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EGYPT ART TRIP 2011
April 25 - May 9



icscis stands for

International Center for Synthesis Centre International pour la Synthèse

"Synthesis" is the putting together of parts or elements so as to form a whole, a unifying whole; the whole as all aspects of one's being, its totality. Our logo is the hand made circle, symbol of that whole; of the union of art and being and of the evolution of society through arts and culture. Its orange color represents the enthusiasm, creativity, and determination required in the search of one's completeness.

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ABOUT icscis' walkthearts

walkthearts.com is part of icscis inc. established in 1996. We are a cultural organization without walls, therefore extremely mobile, operating in and from North America, Europe, Africa, and South America. Mobility, a term meaning being small, light, able to being transported in a jiffy anywhere in the world, is one of our main goals.

walkthearts.com is not a tour operator. We are a small cultural organization promoting experiential learning through art history seminar tours and art workshops offered on four continents to the life long learners as well as all type of educational institutions may they be universities, colleges or high schools.

Our personalized programs are intended for active, dynamic, opened minded groups willing to immerse in the culture of the visiting country in order to live in depth the experience of art, history and religion and return back home with rewarding memories.

Walking the arts is an essential aspect of life as it is the only way to understand others, their ways of being and creations. To sum up walkthearts.com offers "live art trips" to students, educators, and anyone like you, interested in discovering new cultures via their society, art, history, and religion.



ABOUT Egypt Art Trip

This trip is intended not only for first time visitors, but also for those who have been once or several times in Egypt in the past. During the 18th and 19th Century, this large country was part of the artistic route commonly called "The Great Tour", a journey comprising Italy, Greece, the Holy Land, and the Orient usually done by architects, painters, historians, and photographers. It is in this concept of a return to the European sources that icscis offers its second trip to the African continent entitled: Water, Fire, Earth. In this picturesque landscape, the participant will not only learn on the so many chapters of Egyptian culture, but will also have the opportunity to visit Egypt's most beautiful oasis, the Siwa Oasis, and its surrounding desert dunes; the water of the Nile, commonly called the "sea"; the fires of Cairo, the par excellence Arabian city, and much more. The temples of Luxor and Karnak on the shores of the Nile, the valleys of the Queens and the Kings, the Pyramids and its Sphinx, Cairo's mosques and bazaars and the palm trees of the Kattara low lands will be waiting for you, so you may immortalize them in your memories.

This cultural oriented trip is totally different from what is being offered by the vast majority of travel agencies, meaning large group of tourists landing in Cairo and taking a cruise down the Nile to Luxor.

Our Art History Seminar Tour in the land of the Pharaohs, is a magical combination of temples, mosques, museums and sensorial experiences. It also offers plenty of intimate space to personalize your Egyptian experience. In brief, an organized trip which doesn't feel organized; this is the quality of any icscis experience.

The Proposed Schedule

Day 1 (April 25)

ARRIVAL

PM • Arrival at Cairo Airport; transfer to the Hotel

Day 2 (April 26)

EGYPTOLOGY AND EGYPTOMANIA

CAIRO

AM • The Egyptian Museum

PM • Exploring Modern Cairo (Tahrir Sq., Tala' At Harb Sq. Ramses Sq. and Zamalek);

Optional :walk around al-Hussein Square and environs

Day 3 (April 27)

THE EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITY I - THE OLD KINGDOM

CAIRO - MEMPHIS - SAQQARA - GIZA

AM • Departure for The plateau de Giza;

“the Sphinx and the Pyramids”

PM • Memphis and Saqqara.

A) EARTH – TERRE

Day 4 (April 28)

EARTH > EXPERIENCING THE DESERT

CAIRO > SIWA

All Day • Long drive to the most remote Egyptian destination, the Siwa Oasis via El Alamein and lunch stop in Marsa Matrouh

Late PM • arrival to Siwa and rest of the evening at leisure

Day 5 (April 29)

EARTH > THE GREEK PRESENCE

SIWA

Days 5 and 6 could be defined as a spiritual encounter with the desert.

AM • visit the Temple of Amun, the Tomb of the Crocodile and Cleopatra's Bath.

PM • at leisure > optional: visiting the Shali Fortress

Day 6 (April 30)

EARTH • THE DESERT AND THE DEPRESSION OF KATTARA
SIWA

All day • At leisure
> optional: sand dunes of Bir Wahad, bicycling in the oasis, swimming in one of the three salt lakes, photographing, watercolouring, a 4x4 expedition in the Great Sea of Sand, etc.



Day 7 (May 1)

EARTH • COPTIC AND ISLAMIC ALEXANDRIA

SIWA • MARSAH MATROUH • ALEXANDRIA

AM • Departure for Alexandria. Day long trip to

Alexandria with a lunch stop in Marsah Matrouh

PM • Arrival to Alexandria

Late PM: discovery walk of the city

Day 8 (May 2)

EARTH • COPTIC AND ISLAMIC ALEXANDRIA

ALEXANDRIA • LUXOR

AM • National Museum of Alexandria

PM • Bibliotheka Alexandria and deluxe overnight sleeping coach train (double occupancy) for

Luxor via Cairo (dinner and breakfast on train).

B) WATER - EAU

The « sea » is the nick name of the Nile with its fluvial temper. The portion of this trip is dedicated to Luxor and the Nile

Day 9 (May 3)

WATER - THE NEW KINGDOM

LUXOR

AM • Arrival to Luxor and directly to our hotel; visiting the Temple of Karnak

PM • Discovery Walk I (optional sites; The Mummification Museum ; the Luxor Museum)

Day 10 (May 4)

WATER · THE MIDDLE AND NEW KINGDOMS
LUXOR

AM • Visting the Temple of Luxor

PM • Discovery Walk II

Late PM • Felucca ride over the Nile.

