grand Egyptian Museum

Your journey begins with an exploration of Egypt's most iconic landmarks: the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx. Discover the incredible story behind the Pyramid of Cheops, constructed from more than two million stone blocks by tens of thousands of workers over the course of 20 years. Nearby, marvel at the legendary Sphinx, carved from a single massive block of stone and featuring the head of Pharaoh Chefred on the body of a lion. Enjoy privileged access beyond the barrier for a rare, up-close encounter with this iconic monument.

Step inside the Great Pyramid and follow the narrow passageway of the Grand Gallery to the burial chamber of Cheops. As your Egyptologist shares fascinating stories and insights that bring ancient history to life, your National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions certified photo instructor will be by your side to help you capture the moment.

After lunch, explore the galleries of the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) with expert Egyptologists. Witness the 3,200-year-old statue of Ramses II in the Grand Hall, the Solar Boat, the riches of King Tut and select treasures from the prehistoric to the Greco-Roman period. Enjoy a festive welcome reception before dinner at the hotel this evening.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

### ◇ DAY 3

#### Cairo / Saqqara / Islamic Cairo

This morning, journey to Saqqara, home to the remarkable Step Pyramid of Pharaoh Zoser—a revolutionary design that marked the beginning of pyramid building. Here, you'll also discover some of Egypt's most enchanting wall paintings and reliefs, depicting scenes of harvests, fishing, music and dance. Explore the mastaba of Mereruka, the largest and most elaborate tomb in Saqqara. Though not of royal blood, Mereruka—known also as Meri—served as Chief Justice and Vizier to Pharaoh Teti of the Sixth Dynasty, and his wealth and status are reflected in the tomb's exquisite artistry.

After lunch at a local restaurant, explore the Khan el Khalili bazaar, the city's largest and most famous market, dating back to the 14th century. Wander its lively alleys filled with filigreed silverwork, semiprecious stones and colorful keepsakes. Continue your stroll along El Moez Street, one of Cairo's oldest thoroughfares, dating to the 10th century. Admire the stunning Islamic architecture as you arrive at the Qalawun Complex—a magnificent ensemble of a mausoleum, madrasa and hospital, celebrated as one of the finest examples of Islamic architecture in Egypt.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

### ◇ DAY 4

#### Luxor / Karnak

Fly by private charter to Luxor in Upper Egypt, and step into the heart of ancient Thebes. Your visit begins at the awe-inspiring Karnak Temple—a monumental complex that evolved over some 2,000 years as 30 pharaohs contributed their shrines and monuments, creating the largest religious structure

ever built. The Great Hypostyle Hall, with its 134 colossal columns rising nearly 70 feet high, feels like a stone forest—a breathtaking testament to human devotion and artistry. At its rear stands the towering obelisk of Queen Hatshepsut, casting its shadow over intricate reliefs and carvings crafted by Egypt's finest artisans.

After lunch, check in at the elegant Sofitel Winter Palace (or similar). In the evening, visit the exquisite Luxor Temple, majestically guarded by colossal statues of Ramses II. A place of worship for more than three millennia, its grand pylons, graceful columns and imposing statues are especially mesmerizing after sunset, when the temple glows with ethereal light.

**Meals included:** breakfast, lunch, dinner

## ◇ DAY 5

### Dendera / Luxor

Begin the day with a visit to the Temple of Dendera in Qena, a short drive from Luxor. Built during the reign of the Roman emperors, this remarkably well-preserved sanctuary was once shrouded in centuries of soot. Careful restoration has revealed its brilliant colors and exquisite reliefs, including depictions of Empress Cleopatra that stand among the finest examples of late Egyptian art.

Return to Luxor for lunch, followed by an afternoon at leisure. Enjoy the tranquil comforts of your hotel or wander through the timeless streets of the city, where echoes of ancient Thebes linger in every corner. Before dinner, gather for an engaging presentation by your Egyptologists, delving deeper into the wonders and mysteries you've encountered along the Nile.

