

Ankh, the Key of Life, representing the Nile, the Delta, and the east and west banks

Curious Blog alleges: In hypostyle hall center: giant statue of Ramses; beside him fragile blue-eyed woman – his beloved wife Nefetari.

Carved stone & painted bright colors, shape of figure rose slightly above background. Central relief shows colossal pharaoh image. One main hall relief depicts pharaoh leading captives, bringing booty to some other king, another great pharaoh figure, but on crown a large disk (sun) shining & ankh in his hands in honor of sun god Amun-Ra.

(19) 3rd Pylon: (Back side of) sailing barque

(--) **Narrow court**: obelisk bases

(20) 4th pylon >: hypostyle hall w/ WOOD; COLM & stone roof

(21) Hypostyle Hall of Thutmose III:

(22) * Hapshepsut's Obelisk: electrum tip, evidence of Tuth. III's desecration & hiding ???

(23) 5th pylon

(24) 6th pylon After building the Sixth Pylon, **Tuthmosis III** divided **peristyle** court into 3 sections w/ 2 walls forming a central chamber in front of sanctuary built by Arrhidaeu, On walls of chamber & E facade of 6th pylon & outer walls of sanctuary, Tuthmosis III inscribed twenty years of foreign campaigns i.e. "chamber of the Annals" name Earlier chamber covered by roof w/architraves resting on so-called heraldic pillars.

(25) Sacred barque sanctuary: granite, painted reliefs; filled by the granite **naos** of Philip Arrhidaeu, who was **Alexander the Great's** immediate successor for a brief period of time

(26) Middle Kingdom Court (oldest part)

(27) Wall of Records N wall:

(28) Great Festival Hall: Thutmose III: unusual structure; stone COLM,

(29) Botanical Gardens:

DIRECT ACCESS > following ???

E > SE Enclosure Area:

.75h

(30) Tuthmosis III's small chapel; **(On back wall)**

two Hapshepsut's obelisk bases

(31) Temple of the Hearing Ear: w/ obelisk base (St Latereram, Rome

Sacred Lake (LP249,) world's largest standing obelisk, begun by Tuthmosis III, it lay 35yrs in craftsmen's workshops; erected by grandson. Only single obelisk erected in Karnak Temple (usually pairs), Removed by Constantine (A.D. 274-337) for , Constantinople, but too soon, his son/successor Constantius (A.D. 317-361) took to Rome's Circus Maximus

(34) Scared Scarab

(33) Fallen Hapshepsut's obelisk

(30) N Enclosure area: .75h

(32) **Temple of Ptah:** (LP248,) (ACCESS: custodian w/key BUT baksheesh)

Ptah's headless STAT, black granite STAT

MONTU TEMPLE ENCLOSURE/Precinct (DK191) (Main N wall portal)

(40) NE Enclosure area: (LPP249, DK190) .75h

(36) * **OPEN AIR MUS:** (NE section)

White Chapel: oldest/beautiful; reliefs

Red Chapel: Hapshepsut's

Alabaster Chapel: MUS of STATS also

(---) AMUN TEMPLE ENCLOSURE: SOUTH AXIS .75h

DIRECS: backtrack > S door in Great Hypostyle Hall)

(38) **Cachette court:** bronze STATS **EGY MUS**

(39) **8th pylon:** oldest, Hatshepsut's lie

(40) **9th & (41) 10th pylons:** Akhenaten temple stone **LUXOR MUS**

SW Enclosure area: .75h

DIRECS: Access: ???

(35) **Khonsu Temple:** **DIRECS:** (LP249, DK190): pylon > Peristyle court (GOOG) > hypostyle hall
w/8 COLM > barque chamber

Euergetes' Gate & AVE of the Sphinxes: Partially restored at the Luxor TEMP end

MUT TEMP ENCLOSURE/Precinct (S of) (LP249, DK190): > **Ave of sphnxs** > **S enclosure:** 700
black granite STATS

Scott Note: Walk back to town: Ave of Sphins or. If not, along the river

Pharoah Procession description (Karnak > Luxor Temple) (Curious BLOG)

During major holidays golden barque of Amon traveled from Karnak gates > Luxor Temple followed by two obelisks. (Really, they are huge; 1 in Paris); down the Road of Sphinxes ((Scott)) Pharaoh at procession head in chariot drawn by Five horses. At Luxor TEMP gate met by Luxor Temple priests . Then > to altar. Pharaoh asked God's blessing. Priests repeated his words. Then Pharaoh went in sanctuary > STAT god of Nile, and kissed its feet (???) Then came out to meet people. All rose to face river & sang her praises. Priests lowered a long papyrus scroll into water , carried away w/ current. Crowd exulted: people on shore & boats waved palm branches and burned torches.

