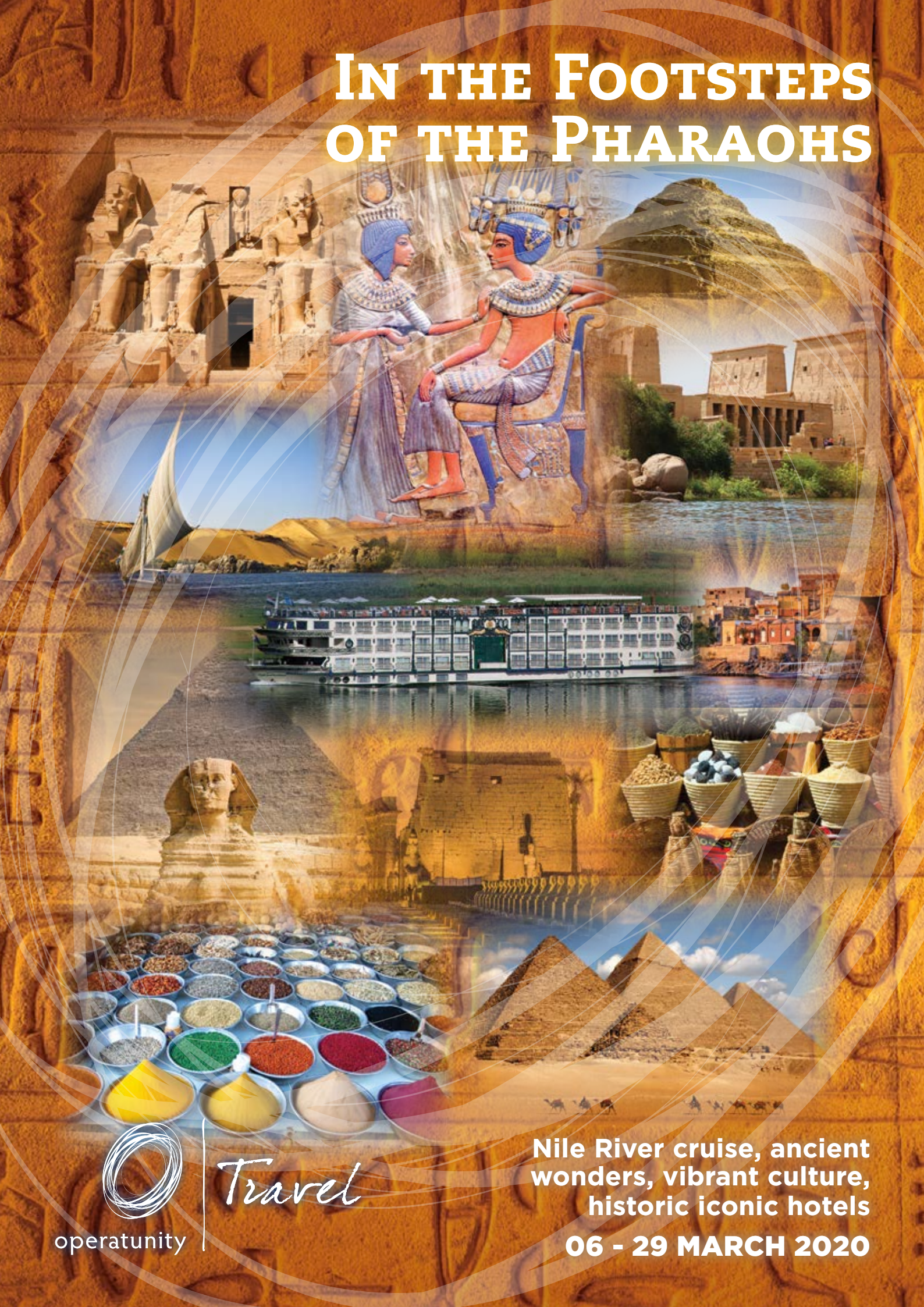


IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PHARAOHS



operatunity

Travel

**Nile River cruise, ancient
wonders, vibrant culture,
historic iconic hotels**

06 - 29 MARCH 2020

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PHARAOHS

06 - 29 MARCH 2020

Join John and Karl on a journey to the land of the pharaohs as we take you on a comprehensive tour of the greatest sights of ancient Egypt. We travel through Egypt with sights beyond imagination and history encapsulated at every turn, all done with the beauty, leisure and the glory of a bygone era.