**Meals included:** breakfast, lunch, dinner

## ◇ DAY 6

### West Bank / Embark Ship

Set out early this morning for the West Bank of the Nile and the fabled Valley of the Kings, the final resting place of Egypt's greatest pharaohs. Step into history as you explore and photograph the tombs of Seti I and Tutankhamun, masterpieces of ancient craftsmanship. Continue to the Valley of the Queens to visit the most celebrated tomb of all—Nefertari's. The queen's tomb is adorned with radiant paintings depicting her beauty and her journey to the afterlife, their colors and artistry unmatched anywhere in Egypt. Nearby, admire the magnificent Temple of Hatshepsut, dramatically nestled beneath towering sandstone cliffs.

Later, embark the elegant *Oberoi Philae*, your luxurious home for the next four nights. Enjoy lunch on board as the ship begins its journey along the storied Nile. From the deck, take in the timeless scenery—glimpses of daily life that have unfolded here for millennia. In the afternoon, enjoy insightful presentations from your Egyptologists and certified photo instructor as the ship passes through the Esna Lock.

**\*Note:** The tomb of Nefertari is temporarily closed for renovation. In the meantime, you will instead visit the spectacular Ramesseum, the funerary temple of Ramses II.

**Meals included:** breakfast, lunch, dinner

## ◇ DAY 7

### Esna / Edfu

This morning, step ashore for a short walk to the nearby Temple of Khnum in the town of Esna. Still only partially excavated, the temple lies about nine meters below the current level of the Nile—buried for centuries beneath layers of silt deposited by the river's annual floods. On your walk back to the ship, glimpse everyday life in a traditional Egyptian town.

Once back aboard, relax as *Oberoi Philae* sails toward Edfu. You might enjoy a refreshing swim in the pool or explore the ship's library of Egyptian

history. In the afternoon, visit the majestic Temple of Edfu—the second largest in Egypt—dedicated to Horus, the falcon-headed god of kingship and the sky. Built on the legendary site of the battle between Horus and Seth, the temple's carvings and inscriptions recount their eternal struggle between order and chaos. Here, ancient rituals were performed to uphold cosmic balance and renew the divine authority of Egypt's kings.

**Meals included:** breakfast, lunch, dinner

## ◇ DAY 8

### Sailing / Kom Ombo

Spend the morning sailing the Nile toward Kom Ombo. Perched dramatically on a hill overlooking the river, the Temple of Kom Ombo is unique in its dedication to two deities—the hawk-headed Haroeris and the crocodile-headed Sobek. Built during the Ptolemaic era, the temple's richly adorned walls feature intricate reliefs, including a fascinating hieroglyphic calendar that records ancient festivals and rituals.

Following your visit, continue your journey south to Aswan, where golden hills frame the horizon and feluccas bob in the shimmering waters. Once a bustling frontier town and vital trading post with Nubia, Aswan remains a place of striking beauty and timeless charm.

**Meals included:** breakfast, lunch, dinner

## ◇ DAY 9

### Aswan

This morning, visit the enchanting Temple of Isis on the island of Philae—the namesake of the *Oberoi Philae*. Like Abu Simbel, this sacred temple was saved from the rising waters caused by the construction of the Aswan High Dam, meticulously dismantled and reconstructed on higher ground to preserve its splendor. Next, explore a nearby granite quarry, where ancient engineers once carved

massive obelisks directly from the rock before transporting them down the Nile to honor their gods and pharaohs.

In the afternoon, visit the Nubian Museum, where beautifully curated exhibits celebrate the rich history, art and culture of Nubia. Later, relax aboard a traditional felucca as it glides across the Nile. Conclude the day with a festive reception, dinner and a vibrant Nubian cultural performance.

