Yale Educational Travel

March 21–April 3, 2019

Egypt
Land of the Pharaohs
Aboard the Sun Boat III

Harold W. Attridge
Sterling Professor of Divinity and Professor of Classics and of Religious Studies
Dear Yale Traveler

It is my pleasure to announce the 2019 educational travel program *Egypt: Land of the Pharaohs*. Yale’s past tours to Egypt quickly sold and were acclaimed by the travelers as “a trip of a lifetime.”

*Egypt: Land of the Pharaohs* will focus on Egypt’s celebrated history through the millennia. The life-giving Nile River gave birth around 3200 B.C.E. to a remarkable civilization that lasted for 3,000 years. Explore the glorious age of the pharaohs aboard the stylish 18-cabin yacht *Sun Boat III*, reserved exclusively for Yale travelers.

This March 2019 program is also a wonderful opportunity to observe the “new Egypt.” Recent political changes that have swept through the Middle East began in Tunisia and Egypt, and have engendered monumental transformations for the government of Egypt as well as for ordinary Egyptians. Travel with Yale and witness this firsthand.

Accompanying you on this trip-of-a-lifetime will be Yale faculty lecturer, Harold W. Attridge. In addition, traveling with Yale from start to finish will be two Egyptologists: Tarek Swelim and Fetiche Posma-Zaalouk. Both have accompanied past Yale Egypt programs and have received excellent reviews. Local guides will also add their expertise throughout the program.

Travel with Yale and see history in the making—the next chapter in Egypt’s long saga begun so many millennia ago. This program is sure to sell quickly. To hold your space on this trip-of-a-lifetime, please call (203) 432-1952 or make a secure reservation online at [yaleedtravel.org/egypt19](http://yaleedtravel.org/egypt19).

Sincerely,

Weili Cheng ’77  
Executive Director  
Association of Yale Alumni

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**Highlights**

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

**Marvel** at the Great Pyramid of Giza and the nearby Sphinx; the iconic temples of Luxor, Karnak, and Abu Simbel; and the splendid new Grand Egyptian Museum at Giza.

**Visit** Old Cairo’s Islamic monuments, including the Ibn Tulun and Sultan Hassan mosques.
Yale Study Leader

Harold W. Attridge, Sterling Professor of Divinity and Dean of Yale Divinity School from 2002 to 2012, has made scholarly contributions to New Testament exegesis and to the study of Hellenistic Judaism and the history of the early Church. His scholarly publications include The Interpretation of Biblical History in the Antiquitates Judaicae of Flavius Josephus, Nag Hammadi Codex I: The Jung Codex, and The Acts of Thomas, as well as numerous book chapters and articles in scholarly journals. He has devoted special attention to Egyptian Jewish literature of Ptolemaic and Roman periods and to the diversity of early Christianity represented in Egypt. He has been an editorial board member of Catholic Biblical Quarterly, Harvard Theological Review, Journal of Biblical Literature, Novum Testamentum, and the Hermeneia commentary series. He has been active in scholarly organizations, including the Society of Biblical Literature, which he served as president in 2001, and the Catholic Biblical Association, of which he was president in 2012. Professor Attridge is a fellow of Saybrook College. He was an undergraduate at Boston College, was a Marshall scholar at the University of Cambridge and received his PhD at Harvard University.

In addition to Professor Attridge, traveling with the group will be Egyptologists Tarek Swelim and Fetiche Posma-Zaalouk.

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 and his PhD in Islamic art and architecture from Harvard. He currently is on the faculty of Hamid Bin Khalifa University in Doha, Qatar.

Fetiche 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 graduate of Helwan University in Cairo, she is passionate about her native country’s long and distinguished history, and has been leading tours for educational groups and eminent dignitaries for many years.

Upcoming Trips

The Legacy of World Wars I & II: England, Belgium & France
September 22–October 4, 2018
Prof. Jay Winter
History

Morocco & the Canary Islands
November 3–14, 2018
Prof. James Salzman ’85
Environmental Law

New Zealand by Sea
November 29–December 12, 2018
Prof. Gordon Turnbull
English

Book Corner

Penguin Historical Atlas of Ancient Egypt
by Bill Manley
This atlas traces Egypt’s turbulent history and remarkable cultural development, from the founding of Memphis around 5000 BC, through the territorial expansion and flourishing trade of the “age of empire,” to Greek domination and ultimate collapse. Illustrated with more than sixty full-color maps and seventy-plus plates, this is an indispensable handbook for history students and enthusiasts alike.

The Nile
by Toby Wilkinson
Renowned Egyptologist Toby Wilkinson takes us on a journey along the timeless and ever-changing Nile that is both history and travelogue. Beginning at the First Nile Cataract, we visit Thebes, with its Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens, and Luxor Temple; the fertile Fayum; the Great Pyramid of Giza; and finally, the pulsing city of Cairo.
Itinerary
MARCH 21–APRIL 3, 2019

WELCOME PHONE CALL
Wednesday, March 6 (tentative)
Join the group at 4:00 p.m. EST for a pre-trip welcome call with the Yale lecturer in order to learn more about what to expect and to ask questions.

