

# EXPLORE!

Tailormade Jordan Nature Trek  
12 days

Jordan - Trip code TMJO5



## Tailormade Jordan Nature Trek

### Discover Jordan's eco tourism wonders

Get off the beaten track and discover wild Jordan. Jordan is less well known for its scenically stunning nature reserves which are at the forefront of eco-tourism. This tour combines the best of both, mixing easy walking through rugged landscapes with visits to the country's historical treasures whilst staying in some wonderful lodges and meeting the locals.

### Enriching tailormade journeys – for you

This bespoke journey features some of our favourite spots in Jordan. You can choose to take our destination experts' recommendations and travel just as you see the itinerary here, or contact us to add your own special touches; how about extending your stay at the Red Sea? We're here to design your perfect holiday.

Call us on 01252 883 184.

## Trip highlights

### ACCOMMODATION GRADE:

#### Premium

Our premium accommodation is hand-picked and chosen for its character, location or local importance. These properties have excellent facilities and a higher level of comfort and service. They provide the perfect wind down after an active day.

### TRIP PACE:

#### Moderate

Moderate pace tours are ideal if you want a holiday which combines exciting activities and experiences with plenty of time to relax and unwind. Typically you'll be active and busy for part of the day but then also have time to rest and recharge your batteries.

# Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

## DAY 1 - Fly to Amman

Depart from the UK for Amman. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel.



**Accommodation: Grand Palace Hotel** (or similar)



Premium Hotel

Wi-Fi available



Swimming pool available



None

## DAY 2 - Visit Jerash and Ajloun Castle

Your introduction to Jordan's fascinating blend of history, architecture, religion and culture begins with a visit to the impressive Roman city of Jerash. Located in the Gilead Hills, it is considered to be the best preserved city of the Decapolis, a confederation of ten Roman cities. One of the highlights of the Middle East, a triple arch gateway gives way to colonnaded streets, theatres, temples and baths. Particularly striking is the elegant forum. Your journey then takes you to the medieval Castle of Ajloun, formerly a base to defend the land from the Crusaders, it was built in 1184 by 'Izz ad-Din Usama bin Munqidh, a general of Saladin. The castle is a wonderful example of Islamic architecture with its maze of towers, chambers, galleries and staircases to explore. Afterwards, continue back to Amman for the night.



**Accommodation: Grand Palace Hotel** (or similar)



Premium Hotel

Wi-Fi available



Swimming pool available



Breakfast

## DAY 3 - Visit Madaba and Mount Nebo

Today you transfer to the traditional village of Dana, stopping en route at the Christian town of Madaba, known as the City of Mosaics, it is a small Christian town with its collection of extraordinary mosaics, including the Great Map of the Holy Land (6th century). Discovered in 1896, and only fragmentary, it contains a good picture of Jerusalem. Moving on you'll visit Jebel Nebo

(808m), better known as Mount Nebo, it is a pilgrimage centre for Christians principally because Moses is said to have seen the Promised Land from this summit. From here you continue south to Dana Biosphere Reserve.



**Accommodation: Dana Guesthouse** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Breakfast Dinner

## DAY 4 - Dana Village walk

Dana Biosphere Reserve is Jordan's largest nature reserve covering around 320 sq km. It has a remarkable diversity of landscapes creating four different bio-geographical zones meaning the area has a great range of flora and fauna to discover. There are thought to be over 400 species of animal within the reserve, 25 of which are endangered, including the sand cat, Syrian wolf, Nubian ibex and the spiny-tailed lizard. This morning you have a guided walk through Dana Village to explore the terraced gardens where fruit and herbs are cultivated. You will also visit local community craft workshops where the villagers make soap from locally produced olive oil and jams from the home-grown fruit. This afternoon has been left free for you to explore at your leisure, there are many trails to be hiked in the area with stunning views over Wadi Dana.



**Accommodation: Dana Guesthouse** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Breakfast Lunch Dinner

## DAY 5 - Trek to Wadi Feynan

This morning you depart Dana Village at 1200m above sea level, descending into Wadi Dana you'll hike along a 14 km trail to Feynan at 325m. Witness changing scenery from gorges, Mediterranean scrub forest and barren desert, you may even meet local Bedouins tending to their goat herds and possibly stop for a cup of sweet mint tea. A packed lunch will be taken, and give you a well-deserved rest with an opportunity to enjoy the views. You arrive at Wadi Feynan in the afternoon, where Neolithic settlements, Roman fortresses and copper mines have all been found.