**Meals included:** breakfast, lunch, dinner

## ◇ DAY 10

### Disembark Ship / Abu Simbel / Cairo

Disembark *Oberoi Philae* and board a private plane bound for southern Nubia and the awe-inspiring temples of Abu Simbel. Set on a sun-drenched rise above Lake Nasser, this remarkable site is home to two temples: the grand sanctuary of Ramses II, commemorating his triumph at Kadesh, and a smaller, more intimate temple honoring his beloved Queen Nefertari. Carved in the mid-13th century B.C., the temples lay buried in sand until their rediscovery in 1817. In one of the greatest feats of modern archaeology, both were later moved—stone by stone—to their current location to save them from the rising waters of the newly formed lake.

After lunch, reboard your chartered plane for the flight back to Cairo and check in at the InterContinental Citystars Hotel in the stylish Heliopolis district. This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for a final dinner, reflecting on the unforgettable journey through Egypt's timeless wonders.

**Meals included:** breakfast, lunch, dinner

## ■ DAY 11

### Cairo

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights home.

**Departure Time:** Anytime

**Departure City:** Cairo, Egypt

**Meals included:** breakfast

**2027 (Southbound)**

Luxor, Egypt → Aswan, Egypt

**Alternative Routes**

Visit [Expeditions.com](http://Expeditions.com) for more information.

**2026 Departure Dates**

Aboard *Oberoi Philae*

10 Jan		
07 Feb		
07 Mar		
17 Oct		
14 Nov		

**2026 Departure Dates**

24 Jan, 21 Feb, 03 Oct, 31 Oct, 28 Nov





## ***Oberoi Philae***

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**Guests**

42

**Cabins**

22

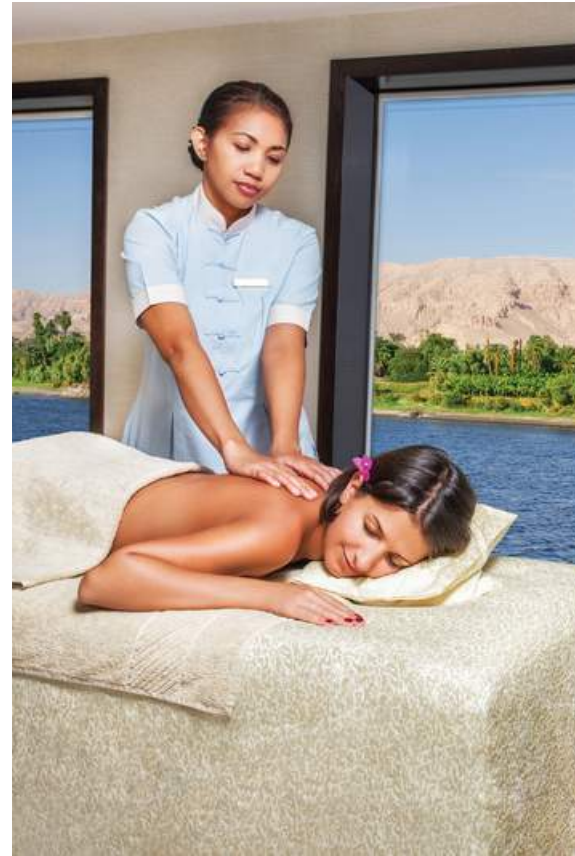
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***Oberoi Philae* is a luxurious riverboat that was extensively reconfigured in 2015, with floor-to-ceiling windows that provide unforgettable views of the Nile.**

A voyage along the Nile is the centerpiece of your journey through Egypt. There are few, if any, ships that can match the elegance, ideal size, and graciousness of the *Oberoi Philae*. Originally built for 100 guests, it was remodeled and reconfigured to accommodate 42 in her peerless style.

Built in 1996, she was extensively reconfigured in 2015 with just 22 cabins and luxurious amenities, including an Oberoi spa. Windows are nearly floor to ceiling and slide open, offering a connection with the river. The topmost deck has a swimming pool that is the largest of any Nile ship and an alfresco restaurant. Downstairs, there's a stylish enclosed restaurant serving local specialties as well as more continental options.

The heart of the ship is the lounge, where everyone aboard gathers each night for Recap. It's here that Egyptologists, who have worked with Lindblad for decades, share stories of the sites, who built them and why, and fascinating modern details like how they've changed over the years. And it's these sites and stories, and this time to relax between exploring places of antiquity, that make this expedition, and this ship, so special.





