

adventurewomen

THE DESTINATION IS JUST THE BEGINNING

EGYPT & JORDAN

Wonders of the World



October 6 - 19, 2024



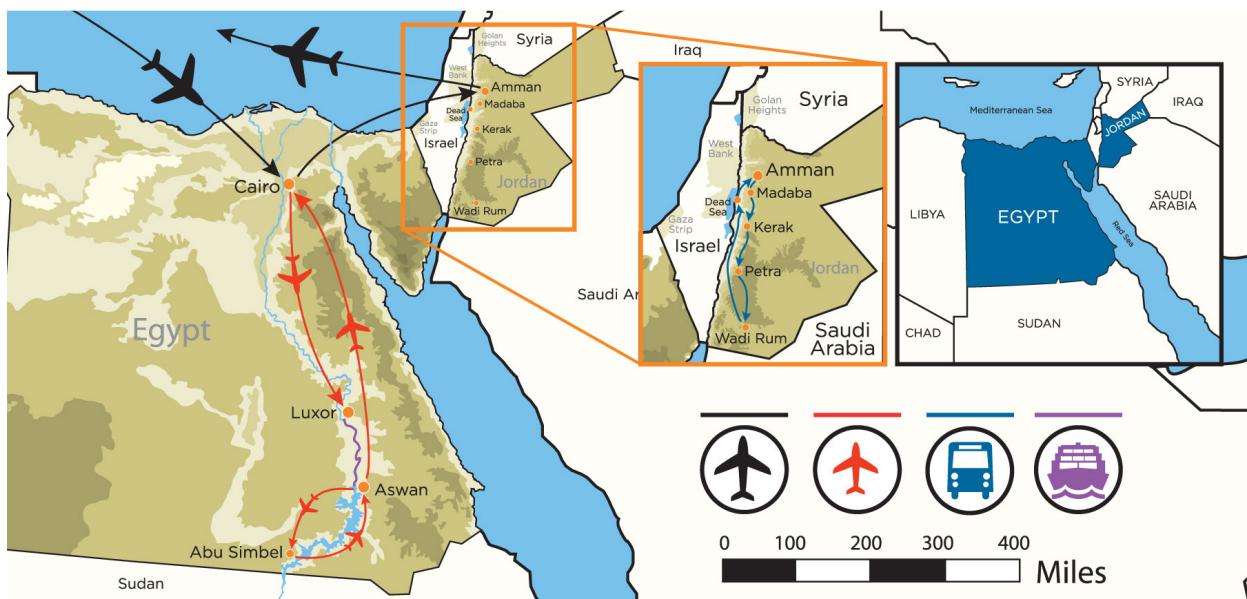
EGYPT & JORDAN

Wonders of the World

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Cruise through Egypt on the Nile River for 3 days, then sail on a 'felucca'
- ▶ Visit the Giza Pyramids famous for the great Sphinx of Egypt and the last of the ancient Seven Wonders of the World
- ▶ Tour the historic sites of Petra, Jordan and discover the "Rose City"
- ▶ Enjoy an evening at a luxurious camp, indulging on local delicacies, and stargazing to heart's content

TRIP ROUTE



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Wonders of the World

QUICK VIEW ITINERARY

- Day 1 arrive in Cairo, visit Egyptian Museum, welcome dinner
- Day 2 visit the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx and the National Museum of Civilization
- Day 3 visit the Temple of Luxor, Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon, and King Tut's tomb
- Day 4 cruise the Nile, Temples of Karnak and Khnum
- Day 5 Temples of Horus and Kom Ombo
- Day 6 visit Philae Temple, felucca ride
- Day 7 visit the Temples of Abu Simbel, fly to Cairo
- Day 8 fly to Amman, settle in at your hotel
- Day 9 explore Amman, Jerash, enjoy a wine tasting
- Day 10 visit Mount Nebo and Madaba, transfer to Petra
- Day 11 explore Petra, afternoon to relax, Chef's Table experience
- Day 12 visit Little Petra, drive to your camp in Wadi Rum
- Day 13 relax at the Dead Sea, farewell dinner
- Day 14 depart Jordan

ACTIVITY LEVEL

Active

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Wonders of the World



your adventure
in depth

DAY 1
Sunday
10/6/24

Arrive in Egypt

Egypt is one of the most intoxicating destinations in the world, unequaled in its prodigious contributions to world culture. Jordan's cultural treasures shine as early examples of human ingenuity. From hieroglyphs and temples to the ruins of Petra, walk with wonder among artifacts created by two of the world's oldest societies, from 2,500 BC to Year One.

