EGYPT: VALLEY OF KINGS

YOUNG ALUMNI TOUR 2020

BE PART OF THE TRADITION

MAY 24 - U.S. DEPARTURE DATE
MAY 25 - LAND TOUR START DATE
MAY 31 - TRAVEL HOME

BASE LAND PACKAGE FROM: $ 1,998

MSU Alumni Association
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
START YOUR ADVENTURE.

Dear Young Alumni and Friends!

Can you think of a better way to travel than with fellow Michigan State Young Alumni? The Michigan State young alumni travel program offers you this opportunity by bringing you together with individuals in the same age range, with similar backgrounds and experiences, while enriching you on well-designed, hassle-free tours of the world.

Travel with young alumni and friends of peer institutions, ages 22 – 35. These programs provide social, cultural and recreational activities and many opportunities for learning enrichment and enjoying a connection back to the Michigan State alumni family. They are of great quality and value, operated by a travel company with over 40 years of experience in the young professional travel market. In this brochure you will find a detailed itinerary, travel dates and pricing.

If you have any questions about our young alumni travel program, please contact us by emailing our tour operator, AESU, at alumni@aesu.com or call 800-638-7640.

Sincerely,

Regina Cross
Director of Alumni Travel
MSU Alumni Association

We highly recommend travel insurance. Your Alumni Association offers travel insurance. Please visit this web site for information or to purchase insurance: https://select.travelinsure.com/
EGYPT: VALLEY OF KINGS
8 DAYS

PLACES VISITED:
Cairo - Aswan - Luxor - Nile River cruise

ABOUT THE TRIP:
Bring out the explorer in you and visit the land that gave birth to the first great civilization. Hop on a luxury Nile cruise and visit the city of Edfu, discover the pharaonic temples in the Valley of the Kings, then see timeless treasures at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. Translate ancient stories told in the beautiful hieroglyphics that line the walls of ancient tombs and part-take in a traditional Galabiyah party. Make your childhood dreams come true this year and discover Egypt.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:
Welcome orientation * Aswan site of cataracts * Galabiyah party * Egyptian Museum in Cairo * Authentic Egyptian farewell dinner * Traditional Felucca ride on the Nile * Monuments of the world’s Seven Wonders * Saqqara tombs * Step Pyramid * Giza Plateau & Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx * Kephren’s Pyramid * Phalie Temple * Unfinished Obelisk * Kom Ombo temple, dedicated to Horus and Sobek * Edfu temple * King Tut’s Sarcophagus * Valley of the Kings * Queen Hatshepsut’s temple * Memnon Colossi Karnack temple dedicated to god Amon-Ra * Luxor temple with two seated statues of Ramses ...and much more!

WHAT’S INCLUDED:
The 8-day land package includes:
3 nights in first class hotels or better, 2-share rooms with private bath/shower * 3 nights on a 5-star deluxe Nile Cruise with private bath/shower, 2-share cabins * 6 continental breakfasts * 5 lunches * 6 specialty dinners * Camel ride * Aswan, site of cataract rapids * Galabiyah party * Egyptian Museum in Cairo * Authentic Traditional Felucca ride on the Nile
DAY 1 - FLIGHT TO EGYPT
Board your overnight flight to Cairo.
Meals: In-flight

DAY 2 - LAND TOUR START DAY: CAIRO
Upon arrival in Cairo transfer to your hotel. If you are arriving on the group flight, a local representative will meet you and assist with baggage and customs, then transfer to your hotel by private, air-conditioned motor coach. Get acquainted with fellow alumni travelers during tonight’s welcome orientation and dinner at the hotel.
Meals: In-Flight, Dinner
Inclusions: Assistance upon Cairo airport arrival and airport transfer to hotel included with purchased AESU group airfare, Welcome orientation and dinner