Experience the Exceptional...

- On our 7-night luxury cruise, we pass temples, tombs and ruins of the mighty pharaohs along this life-giving river. We marvel at the oldest and only surviving 'seventh wonder of the world', the Pyramids of Giza. We trace the footsteps of many archaeologists as we visit the mighty Valley of the Kings with its mysticism and mystery.
- We stay at the historic Old Cataract Hotel Aswan where Agatha Christie stopped to write *Death on the Nile*, and dine at the Winter Palace Hotel Luxor.
- Following on from our incredible 2018 tour, we will once again be spellbound by the colour, the history, the grandeur, and the culture of Egypt, but best of all by the Egyptian people, who, without fail, are charming and hospitable and were united in showing us their most extraordinary land.
- From day one to the last goodbyes at the airport, we will be guided through our trip by our own exceptional Egyptologist. His passion and far reaching knowledge of this fascinating country will open every vista for us - the best guide in Egypt.



YOUR HOSTS ON THIS TRIP:



John Cameron



Karl Perigo

PLACES WE STAY

Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza

Situated on the banks of the Nile in Cairo's central district, this is a beacon of sophisticated hospitality with panoramic views of the city, river below us and panoramic views to the pyramids. With prestigious Nile View rooms, we can sit on our terraces with a drink in the evenings and soak in the 5000 years of history that surrounds us.

Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Hotel, Aswan

Located in the Nubian Desert on the banks of the Nile, opposite Elephantine Island, Sofitel Legend Old Cataract is based around a Victorian building with a pink granite façade and magnificent grounds and decor. It is considered the best hotel in Egypt and we have Nile facing rooms in the new wing.

Sonesta St. George 1 cruise ship

Our home for seven wonderful nights we enjoy the luxury of one of the most elegant ships on the Nile, with only 110 guests on board. All cabins have large panoramic French windows that open to bring the sounds and scents of Egypt to us.

Sonesta St. George Hotel, Luxor

Situated on the banks of the Nile and close to the Luxor Temples, the Sonesta Hotel Luxor has a history of hosting royalty and celebrities throughout the years. The interior features grand staircases, high ceilings and lounge areas that are appointed with antique furniture, as well as a magnificent pool with sweeping views of the Nile beside us.



Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza



Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Hotel, Aswan



Sonesta St. George 1 cruise ship



Sonesta St. George Hotel, Luxor



DUBAI (4 nights - stopovers return including early check in)

- Sheraton Mall of Emirates Hotel

We begin and end our tour with flights to and from Dubai on Emirates.

As we arrive into Dubai early in the morning, we have arranged another night's accommodation so we can go to our rooms immediately. On return we arrive into Dubai late at night so we will again have access to our rooms immediately.

CAIRO (5 nights)

- Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza

Cairo is the capital and largest city of Egypt. The city's metropolitan area is the largest in the Middle East and the Arab world. It is a busy, vibrant city and is associated with ancient Egypt and the famous Pyramids.

Highlights include:

- Driving introductory tour of Cairo, including historical and iconic sights.
- Visit to Mosque of Muhammad Ali, Cairo's most visible mosque.
- Visit to the famous Cairo Bazaar with lunch at Azhar park area.
- Visit to the Museum of Islamic Art – considered one of the best in the world.
- Special welcome dinner at our hotel with views of the mighty Nile river below us.
- Tours to ancient Memphis and on to Saqqara's necropolis which includes the Step Pyramid of Djoser and Mastaba tombs and the Museum of Amenhotep.
- Tour and visit to Cairo's brand new Grand Egyptian Museum (if completed).
- Tour of old Museum of Egyptian Antiquities in Cairo.
- VIP seats in the front row of the Sound and Light show at the Pyramids.
- Tour of the Pyramids of Giza area and the Giza Solar boat museum.
- Visit to a papyrus shop with refreshments, demonstrations and a chance to buy.
- Dinner at a local restaurant on our final night in Cairo, with music provided from John and Karl.



Mosque of Mohammed Ali



Tutankhamun



Great Sphinx of Giza

SONESTA ST. GEORGE 1 CRUISE SHIP ASWAN (8 days - 7 nights) - The ultimate leisurely look at Egypt

We have booked one of the most spectacular boats on the Nile, with traditional furniture and fabrics that echo the days of yesteryear as we cruise the Nile River and enjoy the sights of ancient Egypt.

