

Delve into the desert wilderness & drive your own 4x4 Jeep through this magical desert region enjoying the best sights and personalized attention from your accompanying guide (in another vehicle). Tour of its jagged mountains, canyons and rock towers. Explore ancient rock carvings and pause for photos at beauty spots along the way.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Marvel at majestic red, pink and gold mountains, canyons and valleys
- Self-drive into Jordan's wilderness, amidst mountains and wadis
- Visit impressive sites like; Petra, Dead Sea, Wadi Rum and Aqaba
- Admire craggy cliffs, valleys and gorges in hues of gold, red, pink and orange
- View rock carvings believed to date back 12,000 years
- Visit a Bedouin tent and sip mint tea with the locals
- Enjoy the best sights and personalized attention from your guide on this private tour
- Savor a traditional Bedouin dinner under the stars and sleep in a Bedouin style tent in Wadi Rum Space Village Camp

DAY1 ARRIVAL (QAIA) - TRANSFER TO HOTEL IN AMMAN.

On arrival at QAIA Amman, our group coordinator, airport representative and guide will meet and assist guests through all customs and immigration procedures followed by bus transfer in a deluxe air-conditioned vehicle to your hotel in Amman. Check-in and overnight in Amman.

Day 2: JERASH ROMAN CITY and AMMAN CITY TOUR

This morning we travel north by bus to the ancient Roman city of Jerash. Located in the Gilead Hills, Jerash 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.

In the afternoon we head back to Amman for a 4-hour city tour. Enjoy the highlights of Amman, known in the Iron age as Rabbat Amoon, and later as Philadelphia. In our tour of Amman, you will visit ancient Philadelphia, the Citadel, the temple of Hercules, the Roman Theatre, Nymphaeum & the Umayyad Palace. Amman is a fascinating city of contrasts and a unique blend of old and new, ideally situated on a hilly area between the desert and the fertile Jordan Valley. In the commercial heart of the city, ultra-modern buildings, hotels, smart restaurants, art galleries and boutiques rub shoulders with traditional coffee shops and tiny artisans' workshops. Everywhere there is evidence of the city's much older past. Due to the city's modern-day prosperity and

temperate climate, almost half of Jordan's population is concentrated in the Amman area. The residential suburbs consist of mainly tree-lined streets and avenues flanked by elegant, almost uniformly white houses in accordance with a municipal law, which states that all buildings must be faced with local stone. The downtown area is much older and more traditional with smaller businesses producing and selling everything from fabulous jewelry to everyday household items.

Back to the hotel in Amman for dinner & overnight.

DAY 3: FULL DAY SELF-DRIVE JEEP SAFARI 280 km (with guide) MADAB - MT. NEBO - WADI ARABA DESERT - WADI RUM

Buffet breakfast, followed by check-out at 08.00. You will receive your 4WD at hotel and be briefed, followed by full day Jeep tour. We ascend for a short time and then begin to descend into Madaba. This town has a long history, being first mentioned in the Bible and in the Mesha Stele when it was a Moabite town. Visit St. George orthodox Christian church with the mosaic Map of Jerusalem, Palestine, Jordan, Israel & Egypt. Madaba is famous as a land of mosaics. Afterwards continue to Mount Nebo and tour the site of the Tomb of Moses. From here Moses viewed the promised Land in Canaan, where he died and was buried in a nearby valley. Here you will see ruins of 4th and 6th century churches whose floors are still covered with marvelous mosaics. Afterwards drive to Wadi Rum. A vast plain wedged between the rocky foothills of Jordan and Israel, the Wadi Araba connects the Dead Sea to Aqaba. Sand, dunes, wind and sun. We continue off road until Wadi Rum, arriving around sunset and check-in at the camp. The jeep safari ends at a desert campsite, followed by a private dinner under the stars, Arabic cuisine including B.B.Q, hot dishes, soup, rice, salads, tea, coffee, seasonal fruits and sweets, a truly traditional and authentic Bedouin dinner. Overnight at Space Village Camp Wadi Rum.

DAY 4 FULL DAY SELF-DRIVE JEEP SAFARI (with guide) WADI RUM 170KM

We spend today experiencing the beautiful area of Wadi Rum. We head off south for an exciting full day drive along the southern border. Via the old Roman road, we explore the lesser-known southern areas of Wadi Rum, seeing natural rock bridges and viewing incredible rock sculptures. During the afternoon you may take an optional camel trek through the dramatic desert of Wadi Rum through a landscape of sandstone mountains and white and pink coloured sands. The desert is another world, inhabited by the nomadic Bedouin peoples for generations. Before our night under the starry sky, we may be lucky enough to witness a spectacular desert sunset. We stay in our camp this evening, spending time around a campfire with the spectacular desert stars overhead. Overnight at the Space Village Camp Wadi Rum.

