OPTION 3

Luxor: Eclipse of the Century

July 27 – August 13, 2027

17-NIGHT NILE RIVER CRUISE
(from Aswan to Cairo)
Aboard the ss MISR
This is a “very deluxe/luxury” 17-night event that starts out with two nights in the legendary Old Cataract hotel in Aswan, Egypt followed by 15 nights onboard King Farouk’s luxury yacht. The cruise starts in Aswan and ends in Cairo.

Per person pricing (based on double occupancy) for our 17-night event is:
- $ 645 per night for a Category 4 cabin
- $ 750 per night for a Category 3 cabin
- $ 925 per night for a Category 2 cabin
- $1,150 per night for a Category 1 cabin

For further details please visit the CABIN & SHIP INFO tab. All taxes, fees, gratuities, and meals are included. In addition, there is a $1,750 pp fee for our ANCIENT EGYPT LECTURES.

Add on our optional 15-day TOURING PACKAGE ($3,850 pp for 24+ separate site visits where small groups (where necessary, as in visiting deeply buried tombs) will be accompanied by a professional/Egyptologist tour guide (all entrance fees — some quite substantial for the unique access we will provide — as well as “gifts” for official gatekeepers, are included). Roundtrip airfare to visit Abu Simbel Temples is included.

The seventeen (17) 90-minute cocktail-parties package (includes an open bar) is an additional $490 pp. Add'l pp fee: Non-refundable Booking Service Fee ($175). All prices and fees are detailed on the TERMS & CONDITIONS tab. Use our PRICING CALCULATOR for a quick price quote. NOTE: Program/schedule is subject to change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>NOTES / HIGHLIGHTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUE., JULY 27</td>
<td>DAY 1: ARRIVE ASWAN</td>
<td>Two nights in the Old Cataract Hotel (images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED., JULY 28</td>
<td>DAY 2: FREE TIME in ASWAN</td>
<td>Last night in the Old Cataract Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>THUR., JULY 29</td>
<td>DAY 3: BOARD OUR CRUISE SHIP</td>
<td>Visit Abu Simbel (images); (as MISR images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI., JULY 30</td>
<td>DAY 4: ASWAN --&gt; KOM OMOBO</td>
<td>High Dam and Philae Temple (images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT., JULY 31</td>
<td>DAY 5: KOM OMOBO --&gt; LUXOR</td>
<td>Kom Ombo Temple (images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN., AUGUST 1</td>
<td>DAY 6: VALLEY OF THE QUEENS (LUXOR)</td>
<td>Tomb of Nefertari (images), Medinat Habu, and Ramesseum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON., AUGUST 2</td>
<td>DAY 7: ECLIPSE — APPROX 12 NOON (LUXOR)</td>
<td>6 minutes, 20+ seconds: HERE</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUE., AUGUST 3</td>
<td>DAY 8: VALLEY OF THE KINGS (LUXOR)</td>
<td>+ Karnak Temple (images), Luxor Temple (images)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED., AUGUST 4</td>
<td>DAY 9: QENA --&gt; DENDERA --&gt; NAGA HAMMADI</td>
<td>Dendera Temple (images)</td>
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<tr>
<td>THUR., AUGUST 5</td>
<td>DAY 10: EL B Alyana --&gt; Abydos --&gt; SOHAG</td>
<td>Abydos Temple (images)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI., AUGUST 6</td>
<td>DAY 11: TEL EL AMARNA</td>
<td>Amarn Site Museum &amp; Visitor Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAT., AUGUST 7</td>
<td>DAY 12: ASHMUNEIN and TUNA EL GEBEL</td>
<td>Tel El Amarna (images), Tuna El Gbel (images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN., AUGUST 8</td>
<td>DAY 13: BENI HASSAN</td>
<td>(images)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MON., AUGUST 9</td>
<td>DAY 14: CAIRO, DAY 1</td>
<td>Coptic Cairo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE., AUGUST 10</td>
<td>DAY 15: GIZA and GEM (CAIRO)</td>
<td>Pyramids, Sphinx (images), GEM (museum) (video)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED., AUGUST 11</td>
<td>DAY 16: SAQQARA (CAIRO)</td>
<td>Step Pyramid at Saqqara (images) the oldest Pyramid</td>
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<tr>
<td>THUR., AUGUST 12</td>
<td>DAY 17: EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES (CAIRO)</td>
<td>Museum of Egyptian Antiquities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI., AUGUST 13</td>
<td>DAY 18: FLY HOME</td>
<td>—</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Whenever possible, Egyptian sites will only be visited before 12 Noon or after 4pm.

CO-PRODUCED BY:

SKY & TELESCOPE  Insight Cruises
In this Great Courses’ course, experience extraordinary sites and Egypt’s multifaceted culture where history and archaeology combine in one of the most memorable travel destinations on the planet. In the 24 lavishly illustrated lessons of The Great Tours: A Guided Tour of Ancient Egypt, you’ll delve into the civilization of the ancient Egyptians in compelling and unforgettable depth. This remarkable course, presented by Dr. Melinda Hartwig, takes you on a richly detailed tour of Egypt’s greatest historical and artistic treasures — an exploration of Egyptian culture, art, and history on the ground, going far beyond guidebooks, conventional tours, and an ordinary series of lectures on Egypt.

continued from the left

Professor Hartwig, an Egyptologist with 40 years of fieldwork in Egypt, walks you through an extraordinary range of the most outstanding sites, taking you deep inside the pyramids, tombs, temples, palaces, and dwellings of the ancient Egyptians. She guides you, in detail, on exactly where to go, what to see at each site, and how to understand and appreciate what you’re seeing.