Highlights on the St George 1:

- Elegant panelled walls, timber decks and brass fittings, French windows that open wide so we enjoy the best of small ship cruising, gourmet food, amazing crew and service. All meals included.

DAY 1: Aswan

Highlights include:

We embark on this elegant 5-star ship before lunch with time to settle into our cabins.

- Welcome lunch onboard.
- Free time in the afternoon before our Captain's welcome dinner.

DAY 2: Aswan - Esna

Highlights include:

- Set sail for Kom Ombo early this morning.

- Visit of the Temple of Kom Ombo, dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek, right on the Nile banks and one of the most seducing sites of Upper-Egypt.
- Lunch on board while sailing to Esna for our overnight stay.
- We pass by the ancient quarries on the sides of the Nile where so much of the stone was taken for building the pyramids.
- Afternoon tea is served on deck as we cruise.
- Tonight we channel our inner Mummy with an Egyptian dress up theme dinner.

DAY 3: Esna - Luxor

Highlights include:

- This morning we pass through the large lock at Esna.
- Sail through countryside on to Luxor, the ancient Egyptian city of Thebes.
- Afternoon visit of the majestic site of Karnak, dedicated to the god Amun.
- A late afternoon visit of the Temple of Luxor, with the dusk light highlighting the perfection of Amenhotep III's columns.
- This evening after dinner we attend the captivating *Karnak Sound and Light* show - with VIP seats.



Sonesta St. George cruise ship interior

SONESTA ST. GEORGE 1 CRUISE SHIP
ASWAN (8 days - 7 nights)
- The ultimate leisurely look at Egypt

DAY 4: Luxor

Highlights include:

- We travel back thousands of years as we visit the West Bank of the Nile today.
- Visit the Valley of the Kings, including Tutankhamun and Ramses V tombs.
- Visit the Valley of the Queens, the secret necropolis of the royal wives.
- Visit the Valley of the Nobles, the Tomb of Ramose.
- Visit the incredible Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.
- Return to the boat for afternoon tea.
- Dinner will be followed by an Egyptian show of local dance and music.

DAY 5: Luxor - Esna

Highlights include:

- Today is our longest day of leisurely cruising along the Nile watching the many wonderful sights as we pass.
- The Nile feeds the country's plantations, including sugar cane, corn and cotton, as well as yellow tea, black tea and coffee. The air is sweet as we sail past crops in the swampy areas on the banks of the Nile.
- Afternoon tea is served as always.
- Special dinner with the Captain tonight.
- Time for our own private concert from Karl!

DAY 6: Kom Ombo

Highlights include:

- Visit the best-preserved temple of the Ptolemaic Dynasty; the Temple of Horus (the falcon god) at Edfu. Once buried in sand, it now stands proudly once again.
- Cruise towards Kom Ombo temple.
- Free time to sit on the deck and read Agatha Christie's *Death on the Nile* maybe? Then a private movie screening based on this book.

DAY 7: Aswan

Highlights include:

- Visit the Temple of Philae, which was moved block by block to make way for the Aswan Dam.
- Visit the High Dam at Aswan built to control the annual floods.
- Final Dinner and overnight stay on board.

ASWAN (2 nights)

- Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Hotel

This morning we depart our lovely ship for the final time. Aswan, located on the Nile River, has been southern Egypt's strategic and commercial gateway since ancient times.

Highlights include:

- Fly to Abu Simbel to see the colossal statues of Ramesses II located on the banks of the lake. This was cut into thousands of blocks and moved onto higher ground so that they would be saved from the flooding of the New Aswan Dam in the 1960s.
- On our return from Abu Simbel we transfer to the Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Hotel, the best hotel in Egypt!
- We have a late breakfast on the famous terrace of the hotel, where Agatha Christie wrote *Death on the Nile*, and later check-in to our rooms.
- Tour of Aswan including the Coptic Cathedral, Nubian Museum and the ancient unfinished obelisk.
- We visit a perfume factory and take in the smells of the ancient spices and herbs such as Frankincense and Myrrh.
- Free time to enjoy our lovely hotel, shop, explore or organise your own tours.
- Dinner under an Arabian dome in the famous 1902 Restaurant.



