



ANCIENT **AWAKENING**

Egypt's history comes to life on an immersive Nile journey with **Viking**.

IN 1922, British archaeologist Howard Carter uncovered what would become one of the most significant discoveries in history: the tomb of King Tutankhamun. Overflowing with gold, jewels, artwork, furniture, and the young pharaoh's mummy, the tomb ignited a global fascination with Egypt—one that endures to this day. The timeless allure comes alive once again on Viking's Pyramids & Pharaohs river sailing.

Aboard the new *Viking Amun*, built specifically to navigate the Nile, guests are transported to a time when pharaohs ruled and civilizations thrived along the river's fertile banks. An expert Egyptologist accompanies guests throughout the journey, sharing stories about each monument, temple, and tomb.

The adventure begins in Cairo, where sacred sites coexist with historic markets and monumental museums. As the sun rises over the Giza Plateau, the desert sands shimmer and the ancient limestone is bathed in a golden glow. Here, the Great Pyramid and the Great Sphinx stand alongside the newly opened Grand Egyptian Museum—a modern architectural marvel housing upwards of 100,000 of Egypt's greatest treasures, including the complete collection from King Tutankhamun's tomb displayed together for the first time in over a century.

A leisurely sail up the Nile (the mythical river flows from south to north) brings you to Luxor, where the immense temples of Luxor and Karnak rise majestically from the water's edge. As you stroll along the recently restored Avenue of Sphinxes, which connects the two temples, you'll feel the presence of 3,000 years of history. And at the Great Hypostyle Hall, the towering columns still shimmer with flecks of ancient pigments once painstakingly applied to the intricately carved hieroglyphics.

Across the river on the West Bank, the Valley of the Kings invites you to explore the brilliantly decorated tombs of legendary rulers, including Ramesses II, Thutmose I, Seti I, and Hatshepsut—the first female pharaoh. For a unique vantage point, consider a hot air balloon ride over the Valley. As dawn breaks, the colorful vessels rise above the palms, offering a breathtaking panorama of history and landscape.

The journey continues to Kom Ombo, Aswan, and Edfu, where each temple tells a unique tale of gods, kings, and queens. Along the way, you'll visit local villages, bustling markets filled with handmade crafts, and watch demonstrations of ancient artforms. It's not until your voyage concludes in lively Cairo that your mind returns to the modern day. — REBECCA L. RHOADES



A MAGICAL EGYPTIAN PRE-TOUR

King Tut's treasures are now showcased in the Grand Egyptian Museum, but you can delve even deeper into the pharaoh's story on a four-night pre-tour in London and Oxford. Led by an expert Viking Egyptologist, this Privileged Access experience takes you behind the scenes of Howard Carter's legendary expedition with a private viewing of the British Museum's Egyptian collection and an exclusive visit to Carter's personal archives at the University of Oxford. The journey concludes at Highclere Castle, famed as the set of *Downton Abbey*, where guests explore the private Egyptian collection of George Herbert, the fifth Earl of Carnarvon, the patron who financed Carter's iconic discovery.

➔ **Epic Exploration.** Plan your adventure by entering **OFFER M29297** on the website found on the back cover, or call or email us to discover more sailings.

Opposite: The Great Sphinx and Great Pyramid of Giza, Egypt. From left: Viking Amun on the Nile; Sarcophagus of King Tutankhamun at the British Museum.