**Accommodation: Wadi Feynan Ecolodge** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Breakfast Lunch Dinner

## DAY 6 - Visit Petra

Departing early this morning you will drive to Wadi Musa for your visit to Petra. After a walk through the gorge, known as the Siq, the awe-inspiring site of the Treasury appears before you. Petra has been a focus of settlement since pre-historic times, but it was under the Nabataeans that it reached its apotheosis as a centre for trade. From around the 3rd century BC, the Nabataeans began to abandon their nomadic lifestyle and build a city at Petra. Passing trade not only brought great wealth but also inspired a synthesis

of Hellenistic, Egyptian and indigenous architectural influences, resulting in the stunning monuments for which Petra is famous. Today you have a full day to explore the site.



**Accommodation: Petra Quattro Relax Hotel** (or similar)



Premium Hotel

Wi-Fi available



Swimming pool available



Breakfast

## DAY 7 - Explore Petra further

Today is free for you to explore the tombs, baths, temples and colonnaded streets of this UNESCO World Heritage Site a little further. You may wish to hike up to the Monastery, much larger than the Treasury this huge rock-hewn façade is also a good spot for spectacular views over the area. Or why not climb the steep paths to the sacrificial 'High Places' (altars) for a stunning view over Wadi Araba and the Negev Desert.



**Accommodation: Petra Quattro Relax Hotel** (or similar)



Premium Hotel

Wi-Fi available



Swimming pool available



Breakfast

## DAY 8 - Transfer to Wadi Rum

Your journey continues to Wadi Rum, where you can discover beautiful sandstone mountains, white and pink coloured sand dunes and unusual rock formations. You head off south for an exciting half day four-wheel drive within Wadi Rum. Via the old Roman road, you'll explore the lesser known northern areas of the wadi, seeing natural rock bridges and viewing incredible rock sculptures on the way to your overnight camp. The desert is another world, inhabited by the nomadic Bedouin people for generations and made famous by Lawrence of Arabia, whose exploits have become the stuff of legend. Indeed scenes from the remarkable film of his life were shot here, deep in the fabulous purple-black mountains that rise from the sand of the desert. Before your night under the starry sky, you may be lucky enough to witness a spectacular desert sunset. Bedouins sleep in large, traditional goat hair tents, they give the best protection against typical desert extremes of heat and cold, and an evening is normally spent around a campfire, with spectacular desert skies overhead.



**Accommodation: Sun City Camp** (or similar)



Premium Camping

## DAY 9 - Transfer to Wadi Mujib

Today you transfer to Mujib Biosphere Reserve. Located near the east coast of the Dead Sea, Mujib Biosphere Reserve is the lowest nature reserve in the world. Surrounding the deep and majestic canyon of Wadi Mujib, the reserve stretches from the Madaba Mountains in the north to Kerak Mountains towards the south. A variation of 1300m in elevation creates a vast bio-diversity and these steep mountain slopes are home to rock hyrax, the Eurasian badger and the almost extinct Nubian ibex, as well as many birds such as honey buzzards, Levant sparrow hawks and black and white storks. This afternoon has been left free for you explore as you wish.



**Accommodation: Mujib Chalets** (or similar)



Standard Hotel

 Breakfast Dinner

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## DAY 10 - Trek to the Dead Sea

Today you hike the Ibex Trail in Mujib Nature Reserve (November to March). The trail should take around three hours and takes you up steep mountain sides, across dry wadis and along coastal cliffs. You'll also pass a rock statue of Lot's wife, who was reputedly turned to stone here. After fleeing the villages of Sodom and Gomorrah she ignored a warning not to look back and was turned into a pillar of salt. There is a short detour that can be taken en route that takes you to Qasr Riyash, a ruined fortification. If you are lucky you may spot the endangered Nubian ibex with its striking curved horns. The trail ends at the Dead Sea, where you have the opportunity to float in the rich saline waters, relax on the beach or enjoy a rejuvenating mud scrub! At 418m below sea level, this salty expanse of mineral rich water is the lowest point on earth and has been revered for centuries for its beneficial properties. Surrounded by barren hills, this remarkable body of water has an amazingly high salt content (33%), which means no animal life can survive here and it is almost impossible to sink.