During your adventure, you'll get to know your expert Egyptologist and Jordanian guides, who will help you learn about the history, culture, and ancient buildings of the region. You are also accompanied by an AdventureWomen Ambassador, committed to helping make your experience a fun and personally rewarding adventure, and cheering you on as you reach beyond your comfort zone to take on new challenges in your own unique way!

Arrival Information

Arrive in Cairo, Egypt (CAI) today before 11:00am. One group transfer is included (time TBD); private transfers at other times and days are available for an additional fee.

Airport Pick Up

You will be met at the Cairo Airport to start your sightseeing.

The Egyptian Museum

Visit either the Egyptian Museum or the Grand Egyptian Museum this afternoon. Explore the museum to learn about the history of the area.

Welcome Dinner

Enjoy a lively welcome dinner as you get to know your fellow travelers this evening. Share stories and learn about why each woman in your trip is excited to explore Egypt & Jordan!

Accommodations
Marriott Mena
House
Meals Included
dinner

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your adventure
in depth

DAY 2
Monday
10/7/24

Cairo

Bustling Cairo is Egypt's capital city and its cultural heart. Backdropped by the ancient Pyramids of Giza, this forward-looking city comfortably rubs shoulders with past civilizations. Through a wide variety of sightseeing highlights and interactive cultural activities, you'll step back in time to explore incredible ancient wonders.

Great Pyramids of Giza

Visit the Great Pyramids of Giza, the only present-day survivors of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, built over 4,500 years ago. These giant tombs were built to house the mummies of the Pharaohs Khufu, Khafre, and Menkaure. Khufu's is the largest, made out of more than two million blocks.

The Sphinx

The enigmatic Sphinx sits nearby the pyramids. It has the body of a lion and the face of a man wearing a royal head cloth. About a thousand years after the Sphinx was built, it was covered in sand, until a young prince had a dream in which the Sphinx told him if he cleared the sand away, he would become Pharaoh.

Lunch

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant today.

National Museum of Civilization

Stop in for a one-hour visit at the National Museum of Civilization this afternoon to learn all about the mummies of Egypt.

Visit a Mosque

Late this afternoon, you will visit the Refaii and Sultan Mosque and learn about the incredible architecture of the buildings and the importance of Muslim religion in Egyptian life.

Dinner on Own

Enjoy some time on your own for dinner after a busy day of exploration in Cairo.

Accommodations
Marriott Mena
House
Meals Included
boxed lunch

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your adventure
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DAY 3
Tuesday
10/8/24

Cairo to the Nile River

Once the Pharaohs' capital at the height of their power from the 16th - 11th centuries B.C., Luxor sits on the east bank of the Nile River, on the site of ancient Thebes. Today's city surrounds two huge surviving ancient monuments: graceful Luxor Temple and Karnak Temple. The royal tombs of the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens are on the river's west bank.

Fly to Luxor

Transfer to the airport for your short flight from Cairo to Luxor.

Temple of Luxor

Explore the striking and graceful Temple of Luxor, which is dedicated to the God Amun. Your guide will explain the details of the temple.

Board the Boat

Board the Sanctuary Sun Boat IV, your home for the next four nights on the Nile. Settle into your cabin.

Valley of the Kings

Visit the West Bank of Luxor to explore the Valley of the Kings, a vast City of the Dead where magnificent tombs were carved into the desert rocks, decorated richly, and filled with treasures for the afterlife by generations of Pharaohs. You'll have the chance to visit at least one tomb in the Valley of the Queens, as well as the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.

Rising out of the desert plain in a series of terraces, the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut (Ancient Egypt's only female Pharaoh) merges with the sheer limestone cliffs that surround it, as if nature herself had built this extraordinary monument.

See King Tut's Tomb

Venture in to explore one of the most famous archeological finds not only in Egypt, but in the world: King Tut's tomb. Located in the Valley of the Kings, the tomb of King Tutankhamun is widely known for its abundance of lavish antiques and artifacts.

Colossi of Memnon

On the way back to the river Nile, the road passes by the famed Colossi of Memnon, known in Ancient Greek times for their haunting voices at dawn. This is a great photo stop.

Accommodations
Sanctuary Nile
Adventurer
Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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your adventure
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DAY 4
Wednesday
10/9/24

The Nile River

Egyptian hieroglyphics were the formal writing system of Ancient Egypt and date back over 5,200 years. There were over 1,000 distinct symbols, called glyphs, which were generally read right to left, but on the walls of temples and tombs they appear in columns, with no spaces or punctuation. They were written on the walls of the Pharaoh's tomb to help him get to the afterlife.