LUXOR TEMPLE (Southern Sanctuary):(LP249, DK184-185m,182, 186-7) **4.25h** **1D**
DIRECS Access: ??? -- enter @ Ticket Office then walk the Ave of Sphinxs back to the entry???
GEN: Visit late afternoon, but also NITE, **deeper the older**

- (1) **Entrance**
- (2) **Temple of Serapis**

(3) **Ave of Sphinx's OPEN** between Karnak & Luxor w/about 900 statues **PLAY by EAR**.
Some places In town Sphinx Ave remains originally : 1000 STATS

- (4) **1st pylon:** reliefs,
- (5) **Ramses II STATS:** 3 of 6 remain,
- (6) 2 **Obelisks:** pink granite

(7) **Great Court of Ramses II:**

Tour guide said: tunnel underneath courtyard where archs discovered much buried artifacts

Lotus COLMS:

Wall scenes:

S (R) wall: 1) RAMSES II's 17 sons, 2) 1st pylon scene, 3) military successes

- (8) **Triple-barque shrine;** (NW corner)
- (9) **Temple of the Theban Triad:**
- (10) **Abu al-Haggag MOSQ;** (SE side: EXT entry: Sharia al-Karnak)
- (11) **STATS of Ramses II**

(12) **Amenhotep III Colonnade:** COLMS, TUT's Wall RELIEFS behind COLMS

(14) **Sun Court: Amenhotep III:** E & W side COLMS

(15) **Hypostyle Hall:** 32 carved & painted COLMS, 4 rows of 8
also a little room way in back still painted & all characters had blue hair or blue skin.

- (16) **Khonsu Chapel**
- (17) **Central Chamber of Amun:** Roman scenes cover ORIG
- (18) **Mut Chapel**

(19) **Antechamber:** 4 COLMs

*** (20) Birth Room of Amenhotep III's:** Michelangelo-like; stone base; most scared place

(21) **Barque Shrine of Amun:** RELIEFS (Alex the Great)

BLOG NOTES 1: Deeper in the temple is a Greek based complex w/ inscription regarding Alex the Great

(22) **Sanctuary of Amenhotep III:**

(23) **EXIT**

(10) **ACCESS Outside Abu al-Haggag MOSQ** (LP250.) **Sharia al-Karnak**

Roman-era village:

In antiquity buildings surrounded Luxor temple/Thebes was a warren of narrow streets that wound between markets, workshops, animal pens, and mud brick houses ranging from hovels to villas. "houses built among columns capitals of roosting chickens & pigeons in great (stone) lotus leaves; barking dogs " Except a small area of Roman Period city W of Avenue of Sphinxes, most ancient city beneath modern Luxor. Too expensive to excavate..

LUXOR MUS: (LP252, DK187)

2h

GEN: wonderful, end Old King. > Mamluk Period

OLD BLDG - GROUND FLOOR: masterpieces

Tuthmosis III (140)

Tuthmosis III STAT (2) DEF: greywacke: poorly sorted sandstone containing fragmentary material mixed in w/ matrix of finer material such as clay. Greywackes formed by slumping of material flowing down an underwater slope.

Amenhotep III figure (?) (135)

Unas-Ankh relief (183)

NEW WING: Ground floor: dedicated to glory of Thebes

Royal Mummies: Ahmose I, Ramses I,

Thebian – New Kingdom military might displays: chariot & weapons

NEW WING: upper floor:

New King. daily life technology scenes

Multi-media displays: papyrus harvesting, reading/writing, scribe implements & arch's tools

OLD BLDG - 1st FLOOR (2nd): up ramp

Amenhotep seated granite STAT: legendary/deified scribe'

- Wall of Akhenaten: pre- Amarna building bricks; scenes

Tutankhamen tomb artifacts; model boats

(ramp back down >) Cow deity Mehit-Weret wooden head (Tut's tomb)

(Just B4 exit on L): small hall of STATS: BEST -- Amenhotep III

MUMMIFICATION MUS: (LP252, DK187)

1.5h

DIRECS: opposite Mina Palace Hotel:

Well preserved human mummy * & animal mummies

Tool & materials

After-life journey artifacts:

(@ entrance) fine small Anubis STAT

LUXOR : WEST Bank (LP254,)

ACCESS from East Bank: Taxi/bridge or ferry

NOTICE: Edge of Cultivation: huge sandstone blocks w/gaping black holes, giant sandstone forms (ancient Memorial temples)

Western Valley (@ Arabic Wadi al-Gurud: (N of VK)
"Valley of the Monkeys" CUZ baboons tomb paintings

OPEN/CLOSED status **Check** @ TIK office B4, *Theoretically*, officially open daily, 9am-5pm (winter)

Sometimes negotiate w/ main Valley tomb guard @ entrance to take you & open tombs - definitely respectable baksheesh. Security policeman may also take U 4 safety. TIK @ main Ticket Office: LE 10 (carry *baksheesh* for guard)

DIRECS: winding dirt & stone road; begins at VK car park, must walk 2 km between massive boulders, under towering rock cliffs, > reach tombs; TAXIS may take you all the way

(WV = Western Valley)

Tomb of Amenhotep III (WV22) [1] – **CLOSED** ??? : Japanese ARCH work

Tomb of Ay (WV23) [2] – **OPEN** ; end of 18th Dyn; vizier (chief minister) Ay gained throne after prior 18th Dyn died out thus, last WV tomb, tomb decoration similar > style in Yut;s tomb Ay's predecessor) SCENES: Ay hunting in marshes (unique in the Theban tombs); 12 baboons. Sarcophagus recently restored & re-installed by Hawas orientation reversed.

CAUTION: BEWARE flash floods

HIKES:

Pick ups

Regular pick-ups leave from ferry > Gurna LE1 +/-.