**Accommodation: Holiday Inn Dead Sea** (or similar)



Premium Hotel



Swimming pool available

 Breakfast Lunch

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## DAY 11 - Transfer to Amman

This morning you have some free time at the Dead Sea to enjoy the spa facilities and make the most of the mineral rich waters. This afternoon you'll transfer back to the capital with some free time to do some last minute shopping and sightseeing.



**Accommodation: Grand Palace Hotel** (or similar)


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 Premium Hotel


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 Wi-Fi available

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 Swimming pool available

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 Breakfast

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## DAY 12 - Depart Jordan

Your holiday ends today in Amman.

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 Breakfast

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## Tailormade Expert

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Meet Sarah Slocomb,  
Regional Specialist for Jordan

Call on 01252 883 184.

## What's included?



### Included meals

Breakfast: 11  
Lunch: 4  
Dinner: 5



### Transport

Private car  
4WD



### Trip staff

Local guide  
Driver



### Accommodation

1 nights premium camping  
6 nights premium hotel  
4 nights standard hotel

# Trip information

## Country information

### Jordan

#### Climate

During April to November days are generally sunny and hot without rain with temperatures around 32°C. In spring and autumn evenings can be cool and night temperatures can drop suddenly especially in the desert. Expect cold nights in winter (December to February) when temperatures can drop to around 0 degrees. Some rain should also be expected at this time of year.

#### Time difference to GMT

+2

#### Plugs

2 Pin Round

#### Religion

Islam

#### Language

Arabic

## Budgeting and packing

### Country Information

#### Jordan

##### Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

##### Lunch price

£10

##### Dinner price

£15

##### Beer price

£4

##### Water price

£1.5

##### Foreign Exchange

##### Local currency

Jordanian Dinar

##### Recommended Currency For Exchange

Sterling and US\$ are widely accepted though exchange rates tend to favour the US\$. It is worth taking some money in cash. You may be able to order Dinars from your bank although the rate will usually be lower than purchasing currency in country.

##### Where To Exchange

Banks or 'Forex' offices in main towns/cities.

##### ATM Availability

ATMs are widely available, but do not always work.

##### Credit Card Acceptance

In hotels and some larger shops/restaurants.

### **Travellers Cheques**

Travellers Cheques, although still the safest way of carrying money, are difficult to cash in Jordan. There are high commission charges on Travellers Cheques on a per cheque basis so if using them we suggest you take high denomination cheques. Proof of purchase may be necessary for encashment of Travellers Cheques.

## **Transport, Accommodation & Meals**

### **Accommodation notes**

#### **Booking a Single Room**

All of our group tours are planned and operated on a twin-share basis, meaning that the standard cost is based either on individual travellers sharing accommodation with another group member of the same sex, or people who book together sharing accommodation. Please refer to the tour notes where the single room option availability is detailed on a night by night basis for this tour, and the price for the available nights is detailed on the dates & prices tab by departure date. For Self-Guided trips the Single Room supplement offers the option of a single room each and is charged per person. The Single Room supplement also applies to the third person in a party of three that will be accommodated in a single room.

#### **Standard**

Light on your pocket but long on authentic experiences, these tours are based in simple, sometimes local-style accommodation. If your idea of adventure travel is to experience real, everyday life then you will enjoy our authentic style of tour. You will have the chance to stay at simple, family-run hotels and guesthouses where the lack of luxury is more than compensated for by the warm welcome and genuine insight into local life.

#### **Ream Hotel**

Ream Hotel is located in the business district of Amman. The hotel has restaurant and coffee shop, with complementary Wi Fi in the communal areas. Rooms are comfortably furnished, with TV, coffee-making facilities, en suite and some have a balcony.

#### **Dana Guesthouse**

Perched on the rim of Wadi Dana, this guesthouse is run by the local community. The rooms are comfortable and all have balconies overlooking the Wadi, which makes for fantastic sunset views.

#### **Wadi Feynan Ecolodge**

This isolated lodge is in a beautiful setting. The property is lit by candles and has 26 uniquely designed rooms. Limited solar electricity is available in the bathrooms and reception area, and there's a lovely vegetarian restaurant for dinner.