## Category 1

### Deck B: #B01-B06:

These spacious cabins have a mix of queen beds or two single beds, sitting area, and a sliding glass door that opens to a French balcony. Cabins have well-appointed bathrooms with a glass shower.



## Category 2

### Deck C: #C01-C10

These spacious cabins have a mix of queen beds or two single beds, sitting area, and a sliding glass door that opens to a French balcony. Cabins have well-appointed bathrooms with a glass shower.



## Category 3

### Deck D: #D03-D04:

These spacious cabins have two single beds (which can be pushed together), sitting area, and a sliding glass door that opens to a French balcony. Cabins have well-appointed bathrooms with a glass shower.



## Category 4

### Deck D: #D01-D02:

These very large suites have an adjoining seating area, a queen-size bed, sliding glass doors that open to a French balcony. Cabins have well-appointed bathrooms a shower, standalone bathtub, and private changing room.



## Category 5

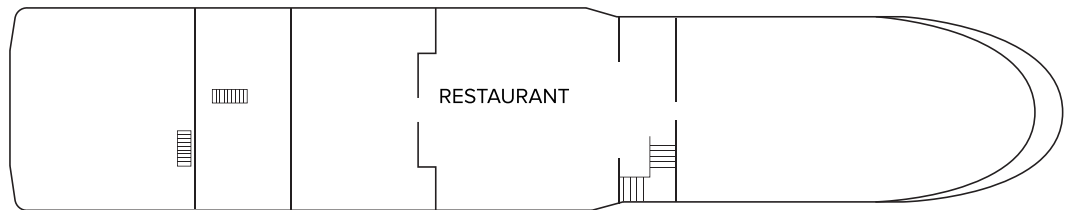
### Deck D: #D05-D06:

These very large suites have a queen-size bed, side and stern-facing windows that open, a shower, private changing room, and a standalone bathtub. Suites also feature a living room. Each has a large private outdoor terrace with private spa tub and sun lounger.