In the process of exploring the sites, you’ll learn in-depth about ancient Egyptian life, culture, and history — exploring how their elaborate art and decoration deeply encoded information and meaning. You’ll also see the extraordinary symbolism of their architectural forms, how that symbolism functioned, and the meaning of their legendary tombs and burial practices. Along the way, you will come to understand their conception of the universe, religious mythology and pantheon of gods, funerary beliefs, cultural rituals and festivals, realities of daily life, and more.

Professor Hartwig’s extraordinarily detailed and perceptive knowledge of the sites, and of Egyptian art, texts, and history makes this a thoroughly enthralling journey, revealing fascinating insights in every segment.
BECOME AN EXPERT

The best resources we’ve found for learning about Ancient Egypt are the three online courses published by The Great Courses: History of Ancient Egypt (Bob Brier, Ph.D.), Great Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt (Bob Brier, Ph.D.), and A Guided Tour of Ancient Egypt (Melinda Hartwig, Ph.D.).

Watch the first lecture (30 minutes) of each course! Please email info@insightcruises.com for details.

While you could purchase the individual DVDs, we recommend buying an annual subscription to Wondrium ($20 per month after a free 2-week trial). Here you can access the entire 40-lecture courses, plus enjoy hundreds of other titles we are certain you will find utterly mind-blowing (We have no affiliation, nor do we get any commission if you purchase this — we are just long-time very happy customers). Searching for “Egypt” produced dozens of links (see image below) from Wondrium.com and all are available for you to stream (in very high quality) whenever you wish. Two years of an online/streaming subscription is much less than purchasing the three DVDs.
WHERE HERITAGE MEETS MODERNITY

"Your sojourn leads you to the gates of Egypt. The warmth of the Nubian Desert presses against your skin as you behold the majestic Nile. A 19th-century Victorian palace rises from a ledge of pink granite. Welcome to the Sofitel legend, Old Cataract Aswan."  Selim Shawer, Hotel Manager

Step into the legendary site where King Fouad once entertained and Agatha Christie sipped cocktails: the 5-star Old Cataract Aswan Hotel. Located in the Nubian Desert on the banks of the Nile, opposite Elephantine Island, the majestic hotel sits on a pink granite cliff overlooking the world’s longest river. This ravishing hotel with its legendary guest list of royals* and dignitaries is ideal for romantic getaways.

If you can tear yourself away from the beauty of the magnificent Old Cataract, a world of fascination awaits you. Elephantine Island and the Aswan Museum are at your feet. Aswan city center is a stroll away. Other attractions to tempt you during your stay: the Nubian Museum, the Philae Temple, the Unfinished Obelisk ... then return to indulge in French and Egyptian cuisine and wines.

*Former guests of the Old Cataract include: Tsar Nichols, Winston Churchill, Margaret Thatcher, Jimmy Carter, François Mitterand, Princess Diana, Queen Noor, and Agatha Christie.
A Sofitel Legend: The Old Cataract Aswan Hotel
Explore the wonders of the ancient Egyptian world in luxury and historic charm on the ss Misr by Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts. Originally built by the British Royal Navy in 1918 and later converted into a luxury Nile steamer for King Farouk, the ss Misr is a true time capsule that rekindles the nostalgia of a golden age, with true luxury accommodations, cuisine, and service. [NOTE: The name of our ship, Misr, means ‘frontier’ and is pronounced ‘miss her’. Misr is the Arabic name for Egypt]
THE ss MISR WAS THE KING OF EGYPT'S PRIVATE YACHT, which is, essentially, a King's palace on water. If you've ever wanted to be treated like actual royalty, here's your chance! These two short videos are worth watching — even if you're not interested in being royalty for 15 days.

https://vimeo.com/374142603?from=outro-embed
https://vimeo.com/303968588?from=outro-embed
**ROOMS AND AMENITIES**

*ss Misr* offers 16 cabins and eight suites along with a luxurious bar and lounge, restaurants, and a large sun deck with a swimming pool. The *ss Misr* is considered the most luxurious cruise ship sailing the Nile River between Cairo and Aswan.

- **Fourteen (14) Nile View**: 6 x 3.5 meters
- **Six Suites**: 6 x 5 meters
- **Two Panorama Suites**: 7 x 5 meters
- **Two Singles**: 5 x 2.90 meters

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<tr>
<th>Description of Cabins</th>
<th>Bedding</th>
<th>Size of the beds (inches)</th>
<th>Room (sq ft)</th>
<th>Cabin No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Louis 16 Room</td>
<td>Twin Bed</td>
<td>75 X 79</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>201</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Room</td>
<td>Twin Bed</td>
<td>39 X 79</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>202</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Room</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>63 X 87</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
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<td>Louis 15 Room</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>59 X 79</td>
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<td>204</td>
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<td>Othman Room</td>
<td>Twin Bed</td>
<td>35 X 79</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>205</td>
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<td>Art deco Room</td>
<td>Twin Bed</td>
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<td>206</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louis 16</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>59 X 79</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>207</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empire Room</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>59 X 79</td>
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<td>208</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louis 15 Room</td>
<td>Single</td>
<td>39 X 79</td>
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<td>39 X 79</td>
<td>156</td>
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<td>Othman Room</td>
<td>Twin Bed</td>
<td>35 X 79</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>301</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bey’s Suite (Art deco)</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>63 X 79</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>302</td>
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<td>Pasha’s Suite (Empire)</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>59 X 79</td>
<td>323</td>
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<td>59 X 79</td>
<td>323</td>
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<tr>
<td>Khedive’s Suite (Louis 15 Room)</td>
<td>Twin Bed</td>
<td>37 X 77</td>
<td>323</td>
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<td>Queen’s Suite (Othman Room)</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>59 X 79</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>306</td>
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<tr>
<td>King’s Suite (English Room)</td>
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<td>39 X 79</td>
<td>377</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empire Room</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>59 X 79</td>
<td>226</td>
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<td>Louis 15 Room</td>
<td>Twin Bed</td>
<td>37 X 77</td>
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<td>Art Deco Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Room</td>
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<td>63 X 85</td>
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<td>Othman Room</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>59 X 77</td>
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<td>Sultana’s Suite (Art Deco Room)</td>
<td>Large Bed</td>
<td>61 X 79</td>
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<td>Sultana’s Suite (Louis 16 Room)</td>
<td>Twin Bed</td>
<td>35 X 79</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>407</td>
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</table>
All ss Misr Cabins