#### **Petra Palace Hotel**

A locally owned and run hotel, this property offers simple accommodation. There are two swimming pools, one indoor and heated and another outdoor situated within the gardens. There is a buffet restaurant and bar available too. The hotel is also within walking distance of Petra. There is no Wi-Fi available.

#### **Mohammed Mutlak Camp**

Mohammed Mutlak Camp is located on the edge of the protected area's wilderness zone within Wadi Rum and offers fabulous sunsets and a traditional Bedouin experience. You are assured a warm welcome and true Jordanian hospitality during your stay. The individual tented rooms are simple but comfortable with single beds and electricity. Bathroom facilities are on a shared basis with cold running water, flushing toilets and showers. The dining tent provides low tables and comfortable cushioned seating and you will experience a variety of local Jordanian dishes.

#### **Mujib Chalets**

The secluded simple chalets, located on the shores of the Dead Sea, feature a sun terrace and uninterrupted sea view with a toilet/shower block located close by. There is a restaurant on site serving local dishes.

#### **Ramada Resort, Dead Sea**

The hotel located on the northern shores of the Dead Sea and is ideal for those looking to escape and enjoy some pampering and relaxation. Rooms are spacious with modern furnishings, and guests can enjoy a choice of bar and restaurant. There are three swimming pools, a jacuzzi and sauna and spa offering Dead Sea mineral treatments.

#### **Premium**

On Premium level tailor-made holidays you will stay at comfortable mid-range hotels, chosen for their location, ambiance or local character. Your rooms will be clean and well-appointed, with en suite bathrooms and air-conditioning or heating as necessary. Premium level hotels normally have restaurants, bars and often other amenities such as a swimming pool and gardens, offering a good level of comfort at a reasonable price.

#### **Grand Palace Hotel**

The Grand Palace Hotel is located near to the Royal Culture Centre in Amman's Shmeisani district, near to the main shopping area. Facilities at the hotel include a health club and spa, indoor swimming pool, restaurant and bar. The rooms are comfortable and



spacious with Wi-Fi access.

#### Dana Guesthouse

Perched on the rim of Wadi Dana, this guesthouse is run by the local community. The rooms are comfortable and all have balconies overlooking the Wadi, which makes for fantastic sunset views.

#### Wadi Feynan Ecolodge

This isolated lodge is in a beautiful setting. The property is lit by candles and has 26 uniquely designed rooms. Limited solar electricity is available in the bathrooms and reception area, and there's a lovely vegetarian restaurant for dinner.

#### Petra Quattro Relax Hotel

Petra Quattro Relax Hotel is located in Wadi Musa, within a five minute drive of the main gate of Petra. Renowned for its friendly service, the rooms are spacious and modern in design. Facilities include a fitness centre, spa and indoor pool. The main restaurant serves both buffet and a la carte dishes and there is also a coffee shop. From the rooftop terrace you can enjoy a barbecue while taking in the views over the city. The hotel also offers a shuttle bus service to and from the Petra Visitors Centre.

#### Sun City Camp

Sun City Camp is a large, luxury camp in Wadi Rum offering private individual tents. The Bedouin style tents each have a small porch, en suite and beds, bedding is also provided. There is a large communal dining tent with low Middle-Eastern-style seating, or you can relax under the stars on the blankets. Traditional dishes are served in a buffet style at meal times.

#### Mujib Chalets

The secluded simple chalets, located on the shores of the Dead Sea, feature a sun terrace and uninterrupted sea view with a toilet/shower block located close by. There is a restaurant on site serving local dishes.

#### Holiday Inn Dead Sea

Located on the shores of the Dead Sea, this hotel offers a comfortable stay with many facilities including a choice of restaurants and bars. The well-appointed rooms are modern and spacious. There is a large swimming pool overlooking the Dead Sea, there is also a private beach where you can float in the saline waters.

## Essential Information

### FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

#### Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

### Price Guarantee

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

### Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our [Essential Information](#) and [Booking Conditions](#).

### Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

#### Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

#### Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers. If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

## Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom. Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

## Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. [Read more about them here.](#)

### Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

### Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

## Jordan

### Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against malaria, typhoid, tetanus infectious hepatitis and polio. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at [Explore Travel Health](#) and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

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