

'BEST OF CAIRO'

1-, 2-, and 3-Day Options in Cairo

Before or After your Luxor or Aswan Tour

The Pyramids of Giza await!



Whether they are an appetizer or the icing on the cake, Giza's iconic Pyramids play a role in many travelers' feasts on Cairo's history. Let Insight Cruises set the table for your Cairo adventures. You can choose to see the Pyramids, with or without our other cultural options, before or after your Eclipse of the Century events.

You have three options for exploring the Pyramids and the other wonders of Cairo with one-, two-, or three-day adventures staying in our carefully selected 5-star hotels: the Hyatt Regency, Dusit Thani, or Sheraton. For the one-day tour of the Giza Pyramids and Sphinx plus

the world's oldest pyramid, Saqqara, the airport hotel minimizes the fuss and muss. For our two- and three-day tours, our Giza Hotel is very convenient to the GEM Museum, The Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization.

Pricing (on the following pages) includes 5-star accommodations, "Meet and Greet" services in the Cairo Airport upon arrival, all transfers (including back to the Cairo airport at the end), all meals, and cocktail parties each evening. Also included are entrance to all touring sites, tour leaders throughout the trip, and professional guides in Giza.

1
(2 nites)

The one-day Cairo option takes you to the Giza Pyramids with entry into the Great Pyramid of Cheops (Oh, go for it!). You'll visit the Sphinx (thought to resemble its builder Khafre) and the rest of the Valley Temple complex of Khafre, with its massive stone block temple and causeway decorated with bas reliefs. You'll also explore Saqqara, as well as view the Djoser Pyramid complex, with a visit inside the Pyramid of Unas. We'll have lunch at a very well known (and excellent) local restaurant.

Price: \$1,999 pp (based on double occupancy); 90% surcharge for singles. Includes all transfers and transportation, tour guide(s), six (6) superb meals, parties each night, Club Lounge access, all gratuities, and two nights in our most deluxe 5-star accommodations.

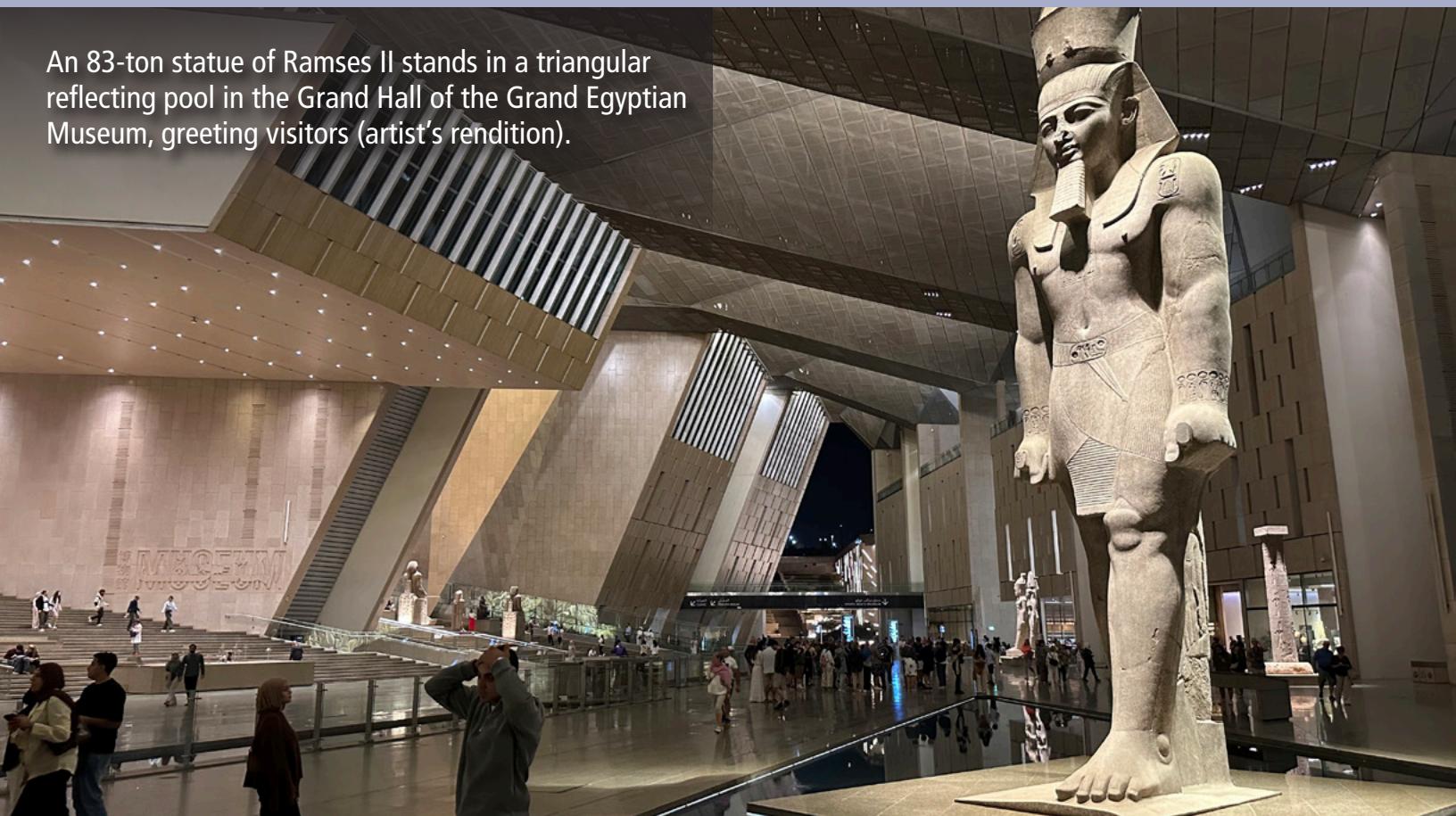
2
(3 nites)

Your two-day option includes all the events of the one-day Cairo option, plus a second-day visit to many of

Egypt's most precious pharaonic archaeological artifacts at the Grand Egyptian Museum, GEM. And what's the big deal about GEM? It houses ~50,000 Egyptian artifacts (not all on display) including the complete collection of more than 5,000 objects from King Tut's tomb. You'll be greeted by an 83-ton, ~33-ft tall, 3,200-year old statue of Ramses II. In addition to Tut's nether-worldly goods, GEM features objects from many of the Nile sites you'll visit during your Eclipse of the Century events. GEM is meant to embody and educate about the state, kingship, and eternity of ancient Egypt, and to give visitors a sense of the feelings and beliefs that led to the creation of the artifacts on view.

Price: \$2,999 pp (based on double occupancy); 90% surcharge for singles. Includes all transfers and transportation, tour guide(s), nine (9) superb meals, parties each night, Club Lounge access, all gratuities, and three nights in our most deluxe 5-star accommodations.

An 83-ton statue of Ramses II stands in a triangular reflecting pool in the Grand Hall of the Grand Egyptian Museum, greeting visitors (artist's rendition).



3
(4 nites)

If you would like to experience downtown Cairo, a festive Egyptian luncheon feast, and a broad and deep look at Egypt's history from the pharaohs to the modern day, **consider the three-day Cairo option.** In addition to the outdoor explorations of the first two days, this option gives you a curated look at the key eras of Egyptian culture that shape the nation today. If you do this three-day excursion pre-eclipse, it will set the scene and enrich your visits to archaeological sites, and give you a broad context for your adventure. If you visit Cairo for three days after the eclipse, it will help you put faces to the names you've learned along the Nile, and let you linger a bit over elements of ancient Egypt that most appeal to you.

This three-day option includes all the activities of the one- and two-day options.

You'll visit the epic Egyptian Museum of Antiquities which has a vast array of world-class Egyptian antiquities and masterpieces. Plus you'll plunge in to the Cairo food scene between our two museum visits.

Then, a visit to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC), which opened on April 18th, 2021, will give you a perspective of Egypt from ancient times through Greco-Roman, Coptic, Islamic, and contemporary times. Mummies Hall is the crown jewel of the Museum, with the remains of 20 New Kingdom (17th to 20th Dynasty) kings (including Moses' nemesis Ramses II and Thutmose III) and two queens (including Hatshepsut). After our day of touring, we'll gather together for a cocktail party and dinner.

Price: \$3,999 pp (based on double occupancy); 90% surcharge for singles. Includes all transfers and transportation, tour guide(s), 12 superb meals, parties each night, Club Lounge access, all gratuities, and four nights in our most deluxe 5-star accommodations.

The coffin of Nedjemankh is a gilded Egyptian coffin from the late Ptolemaic Period, circa 150–50 BCE.

To National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC) visitors today, Nedjemankh's coffin is noteworthy for two reasons: It is a very beautiful gilded coffin whose lid is covered with funerary spells and their related illustrations; the coffin was restored to Egypt in 2017, having been illegally removed from Egypt in the early 21st century.



This is the view (looking directly west) from all of our rooms



SHERATON CAIRO HOTEL & CASINO

All of Insight Cruises' Panoramic Rooms have large balconies and enjoy the views shown here. These limited rooms are all located in The North Tower — a transformed landmark offering breathtaking Nile River views as you can see. The North Tower's stunning new design reflects a new modern spirit of Sheraton. Step inside to discover a fresh, contemporary atmosphere that seamlessly blends comfort and elegance. Enjoy a wide array of elevated amenities, too, *including* access to the Sheraton Club — the largest Club Lounge in town with 360° views of the bustling city of Cairo.



CO-PRODUCED BY:

This is the view (looking northwest) from your balcony



This is the view (looking southwest) from your balcony



The Sheraton Club — the largest Club Lounge in town with 360° views of the bustling city of Cairo.



SHERATON CAIRO HOTEL & CASINO

Enjoy the upscale of everything at Sheraton Club with 360° city and Nile River views, dailly from 6:00 am – 11:00 pm.

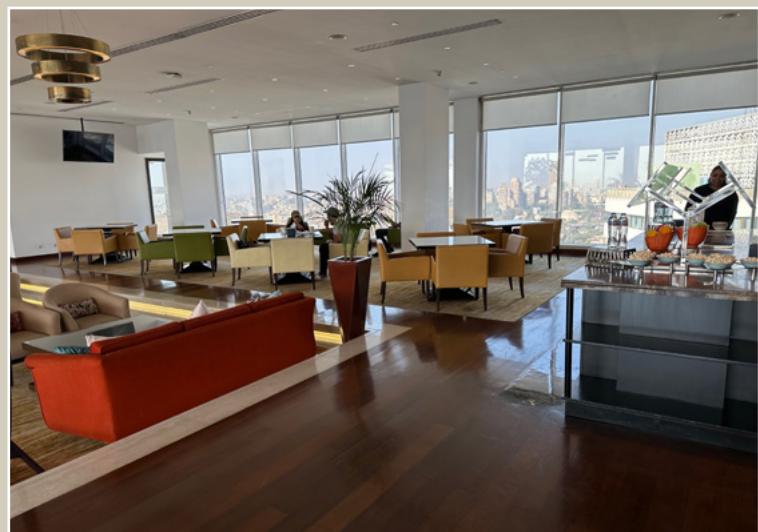
Food, beverages, and services included:

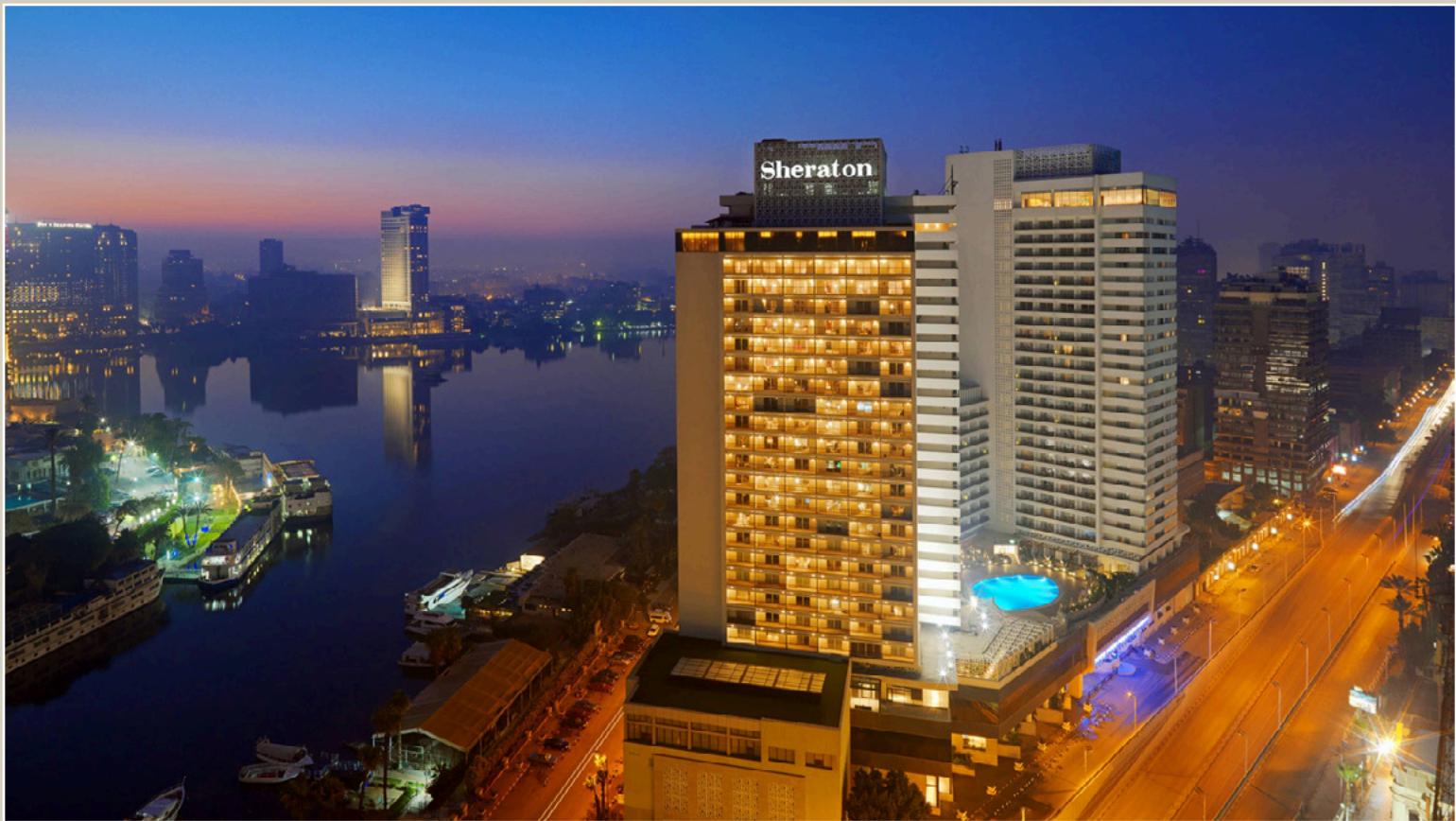
- Continental breakfast
- Snacks
- Afternoon Tea
- Coffee & Tea
- Desserts
- Hors d'oeuvres
- Non-alcoholic beverages
- Beer & wine
- Free Wifi
- Business services available



CO-PRODUCED BY:

Your Sheraton Club access is included





SHERATON CAIRO HOTEL & CASINO

Located on the west bank of the Nile River, our 5-star hotel is a short walk from the Egyptian Museum (one block off Tahrir Square), 15 minutes away from the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, and 30 minutes from the great Pyramids and the new Grand Egyptian Museum. Take a dive into our outdoor pool or get active in our 24-hour fitness center. Rejuvenate in our spa with its wide variety of treatments. All of Insight Cruises' rooms (all featuring private balconies) overlook the Nile (as shown above). Included in your stay is free access to the Sheraton Club – the largest Club Lounge in town with 360° views of stunning Cairo. Your breakfast and dinners are included in Rawi, a Middle Eastern restaurant. (Lunch provided on the various tours.)

Take the virtual 360° tour:

https://360thru.com/sheraton_cairo/



SHERATON

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SKY & TELESCOPE

Insight Cruises
THE JOURNEY WITHIN



Amenities:

- Nine restaurants
- Gift shop
- Convenience store and coffee shop
- Club Lounge
- Outdoor pool
- Three bars
- Hair salon
- Fitness center
- Laundry
- Casino





SHERATON CAIRO HOTEL & CASINO

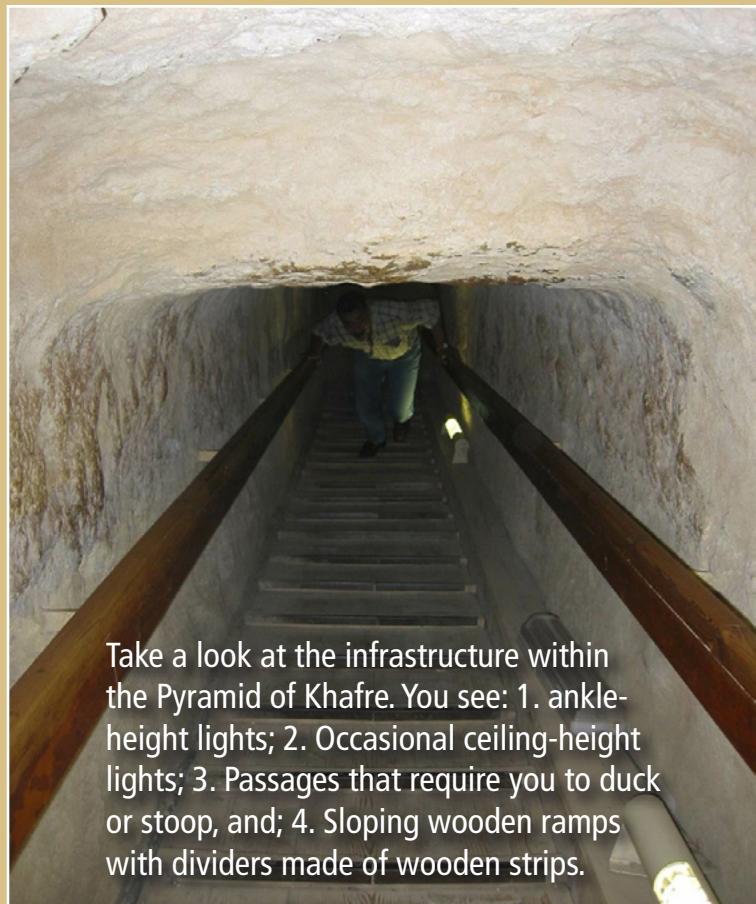




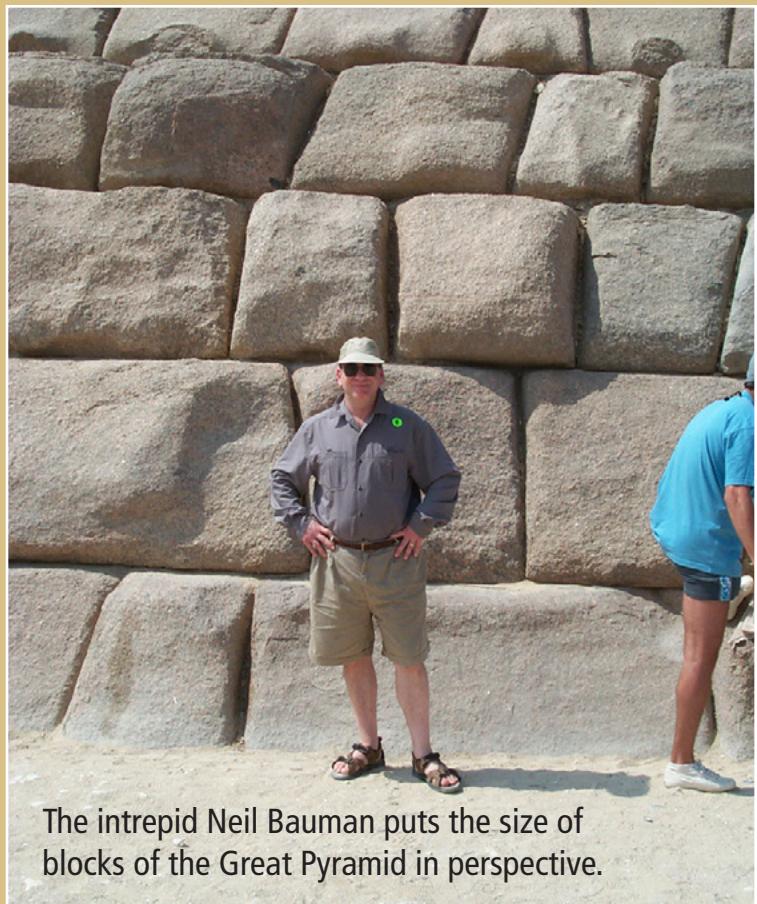
DAY 1 CAIRO: GIZA PYRAMIDS, SPHINX, SAQQARA

Today takes you to the Giza Pyramids with entry into the Great Pyramid of Cheops (Oh, go for it!). You'll visit the Sphinx (thought to resemble its builder Khafre) and the rest of the Valley Temple complex of Khafre, with its massive stone block temple and causeway decorated with bas reliefs. You'll also explore Saqqara, as well as view the Djoser Pyramid complex, with a visit inside the Pyramid of Unas. We'll have a mid-day lunch at a typical and very well known local restaurant. This evening relax at our cocktail party.