Day 11 (May 5)

WATER · THE MIDDLE AND NEW KINGDOMS
LUXOR

AM • Crossing the Nile and visiting the Valley of the Kings,
the Valley of the Queens and the Temple of
Hatchepsout with an Egyptologist.

PM • Back to Eastern Shore

Day 12 (May 6)

WATER · THE LIFE ALONG THE NILE
LUXOR-CAIRO

AM • First class train: long day trip back to Cairo

PM • Arrival to Cairo

Late PM: (optional) night cruise supper on ther Nile

C) FIRE - FEU

The section of this trip is dedicated to the Arab city "par excellence" (Match du Monde): night life, day life, contrast, fun, for why we coined this section "fire".

Day 13 (May 7)

FIRE · ISLAMIC CAIRO
CAIRO

AM • visiting Islamic Cairo; The Citadel,

Mosque of Muhammad Ali, Ibn Toulun Mosque, etc.

PM • Discovery Walk of more Islamic Cairo

Day 14 (May 8)

FIRE · COPTIC CAIRO
CAIRO

AM • The Coptic Museum and more Coptic Cairo

PM • at leisure; Optional: shopping at the Khan il Khalil

Late PM • Farewell Dinner

Day 15 (May 9)

CONCLUSION · BACK TO REALITY!
CAIRO – USA/CANADA

AM Transfer to the airport



To Read!

Proud Beggars, (1955) by Albert Cossery
The Yacoubian Building, (2006) by Alaa el-Aswany
Midaq Alley, (1947) by Naguib Mahfouz

Arabic 101

KEY WORDS

Inch'Allah (God willing)

Bokra (tomorrow; often used to postpone things)

Maalesh (too bad; used when things do not work as expected)

Courtesy words (Egyptian people love to be greeted in Arabic)

Good Morning - *Sabah alkhair* Reply: *Sabah alnur*

Good Afternoon/Evening - *Masa alkhair* Reply: *Masa alnur*

Goodbye (Go in peace) - *Ma'assalama* Reply: *Fi aman Allah* or
Ma'assalama

How Are You? *Kaifa haloka/ haloki* (female)

I'm Fine, Thanks! *na bekhair, shokran!*

Please - (m): *Min fadlak*, (f): *Min fadlik*

Thank you - *Shukran*

You're Welcome! (for "thank you")- *Al'afw*

Other useful words

Yes - *Na'am*

No- *La'a*

Mineral Water: *mayya maadania*

How Much Is This?: *bi kam da*

It's Too Expensive: *ghali awi*

Toilettes: *hammam*



Some Art History



"In the early nineteenth century, the prolific output of art in Europe found a new source of inspiration in its encounter with the Islamic world of the Near East to rival the attractions of the Grand Tour of Europe. Following the pioneering six-month visit of Eugene Delacroix to Morocco and Algiers in the 1820s, adventurers like David Roberts, Leon

Belly and Jean-Léon Gérôme were captivated by the sights encountered during journeys up the Nile, into the hitherto unexplored Maghreb or on the Arabian peninsula. They marvelled at the architecture, were fascinated by the different peoples and their dress and, as artists, were often exhilarated by the luminous quality of light. Inevitably, they sought to capture their experiences on canvas and the images they produced, and many artists after them, became known as Oriental Art. "Orientalism" encompasses art, music, literature, architecture and design but, as far as Oriental Art is concerned, it is characterized by its focus on a common fascination with a region rather than a movement or a style. From Delacroix and Ingres in the early 1800s through to Klee and Kandinsky over a hundred years later, the Orientalists are collectively defined by their efforts to depict aspects of daily life in the predominantly Muslim culture of the Middle East". <http://www.lyons.co.uk/orientals/gerome.htm>

YELLOW > usually yellow ochre, but a sulphide of arsenic called orpiment became common from the end of the 18th dynasty, probably imported from Persia > eternal matter > flesh of the Sun

RED > oxides of iron and red ochre.

White > white calcium sulphate (gypsum) or chalk



BLUE > a compound of silica, calcium and copper, most usually in the form of ground malachite, quartz, natron and calcium carbonate.

BLACK > carbon, readily available in many forms including lamp black created by the flames of oil lamps, burnt bones or soot scraped from cooking pots > colour of the underworld, darkness getting ready to resurrection > Osiris and Anubis

Green > mostly copper ore, but green pigment could also be made from usin powdered malen frit similar to the one used to make blue. > symbol of growth > life > Osiris and Amon



The price and what it includes

PRICE OF CAD\$2,900*

*Based on eight participants and subject to change.

INCLUDES:

- o 14-night accommodation (in extremely well located three stars hotels in Cairo, Siwa, Luxor, and Alexandria)
- o All breakfasts
- o All entrances to scheduled sites which are not optional
- o All ground transportation as a group (train, ferry, subway, taxi, bus)
- o Constant service of a guide-art historian and three onsite specialized Egyptologists.

EXCLUDES: o Flight o Visa (around CAD\$25)

- o Tips (1 LE per service... around a quarter)
- o Lunch, supper and personal items (food in Egypt is very cheap).

Before we leave, you will receive our pre-departure newsletter with all the needed info such as what to bring, the final schedule, meeting points, meals, addresses and phone numbers for you and your family, and descriptions of exhibits.

Info or/and to register... ↓