Visit the Temple of Karnak

Start your day on the East Bank by visiting the Temple of Karnak, built over a period of more than a thousand years by generations of Pharaohs. The great "Hypostyle Hall" is an incredible forest of giant pillars, covering an area larger than the whole of Notre Dame Cathedral.

Temple of Khnum

Later today, your Egyptologist will guide you around the Greco-Roman Temple of Khnum at Esna. The beautifully preserved Great Hypostyle Hall was built during the reign of the Roman Emperor Claudius. It was excavated from the silt that had accumulated through centuries of annual Nile floods and is about nine meters below present-day street level.

Afternoon and Evening

Enjoy afternoon tea on board as you cruise to Edfu. Have a delicious dinner on board this evening.

Accommodations
Sanctuary Nile
Adventurer
Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 5
Thursday
10/10/24

The Nile River

Tell Edfu is a monument full of Egyptian history and archaeological interest. Enough of the settlement has been preserved to gain information from as far back as the Predynastic Period. The remains of the settlement, or “tell,” provides an insight into the development of Edfu as a provincial town from the end of the Old Kingdom until the Byzantine period. The oldest part of the town can be dated to the late Old Kingdom.

Morning at Leisure

Enjoy a morning to relax on the boat. Take a dip, read a book on the deck, or sip coffee and enjoy the view!

Lunch

Enjoy lunch on board as you cruise to Kom Ombo.

Temple of Kom Ombo

Visit the Temple of Kom Ombo, a lovely Greco-Roman temple uniquely double-dedicated to Haroeris, the sun god, and Sobek, the crocodile god. Here the ancient pharaohs kept a chamber of mummified crocodiles. The temple stands at a bend in the Nile where in ancient times sacred crocodiles basked in the sun on the riverbank.

Accommodations
Sanctuary Nile
Adventurer
Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 6
Friday
10/11/24

The Nile River

Located 81 miles south of Luxor, Aswan has a distinctively different feel. There is a mix of Arabic and African cultures, making it a very interesting place to visit. The influence of Egypt's southern neighbor, Sudan, can be felt here. The markets are lined with colorful pyramids of spices, perfumes, scarves, and baskets.

Philae Temple

Visit the romantic and majestic Philae Temple on the Island of Agilka. Philae Temple was dismantled and reassembled (on Agilika Island about 550 meters from its original home on Philae Island) in the wake of the High Dam. The temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis, is in a beautiful setting which has been landscaped to match its original site.

Visit the Granite Quarries

Head to the granite quarries where the pink-colored granite used in building pyramids and temples in ancient Egypt came from. The quarries still hold a huge unfinished obelisk that the guides can use to give a lesson in the methods used by ancient engineers to create the monuments you have viewed.

Lunch

Enjoy lunch on board the boat.

Felucca Ride

If the weather cooperates, take a felucca (a typical Egyptian sailboat) around Elephantine Island, Lord Kitchener's Botanical Gardens, and the Agha Khan Mausoleum.

Celebration Dinner

Celebrate your last evening on the boat with a gala dinner, complete with white-gloved waiters serving gourmet cuisine.

Accommodations
Sanctuary Nile
Adventurer
Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 7
Saturday
10/12/24

The Nile River to Cairo

The largest city in the Muslim world, the Arab world, and all of Africa, Cairo is a busy mega-city with an enormous cultural influence and the strongest economy in the Middle East. Not only is it the home of al-Azhar University, the second-oldest higher learning institution on earth, it is also the regional headquarters of many international businesses, media, and organizations.

Temples of Abu Simbel

Transfer to the Aswan airport for a short flight to the magnificent temples of Abu Simbel. Carved directly into the face of a cliff, Ramses II Temple is guarded by four enormous 65-foot figures of the pharaoh and depicts his most celebrated triumphs in battle. Nearby is the graceful Temple of Hathor, dedicated to the cow-headed goddess of love and built in honor of Ramses' favorite wife, Queen Nefertari. An international rescue effort from 1966-68 saved the temples from the rising waters of the Nile caused by the building of the great Aswan Dam. UNESCO organized the campaign, with the temples being cut into blocks, raised piece-by-piece, and reassembled in a new position higher up the hillside. However, even with modern technology, the engineers were unable to duplicate the efforts of the ancient Egyptians. The temple was originally built so the sun's rays would penetrate deep into the temple to illuminate the Holy of Holies on the morning of Ramses II name day. In repositioning the temple, the modern-day engineers missed this event by one day.