Take a look at the infrastructure within the Pyramid of Khafre. You see: 1. ankle-height lights; 2. Occasional ceiling-height lights; 3. Passages that require you to duck or stoop, and; 4. Sloping wooden ramps with dividers made of wooden strips.



The intrepid Neil Bauman puts the size of blocks of the Great Pyramid in perspective.



Walking deep within the bedrock at the base of the Pyramid of Khafre.



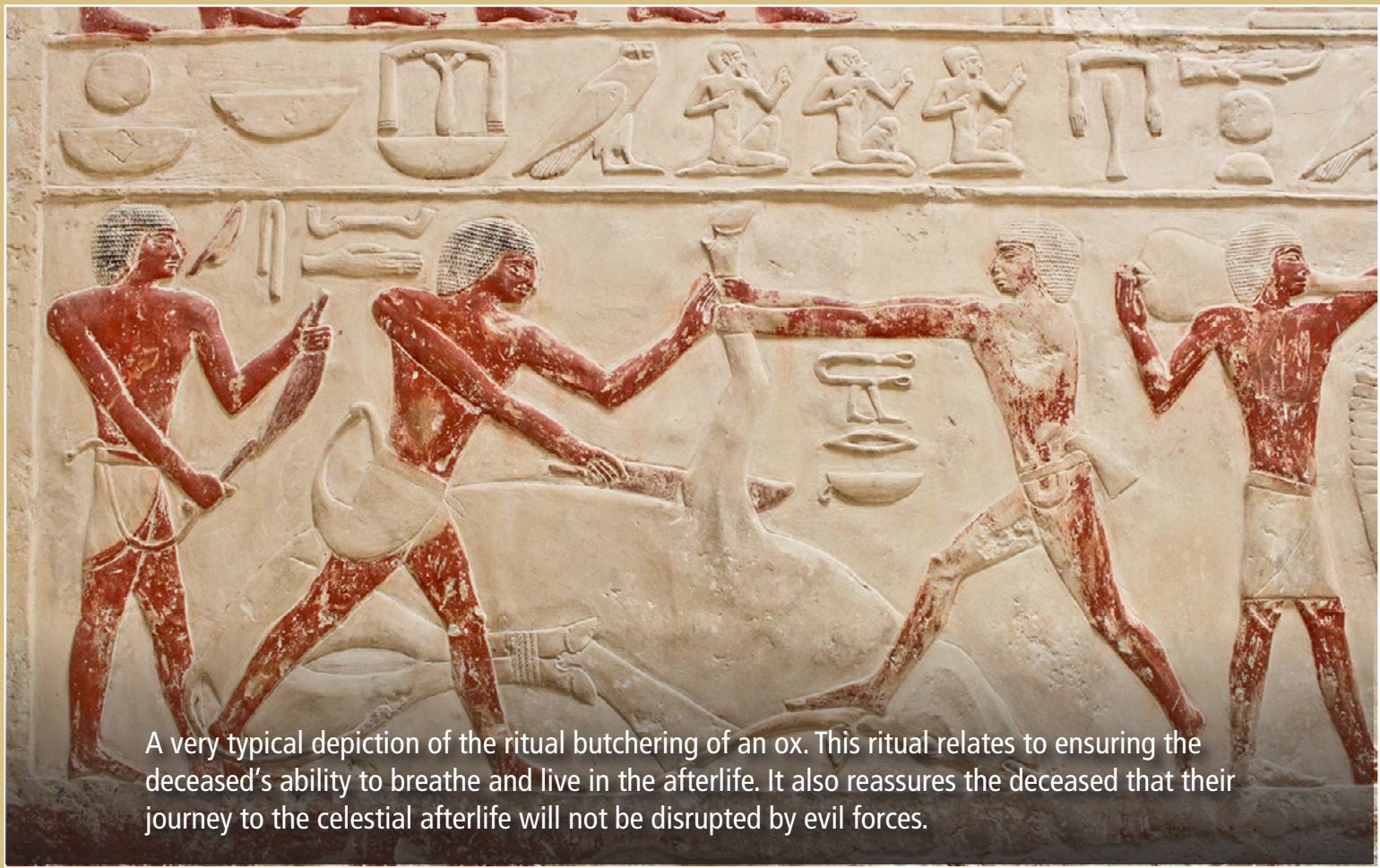
The Great Sphinx of Giza is thought to be a depiction of 4th Dynasty (circa 2500 BCE) pharaoh Khafre. You see the Sphinx here in front of the Pyramid of Khafre.



Djoser's Heb-Sed Court at Saqqara was a key part of his whole step pyramid complex. The pyramid complex symbolizes Djoser's royal palace enclosure, and the Heb-Sed Court provides the king with an appropriate infrastructure to eternally perform the rituals associated with kingship.

The Heb-Sed courtyard was the site of an Egyptian festival dating to pre-dynastic times. The festival had a pragmatic concept. When the pharaoh had ruled for 30 years, he conducted a series of ceremonial events showing that he was physically fit and vigorous enough to continue to reign and he had authority over all of Egypt. These physical feats signaled to the populace that the king was rejuvenated and reborn.

Day 1

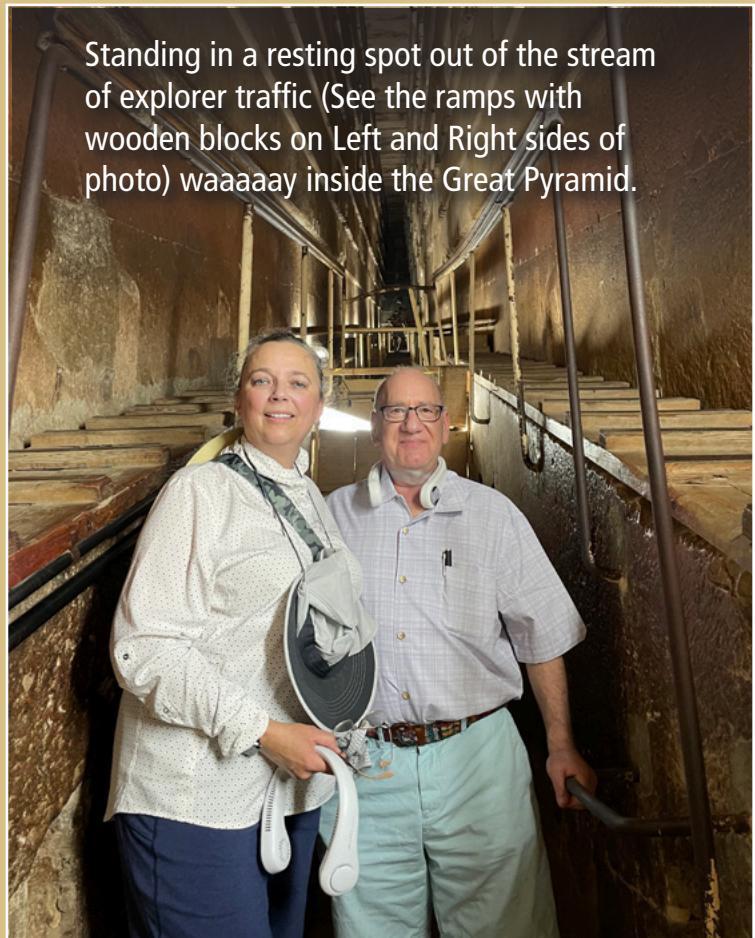


A very typical depiction of the ritual butchering of an ox. This ritual relates to ensuring the deceased's ability to breathe and live in the afterlife. It also reassures the deceased that their journey to the celestial afterlife will not be disrupted by evil forces.

Dressing for success in the Great Pyramid IF YOU ARE PRONE TO SUNBURN AND/OR like safety tips from those who have come before you. • Wear sneakers or boots that tie. • Carry a small cross-body bag. • Whether or not you sunburn, wear a broad-brimmed hat with a chin strap to hold it on when the desert wind blows (frequently), and to sling it around your neck when you don't need it. • Wear a long-sleeved, UPF 50 sun protective shirt with a collar. • Wear long pants.

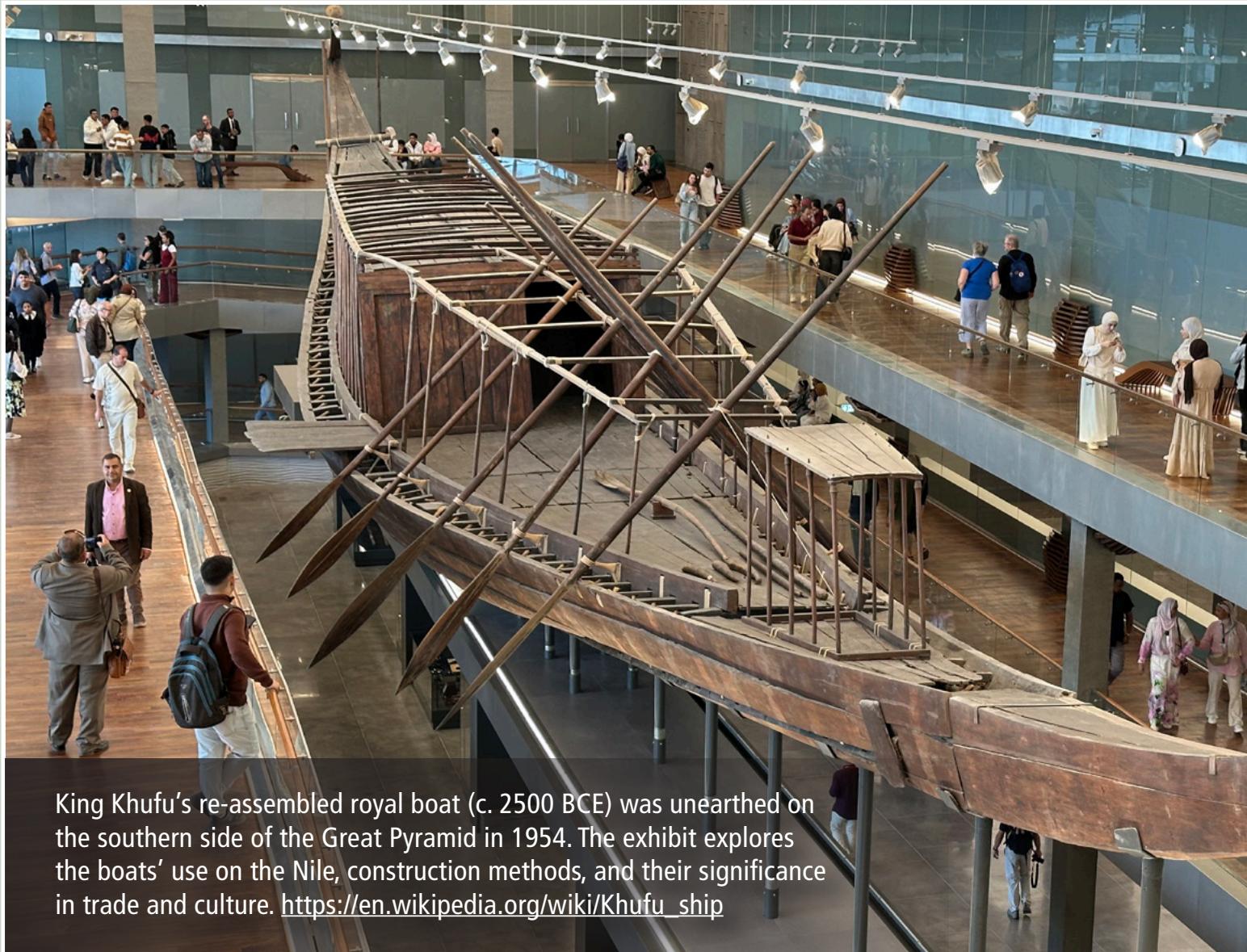


Standing in a resting spot out of the stream of explorer traffic (See the ramps with wooden blocks on Left and Right sides of photo) waaaaay inside the Great Pyramid.



DAY 2 CAIRO: GRAND EGYPTIAN MUSEUM

Today we visit many of Egypt's most precious pharaonic archaeological artifacts at the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM). It houses 100,000+ Egyptian artifacts (about half on display) including the complete collection of 5,398 objects from King Tut's tomb displayed together for the first time since its discovery in 1922. Insight Cruises visited GEM in November 2025 and took all of the pictures you see here.



King Khufu's re-assembled royal boat (c. 2500 BCE) was unearthed on the southern side of the Great Pyramid in 1954. The exhibit explores the boats' use on the Nile, construction methods, and their significance in trade and culture. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khufu_ship

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Welcome to the

GRAND EGYPTIAN MUSEUM



Conceived to present the world's most comprehensive collection devoted to ancient Egyptian civilisation, the Grand Egyptian Museum displays, conserves, and studies thousands of artefacts across thousands of years. The GEM is set to showcase an extraordinary array of artefacts, including the entirety of King Tutankhamun's treasure, united for the first time in history.

In addition to the site's main galleries and exhibition spaces, the GEM features a Children's Museum, Mixed Reality experience, diverse retail and dining options, a Conference Centre, and an Auditorium, creating a truly comprehensive destination that offers something for every visitor; seamlessly blending entertainment, culture, learning, and lifestyle, and bridging the gap between ancient heritage and modern creativity.

Grand Hall



The Grand Hall of the Grand Egyptian Museum boasts an impressive collection, including the colossal statue of Ramesses II, the Sakkara Cannon listing 58 kings from the first to the nineteenth dynasty, and the Victory Column of Merenpetah commemorating his ancient conquests. Also featured are the Ptolemaic king and queen statues recovered from the sunken city of Heraklion and ten statues of Senwosret I emphasising Egypt's superb craftsmanship and enduring legacy.

Grand Stairs



The majestic Grand Stairs is an open-air gallery, spanning an impressive 6,000 square meters and rising to a height equivalent to 6 floors. The Grand Stairs is lined with 59 impressive artefacts, including royal statues, stelae, columns, and sarcophagi. Upon ascending the Grand Stairs, visitors enjoy a panoramic view of the Great Pyramids of Giza.