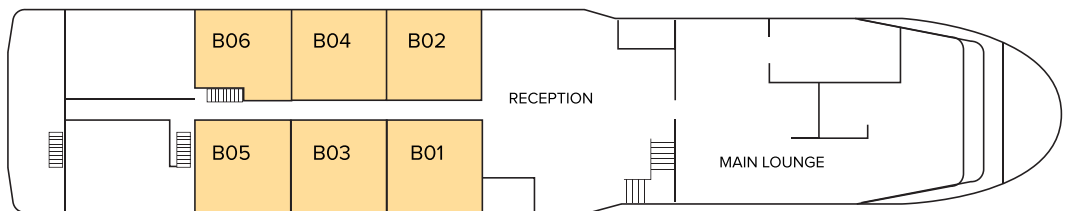
# Deck Plans

## Deck A



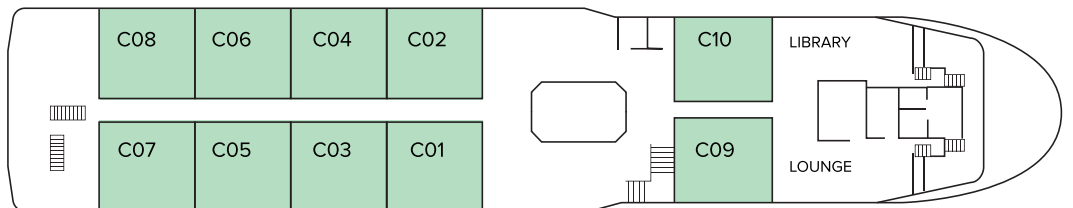
## Deck B

Category 1



## Deck C

Category 2

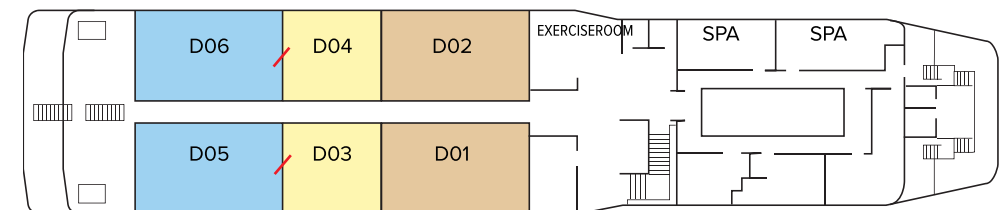


## Deck D

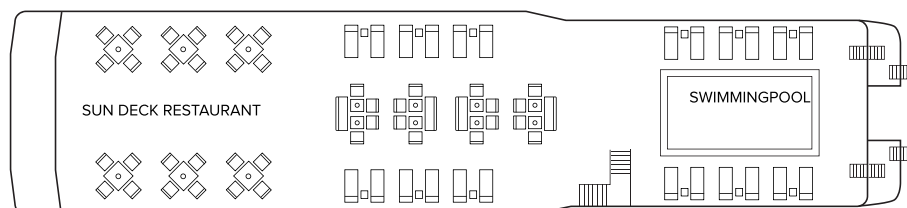
Category 3

Category 4

Category 5



## Deck E





# Ship amenities

## Public Areas

Relax on a deck chair next to the 36-foot pool or take a meal in the alfresco dining room to watch life along the riverbanks from the top deck. Spend a few hours in the library reading about Egyptian history or join your photo instructor for a session in the lounge.

## Meals

Discover the tastes of Egypt and beyond in a dining room that accommodates the entire expedition community in a single seating. Sample Middle Eastern cuisine or choose from continental options as well.

## Cabins

22 outside cabins. All of the cabins include individual climate controls, hair dryer, 40" LCD television, complimentary WiFi access, a DVD player, an electronic safe, mini-fridge, blackout blinds, and openable French windows.

## Special Features

Her scale, décor, and renowned service defines *Oberoi Philae* as the finest ship on the Nile. She has the intimate scale of a luxury yacht and the space and hospitality of a luxury hotel.

## Wellness

Enjoy the spa, offering a choice of massage treatments, and a fitness room with space to stretch out and recharge.

## Special Offers

### CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES

Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, US\$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking.

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### SAVE 5% TRAVELING AS A GROUP

Save 5% when traveling as a group of eight or more people. Valid on voyage fares only and not applicable on extensions or airfare. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

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### COMBINING OFFERS

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.

## Included in price

All accommodations aboard ship and in hotels per itinerary; all meals aboard ship and on land as indicated on the itinerary, with soft drinks/non-alcoholic beverages and select alcoholic beverages, drinking water throughout; excursions per itinerary, including entrance fees, special access permits, and photography fees; arrival and departure airport transfers for any flights into and out of Cairo, including airport assistance; gratuities to all service staff, including Egyptologists and ship's crew; guidance and company of a leading certified photographer and private Egyptologists throughout, presentations by expedition staff and expert Egyptologists, including Recaps with snacks and hors d'oeuvres; Wi-Fi aboard ship; laundry aboard ship; access to exercise equipment; and 24-hour access to lounge and shared spaces aboard ship. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

## Not included in price

Airfare\* (except flights when indicated as included); Egypt visa on arrival (priced separately); pre- and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights (except when indicated as included); spa treatments, Wi-Fi in hotels (if not included by hotels), and phone services (except when indicated as included); travel protection plans; passport, and immigration fees; and items of a personal nature, such as souvenirs, and laundry in hotels.

\*Recommended flight costs include flight(s) that take place during the date range of your trip to transport travelers from one itinerary destination to another. This cost also includes ground transportation, luggage transfer, and airport assistance. If you prefer to arrange your own flights privately, have alternate means of transport, or wish to modify at a later time, please contact an Expedition Specialist at 1.833.400.0831

## Travel protection plan

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S.

residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: <https://www.expeditions.com/terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/>

## Cancellation policy

Review our cancellation policy: <https://www.expeditions.com/cancellation-policy/>