Cabin 201 (SOLD)

Cabin 202 (SOLD)

Cabin 203 (SOLD)

Cabin 204 (SOLD)

Cabin 205 (SOLD)

Cabin 206 (SOLD)
All ss Misr Cabins, continued

Cabin 207 (SOLD)

Cabin 209 (SOLD)

Cabin 301 (SOLD)

Cabin 208 (SOLD)

Cabin 210 (SOLD)

Cabin 302 (SOLD)

CO-PRODUCED BY:

SKY & TELESCOPE

Insight Cruises

THE JOURNEY WITHIN
All ss Misr Cabins, continued

Cabin 303 (SOLD)

Cabin 304 (SOLD)

Cabin 305 (SOLD)

Cabin 306 (SOLD)

Cabin 307 (SOLD)

Cabin 401 (SOLD)

CO-PRODUCED BY:
All ss Misr Cabins, continued

Cabin 402 (SOLD)

Cabin 403 (SOLD)

Cabin 404 (SOLD)

Cabin 405 (SOLD)

Cabin 406 (SOLD)

Cabin 407 (SOLD)
**Luxor, Egypt: Eclipse Day**

**ABOARD THE MÖVENPICK s.s. MISR, DOCKED AT THE SOFITEL WINTER PALACE HOTEL**

Watch the August 2027 Total Solar Eclipse like a King. Experience over six minutes of totality in Luxor, the heart of ancient Egypt — with cold beverages, ample shade, and air conditioning right at hand. Watch from our cruise ship — King Farouk’s luxury yacht — MÖVENPICK s.s. MISR or disembark and watch from the Sofitel Winter Palace’s century-old, 17-acre Royal Garden’s (see next page).

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**Duration of totality:** 6 minutes, 19 seconds. Luxor is less than one hour south (by air) of Cairo. Map made by Xavier M. Jubier.

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### Table: Solar Eclipse Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event (ΔT=76.0s)</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time (UT)</th>
<th>Alt</th>
<th>Azi</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>V</th>
<th>LC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start of partial eclipse (C1)</td>
<td>2027/08/02</td>
<td>08:40:06.3</td>
<td>+70.8°</td>
<td>110.5°</td>
<td>303°</td>
<td>11.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of total eclipse (C2)</td>
<td>2027/08/02</td>
<td>10:01:56.6</td>
<td>+81.9°</td>
<td>190.5°</td>
<td>132°</td>
<td>07.9</td>
<td>-0.7s</td>
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<td>Maximum eclipse (MAX)</td>
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<td>+81.8°</td>
<td>195.8°</td>
<td>035°</td>
<td>11.3</td>
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<td>End of total eclipse (C3)</td>
<td>2027/08/02</td>
<td>10:08:16.8</td>
<td>+81.5°</td>
<td>200.7°</td>
<td>298°</td>
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<td>-2.0s</td>
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<td>End of partial eclipse (C4)</td>
<td>2027/08/02</td>
<td>11:26:23.9</td>
<td>+67.5°</td>
<td>253.8°</td>
<td>125°</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Max**

**25° 41' 48.05" N <-> 25.69668°
32° 38' 13.68" E <-> 32.63713°**

Umbral depth: 87.85% (113.1km)
15.6km (9.7mi)
Path width: 257.4km (159.9mi)
Obscuration: 100.0%

Duration of totality: 6m 20.3s (total solar eclipse)
6m 19.0s (lunar limb corrected)

Magnitude at maximum: 1.03472
Moon/Sun size ratio: 1.07904
Umbral vel.: 0.667km/s (1492 mph)
OPTION 3 Nile River Cruise Option: Touring Package

On your cruise from Aswan to Cairo, you will visit the 35+ sites referenced below. These site visits, as well as all entrance fees, are included in your optional $3,850 Tour Package. Eight (8) of these sites require “Special Access” which we have secured.*

PHILAE TEMPLE — The Temples of Philae on Aswan's Agilika Island were rescued like Abu Simbel from submersion due to Aswan Dam. Philae is a memory of the region’s worship of Isis, the goddess of magic and maternity, enduring through Greco-Roman times and as a pagan vestige in the Byzantine Empire. Set foot in the temple and experience firsthand the beauty of the buildings and its undetectable relocation adventure.

ASWAN HIGH DAM — Get a sense of the mass of material behemoth Aswan High Dam needs to hold the Nile’s water back. You’ll have a great view of the Nile Valley and submerged Nubia and distant temple views, too. As you sail down the Nile you’ll have an uncommon perspective on the infrastructure the peaceful Nile towns and field rely on.

NUBIAN MUSEUM — The Nubian Museum presents cultural gems and touchstones from Nubia’s prehistory into the 20th century. The region of Nubia, known in ancient times as Kush, spanned the Egyptian-Sudanese border and was greatly affected — a large swath of its land submerged — when Aswan dam was built. Get to know the history of a mighty empire with a visit paying respects to Egypt’s now vanished neighbor.

