

JOHNSON
Cornell University
The Middle Eastern Club

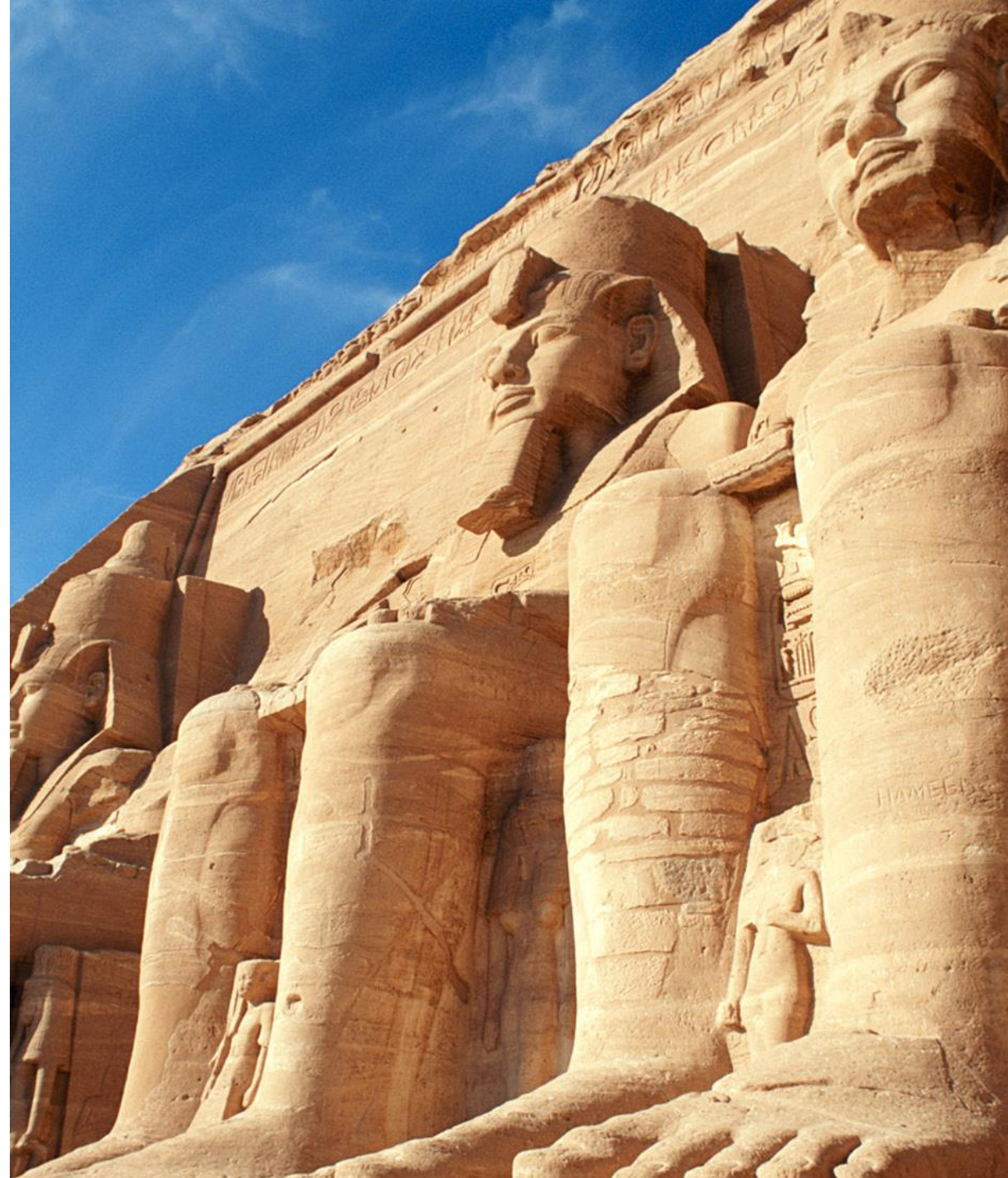


Egypt Trek

Information Session 1

Agenda

- Country Overview
- Trek Overview
- Trek Itinerary and Cost



Egypt - Country Overview



Population: 86.9 million (est. 2014) – Largest Arabic Speaking Country

Languages: Arabic (official), English (2nd)