SKY&TEL

Insight

THE JOU



New Egypt

Experience is

All gallery photos on the following pages, Bauman, neil.r.bauman@gmail.com, brochure, and all images, may be used and should be considered in the

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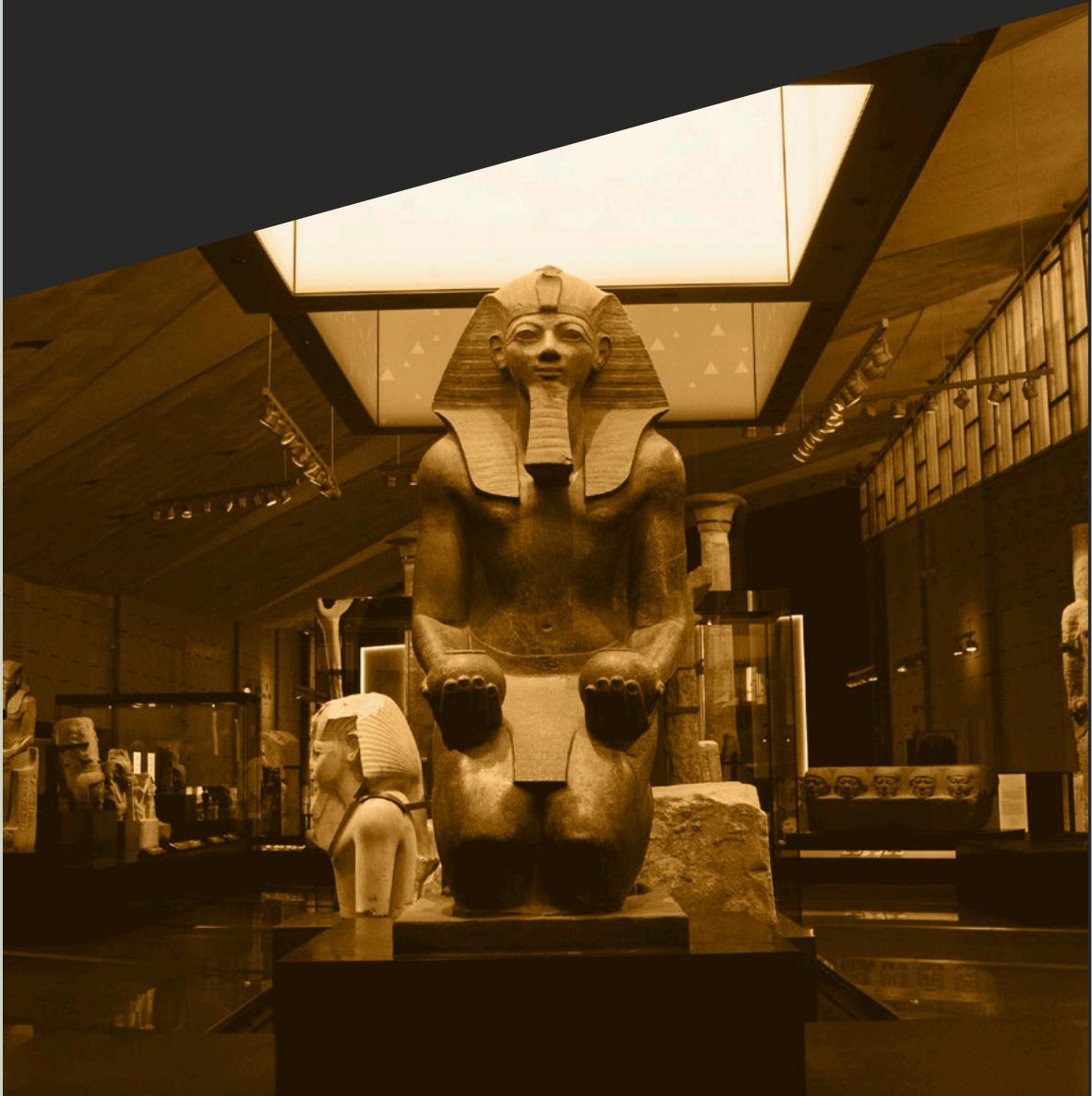
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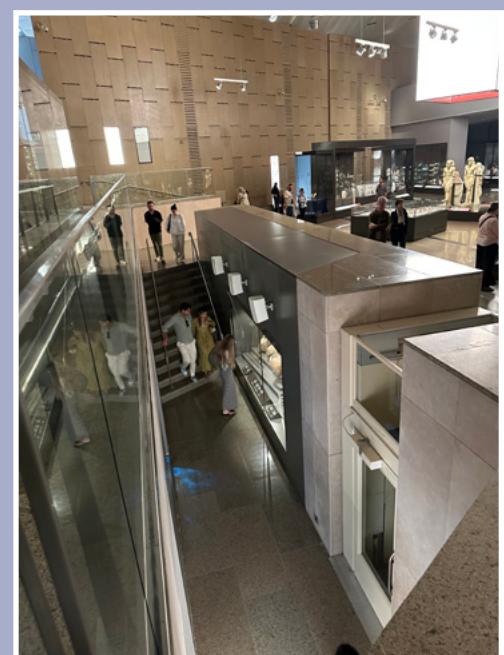
Main Galleries

Explore the grandeur of ancient Egypt within the permanent exhibition galleries of the Grand Egyptian Museum. These galleries feature twelve meticulously curated exhibition halls, journeying through millennia of history from prehistoric times (700,000 BC) to the Roman era (394 AD). Discover the intertwined themes delving into the lives and expressions of the Egyptian people, exploring the spiritual landscape and burial practices that shaped their worldview.

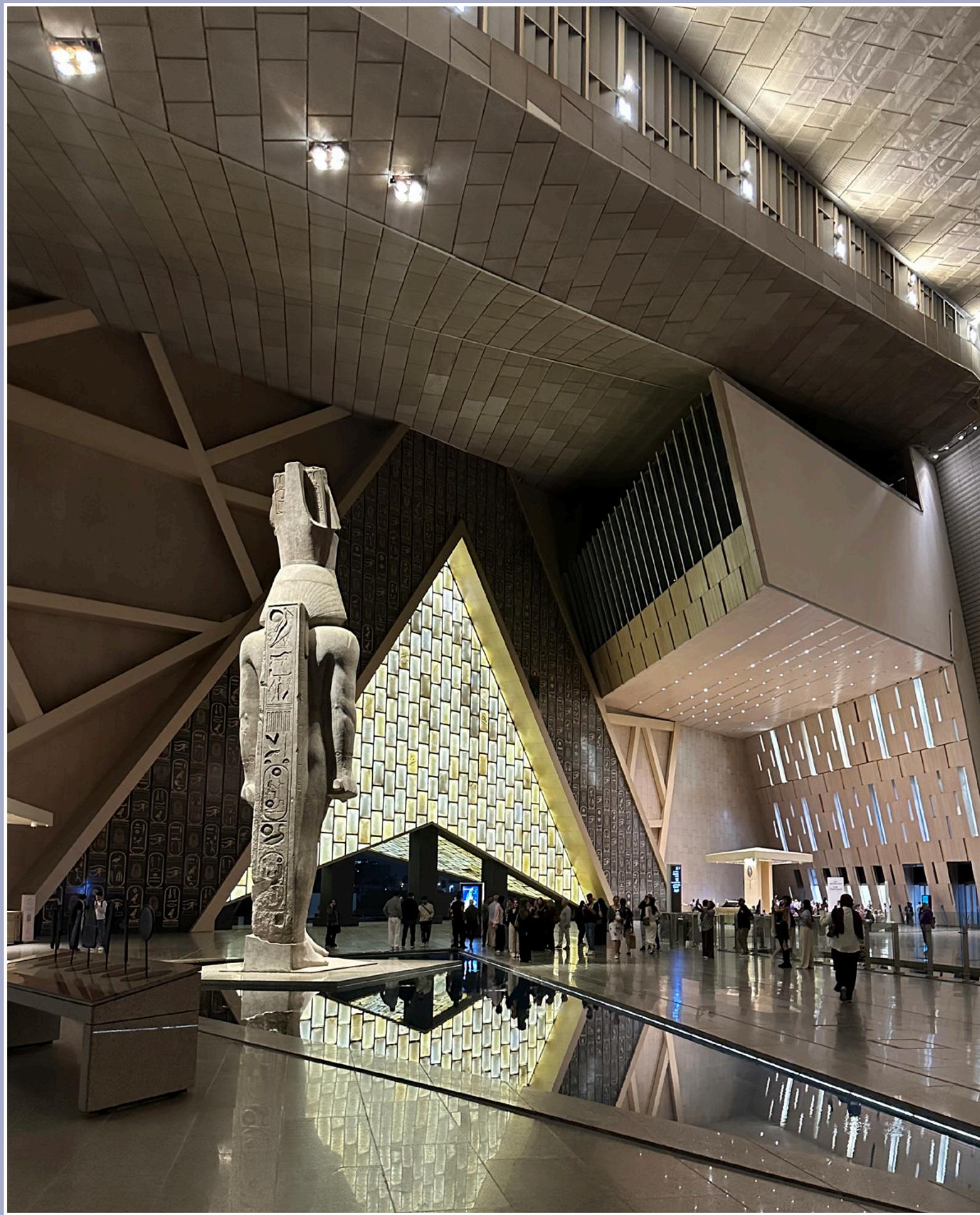


At the entrance you'll be greeted by an 83-ton, ~33-ft tall, 3,200-year old statue of Ramses II. Ramses II built many high-profile projects during his reign and so is a natural patron of the GEM's Great Hall. GEM was designed and built by an international team of architects, engineers (structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing), general contractors, and project managers among other construction professionals.

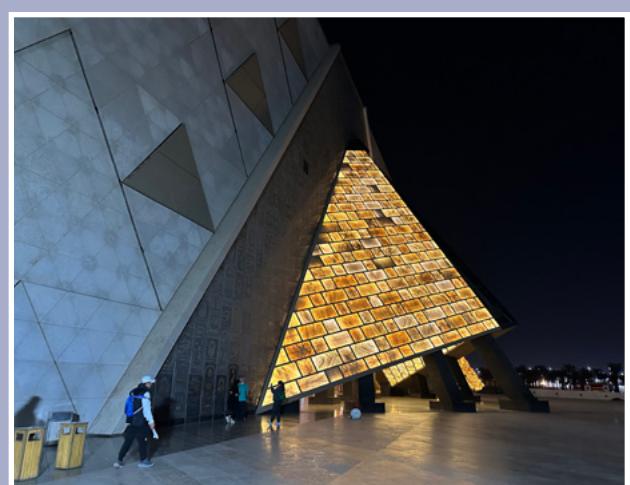
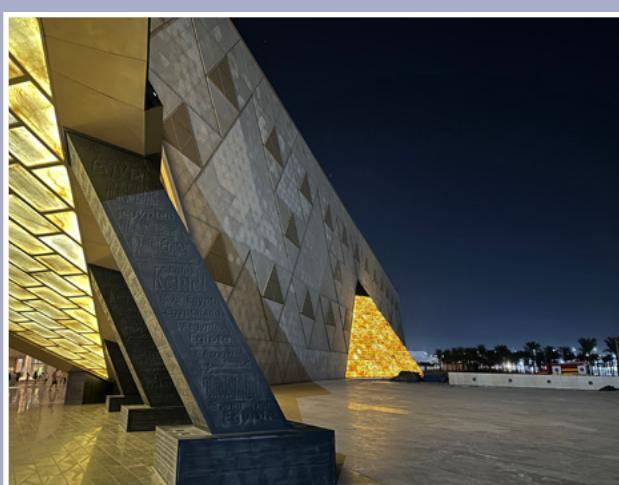
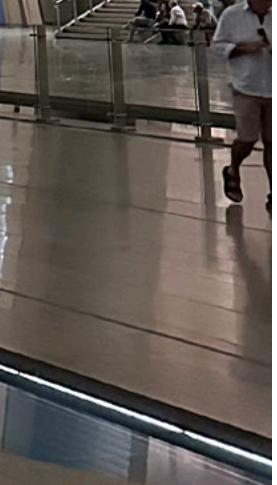
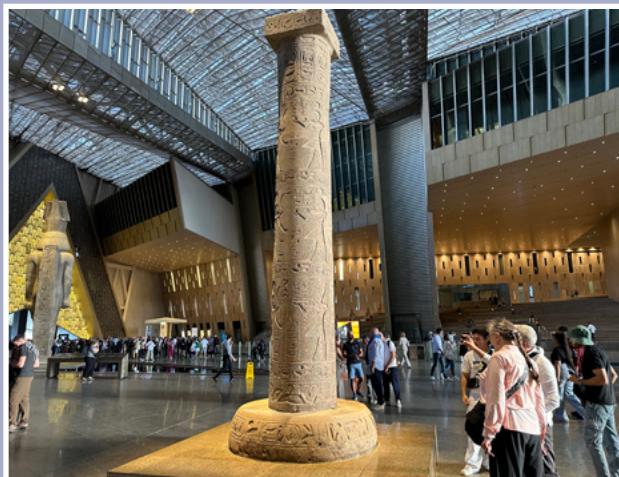
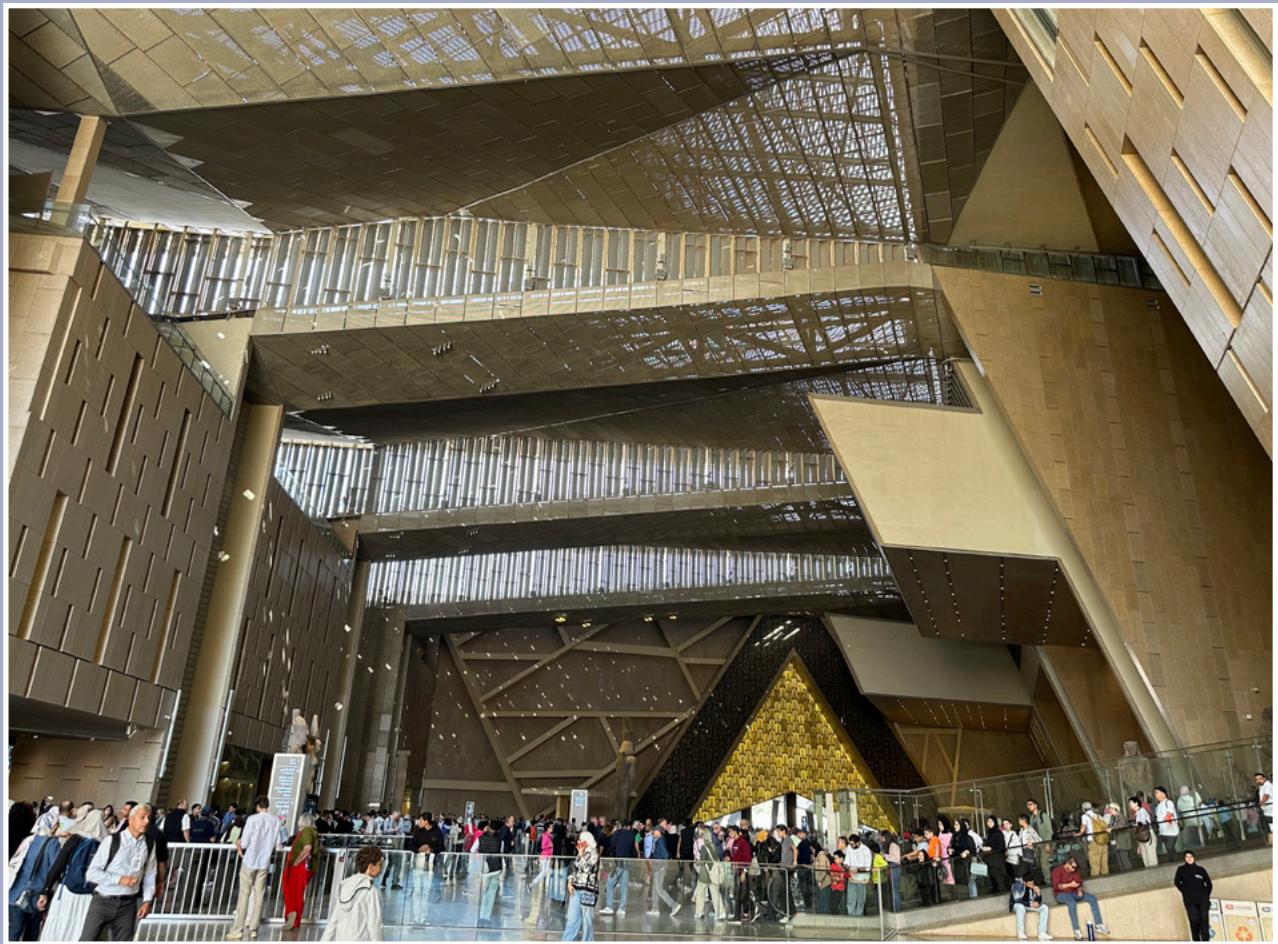
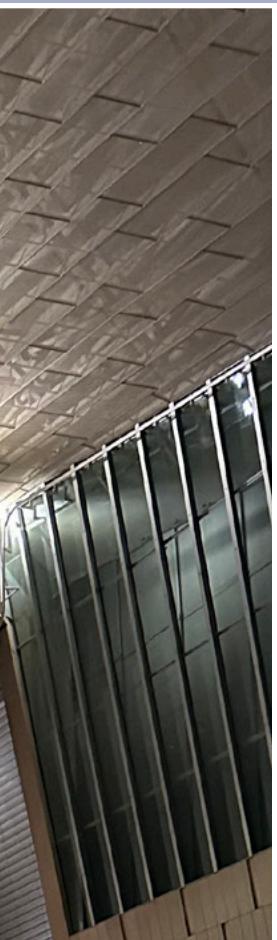




Day 2

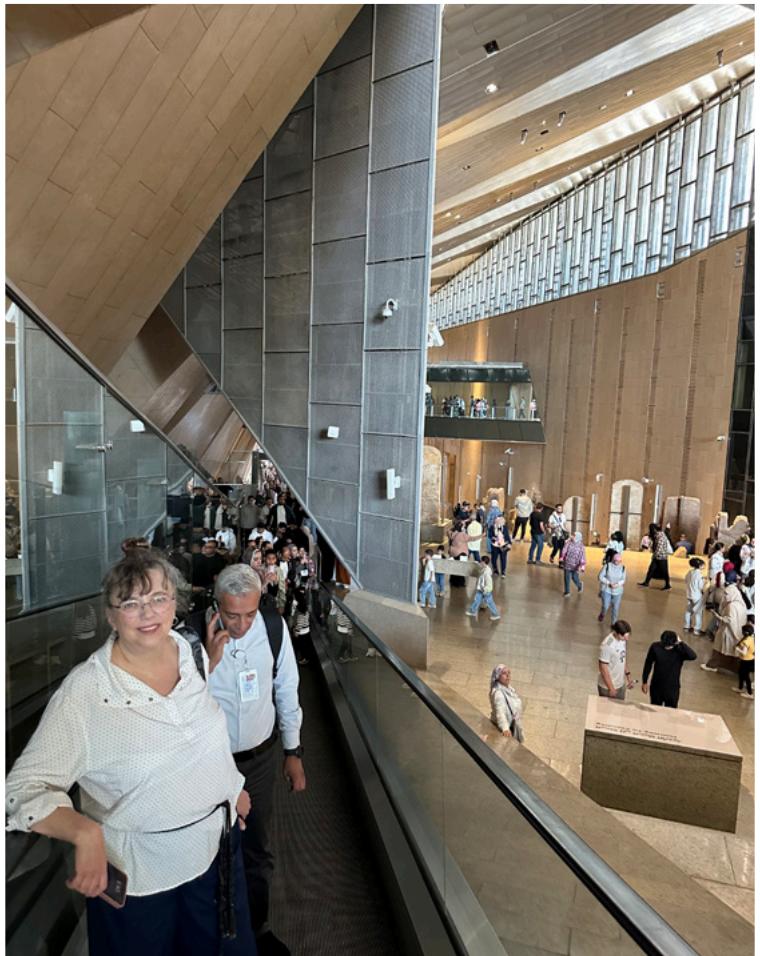
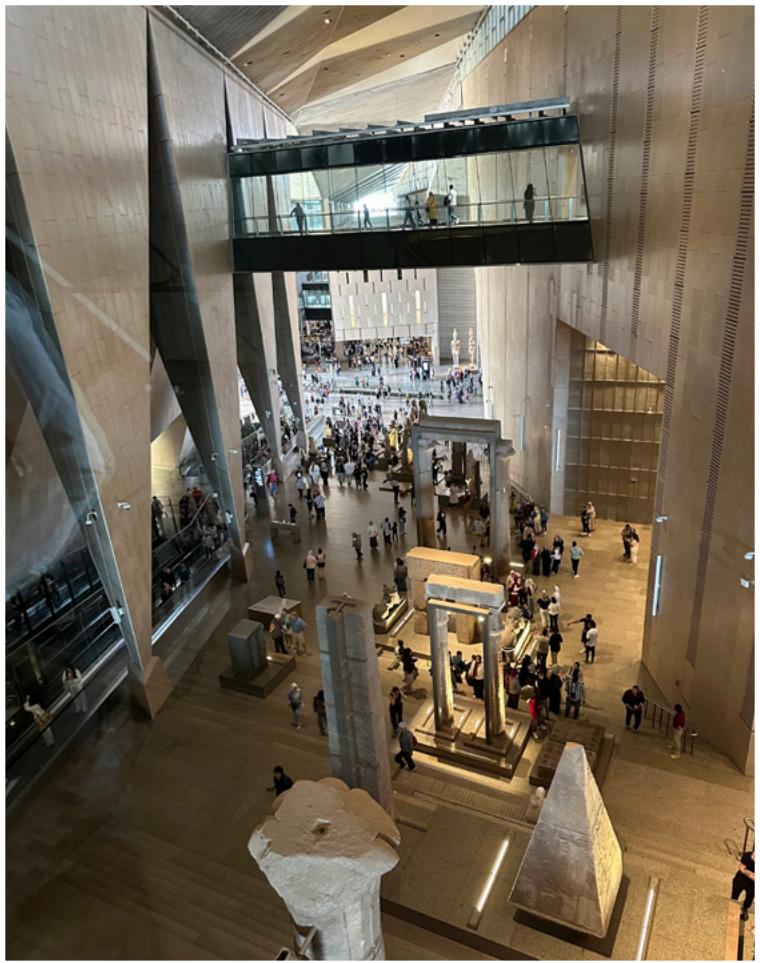


