

ADDITIONAL DEPARTURE DATES RELEASED DUE TO EXCEPTIONAL DEMAND

SPECIAL  
OFFER - SAVE  
**£200**  
PER PERSON

# JEWELS OF THE NILE

A river cruise along the Nile from Cairo to Aswan aboard the SS Mistr  
2023 & 2024

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Discover the intriguing ancient history of Egypt during this cruise aboard the SS Misr, a propeller steam vessel accommodating just 44 guests and discover the stretch of the Nile between Cairo and Aswan. Beginning in Cairo we will see the impressive pyramids and the Great Sphinx as well as some distinctive Egyptian art and treasures from the tomb of Tutankhamun in the new Grand Egyptian Museum. We then continue along the Nile visiting some of the less famous but historically important sites including Beni Hassan private tombs which, through superb wall paintings, provide a panorama of daily life in Egypt four thousand years ago from the leisure pursuits of the elite to workers in vineyards or children playing games. We also visit Abydos and Dendera temples and Tel El Amarna where you can survey the ruins of the temples and palaces of King Akhenaten and Queen Nefertiti.

Pharaohs and queens of Ancient Egypt sailed often on the River Nile in luxurious royal boats – by far the most rewarding way to see the landscape and monuments of their realm. Evoking this regal way of travel, we will travel at a gentle speed aboard the SS Misr which is essential to be able to drink in the rhythm of life and scenes which have changed little over hundreds of years on the banks of the Nile. Accompanying us will be excellent local guides and our expert Guest Speaker who will greatly enhance your enjoyment and knowledge of this ancient land.



Medinet Habu temple



Ramesses II and Karnak Temple, Luxor

## Guest Speakers

In addition to the excellent Egyptologists who travel with you on board and accompany you on the Nile, we have a number of other speakers. Below are some of the speakers which have been confirmed for 2023 and 2024. As and

### Reverend Richard Coles – 9 October 2023 Departure



Richard Coles is a writer, broadcaster and an Anglican priest. He co-presents Saturday Live on BBC Radio 4 and appears, from time to time, on QI, Have I Got News For You, and Would I Lie To You. He has won Christmas Masterchef, Celebrity Mastermind twice, and captained Leeds to victory in Christmas University Challenge in 2019. A contestant on Strictly in 2017, he scored a lamentably low mark for a Paso Doble. He writes regularly for The Sunday Times, and is the author of half a dozen books, including a best selling autobiography, 'Fathomless Riches', and the bereavement best seller 'The Madness of Grief' after the death of his partner the Revd David Coles. He is the author of the number one bestselling Canon Clement Mysteries. Richard is Patron of Greatwell Homes, a Housing Association providing social and affordable housing in east Northants, and is Chancellor of the University of Northampton.

### Professor Rosalie David OBE FRSA – 4 November 2023 Departure



Professor Rosalie David OBE FRSA is currently Emeritus Professor of Egyptology and Co-Director of the KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology at The University of Manchester. The focus of her career has been the establishment of a new university specialisation – biomedical research within the field of Egyptology – to provide a different approach to understanding the civilisation of ancient Egypt. Rosalie David has lectured at universities and presented papers at academic conferences in many countries; she first accompanied a Nile cruise as Guest Lecturer in 1974, and subsequently also fulfilled this role on Mediterranean and Red Sea cruises. She is the author of over 30 books and many articles in peer-reviewed journals, and has been consultant and contributor to several television documentaries. In the New Year Honours List 2003, she was awarded the Order of the British Empire for services to Egyptology, and has received Fellowships of The Royal Society of Arts and The Royal Society of Medicine. She is a Vice-President of the Egypt Exploration Society.





The Sphinx and Pyramid of Khafre, Giza



Cairo



Feluccas on the Nile



Colossi of Memnon

ny you on the guided excursions, each cruise will also feature a Guest Speaker.  
d when further speakers are confirmed, details will be available online.

### Christopher Joll – 13 February 2024 Departure



After Oxford University and the RMA Sandhurst, Christopher spent six years as an officer in The Life Guards with whom he served four tours of duty in Northern Ireland. From his earliest days, Joll has written articles, features, short stories and reportage. In 2012 he wrote the text for *Uniquely British: A Year in the Life of the Household Cavalry*; with a Foreword

by HM The Queen. Since 2018, Nine Elms Books have published his *The Drum Horse in the Fountain: Tales of the Heroes & Rogues in the Guards*; *Spoils of War: The Treasures, Trophies & Trivia of the British Empire* and *The Imperial Impresario: The Treasures, Trophies & Trivia of Napoleon's Theatre of Power*. He is also the author of the fifteen-volume military-historical/action-adventure series, *The Speedicut Saga*. Joll has been involved in devising and managing charity fund-raising events and when not writing or directing 'military theatre', he is a video podcaster and a Trustee of The Art Fund Prize for Museums. He is also the Regimental Historian of the Household Cavalry.