Capital: Cairo

Population: 20.4 million (Greater Cairo) – Largest Metro Area in Africa

Geography: Bordering the Red Sea and the Mediterranean sea
Final destination of the Nile River

Currency: Egyptian Pound
USD 1.00 ≈ EGP 7.00

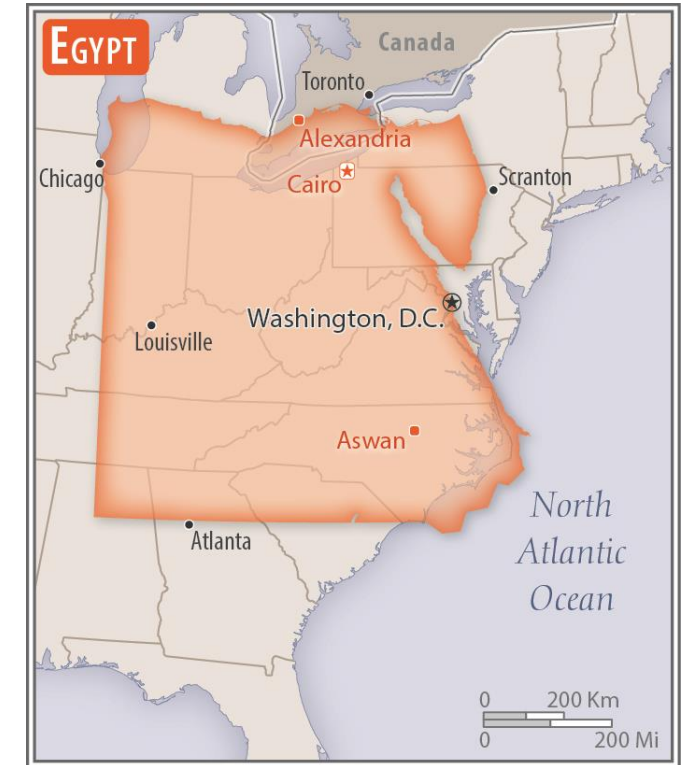
Big Mac Index:
(January 2014 data)
USA Big Mac ≈ USD 5.00
Egypt Big Mac ≈ USD 2.43

Public Transportation:

Difficult for non-Arabic speakers to navigate due to lack of English signage and instructions

Taxis: Taxis are metered, very cheap, and can be easily used by non-locals

Tap Water: Tap water is safe to drink, but elevated chlorination levels can upset stomachs of non-residents. Bottled water is readily available and cheap



Egypt – Political and Economic Overview



Arab Spring Highlights from an Egyptian Perspective:

- January 25th, 2011: Demonstrations begin in Egypt
- February 18th, 2011: Hosni Mubarak steps down
- June 6th, 2012: Mohamed Morsi becomes president
- June 6th, 2013: Mohamed Morsi removed as president
- June 3rd, 2014: Abdel-Fatah Al-Sisi becomes president