Day2





Day2

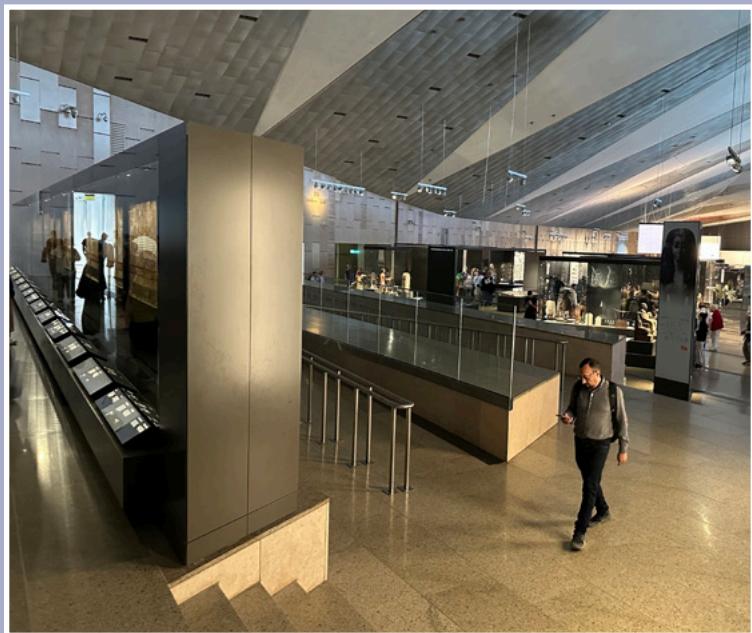
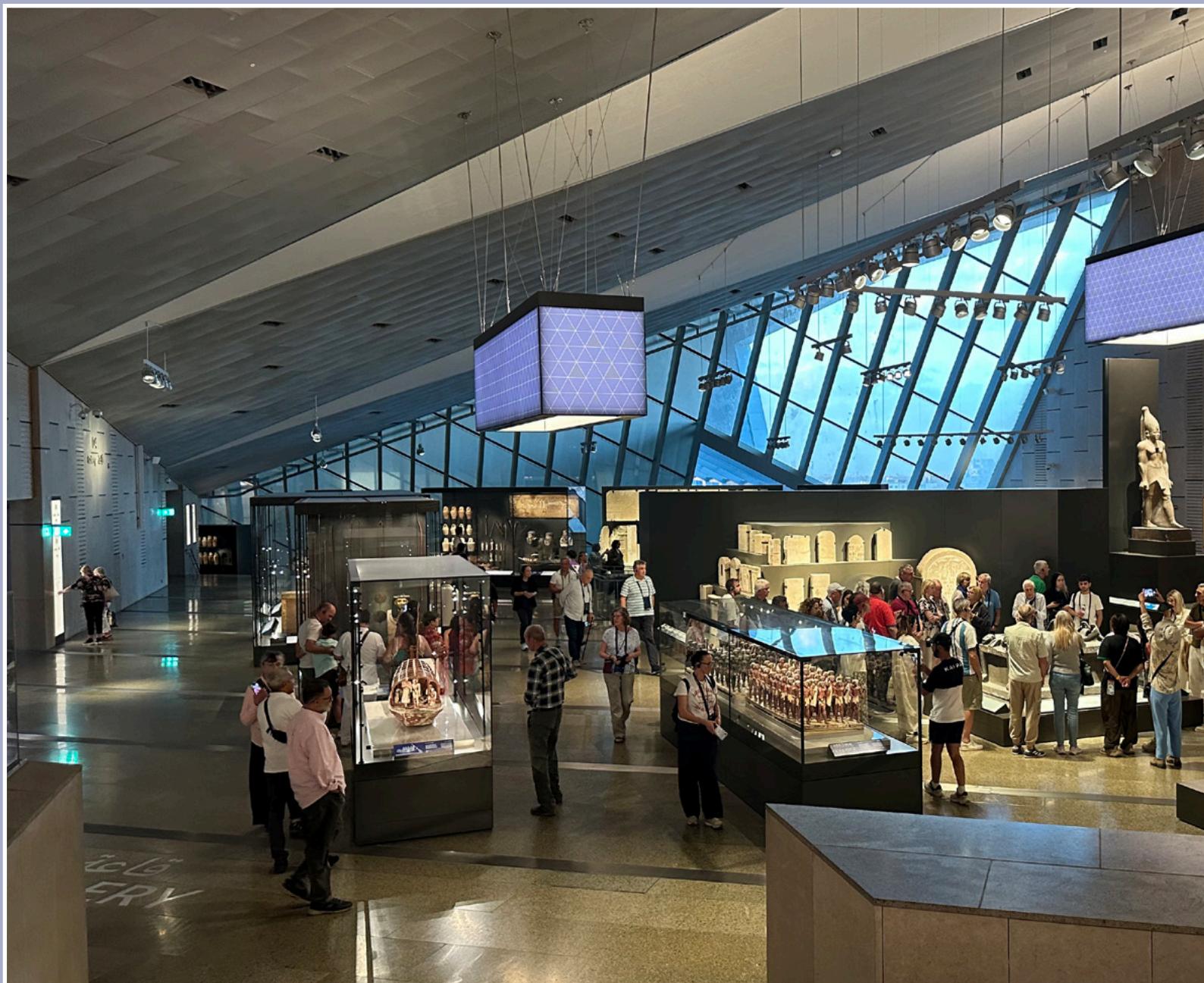


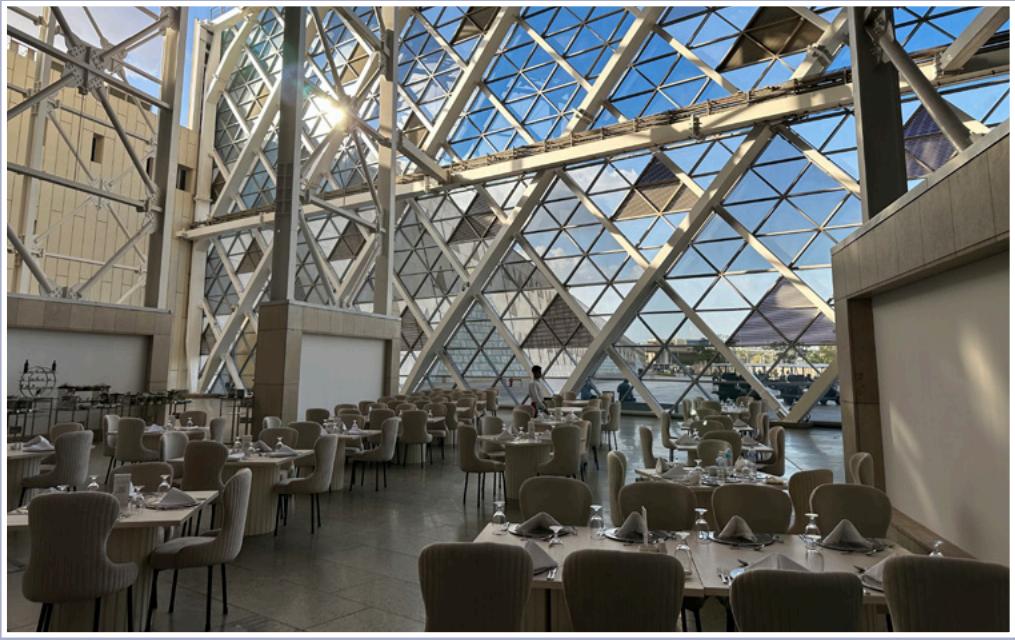
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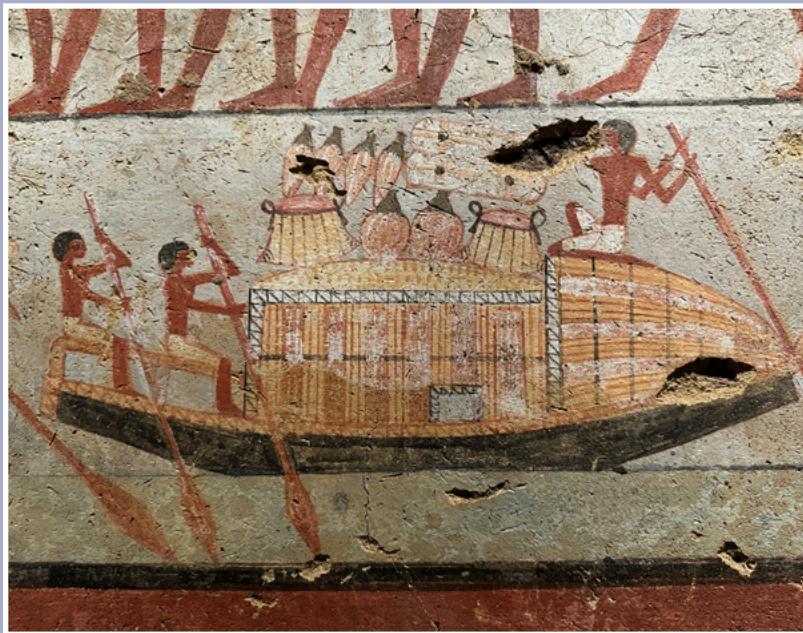
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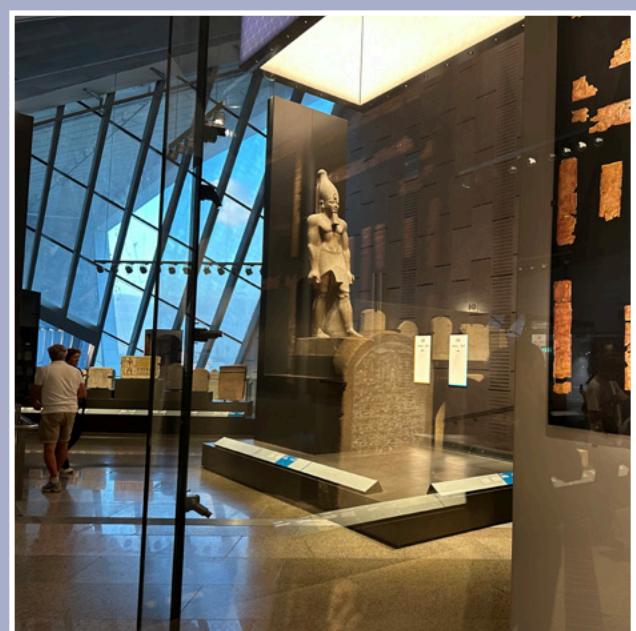
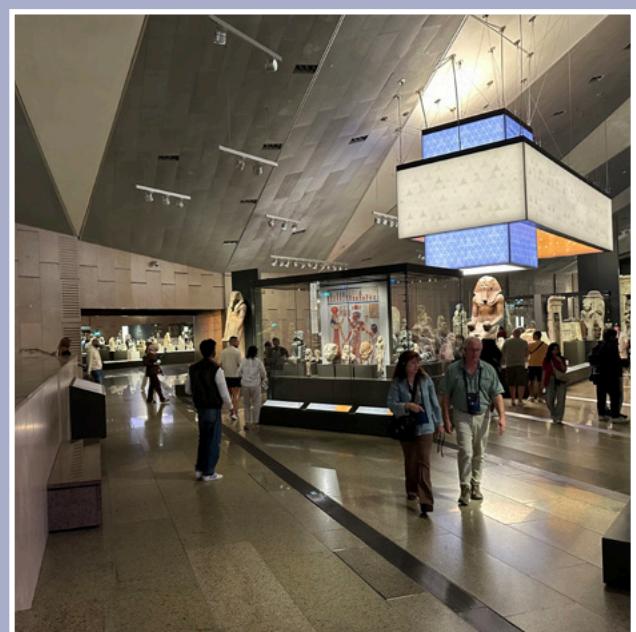
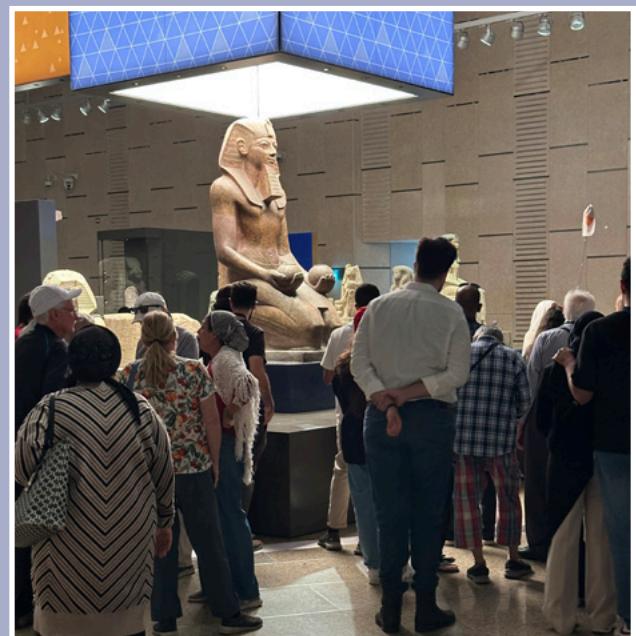
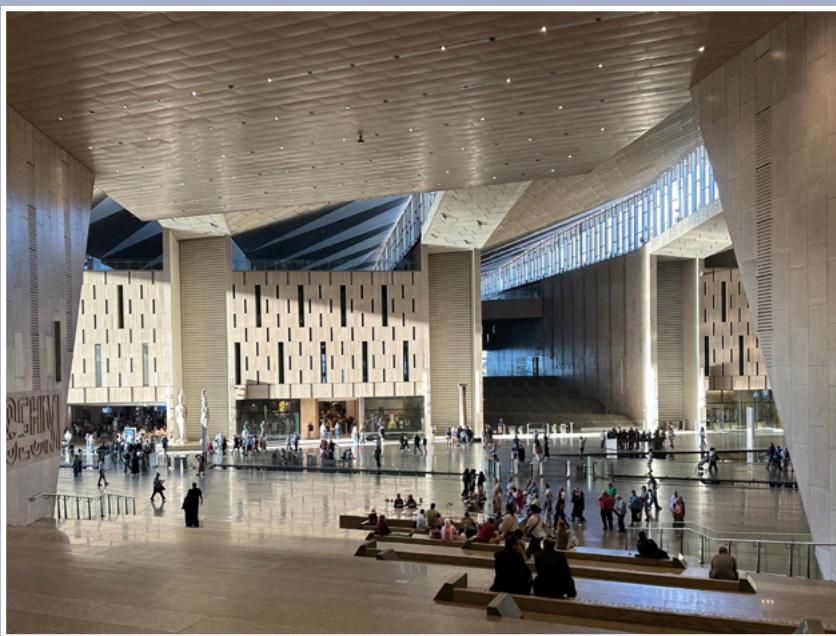


