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**Study Tour of Egypt**

**March 10-19, 2011**

**Tentative Itinerary**

(B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner)

**Thursday,** March 10, 2011

International air, Washington to Cairo: Flight leaves IAD with Lufthansa. Arrival in Cairo is the next day (Friday, March 11)

## Friday, March 11, 2011

## The group will be met upon arrival at Cairo's International airport by our representative who will assist you through customs. You will then be driven to your hotel for a welcome dinner.D

Hotel: **Ramses Hilton, Cairo**

Category: DLX

*Located on the banks of the River Nile, the hotel boasts a 36th floor Windows on the World restaurant, a British-style pub, an Indian restaurant, a shopping Galleria and an Executive Lounge. Located In the heart of the city, the hotel has 6 meeting rooms and a ballroom for up to 600 persons*.

## Saturday, March 12, 2011

 **Cairo.** Breakfast at hotel. A full day tour starting with a visit to **Memphis** which served as the capital of upper and lower Egypt some 5,000 years ago during the First Dynasty. Menes, the first pharaoh of this dynasty, built a great, white-walled palace and the Temple of Ptah here. The step pyramid of **King Zoser** is found in **Sakkara**. Continue to **Giza** to see the three great pyramids of **Cheops, Chefren and Mykerinos** and their guardian **Sphinx**, which dates from the time of Chefren. The 65 feet high and 187 feet long statue combines the head of a Pharaoh with a lion's body. **B, D**

Hotel: **Ramses Hilton, Cairo**

## Sunday, March 13, 2011

**Cairo.** Breakfast at hotel, then a full day tour of Old Cairo; visit the world-famous **Egyptian Museum of Antiquities** including the treasure of **Tutankhamen**. Continue our tour to visit the C**itadel of Saladdin**, the **Alabaster Mosque of Muhammed Ali** and the fascinating **Khan El Khalili Bazaar**. Overnight in Cairo. **B, D**

Hotel: **Ramses Hilton, Cairo**

**Monday,** March 14, 2011

**Cairo to Luxor.** Breakfast at your hotel. Then an early morning transfer to Cairo airport to catch a short flight to Luxor. Upon arrival at Luxor airport you will be met by a representative from Key Tours. After collecting your baggage, a private Egyptologist/Tour Guide will take you directly from Luxor Airport to visit the West Bank, **Valley of the Kings, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut at El-Deir-El Bahari, and the Colossi of Memnon.** Then you will be escorted to your **Nile cruise** where you can settle in to your cabin before enjoying lunch on board. After lunch, you will visit the East Bank of Luxor with its **temples of Karnak and Luxor**. Overnight in Luxor. **B, L, D**

Cruise ship: **Royal Ruby**

Category: DLX

*The Royal Ruby is a Super Deluxe Ship, launched February 2005 according to the latest and highest standards of safety and security on the River Nile. It was designed by the exacting standards of the most talented Italian engineers, and was built with strict accordance to the rules & regulations of the American Bureau of Shipping. Length 240 Feet, Width 55 feet. It boasts 70 well-appointed junior suites (230 sqf) and one Presidential suite (450sqf). There are a myriad of luxury features on this classic ship, such as: satellite TV, video system with feature movies, 3 classic bars, 1 piano bar, laundry service, international telephone, Internet, sun deck, and hair dresser. There is a private bath in each cabin, which is equipped with a shower Jacuzzi. In addition, there is a digital safe deposit box in each cabin.*

## Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Your Nile cruise begins sailing from Luxor to Esna. After sailing through a lock, it will then sail on to Edfu where you will overnight on the ship. **B, L, D**

## Wednesday, March 16, 2011

**Edfu -Kom Omba -Aswan** In the morning you will visit the **Temple of Horus** in Edfu.
It is one of the most complete architectures in Egypt dedicated for God, Horus son of Osiris. In the afternoon we sail to **Kom Ombo** and visit the Temple shared by the two Gods; Sobek and Haroeris. It is complete with mummified crocodiles. The ship then continues on to Aswan. After dinner on the ship, there will be a Nubian show.

Overnight in Aswan. **B, L, D**

## Thursday, March 17, 2011

**Aswan - Abu Simbel – Aswan.** After an early breakfast, transfer to Aswan airport for flight to Abu Simbel**.**  ( MS 145 ASW 06:00 AM / ABS 06:45 AM) . Upon arrival you will get a morning tour of **Abu Simbel**. After the tour, return to airport for return flight to Aswan. (MS 146 ABS 09:15 AM / ASW 10:00 AM). Return to the ship for lunch. There is an afternoon tour in Aswan to the **High Dam**, the **Unfinished Obelisk**, and the **Temple of Philae** (by motor boat). Finally, a tour by Felucca (local sailing craft) to Elephantine Island. After dinner on the ship, there will be a belly-dancing show. **B, L, D**

## Friday, March 18, 2011

**Aswan-Cairo** After early breakfast disembark cruise and transfer to Aswan airport for flight to Cairo where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. You will then tour some of Cairo’s famous old Coptic Churches and its synagogue. You will visit the Church of St. Sergius and Bacchus, Coptic Churches, inside the site of the Roman fortress of Babylon, including the Hanging Church and the collection of Coptic art. Benjamin of Tudela recorded that he saw the Torah of Ezra the Scribe at Ben Ezra Synagogue. The synagogue contains a number of artifacts, including a Torah on gazelle skin, a drawing of a seven-branched candelabra on deer skin, and a manuscript known as the "Atlas of Moses."
Later you will be picked up by bus and taken to the Nile River where you will enjoy a River Cruise Dinner. **B, D**

## Hotel: Novotel at the airport.

Category: DLX

**Saturday,** March 19, 2011

## Cairo Early morning check out from the hotel and transfer to Cairo International airport for the flight back to Washington. Leave Cairo at 4:45 a.m. Arrival in Washington at 3:50 p.m., the same day.