

FSB's Connect Club presents...

Journey Through Egypt and Jordan

April 6 – 20, 2024

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\$50
Per Person



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For more information contact
Kathy Leeseekamp, Connect Club Director
FSB's Connect Club
(319) 294-2900
kathyleeseekamp@fsbmail.net

Small Group Travel rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

15 Days • 27 Meals: 13 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 8 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Cairo, Egyptian Museum, Giza Pyramids & Sphinx, Historic Cairo, Aswan, 3-Night Nile River Cruise, Kom Ombo, Edfu, Luxor, Valley of the Kings, Choices on Tour, Amman, Wadi Rum, Petra, Impact Moment at Bani Hamida Cooperative, Dead Sea, Arabic Literature Discussion

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE	
Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 5	Sheraton Cairo Hotel & Casino, Cairo
Day 6	Anakato Wadi Kiki Nubian Houses, Aswan
Days 7 – 9	Sonesta St. George 1, Cairo
Day 10	Amman Marriott Hotel , Amman
Days 11, 12	Movenpick Resort Petra, Petra
Days 13, 14	Movenpick Resort and Spa Dead Sea, Dead Sea
On some dates alternate hotels may be used.	

Day 1: Saturday, April 6, 2024 Overnight Flight Feel as if you've stepped into another time as you enter a world of legends, relics, and indescribable beauty. Eons of history and iconic wonders, mouthwatering bites of savory cuisine, and stretching sunsets fading against the desert horizon – discover the essence of Egypt and Jordan.

Day 2: Sunday, April 7, 2024 Arrive Cairo, Egypt Your adventure starts today in Cairo, the capital of Egypt. A constant thrum of energy wrapped around you, feel the ever-present heartbeat of the country in the city streets. Located strategically along the banks of the Nile, generations of wanderers have traversed these grounds just as you do now.

Day 3: Monday, April 8, 2024 Cairo Enjoy time to get to know the place where your journey begins. This evening, connect with your fellow adventurers at a welcome dinner featuring local specialties. (B, D)

Day 4: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 Cairo This morning, join your Tour Manager-Egyptologist for an introductory talk on ancient Egypt. Get a glimpse into ancient Egypt's Pharaohs, power struggles, and dynasties before navigating Cairo's famous traffic on your way to the remarkable collections of the Grand Egyptian Museum,* a collection featuring some of the country's oldest artifacts. (B)

Day 5: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 Cairo - Giza - Khan el-Khalili Bazaar - Cairo Venture to nearby Giza and embrace the Egypt you have always imagined at the iconic Pyramids. Stand in awe before the Pyramids of Giza,** one of the seven ancient wonders of the world. Marvel at the Great Sphinx's stoicism, a colossal structure jutting out of the desert sand, full of mystery and intrigue. This afternoon, walk along el-Moez Street, admiring the elegant Islamic architecture of Historic Cairo (UNESCO) and enjoy some free time to shop in the

world-famous souk of Khan el-Khalili. Peruse colorful trinkets, hand-painted crafts, polished pendants, and more. (B)

Day 6: Thursday, April 11, 2024 Cairo - Aswan A 2-hour flight brings you to Aswan, a breathtaking port city up the Nile. You may choose to partake in an optional tour to Abu Simbel*** and see the extraordinary temples of Ramses II relocated there during the construction of the High Dam. Experience the Nubian culture of Upper Egypt as you transfer by motorboat to your riverside lodge, with its colorful decorations and naïve architectural style. This afternoon, learn more about the Nubian people, their ancestral heritage and language during a walk in the nearby village, before relaxing over dinner at your lodge. (B, D)

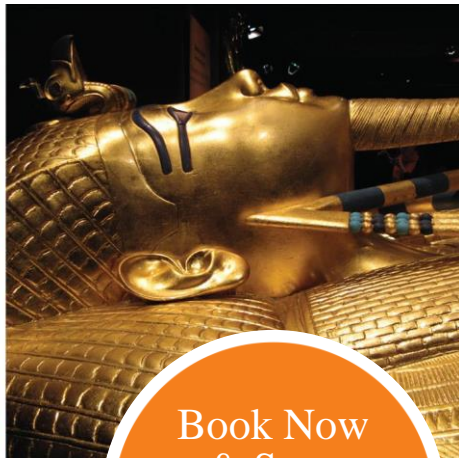
Day 7: Friday, April 12, 2024 Aswan - Philae Temple - Board Ship This morning, discover the mysteries of Philae Temple. Located on a small island, this complex can only be reached by motorboat. Philae is among the architectural wonders rescued from the rising waters of the Nile during the construction of the High Dam. Then, board your cruise ship and settle in for the next three nights. The afternoon is yours to explore more of Aswan. Perhaps you'll visit the fascinating artifacts at the Nubian Archeological Museum. This evening, aboard a *felucca* (wooden sailboat), take in the views of the tall sand dunes on the western shore of the Nile before relaxing over dinner aboard. (B, L, D)