LUXOR (2 nights)

- Sonesta St George Hotel

Highlights include:

- Fly from Aswan to Luxor, then set off by coach for the Great Temple of Hathor at Dendera, one of the best preserved and most famous monuments in Egypt with its many depictions of Cleopatra. The temple covers some 40,000sq metres and is comprised of more than 50 temples within temples and surrounded by an ancient brick wall.
- Dendera temple is the original home of the disc depicting all the zodiac symbols known to the ancient Egyptians, and which continue to this day such as Taurus and Libra. Today the original is in the Louvre in Paris.
- We have a horse and carriage ride to Luxor Museum.
- Visit to the best book shop in Egypt and lunch at a cafe above the book shop, overlooking the Luxor Temple.
- Dinner and sunset drinks on the terrace of the famous Sofitel Winter Palace Hotel overlooking the Nile, the very hotel where Howard Carter announced he had found the Tomb of Tutankhamun and where he held his press conferences.

CAIRO RETURN VISIT (2 nights)

- JW Marriott, Cairo

We fly back to Cairo from Luxor this morning. We have ample time for relaxing in this opulent hotel, enjoying the five pools situated here. We can indulge in some shopping, including visit to Festival Shopping Centre, until our sumptuous final night dinner in the JW's Steakhouse at our hotel.





\$18,700 *per person
twin share*

Single Room supplement add \$5,100

Initial Deposit on booking **\$3,000**

Second Deposit due 04 September 2019 **\$4,000**

Final Balance due 18 November 2019

Deposits refundable (less costs incurred) prior to FINAL BALANCE DUE DATE. Itinerary details are subject to change, however any changes will be replaced with a comparable or better option. All our trips are specifically designed for our core market but this trip does contain travel challenges, either because of the region visited or the walking distances or uneven surfaces that arise at some sites. We do advise that you and your doctor evaluate your level of fitness before you consider booking this tour.

THIS TRIP INCLUDES:

- Return economy airfares Emirates airlines Auckland - Dubai / Dubai - Egypt return.
- 24-day tour. Dubai (4 nights including early check in), Cairo (5 nights plus 2 nights on return), Aswan (2 nights), Sonesta St George 1 cruise (7 nights), Luxor (2 nights)
- 7-night cruise on the Sonesta St George 1 - one of the most elegant ships on the Nile with only 110 guests on board. All cabins have large panoramic French windows that open to bring the sounds and scents of Egypt to us.
- Accommodation in historic 5-star hotels including Four Seasons Cairo Nile, Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Hotel and St George Hotel, Luxor, J W Marriott Cairo.
- Our own exceptional private guide and Egyptologist throughout the entirety of the trip to enlighten and educate us about the last 5000 years of Egyptian history - the best guide in Egypt!
- All entrances and tours as listed in itinerary including tours of Valley of the Kings, Queens and Nobles, with entry to Tutankhamun's tomb, temples including Karnak, Philae and Luxor, Mohammed Ali Mosque, Coptic Cathedral, Cairo and Luxor museums, solar boat.
- Special flavours including cultural show on the boat; sound and light shows at both Giza Pyramids and Karnak Temple with VIP seats, plus our own private music concerts from Karl and John.
- Special shopping experiences plus demonstrations including Cairo Bazaar, perfume shop, papyrus shop and best bookshop in Egypt.
- Internal airfares as follows: Cairo - Aswan / Aswan - Abu Simbel return / Aswan - Luxor / Luxor - Cairo.
- All breakfasts, 13 dinners, 11 lunches.
- All transfers, portorage, tips, taxes and activities as listed in itinerary.
- Hosted by John Cameron and Karl Perigo.

EXPLORING TOUR

This is still a moderately paced tour, but you will be required to walk longer distances, walk on cobblestones and ancient ruins and stand in museums. To really get the best out of this tour you need to be able to stand or walk for a couple of hours comfortably, be it at a leisurely pace.

Please note: No booking will be accepted for this trip without the initial deposit.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All trips are subject to change but any changes will be of equal or greater value.
- Deposits refundable until final payment date minus any costs incurred, or an administration fee of up to \$300.
- Travellers need to be independently mobile and fit to travel.
- Travellers are required to obtain comprehensive travel insurance for all international trips.
- Please refer to terms & conditions on our booking form.



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