Note, sites usually 0.5 - 1km away from main road so good walk. Best way: take > old Gurna, walk road > Deir al-Bahri or hitch; then hike > Valley of Kings over mtns (45 min), then hike > Deir al-Medina or Valley of Queens if heat hasn't got to you), end up in New Gurna for PU ride > ferry jetty.

Tutankhamun Rest., *200 m south of the ferry landing* - best West Bank rest -- absolutely incredible - curry chicken w/apples & bananas.

PRIME STRATEGY: Gurna (PU) > DaB (WALK) > VK (HIKE) > VK (HIKE) > Deir al-Medina > Ferry (Taxi or PU)

2nd STRATEGY: VC > Dier al-BAhri: VK interprt signs : trek & start distinctive sign saying ' Deir El Bahri' and an arrow,, starts near KV17: Seti I
CAUTION: VK ENTRANCE FEE Get TIK B4 @

START @ VK: real steep; Then, path flattens (lad w/donkey hire) ; @ top: great views of Bahri, Nile, E Bank (45 min, Baraka (?); @ bottom 20 min more: Ramasseum REST (very clean)

Valley of the Kings from above - from Flickr user Joanne_and_Matt
Deir al-Bahri: GOOG **MAP** WALK > DIRECS: LP267

VK > Deir al-Medina: same start but "TURN R at "Y" intersection

Day 1:

(7.5h)

1D

* **DIRECS:** Gurna PU > near DaB – walk > Deir al-Bahri (6am, but ???) (LP267, DK196-7m) 1h

** **HAPSHEPSUT TEMPLE:** (LP268m, 267, DK196) **How early?** 3h

Hatshepsut's temple - from Flickr user Joanne_and_Matt

Hapshepsut's after 2PM when crowds have gone

HISTORY: Best-preserved, most impressive (Djeser-djeseru, "sacred of sacreds" – people's name); 1891 ruin, but much successful reconstruction. 15 years to build/modify. Approach > temple along a 121-foot wide, sphinx-lined causeway from valley > pylons (now disappeared.)

DESIGN: TERRAIN: terraced and rock-cut directly against rock face Deir el-Bahri's great rock bay, design echoes surrounding cliff faces, almost natural extension; **3 broad courts/terraces** separated by colonnades (imitating Mentuhotep's funnary complex >) linked by ascending ramps & bounded by dressed limestone walls. Hatshepsut said; " as a garden for my father Amun.

Lower Terrace: Colonnade CLOSED 4 restore

Great Court: ancient tree roots: "once held exotic trees & shrubs from Punt.

Ramp > Middle Terrace:

S Colonnade (L of ramp): delicate 'obelisk transportation' reliefs

N Colonnade (R of ramp): bird capture

Middle Terrace: best reliefs

N Colonnade: Hapshepsut's devine birth

Far R: Chapel of Anubis

Punt Colonnade: Punt expedition; strange animals & plants

Far L: Hathor Chapel: 2 chambers:

W wall reliefs; N wall reliefs;

Beyond Pillared walls: 3 room chapel **CLOSED ???**

Large Ramp > Upper Terrace

Upper Terrace: colossal Osirid STSTS; pink granite doorway;

Sanctuary of Amun: (in cliff)

Portico- 1st Court: decorated on [N side](#) w/scenes of Lower Egypt marshes of, [S side](#), scenes of quarrying & transportation of HER great obelisks in Upper Egypt.

Portico- 2nd court: [S side](#): carved relief scenes of soldiers exploits on her famous trading mission to Punt; on [N side](#): Hatshepsut's divine conception birth scenes as daughter of Amun (her self legitimization).

Traditionally Deir el-Bahri connected w/ goddess [Hathor](#), chief deity of the Theban necropolis,

2nd colonnade: [S end](#): complete Hathor chapel, originally--own entrance. [Vestibule](#) w/usual Hathor-headed pillars, a 12-columned hypostyle hall and inner rooms decorated w/ scenes of Hatshepsut & Hathor. [N end](#) smaller chapel of Anubis, again w/12-columned hall & inner rooms.

Upper terrace: [entrance portico](#) w/ Osiride [STATS](#) of [female](#) king, i.e Hatshepsut sculpted as god Osiris, before each pillar -- most destroyed, opened > [columned court](#) flanked on L w/ chapel royal cult, & on R, chapel of solar cult, w/open court & altar.

Amun Sanctuary: 18 cult niches, nine on each side, flank [rock sanctuary of Amun](#) -- focus of entire complex. During [Amarna period](#), many images of Amun destroyed
IN [Ptolemaic time](#) [sanctuary](#) expanded to include cults of architect Amenhotep's son "Hapu", who oversaw [Amenhotep III](#), & [Imhotep](#) works. Imhotep designed Djoser's [Step Pyramid](#) at Saqqara. In 7thC ACE, temple became a Coptic monastery, from which Arabic name Deir el-Bahri came.

MONTUHOTEP TEMPLE : S of Hapshepsut Temple: *called Akh Sut Nebhepetra*, "Splendid are the places of Nehepetre", Nebhepetre Mentuhotep, Middle King.--11th Dyn (Inyotef Kings) , 1st king to build here as Egypt was once again unified after First Intermediate Period; temple template for later structures e.g. Hatshepsut., began practice of combining cult structures w/ tomb
Unlike later mortuary temples, it functioned as a tomb, multi-level construction & plan; processional causeway led up from small valley temple to great tree-lined court beneath which a deep shaft was cut leading > unfinished king's tomb. Carter found wrapped statue of king there.