HOME / CAIRO, EGYPT
Thursday–Friday, March 21–22
Depart home on overnight flights to Cairo. On arrival, transfer to the historic Mena House Hotel. From its early days as a royal hunting lodge and later transformation to a deluxe hotel, Mena House has hosted dignitaries and world leaders visiting the Egyptian capital. Spend the afternoon at leisure, then gather for a welcome orientation meeting and reception. Afterward, stroll the grounds and admire the pyramids lit in the evening shadows.

CAIRO
Sunday, March 24
Journey to the unique Djoser step pyramid at Saqqara, a precursor to the grand Giza pyramids. Explore the underground galleries where floor-to-ceiling hieroglyphs depict daily life during Egypt’s 3rd dynasty (c. 2670–2613 B.C.E.). After lunch visit the restored funerary boat of Cheops—a 4th-dynasty Pharaoh who, according to tradition, left this world for the next transported aboard his solar barque. Following an afternoon at leisure, gather for a special welcome dinner this evening. Mena House Hotel (B,L,D)

CAIRO / LUXOR
Monday, March 25
Fly to Luxor to explore the fabulous Karnak Temple complex, the largest ancient religious site in the world. Wander among the enormous 134 stone columns, and marvel at the myriad well-preserved obelisks telling stories of the ancients. Embark the Sun Boat III for lunch and an afternoon at leisure on board. This evening visit the Luxor Temple, brilliantly lit against the darkening Egyptian sky. Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

DENDERA
Tuesday, March 26
Leisurely cruising this morning allows for a glimpse of daily life in villages along the Nile riverbanks. Arrange for a visit to the temple complex of Dendera, dedicated to Hathor, the goddess of love, music, wine, and procreation. Cruise back to Luxor. Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

LUXOR
Wednesday, March 27
Early risers can soar above the Egyptian landscape on an optional hot-air balloon ride. Then cross the Nile to Thebes, ancient capital of Egypt. Enjoy special access to the evocative tombs in the Valley of the Kings, hidden for thousands of years, and the Valley of the Queens. Visit the grandiose mortuary temple dedicated to Hatshepsut, Egypt’s iconic female pharaoh. Continue to the Colossi of Memnon, two massive stone statues of Pharaoh Amenhotep III that have stood in the Theban necropolis since 1350 B.C.E. In the late afternoon, visit the Luxor Museum, on the corniche overlooking the west bank of the Nile. Sun Boat III (B,L,D)

VALLEY OF THE NOBLES
Thursday, March 28
Early this morning visit the unique tombs of two ancient nobles: Rekhmire, who served as vizier during the reigns of Thutmose III and Amenhotep III.
and Amenhotep II, and Sennufer the mayor of Thebes and overseer of the gardens of Amun during the reign of Amenophis III. Then marvel at the size, architecture, and artwork of the mortuary temple of Ramesses III at Medinet Habu, an important New Kingdom structure acclaimed for its inscribed reliefs depicting the rise and fall of the Sea Peoples. This evening enjoy a festive galabeyya (traditional Egyptian garment) party featuring lively music and dancing aboard ship. **Sun Boat III (B,L,D)**

**KOM OMBO / ASWAN**
**Friday, March 29**
Cruise to Kom Ombo to explore its unusual double temple, half of which is dedicated to the crocodile god, Sobek, the other half to the falcon god, Horus. Continue cruising to Aswan to visit the island of Agilkia, where the Temple of Isis, once on Philae Island, was relocated when the Aswan Dam project got underway in the 1960s. Now a UNESCO World Heritage site, the island has numerous ruins including the Kiosk of Trajan. **Sun Boat III (B,L,D)**

**ASWAN / ABU SIMBEL**
**Saturday, March 30**
Disembark from the **Sun Boat III** in the morning for a visit to the still-controversial High Dam, an engineering juggernaut that forever changed Egyptians’ way of life. Then take a short flight to see 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. Between 1964 and 1966, during construction of the Aswan High Dam, both temples were dismantled and reconstructed 65 meters higher than their original site to protect them from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. Return to Aswan to view the “unfinished obelisk”—the largest known ancient obelisk—at a nearby quarry. Weather permitting, board a traditional felucca sailboat and sail past Nile River islands Kitchener and Elephantine. **Sun Boat III (B,L,D)**

**EDFU**
**Sunday, March 31**
Enjoy the educational program en route to Edfu. Upon arrival, visit the best-preserved ancient temple in Egypt, dedicated to Horus, the ubiquitous falcon-headed god of the Egyptians. The main building includes a great Hypostyle Hall and, just outside, an entrance colonnade that still has original, colored reliefs. This evening enjoy a festive farewell dinner on board. **Sun Boat III (B,L,D)**

