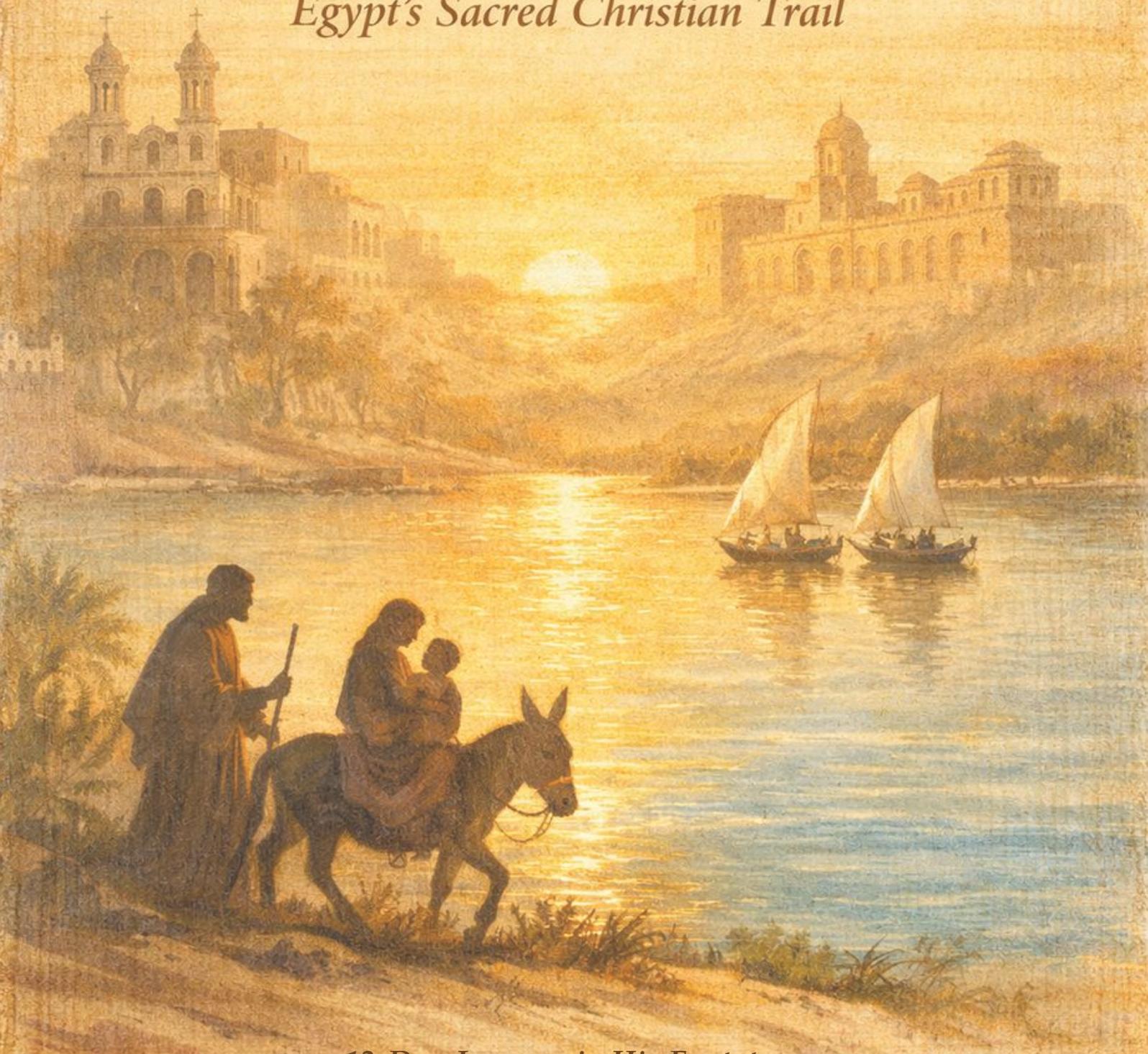


THE HOLY FAMILY NILE JOURNEY

Egypt's Sacred Christian Trail



12-Day Journey in His Footsteps

Cairo • Beni Suef • Minya • Sohag • Assiut

THE HOLY FAMILY TRAIL IN EGYPT

THE OFFICIAL VATICAN RECONIZED TRAIL

Long before Christianity spread across the world, Egypt became a land of refuge. When the Angel of the Lord warned Joseph in a dream, the Holy Family fled to Egypt to escape King Herod's persecution. According to Christian tradition and the Gospel of Matthew, Egypt was the only country outside the Holy Land to receive and protect the Child Jesus.