EXT: [Front part](#) made of limestone; dedicated to Montu-Ra, local deity of Thebes before Amun.

[Rear](#) made of sandstone, cult center for king.

[Colonnaded Ramp sides](#) leading > [upper terrace](#), colonnade [upper terrace](#) on three sides. [Octagonal columns](#) surround a large square structure, [funerary chapel](#).

[Enclosure](#) also contained 6 [chapels & shaft tombs](#) for wives & family members.

INT: temple: [columned courtyard](#), beneath was [entrance](#) to king's rock-cut tomb rock. At [terrace level](#) [hypostyle hall](#) had [royal cult sanctuary](#). King's STAT in carved rock face niche.

Tuthmosis III TEMP: Hatshepsut's successor & step-son

Meketra TOMB, which contain many painted wooden funerary models from the Middle Kingdom

Merneptah Temple & MUS: (LP255m, 257,)

1h

2 display rooms: RELIEFS; MUS: temple history

STATS: E of scared lake in covered storage

**** Seti I Temple:** (LP257, DK203)

DIRECS: NE corner entrance

Pharaoh's Palace ruins

*** Portico w/COLMS & hypostyle court :** superb reliefs

Hypostyle Court: 1) 6 shrines 2) small chapel

HIKE: DaB > VK

VALLEY of KINGS: (LP259m, 258, DK192-3m, 194) **Afternoon** TIK:70EL; Tut's:80EL, 3.5h
Flashlight (20 min/tomb max) (7am-5pm)

CLOSED ??? ** Ramses II (KV 71) (LP259m, 261,)

**** Tuthmosis III (30)** (KV 34) (LP259m, 264,) Napoleon of ancient EGY; hidden in hill w/deep ravine; 1) Burial chamber: curved wall, oval shape; walls: 700 gods, etc., stick men drawing:

**** Amenhotep II (30)** (KV 35) (LP259m, 263,) 1 of deepest; ceiling stars; Burial chamber: 1st rounded, double level; 1 of deepest; deep pit; ceiling stars; Burial chamber: 1st rounded proportions, double level;

**** Horemheb (20)** (KV 57) (LP259m, 263,); stability after Akhennaten; demonstrates decoration technique CUZ in various stages of completion; Well shaft scenes; 6 pillared burial chamber

*** Ramses I** (KV 16) (LP259m, 265,) Entrance Corridor: shortest; Burial Chamber: square Sarcophagus: pink granite, well decorated, US traveled mummy

*** Tuthmosis IV** (KV 43) (LP259m, 265,) UNIQUE: 1 of largest, deepest ; UNIQUE: Background style: 1st paint over yellow background; 2 long stairs > Burial Chamber: sarcophagus: enormous hieroglyphic; Well Shaft/Antechamber: beautiful bead decorated dresses; Antechamber – L (S) wall: ancient EGY graffiti; mummy w/ pierced ears **EGY MUS**

*** Merneptah** (KV 8) (LP259m, 261,): (Wikipedia Phase 2 T) graffiti; wall reliefs; false burial chamber w/2 pillars; sunken floor; brick niches;sarcophagus lid & modified entry door frame

Tawosret/Sethnakht (20) (KV 19) (LP259m, 265,) **FEMALE** Seti II's wife took power; UNIQUE: 2nd burial chamber Defined by different quality decorations); reused cartouches, astronomical scenes, BEST: ram headed Sun god; mummies may be anonymous ones in MenhotepII's cache

Ramses VI (KV 9) (LP259m, 262,) protected Tuk's tomb; scenes; Burial Chamber: ceiling: superb double image of Nut (IMPORTANT), decapitated enemies, black executioners, ithyphallic figure, GRK graffiti

Tutankhamun (KV 62)) **CAUTION: Least interesting, most \$ (100EL)**
(LP259m, 261,) charisma of place; mummy still in sarcophagus in VK T in under glass; wall scenes, 12 apes

Day 2:

(7.75h)

1D

DEIR al-MEDINA 1280 BC (LP255m, 275, DK202-3) **Hike: VK > Here ? 1.5h**

HIKE: See HIKE pg

Temple:

Workman's Village:

Inherks T: (359) (LP273,): fine wall paintings: THE famous 1,

**** Sennedjem T**(LP273,) (1): 2 small chambers, paintings, (10 Peeps/visit) **(LIMITED ACCESS)**

IF WAITING TIME -- 2 other tombs nearby

VALLEY of the QUEENS: (LP273, DK198) (OPEN: 2 or 3) **1.5h**

**** Amunherkheoshef** (35) (LP273,) 2nd BEST; 5 mo fetus ???

Khaemwaset (KV 44) (LP255m, 273,) RELIEFS good,, Ceiling: astronomical

****** NEFERTARI** (DK198m, 198-9) (**OPEN** BUT Intentionally exorbitant for 10 minutes, get ticket at 10am;

Scott NOTE: If I decide to visit read Nefertari ; QV66 ; QV 66

Her IMAGE: Nefertari, Ramses II favorite & influential Queen; myriad temple reliefs & colossi of the great king; joint dedication to she & goddess Hathor of small rock temple > N of Abu Simbel temple. More extraordinary than other 4 queens: "the Most Beautiful of Them"; uniquely exceptional position & rank i.e. "Hereditary Princess,". : Political Position: special & unique role; added clout to Ramses image; participation in state affairs of the state, unparalleled outside the Amarna Period, is reflected in "Great King's Wife" **AND** recurrent designation "Lady of Upper & Lower Egypt" and "Lady of the Two Lands".