### The Rt Revd Graham James – 10 March 2024 Departure



The Rt Revd Graham James became Bishop of Norwich in 1999. He entered the House of Lords in 2004. Among his national responsibilities in the Church of England he was lead bishop on media issues for a long period, and has served on the Lords Select Committee on Communications. He has been a frequent presenter of Radio 4's "Thought

for the Day". Earlier in his career he travelled widely when serving at Lambeth Palace, and has lectured on cruises for the past 20 years. His recent books "The Lent Factor" and "A Place for God" reflect the range of his interests and travels. One of his earliest publications was about Paul's understanding of Christ and the character of his human nature. He looks forward to reflecting on the life, times and travels of Paul in the first century on this cruise, and placing Paul within the setting of his own age.

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London Heathrow to Cairo, Egypt.** Fly by scheduled flight to Cairo. Upon arrival transfer to the SS Misr and embark. Moor overnight this evening in Cairo.

**Day 2 Cairo.** Our tour today is dedicated to the capital city of Cairo. This morning we visit the Grand Egyptian Museum. This complex is a cultural hub and includes one of the largest museums in the world displaying the heritage of a single civilization. The museum contains over 50,000 artefacts, reflecting Egypt's past from prehistory until the Greek and Roman Periods. As you enter the museum, you cannot miss the colossal statue of King Ramses II, nor the 87 huge royal artefacts exhibited at the grand stairs. These stairs lead up to an impressive 28 metre high glass facade overlooking the pyramids of Giza. The museum also hosts over 5000 artefacts from the tomb of the golden Pharaoh Tutankhamun. Enjoy lunch with the view of the Pyramids before we continue to the impressive Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx, the only survivor of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World and the tombs of the great pharaohs and their queens. Moor overnight in Cairo.

**Day 3 Cruising.** Enjoy a relaxing day on board as we cruise to Beni Suef where we will moor overnight.

**Day 4 Beni Suef & Minya.** This morning we visit the Maydom pyramid which is dedicated to the

King Snefru of the 4th dynasty. We return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon sailing to Minya. Moor overnight in Minya.

**Day 5 Beni Hassan.** Today we visit the Middle Kingdom tombs at Beni Hassan, an ancient Egyptian cemetery site, located south of Minya. The necropolis of Beni Hassan reflects the political differences between the province rulers and the pharaoh kings. Due to the layout and more complex decorations, the tombs mark a transition stage in the style of the tombs from the Old Kingdom to the New Kingdom. Return to the vessel for lunch and enjoy daylight sailing to Tel El Amarna. Moor overnight in Tel El Amarna.

**Day 6 Tuna El Gebel, Ashmunein & Tel El Amarna.** This morning we visit Tuna El Gebel and Ashmunein, where the oldest monument is a boundary stela of Akhenaten and Nefertiti. The site is best known for its animal necropolis housing thousands of mummified baboons and Ibis sacred to Thoth. We continue to Ashmunein (Hermopolis Magna): known in ancient times as 'Khemenu', or the 'City of the Ogdoad', referring to the eight primeval gods who, according to ancient Egyptian Mythology, created the world. Today, the site houses the ruins of the Temple of Thoth, Temple of Amun, a small open air museum displaying two massive statues of 'Thoth' as a baboon. There are also some remains of a Roman Christian Basilica, which was built over the site of an earlier Ptolemaic



Abydos Temple



Temple of Kom Ombo

temple. The structure retains most of its granite columns and it is the only basilica to have survived to this degree of preservation anywhere in Egypt. After lunch we enjoy a tour to Akhenaten's royal city, tomb and palace at Amarna, it is here we visit the tombs of Pentu, Ahmose, Meryre and the Royal tomb of Akhenaten. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon relaxing on board. We will moor overnight in Tel El Amarna.

**Days 7 & 8 Cruising.** A relaxing interlude to our journey. Spend time on deck enjoying the passing scenery and attend a lecture or two.

**Day 9 Abydos Temple.** This morning we arrive in Balyana and after breakfast, we transfer to the temple that the Greeks called the Memnonium in Abydos, dedicated to Seti, Osiris, Isis, Ptah, Ptah-Sokar, Nefertem, Re-Horakhty, Amun and Horus. Its structure, built of white limestone is one of the most impressive religious structures in Egypt. Return to the ship this afternoon and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure on board.