CO-PRODUCED BY:

*Archaeological sites go under frequent restoration and repair and some may not be available to us when we visit in 2027.
EDFU TEMPLE — It’s easy for Edfu to blend in as yet another Egyptian site that checks many boxes: massive, pharaoh smiting the enemy on the facade, halls of columns, lots of side rooms. Dig in to Edfu a bit, and heighten the experience: the hall of twelve columns refers to the Book of the Underworld and the twelve hours of the night; ceilinged halls help you picture the building in use; the carving of “The Stretching of the Cord” unifies Egyptian astronomy and architecture. All this and more will give you a memorable sense of Edfu Temple as a working building, used by humans.

KOMO OMBO TEMPLE — The first rule of temples: Location, location, location. Kom Ombo lives in popular media as an elegant Greco-Roman temple set on a high Nile embankment. You’ll tune in to its nuances: depictions of the pharaoh boating in a marsh; an astronomical procession on the beams of the hall; and reliefs of (perhaps) early surgical instruments. Come for the photo op and take away glimmerings of early technology.

Sites with toothed borders have astronomical interest.
VALLEY OF THE QUEENS — The tombs of Ramses III’s sons in the Valley of the Queens are known for their elegant workmanship. Visiting them gives you a strong sense of how sons were valued and employed by the pharaoh. Getting their backstory gives you a pragmatic view of how plans change and how eternal control is an illusion, even for pharaohs.

TOMB OF NEFERTARI (Special Access Visit) — We go to “The place of beauty”, Ta-Set-Neferu, to experience the rarely seen Tomb of Nefertari, often considered the most beautiful in Egypt. Its vivid colors and beautiful draftsmanship underpin its artistic appeal; astronomy buffs may find its theme of timelessness and eternity thought-provoking.

RAMESSEUM — Designed to remind all who behold it of the greatness of Egypt (and of the modest builder himself), the Ramesseum gives you a picture of the vast wealth of Ramses II. After sizing up the innumerable storehouses, you may be drawn to the astronomical ceiling of the Barque room in the temple, to see civil, religious, and lunar calendars so you sharpen your ancient Egyptian time-telling skills.
MEDINAT HABU WITH SANCTUARY OF OSIRIS (Special Access Visit) — Ramses III cast the record of his defeat of the Sea People as the central feature of Medinat Habu. Your observation of the astronomical ceilings, rarely seen Sanctuary of Osiris, and calendar of the Festivals of the Sky may create a different lasting impression than Ramses III intended.

VALLEY OF KINGS — Celebrate fulfilled dreams of exploring pharaohs’ tombs, satisfied curiosity, and newly inspired avenues of archaeological inquiry once you trek through the renowned Valley of the Kings.

KARNAK TEMPLE — At least 30 Egyptian rulers from ~2,000BCE to ~300BCE built, modified, demolished, and moved parts of Karnak Temple. There’s so much see. Karnak can activate your mind’s eye, too. Armed with Dr. Belmonte’s archaeoastronomy tips, you can picture Karnak’s orientation to the Winter Solstice, to the northern Milky Way, and to the topography around you.

LUXOR TEMPLE — Get a concrete sense of the resilience of Egyptian culture at Luxor Temple. Fittingly for a symbol of rejuvenation, it has survived floods and foreign invasions to awe visitors with its ancient precision.
OPTION 3 Nile River Cruise (Aswan to Cairo): Touring Package

KING TUT TOMB (Special Access Visit) — Have you glimpsed King Tut’s opulent burial goods in a documentary or at a museum? Now you can picture them together with the narrative paintings you see in Tut’s burial chamber.

KING SETI I TOMB (Special Access Visit) — Seti I’s Tomb served as an inspiration for most later Egyptian tomb art. Its indelible celestial diagrams and stellar clocks will enrich your stargazing forever.

KING RAMSES IV TOMB (Special Access Visit) — Ramses IV’s tomb is a crowd favorite since ancient times, well documented by graffiti spanning the ages. Could be the vibrantly colored paintings. Could be the magical spells covering every inch of the entrance hall. Could be the splendid inscription of the Book of Nut and the painting of a flexible Nut on the burial chamber vault. See for yourself, and make the call.

KING RAMSES V & VI TOMBS (Special Access Visit) — Feast your eyes on two different copies of the Books of Day and Night, paintings of the sky goddess Nut, and the Egyptian astronomy how-to embodied in star clocks. Deepen your feel for the pharaohs’ worldview with a visual study of ancient Egyptian “rocket science”.

CO-PRODUCED BY:

SKY&TELESCOPE  Insight Cruises

Sites with toothed borders have astronomical interest.
DEIR EL BAHIRI — The temple complex of Hatshepsut must be one of the most beautifully situated buildings anywhere. It was known as the “Sublime of the Sublimes” in ancient Egyptian. Explore its structure and you’ll get an organic sense that the temple is oriented to the winter solstice and The Temple of Amun (Hatshepsut’s claimed father) at Karnak.

SENENMUT TOMB (Special Access Visit) — Venture to the tomb of Senemut, tucked away in a hillside. Built for a trusted advisor of Hatshepsut, it houses a celestial diagram that suggests Senemut was an astronomer among his many duties. The diagram’s clarity makes the 12-month nature of the Egyptian calendar snap into place, and helps make sense of the concept of decans, the defined time periods composing an Egyptian night.

DENDERA — Be overwhelmed (in a good way!) at the intensity of ancient worship of Hathor, the multifaceted goddess of love, fertility, the sky, festivity, and fate. Create a lasting impression of the Zodiacal art of Dendera.

Sites with toothed borders have astronomical interest.
ABYDOS TEMPLE — Examine the superb bas reliefs and Cosmology of Nut and walk among some of the earliest astronomically aligned buildings. We hope the ruins of what may be the world’s oldest brewery will be accessible on our visit at Abydos, too.

