



VCU Alumni

MARCH 1-13, 2026

with optional
Alexandria Pre-Tour and
Jordan Post-Tour

DISCOVER EGYPT AND THE NILE VALLEY



Orbridge

ANCIENT WONDERS • TIMELESS NILE • PHARAOHS' LEGACY

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join us for a historical and cultural immersion into Egypt's ancient treasures and timeless wonders. From iconic landmarks to architectural marvels, this land of pharaohs and pyramids is undeniably a crucial part of human history.

Stand in awe before the Great Pyramid of Giza and the enigmatic Sphinx before delving deep into the annals of history at the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum, where treasures from Egypt's rich past come to life. In Luxor, venture into the hallowed grounds of the Valley of the Kings. The Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut will transport you to a bygone era of grandeur and opulence.

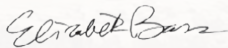
Mid-journey embark upon your private dahabiya—a traditional Egyptian sailing vessel—for four relaxing days and nights along the Nile River, granting rare access to ruins and temples during less occupied times. On land stay at five-star hotels, each a sanctuary of comfort and luxury.

This well-paced journey reveals Egypt's monumental history, staggering technological achievements and compelling human stories.

With significant savings of more than \$1,000 per couple, and with limited space available, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly.

To reserve, visit vcu.orbridge.com or call (866) 639-0079.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Bass
Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations
Virginia Commonwealth University

Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley | Itinerary Highlights

Day EN ROUTE FROM U.S.

1

Day **ARRIVE IN CAIRO, EGYPT** Upon arrival to Cairo International Airport an Orbridge representative will be waiting to assist with your transfer to the hotel. Settle into your luxurious accommodations with time to refresh and unwind—the remainder of the afternoon and evening are at leisure. Cairo itself is bustling with vibrant energy, as locals move about their daily lives. Overnight: Marriott Mena House, Cairo

Day **CAIRO | GIZA (B,L,D)** Awake to extraordinary views of pyramids and palm trees situated against Cairo's expansive horizon. Following breakfast view the iconic Great Pyramid—the oldest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World—and the Great Sphinx, impressively carved from a single mass of limestone atop the Giza Plateau. Step over to the Grand Egyptian Museum, a newly opened complex described as the largest archaeological museum in the world and host to more than 100,000 artifacts. Overnight: Marriott Mena House, Cairo

Day **CAIRO | FLIGHT TO LUXOR (B,L,D)** Visit the vast necropolis of Sakkara, the 14th century Mosque of Sultan Hassan and some of Cairo's ancient Coptic churches. Early this evening transfer to Cairo International Airport for the group flight to Luxor. Check into your hotel then gather for dinner. Overnight: Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor

Day **LUXOR (B,L)** Take a guided tour through the Karnak Temple Complex—a principal religious center in the New Kingdom—with its massive statues, towering obelisks, intricate hieroglyphics and the Avenue of Sphinxes. Tonight explore the magnificent Luxor Temple and enjoy its illuminated beauty. Dinner is at leisure at the hotel. Overnight: Sofitel Winter Palace Luxor

Day **LUXOR | ESNA – EMBARKATION | NILE RIVER (B,L,D)** Venture to the hallowed grounds of the Valley of the Kings, an ancient burial site of many influential Egyptian pharaohs and other prominent figures. Admire the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, a multi-story structure built to honor one of the few female pharaohs of the New Kingdom. Overnight: Dahabiya

Day **EDFU | NILE (B,L,D)** Join your Egyptologist for a guided tour to the necropolis at El Kab. Continue to Edfu to tour the Ptolemaic Temple of Horus—the most complete and best-preserved temple in Egypt. The remainder of the day is at leisure to rejuvenate aboard the dahabiya. The elegantly appointed staterooms are a tranquil oasis after full days of exploration. Overnight: Dahabiya

Day **EDFU | NILE | KOM OMBO (B,L,D)** Visit Gebel el-Silsila, an ancient quarry where pharaohs excavated sandstone and limestone blocks to build their temples and monuments. Return to the dahabiya to unwind during an afternoon of sailing. Join a discussion with one of the Egyptologists or kick back on a plush lounge gazing at the scenery passing by. Tonight enjoy a special barbecue dinner on a nearby island. Overnight: Dahabiya

Day **KOM OMBO | NILE (B,L,D)** Explore the fascinating temple of Kom Ombo. Return to the dahabiya for a final night of sailing, and partake in a special gala dinner on board. Overnight: Dahabiya

