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VIKING ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL SAILINGS IN EGYPT

Strong Demand Leads to Release of Additional 2024 Departure Dates on Viking's Newest Nile River Ship

LOS ANGELES, June 1, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- Viking® (www.viking.com) today announced voyages on its newest Nile River ship, the [Viking Hathor](#), are now available for booking. Set to debut in 2024, the *Viking Hathor* will join the company's growing fleet of purpose-built ships on the Nile River, which sail the popular 12-day [Pharaohs & Pyramids](#) itinerary. Demand in Egypt remains strong, with Viking's 2023 season sold out and some sailings into 2025 already selling out.



"Egypt continues to be one of our most popular destinations," said Torstein Hagen, Chairman of Viking. "As a country rich with history and culture, we are pleased to bring the Viking way of exploration to Egypt for our guests. With the addition of the *Viking Aton* this summer and the *Viking Hathor* next summer, we are looking forward to meeting the growing demand in the region."

The news follows recent accolades for Viking's river fleet in Egypt. In its first year of sailing, the *Viking Hathor's* identical sister ship, the [Viking Osiris](#), was named as one of the "Best New Cruises" in *Conde Nast Traveler's* "2023 Hot List." Additionally, *TIME* magazine featured both Giza and Saqqara on its "World's Greatest Places of 2023" list, recommending sailing the Nile River with Viking. *TIME* notes that Viking is among the very few who stop in both Giza and the village of Saqqara, where excavation sites, like the megatombs of animal

and human mummies, are active.

The *Viking Hathor* & Viking's Growing Egypt Fleet

Hosting 82 guests in 41 staterooms, the new, state-of-the-art [Viking Hathor](#) is inspired by Viking's award-winning river and ocean ships with the elegant Scandinavian design for which Viking is known. The *Viking Hathor* is the identical sister ship to the [Viking Aton](#), which debuts in August 2023, and the [Viking Osiris](#), which was named in 2022 by Viking's first ceremonial godfather, the 8th Earl of Carnarvon. The sister ships feature several aspects familiar to Viking guests, such as a distinctive square bow and an indoor/outdoor Aquavit Terrace. In addition to the *Viking Aton* and the *Viking Osiris*, the *Viking Hathor* will join the other ships in the Egypt fleet, the [Viking Ra](#) and the [MS Antares](#). In response to strong demand, Viking will have six ships sailing the Nile by 2025 with the addition of a new sister ship, the *Viking Sobek*, which is also under construction and will be delivered in 2025.

Viking's *Pharaohs & Pyramids* Itinerary

During the 12-day [Pharaohs & Pyramids](#) itinerary, guests begin with a three-night stay at a first-class hotel in Cairo, where they can visit iconic sites such as the Great Pyramids of Giza, the necropolis of Saqqara (also known as "Sakkara") and the Mosque of Muhammad Ali. Guests then fly to Luxor, where they visit the Temples of Luxor and Karnak before boarding a Viking river ship for an eight-day roundtrip cruise on the Nile River, featuring Privileged Access to the tomb of Nefertari in the Valley of the Queens and the tomb of Tutankhamen in the Valley of the Kings, and excursions to the Temple of Khnum in Esna, the Dendera Temple complex in Qena, the temples at Abu Simbel and the High Dam in Aswan, and a visit to a colorful Nubian village, where guests can experience a traditional elementary school. Finally, the journey concludes with a flight back to Cairo for a final night in the ancient city.

For guests looking to extend their journey, Viking also offers Pre and Post Extensions that provide Privileged Access to archives and exhibits. Guests on the five-day [British Collections of Ancient Egypt](#) extension will begin the journey in London, where they will meet their Viking Tour Director, an expert Egyptologist, and experience Privileged Access to two museums: first a private, early morning visit to the Egyptian Collection at the British Museum before it opens to the general public – and then a visit to the home and personal museum of world-renowned architect, Sir John Soane, where the tour will be illuminated by candlelight, a re-enactment of how Soane entertained guests and showcased his exquisite collection of Egyptian antiquities, including a 3,000-year-old Egyptian sarcophagus. Guests will also visit London's Petrie Museum, which houses more than 80,000 artifacts from ancient Egypt and Sudan. In Oxford, guests will visit the Ashmolean Museum, one of the oldest in the world, and home to a varied collection of Egyptian mummies and art—and go behind the scenes at Oxford University's Griffith Institute, where they will enjoy a Privileged Access visit to see Howard Carter's archives, which detail the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. Lastly, guests will have further Privileged Access with an exclusive visit to Highclere Castle to view the Earl's magnificent private collection of Egyptian artifacts, as well as archives and exhibits not normally accessible to the public.

Additional offerings include a new three-night Pre-Extension in [Istanbul](#), where guests can visit the timeless city and important religious sites including the "Blue Mosque" and the legendary Hagia Sophia. Before their voyage, guests can also choose to extend their

journey in [Jerusalem](#), exploring the ancient history and vibrant culture of Israel's fascinating capital. After concluding the river voyage, guests can also extend the journey with a 4-night Post-Extension to [Jordan – Petra, Dead Sea & Amman](#) to view Roman antiquities at Jerash, Crusader-era castles at Kerak or Shobak and experience the lost city of Petra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Media Assets

For more information about Viking, or for images and b-roll, please contact vikingpr@edelman.com.

About Viking

Viking was founded in 1997 and provides destination-focused journeys on rivers, oceans and lakes around the world. Designed for experienced travelers with interests in science, history, culture and cuisine, Chairman Torstein Hagen often says Viking offers experiences for The Thinking Person™. Viking has more than 250 awards to its name, including being the first cruise line to ever be named both the #1 Ocean Line and the #1 River Line in a single year in *Travel + Leisure's* 2022 "World's Best" Awards. Viking has also been rated the #1 River Line and #1 Ocean Line by *Condé Nast Traveler* in the publication's 2022 and 2021 Readers' Choice Awards. For additional information, contact Viking at 1-800-2-VIKING (1-800-284-5464) or visit www.viking.com. For Viking's award-winning enrichment channel, visit www.viking.tv.

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