

Treasures of Jordan

Tour Style: Worldwide Multi-Centre

Destination: Walking holidays in Jordan

Trip code: JDWHW

Trip Walking Grade: 2



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Immerse yourself in the incredible history and culture of an ancient land as you explore the Roman city of Jerash and the inspirational villages, valleys and orchards along the Al Ayoun Trail. Marvel at the rock-hewn temples of incredible Petra that stretch across the cliff sides and feel a sense of awe as you walk through the dunes in the vast desert at Wadi Rum. There is also the opportunity to float in the salt-laden waters of the Dead Sea.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 8 nights' ensuite hotel rooms and 2 nights' camping in comfortable tented camps
- Full board from breakfast on arrival to breakfast on departure
- A full programme of guided walks led by a local tour director, local guides and an HF Holidays' leader
- All sightseeing, and entrance fees
- Travel by air-conditioned coach/minivan
- Tips

HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

- A full exploration of the many trails around the ancient city of Petra
- Experience the rich history of Jordan, from the Romans to the Crusaders
- Enjoy nights under starry desert skies in a Bedouin camp at Wadi Rum
- Stay at the Dana Nature Reserve and walk in the gorge of Wadi Ibn Hammad
- Float in the Dead Sea
- Be greeted by warm Jordanian hospitality and sample delicious local delicacies



ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Arrival in Amman and transfer to our hotel for three nights.

Day 2 - 3: Around Amman

We travel north of Amman to the Roman city of Jerash, one of the biggest and best preserved Roman cities outside of Rome. After lunch head back to Amman to wander in the city centre by Hashemite Square and the Roman theatre.

We also walk in the timeless valleys north of Amman, on the Al-Ayoun Trail through small villages, each with its own cottage industry, fertile farmland with fruit groves and a few remnants of past cultures. This walk is a great way to see rural life in Jordan today, and we will have lunch hosted by a local family. Later this afternoon return to Amman for the night.

Day 4: Wadi Ibn Hammad And Dana Nature Reserve

Morning departure, stopping for a walk at Wadi Ibn Hammad, a narrow gorge with attractive plant life and spring waters. Continuing south to Dana Nature Reserve, for 1 night, to appreciate the beauty of the reserve, and sample a variety of Dana's local recipes.

Day 5: Wadi Ghuweir

We follow a trail along Wadi Ghuweir. The walk leads us to the terraced gardens of Dana village where we see the old Ottoman houses and traditional lifestyle of the villagers. Later this afternoon we drive to Petra for a 3 night stay in either the Movenpick Nabatean Castle Hotel or the Hyatt Zaman.

Day 6 - 7: Petra

Spend an unforgettable day exploring the pathways of Petra, with rock-hewn churches and grand buildings, small dwellings and ceremonial sites. This huge ancient city is quite staggering in scale and splendour. The walk down the narrow Siq leads to the intricate yet massive façade of the Treasury and from there a short walk reveals the great scale of the site.

Day 8 - 9: Wadi Rum

This morning take the Madras trail to the Royal Tombs and Wadi Farasa to Petra Basin. Reach the Place of Higher Sacrifice from where there are awe-inspiring views across the whole of the Petra area. Afternoon drive into the southern desert and the magnificent canyon of Wadi Rum. Arrive at the Bedouin camp for a 2 night stay with a Bedouin feast under the desert night skies.

The next day take a morning desert walk to a viewpoint on one of the many sandstone outcrops. Afternoon jeep tour on the sand dunes.

Day 10: Dead Sea

Optional morning desert camel ride before a drive back north, where we visit the mosaic church of St George in Madaba. Continue to the famous Dead Sea for 1 night on the shores of the sea with a chance to float in the waters.

Day 11: Return Flight

Transfer to Amman and fly to London.

ACCOMMODATION

Amman International Hotel, Amman - Jordan

A 4-star hotel, located, like most of the city's hotels, in the business district.

Geneva Hotel - Jordan

The Geneva Hotel offers spacious rooms decorated with warm colours and wooden furniture. All rooms feature high speed WIFI, a minibar, tea and coffee making facilities. The Ermitage Restaurant serves international dishes in a casual bistro style setting. The Geneva Lobby Lounge offers a wide variety of light snacks. Guests can enjoy grill specialties, ice cream, and milkshakes on the sun terrace. Hotel facilities include a 24-hour fitness center and an outdoor swimming pool.