Today, more than 2,000 years later, the path they followed is known as the Holy Family Trail in Egypt.

Why This Pilgrimage Is Unique?

Egypt holds a singular place in Biblical history.

The only land outside of the Holy Land to host the physical residency of Jesus, transforming Egypt into a "Second Holy Land." From the Sinai desert to the Nile Valley, the route is a living map of biblical prophecy, such as ancient springs and the venerated Virgin Mary's Tree. Beyond its historical weight as the cradle of Christian monasticism, the trail's recent official recognition by the Vatican cements its status as a premier global pilgrimage destination.

- ✧ Mentioned more than 700 times in the Bible.
- ✧ Sheltered the Holy Family for nearly 3-4 years.
- ✧ It became the cradle of early Christian monasticism
- ✧ The Only Land Sanctioned Outside of Holy Land
- ✧ A Trail of "Living Miracles" (The Springs and Trees)
- ✧ Prophetic Fulfillment (Isaiah 19:1)
- ✧ Modern Vatican Recognition

A Pilgrimage by Sail & Rail.

Following Nile This Christian sites.

This carefully designed journey follows the Holy Family's path from Cairo to Upper Egypt, combining:

- Sacred Christian sites
- Monasteries and ancient churches
- Biblical landmarks

The peaceful landscapes of the Nile:

Travelling by Nile cruise is not only comfortable, it is symbolic. The Nile itself was the lifeline of Egypt and the silent witness to the Holy Family's presence. As you sail southward, you follow the same river that once carried hope, safety, and divine protection.

A Journey of Faith, Not Just Sightseeing

- ✧ Faith-based Travelers
- ✧ Spiritual seekers
- ✧ Pilgrimage organizers

Is the Holy Family Trail Only for One Christian Denomination?

The Holy Family Trail in Egypt is a unified spiritual journey that brings together all Christian denominations worldwide, Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, Anglican, Evangelical, and all churches that recognize the Holy Bible.

The journey is rooted in the Gospel of Matthew: "**Out of Egypt I called My Son**" (Matthew 2:15), when the Child Jesus and the Virgin Mary fled to Egypt escaping King Herod's persecution. Egypt became a land of refuge and protection.

This is not only a religious route, but a shared Christian heritage and a universal human story — a message of protection, hospitality, and peace. It is an inspiring journey that unites hearts rather than divides them



Cairo

Hanging Church
St. Virgin Mary
Coptic Church

Beni Suef

Minya



Monastery of Gabal El-Tayr

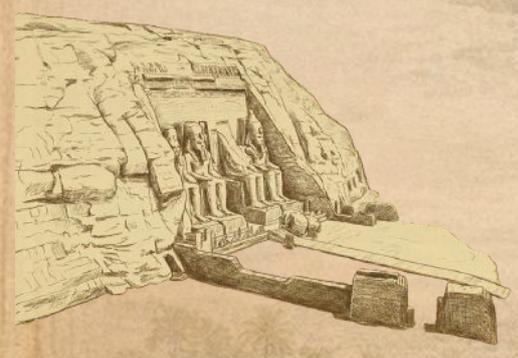
Assiut
Monastery
Al-Muharrak



Sohag
Whiet & Red Monasteries



Luxor



Aswan



A CHRISTIAN PILGRIMAGE JOURNEY BY SAIL

12 DAY -SAIL & RAIL FAM TRIP

Journey Overview

This is a pilgrimage of faith, history, and beauty. Following the footsteps of the Holy Family in Egypt. From the sacred churches of Old Cairo to the quiet monasteries of Upper Egypt, and from the peaceful flow of the Nile to the spiritual calm of Aswan, this journey is designed to be both deeply meaningful and exceptionally comfortable.

Travel will be by:

- Bus Cairo & Wadi el Natron
- Luxury Nile Cruise (Cairo → Luxor)



The Virgin Mary's Tree (Matariya)

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 - Thursday: Arrival in Cairo – Welcome to the Land of Refuge

Today is your arrival in Cairo, the great capital of Egypt and the gateway to the Holy Family's journey. After meeting our team at the airport, you will be transferred comfortably to your hotel. This day is for rest and preparation, as the pilgrimage begins tomorrow.