Fly to Cairo

Fly back to Cairo and enjoy a bagged lunch on the plane.

Khan El-Khalili Bazaar

Enjoy an evening visit to the Khan El-Khalili Bazaar, reputed to be the largest bazaar in the Middle East. Originally founded as a watering stop for caravans in the 14th century, the bazaar has now grown to vast proportions. Wander through the labyrinth of narrow streets, stopping to look in workshops and stalls that sell everything from spices, woodwork, glassware, and leather goods to perfumes, fabrics, and Pharaonic curiosities. Remember to bargain hard! Although dinner is on your own tonight, your guide will recommend a restaurant in the bazaar for you to enjoy.

Accommodations
Intercontinental
Cairo Citystars
Meals Included
breakfast, dinner

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DAY 8
Sunday
10/13/24

Cairo to Amman

Fly to Jordan today. This sovereign Arab nation is perfectly located at the crossroads between Asia, Africa, and Europe. Jordan has a very diverse range of ecosystems from the fertile valley of the Jordan River in the northwest to the vast and Martian-like plains of the eastern desert. It is also known for its ancient tradition of hospitality on the legendary King's Highway. This friendly trend has lasted through modern times as the Jordanian people love welcoming travelers from all over the world!

Fly to Amman Transfer to the airport in Cairo and board your flight to Amman, Jordan.

Transfer to Your Hotel When you arrive in Amman, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Explore the area around your hotel this afternoon on your own.

Dinner at Local Restaurant Enjoy dinner with the group tonight at a local restaurant.

Accommodations
Fairmont Hotel
Amman
Meals Included
breakfast, dinner

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your adventure
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DAY 9
Monday
10/14/24

Amman

While there are many theories to where the city name Amman came from, the most widely accepted is from the 13th century BC. It is believed that the name is derived from the Ammonites who named it “Rabbath Ammon” meaning “King’s Quarters.” Since then, the “Rabbath” has been dropped and “Ammon” westernized to “Amman,” leaving the modern city name we know today. There was a short period of time when the city was renamed by the occupying Macedonian ruler to “Philadelphia!”

City Tour

Take a city tour of Amman that includes the Citadel and the Roman Theater, and then a walk downtown through the bazaars and the Gold Market. High above the city, at the ancient Citadel, study the traces of Amman’s many lives. At the foot of the Citadel is the Roman Theater, a deep-sided bowl carved into the hill and still used for cultural events.

Jerash

Drive to Jerash, where you will have lunch in a local restaurant. After lunch, take some time to explore Jerash. Second only to Petra in tourist appeal, the ancient Roman city of Jerash is an archaeological masterpiece, and remarkable for its long chain of human occupation. Here at a well-watered site framed by the hills of Gilead, remains from Neolithic times have been found, as well as ruins from other civilizations: Greek, Roman, Byzantine, and Umayyad. Today, it is acknowledged as one of the best-preserved province cities of the Roman Empire.

Wine Tasting

Enjoy a Jordanian wine tasting this evening before dinner on your own.

Accommodations
Fairmont Hotel
Amman
Meals Included
breakfast, lunch

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DAY 10
Tuesday
10/15/24

Amman to Petra

When most people think of the Middle East, they think desert. Jordan is a prime example of how untrue this generalization is. The variations in natural settings in such a small country are truly spellbinding. Up in the northwest are the fertile low valleys of the Jordan River, where there is vast farmland as well as access to the saltiest body of water on earth, the Dead Sea. In the south are the vast deserts of the Badia Region. Between the two lie the mountain highlands of Jordan where you find the most abundant vegetation amongst mountains and plateaus.

Mount Nebo

Mount Nebo is the mountain where Moses was allowed to see the Holy Land and not allowed to enter it. Nowadays the mountain is a memorial site, where you can find the "Church of Moses" which was built by the first Christians. Enjoy a great view over Jordan, the Dead Sea, and Israel. When the weather is clear, you should even be able to see Jerusalem, which is about 35 miles away.

Madaba

Travel to Madaba, known as the City of Mosaics. The main attraction is a vivid, 6th century mosaic map showing Jerusalem and other holy sites. With two million pieces of colored stone and measuring 25x25 meters in its original state (most of which can still be seen today), the map depicts hills, valleys, villages, and towns as far away as the Nile Delta.

Lunch

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

Transfer to Petra

Drive to Petra this afternoon.