**LUXOR / CAIRO**
**Monday, April 1**
Disembark after breakfast and fly to Cairo. After lunch visit the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum at Giza. Described as the largest archaeological museum in the world, it houses artifacts of ancient Egypt and aspires to be a global leader in scientific, historical, and archaeological study. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure and dinner on your own. **Four Seasons First Residence (B,L)**

**CAIRO**
**Tuesday, April 2**
Today’s activities will focus on Islamic Cairo’s significant monuments, including the Ibn Tulun Mosque, the oldest surviving Muslim place of worship, and the Mamluk-era Sultan Hassan Mosque and Madrassa. Stroll along El-Moezz Street, an “open-air museum” featuring restored medieval archi-tectural treasures of the Islamic world, and explore the bustling Khan al-Khalili bazaar. Enjoy a farewell dinner with local Egyptians at a private home. **Four Seasons First Residence (B,L,D)**

**CAIRO / HOME**
**Wednesday, April 3**
After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

**PHOTO CREDITS:** (From Dreamstime.com): Camel at Giza ©Pius Lee; Hieroglyphics ©Icon72; Sphinx ©Jose I. Soto; Temple of Isis © Jose Antonio Sanchez Romero; Felucca ©Witr; Colossi of Memnon ©Oleg Zhukov; Luxor Temple ©Witr; Abu Simbel ©Jayanand Govindaraj; Spices in bags ©Baloncici. (From Shutterstock.com): Solar boat ©Jeff Schultes; Horus statue ©besteverimages.com.
WHAT IS INCLUDED:
- Educational program of lectures and presentations with the Yale lecturer
- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including 7 nights aboard the deluxe *Sun Boat III*
- On-tour flights (Cairo/ Luxor/Cairo and Aswan/ Abu Simbel/Aswan)
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- Wine, beer, and soft drinks with welcome and farewell dinners and at all dinners aboard the *Sun Boat III*
- All sightseeing as specified in the itinerary
- Entrance fees
- Bottled water on coaches
- Full program of briefings, lectures, and presentations
- Group airport transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure days
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel for all group activities
- Professional tour manager and Egyptologist throughout the program
- Emergency medical evacuation services with UHC Global Assistance

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:
- U.S. domestic and international group airfare
- Passport and visa expenses
- Medical expenses and immunizations
- Private airport transfers
- Travel insurance
- Deviations from the scheduled tour
- Excess-baggage charges
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Liquor
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Personal items such as room service, email, telephone, and fax calls, laundry, and gratuities for non-group services.

ITINERARY CHANGES:
The itinerary as presented is subject to modification by Yale Educational Travel and the tour operator, should unforeseen world events and conditions require such alterations for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant. Program rates are based upon current taxes, tariffs, fuel prices, currency values, and a minimum number of participants, and are subject to change (e.g., should fuel prices increase). If there are significant changes, we will notify participants in advance of departure.

**Program Rates, per person (including VAT and taxes)**

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**AIR ARRANGEMENTS** Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., is our preferred provider for airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. **PLEASE NOTE:** 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 $900 per person as of May 2018 and is subject to change without notice.

**Sun Boat III**
The *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 this elegant vessel in comfort, service, or cuisine. Its limited capacity and old-world elegance evoke the feeling of sailing the Nile on a private yacht. Secure, well-located, private docking facilities in Luxor and Aswan ensure that the *Sun Boat III* is always convenient and easy to board. All cabins face outside with two picture windows and are equipped with full en suite bathrooms with shower and hair dryer, individually controlled air-conditioning, satellite television, internal telephone and external telephone with international line access, safe deposit box, individual CD player, and mini-bar. The *Sun Boat III* has large, inviting lounges rimmed with windows for comfortable observation of the passing scenery. On the vessel’s spacious sun deck, comfortable lounge chairs surround a plunge pool, perfect for a refreshing dip under brilliant Egyptian skies. Other amenities include a gift shop, restaurant, laundry service, and Internet access (intermittent).
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 21, 2019.

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 21, 2019. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

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, in active good health, and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff. 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.

INSURANCE: Yale Educational Travel highly recommends the purchase of trip 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.

California Seller of Travel Program
CST 2088800-40

To register, return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person to YET. Final payment is due November 21, 2019.

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Accommodations
Cabin Category Preference

1ST CHOICE | 2ND CHOICE

Bed preference in hotels (not guaranteed):
- ☐ Two beds ☐ One bed
- ☐ I wish to have a single accommodation (limited availability; please call).
- ☐ I will share accommodations with ______
- ☐ I’d like to know about roommates.
  - I am a ☐ smoker ☐ non-smoker

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of November 21, 2019, I will pay the single rate.

I/We confirm that I/We have carefully read the Terms and Conditions and Responsibility section of this brochure and agree to their terms.

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Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.
Explore the treasures of ancient Egypt’s pharaonic legacy

Egypt: Land of the Pharaohs
Aboard the Sun Boat III

Harold W. Attridge
Sterling Professor of Divinity and Professor of Classics and of Religious Studies

March 21–April 3, 2019

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 (left) 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.