



SIR JOHN  
SOANE'S  
MUSEUM  
LONDON

# EGYPT & THE NILE A JOURNEY INTO ANTIQUITY

DECEMBER 28, 2017–JANUARY 7, 2018

Dear Soanians,

I hope you will join us in December for an unforgettable journey to Egypt. This program coincides with our upcoming exhibition *Egypt Uncovered: Belzoni and the Tomb of Pharaoh Seti I*, revealing the story behind the Sir John Soane's Museum's most treasured possession: the elaborately carved alabaster sarcophagus of Pharaoh Seti I. Both the exhibit—which runs from October 1, 2017, to April 14, 2018 — and this trip commemorate the 200th anniversary of the discovery of the pharaoh's tomb by Italian explorer and Egyptologist Giovanni Battista Belzoni (1778–1823). The sarcophagus was removed by Belzoni in 1817, and eventually acquired by John Soane, who held "sarcophagus parties" in 1825 for "distinguished fashionables and literary characters" to celebrate his purchase.

We begin in Giza with two nights at the majestic Mena House, where Winston Churchill and Agatha Christie were guests. Tour the nearby pyramids and see the paws of the Sphinx up close on an exclusive visit. Fly to Luxor and stay at the historic Sofitel Winter Palace. Marvel at the elegant design of the temple of Hatshepsut, the famous female pharaoh; and explore the Valley of the Kings, including the tomb of Seti I (pending confirmation), also known as Belzoni's Tomb.

During a leisurely Nile cruise, step ashore at temples devoted to the crocodile god Sobek and Horus, the falcon-headed god. In Abu Simbel, marvel at the colossal temples of Ramses II and his favorite wife, Nefertari. Fly to Cairo to view treasures from the tomb of Tutankhamun and other priceless artifacts in the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities.

This extraordinary journey is co-sponsored by The Metropolitan Museum of Art and we are delighted that Isabel Stünkel, Associate Curator in the Museum's Department of Egyptian Art, will be accompanying us as a lecturer. Friends of Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation and others will be with us as well.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**STAY** at the elegant Mena House, near the pyramids, and enjoy up-close access to the paws of the Sphinx

**DISCOVER** the tomb of Seti I (pending confirmation) and other rarely visited tombs in Luxor, lavishly decorated with colorful paintings depicting everyday life

**RING** in the New Year at Luxor's Sofitel Winter Palace hotel, built by British explorers and visited by Howard Carter

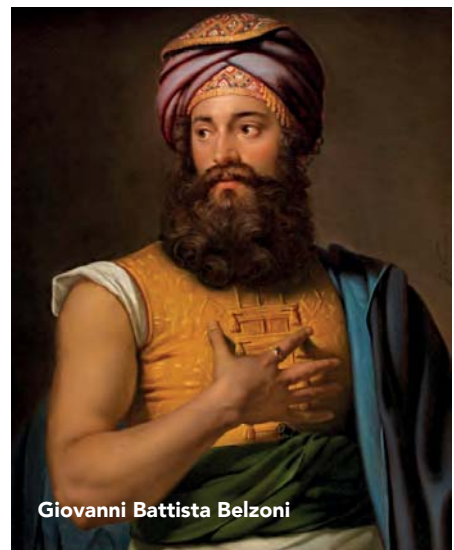
**SAIL** the Nile aboard an elegant riverboat from Luxor to Aswan, with stops at Edfu and Kom Ombo

**FLY** to Abu Simbel to see the temples of Ramses II and Queen Nefertari. Learn how they were moved in order to save them from the waters of Lake Nassar

I hope you will join us.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Boucher  
Director, Sir John Soane's Museum

P.S. You may wish to join an optional postlude in Cairo, with time to explore the city's Coptic and Islamic areas, and visit the step pyramid in Sakkara.