Dinner

Dinner is on your own tonight.

Accommodations
Mövenpick Resort
Petra
Meals Included
breakfast, lunch

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DAY 11
Wednesday
10/16/24

Petra

In 1812, a Swiss scholar and explorer rediscovered the hidden and secretive ancient oasis of Petra. Before then, the city made of stone had long been forgotten and abandoned to western world. Disguised as a Bedouin, Johann Ludwig Burkhardt rediscovered the great majesty and beauty of the stone city. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is an unrivaled marvel as one of the 7 New Wonders of the World.

Petra

The ancient city of Petra was carved from solid red sandstone in the 3rd century BC. In this era, Petra was a fortress, carved out of craggy rocks, in an area that was virtually inaccessible. It was the capital of the Nabataens, a nomadic Arabian tribe who ruled the Trans-Jordan area in pre-Roman times and derived their great wealth and power from the passing trade caravans.

Lunch

Enjoy lunch inside Petra with your group.

Afternoon to Rest

Take some time to rest at your hotel this afternoon.

Chef's Table

Learn how to prepare every detail of an authentic Jordanian three-course meal. The chef will introduce you to the special elements of local cuisine by explaining the culinary traditions and ingredients.

Accommodations
Mövenpick Resort
Petra
Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 12
Thursday
10/17/24

Petra to Wadi Rum

Otherwise known as Valley of the Moon, the landscape of Wadi Rum with its immensity, color, and awe-inspiring shapes creates an almost supernatural atmosphere. Wadi Rum was the setting for the film 'Lawrence of Arabia' and the actual location where T.E. Lawrence set his camp; he named his book 'The Seven Pillars of Wisdom' after the seven natural columns varying in height located en route to Wadi Rum.

Visit Little Petra Visit Little Petra, or Al Beidha, a smaller version of Petra literally hidden away in the center of a mountain. The miniature version of Petra contains several notable tombs.

Drive to Wadi Rum Bedouin camps are evident in the Wadi and are still home to a number of Bedouin families who welcome visitors with the hospitality and generosity that Bedouins are so famous for. Explore the desert with a 4x4 driven by a local Bedouin for two hours. Enjoy lunch under a Bedouin tent.

Accommodations
Sun City Camp

Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 13
Friday
10/18/24

Wadi Rum to the Dead Sea

Since the days of Herod the Great, people have flocked to the Dead Sea (400 meters below sea level) in search of its curative secrets. Due to high annual temperatures, low humidity, and high atmospheric pressure, the air is extremely oxygenated. The high content of oxygen and magnesium in the air make breathing a lot easier. With the highest content of minerals and salts in the world, the Dead Sea water possesses anti-inflammatory properties, and the dark mud found on its shores has been used for therapeutic purposes for more than 2,000 years.

Drive to the Dead Sea

Leave your camp and drive about four hours to the Dead Sea.

Afternoon at the Dead Sea

Enjoy a free afternoon to explore the area. Take advantage of the pools or just relax today.

Farewell Dinner

Have a farewell dinner with your new AdventureWomen friends. Reminisce over all of the memories you have made and celebrate the end of an amazing journey through this truly spectacular country.

Accommodations
Kempinski Hotel
Ishtar Dead Sea
Meals Included
breakfast, dinner

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DAY 14
Saturday
10/19/24

Depart Jordan

Enjoy one last morning in Jordan before heading home.

Transfer to the Airport

Say goodbye to your new AdventureWomen friends as you transfer to the airport for your flights home.

Departure Information

Depart Amman, Jordan (AMM) at any time today. One group transfer is included today (time TBD); private transfers at other days and times can be arranged for an additional fee.

Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time, if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.

Meals Included
breakfast

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Accommodation Details

Marriott Mena House

The Marriott Mena House is one of the most unique hotels in Cairo, with its own rich and colorful history. Surrounded by 40 acres of verdant green gardens, this palatial hotel is in the shadows of the Great Pyramids of Giza in Cairo.

Amenities: soap, shampoo, hair dryer, air conditioning, WiFi

Sanctuary Nile Adventurer

Furnished in a contemporary style with an art deco influence, the modern fittings and cutting-edge technology on board the boutique Sanctuary Nile Adventurer are combined with sophisticated public areas with luxurious teak flooring for an elegant finish. Each spacious en suite room features air conditioning, a mini bar, and LCD television with satellite. All cabins have Nile views and are fully air-conditioned with individual control.

