Egypt
Land of the Pharaohs
Aboard the Sun Boat III

March 10–23, 2016

Alan Plattus ’76
Professor of Architecture and Urbanism
Dear Yale Traveler,

Follow the course of the Nile River into the very heart of ancient civilizations on a 14-day exploration of Egypt’s rich heritage, including seven nights aboard the intimate 18-cabin Sun Boat III. Among the many highlights of this itinerary are the Great Pyramids of Giza; the step pyramid of King Djoser, forerunner of later Old Kingdom triangular pyramids; the Valley of the Kings; the spectacular funerary boat of Cheops; the unforgettable temples of Hathor, Horus, and Isis; and the colossal statues of Ramesses II and his favorite queen at Abu Simbel.

The Nile River is the center of Egyptian civilization. As you enjoy the old-world elegance and modern amenities of the Sun Boat III, cruise to the sites of millennia-old pyramids and monuments, displaying exquisite reliefs and stylized tomb paintings. Learn about the unparalleled architectural and engineering skills of master pyramid builders and enjoy unique behind-the-scenes access to archaeological sites.

In Cairo, explore the city’s Islamic monuments, the Khan al-Khalili souks, and the golden treasures of the boy king Tutankhamun in the Museum of Antiquities, and discuss more recent developments that the late architectural historian Spiro Kostof once told me made Cairo “the most interesting city per square foot in the world.” Although this will be my first visit to Egypt, I have been working since 2008 in the region, leading an international team to develop plans for a Jordan River Peace Park on the Jordanian-Israeli border, and exploring ancient and modern architecture in that area.

The beautiful Sun Boat III has a capacity of just 28 travelers and is expected to fill quickly. Please visit www.yaleedtravel.org/egypt16 to reserve your space today. If you have any questions, feel free to email edtravel@yale.edu or call (203) 432-1952. My wife, Dr. Nancy Berliner ’75, ’79 MD, and I look forward to sharing this experience with you.

Sincerely,

Alan Plattus ’76
Yale Professor of Architecture and Urbanism

www.yaleedtravel.org/egypt16
Alan Plattus ’76 is Professor of Architecture and Urbanism at the Yale School of Architecture. He has an independent practice as an urban design consultant and has lectured across the country and abroad on the history of architecture and cities, as well as contemporary issues in architecture and urban design. He founded and directs the Yale Urban Design Workshop, a community design center based at the School of Architecture, which has undertaken civic design and neighborhood planning projects in New Haven and throughout Connecticut. He has also published on topics ranging from the history of cities to recent American architecture and urban design.

Professor Plattus has traveled and worked abroad extensively as coordinator of Yale’s China Studio for ten years, as the leader of a Yale/international team working on the Jordan River Peace Park in the Middle East, and also as a lecturer on urbanism in both Madrid and Barcelona. He is member of the Board of the Yale-China Association. Professor Plattus is married to Nancy Berliner ’75, ’79 MD, Professor of Medicine at Yale for twenty years and now Chief of the Division of Hematology at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston.

EGYPTOLOGISTS

Tarek Swelim, a native Egyptian, is an expert on the art, architecture, and history of the Middle East and has been leading tours throughout Egypt, North Africa, and the Middle East since 1979. He received his BS and MA from the American University in Cairo, where he also has held a teaching position, and his PhD in Islamic art and architecture from Harvard. He is the author or co-author of numerous publications on Islamic and Roman architecture.

Fetich Posma-Zaalouk is a noted Egyptologist specializing in the culture, history, and architecture of ancient Egypt as well as issues relating to women and village life. A 1972 graduate of Helwan University in Cairo, she has been leading tours for educational groups and special dignitaries for many years.

Highlights

**Cruise** the Nile River aboard the deluxe Sun Boat III, enjoying scenes of rural life along the riverbanks and an outstanding educational program with Yale Professor Alan Plattus.

**Marvel** at the Great Pyramids on the Giza Plain; the iconic temples of Luxor, Karnak, and Isis; and the golden treasures of Tutankhamun at Cairo’s Museum of Egyptian Antiquities.