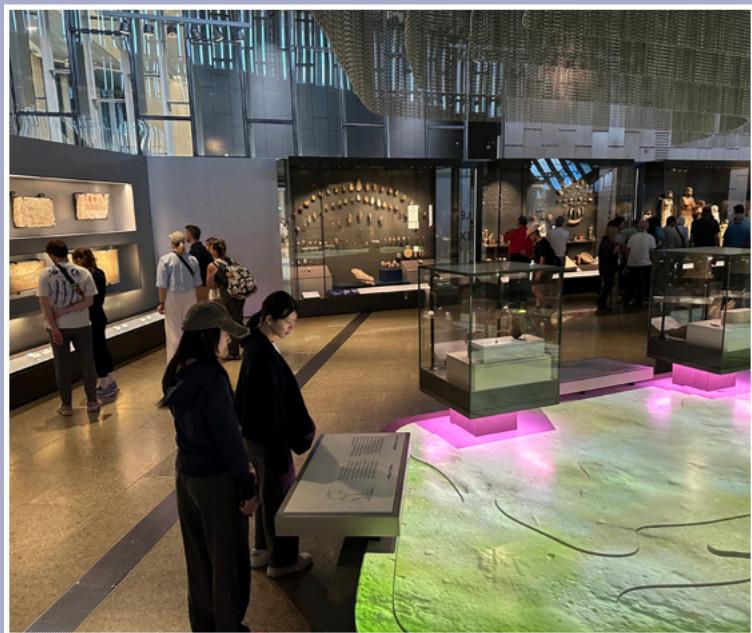


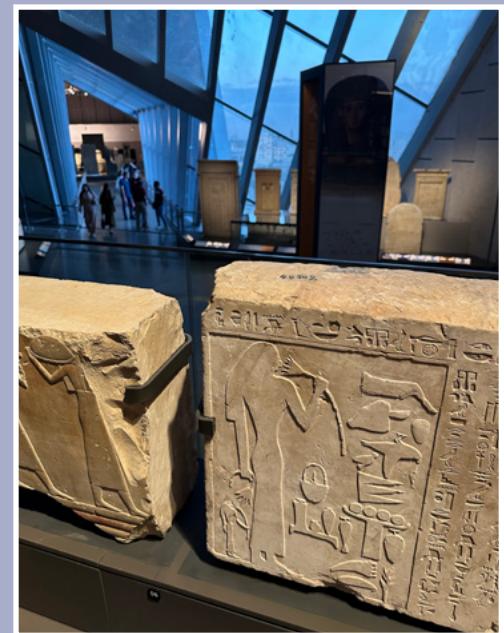
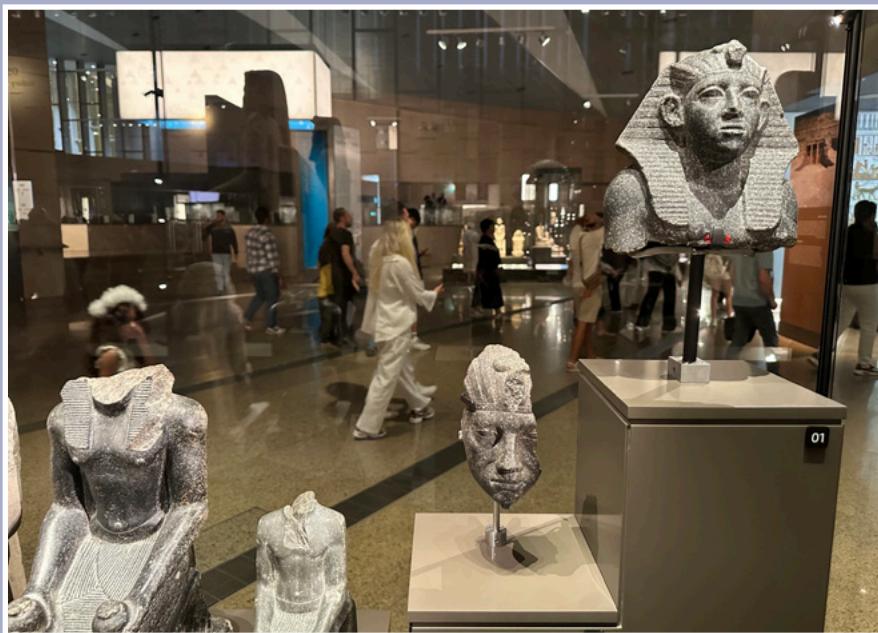
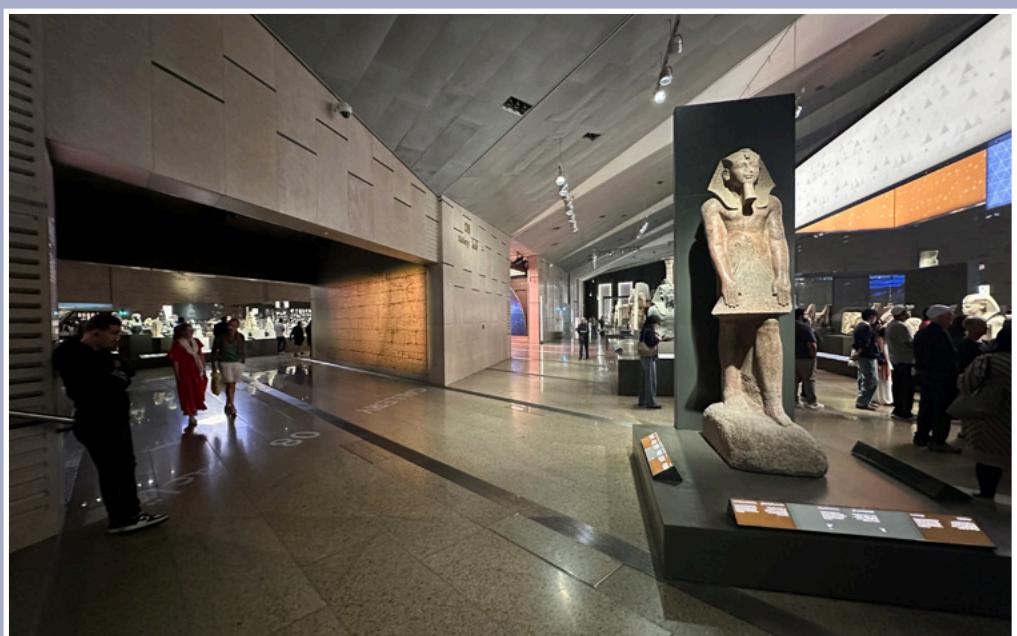


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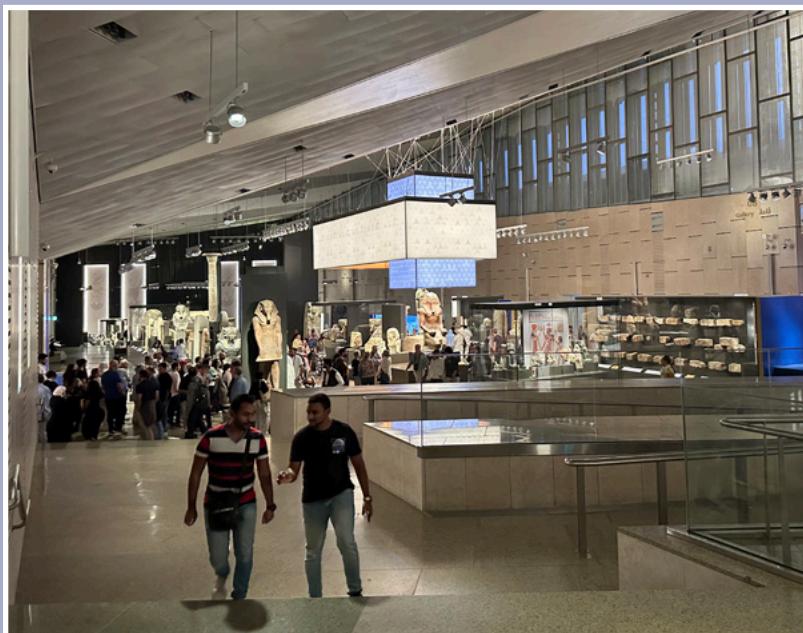


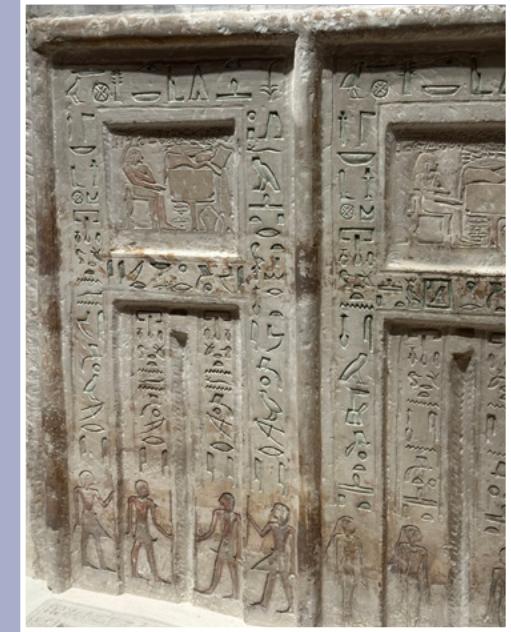
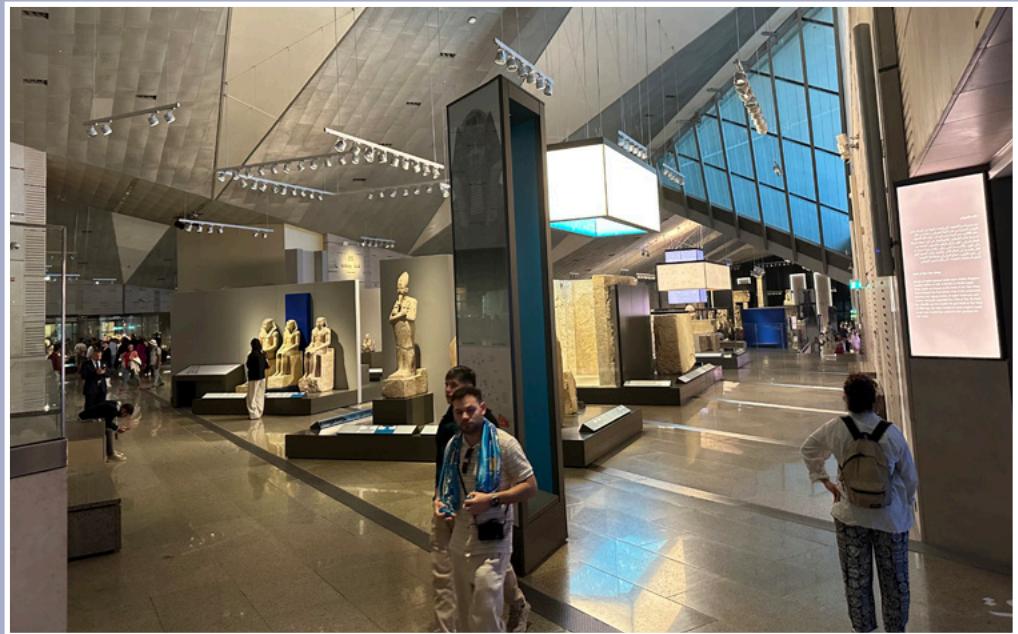






Day 2





Day 2

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GRAND
EGYPTIA
MUSEUM

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Tutankhamun Galleries



Step into the Tutankhamun galleries and journey beyond the confines of his legendary tomb. Delve into the captivating saga of the Golden King, who ascended to power around 1336 BC and ruled Egypt until 1327 BC. Embark on an unprecedented experience as the entire Tutankhamun collection is unveiled under one roof for the first time.

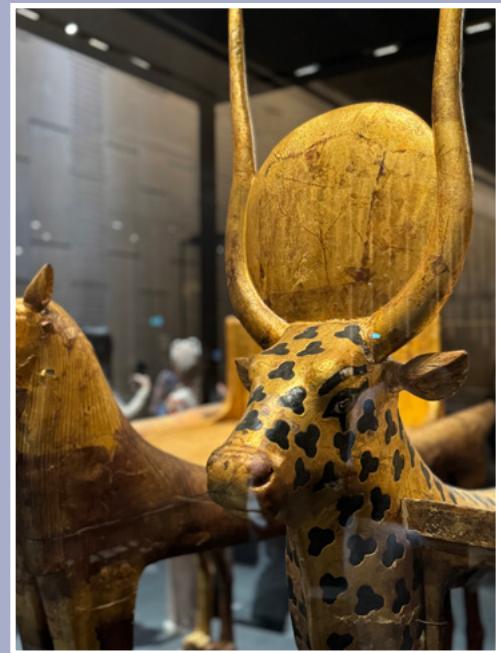
Explore over 5,000 artefacts, carefully laid to rest with the King to accompany him into eternity. Among these treasures lie not only items of regal splendor used in ceremonial rites and religious observances but also intimate possessions like jewellery, garments, furnishings, sustenance, transportation, and armaments, offering a profound glimpse into his life and afterlife.

KING TUTANKHAMUN GALLERY



The front half of the King Tut exhibit

Tutankhamun was Egypt's thirteenth pharaoh; he ruled c. 1333 – 1323 BCE. The King Tut gallery includes the complete collection of 5,398 objects from his tomb — discovered in 1922. This is first time all of these objects have been displayed together.

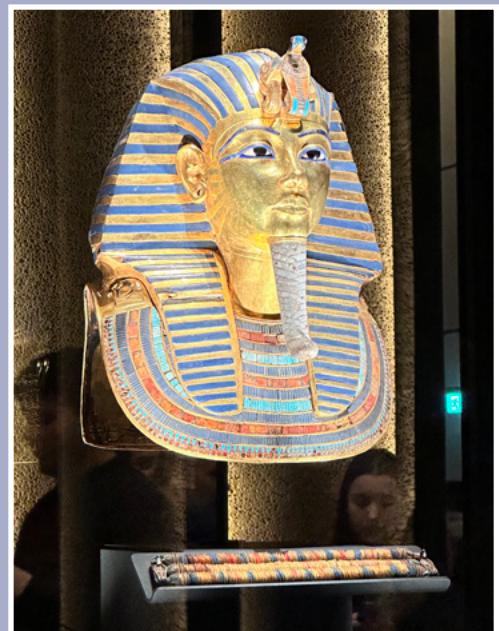
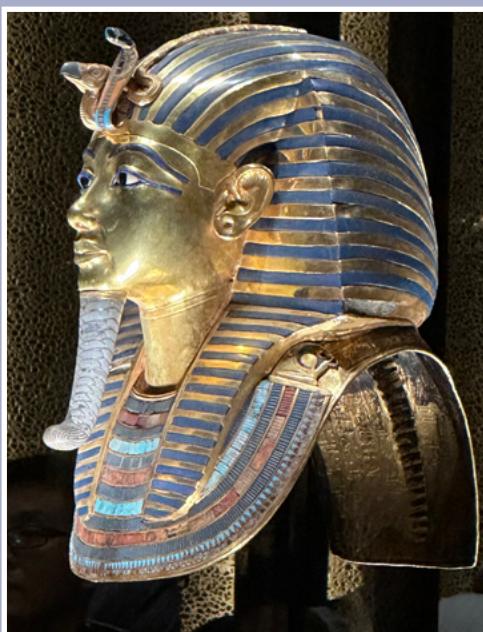


The back corner of the King Tut exhibit

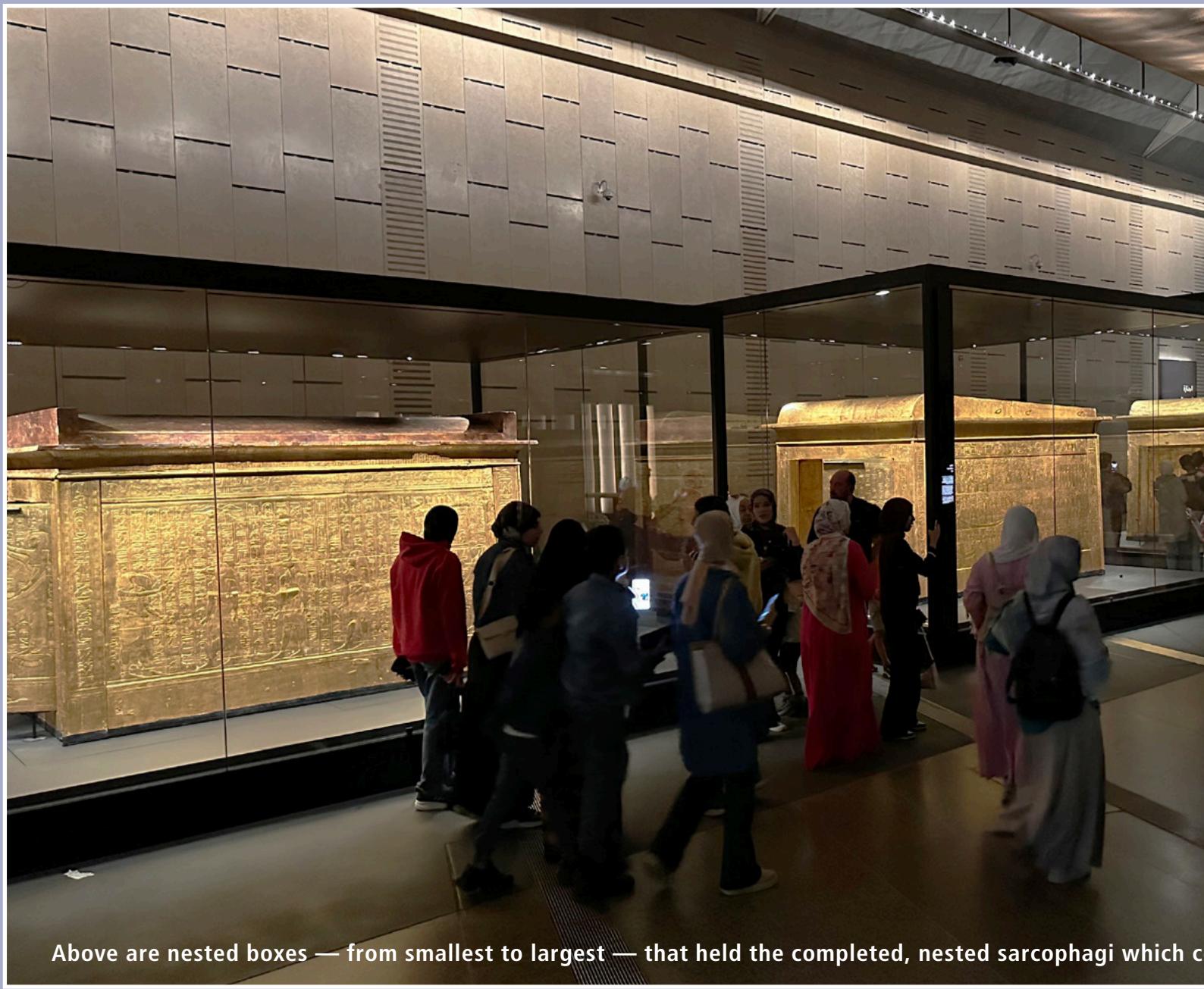


Nested sarcophagi, from smallest to largest





Day 2



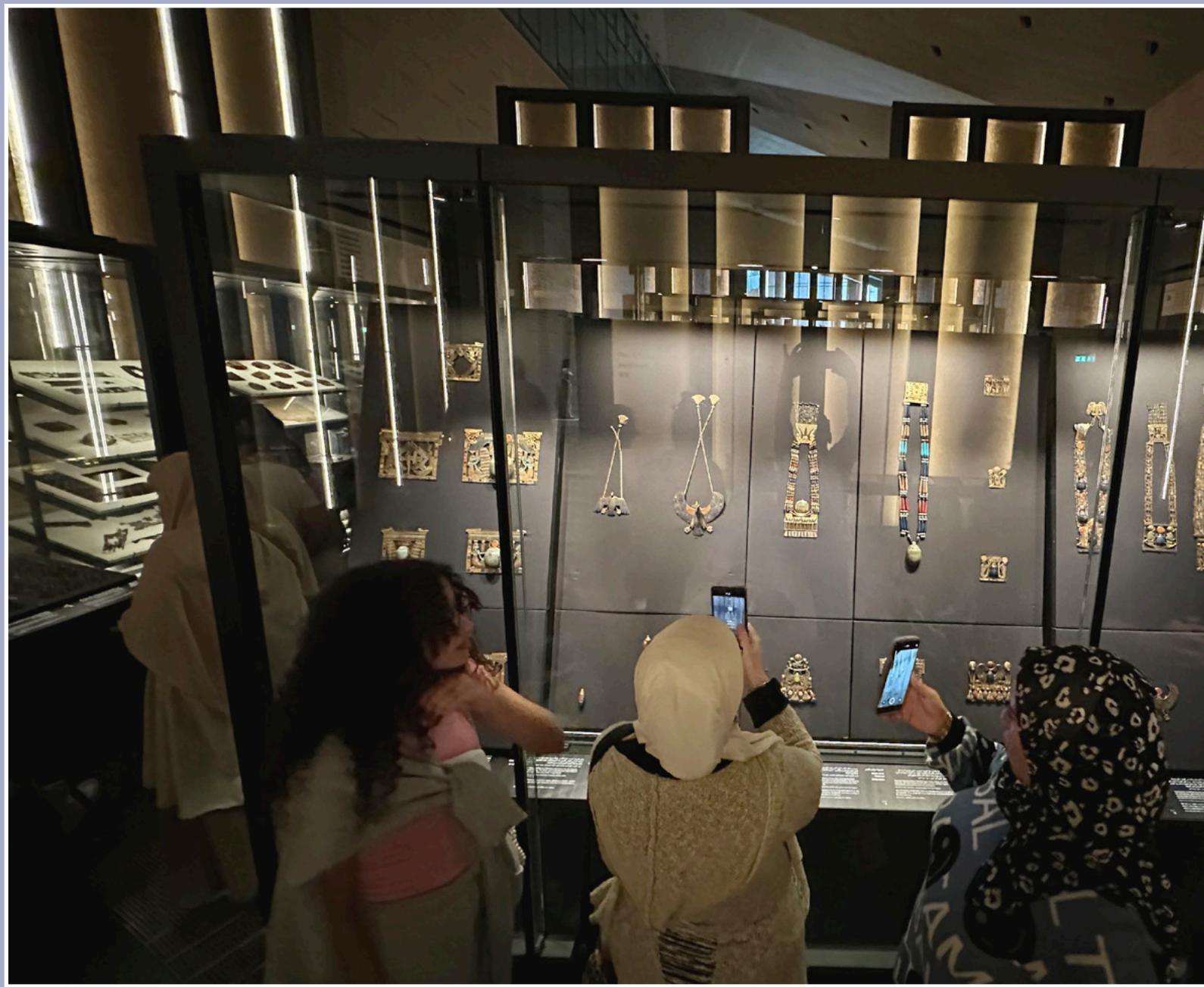
Above are nested boxes — from smallest to largest — that held the completed, nested sarcophagi which c





contained the mummy of King Tut.