TEL EL AMARNA — Today we delve into Amarna, Pharaoh Akhenaten and Queen Nefertiti’s city designed for the worship of the sun disk Aten, center of Akhenaten’s new religion. Learn about the distinctive naturalistic style of Amarna art, with a focus on the royal family, not the gods, the depiction of movement, and the use of sunk relief. Walk the streets of Amarna and get a sense of the vision and scope of Akhenaten’s bold initiative.

ASHMUNEIN (Temple of Thoth) — You’ll see the surviving architectural elements of the Temple of Thoth at Khmunu/Hermopolis. This was the main cult center for the worship of Thoth, who was god of wisdom and writing and patron of scribes among many other roles. A key ancient significance remains unseen — Khmunu is legendarily site of the mound of creation and of the first sunrise.

AMARNA VISITOR CENTRE — Get the lay of the land to put Amarna’s ruins in context with a visit to the Amarna Site Museum. See models that interpret daily life and the buildings of Akhenaten’s city. You’ll have a presentation on Akhenaten and Nefertiti his wife which enriches your exploration of their royal city.
TUNA EL GEBEL (Tombs of Petosiris and Isadora) — See the god Thoth’s many duties documented at Tuna el Gebel. You’ll visit the Greco Roman tomb of Petosiris, the chief priest of the god Thoth. This god’s responsibilities included maintaining the universe, judging the dead, and overseeing systems of magic, writing, and science. Thoth was symbolized as both a baboon and an ibis, so you’ll add animal mummies to your Egypt memories. The Tomb of Isadora adds a poignant note to the visit, containing the mummy of a young Greek woman who legendarily drowned seeking to meet her lover, and was deeply mourned by her father.

BENI HASSAN (Tombs of Baquet III, Khety, Amenemhet, Khnumhotep) — Time travel to the Middle Kingdom period of Egyptian history at Beni Hassan where regional governors and military figures were buried. Gain a sense of ancient life in the desert, and see scenes of life in the provinces — hunting, wrestling, weaving, baking, fishing, and wine-making.

COPTIC CAIRO — Coptic Cairo, enmeshed in an area with Persian and Roman roots, shows you another facet of Cairo’s swirling history. See the Hanging Church and other Coptic churches with their noted icons and legendary ties to Jesus. Ben Ezra Synagogue is a renown former repository of secular and religious Jewish manuscripts. You’ll get a sense of the cosmopolitan nature of Old Cairo, and experience the hustle and bustle of Cairo.
GIZA PYRAMIDS, SPHINX, AND GRAND EGYPTIAN MUSEUM (GEM) — Visit the Great Pyramid and its Old Kingdom royal kin, the only surviving members of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Getting your bearings on the Giza Plateau gives you a sense of the precision (achieved with astronomical skills) with which the Egyptians aligned the Pyramids to the cardinal directions and to symbolic topographic features.

SAQQARA WITH PYRAMID OF DJOSER, UNAS, AND TETI & MASTABA OF TI (Special Access Visit) — Visit the ancestor of the Pyramids of Giza. Venture into the small Pyramid of Unas, and see the earliest known Pyramid Texts, spells guiding the pharaoh to the afterlife. The Pyramid of Teti offers you a written mention of Sirius, Orion, and the Big Dipper, solidifying your proof of the astronomical underpinnings of Giza and Saqqara.

MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES, ISLAMIC CAIRO, AND KHAN EL KHALILI — Venture into medieval Egyptian history on a visit to the strategically positioned Citadel of Saladin, an imposing fortification. Study the details of mosques from two eras, so you develop an eye for Islamic architecture. Take in a fabulous collection of antiquities focused on Ancient Egypt at the Egyptian Museum. Dedicated guides will curate our visit so you can be assured you have seen the most important artifacts. We’ll graze our way through Khan el-Khalili Bazaar, one of the largest bazaars in the Middle East, and end with a walk through the warren of streets lined with fascinating Islamic architecture.

ABU SIMBEL — Visit one of the most recognizable symbols of Egypt, the Temples of Abu Simbel. Renew your sense of wonder and awe at both the ancient and modern engineering that went into its construction and dramatic relocation. Gain a perspective into Ramses II’s human nature when you find an inscription on a main temple buttress: “for the Great Royal Wife Nefertari Meryetmut, for whose sake the (very) sun does shine”.

OPTION 3 Nile River Cruise (Aswan to Cairo): Touring Package

Sites with toothed borders have astronomical interest.
**TERMS OF PARTICIPATION**

**Pricing & Terms.** There are five (5) components to our per-person (pp) pricing, two of which are optional “add-ons” (the first two are mandatory):

1. Your hotel and cruise accommodations accommodations for two (2) and 15 nights, respectively (see [cabin here](#) and [hotel info here](#)) which include all of your meals except breakfast on your day of arrival in Aswan and lunch and dinner on your day of disembarkation (in Cairo).
2. Non-refundable Booking Service Fee ($175 pp)
3. Our 15-day Luxor TOURING Package ($3,850 for 24+ separate site visits (seven of which require “special access” permits which we have acquired)
4. Our Ancient Egypt [Lectures program](#) ($1,750)
5. Our cocktail-party package ($490), which includes a 90-minute, open-bar, cocktail party for all 17 evenings

The cruise is 15 nights; the pre-cruise hotel stay is two nights. All pricing is per person (pp). Cruise pricing is based on double occupancy. 75% surcharge for singles (no surcharge if you share).

