

### Jordan Travel Guide

Jordan is a country that is full of natural and historical wonders. To truly grasp what this gem of the Middle East is all about, you will have to come and see it for yourself. Although it won't be as magical as real life, I will paint a picture for you as best as I can so that you can understand what I mean.

What is it you like to do when traveling? Do you like touring the old cities? To visit historical archaeological sites? Climb a tall mountain? Dive to the bottom of the sea? Or simply have a relaxing massage on the beach? Well, we've got some great news for you, Jordan has it all! From historical sights dating back thousands of years, to breathtaking panoramic views atop of mountains and sand dunes.

Discover the green Middle East through hiking trails in Jordan, see Petra and take time to explore beyond the iconic treasury, rejuvenate your skin with a Dead Sea mud spa, dive the vibrant reefs of the Red Sea at Aqaba and see a chariot race at the Roman theatre in Jerash.

Jordan is truly a country that has it all and you can simply do what your heart desires. All the facilities of the 21st century are available at your disposal so that you can experience the history of this renowned holy land in complete comfort and peace of mind.

#### What to see

There are so many things to see. However a few attractions come to mind when thinking of Jordan. Petra - the hidden treasure of the ancient world, Amman - the capital city composed of modern and ancient architecture, The Dead Sea – the lowest point on earth and one of the most spectacular natural and spiritual landscapes in the whole World, Wadi-Rum - one of the most stunning desert-scapes in the World, Jerash - the grandeur of Imperial Rome, are some of the few iconic places we recommend you take the time to see while visiting Jordan.



#### What to do

Besides all the site seeing that you can do, there are many activates available for all. Dive in Aqaba's Red Sea and witness the magical sea life down below, explore the desert of Wadi-Rum on camel back or by a 4X4, trek through the Dana natural reserve and see the wild life within, spend a day with the locals to experience their way of life as you learn how prepare, cook and eat traditional meals, visit the local markets of the capital and have a once in a life time experience with many mementos to take back home as a reminder of this magical country.

#### Keep in mind

In addition to Jordan's amazing and wondrous content, it is also a strategically located site connecting between other countries you can visit. It connects directly to Israel from the west, South-East to Egypt by sea, and Lebanon from the North. This is perfect for those who wish to backpack to multiple locations around the Middle East as it is close by and can be reached rather easily.

#### What to eat

Jordan has a wide variety of cuisines and can cater to all your dietary requirements. It has a variety of local restaurants as well as global franchises. However Arabic food, mainly bread based meals are the most common; Mensaf, Shawarma, Falafel, Hummus, Mashawi, and much more. There is something for everyone's taste pallets, it is all available at numerous locations and at reasonable prices.

# Health and Safety

Jordan is a safe and hospitable country and the locals are very welcoming of visitors, eager to have a chat about anything and everything. Tap water is chlorinated thus we urge you not to drink from it, bottled water is widely available and is a safe alternative. Due to the temperature in summer we recommend you use high-factor sunscreen, wear hats for protection and to drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration. Finally check with your GP or travel health clinic that you're up to date with all your jabs.



#### **Accommodation**

Jordan has a vast range of accommodation options, from campsites and hostels through simple lodges and family-run hotels to luxury hotels. You can chose what suits you best as Jordan has it all available. Check with your travel agent for the options available to you.

## Moving around

Jordan's road network is generally modern and well maintained, you can hire a car to do the driving yourself, however you will require an international driving license.

In addition to this public transport is available; taxis, busses, service cabs. Alternatively you can arrange with your travel agent to have a driver and a tour guide to accompany you, this way they can take you where you want to go promptly and with little to no hassle.

## <u>Ramadan</u>

Jordan is an Islamic country and during the ninth month of the Muslim calendar the public fast until sunset. Although visitors are not expected to participate, it is appreciated by the locals to avoid the consumption of nourishment in public. In addition to this most restaurants would not serve food until the hours of sunset.

## Additional information

- Capital of Jordan is Amman
- The population is approximately 6.3 million
- Languages spoken are Arabic and English (widely spoken)
- Time is GMT+2 (Apr-Oct GMT+3)
- International dialing code is +962
- The voltage in electrical sockets is 230V 50Hz AC (adapter purchasable at most stores)
- Entry Visas can be acquired at the airport for most nationalities (check with your local Jordan embassy before travel)
- The currency used is the Jordan dinar (JOD)
- > ATMs are widely available at or near the main sites.
- Tips of approximately 10% are expected in better restaurants; elsewhere, rounding up bills is appreciated.



## **Destination Travel Tips**

When you pack your bags to explore the beauty of the world, consider these keys to a happy journey:

Travel Expectancy! Every place you visit is like a surprise package waiting to be opened. Untie the strings with an expectation of high adventure. Travel Humbly! Visit people and places with respect for their tradition and culture. Travel Courteously! Consideration for your fellow travellers and your hosts will smooth the way through any difficulties. Travel Gratefully! Show appreciation for the many things that are done by others for your enjoyment and comfort. Travel with open mind! Travel with Curiosity! It is not how far you go, but how deeply you go that mines the gold of experience. Travel with Imagination as the old Spanish proverb put it "He who would bring home the wealth of the Indies must carry the wealth of the Indies within him" Travel Fearlessly! Banish worry and timidity; the world and its people belong to you; just as you belong to the world. Travel Relaxed! Make up your mind to have a good time. Let go, and let us take care of you. Travel Patiently! It takes time to understand others, stay flexible and adaptable to all. Travel with ood Spirit! You will discover that people are basically the same worldwide. Be an ambassador of good well.