Her HISTORY: Daughter of King Seti 1, thus sister or half sister of Ramses II. Other Egyptologists, think "Hereditary Princess" might connect her w/ Thebais. The motive: political offset of political Ramssides weakness in Thebes; Ramses N based so made great effort to increase Theban / influence. Others allegethat parents unknown, yet of royal birth. Others: Ahmos' grand-daughter..

.@ Gebel El-Silsileh there is a Ramses II shrine of he & Queen Nefertari performing religious functions B4 deities indicating their married status by his accession (1290 BC) YET she not noticed in King's First Jubilee (30 yr reign anniversary) indicating her death prior. Also not the only Queen Nefertari.

1st was Queen Ahmes-Nefertari, mother of Theban Eighteenth Dynasty; may have been Nefertari's great-grandmother; her "god's wife" name may be emulation of Queen Ahmes-Nefertari, a "god's wife" From her name and titles

Her TOMB Ramses II built Nefertari rock-hewn tomb in Valley of the Queens (then called "The Place of Beauty": is most beautiful tomb in VQ -- worthy of her historical position. Decorative mythological wall & ceiling motifs concerned w/ life in the netherworld: meetings w/ gods, deities, genii and monsters, and entry into eternity. Represented always wearing long, transparent white garments, w/ two long feathers over the vulture-like headdress of gold, rich jewels, bracelets & wide golden collar

**** MEDINAT HABU: (6)** (LP255m, 274m(site), 274, DK202) BEST 2 day's end **2.25h**
20 DIRECS: Enter from S (Ramses III)

Enclosure Brick Wall top: mud-brick remains

Syrian Gate ENTER (Outer Wall Enclosure / Brick Wall): top: mud-brick remains

(To L) Staircase > UPPER FLR: views

Tomb Chapels of the Devine Adorers

E Gate: Landing quay

Funerary Temple of Ramses III (earlier site of Temple of Amun)

1st pylon: reliefs: Libyans victory: gruesome scene, hands & genitals

1st Court:

Pharaoh's Palace ACCESS:

Appearance Window:

2nd pylon: reliefs: prisoners

2nd Court: reliefs, colonnades:

Victorian Era grafitti

Great Hypostyle Hall:

Orisis Comp;lex:

Barque Shrine:

Other:

Ptolemaic Pylon & Hall

sacred lake

Christian Basilica ???

COLOSSI of MEMNON: (LP255m, 257, DK202) **1.5h**

Amenhoteop III's memorial temple - mostly disappeared;

??? SUNSET: horse or camel ride

Day 3:

(5.5h)

.75D

**** RAMESSEUM** (LP255m, 272m, 271, DK200-1)

2.5h

GEN: Ramses II funnary complex

TOMBS of the NOBLES: (LP255m, 269, DK195,)

2h

BEST New King reliefs, but least visited: detailed daily-life scenes

**** (20B3) Nakht (69)** : small MUS; best tomb paintings: 3 musicians

*** (27C3) Khonsu TOMB (31)** (LP269,) Sacrd barques towed; Ceiling: ducks

*** (27C3) Benia TOMB (343)** : more colorful; STAT niche

**** (29B3) Ramose T (55)** (LP255m, 269) ;

**** (25B3) Sennofer T (96)** Deep main chamber; Ceiling: grape & vines,

(24B3) Rekhmire T (100) Best preserved; foreign gifts Unusual Chapel: manufacturing & banquet scenes

Lunch (near Tombs of the Nobles)

EXTRAS:

(19B2) Menna (52) : wall paintings, fine detail;

(29B3) Userhet T (56) fine wall paintings daily life, barber, wine making, chariot gazelle hunting

(16B3) Khaemhet T (57)

(28B2) Nefersekheru T (296) Ceiling: variety of geometric figures

(28B2) Neferronpet T (178)

(28B2) NO Dhutmosi T (295)

**** TEMPLE of SETI I** (LP255m, 11D2, 257, DK203)

1h

DIRECS: NE corner entrance

Pharaoh's Palace ruins

*** Portico w/COLMS & hypostyle court** : superb reliefs

Hypostyle Court: 1) 6 shrines 2) small chapel

?? Carter's House: (LP255m, 2D2, 257, DK103)

??? SUNSET: horse or camel ride

Extra Time VK

1.5h

Seti I (KV 17) (LP259m, 265,) **CLOSED** 4 Restor; longest, most beautiful, Belzoni discovery;

Tawosret/Sethnakht (KV 19) (LP259m, 265,) FEM

??? SUNSET: horse or camel ride

NEW & OLD GURNA: (LP275, DK203)

???