Day **NILE – DISEMBARKATION | ASWAN (B,L)** Tour Aswan High Dam. Later, take a motorboat ride to Agilkia, site of the temples of Philae dedicated to the goddess Isis. Enjoy time at the hotel before exploring Aswan's famous market, Sharia as-Souq. Overnight: Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Aswan

Day **ASWAN (B,D)** Visit Elephantine Island to explore its UNESCO World Heritage archaeological sites. The remainder of today is at leisure. Overnight: Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Aswan

Day **ASWAN | OPTIONAL ABU SIMBEL EXCURSION | FLIGHT TO CAIRO (B,L,D)** Optional excursion guests fly round-trip between Aswan and Abu Simbel. Other guests enjoy a morning at leisure before the afternoon return flight to Cairo. Gather for a special farewell dinner. Overnight: Le Méridien Cairo Airport

Day **CAIRO | DEPART FOR U.S. (B)** Use the skybridge conveniently connecting the hotel to Terminal 3 of Cairo International Airport for flights home.

(B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)



What's Included

- 7 nights luxury hotel accommodations plus 4 nights aboard a stately dahabiya
- 11 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 8 dinners
- All excursions listed on the 13-day itinerary including admission to sites and venues
- Excursion transportation
- Internal airfare from Cairo to Luxor and Aswan to Cairo
- Gratuities to hotels, drivers, dahabiya staff, porters and guides
- Group airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times

Activity Level: Activities are generally not very strenuous. Guests should be able to climb stairs, stand for long periods of time, and be able to walk 1.5 miles over uneven surfaces, sometimes on gravel, sand or stone.



Orbridge

Orbridge Standard of Excellence

Orbridge understands travel today can be complicated. From cabin or room selection to airport transfers, dietary requests, or pre- or post-tour details—we are dedicated to making your journey seamless and special from the moment you leave home.

Our curated destinations—featuring outstanding properties and ships, meticulously crafted itineraries, and knowledgeable guides, travel directors and expedition leaders—offer life-changing experiences you'll never forget.

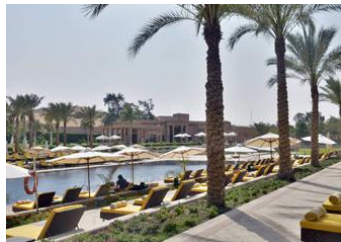
Our Guest Services team is staffed by well-traveled professionals who provide personalized attention, ensuring all your questions are answered and all the details of your trip are explained to you.

Our air partners can make flight arrangements for guests. In the event of flight delays and/or schedule changes, they will provide guests with personalized assistance. To book flight reservations with our air partners, contact (206) 319-5011 and select the option for your destination to discuss flight details with our air colleagues. Upon ticketing, a fee will be charged.

Hotel Accommodations *(subject to change)*

MARRIOTT MENA HOUSE, CAIRO

Originally built as a hunting lodge in 1869, Mena House served as a private residence until 1886, when it was opened to the public as a hotel. The property features 40 acres of lavish gardens, four restaurants and lounges, outdoor pool, heated indoor pool, health club and full service spa (additional fees for services).



SOFITEL WINTER PALACE LUXOR

Perched peacefully on the bank of the Nile River, Winter Palace's five-star accommodations provide an alluring atmosphere for a regal respite. Once the winter residence of King Farouk, this property also housed 19th-century explorers in search of Egyptian antiquities and artifacts.



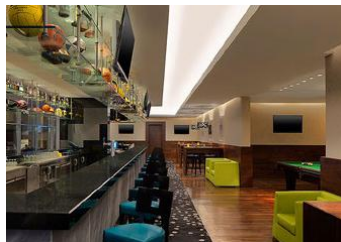
SOFITEL LEGEND OLD CATARACT ASWAN

Step back to the time of the pharaohs, surrounded by grandeur and opulence of this 5-star property. Walk the ravishing grounds, and feel a part of royalty that once frequented the hotel.



LE MÉRIDIEN CAIRO AIRPORT

This fully soundproofed luxury hotel is conveniently linked to Terminal 3 of Cairo International Airport by a pedestrian bridge. The property features an impressive sports bar, three restaurants serving Chinese, Lebanese or Mediterranean cuisine, a fitness center and a heated outdoor pool.



Onboard the dahabiya

With a capacity of just 14 guests per boat, our 155-foot dahabiyas are designed to provide the ultimate in comfort and adventure while sailing the Nile River.