Day 8: Saturday, April 13, 2024 Kom Ombo - Edfu Coast along to Kom Ombo and visit a rare double temple. Watch the Egyptian landscape slowly drift by as you sail on to the mesmerizing Temple of Edfu, dedicated to the ancient god Horus. Relax during an afternoon on board as you glide down the Nile, before enjoying a festive *Galabeya* Party, where you might don a traditional Egyptian gown. (B, L, D)

Day 9: Sunday, April 14, 2024 Luxor - Valley of the Kings - Luxor Start the day on Luxor's West Bank, trekking along elaborate tombs in the Valley of the Kings.**** Delve even further into Egyptian legends with an included viewing of the tombs of King Tutankhamun and Ramses VI. Visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut as well as the Colossi of Memnon before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon, **it's your choice!** Visit a local farm nestled along the banks of the Nile, where you will learn about rural life in Upper Egypt between sips of freshly brewed tea **-OR-** admire expansive views of the Nile while you enjoy high tea at the Old Winter Palace which hosted esteemed guests such as Agatha Christie, Winston Churchill and the great Egyptologist Howard Carter. (B, L, D)

Day 10: Monday, April 15, 2024 Luxor - Disembark Ship - Amman, Jordan Early this morning, say goodbye to the land of the pyramids as you fly from Luxor to Amman, the capital of Jordan. Get a peek into this innovative city housing both modern technologies and ancient relics. Tonight's street food dinner includes local specialties of hummus, falafels and kunafa. (B, D)

Day 11: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 Amman - Wadi Rum - Petra Cross Jordan all the way to the south as you leave Amman for the isolated desert of Wadi Rum. Nicknamed the Valley of the Moon, this ethereal landscape resembles nothing found on earth. Cruise through the reserve on the back of a



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Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Cedar Rapids Airport, Inter-flights from Cairo, Inter-flights from Luxor, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers and Gratuities

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* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from CID

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† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

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pick-up truck and take in the vast landscape around you. Enjoy lunch at a local camp before venturing onward to Petra, the fabled "Rose Red City." In the evening, stroll down the street to an authentic Arabic cooking class. Prepare your meal, featuring fresh ingredients from local markets and traditional Jordanian recipes, before digging in family-style. (B, L, D)

Day 12: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 Petra Weave along sandstone carvings as you tour the archeological site of Petra with your guide. Serving as a crossroads between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea, Petra contains ages of hidden wonders just waiting to be explored. This afternoon, **it's your choice!** Keep exploring Petra's vast archeological site on your own. Perhaps you'll trek up to the "Monastery," one of Petra's legendary monuments **-OR-** join a local family at their home for tea and friendly conversation about life in the Bedouin community of Wadi Musa **-OR-** visit Little Petra, a Nabatean outpost located a few miles from its famous big sister, and featuring a 2000-year old Nabatean fresco that finds no corresponding in its larger neighbor. (B)

Day 13: Thursday, April 18, 2024 Petra Connect with the local community during an **Impact Moment** at a women's rug weaving cooperative, where you'll be able to peruse the rugs designed in traditional styles. Then, arrive at your hotel in the

Dead Sea and take advantage of the luxuries and direct access to the legendary sea. (B, L)

Day 14: Friday, April 19, 2024 Dead Sea - Madaba - Mount Nebo - Dead Sea Get a glimpse into the foundation of Christian reverence at Bethany Beyond the Jordan, the venerated site of Jesus Christ's baptism. In Madaba, delve deep into St. George's Church and its famous Byzantine mosaics. Then, connect with an inspiring native who encourages literacy through his bookstore. At the store, you'll enjoy a traditional farewell lunch cooked by locals as you chat with the philanthropic entrepreneur, discussing Arabic literature and culture. Before returning to your hotel, gaze upon the Promised Land at Mount Nebo like Moses long before you. This evening, celebrate the end of your Middle Eastern journey during a farewell dinner at your hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 15: Saturday, April 20, 2024 Dead Sea - Tour Ends Your epic adventure comes to a close today. Return home with a new understanding of these mystical lands. (B)