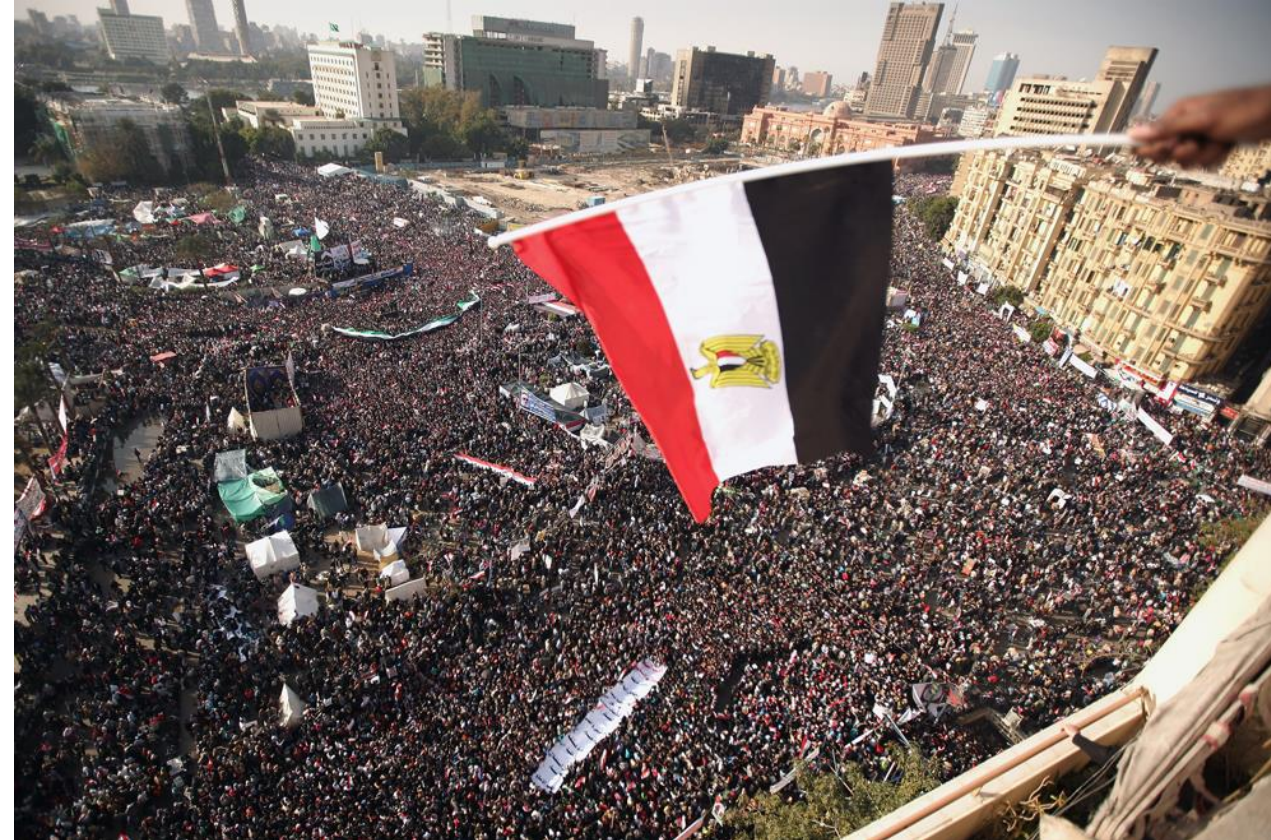
The New National Project:

Sisi announces revival of plans to expand the Suez canal

Project is expected to more-than-double income to Egypt from the canal to over USD 13 billion annually, while costing around USD 8.5 billion

Security: There are currently no travel alerts or warnings posted by the US State Department for travel to Egypt. [Click here for more information from the State Department's website.](#)

Currency: The Egyptian Pound has depreciated in value from USD 1.00 ≈ EGP 5.50 to its current level at USD 1.00 ≈ EGP 7.00 during the course of the political turmoil over the past 3 years



Egypt Trek - Overview



Trek Highlights:

