

JORDAN 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS

Day 1 • Queen Alia International Airport – Amman

We meet you in the airport arrival hall and then head to our hotel in **Amman** to check in and have dinner in the old town.

Day 2 • Amman – Jerash – Ajloun – Amman

We will visit the famous site of the ruins of **Jerash**, which was already inhabited during the Bronze Age (3200 BC - 1200 BC). However, it is most famous for being the Greco-Roman city of Gerasa founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BC. It is considered one of the most important and best-preserved Roman cities in the Near East.

Jerash gradually achieved great prosperity and the Emperor Trajan constructed roads throughout the province in AD 106. When the Emperor Hadrian visited Jerash in AD 129-130, the **Arch of Hadrian** was built to celebrate his visit.

The city finally reached a size of about 800,000 square meters within its walls before the Persians invaded it in AD 614. Finally, a major earthquake destroyed much of it in AD 749. During the period of the Crusades, some of the monuments were converted to fortresses, thus including the **Temple of Artemis**.

After having visited Jerash, we will continue our trip to **Ajloun**, a 12th-century Muslim castle built in 1184. It was actually the place from where the Islamic forces defeated the Crusaders and evicted them from Jordan in 1189. Ajloun is also wellknown for being the best-preserved example of medieval Islamic military architecture in the Middle East. We will visit the site and enjoy the wonderful view of the impressive Jordan valley.

Day 3 • Amman – Mukhawir – Umm Ar-Rasas – Madaba

We are first going to tour **Amman** - the city of contrasts. Like Rome, Jordan's capital city is built on 7 hills. We will visit the **Citadel**, the **Roman Theatre** and the **Archaeological Museum**. Moreover, we will drive through the Suq as well as the modern areas of the city.

Our next stop is a visit at Mukhawir (Machaerus), a fortress set on a high hill near the Dead Sea. It is the site of one of Herod's palaces, where Salome danced and John the Baptist was beheaded. From the top of this mountain we can see Herod's two other mountaintop palaces, the Herodium near Bethlehem and Alexandria near Jericho.

Our next visit, **Umm Ar-Rasas**, was mentioned in both - the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, however, unfortunately, most of the city now lies in ruins. There are several buildings in its eastern part, thus including churches, a courtyard with a well, staircases and stone arches that have all been excavated and restored. We will visit the recently unearthed **Saint Stephen's Church** with its perfectly preserved outstanding mosaic, which depicts the images of 27 Old and New Testament cities of the Holy Land - east and west of the River Jordan.

Then we will see the highest standing ancient tower in Jordan, just two kilometers north of Umm Ar-Rasas, which served as a place of solitude by early Christian monks. The tower is 15 meters high and has no door or inner staircase.

We will then carry on for **Madaba** to stay there overnight.

Day 4 • Madaba – Mount Nebo – Bethany – Dead Sea – Petra

We start by touring **Madaba** and will visit the **St. George's Church** with its famous 6th century map of the Holy Land, as well as the many restored Byzantine and Herodian mosaics in the **Madaba Archaeological Park**, **Apostles' Church** and **Madaba Museum**.

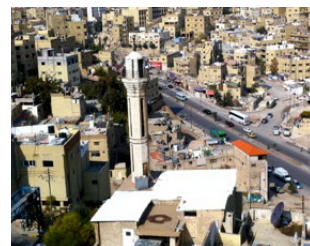
We will then move on to Mount Nebo, from where Moses viewed the Promised Land and are going to enjoy the view of the Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea, Jericho and, if the view is clear, the distant spires, and the hills as well as the Mount of Olives. We will also visit the contemporary church with its display of mosaics from the succession of pilgrimage churches on this venerated spot.

Thereafter we will descend to the **Dead Sea**, the lowest point on the earth's surface, and tour the newly-excavated **Al Maqdas**, the **Baptism Site**. Since it is mentioned on the mosaic map of Madaba, it is easy to believe that it was actually the spot where John the Baptist lived in the wilderness, and where Jesus was baptized in the waters of the Jordan River. The extensive water channels, cisterns and baptismal fonts, as well as the impressive size of the very early pilgrimage churches on this site that go back to the 3rd – 4th century certainly suggest that this is where the earliest Christian pilgrims believed the Baptism took place.