Each stateroom provides spacious, fully air-conditioned accommodations with en suite facilities. Guests can savor healthy, fresh, and delicious international and Egyptian cuisine at every meal. Enjoy the large sun deck, dining and lounge areas, and the services of an enthusiastic crew who are committed to your comfort.

STATEROOM CATEGORIES

Standard: One king or two twin beds, view window, and private en suite bathroom. Approx. 205 sq.ft.

Suite: One queen bed, private balcony, view windows, and private en suite bathroom. Approx. 250 sq.ft.



Standard



Suite



Lounge



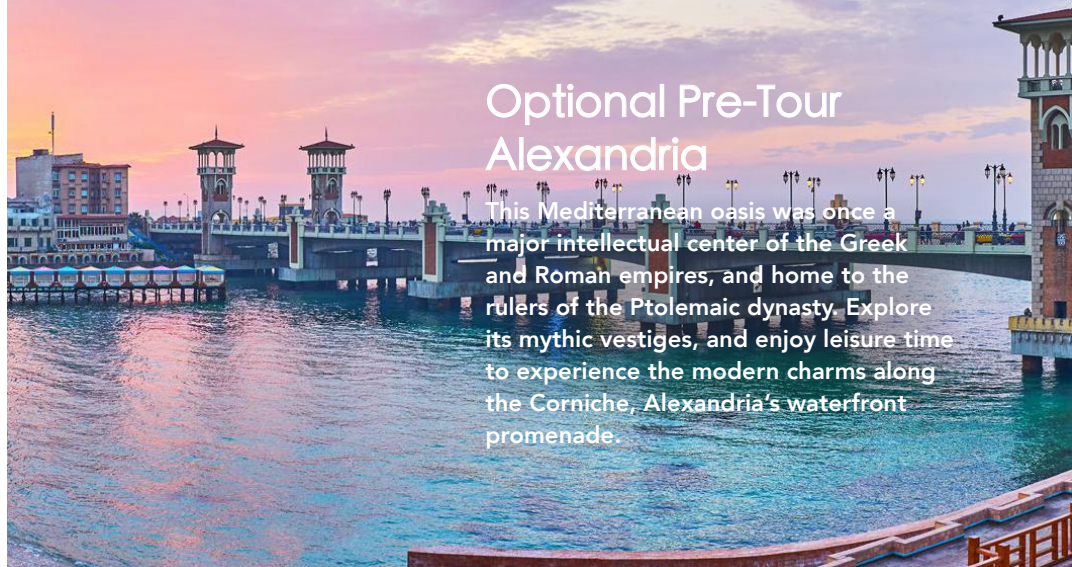
Dining



Deck



Outdoor Dining



Optional Pre-Tour Alexandria

This Mediterranean oasis was once a major intellectual center of the Greek and Roman empires, and home to the rulers of the Ptolemaic dynasty. Explore its mythic vestiges, and enjoy leisure time to experience the modern charms along the Corniche, Alexandria's waterfront promenade.

Day
+1 EN ROUTE FROM U.S.

Day
+2 ARRIVE IN CAIRO, EGYPT Upon arrival to Cairo International Airport transfer to your five-star accommodations and enjoy the first evening at leisure.
Overnight: Marriott Mena House, Cairo

Day
+3 CAIRO | ALEXANDRIA After breakfast take a pleasant three-hour drive to Alexandria. Built under the reign of Alexander the Great, Alexandria is the playground for Egypt's elite, enriched with a spirit that is more Mediterranean than Middle Eastern. During a guided tour visit the Roman Amphitheatre, the famous Catacombs, and the Citadel of Qaitbay. The remainder of the day is free to explore the city.
Overnight: Steingerber Cecil Hotel (B,L)

Day
+4 ALEXANDRIA This morning visit the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, featuring exhibits spanning from prehistoric times to the present, a vast archaeological display and a royal mummies gallery. Afterward explore the architecturally stunning Bibliotheca Alexandrina, a recently constructed, modern interpretation of its ancient predecessor. This structure features four museums, a planetarium and can accommodate up to eight million books. The afternoon and evening are free to relax at the property or venture into town.
Overnight: Steingerber Cecil Hotel (B,L)

Day
+5 ALEXANDRIA | CAIRO | MAIN PROGRAM BEGINS After breakfast return to Cairo to join fellow travelers on the main program. (B)

What's Included

- 3 nights luxury hotel accommodations
- 3 breakfasts and 2 lunches
- Touring by an English-speaking guide
- Admission to all sites listed in the itinerary
- Guided Alexandria city tour including the Roman Amphitheatre
- All gratuities and portorage
- All airport and hotel transfers





Optional Post-Tour Jordan

Journey to the ancient world of the Middle East, where impressive historic architecture towers over the present day. Discover the endless layers of spiritual and religious icons dotting this Holy Land, culminating with a once-in-a-lifetime visit to the Dead Sea.