Overnight: Cairo

Day 2: Delta Heritage & Ancient Trails

05:00 AM – 08:30 AM | Tell Basta (Bubastis) Depart Cairo at dawn for Zagazig. Explore the colossal red granite ruins of the Temple of Bastet and the Sacred Well, a spiritual intersection where Pharaonic history meets the Holy Family's journey.

08:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Samannoud Traverse the lush Delta to the Church of St. Abanoub.

View the ancient granite trough used by the Virgin Mary, a centerpiece of local Coptic tradition nestled within a vibrant Egyptian village.

11:30 AM – 02:30 PM | Sakha (Bikha Isous) Continue to Kafr El Sheikh to visit the Church of the Virgin Mary. Witness the "Footprint of Jesus," a sacred stone bearing a single miraculous mark, preserved for centuries.

02:30 PM – 06:00 PM | The Desert Crossing Leave the green Delta for the serene Wadi El Natron valley. Arrive at your desert lodge in time for a quiet sunset over the monastic salt lakes.

Overnight: Wadi El Natron.

Day 3- Saturday : Desert Silence to Ancient Wonders

07:30 AM – 09:30 AM | Wadi El Natrun Monasteries Explore the ancient keeps and incense-filled basilicas of Anba Bishoy and Suryan, where Coptic monasticism has thrived for 1,600 years.

09:30 AM – 11:30 AM | The Desert Crossing Depart the salt lakes of the Nitrian Desert for the drive to Cairo, watching the horizon shift toward the rising silhouettes of Giza.

11:30 AM – 02:30 PM | Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) Step into the world's largest archaeological sanctuary to stand before the golden treasures of Tutankhamun and the colossal Ramses II. followed by lunch

02:30 PM – 04:30 PM | The Great Pyramids & Sphinx Wander the base of the last remaining Ancient Wonder and meet the Great Sphinx as the afternoon sun begins its golden descent.

04:30 PM – 05:30 PM | Arrival & Check-in Conclude your journey from the spiritual desert to the ancient capital. Check into your hotel to relax and reflect on 3,000 years of heritage.

Overnight: Cairo HB



Day 4: Sunday: The Holy Family's Cairo Refuge

A North-to-South route through Cairo's most sacred and historic landmarks.

07:00 AM – 08:30 AM | Matariya: Visit the Virgin Mary Tree, the sacred sycamore that provided shade to the Holy Family.

09:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Khan el-Khalili: A morning stroll through Egypt's most famous historic bazaar to beat the evening crowds.

12:00 PM – 01:30 PM | Lunch at Abou Tarek: A legendary stop for Egypt's national dish, Koshary, in the heart of the city.

02:00 PM – 04:30 PM | Old Cairo (Coptic Complex): Explore the Hanging Church, the Holy Crypt at Abu Serga, and the ancient St. Barbara Church.

05:00 PM – 06:30 PM | Maadi (Riverside): Sunset at the Church of the Virgin Mary, where the Holy Family boarded a boat for Upper Egypt.

Overnight: Cairo.

Day 5– Monday | Embarkation Day – The Nile Becomes Our Pilgrimage Road

Today we leave Cairo and begin a rare experience: sailing the Nile from the north, following a route few travelers ever take. The Nile becomes our moving sanctuary, peaceful, beautiful, and deeply symbolic.

Cairo - Beni Suef

Sailing Distance: ≈ 120 km

Total Sailing Time: ≈ 10.5-11.00 hours

05:00 AM – Check out of your hotel and transfer to your Nile cruise boat.

06:00 AM - Sundeck breakfast, waking up, kicking off our Egypt first faith-based Nile cruise toward Beni Suef

11:00 PM – 02:00 PM – Sailing past Dahshur & Medium (viewing only)

03:30 PM – Docking in Beni Suef

04:00 PM - Visit of Christian Maimon Monastery and overnight

Overnight: On board (Beni Suef) FB



Day 6 – Tuesday | Minya – Where Upper Egypt Begins

Today we enter the landscapes of Upper Egypt—quiet villages, palm-lined banks, and the slower rhythm of the Nile. In the afternoon, we visit one of the most sacred Holy Family monasteries: Gabal El-Tayr. Beni Suef - Minya