- **Cairo – the Capital for around 5,000 years**
 - **Visit the Pyramids of Giza.** Of the original Seven Wonders of the World, only one – the Great Pyramid of Giza, the oldest of the ancient wonders – remains intact. Camels and horses are available to take for a ride around the Pyramids.
 - **Visit the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities**, which houses over 120,000 Ancient Egyptian artifacts, including the Gold Mask of King Tut
 - **Visit the Khan El Khalili pedestrian area** – an old part of the city originally developed in the 1300s, with numerous souvenir shops selling mainly papyrus and jewelry for tourists, along with a large number of small coffee shops, some dating back to the 1700s.
 - **Sample a number of Egyptian and international restaurants** in premium locations overlooking the Nile
 - **Party on a private boat** as we cruise along the Nile inside Cairo
- **Luxor – The World's Greatest Open Air Museum**
 - In Luxor (ancient Thebes) there are six great temples, the four on the west bank of the Nile are known as Goornah, Deir-el-Bahri, the Ramesseum, and Medinet Habu; and the two temples on the east bank of the Nile are known as the Karnak and Luxor temples
 - **Visit the Luxor Temple Complex** – founded in 1400 BC, with an English speaking tour guide
 - **Visit the Karnak Temple Complex** – founded in 3200 BC, it is the second largest ancient religious site in the world, with an English speaking tour guide
 - **Go for a ride in a hot-air balloon** over the temples in Luxor
- **Hurghada – Underwater haven**
 - Enjoy the sun and beach in December with temperatures hovering around 70 degrees
 - **Take a day trip out to Giftun Island**, 45 minutes by boat from Hurghada. While there, take a boat trip to surrounding coral reefs and go snorkeling or diving (all snorkeling equipment will be provided)
 - **Sample fresh Egyptian and international seafood**
 - **Enjoy the beach nightlife at Hurghada**, one of the original party destinations in Egypt
 - **Get a tan before you go back for Christmas!**

Egypt Trek – Just Scratching the Surface



DID YOU KNOW:

The Great Pyramid's north-south axis is aligned to within 0.05 degrees of **true** north-south

The Meridian Building at the Greenwich Observatory in London deviates from **true** north by 0.15 degrees

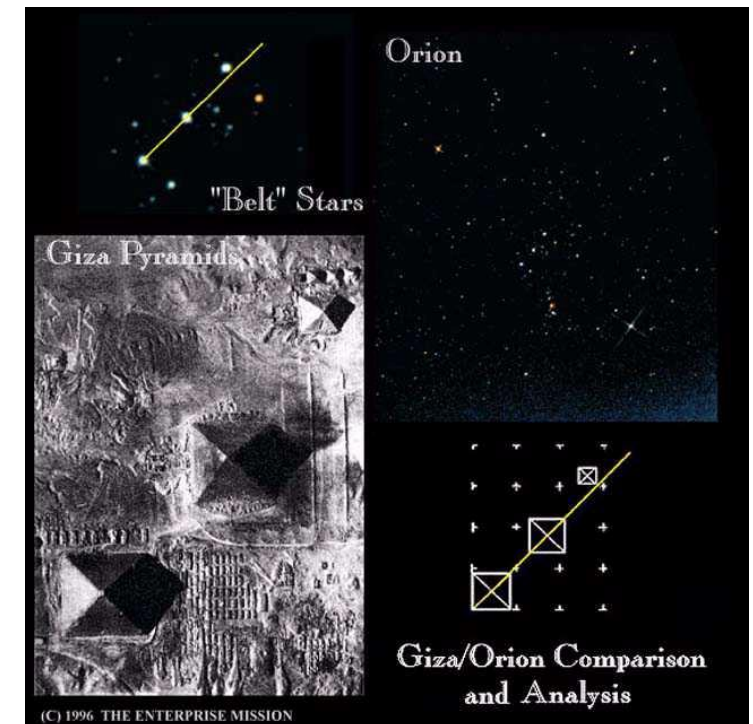
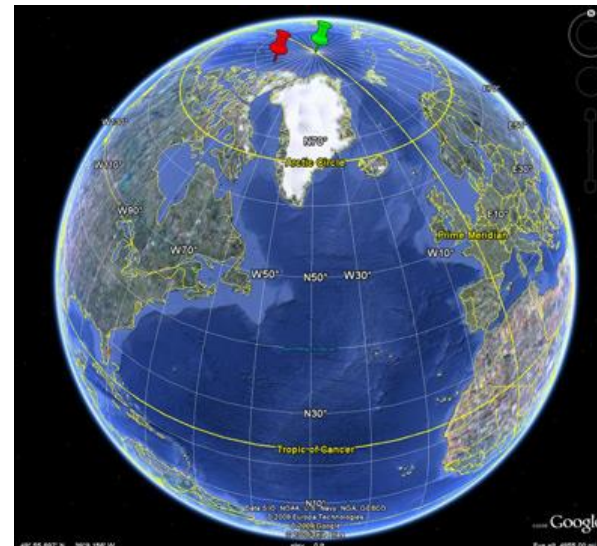
The establishment and understanding of **true** north would only come after Columbus discovers the new world and we realize the world isn't flat



