



WORLD DISCOVERY
— HISTORY CULTURE WILDLIFE —

Treasures of Nubia



The incredible temples at Abu Simbel.

DAY 1 – Arrival in Cairo. Continue by air to Aswan.

On arrival in Cairo you will be met by a representative of World Discovery who will organise your Egyptian visa and assist you through immigration and customs. He will also assist you in transferring to the domestic terminal for your onward flight by EgyptAir to Aswan, where you will be met and taken by private car direct to your hotel.

DAYS 2 AND 3 – At leisure in Aswan.

Aswan, gateway to Nubia, is situated downriver from the First Cataract on the Nile. It was here that the British built a dam between 1898 and 1902, but this was superseded by the Aswan High Dam, constructed by President Nasser in the 1960s, resulting in the creation of Lake Nasser, the largest artificial lake in the world. These two days are to relax in the peaceful surroundings of your hotel on Elephantine Island, take a ride on a felucca, or shop in Aswan's bazaars. If this is your first time in the city, the World Discovery representatives will be happy to organise sightseeing to visit the highlights of Aswan - the High Dam, the unfinished obelisk in the granite quarries, the marvellous Temple of Philae, or a camel ride across the desert to visit the Monastery of St Simeon.

Meals included: Full breakfast each day.

DAY 4 – Embark on your Lake Nasser Cruise ship.

You will be collected and driven to Aswan Harbour to board the *Kasr Ibrim* in time for lunch. In the afternoon visit the Greco-Roman **Kalabsha Temple**, dedicated to the god Mandoulis. You will also see the **Beit el-Wali temple**, built by Ramses II, and containing some fairly weathered but interesting reliefs of the pharaoh's victories over Nubians, Ethiopians, Libyans and Asiatics. Finally, visit the small but attractive **Kiosk of Kertassi** with its two surviving Hathor-headed columns. Like most of the monuments you will see during your cruise, all three of these constructions were saved from the rising waters of Lake Nasser and painstakingly reassembled at their current site. Return to the *Kasr Ibrim* for afternoon tea in the lounge. Overnight at Aswan Harbour.

Meals included: Full breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner.

DAY 5 – Cruising on Lake Nasser.

The day is spent sailing south on the tranquil waters of Lake Nasser, crossing the Tropic of Cancer on your way to **Wadi el-Seboua**, where you will moor for the night.

Meals included: Full breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner.

DAY 6 - Cruising with several shore excursions.

This morning step ashore at Wadi el-Seboua to visit the temple dedicated to Ramses II and the two gods Amon-Ra and Ra Harmakis. You will also make visits to the **Temple of Maharakka**, a Roman temple dedicated to Serapis, and to the small **Chapel of Dakka**. Lunch on board as you sail to **Amada**, where you will explore the delightful XVIIIth dynasty temple, as well as visiting the smaller **Derr Temple** and the tomb of Penout, Viceroy of Nubia. Overnight at Amada.

Pictured: Ram-headed statue of Ramses II at the temple of Wadi el-Seboua.

Meals included: Full breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner.

DAY 7 – Kasr Ibrim. Arrival at Abu Simbel.

In the morning the ship reaches **Kasr Ibrim**, a castle which once dominated the area from its mountain-top location, now just above the water on an island. The guide's explanation is given on the ship's sun deck as entrance to the site is not permitted. You will now set sail for **Abu Simbel**, the highlight of the cruise. The temples are first sighted in the distance in the late morning, and you will moor near the site by lunchtime. A visit is made in the afternoon to this spectacular site, characterised by the 4 colossal seated statues of Ramses II which front the Temple of Re-Harakhte, and the graceful standing figures of his wife Nefertari on the smaller Temple of Hathor. In the evening there is the option (ticket not included) of re-visiting the temples for a **Sound and Light** performance. Overnight at Abu Simbel aboard the *Kasr Ibrim*.

Meals included: Full breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner.

DAY 8 – Fly back to Cairo to connect with your homeward flight.

Disembark after breakfast. Fly back to Cairo to connect with your homeward flight.

Meals included: Full breakfast.