Feynan Ecolodge - Jordan

At Dana Nature Reserve we stay in the inspirational Feynan Ecolodge. This is an environmentally sustainable lodge, built to support the local Bedouin community. The lodge blends into this stunning landscape and the roof terrace provides spectacular views over the wadi. The rooms are all ensuite, and candle lit at night. Your stay here will be one of many highlights of your itinerary.

Movenpick Nabatean Castle Hotel - Jordan

Located just 10 minutes drive from Petra, this recently renovated hotel sits in an idyllic location with views over the Jordan Rift Valley. Rooms are ensuite with private balconies, air conditioning, free WiFi and tea & coffee making facilities.

Petra Guesthouse - Jordan

The Petra Guesthouse is perfectly located at the entrance of ancient Petra; Guests can enjoy the spectacular views of the Petra Mountains from their own room. The rooms are appointed with modern amenities that include complimentary coffee/tea making facilities, individually controlled AC, mini bar, in-room safe box, LCD TV with multi languages channels, ironing board and more. Guests can relax on the outdoor terrace or walk in the landscaped gardens.

Bedouin Camp, Wadi Rum - Jordan

In Wadi Rum we stay in a traditional style Bedouin camp. The camp is designed to be as comfortable as possible for travellers without taking away from the unique experience of staying out in the wilderness for a night or two, and providing an authentic Bedouin experience. Delicious food is provided including the traditional Bedouin 'zarb' – meat and vegetables cooked under the desert sand.

Dead Sea Spa - Jordan

Our base for the final night of the tour located on the shores of the Dead Sea. The hotel has modern well-equipped rooms, a large spa featuring the restorative properties of the Dead Sea mud and several swimming pools for an ideal place to relax.

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Weather & Seasonality

Jordan generally experiences warm winters with cool evenings and hot summers. The best time to visit is spring and autumn with clear, dry, sunny days and warm, but not too hot, temperatures. It can be quite cool in the evenings in the central mountains and desert around Petra and Wadi Rum.

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Joining Instructions (With Flights)

For those travelling on our HF Holidays' group flight, please proceed to the arrivals hall once you have passed through passport control, customs and baggage reclaim, when you arrive at your destination. Your leader or local leader will assemble the group in the arrivals hall. Look out for the HF Holidays' sign.

Joining Instructions (Without Flights)

If you are arriving ahead of the group, and are meeting them at the first hotel, please leave a message at the hotel reception for the HF Holidays' leader or local leader, detailing your room number, and a mobile telephone number if possible. The leader will contact you once the group arrives. If you are arriving after the group, a message will be left for you at the hotel reception, welcoming you and giving details of the time and place to meet the group. If your flight arrives before the group flight and you would like to join the transfer to the first hotel, please contact our Abroad Administration team on (0)20 8732 1261. They will have a list of the relevant transfer costs.

Essential Information

Suggested Kit List

As you'll be carrying your own luggage at airports and between your transport and hotels we recommend you try to keep your luggage to a minimum. These items are a general suggestion of what to pack for an active outdoor and walking holiday; depending on your destination, you may need more of some things and less – or none! – of others. You'll know best what you prefer to wear when out walking or while taking part in other outdoor activities.

- Please ensure you have access to emergency funds should you need them; carrying a credit card is probably the most convenient method.
- Passport (and copies); booking confirmation; insurance cover note; HF Holidays' registration form.
- Walking boots (worn in), with good ankle support and spare bootlaces
- Walking socks
- Walking sandals
- Lightweight fleece, waterproof trousers and jacket
- Shorts and short-sleeved t-shirts
- Long trousers and long-sleeved lightcoloured shirts with collars to protect from the sun. Your clothing should ideally be pre-treated with insect repellent and in-built sun protection (available from specialist clothing stores such as Rohan, Cotswold Outdoor).
- Warm fleece, scarf/buff hat and gloves
- Torch
- Comfortable clothes and shoes for evenings and sightseeing
- Sun protection – sun hat, sunglasses, high factor sunscreen and lip protection
- Water bottle – at least 2-litre capacity
- Lightweight survival bag
- Small/medium rucksack (30 litre) and a liner or cover to keep contents dry
- Insect repellent
- Universal travel plug
- Personal first aid kit including: personal medication, tissues, plasters, blister kit, painkillers, antiseptic wipes, Imodium, rehydration sachets
- Trekking poles (especially if you find these useful for descents); camera; umbrella; binoculars; high energy food bars. Please note that the HF Holidays' leader reserves the right to refuse to take any guest on a walk should they consider that a lack of suitable clothing/footwear may affect safety

Essential Equipment

- Passport (and copies)
- booking confirmation
- insurance cover note
- HF Holidays' registration form

Please ensure you have access to emergency funds should you need them; carrying a credit card is probably the most convenient method.