For more information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1106100>

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Sep 08, 2023, valid on air inclusive packages only.
IDENTIFICATION

Passports and visas are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our guests traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

A visa is required for Egypt and Jordan. An Egyptian visa must be obtained at your own expense upon arrival in Egypt, at the approximate cost of 25 US Dollars, paid in cash. You need to purchase the visa before getting in line for immigration. For US, Canadian, UK, EU and Australian citizens, a Jordanian visa is arranged by our local Jordanian agent in advance. The Jordan exit fee is approximately 15 US Dollars per person, paid in local currency. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details or specific entry requirements for this tour. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time without notice, based on governing authority.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Travel with just 16-24 guests on this tour where a smaller group setting means a more personal travel experience.

Due to cabin configuration, triple and child accommodations are not available.

Some days will have early departures for excursions to avoid the midday high temperatures.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour. Order of sightseeing on board the ship may vary based on departure and weather conditions and is at the sole discretion of the cruise line.

The Egyptian Government charges a camera and/or video fee of approximately 18 US Dollars, per camera, for taking photos or video inside any enclosed sites such as tombs. There is an additional cost to enter inside the Pyramids. Rates are subject to change at any time based on governing authority. If you wish to take advantage of any of these extras, your Tour Manager will facilitate the onsite purchase of these tickets by collecting the fees at the beginning of the tour day.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by observance of religious or local holidays. If traveling during the month of Ramadan, please note that the order of some features may vary and that some meal experiences may be replaced with meals in the hotel instead of local restaurants/venues. Ramadan observances are from March 10-April 10, 2024.

*Grand Egyptian Museum is projected to open Fall 2022. If opening is delayed, groups will visit the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities.

**During your free time at the Pyramids in Giza, you may wish to visit the inner chamber of the Great Pyramid of Pharaoh Cheops. Accessing the Great Pyramid requires agility as you will have to climb up steep, narrow steps (approximately 1-1 ½ feet tall) on the side of the Pyramid without the help of handrails. From there, you may access the inner chamber and will need to crouch and at times to crawl up the 300-foot (100-meter) narrow shaft with minimal help of handrails. This activity is not

suitable for guests who have claustrophobia. Access to the interior of the Great Pyramid requires a separate ticket, for an additional cost of approximately 35 US Dollars. The ticket can only be purchased on site and your Tour Manager will assist you with this request.

***Due to flight schedules, the Abu Simbel option must be purchased at time of booking. We do our utmost to schedule the option on the same day of your flight to Aswan in order to reduce the number of early-morning starts. Please be aware that the airline schedule is subject to change and that, on select dates, the option may take place on the early morning of embarkation day.

****Visiting the Valley of the Kings requires walking on sand and mostly unpaved paths. In addition, visiting the tombs requires navigating through multiple steep staircases and/or ramps with limited help from handrails.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure.

Your itinerary includes many activities that require walking on uneven terrain and sand. Visiting tombs, temples and pyramids requires climbing and descending steep staircases and/or ramps with limited help from handrails. Some of these visits may not be suitable for people suffering from claustrophobia. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas and archeological sites. For your comfort, we recommend bringing sturdy walking shoes. Temperatures can reach over 105° F (40.5° C), particularly in Aswan, Luxor, Wadi Rum and Petra. Be sure to bring adequate sun protection. This program includes many early-morning departures. While in Cairo, Aswan and Luxor, you may depart sometime between 3:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. to transfer to the airport for your internal flights (including the option to Abu Simbel). On days visiting Giza, Edfu, Valley of the Kings and Petra, expect early morning departures from your hotel and ship between 5:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. to ensure you profit from the cooler hours of the day and reach the sites ahead of the larger crowds. While in Jordan, your program includes many long drives. In particular, your transfer from Amman to Petra via Wadi Rum involves 8 hours of driving, and your transfer from Petra to the Dead Sea involves 5 hours of driving.

Each guest is responsible for proper medical documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are traveling to and from.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Passport numbers are required in advance. Please provide yours at time of booking.

The internal flights on this program are included in the price of your tour.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$800 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of September 01, 2023 are based upon availability. Final payment due by December 09, 2023. Deposits are refundable up until September 08, 2023.

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For important reservation information visit

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1106100>.

You can also find this information on your tour documents.