??? S of Luxor/Thebes:

LUXOR > ASWAN:

2D

POSSIBLE STRATEGIES:

1) TRANS: LUX > ASWAN or ASWAN > LUX

A) Land TRANS:

TOUR: DAY TRIPS (LP297) Might miss Gebel Silsila

: >S (LP292m,)

EITHER

TAXI:

TRN:

Visit each site sequentially

COMBO of TRN & back tracking Luxor tours

B) Boat TRANS:

CRUISE: SEE CRUISE page: deal directly w/ Luxor boats ;

“All Inclusive”: accm, meals, entry fees, air-con, tours, land trans, Cost: (???) \$90-150 twin room,

Felucca ride:

NO!! between Aswan & Luxor, big Cruise boats only-safer (won't capsize, better food and accm.)

Ask hotel for best capt.

ESNA: (LP292m, 291; DK204)

**** Hierakonpolis** (Nekhen, [Kom al-Ahmar](#)) (LP292,) (**W Nile side**)

Large settlement; Upper EGY religious/political capital (end of [Predynastic](#) period (c. 3200–3100 BC) &* (?) [Early Dynastic Period](#) (c. 3100–2686 BC).

Cult of hawk deity center -- [Horus of Nekhen](#); [Narmer Palette](#) & gold falcon head , 3400BC cemetery; elephant & cattle burials; timbered temple discovered here

King [Khasekhemwy](#)'s (2nd D) [massive mud-brick enclosure](#) (the "fort" -- no apparent military function), appears similar structure/purpose as Djoser's [Abydos](#) enclosure/ 'forts'; [true function unknown](#); seems related to king etc. rituals; [built](#) on Predynastic cemetery; Rene Friedman restoration of old excavation/brick robber damage.

Temple of Khnum: (LP291,) if even possible

Al-Kab (**E Nile side**) ONLY if possible (LP292,)

TRANS:

BEST OPTION: dahabiyya or felucca (LP293,)

Cruise ONLY STOP ??? (LP291, 83.): should be all "inclusive "accm, meals, entry fees, air-con

TRN: difficult: > LUX: STOPS for 2 ½ hrs

BUS: > LUX: Maybe not allowed; CONVOY don't stop

Upper EGY Bus Co: (LP314,) 1st leaves @ 6am stops 3 hrs

TOUR: ??? NOTE: Esna > Edfu: 25mi

EDUF: : (LP292m, 293 , DK204)

TEMPLE OF HORUS: (LP295m(site), 294-5;) most complete; Ptolemaic; reliefs;

TIK OFF > Mammisi: colorful carvings

Pylon: 2 STATS; Wall reliefs:

Court of Offerings: COLMS: different floral capitals, Walls reliefs

2 STATS: Outer hypostyle hall: 2 chambers (L & R),

Inner hypostyle hall: COLMS, Laboratory room:

Passage of Victory: 2 entries, ritual scenes, battle reliefs;

Offering chamber: (**back track**): altar; W side: [steps to roof](#) (**bakeesh**); **Sanctuary of Heroes:** polished granite shrine, smaller **shrines**; **Very Back:** repro of wooden barque

E enclosure wall: **Nilometer** (LP318)

TRANS:

TOUR or TAXI : BEST w/convoy from Aswan: **225 - 300 E£ ***

DAYT: LUX >Edufu & Kom Ombo<http://www.egypttourinfo.com>

Cruise: **STOP** (LP294, 83.) "all inclusive "accm, meals, entry fees, air-con

TRN: > LUX: difficult; allowed?; 2 & 3 class only, **DIRECS:** (LP296,)

ASWAN (N) > _ : STOPS for 2 hrs

BUS: > LUX: Upper EGY Bus Co: (LP314,) 1st leaves @ 6am stops 2 hrs

GEBEL SILSILA (S of EDUF, near Kom Ombo): **SEE Blog below** (LP292m, 296)

TRANS:

TOUR or TAXI : BEST w/ Aswan convoy: 225 - 300 E£ *

ONLY by felucca or dahabiyya from Aswan or Esna ???

If security Changes: taxi from Edfu S > Kajuj, hike 7/or boat

Cruise (LP294, 83.) **STOP? (doubtful)**

TRN: NO MENTION Doesn't STOP ???

BUS: NO MENTION Doesn't STOP ???

Luxor TAXI self-tour: Speos GOOG (shrine) of Horemheb: (2 women & driver)(1/2010); 8:00am Abdul's minibus to Gebel el-Silsila 'the Chain of Hills' cuz while no more convoy, need tourist police to travel outside Luxor; easy 4 driver to get 'pass'. By 18th D, traveller's custom of carving small shrines into cliffs dedicated > Nile & various Nile gods. Smaller shrines; by Tuthmose I, Hatshepsut and Tuthmose III, before Horemheb made this temple 19th D or later kings left their mark. Last 18th D king made rock carved hillside shrine. Chapel for Amun & others of Nile; very ancient, sandstone hills come down > water's edge where narrow Nile had series of rapids – a natural barrier between Elephantine (Aswan) & Edfu.