**Explore** Old Cairo’s Islamic monuments and stroll through the Khan al-Khalili bazaar, where aromatic scents perfume the passageways and market stalls bustle with activity.
HOME / CAIRO, EGYPT
Thursday & Friday, March 10 & 11
Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Cairo. Arrive on March 11 and transfer to the hotel. Welcome orientation meeting and reception. Mena House Oberoi (R)

CAIRO
Saturday, March 12
This morning marvel at the Great Pyramids of Giza and the iconic Sphinx. Visit the Solar Boat Museum to see the restored funerary boat of Cheops, a 4th-century pharaoh. This evening’s welcome dinner in a private Cairo home features Egyptian specialties and a chance to meet local residents. Mena House Oberoi (B,L,D)

CAIRO
Sunday, March 13
Journey to the unique Doser step pyramid of Saqqara, a precursor to the grand Giza pyramids. Explore the underground galleries where floor-to-ceiling hieroglyphs depict daily life in Egypt’s 5th millennium B.C. After lunch visit the royal necropolis of Dashur to see the bent pyramid, most likely a transitional form between step-sided and smooth-sided pyramids. This evening is free for independent pursuits. Mena House Oberoi (B,L)

LUXOR (EMBARK)
Monday, March 14
Take an early-morning flight to Luxor, where the Sun Boat III awaits. On arrival, explore the fabulous Karnak Temple complex, the largest ancient religious site in the world. Board the Sun Boat III for lunch and an afternoon at leisure, then disembark to admire the Luxor Temple’s impressive red granite obelisk, monumental gateway, and colonnade. Welcome reception and dinner aboard ship. Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

DENDERA
Tuesday, March 15
Cruise through picturesque Nile River countryside, observing the activities of people at work in villages along the riverbanks. Explore the wonderfully preserved temple complex at Dendera, dedicated to Hathor, the goddess of love, music, and wine. Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

LUXOR / THEBES
Thursday, March 17
Return to Thebes to visit the Tombs of the Nobles, where hundreds of tombs, many richly decorated with frescoes, are embedded in the rock. Continue to the Temple of Medinet Habu, one of the largest memorial temples in Egypt, built to commemorate Ramesses III. Marvel at the Colossi of Memnon in the Theban necropolis. In the evening visit the Luxor Museum, where artifacts from Luxor Temple and King Tut’s tomb are on display. Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

Kom Ombo / Aswan
Friday, March 18
Explore Kom Ombo, the largest and best-preserved Ptolemaic temple in Egypt, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek. Cruise to Aswan and transfer by motor boat to the island of Philae, a UNESCO World Heritage site. After the Aswan Dam project got under way in the 1960s, the Temple of Isis on the island was relocated to higher ground. Back on board, an
optional Egyptian cuisine cooking class will be offered. Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

**ASWAN / ABU SIMBEL**

**Saturday, March 19**
Marvel at the engineering juggernaut of the still-controversial Aswan High Dam, which forever changed Egyptians’ way of life. Then take a short flight to the astounding monuments at Abu Simbel, located in former Nubian lands. At the twin temples built by Pharaoh Ramesses II, huge statues depict him and his favorite wife, Nefertari. During construction of the Aswan Dam, these two temples were dismantled and reconstructed 65 meters higher than their original site. On your return to Aswan, visit the “unfinished obelisk”—the largest known ancient obelisk—at a nearby stone quarry. Weather permitting, enjoy a sail aboard a traditional felucca past Kitchener and Elephantine Islands. Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

**CAIRO**

**Monday, March 21**
Disembark the Sun Boat III after breakfast and transfer to the airport for a flight to Cairo. Take a guided tour of Islamic Cairo’s significant monuments, including the Ibn Tulun Mosque and the Citadel of Saladin, a medieval Islamic fortification. The evening is at leisure. Four Seasons First Residence (B,L)

**CAIRO**

**Tuesday, March 22**
Explore the riches of the incomparable Museum of Egyptian Antiquities on a guided tour. See the golden treasures found in Tutankhamun’s tombs and the fascinating mummy room. In the afternoon explore the colorful market stalls in the Khan al-Khalili Bazaar. Gather for a festive farewell dinner this evening. Four Seasons First Residence (B,L,D)

**CAIRO / U.S.**

**Wednesday, March 23**
Depart for the airport and flights home. (B)

*Included meals indicated each day as B,L,D = Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

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**What is Included:**
- Educational program of lectures and discussions with Yale Professor Alan Plattus
- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary
- Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure days
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel
- Port charges
- Entertainment fees
- Wine with welcome and farewell receptions and dinners
- Bottled water on motor coaches, at hotels, and on board ship
- Professional tour manager throughout