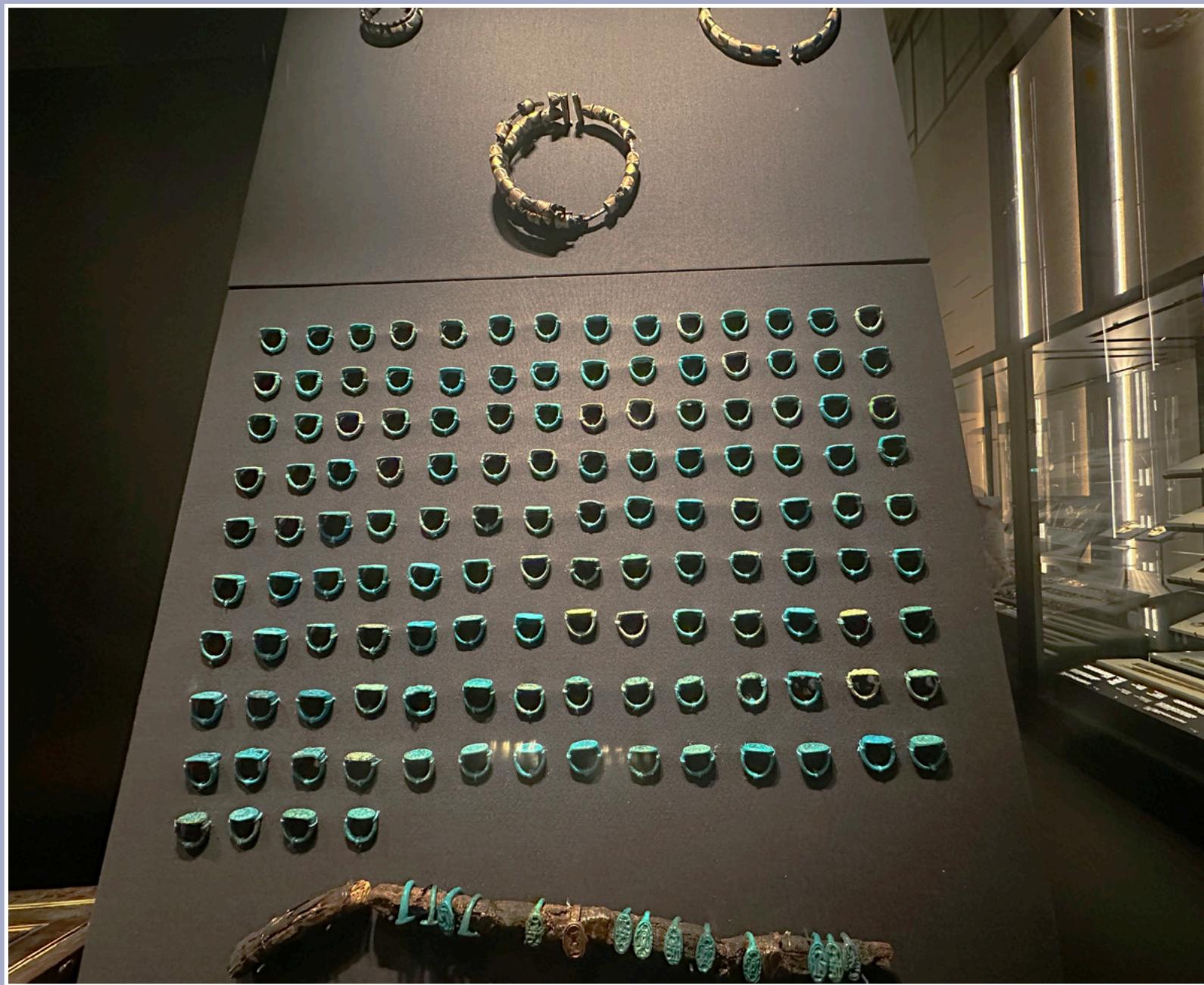




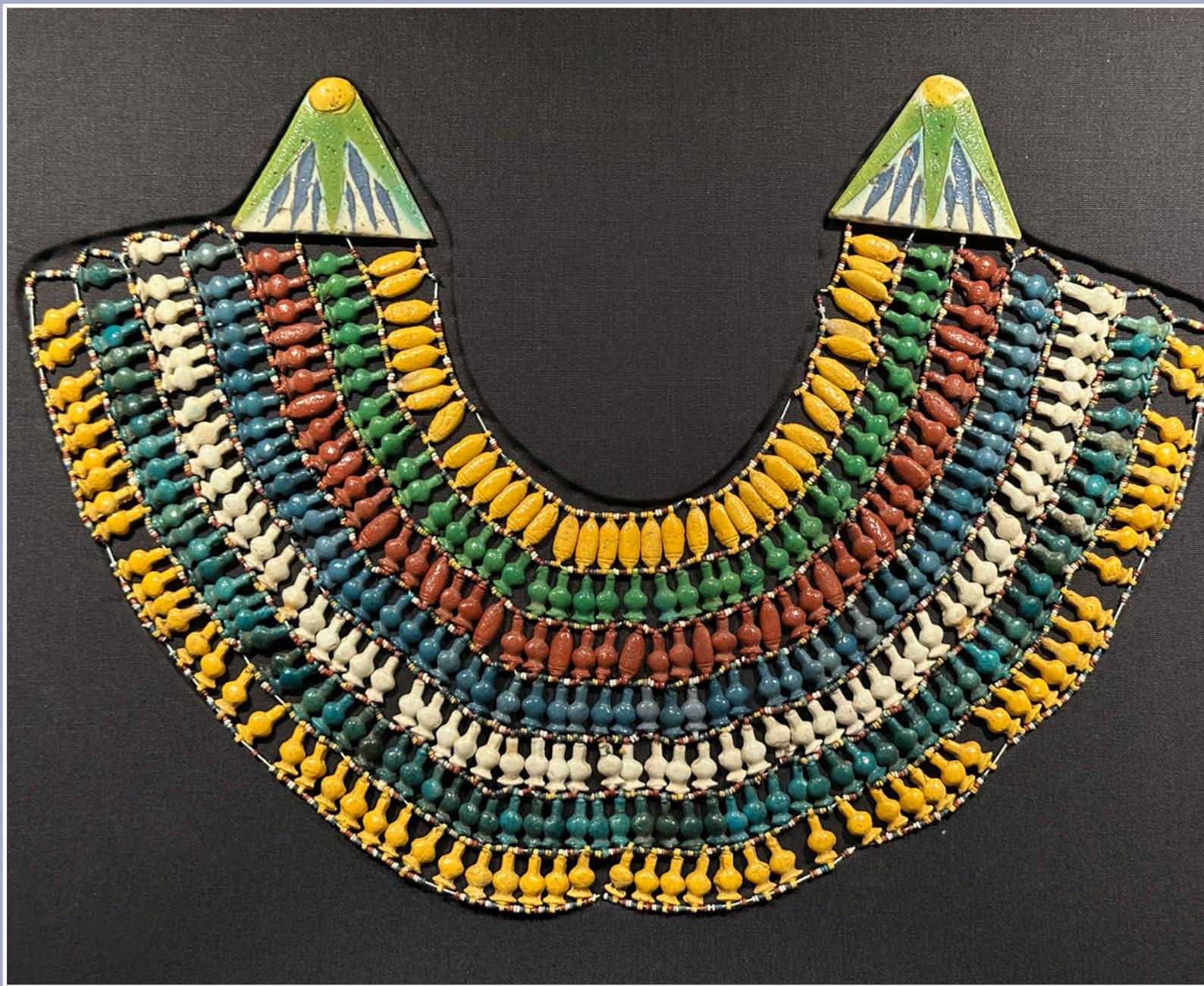


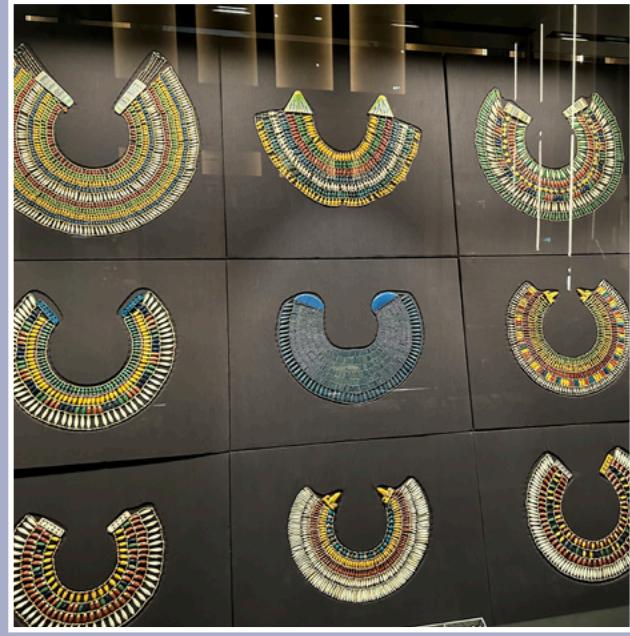
▲ Probably from a meteorite, the single 'wedjat eye' is made of iron that was known in ancient Egypt as "metal from heaven".





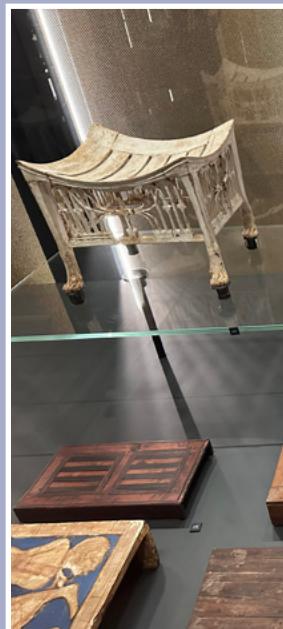


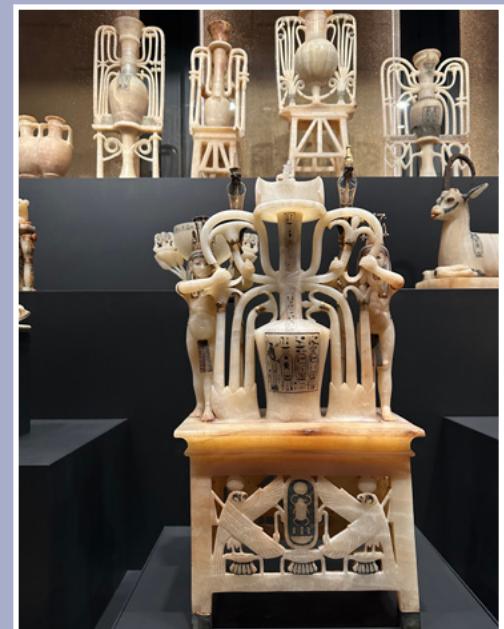


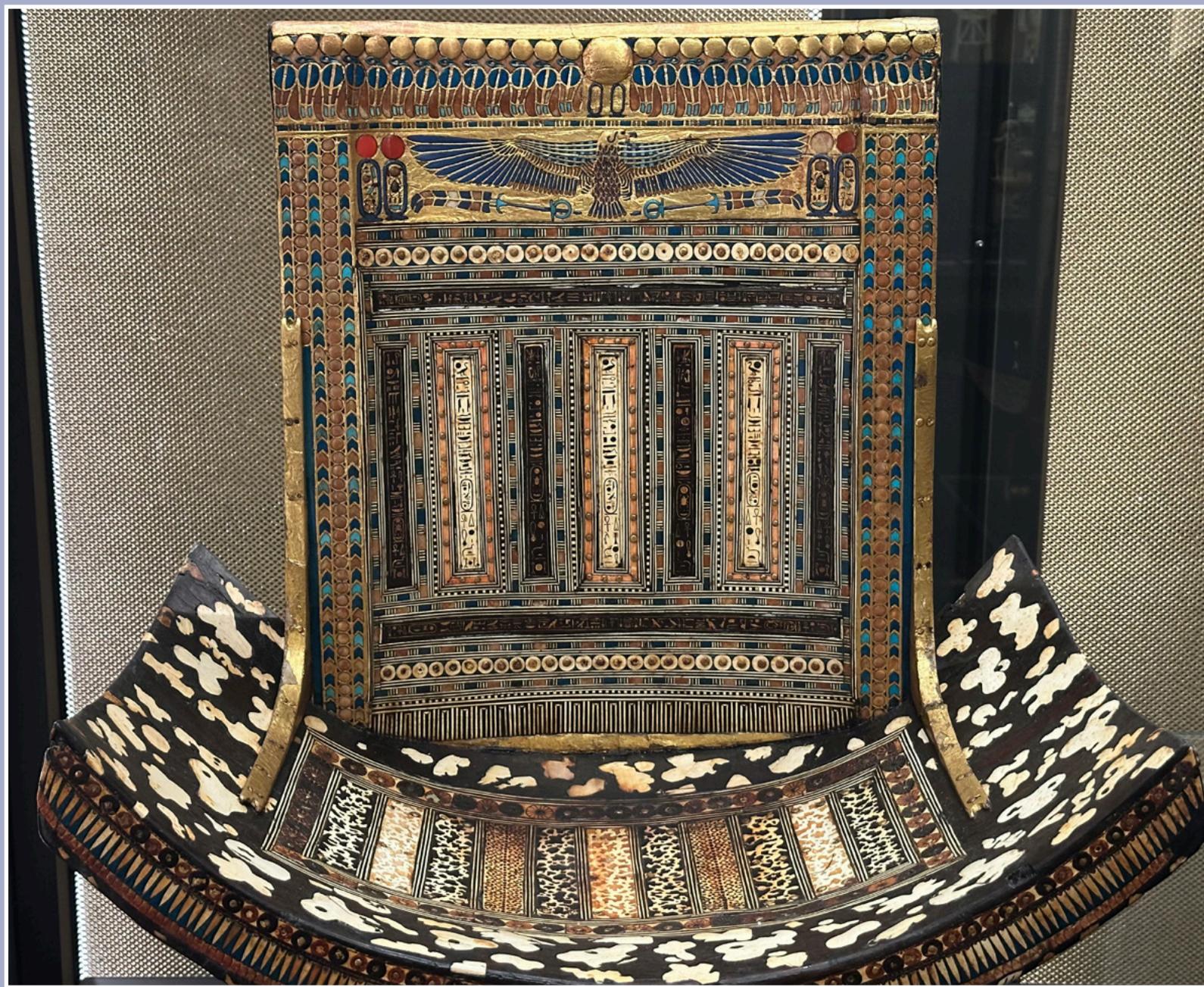


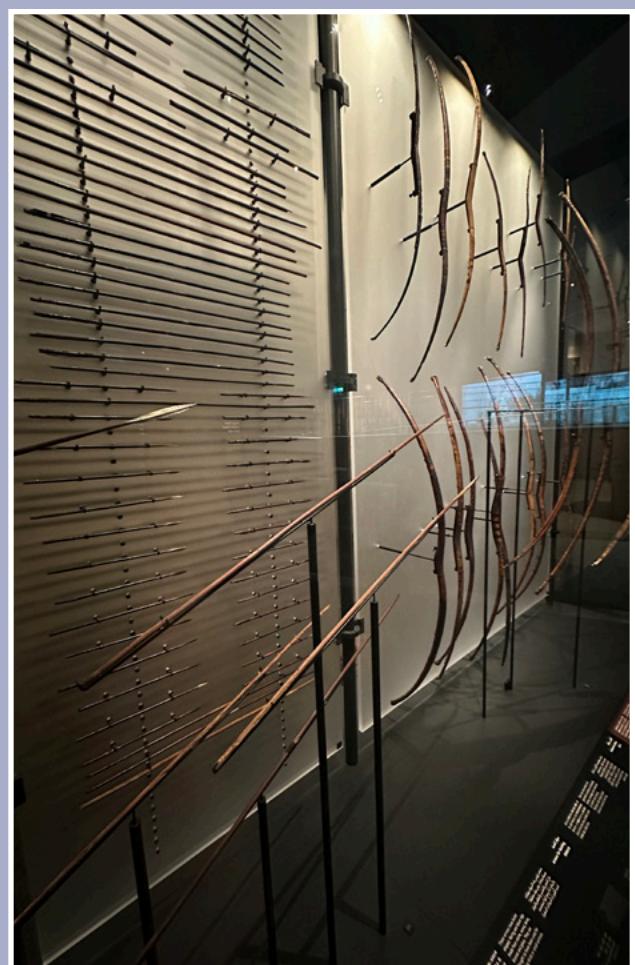
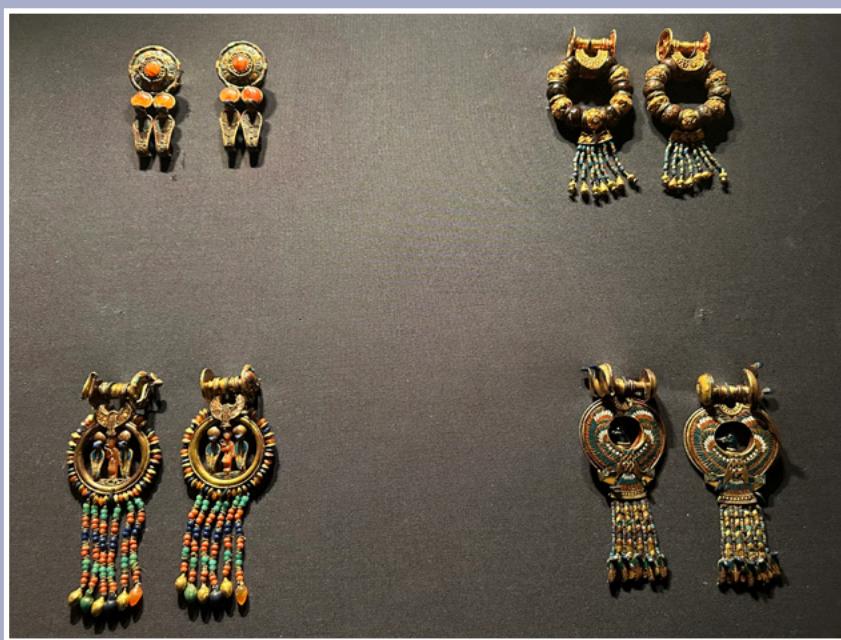