Giovanni Battista Belzoni

# EGYPT & THE NILE

## A JOURNEY INTO ANTIQUITY

DECEMBER 28, 2017–JANUARY 7, 2018



Foot of a statue, Karnak Temple

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28: CAIRO/GIZA, EGYPT

Arrive in Cairo this afternoon and transfer to the iconic Mena House. Gather this evening for a welcome cocktail reception with introductory remarks by our lecturer. *Please contact us should you require hotel arrangements for an early arrival.* R

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29: GIZA

This morning tour the legendary Great Pyramids, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Explore the Solar Boat Museum, housing the exceptionally preserved cedar boat found near the Pyramid of Khufu, then enjoy special access to the Sphinx. Return to the hotel for a late lunch. An early evening lecture is followed by dinner at leisure. B, L

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30: CAIRO/LUXOR

Board an early morning flight to Luxor and continue to the Sofitel Winter Palace for lunch and check-in. In the afternoon see the massive Colossi of Memnon and the temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari. B, L

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31: LUXOR

Return to the West Bank, site of the vast necropolis of ancient Thebes. See the royal tombs of the pharaohs cut deep into the mountainside in the Valley of the Kings. There will be time at leisure in town before an afternoon visit to Luxor Temple on the East bank of the Nile. Ring in the New Year this evening, with a festive celebration. B, D

### MONDAY, JANUARY 1: LUXOR/EMBARK SANCTUARY NILE ADVENTURER

At Karnak Temple, walk along the Avenue of Sphinxes and see the impressive Hypostyle Hall with its massive columns. Embark the *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer* in time for lunch. This afternoon discover the outstanding collections at the Luxor Museum. Toast the beginning of our Nile voyage at a sunset dinner. B, L, D

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 2: LUXOR

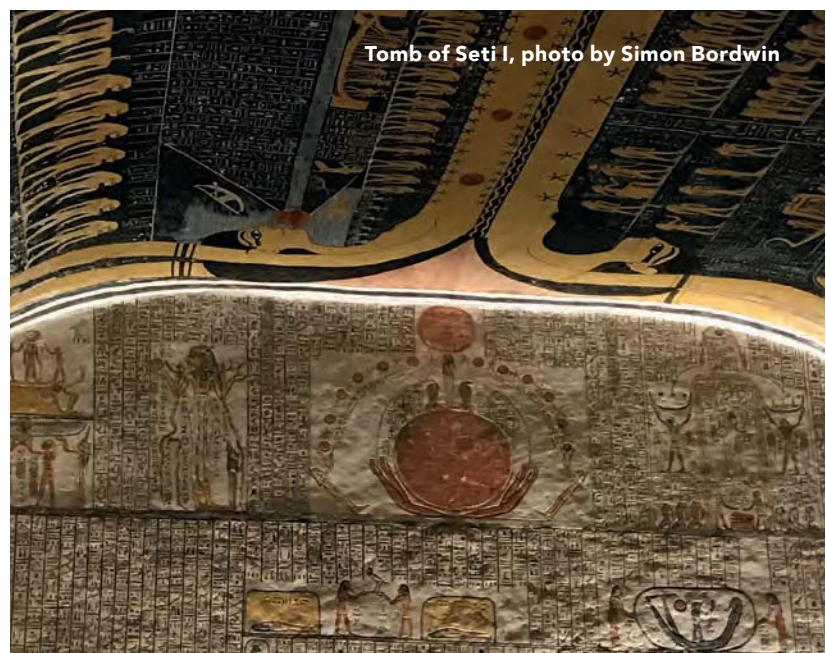
Discover Medinet Habu, the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III and second in size only to Karnak. Continue to the Ramesseum, the Temple of Ramses II, and the lesser-visited tombs of the nobles. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure as we cruise the Nile. B, L, D

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3: EDFU/KOM OMBO

Step ashore this morning in Edfu to visit the exceptionally well-preserved Temple of Horus. Lunch is on board as we cruise. Our late afternoon visit is to Kom Ombo's picturesque Ptolemaic temple, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and decorated with a series of beautiful reliefs. B, L, D

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 4: ASWAN

Attend a morning lecture as we cruise. Arrive in Aswan in the early afternoon and visit the exquisite Philae Temple, relocated due to the rising flood waters of the Nile. We will also enjoy a sail aboard a Nile *felucca* (traditional sailboat). This evening the captain hosts our farewell dinner. B, L, D



Tomb of Seti I, photo by Simon Bordwin

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 5: ASWAN/ABU SIMBEL/CAIRO**

Disembark the *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer* for a morning excursion by plane to Abu Simbel. See the monumental temples of Ramses II and his favorite wife, Queen Nefertari, constructed in the 13th century B.C. to show Egypt's power in the far south. Return to Cairo to check in at the Four Seasons Hotel at the First Residence. Dinner and the evening are at leisure. B, L