DAY 3 - CAIRO
Today encounter the world’s most ancient civilization and the only remaining monuments of the world’s Seven Wonders, dating back to 1350 BC. Drive to Saqqara, an ancient burial ground that is filled with tombs lying beneath the heaped mounds. Our local historian explains the significance of the beautiful hieroglyphics linings the walls and helps decipher their stories. Then visit Step Pyramid, the first freestanding stone building in history and the first pyramid ever built. Afterwards, drive to the Giza Plateau and visit the Pyramids of Giza and their guardian, the Sphinx. Explore the interior of various tombs and Kephren’s Pyramid. Then enjoy a fun camel or horse-back ride in the desert.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Inclusions: Monuments of the world’s Seven Wonders, Saqqara tombs, Ancient hieroglyphic stories, Step Pyramid, Giza Plateau & Pyramids of Giza, The Sphinx, Kephren’s Pyramid, Camel or horse-back ride

DAY 4 - CAIRO - FLIGHT TO ASWAN - NILE RIVER CRUISE
We check out of our hotel after breakfast and transfer to Cairo airport for our Aswan flight. Today we tour Aswan, strategic point at the first cataract rapids of the Nile. Here the river flows through granite rocks and the golden desert while palm trees and fertile farm lands cover its banks. Our first stop will be the amazing Phalie Temple. Later we visit the Unfinished Obelisk which lies in its original location in a granite quarry. It was abandoned when some cracks appeared in the rock during its construction. Had this obelisk been completed, it would have been the largest obelisk ever cut. The best way to explore this enchanting part of the Nile is by cruise ship. After boarding our luxury cruise ship and checking in, we’ll enjoy a buffet lunch. Afterward, join an excursion on the graceful Egyptian sailboats known as ‘Felucca.’ Explore closer to shore while the gentle breeze and currents peacefully carry us along. During the evening, back on our cruise ship, watch the magnificent Egyptian sunset as we glide past ancient pyramids, colorful bazaars and temples that were already ancient by the time Cleopatra took charge.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Inclusions: Flight from Cairo to Aswan, Aswan, site of cataract rapids, Phalie Temple, Unfinished Obelisk, Luxury Nile cruise, Felucca sailing
DAY 5 - NILE RIVER CRUISE TO LUXOR
This morning we sail north to Kom Ombo, the only temple in Egypt dedicated to two gods, Horus and Sobek. This temple was built for worshiping Horus, but after the number of crocodiles on the island rapidly increased, the temple was demolished and reconstructed to worship Sobek (crocodile shaped god) for protection from the crocodiles. We continue sailing north to Edfu temple, which is also dedicated to the falcon god Horus. It is one of the most completely preserved temples. The divine marriage of Hathor and Horus is depicted on the walls of this temple where it was celebrated once a year. The walls of the mamisi (house of the divine birth) are decorated with scenes depicting the divine birth of Horus the child. Enjoy a Galabiyah party during dinner, where we dress up in traditional Egyptian robes, as we continue sailing north to Luxor.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Inclusions: Kom Ombo Temple, Edfu temple, Galabiyah party

DAY 6 - NILE RIVER CRUISE - VALLEY OF THE KINGS
Today we cross the Nile to the West Bank. Our first stop will be the Valley of the Kings, where we visit colorful tombs that were carved out of rocky cliffs to safeguard the mummies and their rich furnishings from grave-robbers. Our next stop will be Queen Hatshepsut's Temple. Wanting to honor her father (god Amun), she asked her architect not to spare any effort in making this the best of its kind. Visit Memnon Colossi on the way back to the East Bank. After lunch, we will visit Karnack temple, a vast open-air museum. It is a group of temples surrounded by one enclosure wall that is dedicated to the god Amon-Ra. Approximately 30 pharaohs contributed to its building. In the evening we'll visit Luxor temple. It was completely buried in sand for many centuries, allowing it to be one of the most well-preserved temples. The temple has many beautifully decorated columns, a huge open court, a massive façade, a huge pylon and two seated statues of Ramses II.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Inclusions: Valley of the Kings, Queen Hatshepsut's Temple, Memnon Colossi, Karnack Temple, Luxor Temple