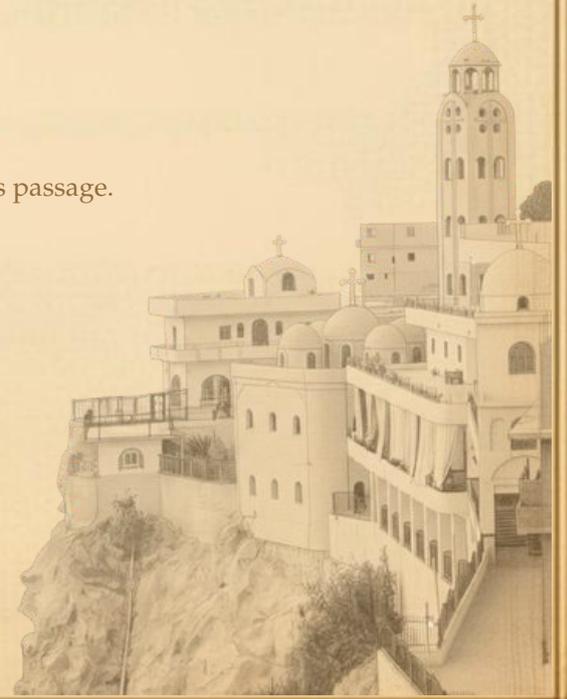
03:30 AM - Early sailing

03:00 PM - Arrival Minya

04:00 PM - Visit: Monastery of Gabal El-Tayer

A spiritual mountain monastery connected directly to the Holy Family's passage.

Overnight: On board (Minya) FB



Day 7 – Wednesday | Tel El-Amarna – Between Pharaohs and Faith

This morning, the vessel repositions to Tel El-Amarna. The area is historically important as it reflects a unique moment in Egypt's ancient religious history. Guests board here, and we continue south toward Assiut

05:30 AM: Depart the boat.

06:30 AM: Visit Beni Hasan (Middle Kingdom rock-cut tombs).

08:30 AM: Drive to Tell el-Amarna (Akhenaten's capital).

10:00 PM: Explore North Tombs and Royal Palace ruins.

12:00 PM: Rejoin the boat and sail to Asyut

12:30 PM – 07:30 PM – Open River Sailing

07:45 PM – 09:15 PM – Lock Transit and Bridge Crossing

09:30 PM – Docking in Assiut City

Overnight: On board (Assiut) FB



Day 8 – Thursday | El Muharraq and Dronka

Today is one of the most powerful spiritual days of the pilgrimage. We visit Al-Muharraq Monastery, believed by tradition to be one of the longest stops of the Holy Family in Egypt. This monastery remains a living center of prayer.

05:30 AM | Disembarkation: Group leaves the boat

06:45 AM – 08:15 AM | Monastery of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Muharraq)

8:15 AM – 09:15 AM | Drive to Dronka

09:15 AM – 10:30 AM | Monastery of the Virgin Mary (Dronka)

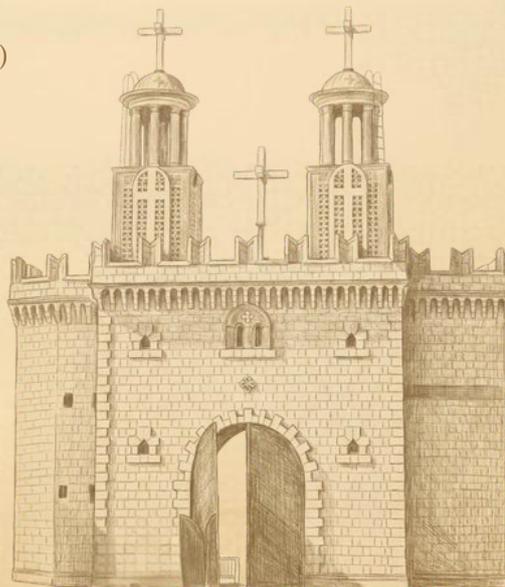
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM | Return to the Boat

11:00 AM | Boarding & Immediate Departure

12:30 PM | Lunch on Board

09:00 PM | Arrival in Sohag:

Overnight: On board (Sohag) FB



Day 9 – Friday | Sohag – Monastic Egypt and the Desert Spirit

Today is dedicated to the monastic tradition of Upper Egypt. Sohag is one of Egypt's most important regions for early Christian monastic life. While the vessel sails, guests explore monasteries and rejoin later at El-Balyana and enjoy a guide tour of Abydos temple.

