

Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley
October 5th-18th, 2024

October 19th, 2024

I had the distinct pleasure of traveling with Hollins University and Emory University alums to Egypt through Orbridge this month. Under the in-country direction of Ahmad Yehia Aly and his team of expert guides, Eiman Fikry and Ola Zayed, this trip was a phenomenal experience.

As the faculty lecturer, I offered two talks while on the dahabiya. During my first lecture, I reminded the group of our trip earlier in the day to the Valley of the Kings and Hatshepsut's Temple Complex before my main discussion on repatriation, different paradigms for how we think about cultural property, and ethical discussions on returns. We specifically discussed antiquities removed from Egypt and held by museums outside the country. My second lecture discussed the history and politics of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee and sites in Egypt on the World Heritage List. The Committee had its impetus in the 1960s when the High Dam was built, and Abu Simbel was moved as part of a multinational effort to save it from flooding. Visitors on this trip had the opportunity to visit multiple World Heritage sites, and I wanted them to understand the history of this organization and its role in protecting sites.

It was such a pleasure traveling with this group! The careful and diligent management of the team led to unparalleled expertise in guided site visits, delicious meals throughout, and exceptional accommodations. Beginning in Cairo, traveling through Luxor, sailing on the Nile, and ending in Aswan before a return flight to Cairo was a wonderful experience. I highly recommend this experience to anyone wanting to travel to Egypt!

Sincerely,



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