Safety On Your Holiday

Insurance is a condition of booking. Therefore, if you have not already arranged insurance, it is imperative that you do so, and advise us of the insurance company and policy number.

We have negotiated special holiday insurance and full details of this cover can be found in our brochure or at www.hfholidays.co.uk. There is no extra charge for pre-existing illnesses.

If you would like to purchase insurance from us, please call us on 020 8732 1220 or email holidayservices@hfholidays.co.uk.

For more information about healthcare abroad and its costs, please visit: www.dh.gov.uk/travellers.

If you are arranging your own travel insurance, please ensure it is adequate for your specific itinerary. Generally, this should include cover for walking at altitudes over 2,000m - the highest point on the harder walks may go up to 2,700m.

Once you have made your booking, you will receive a pre-holiday questionnaire where we ask for details of next of kin and insurance details. You must complete and return this to us - we need to have this from you at least 10 weeks before travel.

Please also inform us of any medical situation which may affect your enjoyment of the holiday. This is important because our leaders have to consider both group and individual safety at all times.

Whilst out with the group, we respectfully request that you:

- Please listen to any safety instructions from the leader
- Keep group members in view, especially if weather or visibility is poor
- Please stay where you are if you become separated from the group. The leader will retrace their steps to find you.

Each leader carries a first aid kit but is not allowed to supply any medication including aspirin, paracetamol, antihistamines and antiseptic cream. You may wish to bring these items with you in your own kit (see Suggested Kit List).

In the unlikely event that your leader is incapacitated, please use any emergency kit in their rucksack and call emergency services on 911. Please then call our emergency number (sent in your final dispatch) and let us know there is a problem.

Dietary Requirements

Please contact us as far in advance as possible if you have any specific dietary requirements and we will do our best to meet your needs.

If you require a specific meal on the flight, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than 96 hours before travel.

Vaccinations & Health

Before booking, you should check with your doctor to see if any health precautions are needed.

The following websites provide a wealth of information on travelling and health: www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk
www.traveldoctor.co.uk

Vaccines: Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, & Tetanus vaccinations are recommended. Typhoid and Rabies are sometimes recommended too.

Passports & Visas

Passports

A full passport, valid for six months is required to enter Jordan

Visas

Irrespective of whether you are travelling on the group flight with us or independently, your visa is arranged for you. The Jordanian government have advised that there is no visa charge for people travelling to Jordan for less than 30 days, providing a minimum of 2 nights are in Jordan. Please ensure that you get your passport details to us at least 8 weeks before travel to ensure our local agent can arrange your visa on your behalf.

Useful Information

Whilst you are in Jordan, we suggest you will need JD50-70 per person per day to cover incidental items such as drinks with meals, additional snacks and any souvenirs you may wish to purchase.

Arabic is the official language of Jordan, and although English is also widely spoken having a few basic phrases should help you get by and is likely to be well received by any locals you may meet.

'marHaba' – Hi

'marHabtain' – Hi (response)

It's an important custom to also ask after a person's or their family's health when greeting them:

'kayf es-saHa?' or 'kayf il'ayli?' – How is your health? or How is the family?

'ma'a salaama/Allah ma'ak' – Goodbye

'aiwa/na'am' – Yes

'la' – No

'min fadlak/fadleek' – Please (request; M/F)

'Shukran' – Thank you

'bitiHki ingleezi?' – Do you speak English?

Luggage

Luggage Allowance

1 piece checked-in luggage (max 23kg). Please check details of your airline's baggage allowance, as shown on your e-ticket.

Advice issued by the UK Foreign Office in 2017 indicated that several airlines flying from Jordan to the UK forbade the use of laptops and tablet devices in the cabin, and they must instead be stored in hold luggage. We recommend you follow this advice unless you are advised otherwise.

Lost or Damaged Luggage

If your bag or its contents are damaged or lost while in the airline's care, this should be reported to the baggage service agents at the airport on arrival. They will assess the damage; in some cases, the airline may decide to settle your claim immediately.

You will be given a reference to quote to your insurance company if an immediate settlement is not possible - in many cases, baggage claims can only be accepted in writing. A baggage claim form must be obtained from the airport.