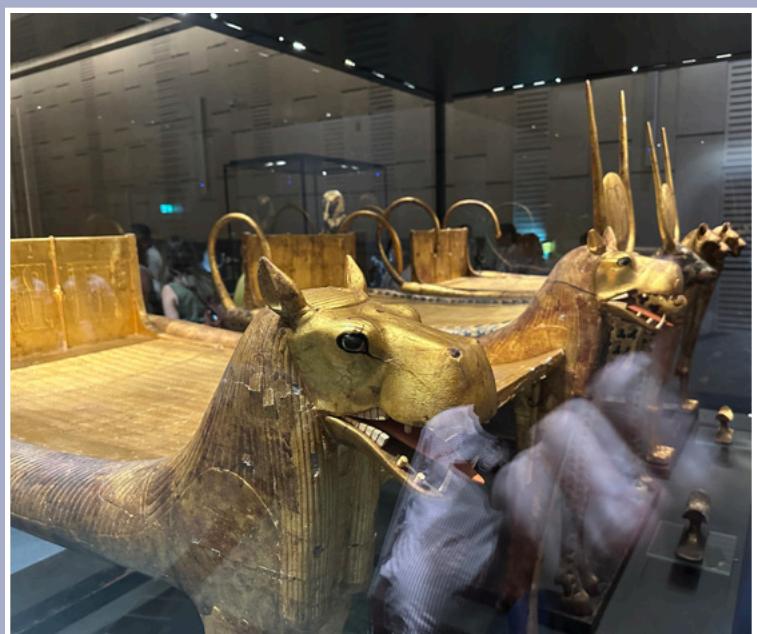
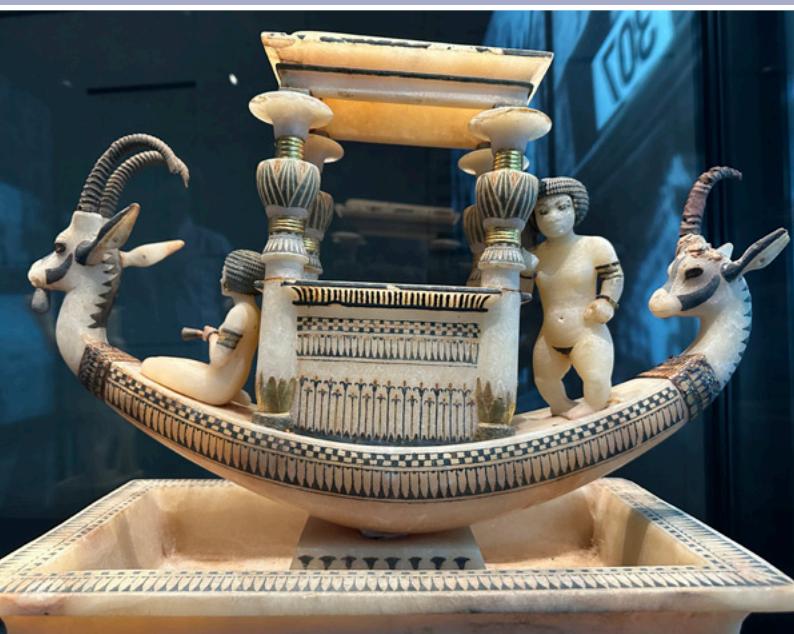


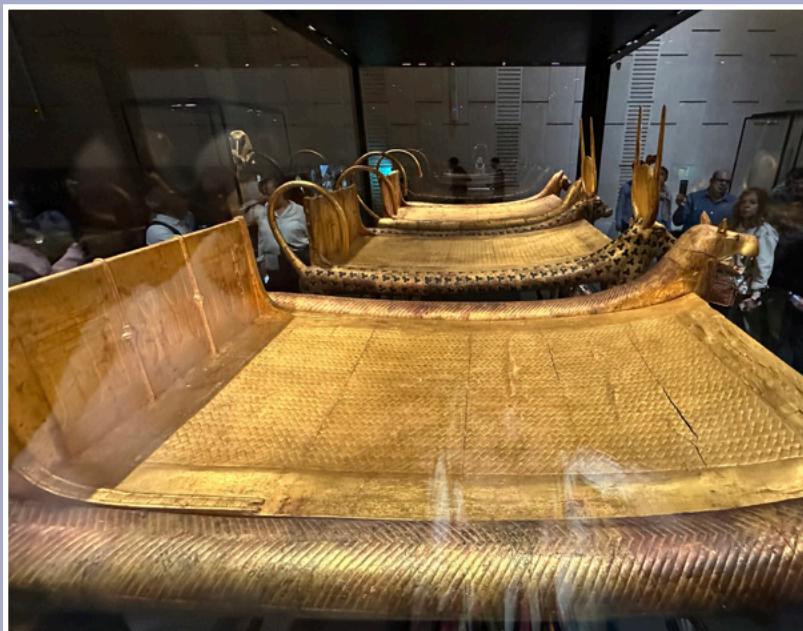


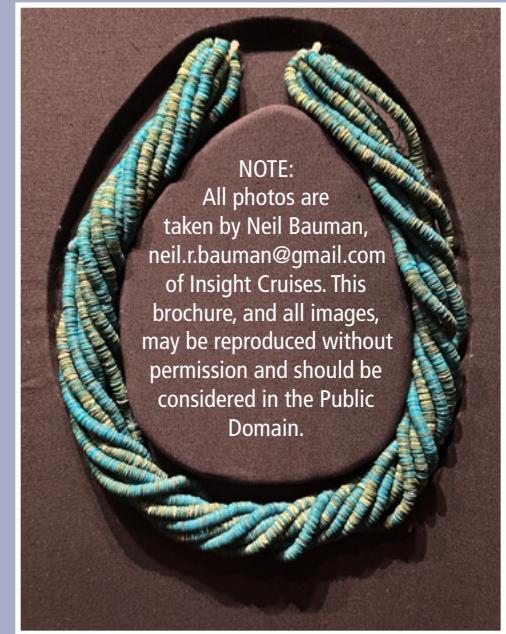
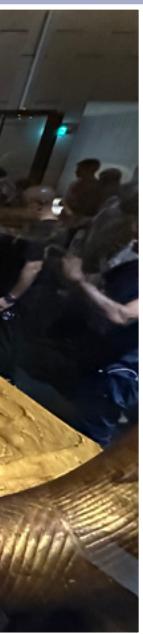








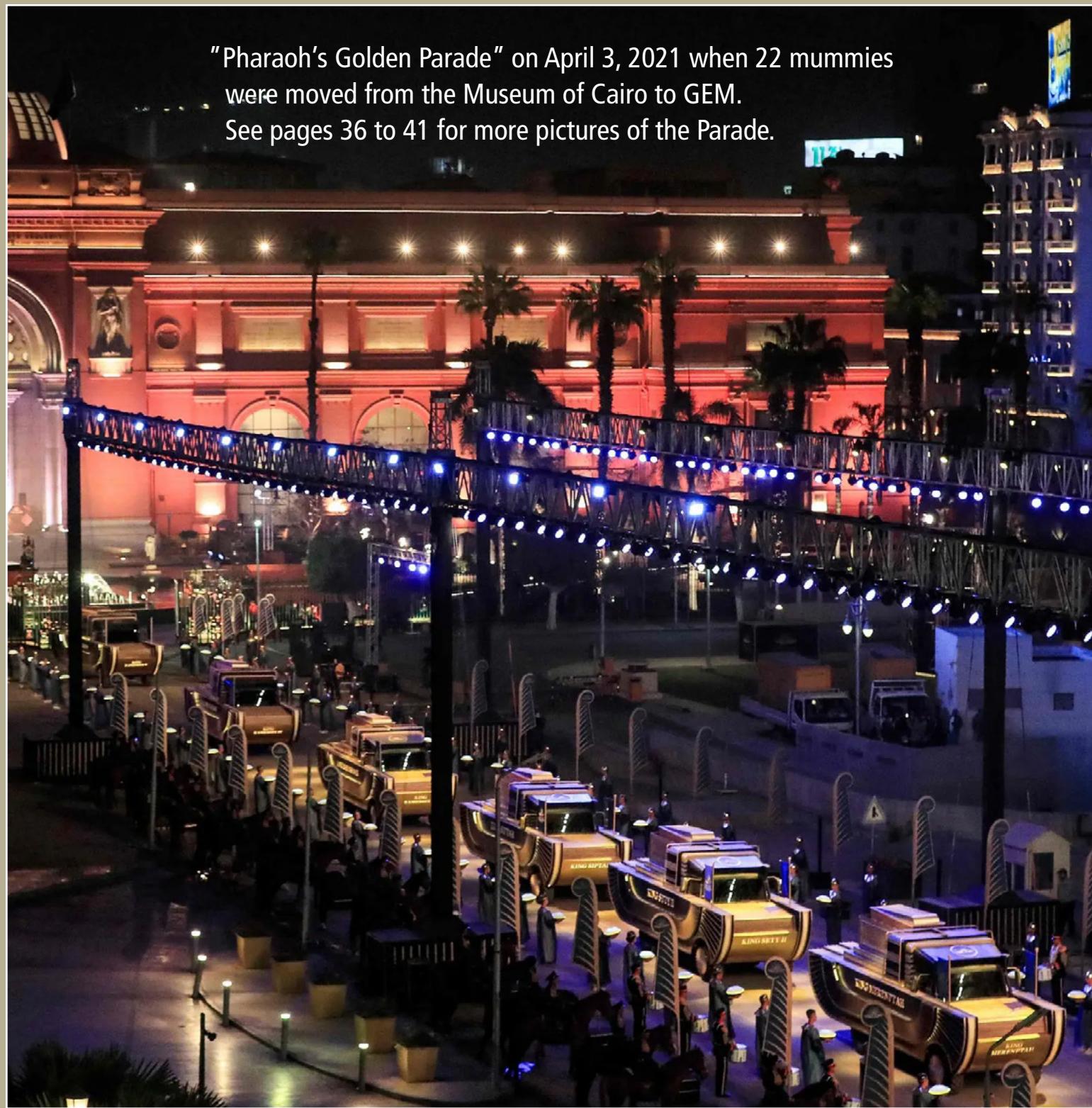




DAY 3 (morning) CAIRO: MUSEUM OF CAIRO

This morning we'll visit The Egyptian Museum of Antiquities (known commonly as the Egyptian Museum or Museum of Cairo), which has undergone extensive renovation since (all of) King Tut's artifacts moved to the GEM. Still, a vast array of world-class Egyptian antiquities awaits you here in the Museum of Cairo.

"Pharaoh's Golden Parade" on April 3, 2021 when 22 mummies were moved from the Museum of Cairo to GEM. See pages 36 to 41 for more pictures of the Parade.





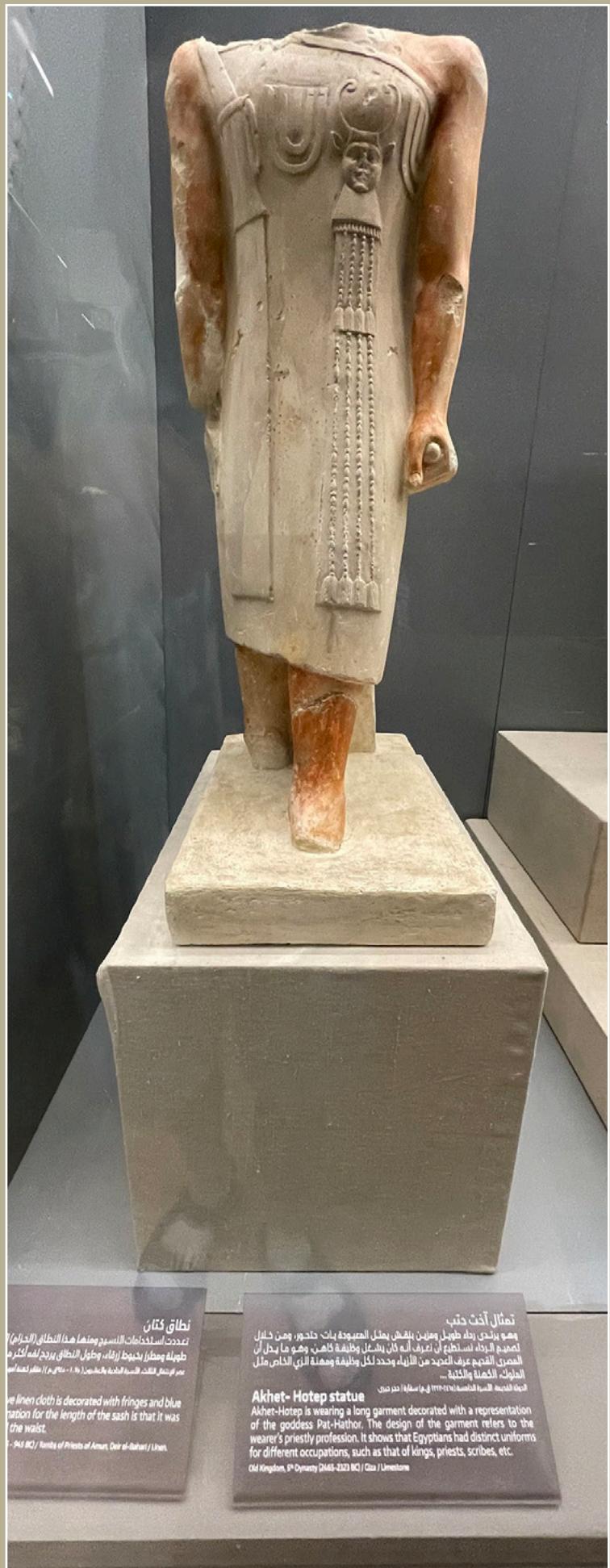
This incredibly preserved scene on papyrus appears in a Book of the Dead created for King Tut's grandfather Yuya at the Egyptian Museum.



The Egyptian Museum displays a wooden raised chest from the tomb of Tutankhamun's grandparents, Yuya and Tuya. It is skillfully made with gilding and faience. Ceramic faience was thought to be magical and imbued with powers of rebirth.



The statue of Queen Iset or Isis (mother of King Thutmose III, second great royal wife of King Thutmose II) has been in the Egyptian Museum since its discovery as part of the "Karnak Cachette" in 1903 – 1907. The queen wears a large wig, with symbols representing the White Crown of Upper Egypt and the Red Crown of Lower Egypt. The statue dates to the New Kingdom mid-18th Dynasty, circa 1479 – 1425 BCE.



Akhenaten holds forth over a corner of The Egyptian Museum. The pharaoh appears in a traditional pose holding the crook (the curved item representing leadership and domination) and the flail (the tassel-like object on his right shoulder, a symbol of the fertility of the land.) In ancient times the crook and flail were attributes of the god Osiris, and eventually came to symbolize the pharaoh's authority.

The Egyptian Museum abounds in striking sculpture. Akhet-Hotep's gown shows he served as priest. He lived during the reigns of the late 25th-century BCE pharaohs Djedkare and Unas. The rod in Akhet-Hotep's left hand indicates that he wielded power.



The Menkaure Triad statue (circa 2494 – 2472 BCE) holds court at The Egyptian Museum. King Menkaure stands center, holding a rod symbolizing the possession of power in his left hand. The goddess Hathor stands on Menkaure's right, wearing her crown featuring the sun disc between two cow horns. The goddess Bat is on Menkaure's left, wearing the symbols of the region where she is revered.

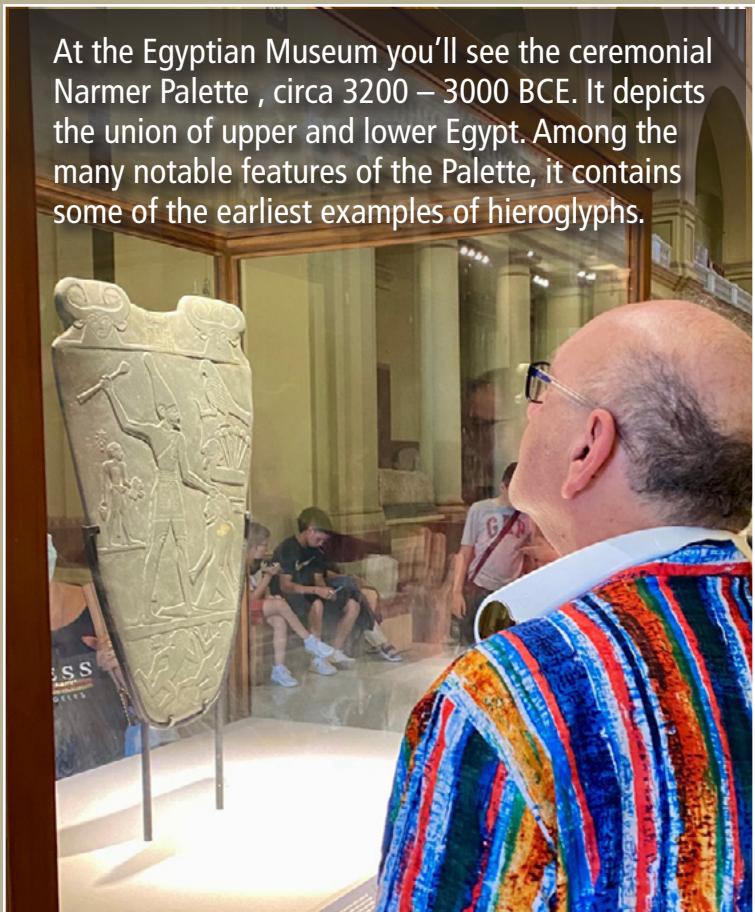
A 5th dynasty false door circa 2446 – 2438 BCE displayed at the Egyptian Museum could serve the spirit of Nikaure, a high official and chief administrator of the palace in the reign of Nefererkaure. Nikaure and his wife Ihat, both priests, each have a false door in this panel.



One of the artistic glories of ancient Egypt, this slab shows the pharaoh Akhenaten, his wife Nefertiti, and their family making an offering of lotus flowers to the Aten, the single sanctioned deity during Akhenaten's reign circa 1365 – 1349 BCE.



At the Egyptian Museum you'll see the ceremonial Narmer Palette, circa 3200 – 3000 BCE. It depicts the union of upper and lower Egypt. Among the many notable features of the Palette, it contains some of the earliest examples of hieroglyphs.





