

Lawrences Arabia

9 Days | Amman to Dead Sea



PRIVATE TOUR: Jordan, home to the Rose City of Petra offers so much more than initially meets the eye. This inspiring 9 day itinerary visits the Dead Sea, Wadi Rum, Petra, Roman ruins and much more. It's a true Arabian Adventure - with a little bit of luxury!

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Amman - Ancient hilltop citadel, fascinating Archaeological Museum and the bustling souqs
- Jerash - Ruins of the ancient Roman city, which at over 2000 years old is still surprisingly well-preserved
- Umm Qais - Roman Decapolis city, once a cultural centre, home to poets and great philosophers
- Madaba - Christian market town, Church of St George, Jordan's finest Byzantine mosaics
- UNESCO-listed Petra - The fabled Nabataean city that was all but lost to the modern world until its rediscovery in 1812
- Shobak Crusader Castle - See what remains of the former glory of the Crusaders

- Wadi Rum - Vast red desert landscape with rolling dunes and dramatic rock formations
- Aqaba - Picturesque Red Sea resort town with free time to sunbathe, swim, snorkel and more
- Bethany - Biblical sights, Elijah's Well and baptismal fonts
- Dead Sea - Dramatically beautiful landscape with warm buoyant mineral-rich waters

What's Included

- Breakfast daily
- 8 nights SUPERIOR hotels. STANDARD and DELUXE hotel options are also available upon request. Accommodation rating – See Trip Notes for details
- Touring - Amman, Jerash, Madaba, Petra and Bethany
- Services of a licensed English speaking Jordanian tour guide for guided sightseeing
- Dead Sea - Free time to swim and detox
- Wadi Rum - 4x4 jeep safari through the desert
- Aqaba - Coastal bliss and colourful reefs
- An airport arrival transfer on day 1 and a departure transfer on day 9
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles
- Entrance fees for all included sightseeing

What's Not Included

- International flights and visa (see Trip Notes for further information about visas)
- Tipping - An entirely personal gesture

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Amman

Welcome to Jordan and the start of your holiday! Arrive into Amman and transfer to your hotel. The remainder of today is yours to relax or independently explore. **Overnight - Amman (B)**

Day 2 : Jerash & Umm Qais



Amman - Jerash - Umm Qais - Amman. This morning we visit Jerash, the world's best-preserved Roman provincial city, built over 2,000 years ago and known as the 'Pompeii of the East'. Here, we see the Forum, with its forest of towering columns, the arena, where the tracks of chariot wheels can still be seen, the souk area, Temple of Artemis and the

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South Theatre with its near-perfect acoustics. We continue on to Umm Qais , a dramatic black-basalt Roman city with panoramic views over the Sea of Galilee. **Overnight - Amman (B)**

Day 3 : Madaba & Shobak Castle



Amman - Madaba - Petra. Today, we tour the citadel, Archaeological Museum and enjoy free time in the colourful local souq. Driving onward to Madaba we explore the Greek Orthodox Church of St George which has incredible 6th century Byzantine mosaics, depicting Jerusalem and other holy sites. Later this afternoon, we head to Petra and enroute we'll stop to take in the history of Shobak Castle.. **Overnight - Petra (B)**

Days 4-5 : The Rose City



Get ready to be amazed! All but lost to the modern world until 1812, Petra is a real archaeological gem, full of ancient tombs and ruins ripe for the modern-day discoverer. We access Petra through the mysterious mile-long Siq which leads to the spectacular façade of the Treasury (of Indiana Jones fame). This is just the beginning of a day filled with true adventure, where we'll explore amazing sights such as the Street of Facades, the Theatre, Colonnaded Street and Qasr al Bint. On day 5, there is an opportunity to return to

the Rose City and further explore this amazing site. **Overnight - Petra (B:2)**

Day 6 : The Red Desert & coastal Aqaba



Petra - Wadi Rum - Aqaba. Today we transfer to Wadi Rum for a 4x4 tour of the moonscape terrain which T. E. Lawrence described as "vast, echoing and God-like." The desertscape of Wadi Rum is truly stunning with its ancient riverbeds and amazing eroded rock formations. We then drive onward to Aqaba, Jordan's premier Red Sea hotspot and enjoy an afternoon of R&R. **Overnight - Aqaba (B)**

Day 7 : Bethany & the Dead Sea



Aqaba - Bethany - Dead Sea. Driving north via Wadi Araba, we'll stop at Lot's Cave and the Dead Sea Panorama point. Later, we enjoy a city tour of Bethany before descending to the lowest point on the earth's surface, the Dead Sea. Take a dip in the mineral rich waters, where you'll bob around like a cork - there is certainly no risk of sinking here! Your skin will also receive a fabulous detox, thanks to the curative qualities of the water. **Overnight - Dead Sea (B)**

Day 8 : Opt for a dip!



Enjoy a free day relaxing by the Dead Sea. Perhaps, treat yourself to a Dead Sea spa treatment or two - everybody deserves a little pampering on holiday. **Overnight - Dead Sea (B)**

Day 9 : Dead Sea

Dead Sea - Amman Airport. Enjoy your last morning with a final dip, before hotel check out and onward departure transfer to Amman's Queen Alia Airport. **(B)**

Accommodation ratings

On our Private trips, you can often choose your style of accommodation. The price quoted on our website is reflective of the included accommodation, please see the "included" section on the first page of this document for details. Should you opt for an alternative hotel category, this will be confirmed in writing with the respective price on your invoice.

For further details about the indicative hotels, please see the "hotels" tab on our website. Here we rank hotel's in their respective country (REGIONAL CATEGORY) - but we also tell you how it ranks by Western standards (OUR CATEGORY).

