

The Funeral of Tutankhamun on View at Metropolitan Museum

In 1908, while excavating in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt, American archaeologist Theodore Davis discovered about a dozen large storage jars. Their contents included broken pottery, bags of natron (a mixture of sodium carbonate, sodium bicarbonate, sodium sulphate, and sodium chloride that occurs naturally in Egypt), bags of sawdust, floral collars, and pieces of linen with markings from years 6 and 8 during the reign of a then little-known pharaoh named Tutankhamun. The Metropolitan Museum of Art was given six of the vessels and a good part of their contents in 1909.

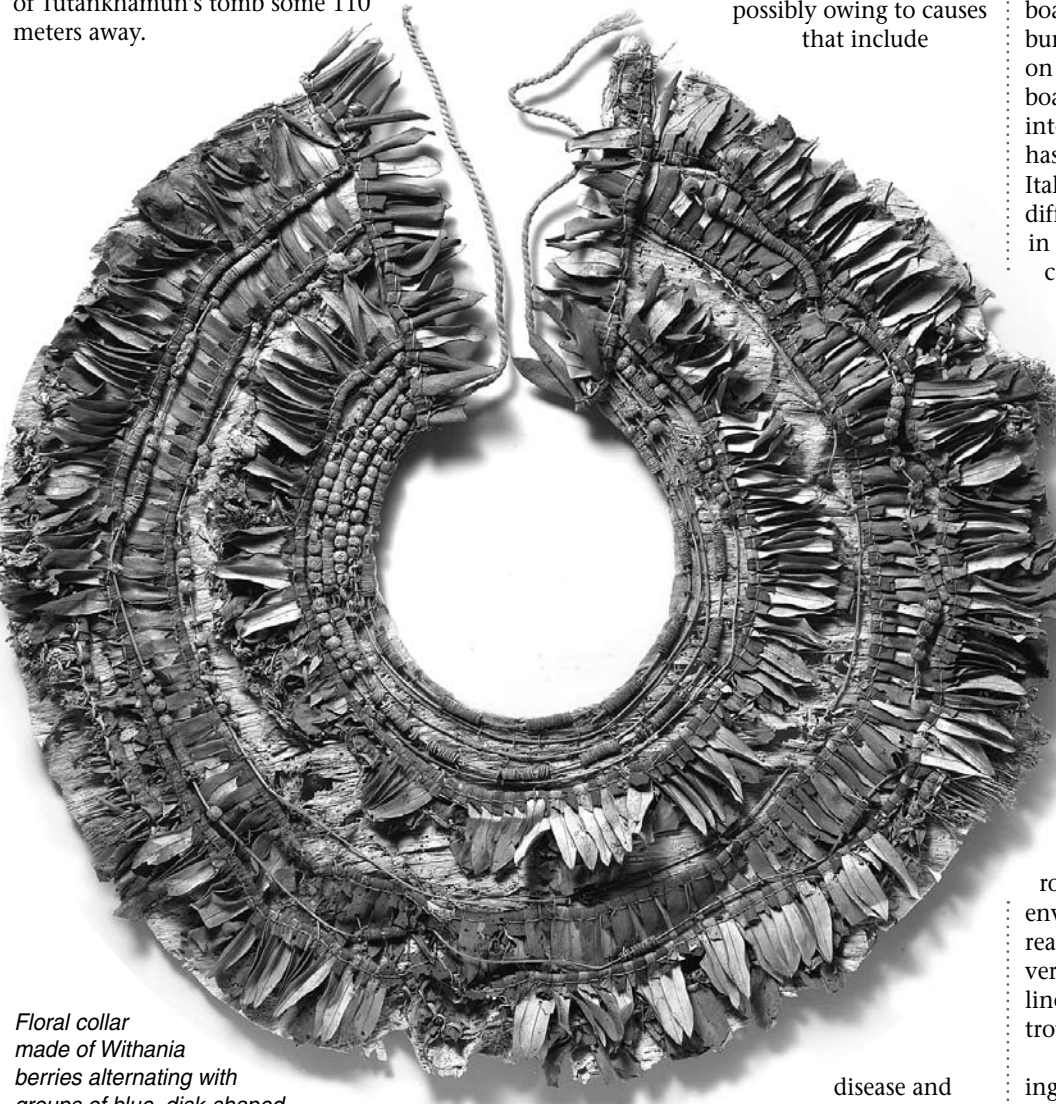
In time, Herbert Winlock, curator and field director of the Metropolitan's Egyptian excavations and in the 1930s Director of the Museum, came to realize that the natron and linen were the embalming refuse from the mummification of Tutankhamun. He also suggested that the animal bones, pottery, and collars might have come from a funeral meal. Winlock's analysis was an important clue that led to Howard Carter's 1922 discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb some 110 meters away.

Tutankhamun on view to January 2, 2011 at Discovery Times Square Exposition.