**What is Not Included:**
- U.S. domestic and international airfare
- Passport/visa expenses
- Medical expenses and immunizations
- Airport transfers for those not arriving or departing on designated dates
- Travel insurance
- Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour
- Excess baggage charges
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Telephone, fax, Internet, and email charges
- Room service
- Other items of a personal nature

yaleedtravel.org/egypt16
Sun Boat III was built in 1992 and extensively refurbished to reflect the graceful style of the 1920s and 1930s. Of the more than 200 cruisers now sailing the Nile, none surpasses Sun Boat III in style, comfort, service, or cuisine. With its limited capacity and old-world elegance, you will have the feeling you are sailing the Nile on a private yacht. Secure, well-located, private docking facilities in Luxor and Aswan ensure that the vessel is always conveniently located and easy to board. All cabins face outside with two picture windows and are equipped with full en-suite bathrooms with shower and hairdryer, individually controlled air conditioning, satellite television, internal telephone and external telephone with international line access, safe deposit box, individual CD player, and mini-bar. Sun Boat III has large, inviting lounges lined with windows for comfortable observation of the passing scenery. On the vessel’s spacious sun deck, comfortable lounge chairs surround plunge pools, perfect for a refreshing dip under brilliant Egyptian skies. You will also find a gift shop, restaurant, laundry service, and on-board Internet access.

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**What to Expect**

We consider this to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Daily activities can involve one to two miles of walking in very warm, breezy weather, often on uneven sandy terrain; stairs may be unavailable or not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. If you have any questions about your ability to participate fully on this itinerary, please call Yale Educational Travel at (203) 432-1952.

**Group Size**

This program is limited to 28 participants.

**Fuel Costs**

Program rates are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain the published rates, if fuel costs increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge. In that case, we will notify participants in advance of departure.

**Air Arrangements**

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare between New York and Cairo is approximately $1,000 per person as of February 2015 and is subject to change without notice.

**Program Rates**

(including VAT and taxes)

Rates are per person, based on double occupancy, unless otherwise specified.

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To register, return this form with your deposit of $1,000 (per person) to YET. Final payment is due November 11, 2015.

Contact Information

1) NAME AS ON PASSPORT
2) NAME AS ON PASSPORT

PASSPORT COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
PASSPORT COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

DATE OF BIRTH
DATE OF BIRTH

YALE AFFILIATION
YALE AFFILIATION

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

E-MAIL

PRIMARY PHONE
SECONDARY PHONE

Payment Options

Pay by check made out to “Criterion Travel.”

Please charge the deposit of $1,000 per person to

AMEX  Visa  MasterCard  Discover Card

CARD #

EXP. DATE
SEC. CODE

Signature  Date

Terms and Conditions

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail a deposit of $1,000 per person payable to “CRITERION TRAVEL,” along with the completed reservation form, to: Yale Educational Travel, Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010 or fax the completed form to (203) 432-0587. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due November 11, 2015.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations must be in writing to Yale Educational Travel. Refunds, less a cancellation fee of $300 per person, are made if we are notified in writing on or before November 11, 2015. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

ITINERARY CHANGES: The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Yale Educational Travel and Criterion Travel (the tour operator). Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Yale Educational Travel and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

INSURANCE: Yale Educational Travel highly recommends the purchase of trips cancellation insurance. If participants purchase trip insurance, and we hope that they do, participants are free to purchase the insurance of their choice. Most travel insurance must be purchased within 7-10 days of paying a deposit in order to include certain provisions including pre-existing conditions.

RESPONSIBILITY: Travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services, and transportation are offered or provided and Yale Educational Travel and Criterion Travel (YET/CT) and their respective, employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability therefor. YET/CT and their owners and employees act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant, and other services connected with this tour. YET/CT assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages, or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, war, terrorist acts, acts of nature, or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. YET/CT reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour participants. They reserve the right to withdraw this tour without penalty. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, airborne, or fuel increases will be passed onto participants. YET/CT accept no liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.

California Seller of Travel Program
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To book, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Criterion Travel” to Yale Educational Travel, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587. or Visit www.yaleedtravel.org/egypt16 to book online.
Egypt: *Land of the Pharaohs*

Alan Plattus ’76  
*Professor of Architecture and Urbanism*

March 10–23, 2016

**Learn about bent, step-sided, and smooth-sided pyramids** — how they were constructed and how they illustrate the evolution of pyramid building in ancient Egypt.

**Fly to Abu Simbel** (right) to view the colossal temples built to honor Pharaoh Ramesses II and his favorite wife, Nefertari, which were permanently moved to a higher site during construction of the Aswan High Dam.