Day 13 **CAIRO | FLIGHT TO AMMAN** Explore the region's history at the Jordan Museum, then ascend to the Amman Citadel for a spectacular view of the city, including the 6,000-seat 2nd-century Roman theatre. Overnight: InterContinental Amman (L,D)

Day 14 **AMMAN | JERASH** Travel to Jerash, the city of 1,000 Pillars. Visit the Triple Arched Gate, the Hippodrome, and the Roman Amphitheatre. Overnight: InterContinental Amman (B,L,D)

Day 15 **AMMAN | MABADA | MOUNT NEBO | PETRA** During guided church tours view ancient floor mosaics and religious relics. Overnight: Mövenpick Resort Petra (B,L,D)

Day 16 **PETRA** Spend today touring the archaeological wonders of this UNESCO World Heritage Site carved from the surrounding red rock cliffs— it's also the location of on-going excavation missions. Overnight: Mövenpick Resort Petra (B,L,D)

Day 17 **PETRA | LITTLE PETRA | DANA | DEAD SEA** Visit Siq al-Barid, known as *Little Petra*, thought to have been an important "suburb" of Petra. Continue to the 15th-century stone village of Dana. Stroll through the pomegranate grove then enjoy lunch with the special treat of spectacular vistas over the rugged landscape. Overnight: Mövenpick Resort & Spa Dead Sea (B,L,D)

Day 18 **DEAD SEA** Spend a leisurely day at the Dead Sea. Enjoy a sumptuous breakfast and lunch and perhaps take time for a mud mask and dip. Overnight: Mövenpick Resort & Spa Dead Sea (B,L)

Day 19 **DEAD SEA | AMMAN | DEPART FOR U.S.** After breakfast take the complimentary group transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

What's Included

- Internal airfare from Cairo to Amman
- 6 nights luxury accommodations
- 6 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 5 dinners
- Admission to all sites listed in the itinerary
- Touring by an English-speaking guide
- All gratuities and portorage
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times





MARCH 1-13, 2026

Alexandria Pre-Tour: February 26 - March 2, 2026

Jordan Post-Tour: March 13-19, 2026

RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY

Online: vcu.orbridge.com

Phone: (866) 639-0079

Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Classic	\$7,999	\$7,495
Suite	\$10,199	\$9,695
Single (Classic)	\$12,499	\$11,995

Optional Abu Simbel Excursion: \$795 Per Person

Alexandria Pre-Tour	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Double	\$2,199	\$1,995
Single	\$3,499	\$3,295

Jordan Post-Tour	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Double	\$5,199	\$4,995
Single	\$7,199	\$6,995

DEPOSIT AMOUNT PER PERSON

\$500 pre-tour • \$850 main tour • \$500 post-tour

*Special group rates; limited offer. All rates are per person in U.S. dollars based on double occupancy except where noted as Single. Single availability limited. Unless noted otherwise, airfare is not included.

**An exclusive Early Booking Bonus, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per room will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; call for details. Full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com. Any payment to Orbridge, LLC constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation and refund terms.

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Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green.





VCU Alumni
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DISCOVER EGYPT AND THE NILE VALLEY

FREE EXPEDITION LIBRARY
AN EXCLUSIVE EARLY
RESERVATION BONUS

MARCH 1-13, 2026

Special Alumni Rate:

Save more than \$1,000 per couple

Reserve by
June 27, 2025**

What Guests Are Saying...

I have the fever! Egypt is now in my heart and soul. What a fantastic trip from start to finish. Egyptomania is real, I have it and I want to return.

~Margo C., Roanoke, VA

The Dahabiya excursion was an incredible treat and something every tour should include. The crew was exceptional. The chef was also incredible, offering a huge variety of delicious meals. It was so clear that we were getting an amazing, unique experience, unlike most other people, when we saw the giant commercial riverboats flying past us on the Nile. Our experience was relaxed, personal and gave us time to soak up what we were seeing as we took our time along the river.

~Leslie & Paul F., Katy, TX

This was a first-class program, and we appreciated the Orbridge experience!

~Randy & Mary B., Seminole, FL

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30-day refund guarantee