**Day 10 Dendera Temple & Luxor.** This morning is dedicated to the goddess Hathor as we visit the Dendera Temple, also known as the 'castle of the Sistrum'. Hathor was the goddess of love, joy and beauty and the Dendera Temple was associated with healing. Spend a leisurely afternoon on board sailing to Luxor.

**Day 11 Luxor.** This morning we visit the West Bank, one of the most famous and important archaeological sites in the world. See the Valley of the Kings, burial ground of the pharaohs for a period of 500 years. The tombs vividly depict the journey of the sun god and pharaoh through the dangers of the underworld. In the temple of Queen Hatshepsut you will discover scenes commemorating the reign of this exceptional monarch such as the ambitious voyage where she sent her ships on the Red Sea to the mysterious land of Punt. We stop at the Colossi of Memnon to witness the two imposing 18 metre high quartzite seated statues which marked the entrance to the now vanished memorial temple of the Pharaoh

Amenhotep III whose reign in the 14th century BC was one of the most opulent in Egyptian history. After lunch on board we visit the Luxor Museum, an archaeological museum which was inaugurated in 1975. Whilst the range of artefacts on display is more restricted than the country's main collections in the Museum of Antiquities in Cairo; this was deliberate since the museum prides itself on the quality of the pieces it has.

**Day 12 Luxor.** This morning we visit the temples of Karnak and will witness the unbelievably vast array of monuments dedicated to Amun-Ra, king of the gods, his wife Mut and their son Khonsu. Just two of the highlights you will see are the great hypostyle hall with over 134 columns some 22 metres high and the obelisk of the powerful Queen Pharaoh Hatshepsut. To conclude our tour we will visit the Luxor Temple, situated on the east bank of the river Nile. This evening we sail to Edfu and moor overnight.

**Day 13 Edfu & Kom Ombo.** Today we visit the Edfu Temple, an ancient Egyptian temple that is set on the west bank of the Nile and is said to be one of the best preserved temples in Egypt. Dedicated to the Falcon god Horus and built in the Ptolemaic period between 237 and 57 BC. Set sail this afternoon to Kom Ombo and after lunch we depart for a visit to the temple of Kom Ombo. It was mainly built during the Ptolemaic dynasty and completed under the Roman Emperors. The temple is unique due to its 'double' design which meant that there were courts, halls, sanctuaries and rooms duplicated for the two gods that worshipped here. The southern half of the temple was dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek and the northern part of the temple was

dedicated to the falcon god Haroeris. Among the carved reliefs along the inside of the outer wall are images thought to be connected with Egyptian medicine, including displays of birthing chairs and surgical instruments.

**Day 14 Aswan.** This morning we will visit the High Dam at Aswan, considered an engineering miracle when it was built in the 1960s with a huge impact on the economy and culture in Egypt in the last century. Today it provides electricity and irrigation for the whole of Egypt. We continue to the temple island of Philae, dedicated to the goddess Isis, wife of Osiris and mother of Horus. The story of Osiris is represented on the walls of the temple, with two of its inner chambers which are rich in symbolic imagery. The temple was originally on Philae Island but because of high water levels was dismantled in 1977 and reconstructed on a nearby higher island called Algilkia. The main elements of the temple such as the two Pylons, hypostyle halls and sanctuaries were built by the Ptolemaic kings. Later the Roman rulers added the colonnades in front of the temple as well as the ceremonial entrance to the island known as Trajan's Kiosk. After lunch we visit the Nubian Museum, a complex of 50,000 square metres which is enclosed by walls to evoke the traditional Nubian village architecture. We end our day with afternoon tea at the Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Hotel with its fine Nile views. Relax and enjoy magnificent views of the Nile while experiencing a sumptuous afternoon tea. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner on board.

**Day 15 Aswan to London Heathrow.** Disembark this morning and fly by scheduled indirect flight to London.

## 2023/2024 DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

4th to 18th May, 9th to 23rd October, 4th to 18th November 2023;

13th to 27th February, 10th to 24th March, 9th to 23rd October, 4th to 18th November 2024

### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

| Cat | Cabin Description                                 | 2023 Departures |                     | 2024 Departures |                     |
|-----|---|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|     |   | Brochure Price  | Special Offer Price | Brochure Price  | Special Offer Price |
| 4   | Twin/Double cabin on lower/main deck              | £6095           | £5895               | £6595           | £6395               |
| 3   | Twin/Double cabin on upper deck                   | £6495           | £6295               | £6995           | £6795               |
| 2   | Suite on main/upper deck                          | £6795           | £6595               | £7495           | £7295               |
| 1   | Panorama suite on main deck                       | £7195           | £6995               | £7895           | £7695               |
| 4   | Twin/Double cabin on lower/main deck for sole use | £7395           | £7195               | £7995           | £7795               |

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 14 nights aboard the SS Misr on a full board basis

• Wine or beer & unlimited soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions with local English speaking guides

• Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, Egyptian visa.