The exhibition will feature jars, lids, bowls, floral collars, linen sheets, and bandages that were used at the pharaoh's mummification and the rites associated with his burial. Related objects will also be shown. These include a sculpted head of the youthful Tutankhamun and several facsimile paintings depicting funerary rituals. Archival photographs from the early 20th century by Harry Burton, the Museum's expedition photographer, will provide an evocative background.

Although few facts are known about the brief life of Tutankhamun (reign c. 1336-1327 B.C.), scholars studying the funerary cache have been able to reconstruct details of his death and burial. For example, botanical analysis of the well preserved, more than 3,000-year-old floral collars indicates that the plants they contain flower in Egypt between late February and mid-March. Since the complex process of mummification took about 70 days, it is now believed that Tutankhamun probably died in December or January.

Often called the "boy-king," Tutankhamun was about nine years old when he ascended the throne of ancient Egypt; he died approximately nine years later, possibly owing to causes that include



Floral collar made of *Withania* berries alternating with groups of blue, disk-shaped faience beads on a strip of palm leaf. Other rows include olive leaves and other plant material. The floral collar was used at the pharaoh's mummification and the rites associated with his burial.

The exhibition Tutankhamun's Funeral explores the materials and rituals associated with the burial of the pharaoh. The presentation will include some 60 objects, primarily from the Metropolitan's own collection. It runs to September 6, 2010.

This installation complements a major exhibition of treasures from the tomb of

disease and a broken bone.

His death may have been unexpected, so that his own tomb was still unfinished; the rather small tomb in which he was actually buried had been started for another person, not for a king.

Eventually, workmen's huts completely hid the entrance to the tomb, and its location was forgotten. The discovery of the storage vessels and the accurate identification of their contents were instrumental in leading Howard Carter to his great discovery.

The exhibition will be featured on the website of the Metropolitan Museum (www.metmuseum.org).



Sea Sense Expands to Ireland's Shannon River

Sea Sense has been offering sailing and powerboating instruction primarily to women boaters since 1989. Based out of St. Petersburg, the school offers classes worldwide on charter boats as well as privately owned boats. Early on, the company integrated international offerings into its courses and has taught throughout the Caribbean and in Italy, Greece, France, and Tahiti. Each year a different international course is offered and in 2010, Sea Sense will teach an all-women course on board a modern, 48-foot canal barge in Ireland along the Shannon River from September 11-18.

The boat for the course can accommodate a total of six students. Capts. Patti Moore and Carol Cuddyer, Sea Sense founders, will be the instructors for the seven-day adventure and the itinerary includes free time for individual exploration of the area. The route will begin in Shannon, Ireland, and meander through the intrinsically Irish countryside that is home to ancient Celtic monasteries. Each evening will be spent tied along the canal in picturesque village ports.

Canal cruising is a unique way to see the Irish countryside, but is also an ideal learning opportunity for women to experience boat handling, navigation, and routine boat maintenance in a controlled environment. The course will focus on chart reading, helmsmanship, hands-on maneuvering and docking, knot tying and proper line handling, and basic engine checks and troubleshooting.

Capt. Patti Moore says of canal cruising, "Rivers and canals provide a protected environment in which women can learn while doing. The international charters are great because everyone is in a new area and can focus on learning and working together, all while cruising in an absolutely gorgeous place."

The Shannon River charter is open to women with any level of boating experience as the small group size allows instruction to be tailored to fit individual needs and goals. Individuals as well as groups are encouraged to request additional information.

Space is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. The per person price is \$3895 which includes the charter fee, instruction,

fuel, and basic provisions for the week. Sea Sense will provide guidance and resources for travel but all registrants are responsible for their own travel arrangements and arrival to Shannon for the course. For more info, visit www.seasenseboating.com.

Funniest, Weirdest, Strangest Airport Names

Cheap flight site Skyscanner (www.Skyscanner.com) has scoured its vast database of over 10,000 airports from Indonesia to the Ivory Coast and handpicked the funniest, rudest and weirdest airport names in the world

And no, they haven't made any of these up. All are genuine, official airports, recognized by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Skyscanner's Top 10 Personal Favorites:

1. Batman Airport (BAL), Turkey
2. Useless Loop Airport (USL), Australia
3. Black Tickle Airport (YBI), Canada
4. Mafia Airport (MFA), Tanzania
5. Moron Airport (OZP), Spain
6. Ogle Airport (OGL), Guyana
7. Brest Airport (BES), France
8. Eek Airport (EEK), USA
9. Pickle Lake Airport (YPJ), Canada
10. Raspberry Strait Airport (RSP), USA

Watch your language...