DIRECS: (on W bank) Past el-Kab.> Edfu, THEN crossed bridge > W bank, THRU busy town, THEN followed river S thru ag land (sugar cane & fruit trees). Once out of town, very rural. Narrow roads -- often dirt tracks, w/ scattered small mudbrick houses w/ kids & animals; THEN climb away from river > to barren rocky ; ancient sandstone quarry area. **AT SITE:** Parked, walk down a sandy track > modern, but neglected rest house & BOT TIK (25 EL.) Man pleased to see someone; A younger guard escorts > Speos of Horemheb a short distance along sandy track by river. **DESIGN:** long vaulted hall behind five doorways façade & smaller oblong chamber @ rear. All walls: reliefs/ inscriptions, some quite damaged, but others very fine high quality inscriptions; deities on walls; Amun-re, Sobek ia crocodile; ram-headed god Khnum of 1st Cataract, Tauret - hippopotamus; Cartouche reliefs: Horemheb, Rameses II, Merenptah, Rameses II; 2 most noted reliefs: Horemheb carried in portable chair during festival after his Nubian campaign, 2) relief list of Heb-sed festivals of Rameses II, **Back outside** : heat staggering, went further: guard pointed out many interesting rock shrines & funerary niches carved by New Kingdom officials. succumbed to heat, cud go no further. Guard pointed out track ahead that dropped steeply down thru flaky rocks hanging perilously close to water's edge - not much further. **also** very large rock w/ flight of stone steps going partly up face, but were gone on the other side. **FUTURE:** larger **east bank quarries**: quarried for Thebes monuments - left inscriptions. ALSO: large stele of Amenhotep IV (Akhenaten) recording that he had 'caused an obelisk for the Temple of the Sun at Karnak to be quarried there'. ALSO: prehistoric rock-engravings on E bank. But closed w/o special permission. At least I could see the quarries just across the river.

KOM OMBO TEMPLE (LP292m, 297m(site), DK205)

dual god dedication, TWIN entrances, hypostyle halls, sanctuaries, & 2 priesthoods: L side: Horus the Elder god; E side: Sobek, croc god; reused blocks

Enter SE: thru Ptolmiac Gateway:

Hathor Shrine: mummified crocs & coffins,

Mammisi: reliefs; **N beyond:** a Deep well; **near by** small pool

Temple forecourt: reliefs: DBL altar:

Shared Inner hypostyle halls: COLMS; reliefs: L & R, N wall reliefs: curved weapon, note: dual crowns

Shared outer hypostyle halls: COLMS;

3 antechambers: dual entrances:

Sanctuaries of Sobek & Haroeris: secret passage between

Outer corridor (around temple): puzzling scene;

TRANS:

TOUR (day trip) or TAXI : BEST w/ Aswan convoy: 225 - 300 E£ *

ONLY by **felucca** or dahabiyya from Aswan or Esna **???**

TAXI: If security Changes: Edfu S > Kajuj, hike &/or boat

Cruise (LP294, 83.) **STOP ???**

TRN: NO MENTION? Must pass: ASWAN (N) > _ : STOPS for 1 hr

BUS: > **LUX:** Upper EGY Bus Co: (LP314,) 1st DP @ 6am stops 1 hrs

NOTE: Eduf> Aswan: 50 mi

ASWAN: (LP302m, 304m, 299, DK209m,208-11)

4D

TRANS:

ASWAN Tourist Office: (LP304m, 301,) next to train STA

AIR: ASWAN > LUX: daily, E£130, ½ hr, 1 way, **LUX > ASWAN:** E£127 1w

TRN: Buy TIK on train: LUX > ASWAN: ASWAN > LUX

BUS: hassel

CRUISE: (LP78-92,)

TOWN & EAST Bank: (LP302m, 299, DK208m,208-1)

1.25D

Corniche walking: 2h

Sharia as-Souq (DK208) 3h

Nubia MUS: (LP302M, 302,) 2h

Lake Nassar destroyed Nubian culture

Main Hall highlights: 6000 yr pots, horse amour, irrigation, Nubian home model,

MUS Garden: reconstructed Nubian house, small cave of pertoglyphs

Unfinished Obelisk: (LP303,) 3h

(N quarries) (**DIRECS:** walk thru **Fatimid CEM DIRECS@LP304,**) on entering the quarry, steps lead down from the surrounding ramp into the pit of the obelisk where there are ancient pictographs of dolphins and ostriches or flamingos, thought to have been painted by workers at the quarry.

Aga Khan MAUS: (LP307, DK210)

Kitchner Island: (LP307, DK210) botanical garden – lovely stroll

Elephantine Island: (LP305, DK209)

(5.5h)

5D

Aswan MUS (S end: 8am): (LP305, DK209) 1h

MAIN Room: dusty

R> room w: sarcophagus, ram mummy

Modern ANNEX: (delightful): weapns, mummies, etc.

Ancient Abu ruins (thru gardens>): (LP305,) 1.5h

1) Khnum TOMB, **2)** step ▲, **3)** Ptolemaic chapel, **4)** Hatshepsut TOMB; **5)** sacred rams CEM;

Aramaic Jewish colony

Nileometer (LP306, DK209): wall niches, Roman name carvings L wall as U descend Siou >

Koti walk: (LP302m 27B3) Nubian Café; Nubian House (tea)

WEST Bank:

1D

Kubbet al-Hawa: (LP304m 18A1, 308,): small TOMB; great VIEWS

.75h

Tombs of the Nobles: (6) (LP304m 19A1, 307; DK211)

3h

DIRECS: N public ferry (LP304m,) take stairs

Mekhu & Sabni (original colors)(25 & 26): reliefs,

Sarenpu II (31): most beautiful & preserved; pillars, corridor w/STAT niches; Burial Chamber: COLMS, wal panting niche

Harkhuf (34): expeditions * pygmy hieroglyphics,

Hekaib (Pepinakht) (35): reliefs

Sarenput I (36): pillars, reliefs

NO Western Quarry: (LP308,)

Feluca ride: ask hotel for best capt. **early evening**

4h

S of Aswan: (LP315, DK211) **Tour**

1D

Aswan Dam: included w/ all road trips to Abu Simbel

Seheyl Island: inscription cliff: famine stele, friendly Nubian village, some for lunch, etc.