## SS MISR

For our journeys along the Nile, we are delighted to have chartered a very special and unique vessel, the SS Misr. Originally constructed in Preston by the Royal Navy in 1918, the SS Misr was purchased and later converted into a luxury Nile steamer for King Farouk. Now fully restored to a five-star deluxe propeller steam vessel she accommodates just 44 passengers in spacious, air-conditioned cabins and suites. Misr means ‘the Kingdom of Egypt’ and the décor throughout the vessel reflects the period.



Category 1 Suite

### Your Cabin/Suite

Each cabin and suite has its own individual style and all feature a private balcony, air conditioning, en-suite bathroom with bathtub and shower, hairdryer, mini-bar, robes and television. The suites on the Upper Deck are almost 50% larger in size than the standard cabins. The 14 category 3 and 4 twin/double cabins measure 21 square metres and feature a sweeping window that opens up to a private terrace with chairs so that guests can enjoy the spectacular view of the Nile at all times. The category 2 suites are approximately 30 square metres. Spacious and welcoming, these exquisitely appointed suites offer the perfect refuge to unwind after a day of adventure and sightseeing. Luxuriously designed, each suite includes an elegant living area that contains a stylish loveseat and chairs, complemented by floor-to-ceiling windows that open to a private terrace so that guests can enjoy the spectacular view of the Nile. The category 1 panorama suites are approximately 35 square metres and are situated at the front of the vessel and offer impressive panoramic views. Unlike the other accommodations, these suites come with a private, furnished panoramic terrace that offers a spectacular 180-degree view of the Nile, so that guests can enjoy the inspiring view from every angle while cruising. This is the perfect spot to relax after a long day with a drink or book, or to watch the leisurely sail along the Nile to the next destination.





Saraya Lounge



Marasem Restaurant



Sun Deck



Category 2 Suite

### Your Dining

The Marasem Restaurant, situated on the main deck serves international cuisine and seats all passengers in one open seating arrangement. Breakfast and lunch are buffet-style whilst dinner is seated waiter service. Tables seat six to eight people. Tea and coffee are served on a complimentary basis after all meals and there are tea and coffee amenities in the cabins. A complimentary bottle of water will be provided in your cabin.

### Your Space

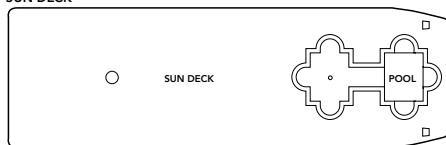
The SS Misr is both elegantly furnished and spacious throughout. The Saraya Lounge and Dahabia Bar are located on the higher decks offering wonderful views of the Nile. The period-style restaurant accommodates all guests at one sitting. There is also a lower Sun Deck with comfortable wicker chairs and an upper Sun Deck with a pool and sun beds for relaxation. The onboard attentive staff are always available to offer a cool beverage whilst watching the ever changing passing scenery. The ship also has an onboard souvenir and gift shop selling jewellery and local handmade gifts.



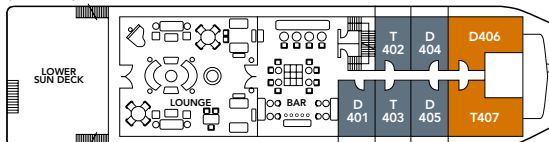
Dahabia Bar

### DECK PLAN

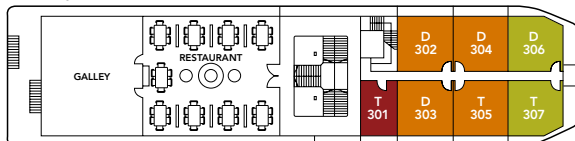
#### SUN DECK



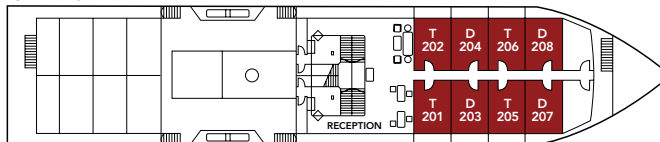
#### UPPER DECK



#### MAIN DECK



#### LOWER DECK



■ CATEGORY 1 ■ CATEGORY 2 ■ CATEGORY 3 ■ CATEGORY 4

T – Twin / D – Double



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.  
Cover image: Karnak Temple, Luxor.