STANDARD - Equates to a Western 3-star standard, always featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant.

SUPERIOR - Equates to a Western 4-star standard, featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant and often a swimming pool and/or a fitness centre.

DELUXE - Equates to a Western 5-star standard, usually featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, excellent service and customer care.

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LUXURY - Equates to a Western 5-star plus standard - the creme de la creme. Featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, this accommodation is a cut above the rest. Sheer opulence!

Tipping

Tipping is an essential part of the culture. For a job well done, we would suggest for your tour guide: USD\$5 - 6 per traveller, for each day of sightseeing.

For your driver and On The Go Representative we'd recommend USD\$2 - 3 per traveller for each day of service. Tipping is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Jordan Country Guide

Welcome to Jordan - Arrival transfer

A complimentary airport arrival transfer is included. For all clients arriving into Amman Queen Alia International airport to start their Jordan holiday (not applicable to *Highlights of Israel & Jordan* tour).

If we are not arranging your visa please proceed through immigration, baggage claim and customs. As you exit customs into the public arrivals hall, please look for our representative who will be holding an On The Go Tours logo signboard.

If we have arranged your visa for you we will meet you PRIOR to immigration and will fast track you through the process.

Our representative will introduce you to our driver, who will transfer you to your hotel. You will be given a Welcome Letter at this time which highlights the departure time for your sightseeing program tomorrow.

At the hotel reception desk, please take note of the On The Go Tours information sign on the counter which will tell you what time our Amman Representative will be in the hotel lobby to meet with you and discuss the details of your touring program, to give you our

informative welcome letter and to answer any questions you may have.

If for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes at immigration) or your flight to Jordan is delayed, please call or send a text message (standard text message, not Messenger or WhatsApp) to the emergency contact number as stated on your Tour Voucher.

Visas & passports

Visa requirements are subject to change and visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please be advised visa requirements are subject to change, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Jordan. After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book all services.

As a registered holiday operator we are able to obtain Jordan tourist visas free of charge (conditions apply). For information about visas, head to www.onthegotours.com/Jordan/Visas.

On departure (via land or sea), a 10JD departure tax of is applied to all visitors. If departing Jordan by air, the departure tax is included in the airfare.

Health requirements & water

You should seek medical advice for vaccinations and about medications before travelling.

Tap water is not safe to drink in Jordan, only drink bottled mineral water which is readily available from hotels, shops and restaurants.

Essential packing

Please check local temperatures so you can pack accordingly. Visit www.worldclimate.com

- Camping at Wadi Rum - All bedding (of a well-laundered standard) is provided at our Bedouin camp. It is a personal choice should

you wish to bring your own sleep sheet or sleeping bag

- Pack insect repellent, torch or headlamp if staying in Wadi Rum
- If visiting in winter pack warm clothes, hat, scarf and gloves are advised and an umbrella
- In summer bring lightweight clothing, sunscreen and a hat
- Universal travel adaptor
- Tour Voucher and a copy of your travel insurance policy, spare passport photos and a photocopy of your passport
- Good walking shoes for sightseeing in Petra
- If visiting Wadi Mujib Siq trail/canyon you'll need clothing and footwear that can get wet. Ideally a t-shirt and shorts or swimmers and trainers/walking shoes that will spend most of the walk submerged
- Binoculars IMPORTANT - are considered as surveillance equipment. Should you be carrying binoculars, expect that you'll be asked to hand these over briefly at times (with your passport) by police or military for inspection. You should not be concerned by the event, as this is merely a routine inspection of the item

Petra Park services charge

The cost of the entrance ticket to Petra includes a compulsory 7JD fee to ride an Arabian horse. This Government-approved directive is in support of the local Bedouin who own the horses and also live in the surrounding town of Wadi Musa. As you have paid this obligatory charge, you are indeed entitled to ride a horse 800 metres down to the entrance gate at Petra. However, please be aware that you'll need to tip the horse handler an extra 2JD. IMPORTANT- On The Go Tours only recommends that you do so if you are an experienced rider. The decision to ride a horse is a personal one.

Shopping in Jordan

Jordan offers a range of quality souvenirs. Look out for high-quality artefacts including rugs, pottery, paintings, jewellery, embroidery and woven items produced by local Jordanian women under the auspices of the Noor-Al Hussein Foundation and the Queen Alia Fund. Dead Sea products of all guises, olive oil and soaps, sweetmeats and olive wood are also uniquely Jordanian souvenirs.

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In the tourism industry it's common practice for commission to be offered in exchange for recommending particular shops or suppliers. This can become an issue when clients feel obliged to purchase. We do our best to avoid this by monitoring all shopping experiences offered.

Although we only visit reputable retailers, please note that we cannot explicitly guarantee the quality of their products. All purchases made whilst on holiday with us are at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with your purchase. On The Go cannot be held responsible for any items that you buy if they fail to meet expectation, or any shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.

It's not like home, what to expect & Ramadan

Please visit www.onthegotours.com/Jordan/Travel-tips-and-useful-info for local customs, currency, WiFi and other helpful information to prepare you for an enjoyable holiday.

RAMADAN

Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world and adherents of the Muslim faith fast during daylight hours and break their fast with lavish meals and lively celebrations in the evening. Many shops (excluding those which cater mainly to tourists) and attractions close earlier, as such we will start our tour earlier to make the best use of time and itineraries may be slightly altered to ensure we visit all attractions, leisure time will be offered in the afternoon. Non-Muslims are not expected to fast over Ramadan, but it is considered impolite to eat food or drink on the street. NOTE: Traffic is exceptionally heavy during Ramadan, especially toward the time of breaking the fast. Forthcoming Ramadan dates are: 12 Apr – 11 May 2021 (approx)

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