Orion Correlation Theory

The stars of the Orion belt were associated with Osiris, the god of rebirth and afterlife, by the ancient Egyptians

The alignment of the three main stars on the Orion belt at the time of design (12,500BC to 8,000BC) was mimicked by the alignment of the three pyramids – effectively placing a universal time-stamp on the design



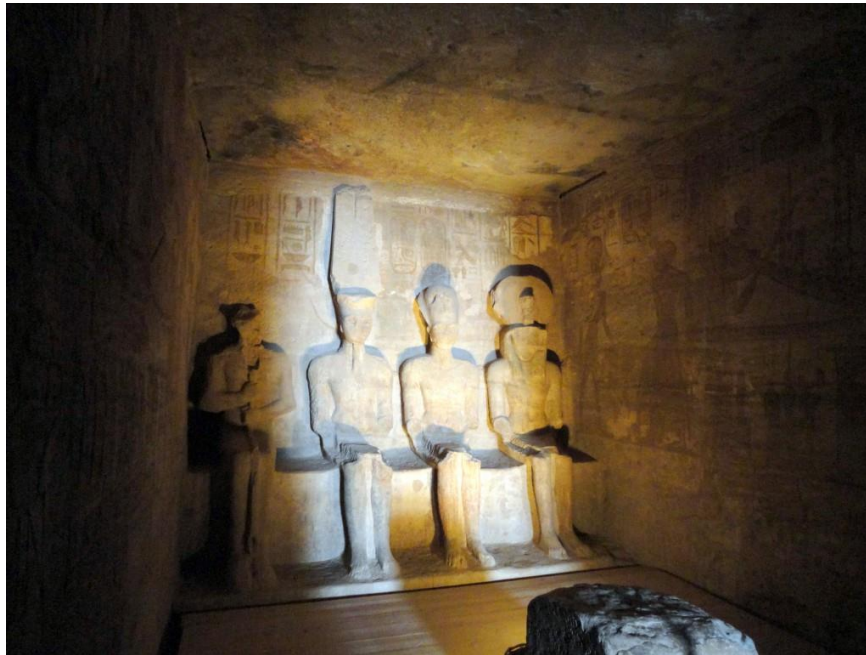
Egypt Trek – Just Scratching the Surface



DID YOU KNOW:

The Abu Simbel Temple

Ramses II had his temple carved out of a mountainside, but he had it done in such a way that – on the days of his coronation and his birthday respectively – the rays of the rising sun beamed directly into the inner sanctum, illuminating the statues within



Egypt Trek – Itinerary



Johnson's Egypt Trek

Dec 15 – Dec 22, 2014

Preliminary Trip Itinerary

Mon, Dec 15



Initial Departure

Departure to Cairo International Airport (CAI)

NOTE:

This flight is not included within the final estimate

Tue, Dec 16

Cairo, Egypt – Avg: Hi 66°F / Lo 50°F



Arrival

Arrival at Cairo International Airport (CAI)

NOTE:

This flight is not included within the final estimate

- Meet-and-assist at Cairo International Airport
- Transportation provided to hotel