Philae (Agilkia Island) (LP316, DK212)

DIREC: TAXI or Aswan Tour (Maybe BEST) > local boat @ Shellal

Kiosk of Nectanebo base

Outer temple court: COLM,

Temple of Isis:

Central Court: mammisi,

2nd pylon:

Hypostyle hall: COLM capitals;

3 vestibules

Inner sanctuary of Isis: 2 granite shrines (1 base only),

Osiris Chapel: closed ???

N island TIP:

Temple of Augustus

Gate of Diocletian

Temple of Hathor

Kiosk of Trajan

High Dam: (LP292m, 317, DK211) part of S tours

Kalabsha (DK213) , Beit al-Wali, Kertassi Temples (relocated) TOUR $\frac{3}{4}$ D

Temple of Kalabsha: near High Dam

Lake Nassar >Abus Simbel (> Aswan): (LP319m, 318-322)

1D

TRANS:

TOUR: Many DAYT; leaving Aswan early: 4am, approx. LE 55 (£5 or \$9). **Stops: ???**

Temple of Wadi As-Sebua: (LP322, DK213)

Temple of Amada: (LP323, DK213)

Qasr Ibrim: (LP323,DK213)

Tour 3 ½ -4 hr s) supplied breakfast box???

CRUISE:

???

“all inclusive “accm, meals, entry fees, air-con

BUS: (no train) 275 km). DP: Aswan: 07:00; ARV: Abu Simbel: 10:00.

DP Abu Simbel: 13:00 ARV back: Aswan: 16:00.

Abu Simbel: USE DK (LP325m(site), 323, DK214-5m(site))

Also: raised 300'; back drop Mt.: re-created; 2 cults: Ra & Ba (sic)

GREAT TEMPLE of RAMSES II: (LP325m(site), 323)

Forecourt

Terrace

Entrance: 4 colossal RAMSES II STATS

Ra-Horakhty

Nefertari & mom Queen Tuya & kids

Great Hypostyle Hall:

Roof: Vultures

8 COLMS

Wall Reliefs:

N Wall: Kadesh

Vestibule (Next Hall): 4 COLMs

Temple ALIGNMENT: RAM & deities except Ptah

TEMPLE of HATHOR: (LP325)

Façade STATS: Nefertari's = height

Hypostyle hall: bovine shaped COLMs

Wall decorations: Nefertari is =

Sanctuary: w/ sacred cow emerging from rock

Aswan (2nd Stay):

3D

IDEALLY: Cruise > Luxor:

Aswan>CAI:

1D

CAI > Tucson: FRI 11-Mar, 2011 DP: 9:45am

Ticket Number: 0018621030674-675

Airline record locator:	Amer Air	CBUGBS	800-433-7300
	BMI	3Z25C6	800-788-0555
	Egyptair	3Z25C6	800-334-6787

Orbitz record locator: **AP110101MY55XZUU Orbitz gmaile1**

Egyptair:

SERVICE	DATE	FROM	TO	DEPART	ARRIVE	DURATION
EGYair 0777	11Mar FRI	CAI > LHR	9:45am (0950)	1:05pm (1305)	5h 20m	
Terminal _____				Seat: 22A		
Change at counter						
Time between flights: 1h 10m						
AA 0047	11Mar FRI	LHR > ORD	2:15pm (1415)	4:50pm (1650)	8h 35m	
Terminal _____				Seat: 38J		
Time between flights: 2hr 25m						
AA 1521	11Mar FRI	ORD > TUS	7:15pm (1915)	10:00pm (2200)	3h 45m	
Terminal _____				TOT DUR: 21h 15m		Seat: 30F
ARV: Sat 12Mar						

XXXXXXXXXXXXX --- MISC STUFF --- XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Nubia : El-Kurru, Nuri & Meroe

Kingdom of Kush: Gebel Barku (sic) Ruled for 50 yr, built 200 ▲, **steeper, smaller and flat topped; buried undeerrond w/ ▲ over hem.**

Mer-o- whey (sic-phonetic)

Western Deserts: LP327 ([ITIN info LP26](#))

Weather: BEST: Jan

Restricted Areas:

Travelers to Egypt's frontiers, including the borders with Libya, Sudan, and Israel and parts of the Sinai off the main, paved roads, must obtain permission from the Travel Permits Department of the Ministry of the Interior, located at the corner of Sheikh Rihan and Nubar Streets in downtown Cairo. Reports indicate that the security situation in the northern Sinai area, which is generally defined as the area north of the Cairo-Nekhl-Taba road, remains difficult due to the continuing potential for violence. Travelers should be aware of the possible dangers of off-road travel. In 2008 a group of 11 foreigners was kidnapped for ransom while on an unregistered safari.

Egyptian Ministry of Tourism

Sept 2008, 11 foreign tourists and eight Egyptians were kidnapped for ransom in the remote south-western desert region, close to the Sudanese border. Tourists should avoid travel to the border region.