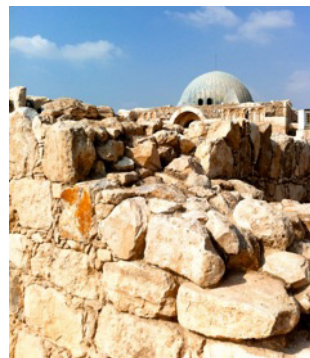
The walk past „**Elijah's well**“ to St. John's Church on the banks of the Jordan is a pleasure in itself, as you follow the winding trail through marshes of high reeds and tamarisk trees. We will then proceed to the shore for lunch (and maybe a short swim in the **Dead Sea**) before moving on to **Petra**.

Day 5 • Petra

We first head to visit the amazing city of **Petra** including the entry by the **Siq**, the **Treasury**, the **Street of Facades**, the **Royal Tombs**, the Roman Theatre, the Byzantine Church and - depending on your personal abilities - The Monastery „Ad Deir“ (900 steps). We will then return to our hotel to stay there overnight.



Amman



Amman



Jerash



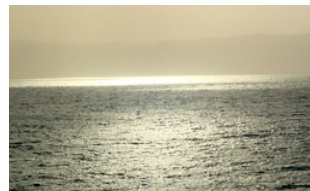
Ajloun



Umm Ar Rasas



Umm Ar Rasas



Dead Sea

Day 6 • Petra – Wadi Rum

We will enjoy a second full day visiting Petra. This time we will access Petra via **Al Madras** and then see the **High Place of Sacrifice, Wadi Farasa, the Great Temple** and the **Royal Tombs**.

After the tour we will drive to **Wadi Rum** for a sunset view dinner and stay overnight in our wonderful camp.

Day 7 • Wadi Rum – Amman

We will have breakfast at our campsite and then experience the magnificent desert that is known as **The Valley of the Moon** – a valley cut into sandstone and granite rock in south Jordan. In the west, Wadi Rum maybe best known for its connection with British officer T. E. Lawrence, who described it as „Vast, echoing and God-like“. We will then go on to **Amman** to stay there overnight.

Day 8 • Amman – Queen Alia Airport

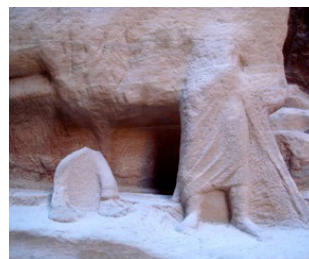
After our breakfast at the hotel, and, depending on your flight schedule for departure in the morning or afternoon you will visit the places at your choice until your transfer to Queen Alia airport.



Petra



Petra



Petra



Jordan Rosefinch



Wadi Rum



Wadi Rum



„Iris Nigricans“ / National flower of Jordan

Prices per person: availability and exchange rate (status 8/2016)

Number of persons	Price per person in double room	Price per person in single room
2	\$ 1,580	\$ 1,980
4	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,380

Hotels quoted- subject to availability

Hotels in	Number of nights	Meal plan	3* & 4* Hotels (5* upon request, at extra charge)
Amman	3	BB	4* Cham Palace Amman hotel or similar.
Madaba	1	BB	3* Mosaic City or similar.
Petra	2	BB	4* Edom Hotel / 5* Petra Guest House
Wadi Rum	1	HB	Sun City Camp

Services included in this tour:

- All hotel accommodation on meal plan above including all government taxes and service charges
- All transfers by deluxe a/c private vehicle
- All entry/ user fees to the sights as outlined
- Professional English-speaking tour guide throughout the touring programme
- Lunch and swim fee at the Dead Sea
- Three hour 4X4 tour in Wadi Rum
- Water & sweets for each journey
- Airport arrival/departure assistance

Services excluded in this tour:

- Flight tickets - Travellers' insurance
- Any additional tours
- A hot air balloon flight above Wadi Rum
- Other meals and drinks
- Personal expenses
- Jordan visa
- Anything not mentioned in the 'Included in this tour' section

Remarks:

The above quote is valid for a minimum of 2 people. - A day tour to Jerusalem or Aqaba can be added to the above itinerary at extra charges. - This tour can be easily extended or shortened upon request. - This tour is quoted for March, April, Sept, Oct, 1 Nov – 20 Nov & 20 Dec until 5 Jan. - For other dates we offer a special rate, so please feel free to contact us with your dates so that we can adjust this quote accordingly.