Site Visit Notes

Oct 18, Wednesday, Day 2 - Nilometer + Prince Mohamad Ali Palace (1:30-5pm)

Nilometer: Explore an ancient instrument used to measure the Nile's water levels, crucial for predicting famine or floods. Nilometers have been in use for 5,000 years, and you can witness how they worked.

Prince Mohamed Ali Palace: Visit this historic museum, showcasing a pivotal period in Egypt's modern history. The architecture beautifully combines Islamic, Persian, Mamluk, Syrian, Moroccan, Andalusian, and Ottoman influences.

Oct 19, Thursday, Day 3 - Old Cairo (1:30-7:00pm)

Old Cairo District
Once a landfill, Old Cairo has transformed into a significant part of the city, featuring archaeological sites such as the Synagogue of Ben E'zra, multiple ancient churches, the Mosque of ‘Amr ibn al-‘As, and excavated remains of the old city. This area predates the founding of Cairo in 969 AD and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Suspended Church: Visit the unique Hanging Church, constructed atop the Roman Fortress with a wooden roof designed like Noah's ark. It served as the residence of the Coptic Patriarch from the 7th to the 13th century, showcasing remarkable architecture and religious history.

San Serio Church: Explore the Church of Saint Sergius and Bacchus (Abu Serga), built on an ancient Roman fort. Its historical dating is debated, but it holds special significance as part of the Holy Family's journey through Egypt.

Amr Ibn Ass Mosque: Discover the first mosque built in Egypt and Africa, once the fourth largest mosque in the Islamic world. It remains an active mosque with a devout congregation.

5:00-7:00pm Museum of Civilization:
Visit Egypt's first museum of its kind, displaying the rich diversity of Egyptian civilization from prehistoric times to the present. The collection includes royal mummies and over 50,000 objects, organized chronologically and thematically.