Hotel Check-in

Check-in at Cairo Marriott Hotel or similar (5★)

Wed, Dec 17

Cairo, Egypt – Avg: Hi 66°F / Lo 50°F



Planned Activities

Visit the Great Pyramids of Giza, the Egyptian Museum, and the Khan El Khalili district

NOTE:

- Breakfast included at hotel
- Complimentary lunch provided by Travel Agency



**Brief Reception
(UNCONFIRMED)**

Brief Reception with Egyptian Prime Minister

NOTE:

- This event has not yet been confirmed

Thurs, Dec 18

Luxor, Egypt – Avg: Hi 73°F / Lo 45°F



Domestic Flight

Early morning transfer to Cairo International Airport, flight to Luxor International Airport

NOTE:

- Breakfast included at hotel
- Transportation provided from hotel
- Meet-and-assist at Cairo International Airport



Hotel Check-in

Check-in at Eatabe Hotel or similar (4★)

NOTE:

- Dinner included at hotel



Planned Activities

Day tour: Begin by visiting the Luxor and Karnak Temples, followed by the Colossi of Mennon, Deir Al Bahari, and The Valley of Kings

NOTE:

- Air-conditioned transportation provided
- English-speaking tour guide provided

Fri, Dec 19

Luxor, Egypt – Avg: Hi 73°F / Lo 45°F



**Planned Activities
(OPTIONAL)**

Hot Air Balloon-ing over Luxor Temples

NOTE:

*This activity is optional and is not included in the final estimate
Estimated at \$100 per person*

- Breakfast included at hotel



Bus Transfer

Transfer to Hurghada

NOTE:

- Trip duration is about 3 hours



Hotel Check-in

Check-in at Mercure Hotel or similar (4★)

NOTE:

- Dinner included at hotel

Egypt Trek – Preliminary Itinerary



**The Pyramids
of Giza**





Luxor Temple Complex



Luxor Temple Complex





Karnak Temple Complex



Karnak Temple Complex

Karnak Temple Complex





Karnak Temple Complex



Egypt Trek – Preliminary Itinerary



Sat, Dec 20 Hurghada, Egypt – Avg: Hi 72°F / Lo 54°F



Planned Activities

Day trip to 'Mahmeya' at the National Park on Giftun Island

NOTE:

- Snorkeling activities included, gear will be provided along with boat trips from the island to the surrounding coral reefs
- Lunch will be provided on the island
- Breakfast and dinner included at hotel

Rate Per Person
(Excluding domestic flights)

USD 800

Domestic Flights
(CAI-LUX; HRG-CAI)

USD 300

Total Rate Per Person

USD 1,100

Sun, Dec 21 Cairo, Egypt – Avg: Hi 66°F / Lo 50°F



Domestic Flight

Morning transfer to Hurghada International Airport for flight to Cairo International Airport

NOTE:

- Breakfast included at hotel
- Trip duration is about 50 minutes



Hotel Check-in

Check-in at Cairo Marriott Hotel or similar (5★)



Planned Activities (UNCONFIRMED)

Private Nile Boat Party

NOTE:

- Refreshments and beer will be provided

Please Note:

The final rate per person does not include the following items

Exclusions

- International airfare
- Entry Visa (\$25) and medical insurance
- Any additional or optional activities and tours that may be available upon request

Mon, Dec 22 Cairo, Egypt – Avg: Hi 66°F / Lo 50°F



Final Departure

Final Departure from Cairo International Airport

NOTE:

This flight is not included within the final estimate



Giftun Island
[Click here to explore the island through a 360° tour online.](#)

Egypt Trek



Thank you!
We look forward to having you on-board!