On February 20, 2023 Egypt's Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities unveiled a renovated wing of its oldest museum, now home to a 16-meter-long papyrus scroll unearthed last year. The refurbishment marks the first stage of broader renovations for the 120-year-old salmon-colored palatial complex in downtown Cairo, opposite the capital's famed Tahrir Square. Part of the refurbishment includes new modern glass protections and new interior lighting.

In the picture above, Mostafa Waziri, secretary-general of the Supreme Council Antiquities, speaks in front of the scroll which contains inscriptions from the Book of the Dead dating back to 50 BCE.



DAY 3 (afternoon) CAIRO: NMEC

We kick off our afternoon sojourn with a visit to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC). The institution takes on the imposing task of introducing guests to ~8,000 years of Egyptian life and times. In this way, NMEC is unique among Cairo's fabulous museums: it covers all of Egypt's history, not just its ancient periods.

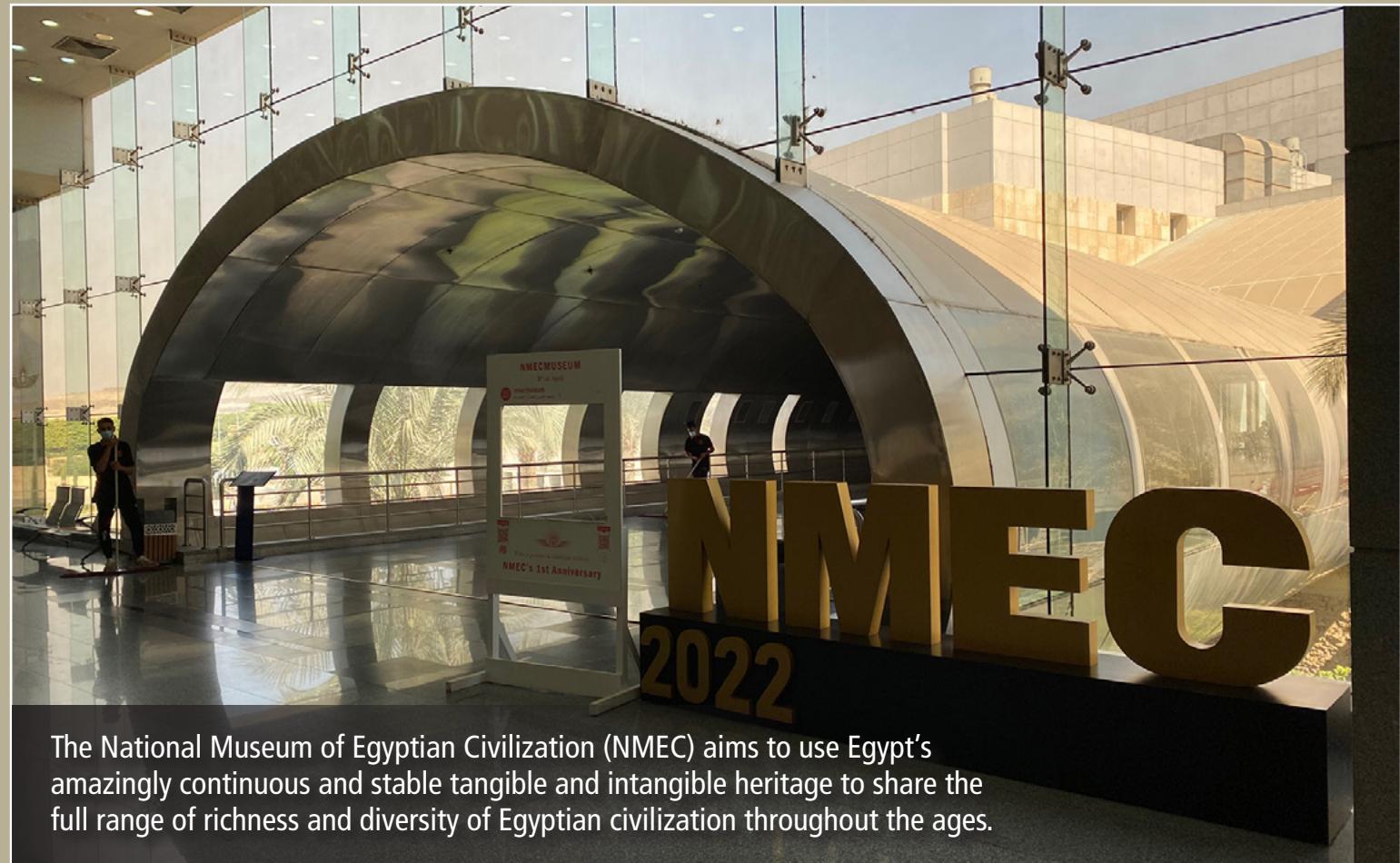
NMEC organizes its exhibits in six subject areas (The Dawn of Civilization, The Nile, Writing, State & Society, Material Culture, and Beliefs & Thinking) plus the Gallery of Royal Mummies.

NMEC also serves as a conservation center with research and restoration facilities, training facilities, and a publishing house. It now contains 50,000 artifacts.

NMEC hosts the Royal Mummies, which were transported from the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square to NMEC in the "Pharaoh's Golden Parade" (see last pages) in April 2021, when the museum was officially inaugurated by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi.



Mr. Sadek and Mr. Khalid (from New Egylook Tours), highly-seasoned Egyptian travel industry professionals, stroll NMEC's cool, modern, wide-open welcoming spaces. Note that these Cairo natives were wearing long pants and sneakers during nearly all of their touring with Insight Cruises in August 2022!



The National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC) aims to use Egypt's amazingly continuous and stable tangible and intangible heritage to share the full range of richness and diversity of Egyptian civilization throughout the ages.



Many museums, world wide, were built as places to store collections of archaeological artifacts. National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC) is not one of them. It was designed to present material evidence of Egyptian civilization and its intangible heritage throughout history, from pre-history to the twentieth century. As you look at these photos of some of NMEC's galleries, you can see two of its prominent features: artifacts tracing Egypt's history, and space: comfortably lit overhead space. Space to move around uncrowded display cases. Spacious aisles. Space to host educational and cultural events. Space to be captivated by an artifact, step back from it to reflect, and encounter space.



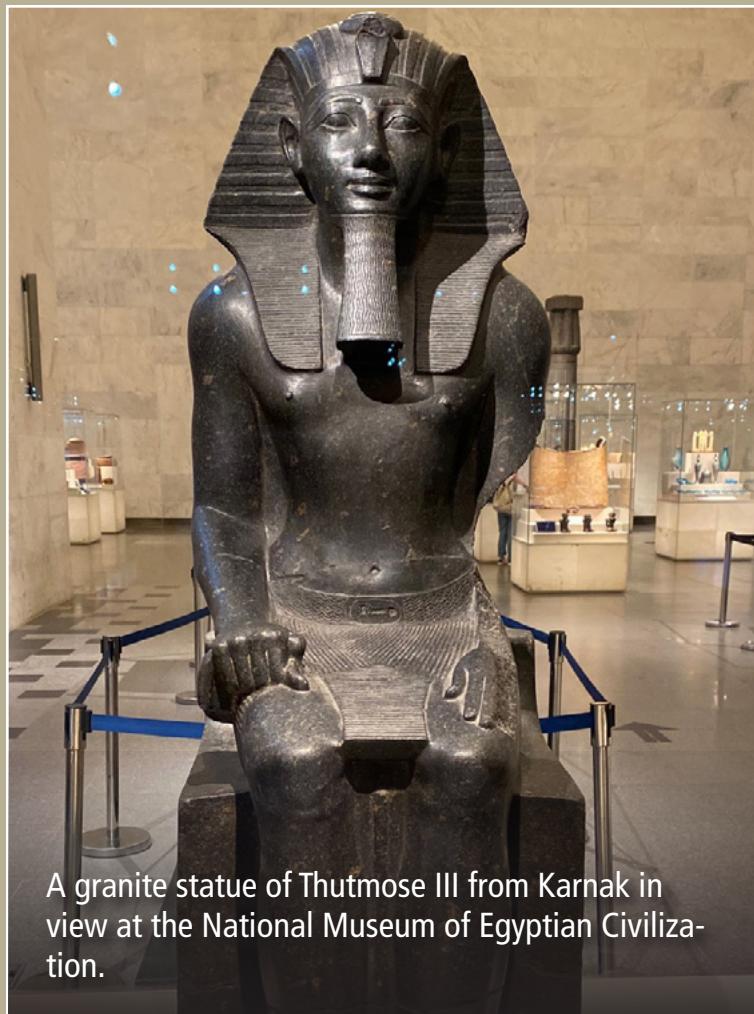
Day 3 afternoon



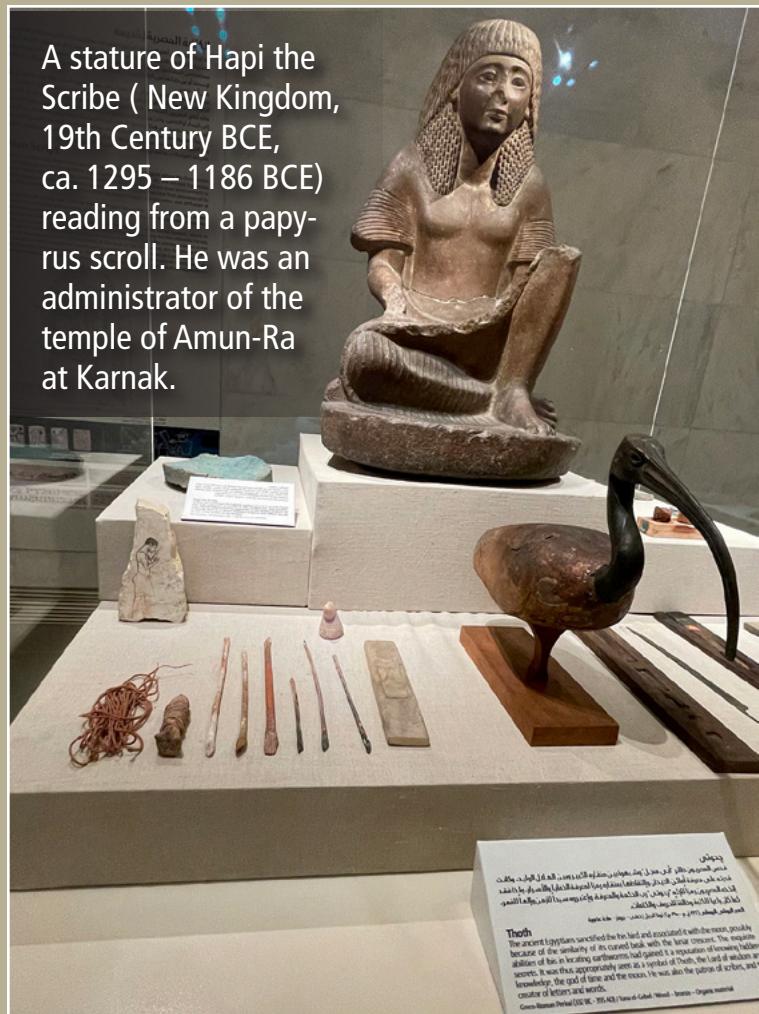
Queen Hetepheres I's life was intertwined with Old Kingdom, 4th Dynasty kingship. She was a wife of Sneferu, the pharaoh who improved pyramid-building techniques; mother of King Khufu (Cheops, builder of the Great Pyramid); and the grandmother of two kings, Djedefre and Khafre, and of queen Hetepheres II. You can see Hetepheres's armchair, adorned with lotus flowers, in the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization.



Neferuptah's broad collar stands out among the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization's examples of Middle Kingdom jewelry. Princess Neferuptah is believed to be Amenemhat III's daughter, and so was a member of the 12th Dynasty, living circa 1860 – 1814 BCE.



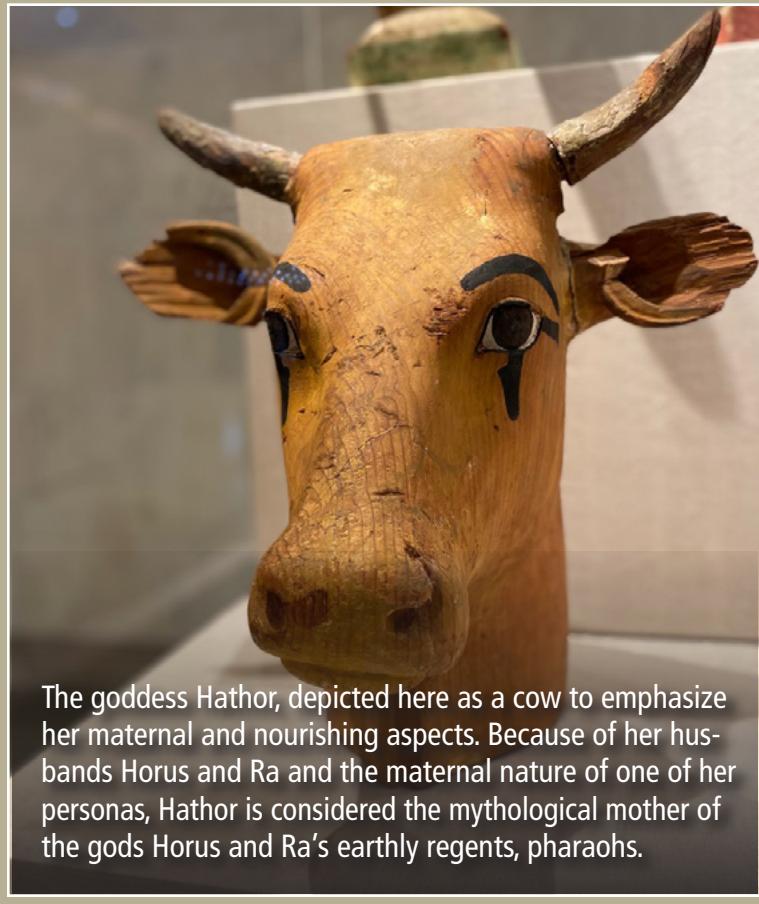
A granite statue of Thutmose III from Karnak in view at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization.



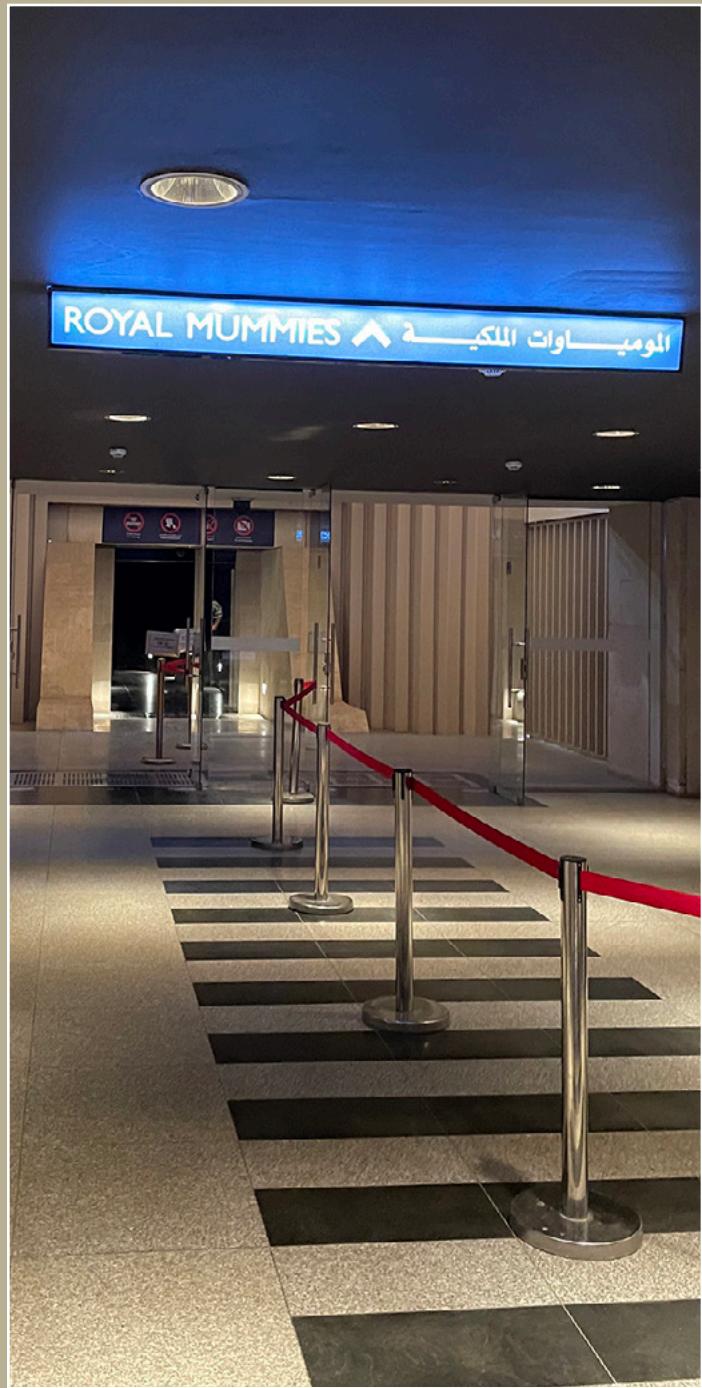
A statue of Hapi the Scribe (New Kingdom, 19th Century BCE, ca. 1295 – 1186 BCE) reading from a papyrus scroll. He was an administrator of the temple of Amun-Ra at Karnak.



Highly detailed and richly symbolic, Coptic and Greco-Roman jewelry is a cherished artifact of Egyptian civilization.



The goddess Hathor, depicted here as a cow to emphasize her maternal and nourishing aspects. Because of her husbands Horus and Ra and the maternal nature of one of her personas, Hathor is considered the mythological mother of the gods Horus and Ra's earthly regents, pharaohs.



Considered the crown jewel of the museum, the Royal Mummies' Hall is specially designed to display the mummies of the ancient Kings and Queens of Egypt. The design aims to give the visitor the feeling of strolling down the Valley of The Kings, where most of these mummies were originally resting. The hall includes 22 Royal mummies (both Kings and Queens), from the 17th until the 20th dynasty. The most famous mummies are Hatshepsut (Maatkare), Thutmose III (Menkheperre), and Seqenenre Taa II.

The discovery of the Royal Mummies of the New Kingdom was one of the greatest and most unexpected discoveries in the history of archaeology. The discovery did not involve the usual architectural and artistic masterpieces, but the sacred bodies of the builders of Egyptian civilization during the New Kingdom. These were the same builders that believed in life after death and devoted a large part of their wealth to defeating death.

In accordance with their beliefs, they preserved their bodies for the sake of their souls. They constructed their tombs within the cliff of the valley on the West Bank of the Nile, near their capital at Thebes (now Luxor), and equipped them with all the necessary objects for life after death. The tombs' entrances were then blocked and the chambers were hidden in order to allow the mummies to be preserved for eternity and carry out their role as a home for the soul in the Afterlife.

PHARAOHS' GOLDEN PARADE: APRIL 3, 2021