05:30 AM – Visit to the White and Red Monasteries

07:30 AM – Picnic breakfast & drive to Abydos

09:30 AM – Visit the Temple of Abydos

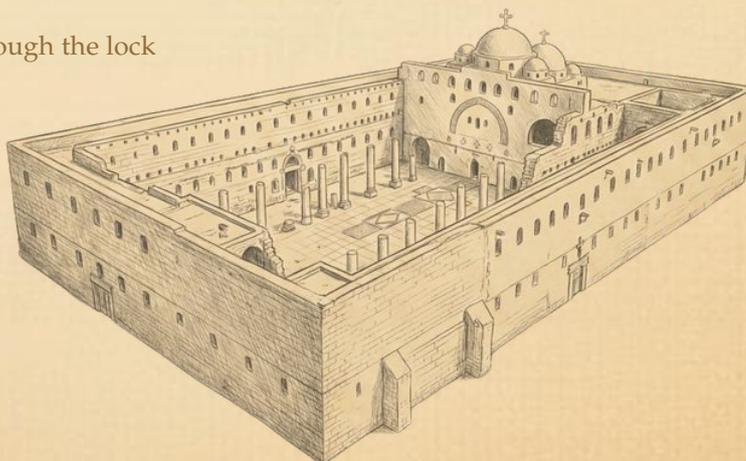
11:30 AM – Board at El-Balyana

01:00 PM – Sail to Nag Hammadi

02:30–04:30 PM – Cross the bridge and pass through the lock

08:30 PM – Dock in Qena

Overnight: On board (Qena) FB



Day 10– Saturday | Dendera – Beauty, Symbols, and Sacred Art

Today, we visit the Temple of Dendera, one of Egypt's most beautiful ancient temples. Its artwork and architecture reflect the deep symbolism of the Nile Valley. After the visit, we continue sailing toward Luxor.

06:00 AM - Visit Dendera Temple

08:30 AM - Sail to Luxor

03:30 PM - Dock Luxor

Overnight: On board (Luxor) FB



Day 11 – Sunday | Luxor – The Greatest Open-Air Museum in the World

At dawn, we explore the West Bank's tombs, a breathtaking tribute to Egypt's ancient pharaohs. Following a relaxing onboard lunch as we sail, our afternoon concludes among the colossal pillars of Karnak and Luxor.

06:00 AM - West Bank visit

12:30 AM - Lunch

01:30 PM - Luxor and Karnak

Overnight: On board (Luxor) FB

Ext. 4 Days Aswan and Abu Simbel

Arrive in Aswan with visits en route to the Temple of Edfu and Kom Ombo.

In Aswan, visit the High Dam, the Unfinished Obelisk, and Philae Temple.

On the last day, visit Abu Simbel Temple before flying back home via Cairo.

Day 12 – Monday | Departure

Enjoy your breakfast on board before heading to the airport to catch your direct flight back home, or via Cairo with a short transfer.

What Is Included

- All airport transfers
- All sightseeing as per the itinerary
- All meals as per the itinerary:
- Half Board (HB) during hotel stays
- Full Board (FB) on board the Nile Cruise
- 2 nights 5-star accommodation in Cairo on Half Board (Breakfast and Lunch)
- 1 night lodge accommodation in Wadi El Natrun on Half Board (Breakfast and Dinner)
- 7 nights Nile Cruise from Cairo to Luxor on Full Board
- Guided tours with entrance fees as per the itinerary

What Is Not Included

- Tipping
- Visa
- International flight tickets
- Domestic flight tickets
- Any extras or extensions

Rates

- Price per person in Double Cabin – Nile Deck: €3,000
- Single Supplement: €1,000
- Price per person in Double Cabin – Main Deck: €3,600
- Single Supplement: €1,200
- Price per person in Double Cabin – Upper Deck (Suites): €4,800
- Single Supplement: €1,800





Q Nile Cruise

Explore Our SPIRITUAL EGYPT

A Special Christian Journey

Follow the footsteps of the Holy Family along the Nile, visit historic churches and monasteries in Cairo, Beni Suef, Minya, Sohag, and Asyut. Discover Egypt's Christian heritage.



The Holy Family
Trail in Egypt

THE OFFICIAL VATICAN-RECOGNIZED TRAIL



Middle East
TRAVEL ALLIANCE