Egypt Trek



Downtown Cairo

Egypt Trek



Temple Complex of Karnak
Cornell University Library
1914



Egypt Trek



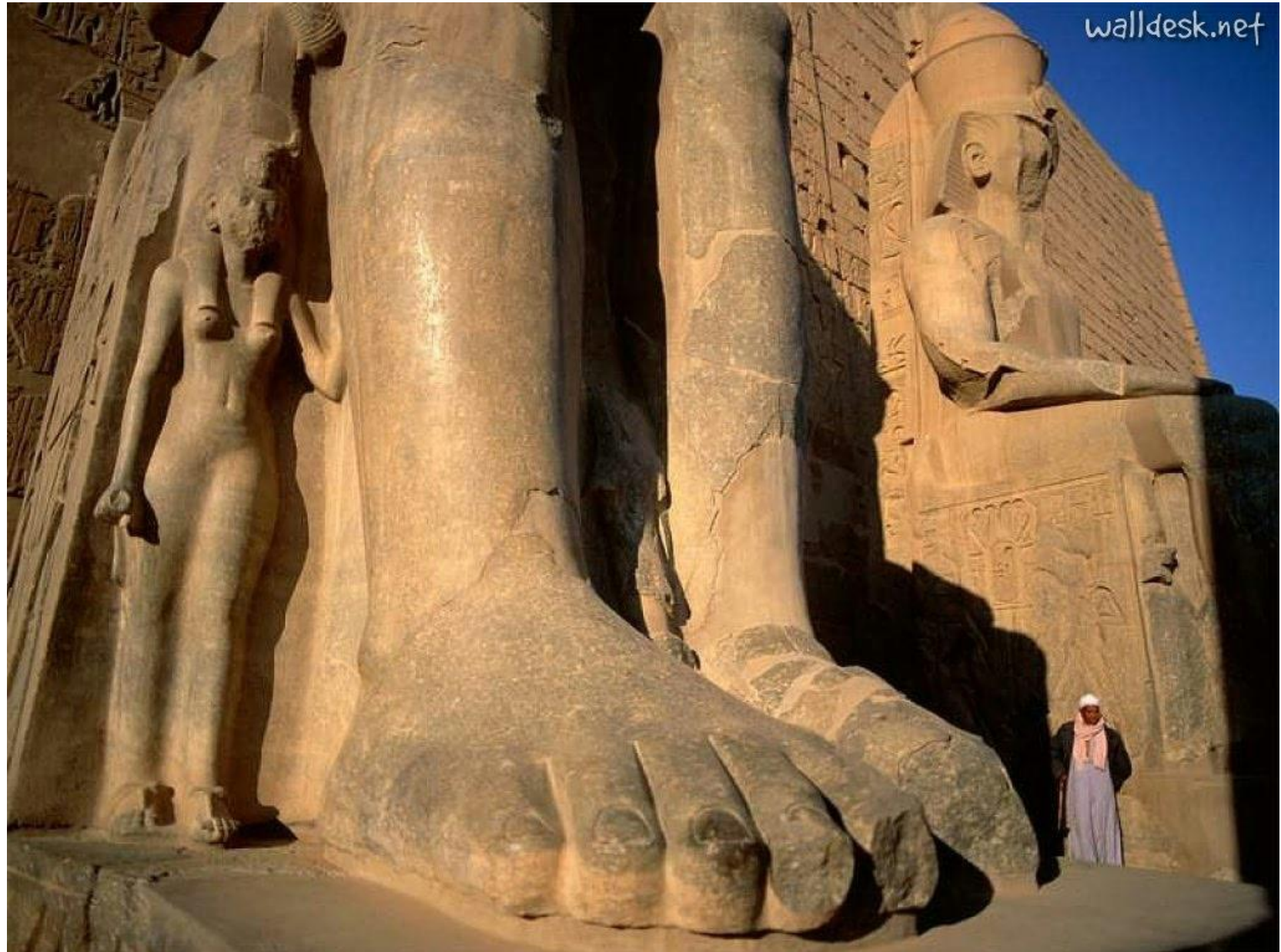
Temple of Hatshepsut



Egypt Trek



walldesk.net



Karnak Temple Complex