DAY 7 - NILE RIVER CRUISE - FLIGHT TO CAIRO
Today we disembark our Nile Cruise, but retain all the unforgettable memories of scenery and beautiful temples. Fly from Luxor to Cairo where we will spend our last day. Explore the Egyptian Museum, housing the world's largest collection of Pharaonic relics. Marvel at the enormous sarcophagi, statues, jewelry and the magnificent golden masterpieces of King Tut. This evening enjoy an authentic Egyptian farewell dinner, one of the many highlights of our tour and a wonderful finale.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Inclusions: Flight to Cairo, Egyptian Museum in Cairo, King Tut's Sarcophagus, Authentic Egyptian farewell dinner
DAY 8 - TRAVEL HOME
Today we say our good-byes to Egypt. After enjoying our last group breakfast, transfer to Cairo airport to board our flights home.
Meals: Breakfast, In-Flight
Inclusions: Airport transfer from hotel included with purchased AESUgroup airfare

Your trip includes the services of a private tour director for the duration of the land tour. All services charges and local taxes are included. Thank your tour director with a gratuity at the end of the tour (suggested amount $4-5 per day.) He or she will do their very best to make this trip the most memorable and best time of your life.
PROGRAM ACCOMMODATIONS

HOTELS
Our hotels are superior tourist-class or better, with private bathrooms. They are centrally located or have easy access to public transportation. Many have great extra amenities such as pools, gyms and roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If traveling solo and not wanting to pay the single supplement, AESU will attempt to arrange a share with a same-gender traveler. If a share cannot be arranged a single supplement of $495 will apply.

ACTIVITY LEVEL 2: MODERATE
Standing and walking for extended periods of time during city tours, museum visits, and/or outdoor activities. Walking over sometimes difficult terrain (e.g. cobblestones, city hills, stairs without handrails, absence of elevators, climbing aboard buses or trains with high steps.) Appropriate for travelers who are physically fit, lead active lives and are comfortable participating in moderate activities.

Please Note:
Travel to and from the tour is not factored into our activity level ratings. You should take into account your stamina when traveling long distances and/or with multiple flight changes. Also, you must be able to handle your luggage independently throughout the itinerary.

TOUR DIRECTORS
We are very proud of our tour directors. They are young professionals, multi-lingual and carefully selected graduates from major European universities. They are eager to show the world through the eyes of an adventurer. Our tour directors know this is a trip of a lifetime and will share their knowledge as well as interesting little-known facts. Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel.

"IT WAS AN AMAZING TRIP OF A LIFETIME. I WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND IT."

- past traveler
BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

EXCLUSIONS: These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own), airport and government taxes, tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested $4-5 per day for tour director, $2-3 per day for driver), beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise, laundry, personal insurance, room service, telephone charges, all items of a personal nature, airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates, private transportation, and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All cancellations must be received by AESU in writing. All cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a $500 per person cancellation fee. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. In addition to $500, cancellation between 120-60 days of departure will result in forfeiture of 25% of tour cost. Cancellation within 59 days of departure or a “no-show” at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip.

AIRFARES are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSEABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once reservation is booked and paid for AESU reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes are also subject to penalties. Medical health and accident insurance is compulsory. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO CANCELLATION POLICIES LISTED ABOVE DEPENDING ON TRIP DESTINATION.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS & BAGGAGE: All participants using AESU flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. Land-Only participants (providing own flight overseas) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 3:00 p.m. on program start date. FLIGHT DELAYS - ALL AIRPORTS: In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.) AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. If you purchase your own airfare, book your overnight flight from the USA one day earlier than the tour start date listed on our website. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Check your airline’s website for any additional baggage restrictions. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract.

RESPONSIBILITY: The responsibility of AESU as a tour operator, their agents, and any sponsoring association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond AESU’s control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. Trip cancellation insurance should be purchased by the individual traveler in the event cancellation of the tour is compelled by circumstances beyond our control. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, AESU’s liability shall be limited to a FULL REFUND of all payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. Baggage and personal injury are at owner’s risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. AESU reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed, even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our website at www.aesu.com.
Association's Disclaimer

The MSU Alumni Association (the ‘Association’) is not the Tour Operator.

The Association is not responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or car rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our control.

The Association acts only as agent for the participants with respect to travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in conveying participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the Association shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, governmental intervention or other causes beyond its control.

The Association shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality. The right is further reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure; in which case the entire payment may be refunded without further obligation on its part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person’s health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour.

Applicants for participation on this tour accept in full all of the conditions set forth above.