



WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL  
*of Philadelphia & Cooperating Councils*

# ANTIQUITIES OF THE RED SEA AND AEGEAN SEA

*including Transit of the Suez Canal*

**Athens • Crete • Alexandria • Giza**

**Luxor • Wadi Rum • Petra • Amman**

aboard the Exclusively Chartered, Small Ship

**Five-Star LE BOUGAINVILLE**

October 29 to November 11, 2022

with Guest Speaker Dr. Tarek Sayed Ahmed



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UP TO \$5000  
PER COUPLE!**  
BOOK BY  
APRIL 25, 2022



# WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL

of Philadelphia & Cooperating Councils

Dear Council Traveler,

The storied lands of Greece, Egypt and Jordan stand at the crossroads of religion and cultural enlightenment. Portals of antiquity lead to a treasure trove of ancient wonders and UNESCO marvels that defy the limits of the imagination. The pharaonic riches of Egypt, the “rose-red city” of Petra and the achingly beautiful Greco-Roman temples of Jerash summon awe and wonder like few places on Earth.

Join us on this epic, carefully curated 12-night journey like no other to the classical world’s cradle of civilization. Visit three continents, navigate the legendary waterways of the Red Sea, Gulf of Aqaba, Mediterranean Sea and Aegean Sea, transit the seminal Suez Canal and see up to five magnificent UNESCO World Heritage sites. Cruise for eight nights aboard the exclusively chartered, Five-Star LE BOUGAINVILLE, which features just 92 elegant Suites and Staterooms, each with a private balcony.

Marvel at one of the greatest sites of antiquity, the Minoan Palace at Knossos in Crete. Stand in the shadows of the three iconic pyramids of Giza, an incredible engineering feat that still dominates the horizon and stands guarded by the inscrutable Great Sphinx. Enjoy excursions to the revered sites of the Nile Valley city of Thebes, including the magnificent Karnak Temple Complex, Luxor Temple and specially arranged access to Queen Nefertari’s tomb in the Valley of the Queens. Follow in the footsteps of the nomadic Bedouins across Wadi Rum, an orange-hued sea of sand where Lawrence of Arabia established his base.

On our Pre-Program Option, visit the spectacular remnants of Ancient Greece, including the Acropolis and Delphi. Extend your journey on our Post-Program Option to visit the Holy Land, including archaeological sites and biblical reference points featuring Jerusalem, Masada and the Dead Sea.

This exclusive itinerary offers incomparable opportunities to explore antiquity, cruise along ancient trade routes and immerse yourself in the dazzling panorama of human history. Make reservations on this unique program while space and early booking savings are still available. Other educational groups share this departure, so make your reservation today. Call (800) 942-5004 x 209 (email: [travel@wacphil.org](mailto:travel@wacphil.org)).

Warm Regards,

*Shoshana Altrichter*

Shoshana Altrichter, Vice President of Travel

Can’t travel at this time? Ask about the Council’s other cruises with Gohagan & Company to Greece and Antarctica.

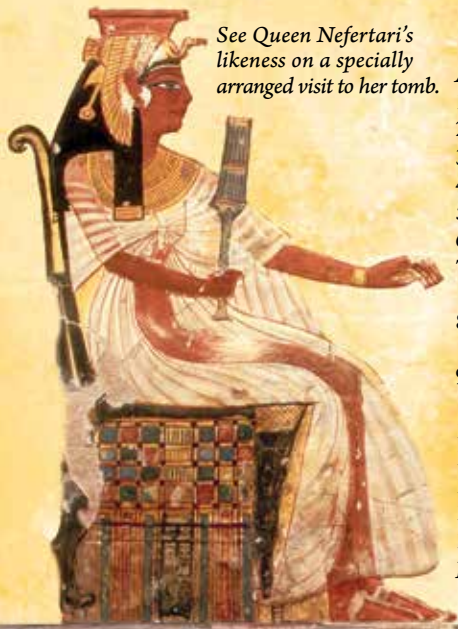
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*The safety and well-being of our travelers remains our highest priority. All passengers traveling on our programs are required to present confirmation of a full COVID-19 vaccination, and, as well may have to produce evidence of a recent negative COVID test. All our staff are committed to adhering to all health and safety protocols from the start of your trip to the end as directed by the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention, overseas health officials, as well as those protocols mandated by your cruise company (if applicable). All passengers over 65 are required to have a third vaccine (booster) if their second vaccination was administered 6 months ago. Detailed protocol information tailored to your travel program will be mailed to you along with additional pre-departure information.*

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See Queen Nefertari's likeness on a specially arranged visit to her tomb.