Local Currency

The unit of currency is the Jordanian Dinar (JD)

Local Time

GMT + 3 hours

Electricity

Jordan has a very mixed approach to electrical sockets – European two- and three-pin plugs as well as British-style square three-pin plugs are all used across the country. Frequency is variable across the country so don't be surprised if things charge more slowly or aren't as powerful in some places.

ATM Availability

ATM machines, accepting most major credit cards, are available in Amman, but are very scarce across the rest of the country. Credit cards are accepted in most of the hotels and larger restaurants, especially in the tourist areas of Petra and the Dead Sea. Traveler's cheques are not advised.

Suggested Reading & Maps

Lonely Planet, Jordan (Jul 2018, 10th edition)

Lonely Planet, Jordan (Jul 2018, 10th edition) Lori Henry, Jordan: A Different Middle East (2011)

Marguerite van Geldermalsen, Married to a Bedouin (2010)

Maps

Although you won't need them, if you'd like any maps of the destination, you can obtain some in advance from The Map Shop: www.themapshop.co.uk

Tipping

Tips have been included in your holiday price for key services such as local guides, driver and restaurants.

Any additional tips are at your own discretion.

HOW TO BOOK

When you're ready to book, you can choose to **book online** or book **over the phone**. Our website offers secure online booking for our holidays, is available 24/7, and offers more in-depth information about all our holidays. If you prefer to call us, our experienced and knowledgeable team are available to answer any specific questions you have and can offer guidance as to which holiday is best suited to your needs.

Our office is open: Monday to Friday: 9am – 7pm Saturday: 9am – 1pm Sunday & Bank Holiday Monday: closed

PAYING YOUR DEPOSIT

To secure the holiday of your choice, you will need to pay a deposit: UK & European Holidays: £150 per person and Worldwide Holidays: £250 per person. You can pay your deposit by debit or credit card with no additional card fees charged or make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account, please see details under BACS payments. You can also pay your deposit by cheque within seven days of booking. Cheques should be made payable to 'HF Holidays Ltd' with your booking reference / Order ID on the back.

NON-MEMBER FEE

Non-members can join our holidays by paying a Non-Member's fee of £30 per person per holiday. Alternatively, full membership is available from £100 – visit hfholidays.co.uk/membership for details.

BACS PAYMENTS

Please quote your booking reference / Order ID when you make your payment online: Bank Name: Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ) Account Name: HF Holidays Ltd Account Number: 35923304 Sort Code: 40-51-62 IBAN: GB92HAND40516235923304 Swift / Bic Code: HANDGB22

Once we have received your booking and deposit, we will send a confirmation invoice to the lead name. Please check this carefully. For bookings 'with flights' it is essential that the names on your booking confirmation invoice match those on your passport for bookings overseas. Please advise us immediately of any errors. Any name changes after the balance of your holiday has been paid will be subject to a fee levied by the airline.

MANAGE MY BOOKINGS

Payments can also be made through the Manage My Booking function on our website. Click on the link at the top of our homepage. This is available to all customers who provide an email address at the time of booking.

YOUR FINAL BALANCE

The balance is due 10 weeks before departure. As with paying your deposit, you can pay your final balance by debit or credit card, make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account or pay by cheque.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is an important part of any booking and essential for one of our holidays. HF Holidays works with specialist. Insurance Brokers Campbell Irvine Direct. For more information or to obtain a quote call them on 01702 427 236 or visit hfholidays.co.uk/insurance

PEACE OF MIND

ATOL:

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL-protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 710. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid us for advance bookings. For further information visit the ATOL website atol.org.uk

MEMBER OF ABTOT:

HF Holidays is a member of ABTOT (The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited) which provides financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for HF Holidays Ltd and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following: 1. non-flight packages commencing in and returning to the UK; 2. non-flight packages commencing and returning to a country other than the UK; 3. flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland, which are sold to customers outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland. 1, 2 and 3 provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled. 1 and 3 provides for repatriation. Please note that bookings made outside the UK and Republic of Ireland are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with HF Holidays Ltd.

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY

These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred.

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

PRICE GUARANTEE

We promise that our earliest published prices will always be the best and if we reduce our holiday price after your booking has been confirmed, we will pass this reduction on to you. Our price promise applies if any subsequent offer price is for an identical holiday, duration, location and date and does not cover any optional extras, flights or additional services.

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