**Payment Schedule**
- 20% deposit, plus the $175 pp Non-refundable Booking Service Fee mentioned above, along with a completed reservation form confirms your space.
- A 2nd deposit payment of 10% pp is due August 1, 2022. (If you book after August 1, 2022 your initial deposit will be 30%). Combined, these two payments (30%) represent your “Deposit”.
- A 3rd advance payment of 10% pp is due August 1, 2023. (If you book after August 1, 2023 your initial deposit and advance payment will be 40%)
- A 4th advance payment of 10% pp is due August 1, 2024. (If you book after August 1, 2024 your initial deposit and advance payment will be 50%)
- A 5th advance payment of 10% pp is due August 1, 2025. (If you book after August 1, 2025 your initial deposit and advance payment will be 60%)
- A 6th advance payment of 10% pp is due August 1, 2026. (If you book after August 1, 2026 your initial deposit and advance payment will be 70%)

The balance is due (“Final Payment date”) on January 1, 2027. Payments may be made by check, money order, or major credit card (Visa, Master Card, Discover, Diners Club, or American Express). Checks are to be made payable to Insight Cruises, in U.S. dollars only, and drawn on a U.S. bank. There is a $25 charge for returned checks. After your first deposit (20% or 30%), any credit card payments Insight Cruises processes will be assessed a Credit Card Surcharge of 3%. Payments by check or wire transfer are not subject to this surcharge.

All prices are subject to change until your booking is confirmed. We will notify you of any price changes, and await your acceptance, before your reservation is considered “booked” and confirmed. Before June 1, 2027, either party may cancel the booking within 14 days of initial deposit (with no penalty other than the Non-refundable Booking Service Fee (of $175, if you are the one who cancels), for any reason. We’ll send you an email confirmation and an itemized invoice (“DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT CONFIRMATION”) via email within three (3) business days of your Deposit. You must return a signed copy of your DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT CONFIRMATION form within 30 days of booking or your reservation is subject to cancellation. If you do not return this form by the FINAL PAYMENT date, your reservation will automatically be cancelled and cancellation penalties will be assessed. You will be sent reminders via email before your reservation is cancelled.

A signed Insurance Waiver is due in the Insight Cruises office upon issuance and no later than the Final Payment Date. Your booking will be cancelled unless we receive this “paperwork”.

Roundtrip air into and out of Egypt and your home gateway is NOT included. Please see [further down](#) the section WHAT’S INCLUDED IN THE COSTS for the complete list.

**Single Supplement.** 75%.

- Or a share a room! The price is the same as the pp double occupancy rate. Be sure to select the option on the online booking form that asks, “Do you want to share a room with another Insight Cruiser?” Share room assignments are generally made at time of ticket issuance — and shared assignments are subject to change. If you can be matched, you will be matched with members of the same gender, and we factor in age and geography where possible. Assuming space is available, and you have signed up for our Lecture and Touring Programs, shares will be guaranteed if you book prior to January 1, 2026.

**3rd- and 4th-Person Rates.** Varies based on your room type. Please call 650-787-5665 for a quote.

**Additional Paid Services**
- Credit Card Surcharge (3%) — After your initial booking payment and/or deposit, any credit card payments Insight Cruises processes will be assessed a Credit Card Surcharge of 3%. Payments by check or wire transfer are not subject to this surcharge.
- Refund ($75 per refund transaction plus 4% of transaction value if the original charge was to a credit card) or 1% if the original charge was a check. Includes refunds after payment for services you remove (such as cancel add’l hotel nights)
- Third-Party Payor ($50 per credit card) — this fee is imposed if someone other than the people traveling is paying all or part of your event cost.
- Foreign Shipping Fees — there is a foreign shipping charge of $65 (to cover the shipping of paperwork) per foreign residence ($35 per Canadian residence).
- No Email Access ($250) — this is assessed for those clients who do not have access to email or those who wish to receive all notices and updates from Insight Cruises via the Post Office. Add an additional $25 for those residing outside the United States. The service below (“Over-the-Phone-Booking”) is included with this $250 charge.
- Over-the-Phone Booking ($50) — this is assessed for those new clients who “call in their booking” as opposed to filling out the online booking form. If you are a past client, because we already have your demographic data, we are happy to take your booking over the phone or via email at no charge.
- Last-Minute Changes/Additions ($50 – $150 per change/ addition pp) — this will be assessed for any last-minute (within 21 days of the Day Your Travel Begins) service that is provided to you. For most last-minute changes the fee is $50 (examples: minor name corrections or last-minute additions and/or cancellations) but if the change or request is complicated and involved, the fee can be as much as $150.
- Repeated Declined Credit Card(s) ($50) — this may be assessed if two or more credit card transactions are declined.

The above fees are non-refundable and will be collected at the time of adding our services.

**Email Services & Fees.** Insight Cruises sends guests information and answers questions primarily via email. Using software we have a clear picture of the number of emails exchanged with guests — and on guests’ behalf — to make or change reservations, research and answer questions, and provide necessary information to guests across the trip-planning cycle. (The average number of emails for an average booking of two people is 27.) We understand that if you book hotel or air through Insight Cruises, this may lead to a predictable number of additional email exchanges.

Some guests’ trip preparation involves more emails and questions than others, whether due to the scope, duration, and complexity of travel or to personal communication or planning style. And some customers just want more personalized service. We estimate that each email costs Insight Cruises approximately $10. (Keep in mind, typing a response is small part of providing an answer.) We therefore assess fees for usage that is more than double the average.

Once you book with Insight Cruises, you are allotted 50

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*By registering for an Insight Cruise, the participant agrees to the responsibility statement and liability disclaimer and the terms and conditions herein.*

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emails and/or phone calls. Included in this count — as one each — are: each phone call to Insight Cruises; each email you send to us; our reply to your email; plus each email we send out and/or receive to research and answer your questions that are not answered or addressed on our webpages.

In addition to the included 50 emails (which is your initial allotment), most of our added services automatically increase your allotment:
- Air Booking — you get 10 additional emails
- Travel Insurance (if you purchase through Insight Cruises) — you get 10 additional emails
- Foreign Shipping (i.e., if you live outside of the Continental USA) — you get 5 additional emails
- Last-Minute Changes/Additions — 5 emails per $50 fee
- Repeated Declined Credit Card — 5 emails per $50 fee
- A Category 1 or 2 booking comes with 25 additional emails.