## ITINERARY

### Ancient Greece Pre-Program Option

- 1 Depart the U.S.
- 2 Arrive in **ATHENS**,<sup>Ⓞ</sup> **GREECE**/Embark **LE BOUGAINVILLE**
- 3 **HERAKLION, CRETE** for Minoan Palace at Knossos
- 4 Cruising the **AEGEAN** and **MEDITERRANEAN SEAS**
- 5 **ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT**
- 6 Transit the legendary **SUEZ CANAL**
- 7 **AIN SOKHNA** for the Great Pyramids<sup>Ⓞ</sup> and Sphinx<sup>Ⓞ</sup> at **GIZA**
- 8 **HURGHADA** for **ANCIENT THEBES, EGYPT**/Luxor<sup>Ⓞ</sup> and Karnak<sup>Ⓞ</sup> Temple Complexes
- 9 Necropolis at **LUXOR** for the Valley of the Kings<sup>Ⓞ</sup> and Valley of the Queens<sup>Ⓞ</sup>/**SAFAGA**
- 10 **AQABA, JORDAN**/Disembark ship/**WADI RUM**<sup>Ⓞ</sup>
- 11 **AQABA/PETRA**<sup>Ⓞ</sup>/**AMMAN**
- 12 **AMMAN**
- 13 **AMMAN/JERASH/AMMAN**
- 14 **AMMAN**/Return to the U.S.

### Israel Post-Program Option

<sup>Ⓞ</sup>UNESCO World Heritage Site

### Athens, Greece

The birthplace of democracy and home to many of history's greatest philosophers and poets, the ancient city of Athens is unmatched in its contributions to early Western civilization.

### Heraklion, Crete

Travel to one of the most legendary sites of antiquity, the Minoan Palace at Knossos where, in Greek myth, Theseus defeated the Minotaur in the Labyrinth built by Daedalus. The immense palace, which dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century B.C., is a maze of chambers, staircases and courtyards, with extraordinary frescoes throughout. Continue to Heraklion to visit the Archeological Museum, which exhibits a wealth of exquisite artifacts from the Knossos palace and other ancient Minoan sites.

### Alexandria, Egypt

The fulcrum of the ancient Hellenic world, Alexandria is Egypt's most beguiling city. Tour legendary Alexandria, founded by 25-year-old Alexander the Great in 331 B.C.

Imposing Qaitbey Fort was built on top of the remains of the Lighthouse of Alexandria—one of the Seven Wonders of the World—and has served as a stronghold since 1480. Discover the ancient and modern faces of this coastal city and learn about its extensive heritage by visiting the Roman Amphitheater. While exploring, you can catch a glimpse of the Alexandria Library.

### Suez Canal Transit

One of the most momentous voyages between continents transits the 120-mile Suez Canal, Egypt's glorious, Victorian-era engineering achievement.

The canal, first conceived in the 1830s by French explorer and engineer Linant de Bellefonds, opened in 1869. Connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea, the canal reduced the trip between Europe and South Asia by over 4,000 miles, redefining international maritime trade.

### The Great Pyramids of Giza

The last remaining Wonder of the Ancient World, the pyramids of the Old Kingdom pharaohs Cheops, Chephren and Mycerinus comprise the Great Pyramids of Giza—enduring symbols

Cover photo: Stand before the Great Sphinx carved from a single piece of limestone.

Photo this page: The mythology surrounding the Nile River has shaped the region's identity for thousands of years.







Look for Bedouins traversing Wadi Rum, a dramatic labyrinth of towering granite and sandstone formations.

of the glory of Egypt that have towered over the Western Desert for nearly 5,000 years.

See the iconic Great Sphinx, carved from a single mass of limestone, depicting the body of a lion and head of a pharaoh. This marvel of human sculpture is speculated to date from Egypt's fourth dynasty.

### Temples of Luxor and Karnak

The treasures and architectural legacy of fabled Thebes—the imperial ancient capital of Egypt's New Kingdom—are revealed at stunning Karnak and Luxor Temples. Karnak's complexity of sanctuaries, obelisks, and shrines reaches its apogee with the hypostyle hall, comprised of 134 colossal stone columns arranged in rows and etched with hieroglyphs. Luxor Temple's exquisite bas-reliefs depict seminal events, such as Ramses' victory at the Battle of Kadesh in 1274 B.C. The dramatic Avenue of the Sphinxes once stretched from Karnak to Luxor, forming the spiritual and economic nexus of the region.

### The Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens

Framed by arid Theban hills, the Nile's west bank's hallowed Necropolis is replete with spectacular memorial temples built to perpetuate the cult of the pharaoh. In the Valley of the Kings, 63 illustrious pharaohs of Egypt's New Kingdom and their worldly wealth were laid to rest in tombs engraved with hieroglyphs.

