

Isis and Osiris

A Trip to the Afterworld, Ancient and Modern Egypt

A Client Travel Report By Lyn Grant

He called our group Isis – which means protector and giver of life, full of love and warmth and honesty. I called him Osiris-“God King and man, king of immense goodness and wisdom”.

And so Osiris led us on a journey into the afterworld- a journey of the gods in the form of ancient archaeology in tombs and temples, statues; carvings, museums; pyramids and obelisks- all seen along the Upper and Lower Nile. A journey showing evidence of an ancient people filled with belief, dedication; perseverance and immense skill. And who better to take us on that journey than a real Egyptologist!

Egypt – a land of great diversity

Osiris took us on a journey of modern civilization. Egypt is a land of a many and diverse people; a land of hagglers and bargainers, many who had a sense of “camaraderie” and interest in “foreigners”. It’s also a place where the children ride in trucks peddling their wares as you touch down in balloons, where you are greeted in Aswan by peddlers in rowing boats and there is “salesman” on every corner. However, it’s also a land of quietly spoken Nubian people, who have a love of their craft; are creative and great lovers of colour. In Egypt you’ll also find many religions, and a people who are willing to talk and share not only their civilizations and families but also their beliefs. And modern Egypt is fascinating in its “unfinishedness”- homes shared by extended families with incredible plumbing and electrics, homes built around family; homes with farm animals living on the roofs a block away from the most exclusive hotels.

We also experienced modern Egypt in the form of the El Alamein War Museum and the burial ground to commemorate the soldiers who fought “a war of love not hate” in World War II. This was the Aussie way of remembering men who had given [their](#) lives for love of their country and families before their trip to the afterworld.

Our journey through Egypt

What a journey it was, as we travelled by plane; bus, overnight sleeper train; camel, felucca sail boat; motorboat, Nile cruise; balloon and calleches. To really understand a people it helps to use their transport. Nothing can compare to a camel ride around the Great Pyramids of Giza, or a hot air balloon flight at sunrise over Luxor.

A feast for the senses

Our journey through Egypt was also a real feast for the senses; seeing, hearing; smelling, tasting and touching, a journey of “being” and “doing”. As we returned home we took a little of Egypt with us. Certainly it was in the form of increased knowledge and understanding and of visual pictures implanted in our brains forever; a love and warmth for the people of Egypt and especially the people we had shared our journey with.



James at the Sphinx



Visiting the Nubian village



Sunrise on the Nile



Having fun Egyptian style



El Alamein