DAY 5: FULL DAY SELF-DRIVE JEEP SAFARI (with guide) WADI RUM - PETRA 132 Km

After breakfast we start a full day Jeep Tour from Wadi Rum towards Petra via the Sharah mountains, a colourful desert landscape, spectacular fields of red sand dunes all over the Araba. The desert between Wadi Rum and Petra is awe-inspiring in its beauty and extraordinary moon-like landscape. It is a region filled with history, battles and revolutions reaching back as far as the Old Testament when Solomon and Aaron passed through in their search of the promised land. This is a very special area not found anywhere else in Jordan, a combination of volcanic mountains, sand dunes, wildlife and above all fun. We continue driving via Wadi Mousa towards the Namalah Mountains along narrow canyons of sandstone and igneous rocks, as well as towering peaks and vast expanse of colourful desert landscape. Petra, the fabulous Nabatean capital, is located here hidden among cliffs of red sandstone mountains. We visit Bajah, the site of an Edomite Stronghold, located atop a sandstone bluff (1,230m) 5 km north of Little Petra surrounded by sheer cliffs. Leave Siq Bajah and drive up to Jebel Qaroun overlooking the Araba valley, a majestic colourful canyon with spectacular views of the Araba valley and the Petra mountains. Then we explore Nabatean ruins, and beautiful valleys of sandstones until we reach Little Petra, the major caravanserai of the Nabatean capital. It's easy to imagine the sounds and smells of old days, when traders, caravan masters, drovers and local dwellers walked about, chatted, negotiated, argued and prayed. Mediterranean trees such as oak, juniper and carob thrive here. Afterwards we drive to the Neolithic village at Beidha which dates from 7000 to 6500 BC. Then we travel south west to Wadi Shamasat and onward to Wadi Mousa Petra.

Check-in at the hotel, time to freshen up and then a private dinner at the Red Cave restaurant in Petra.

DAY 6 FULL DAY WALKING TOUR OF PETRA

Breakfast at the hotel followed by a full day guided tour of Petra. Petra was the rock cut stronghold of the Nabateans (and the final resting place of the Holy Grail - according to Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade). Surrounded by imposing mountains and approached through a deep, narrow cleft in the rocks, known as the Siq, Petra is a unique and unforgettable place, strange and otherworldly, enhanced by the play of light and shadow, an altogether overwhelming experience. In the morning we walk through the Siq and enter this lost city, viewing the famous temple façade of the Treasury as we approach. A guided orientation tour will take us to some of the key parts of this remarkable site, after which, the rest of the day is free to walk through one of the most impressive and exciting sites of ancient history.

**DAY 7 : FULL DAY SELF-DRIVE JEEP SAFARI (with guide)
PETRA - SHOBAK MOUNTAINS – DEAD SEA 320 KM**

Buffet Breakfast at the hotel, check-out, followed by a full day jeep Safari. We drive to Shobak mountains where you will see more of the stunning geology of this region. The drive will lead you from out of the mountain wilderness and into the countryside where you will be welcomed into old but still inhabited villages dotted around the foot of the mountain range. In this beautiful green space of terraced orchards, you will see a variety of trees native to Jordan, including pistachio, fig and "Roman" olive trees. The narrow gorge leads the way to Shobak castle, the historical path lined with ancient caves once used as tombs. We continue our drive through the village of Sihan, which was inhabited by Shobaki locals up until the nineteenth century. Only ruins of the old stone houses now stand witness to a once lively community in Sihan. A high viewpoint is easily reached, rewarding you with magnificent views. Following the Al Hazeem off road you reach the Ras Al Faid panoramic view, where you will see mushroom shaped rock formations and juniper trees covering the landscape. We continue driving off road until Gbour Al Whaidat, then drive via Al Farsh (the flat region), which lies west of this area. Be prepared to be astounded by splendid views of Wadi Araba, particularly the flat desert in the heart of the Rift Valley. The Namalah road is a vital shortcut from Petra to many other attractions including the Dead Sea and the only direct road between Petra and Feynan Eco-lodge, located in Wadi Araba region.

On arrival at the Dead Sea, check-in, free time. Overnight and dinner.

DAY 8: DAY AT LEISURE DEAD SEA AREA

This morning you are free to enjoy the shimmering Dead Sea. At nearly 400 metres below sea level, it is the lowest point on earth. Surrounded by barren hills this unique body of water has an amazingly high salt content.

Day 9: DEPARTURE 55 km

Buffet breakfast at hotel followed by private transfer to QAIA, Amman for your onward flight home.

Hotels or similar

Amman Crown Plaza or Movenpick

Wadi Rum Space Village Wadi Rum

Petra Movenpick resort

Dead Sea Movenpick resort Petra

Price (on request) will include:

- Meet and assist upon arrival and departure.
- Group arrival and departure transfers from/to airport .
- Accommodation in 5* hotels throughout program on HB & 2 night camping on FB basis in Wadi Rum.
- 7 Lunches included
- visa for Jordan
- Five days self-drive LC or similar 4WD vehicle throughout the journey modern jeeps .
- local sightseeing to all sites in the trip.
- services of local guides, Gasoline charges, back-up and mechanical support.
- cars full insurance
- All entrance fees to sites mentioned.
- local guide throughout
- Water during the jeep safari
- Refreshments of nuts, fruits, tea & coffee during the excursion

Exclusions

- Personal Travel Insurance
- Tipping
- Items of a personal nature
- Alcoholic drinks