Ancient passageways descend to the burial chambers for generations of King Ramses—where a rare image of the goddess Nut is emblazoned across a blue ceiling—and the 3,300-year-old tomb of boy king Tutankhamun. In the Valley of the Queens, enjoy a specially arranged visit to Queen Nefertari's tomb, lauded as the most resplendent the ban burial site. The beauty of Ramses II's favorite queen is enshrined in the spectacular wall paintings and divine images of her likeness.

### Wadi Rum

Shaped and smoothed by millennia of winter floods and desert wind and sand, Wadi Rum was aptly described by British soldier and diplomat T. E. Lawrence, the legendary







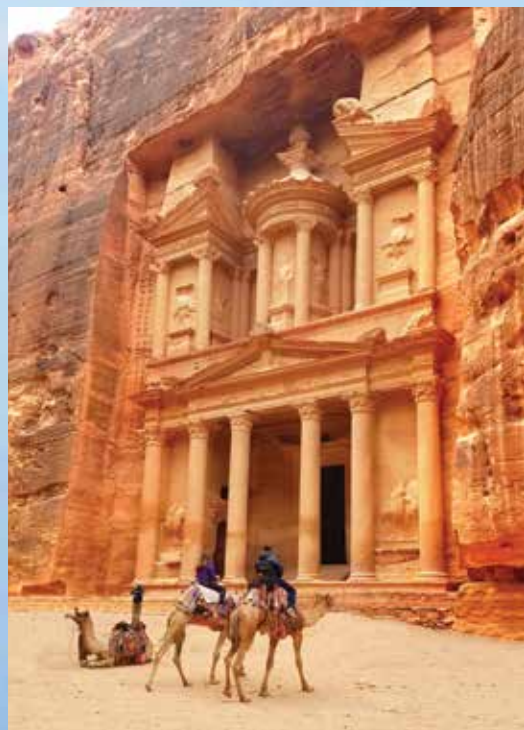
*Admire the beauty of the Minoan Palace at Knossos where, in Greek mythology, the Minotaur was defeated by Theseus.*

Lawrence of Arabia, as “vast, echoing and godlike.” Known as the Valley of the Moon, this region has seen human activity for nearly 12,000 years. This ethereal landscape of grooved canyons, soaring mountains, undulating sand dunes and rocky caverns is best experienced from a four-passenger open-air vehicle.

## Petra

The inspiring, ancient “rose-red city” of Petra is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Petra reached its zenith during the first century B.C. as the capital of the nomadic Bedouin Nabataean Empire. Concealed behind towering rocks, the city ignited Western scholarly interest when Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhardt was led through the Siq—a narrow, serpentine gorge—to Petra’s spellbinding Khazneh (Treasury) by a Bedouin guide in 1812. The site’s majestic ensemble of temples, dwellings and tombs, carved directly into the sandstone cliff face, still holds a wondrous, mythical appeal.

*Behold Petra’s dazzling “rose-red” Nabatean façades, carved to honor a god said to inhabit the rocks.*



*Beautifully preserved Qaitbey Fort was built to defend Alexandria from the Ottoman Empire.*

## Amman, Jordan

Amman’s wealth of archaeological artifacts and ancient ruins reflect centuries of diverse cultural influences. This biblical Ammonite city was conquered and renamed Philadelphia by Egypt’s King Ptolemy II Philadelphus in the third century B.C. Expanded by the Romans, Philadelphia flourished for nearly four centuries as the heart of Roman Arabia.

Today, Amman’s plethora of Roman ruins stand testament to the Roman Empire’s long-reaching and enduring influence. From the Citadel, see the towering columns of the Temple of Hercules looming over the Jordan’s cosmopolitan capital, where the magnificent, 6,000-seat Roman Theater, dating from the second century, forms the city’s centerpiece and still stages performances.

## Jerash

Historical Jerash, established as a town during the reign of Alexander the Great, was officially ushered into the Roman Empire after Pompey’s conquest in 64 B.C. Often invoked as the “Pompeii of Asia,” Jerash’s ancient, remarkably preserved colonnaded avenues, ceremonial gates and golden-hued temples speak to its stature as one of the Roman Decapolis’s most important cities.

Marvel at prodigious Hadrian’s Arch at the city’s entrance and dating to 129 A.D., the intricately carved Temples of Artemis and Zeus and the immense scale and sublime architecture of the historic Forum.

*Visit Roman Jerash, including the Nymphaeum, the city’s main ornamental fountain.*





## EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED, FIVE-STAR LE BOUGAINVILLE

### Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design

LE BOUGAINVILLE represents a new generation of Five-Star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships.

### Respect for the Environment

A recent addition to the Ponant “Clean Ship” fleet, an important distinction among ocean-cruising vessels, LE BOUGAINVILLE is energy efficient and eco-friendly, protecting fragile marine ecosystems.

### Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies

Each of the 92 Five-Star Staterooms and Suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand Deluxe Suites have a floor-to-ceiling window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, a private bathroom with shower and luxury hotel-style amenities.

### Chic and Casual Dining

Dine indoors or al fresco on international and regional cuisine served in the stylish, spacious indoor-outdoor restaurant, at the casual pool deck grill or from 24-hour room service. Daily meals include full breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and four-course dinner.

### Life on Board

Experience the *Blue Eye*, the world’s first underwater, multisensory Observation Lounge. Enjoy sweeping views from the upper lounges—which open to the outdoors—and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. Relax in the spa, sauna or infinity-style swimming pool. The ship has a beauty salon, a fitness room and three elevators. Complimentary Wi-Fi access is available.

### World-Class Service

The highly trained, English-speaking crew is personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and a nurse.

### Stateroom with Balcony



### Panoramic Restaurant



### Suez Canal Transit



### Guest Speaker



Dr. Tarek Sayed Tawfik Ahmed has a BA and MA of Egyptology from Faculty of Archaeology Cairo University and a PhD in Egyptology from the University of Bonn, Germany. He was the Director General of the Grand Egyptian Museum Project from August 2014 to January 2019. He is also the Director of the Centre for Archaeological Studies and International Héritage in Luxor affiliated with Cairo University as well as the Vice President of International Council of Museums—Egypt.

Paired with his esteemed positions, his experience lecturing nationally and internationally in Italy, Malta, India, Jordan and other countries, Dr. Ahmed is well equipped to present exclusive lectures about the culture, way of life and iconic creations of ancient Egypt.



## Included Features

- ◆ Featuring **Dr. Tarek Sayed Tawfik Ahmed**, who will present exclusive lectures.

### **On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star, Small Ship LE BOUGAINVILLE**

- ◆ Eight-night cruise from Athens, Greece, to Aqaba, Jordan, featuring a transit of the **Suez Canal**.
- ◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom.
- ◆ Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- ◆ **Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.**
- ◆ All meals aboard ship.
- ◆ **Complimentary Wi-Fi access.**
- ◆ Tour the **Palace of Knossos** and visit the **Archeological Museum in Heraklion**.
- ◆ Visit historic **Alexandria**.
- ◆ **Overnight visit to Luxor**, with accommodations in a Nile-view room in the deluxe **STEIGENBERGER NILE PALACE HOTEL**, with breakfast and dinner.

### **In Aqaba, Jordan**

- ◆ One night in the Five-Star **KEMPINKSI HOTEL AQABA**, with breakfast and dinner.

### **In Amman**

- ◆ Three nights in the Five-Star **FAIRMONT HOTEL**, with full breakfast each morning.
- ◆ City tour of Amman, with visits to the ancient **Citadel and Roman Theater**.
- ◆ Excursion to **Jerash's** Greco-Roman ruins, with lunch.
- ◆ Farewell Reception in the hotel.

### **UNESCO World Heritage Site Highlights**

- ◆ Visit to **Giza Plateau** to see the Great Pyramids and the Great Sphinx.
- ◆ Guided tour of the ancient capital of Thebes's grand pharaonic **temples of Luxor and Karnak**.
- ◆ Visits to the tomb of King Tutankhamun in the **Valley of the Kings** and a specially arranged tour of Queen Nefertari's tomb in the **Valley of the Queens**.
- ◆ Excursion into the **Wadi Rum Protected Area**, a traditional Bedouin site, with lunch.
- ◆ Walking tour of the "rose-red city" of **Petra** with lunch.

### **Always Included**

- ◆  Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Egypt and Jordan entry visas.
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your accommodations and on excursions.
- ◆ Hospitality desk in the hotels and aboard ship.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.





## **Ancient Greece Athens ♦ Delphi Pre-Program Option**

Enhance your Athens experience with an immersion into the wonders of this ancient city. Tour the perfectly proportioned Parthenon, a graceful example of Doric architecture, at the UNESCO World Heritage site, Acropolis. See the archaeological treasures in the Acropolis Museum. Explore Plaka, Athens' oldest neighborhood, at leisure. Enjoy a full-day excursion to the mystical UNESCO World Heritage site of Delphi and its Archaeological Museum. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe GRAND BRETAGNE ATHENS HOTEL.

## **Israel Jerusalem ♦ Masada Post-Program Option**

Expand your exploration of the great civilizations to include captivating biblical, historical and cultural sites in and around Jerusalem. In historic Jerusalem, a holy city for three of the world's major religions, walk in the footsteps of Jesus, see evocative religious sites and visit the poignant Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum. Tour UNESCO World Heritage-designated Masada, see where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found, visit Bethlehem and enjoy an unforgettable float in the Dead Sea. Enjoy four nights in deluxe accommodations in Jerusalem.

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*







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