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6: CAIRO**

Begin the day with a visit to the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities, housing the world's greatest collection of ancient Egyptian treasures, including objects from the tomb of Tutankhamun. Following a light lunch, view the

splendid Sultan Hassan Mosque. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. This evening toast our journey at a festive farewell dinner. B ,L, D

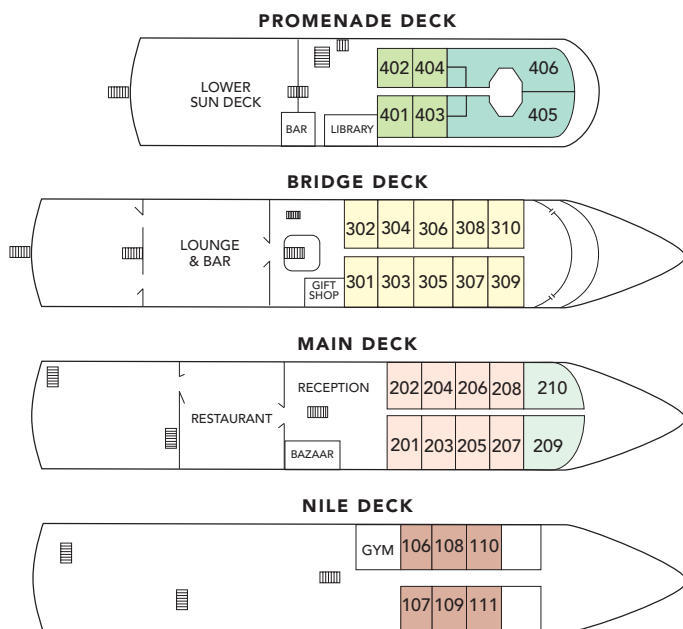
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7: CAIRO/U.S. RETURN**

Depart Cairo on a return flight to the United States. B

**An optional two-night postlude in Cairo is offered from January 7-9.**

**DISCLAIMER:** *This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Arrangements Abroad and the Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms).*

**SANCTUARY NILE ADVENTURER**



**PROGRAM RATES**

Cabin Categories	Decks	Double Rates	Single Rates
106 to 111 Standard Cabin	Nile Deck	\$8,999	\$10,599
201 to 208 Standard Cabin	Main Deck	\$9,499	\$11,099
301 to 310 Standard Cabin	Bridge Deck	\$9,999	\$11,899
401 to 404 Standard Cabin	Promenade Deck	\$10,499	\$12,399
209 & 210 Deluxe Cabin	Main Deck	\$11,499	\$14,399
405 & 406 Presidential Suite	Promenade Deck	\$11,999	\$14,899

**RATES INCLUDE**

- Ten nights hotel/cabin accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, R = Reception, D = Dinner). Bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals, beer/house wine at dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Internal economy-class flights: Cairo/Luxor...Aswan/Abu Simbel/Cairo
- Enrichment program of lectures and special events
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach and entrance fees for included visits
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATES**

International airfare; passport and visa fees; alcoholic beverages other than wine/beer at dinners; personal items and expenses; airport transfers for those not on suggested group flights; baggage in excess of one suitcase; optional Cairo postlude; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



With a sleek contemporary design and only 32 cabins, *Sanctuary Nile Adventurer* offers a mix of intimacy and luxury. This elegant riverboat features a sun deck with swimming pool and private cabanas, and a shaded deck with an outdoor bar. All cabins offer Nile River views.



*Sanctuary Nile Adventurer* (top), Mena House and Sofitel Winter Palace (above left and right)



Karnak Temple at dawn

**SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM FOUNDATION  
EGYPT & THE NILE • DECEMBER 27, 2017–JANUARY 7, 2018  
RESERVATION FORM**

To reserve a place, please contact Academic Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, or fax: 212-344-7493; or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Academic Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Room/cabin preference  One bed  Two beds  Single

I wish to share a room/cabin with \_\_\_\_\_

**OPTIONAL POSTLUDE IN CAIRO**

I/We wish to join the optional postlude in Cairo

Hotel room preference  One bed  Two beds  Single

**FORM OF PAYMENT**

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*)  Debit card  Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms) to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date