When a booking surpasses the original 50 emails (plus any additional emails automatically provided as a result of the additional services above), you will be assessed $79 for an additional 10-email allotment.

NOTES: You will be notified when you reach 50%, and then again at 75%, of your allotted number of emails. All of our Email Service Fees are non-refundable.

CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS, INSURANCE, CHANGES

Any cancellation or change of status (or request for a change in status) which relates to your booking must be transmitted as soon as possible to Insight Cruises in writing or via email. If you have travel insurance, and there is an unnecessary delay in notifying us of your change in status, your “cancellation date” will be affected and will adversely affect your insurance reimbursement.

Name changes are permitted (for a $175 fee) up until June 15, 2027. Name changes after June 15, 2027 are considered a cancellation and the per-person cancellation fees, below, will be assessed.

Once booked, you are assessed a $175 pp Non-refundable Booking Service Fee. Additional per-person cancellation fees are based on date of receipt of notice to cancel (via in writing or email):
- Cancellation prior to December 31, 2024: $500 pp Cancellation Processing Fee plus all of our Non-refundable Service Fees
- Cancellation between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025: $1,500 pp Cancellation Processing Fee plus all of our Non-refundable Service Fees
- Cancellation between January 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026: $3,000 pp Cancellation Processing Fee plus all of our Non-refundable Service Fees
- Cancellation on or after January 1, 2027: You forfeit all your deposits
- Cancellation on or after May 1, 2027: No refunds

Air and/or pre- and/or post-Event bookings, including but not limited to extra hotel nights you have requested, are subject to the same cancellation fees cited above.

If the Event is canceled by Insight Cruises for any reason, Insight Cruises shall incur no liability beyond the refund of all Event participants’ payments received. However, if Insight Cruises must cancel for reasons beyond its control, including but not limited to weather, disease, strikes, acts of God, pandemics, acts of terrorism or war, Insight Cruises’ liability shall be limited to a refund of only those portions of the Event cost Insight Cruises is able to recover from suppliers.

If you cancel, 50% of any/all cancellation fees you are assessed can be applied to any future Insight Cruise event.

WHAT’S INCLUDED IN THE COSTS
- Fifteen (15) nights onboard the s.s. Misr and two (2) nights in the Old Cataract Hotel in Aswan
- All meals are included (excluding breakfast on your day of arrival and lunch and dinner on your day of departure)
- Open bar at our 17 cocktail parties, if you elect to add on our cocktail-party package
- WiFi internet access onboard.
- Bottled water
- Services of professional/Egyptology guides, if you elect to add on our TOURING Package
- Services of an Insight Cruises tour leader
- All land transportation between our cruise and the places we visit/tour
- Financial disappointment if your trip must be cancelled or is interrupted.
- Airfare and transfers into and out of Egypt
- Activities not specifically included in the second row of buttons
- Fifteen (15) nights onboard the s.s. Misr and two (2) nights in the Old Cataract Hotel in Aswan
- All meals are included (excluding breakfast on your day of arrival and lunch and dinner on your day of departure)
- Open bar at our 17 cocktail parties, if you elect to add on our cocktail-party package
- WiFi internet access onboard.
- Bottled water
- Services of professional/Egyptology guides, if you elect to add on our TOURING Package
- Services of an Insight Cruises tour leader
- All land transportation between our cruise and the places we visit/tour
- Financial disappointment if your trip must be cancelled or is interrupted.
- Airfare and transfers into and out of Egypt
- Activities not specifically included in the second row of buttons
- Experiences of a personal nature, including the spa in the hotel, laundry services, etc.

Terms of Participation, Page 2

IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS. A Passport, valid through February 15, 2028, is required. All travel documents such as passports, visas, proof of citizenship, etc., that are required for you to make the trip are the responsibility of the passenger. Non-U.S. citizens are asked to check with government agencies, embassies or consulates to determine documentary requirements.

Please see the Exit, Entry & Visa Requirements area for the U.S. State Department’s information on Exit/Entry Requirements for U.S. Citizens. You will be denied boarding without proper proof of citizenship and without all necessary visas. For non-U.S. citizens, the CIBT International Entry Requirements form, here (https://cibtvisas.com/health-requirements?login=InsightCruises), will provide the info you need.

Along with many thousands of American travelers, we rely on CIBTvisas for our visas (we are not affiliated with CIBTvisas, we are simply happy customers).

TRIP CANCELLATION & INTERRUPTION INSURANCE

Please carefully consider buying this or other travel insurance. We’ve never had a guest cancel because they won the lottery or had a brilliant stroke of fortune. More often than not you would expect, we have had guests cancel because of pre-event illnesses, sports injuries, broken bones, death in the family, unexpected surgery, emergency surgery, stolen passports, and general family uproar. Life does throw curves. Spare yourself financial disappointment if your trip must be cancelled or is interrupted.

Currently, we offer two options. Both will reimburse you 100% up to a maximum trip cost for covered reasons — assuming you have insured the full cost of your trip:
- For U.S. residents of all ages, we recommend CSA’s G-906 product.
- For all non-U.S. residents we recommend Abroad Insurance.

CSA G-906. Unlike most trip interruption and cancellation insurance policies, you can purchase CSA G-906 up to 24 hours prior to the Final Payment Date and still be covered for pre-existing conditions (granted that you are fit to travel at the time of purchase).

To review the CSA brochure
To download the Description of Coverage
Get a CSA quote and purchase the insurance

Abroad Insurance. Abroad Insurance is the only insurance plan that we can offer for all our international (non-U.S.) participants.

