

ASWAN/ABU-SIMBEL

4 nights

Day 1 Monday: Aswan - Kalabsha - Ghazal

After boarding the boat, we commence our journey sailing south towards the temples of **Kalabsha** and **Beit el Wali**.

<u>Lunch</u> will be served as our boat sails to the original site of the **Kalabsha** temple.

We will start the trip by Visiting the temple of **Kalabsha** and **Beit el Wali**.

Kalabsha it was known with the name of **Mandoulis** dates back to the time of the Romains. In the old days it was located in the city of **Kalabsha** and then rescued and moved to its actual location.

Beit el Wali means the house of Saint; it was carved in the mountain during the reign of the great Pharaoh **Ramses II.**

As the day comes to an end we will anchor at **Khour El Ghazal** where we will have a starlit <u>dinner</u> before retiring for the night.



Day 2 Tuesday: Wadi El Seboua - Dakka - Meharraga

<u>Breakfast on board</u>. Resume navigation. On this day we travel down Lake Nasser with the goal of discovering three relocated temples, known for their unique sculptures and delicate beauty.

During the sailing will pass by the region of **Abu Steta** and **Maria** on our way to **Wadi El Seboua**.

Abu Steta desert known, with the reputation of its golden sand dunes and congregations of exotic birds in the small lagoons, such as Pelicans, Cormorants, Flamingos and many various of small birds. (at certain seasons)

These temples have been moved by the **UNESCO** and many other global organizations. We will anchor to visit the site of **Wadi El Seboua**, **Dakka** and **Meharraga**. Lunch on board.

Dakka (Greek: Pselchis): Erected in the same site by the Nubian king **Ergamenes II** along with **Ptolemy II** whilst they shared rule over Lower Nubia in the Third century. Later, the temple was refurbished by Roman Emperors Augustus and Tiberius.

Wadi El Seboua: Accessed through a pathway of sphinxes bearing Ramses's effigy, this temple was built by the Pharaoh **Ramses II** in dedication to the Gods Amun-Re and Ra.

Moving along, we will sail towards one of the most tranquil bays of the Nubian Lake, **Wadi El Arab**. Following on, **SAÏ** will move towards the **Amada** Temple, with a broad display of the local fishermen's houses on the way.

Occasionally on this route we are privileged to see some of the lake crocodiles as they surface for sunlight (at certain seasons).

Our day will come to an end with a quiet sunset, as **SAÏ** makes its final stop of the day in **Amada**. We will anchor to spend the night.

Dinner on board.



Day 3 Wednesday: Amada - Pennout - El Derr

Breakfast on board. We will start our day by visiting the temples of **Amada, Pennout and El Derr.**

The temple of **Amada** is considered among the most interesting temples in Nubia. They were built by the king **Thoutmosis III** and the king **Amenophis II**.

The temple of **El Derr** dates back to the time of the Great Pharaoh **Ramses II**, it was dedicated to the God Amon and later on it helped as a church during the Coptic Era.

The tomb of **Pennout** was cut and moved bloc by bloc from the Nubian village of **Aniba** to its actual place. Returning to SAÏ for <u>Lunch on board</u>. We will make course towards **Kasr Ibrim**. Arrival to **Kasr Ibrim**. <u>Dinner and night on board</u> nearby the region of **Kasr Ibrim**.

Day 4 Thursday: Kasr Ibrim- Abu-Simbel

<u>Breakfast on board.</u> **Kasr Ibrim** or the Ibrim Palace is the single monument on the Nubian Lake that stands unmoved from its original location. It contains a selection of remains from Egypt's Christian and Islamic periods and was eventually transformed into a fortress by the Ottomans. The resulting fusion of cultural artifacts gives the Palace a characteristic diversity. <u>Lunch on board</u>

Returning back to **SAÏ**, we will venture through the **Masmas** area, which is home to numerous Nubian villages. Soon in the distance, the **Abu-Simbel** Temples will start protruding from the horizon and emerging from the water, a gorgeous sight signifying the end of our prolific journey.

As night falls we have the option of attending the **Sound and Light** Show regularly performed in front of the temples.

<u>Dinner and night on board</u>



Day 5 Friday: Abu-Simbel - Check-out

After Breakfast, you will check out from the boat. This morning will be dedicated solely to exploring the vast wonders of the **Abu-Simbel** Temples of **Ramses II** and his beautiful wife **Nefertari.**The twin temples were originally carved out of the mountainside in the 13th century BC, during the 19th dynasty reign of the Pharaoh **Ramses II**. They serve as a lasting monument to the king and his queen **Nefertari**, and commemorate his victory at the Battle of **Kadesh**. Their huge external rock relief figures have become iconic.

The Great Temple at **Abu-Simbel**, which took about twenty years to build, was completed around year 24 of the reign of **Ramses the Great** (which corresponds to 1265 BC). It was dedicated to the gods Amun, Ra-Horakhty, and Ptah, as well as to the deified **Ramses** himself. It is generally considered the grandest and most beautiful of the temples commissioned during the reign of **Ramses II**, and one of the most beautiful in Egypt.

The program is given as an indication, it depends on the navigation and the local conditions of the moment and any force majeure related to the weather. The order of the visits can be modified but the entirety of the program will be respected.

The weather in this region in February, March and April sometimes forces us to dock due to the sand winds and storms strength which can reach the speed of 80km/ hour.

End of services.