1. Old Crow Airport (YOC), Canada
2. Fukui Airport (FKJ), Japan
3. Dang Airport (DNP), Nepal
4. Pratt Airport (PTT), USA
5. Ponce Airport (PSE), Puerto Rico
6. Fort Dix Airport (WRI), USA
7. Tsili Tsili Airport (TSI), Papua New Guinea
8. Shafter Airport (MIT), USA
9. Phi Phi Island Airport (PHZ), Thailand
10. Fak Fak Airport (FKQ), Indonesia

The strangest sounding airports:

1. Gorom-Gorom Airport (XGG), Burkina Faso
2. Wee Waa Airport (WEW), Australia
3. Wagga Wagga Airport (WGA), Australia
4. Woodie Woodie Airport (WWI), Australia
5. Wuhu Airport (WHU), China
6. Xingning Airport (XIN), China
7. Puka Puka Airport (PZK), Cook Islands
8. Flin Flon Airport (YFO), Canada

9. Kar Kar Airport (KRX), Papua New Guinea
10. Linga Linga Airport (LGN), Papua New Guinea
11. Muko-Muko Airport (MAL), Indonesia
12. Mala Mala Airport (AAM), South Africa
13. Sabi Sabi Airport (GSS), South Africa

Airports you might prefer not to fly to:

1. Mafia Airport (MFA), Tanzania
2. Slave Lake Airport (YZH), Canada
3. Asbestos Hill Airport (YAF), Canada
4. Desolation Sound Airport (YDS) Canada
5. Crooked Island Airport (CRI), Canada
6. Deception Airport (YGY), Canada
7. Broken Hill Airport (BHQ), Australia
8. Warroad Airport (RRT), USA
9. Battle Mountain Airport (BAM), USA
10. Battle Creek Airport (BTL), USA
11. Mysore Airport (MYQ), India
12. Bloodvein Airport (YDV), Canada
13. Storm Lake Airport (SLB), USA
14. Red Devil Airport (RDR), USA
15. Rifle Airport (IRD), USA
16. Deadhorse Airport (SCC), USA
17. Alert Airport (YLT), Canada
18. Danger Bay Airport (DGB), USA
19. Colon Airport (ONX), Panama
20. Gaspé Airport (YGP), Canada

A little fun with IATA Airport Codes:

1. DIK Dickinson Airport, USA
2. KOK Kokkola/Pietarsaari Kruunupyy Airport, Finland
3. BOG Bogota Airport, Colombia
4. BUM Butler Airport, USA
5. PEE Perm Airport, Russia
6. POO Pocos De Caldas Airport, Brazil
7. SEX Sembach Airport, Germany
8. EAT Wenatchee Airport, USA
9. FAT Fresno Yosemite Airport, USA
10. DOH Doha Airport, Qatar
11. CAT Cat Island Airport, Bahamas
12. DOG Dongola Airport, Qatar

SOURCE: Skyscanner provides online comparison on flight prices for over 670,000 routes on over 600 airlines. www.skyscanner.com.

The Betsy Hotel Opens Wellness Garden

The Betsy Hotel in Miami Beach (www.thebetsyhotel.com) has a new Wellness Garden atop the hotel. The Wellness Garden offers sweeping, unobstructed views

of the ocean peeking just above the palm trees. The Zen-inspired sanctuary was designed to soothe the senses with the incorporation of earth born elements — wood, stone, bamboo and natural fibers.

For those seeking respite from the buzz of South Beach, individual cabanas capture the ocean breeze, and are shielded by retractable sails set horizontally in the sky. The Wellness Garden offers treatments and massage therapies derived from food and plant-based ingredients, available, weather permitting, on The Deck, or in-room.

The massage therapies and treatments are designed to relieve tension, and quench sun-parched skin and incorporate creams and products that sound almost good enough to eat. Derived from ingredients like sugarplums, blueberries, and mandarins, the paraben-free products were destined to give your skin sweet relief from the sun.

Therapies include a wood stone ritual treatment that utilizes chilled stones and incorporates light, kneaded strokes along the skin to improve circulation. Combined with a soothing cucumber mint masque to cool and revitalize skin, you'll also experience a seven herb body wrap to nourish, featuring basil, parsley, and marjoram. The treatment is finished with a cooling body mist to leave the skin supple and radiant.

For an indulgent facial, they offer a Coconut Hot Towel treatment for a deep cleansing and intensive moisture. The Mojito Mint manicure-pedicure, inspired by the city's signature drink, replenishes moisture to hands and feet. The complete list of treatments includes massages, body treatments, facials, as well as manicures and pedicures suited for both men and women. Prices range from \$100 to \$300.

The Betsy has 63 rooms and suites on Ocean Drive. Cocktails and light fare are offered at the lobby bar, or for fine dining there's Laurent Tourondel's new take of modern American steakhouse — BLT Steak. B Bar, designed with a hint of vintage glamour unveils an exclusive and discreet venue catering to Miami nightlife.

The Betsy is a member of Small Luxury Hotels and is located at 1440 Ocean Dr., in Miami. For reservations, call **305-531-6100**, or visit www.thebetsyhotel.com.