To review the brochure
Get a quote and purchase the insurance

NOTES: Trip Cancellation Insurance payments are rarely refundable. Cancel-for-any-reason coverage varies slightly, car-

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rer to carrier, based on the level of penalty when you cancel. CSA does not offer Cancel-for-any-reason coverage. Typically, if you cancel at the last possible moment, with cancel-for-any-reason coverage you are only likely to get between 70% and 80% back.

**HOTEL ADD-ONS.** Additional pre- and/or post-cruise hotel stays are available through Insight Cruises. The rate varies so please call for a price.

**ALL ABOUT AIRFARE.** While we have never seen a change, dates and times that appear on our website are subject to change. Therefore, if you fly in the day the event begins, or fly home the day the event ends, you should confirm your flight times with us prior to making your flight reservations.

For Business Class or First Class air (purchased with frequent flyer miles or if you pay by credit card), we offer excellent fares and personalized service. Please email aaron@insightcruises.com. We charge a flat $400 fee for this service as we often need to compare a lot of flights and options, ultimately providing you with the best, most comfortable flights while balancing expense.

For coach/economy air, we recommend:

1) You can book the air yourself. If you want to shop for your own air, we recommend [http://www.kayak.com](http://www.kayak.com). Or book directly with your preferred airline.

2) You can reach out to our air supplier directly: CRC Travel, c/o Alison Bastianelli 2105 North Southport Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614 773-525-3800 ext 25, alison@crctravel.com

Baggage fees and other charges may be directly assessed by airlines or airports. Be certain to confirm all air flights 72 hours prior to departure.

We urge you to check airline cancellation penalties before purchasing airline tickets since departure times and flights can change. Neither Insight Cruises nor Insight Cruises’ partners, co-producers, sponsors, or agents accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets purchased independently in conjunction with Insight Cruises’ events.

Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant (Trip Cancellation and Interruption Insurance typically provides you with an allowance to buy replacements for your trip.) Most homeowners policies, and most airlines, cover your lost luggage.

**ITINERARY CHANGES.** The order of our activities, on any given day, may vary from the description based on traffic and/or other considerations. Please note that extreme weather conditions may force changes to the advertised schedule. Insight Cruises reserves the right, without penalty, to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in Insight Cruises’ judgment, conditions warrant, or if Insight Cruises deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of our participants.

**PHOTOGRAPHY.** Participants on Insight Cruises Events may be photographed for educational and promotional purposes.

**SMOKING POLICY.** Smoking is not allowed aboard buses or during any indoor group activity.

**RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT, LIABILITY, AND DISCLAIMER.** The Sky & Telescope July 27 through August 13, 2027 ECLIPSE OF THE CENTURY (“Misr cruise”) (aka “Luxor: Eclipse of the Century, Option #3”) is managed by Insight Cruises, hired as an independent contractor. Insight Cruises acts only as an agent for the respective suppliers by making arrangements for transportation, accommodations, tours, and other services. AAS Sky Publishing LLC (aka "Sky & Telescope"), the American Astronomical Society, and/or Insight Cruises shall NOT be held liable for personal injury, death, property damage or accident, delay, or irregularity arising out of any act or omission of these suppliers. Sky & Telescope and Insight Cruises reserve the right, without penalty, to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of our participants.

If any participant chooses not to participate in any included activity or meal, there will be no refund for that unused portion of the Event. If any participant leaves or is removed from the Event, a refund only for refundable unused services shall be made.

Sky & Telescope and Insight Cruises reserve the right, without penalty, to decline to accept any person as a participant. Insight Cruises reserves the right to require any participant to withdraw, at the participant’s own expense, from the event at any time, when such action is determined by Insight Cruises’ staff to be in the best interests of the health, safety, or general welfare of the group or the individual participant; Insight Cruises will then refund the recoverable portion of the total amount paid that corresponds to the cost of unused services and/or accommodations, if applicable. Sky & Telescope and Insight Cruises accepts no liability for the purchase of non-refundable airline tickets to the Event starting city and return. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant.

Dates, schedules, and program details, although provided in good faith based on information available at the time of publication of this website, are subject to change and revision. Neither Insight Cruises or Insight Cruises’ partners, co-producers, sponsors, or agents accept liability for cancellation penalties or change fees related to domestic or international airline tickets purchased independently in conjunction with Insight Cruises’ events.

Proof of current Covid vaccination is required to participate in this Event.

**AS A CONDITION OF ACCEPTANCE OF ANY APPLICATION, EACH APPLICANT MUST AGREE TO THE STATEMENT SET FORTH HERE.** The undersigned has read carefully the Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer set forth above, the schedule of activities for this Event, as well as the terms and conditions of application and participation as set forth in the Event brochure and/or these webpages, and recognizes and accepts any risk associated with the Event and the conditions, including the refund policy, set forth above. The undersigned further acknowledges that there are many risks and uncertainties inherent in any travel, including but not limited to the hazards of various modes of transportation, forces of nature, force majeure, acts or omissions of foreign governments, terrorism, civil unrest, war or insurrection, theft, illness, disease, strikes, and damage to person or property due to the negligent acts or omissions of Event staff or others. In consideration of, and as part payment for, the right to participate in the Event, the undersigned, on behalf of him or herself, his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, agrees to release Insight Cruises and its officers, employees and agents, from liability for personal injury, death, property damage or loss suffered by any person in connection with this event, even if caused by the negligence (but not the reckless, willful, or fraudulent conduct) of event staff or other related persons or entities. In addition, by registering for this event, the applicant certifies that he or she is mentally and physically capable of full participation in this Event.

**BY REGISTERING FOR THIS TOUR, THE PARTICIPANT AGREES TO THE RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT AND LIABILITY DISCLAIMER AND THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS HEREIN. THIS PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**