Amenities: private bathroom and shower, hair dryer, air conditioning

Intercontinental Cairo Citystars

The Intercontinental Citystars offers a convenient location in the busy center of Heliopolis, which is a tree lined suburb of Cairo that is home to Egypt's Diplomatic and Presidential offices.

Amenities: shampoo, soap, hairdryer, WiFi

Fairmont Hotel Amman

Fairmont Amman offers travelers luxury accommodations in spacious guest rooms. With a modern, beautiful architectural design and stunning interiors, the hotel makes use of the finest wood and marble, and the rooms and hotel interiors combine classic luxury with contemporary design, all housed in spacious rooms.

Amenities: soap, shampoo, hairdryer, air conditioning, WiFi

Mövenpick Resort Petra

The Mövenpick is located directly at the entrance to the historic Jordanian city of Petra. This resort features a combination of natural stone, handcrafted wood, and Middle Eastern fabrics and textures.

Amenities: soap, shampoo, hair dryer, air conditioning, WiFi

Sun City Camp

Sun City Camp stands in the heart of Wadi Rum's majestic desert. Enjoy the simple Bedouin life of the valley with its unmatched authentic charm and beauty. The Camp has excellent service and amenities, along with a wide range of relaxing and adventurous recreational activities.

Amenities: soap, shampoo, private bathroom and shower, towels, cotton sheets, hot water, electricity

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Accommodation Details

Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea

Situated on the edge of the famous salt lake, 434 feet below sea level and close to Jordan's top attractions, Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea is a brilliant ode to the hanging gardens of Babel, featuring a private sandy beach and a 5 star spa that provides luxury experiences infused with Dead Sea rich minerals. The rooms are located in three luxurious enclaves set amidst gardens dotted with lagoons, waterfalls and swimming pools, providing you with absolute privacy by the Dead Sea.

Amenities: WiFi

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Included:

- ▶ Accommodations as per itinerary based on double occupancy
- ▶ All meals as listed in the itinerary
- ▶ All ground transportation
- ▶ Domestic airfare (priced separately from the main trip)
- ▶ One group transfer on arrival and departure
- ▶ Guided sightseeing and activities as indicated in the itinerary
- ▶ English-speaking Egyptologist guide in Egypt
- ▶ English-speaking guide(s) throughout the trip
- ▶ Entrance fees
- ▶ Bottled water
- ▶ Gratuities for hotel staff, porters, included meals, and carriage in Edfu

Not Included:

- ▶ International airfare to Egypt and from Jordan
- ▶ Optional activities
- ▶ Meals not specified in the itinerary
- ▶ Alcoholic beverages (unless otherwise specified)
- ▶ Fees for passport, visas, immunizations, or travel insurance
- ▶ Cost of hospitalization or evacuation
- ▶ Items of a personal nature
- ▶ Gratuities for head guide and drivers in Egypt and Jordan, boat staff, Cairo trip coordinator

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Cancellations and Refunds

Notification of cancellations must be received in writing. Full payment is due 90 days prior to departure date, and the registration deposit is non-refundable.

For cancellations received 61-90 days prior to the trip departure date: 50% of the total trip cost is non-refundable. For cancellations received 1-60 days prior to the trip departure date: 100% of the total trip cost is non-refundable.

You are highly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance to cover emergency situations. Travel insurance information will be sent to you once you have registered for your trip.

Switching Trips

Our deposits are nonrefundable and nontransferable. If for some reason you need to switch to a different trip, please call us and we will do our best to accommodate you, but switching is not guaranteed.

No Smoking Policy

Beginning in 1995, our trips became smoke free. Please note that there will be no smoking by any participants on AdventureWomen vacations.

Health Insurance

You must have your own health insurance to participate in an AdventureWomen trip.

Adventure Travel Today

At AdventureWomen, we want everyone to understand that our excursions are adventure travel vacations and not "tours." We define "adventure travel" as travel in which one **actively participates**, as opposed to a "tour," in which one is more or less a passive observer. AdventureWomen designs and organizes vacations all over the world for women who want to **experience an active, out of the ordinary vacation, and meet new friends**. Most of all, we want our trips to be **fun!**

good-natured realist and have a sense of humor! Adventure vacations, by nature, require that participants be self-sufficient, flexible, and able to accept situations as they exist, and not just as they would have preferred or expected them to exist. The constraints of scheduled group traveling also necessitate that each of us be understanding of and sensitive to others. **Being on time** is important, and contributes to the congeniality, success and well-being of both individuals and the group!

In this spirit, the successful adventure traveler should be a