

## Day 01

### Queen Alia International Airport – Amman

Welcome to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, a country with outstanding ancient history, biblical sites of importance and beautiful desert landscapes. The white stone city of Amman is the capital of Jordan and a good base from which to explore the destination's extraordinary heritage.

Arrive to Queen Alia International Airport, Amman, Jordan.

The visa fee is waived for clients staying for a minimum of two consecutive nights in Jordan and coming through a Jordanian tour operator. However, we need the passport details one week prior to the arrival dates.

You will be met by a representative, who will be holding a yellow and blue A&K sign for identification.

Transfer in a modern air-conditioned vehicle to your hotel in Amman. (35-minute drive depending on traffic).

## Day 02

### Amman – Jerash – Amman City Tour      B – L

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel.

Meet your guide and driver at the hotel's lobby and drive to Jerash.

Nestled in the hills of Gilead is the Greco-Roman city of Jerash, where archeological remains from Neolithic, Greek, Roman, Byzantine and Umayyad eras have been found, amongst others. Jerash's golden age, however arrived with Roman rule. Today, Jerash is acknowledged as one of the best-preserved province cities of the Roman Empire. Jerash was also a member of the Decapolis, a dynamic commercial league of ten Greco-Roman cities which were grouped together because of their language, culture, location and political status, with each functioning as an autonomous city-state.

During your tour, your lunch will be served at Beit Khairat Souf.

Drive back to Amman to enjoy a city tour.

The Citadel towers above the city from atop Jabal al-Qala'a, making it an excellent vantage point to appreciate the cityscape below. The Citadel is the site of ancient Rabbath-Ammon and excavations here have revealed numerous Roman, Byzantine and early Islamic remains. The most impressive building of the Citadel, known simply as al-Qasr (the Palace), dates back to the Islamic Umayyad period. Its exact function is unclear, but it includes a monumental gateway, an audience hall and four vaulted chambers. A colonnaded street also runs through the complex. To the north and northeast are the ruins of Umayyad palace grounds.

Downhill from the Citadel and five minutes' walk east from downtown, the Roman Theater is the most prominent and impressive relic of ancient Philadelphia. The theater, which was built during the reign of Antonius Pius (AD 138-161), is cut into the northern side of a hill that once served as a necropolis or graveyard. It is very similar in design to the amphitheater at Jerash and can accommodate 6,000 spectators. The theater is still used periodically for sporting and cultural events.

After your tour, drive back to your hotel in Amman where the rest of the day is at your leisure.

### Day 03

Amman – Mount Nebo – Madaba – Petra            B – L

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel.

Check out from the hotel, meet your guide and driver at the hotel's lobby and board your vehicle for your transfer to Mount Nebo.

Mount Nebo is the mountain mentioned in the bible where Moses was granted a view of the Holy Land but was not allowed to enter it. Nowadays the mountain is a memorial site where the "Church of Moses" stands. Ever since the first days of Christianity this mountain has been a holy place and a destination for pilgrimage. From here, enjoy a magnificent view over Jordan, the Dead Sea and Israel. When the weather is clear, you may even be able to see Jerusalem, which is about 60 kilometers (37 miles) away.

Afterwards, continue to Madaba to visit St. George church. Approximately 15-minute drive from Mount Nebo.

South of Amman proudly stands Madaba, the "City of Mosaics", perched on an archaeological site with more than 4,000 years of history buried beneath it. The quality and quantity of the mosaic flooring found here has made Madaba one of the most prominent cities in the world for mosaics. St. George's Church houses a world-famous mosaic floor containing a large mosaic map of Palestine, which also features a detailed map of Jerusalem as it was during the sixth century. At the Church of the Apostles, at the southern entrance of the city, is a mosaic floor attributed to the craftsman Salamanios, depicting the sea, with the central figure of a woman encircled with a selection of creatures, vegetation and an inscription.

After your tour enjoy a lunch at Haret Jdoudna Restaurant.

Haret Jdoudna represents an authentic village in the city of Madaba, offering everything from amazing traditional food, to entertainment, to local crafts, mosaics and souvenirs. The restaurant is a 19th century house, still with its original features and floors. The exquisite menu offers local mezza dishes, oven-baked delicacies and traditional home-made meals. The restaurant also hosts special events with oriental music and entertainment. During the winter months you can relax by the fireplace, accompanied by soothing music and a hot cup of mint tea.

Proceed to your hotel in Petra for check-in.

Pre-Check-in will be arranged, go directly to your room and your luggage will follow you immediately.

#### Day 04

Petra (visit the ancient city) – Dead Sea B – L

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel.

Meet your guide at the hotel's lobby and walk to the visitor's center to visit the archaeological site.

Begin your visit with an optional horse ride from the main gate of Petra to the entrance of the old city. Then walk on foot along to the Siq (entrance). The ancient city of Petra was built between 800 BC to AD 100 by Nabatean Arabs. In this era Petra was a fortress, carved out of the jagged rocks in an area, which was virtually inaccessible. In the first and second century, after the Romans invaded, the city reached the peak of its fame.

Petra covers an area of about 100 square kilometers (62 miles), where over 800 monuments can be found. When shipping slowly displaced caravan routes, the city's importance gradually dwindled and it fell into disuse and was lost to the world until 1812, when it was re-discovered by the Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burkhart. Nowadays Petra is a popular tourist attraction, known as the "rose-red city half as old as time". The Khazneh (the Treasury), featured in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.

Enjoy lunch at the Basin Restaurant amidst the ruins.

Located a couple of kilometers inside the gates of Petra, the Basin Restaurant by the Crowne Plaza Petra stands amongst all the splendor of Petra, making it a great place to stop and rest. There are very few places to eat once inside Petra, aside from the snack food available to buy from local Bedouins. Luckily, the Basin Restaurant provides a heartier meal to ensure that you are ready to continue exploring this wonderful city!

Walk out of the site for your transfer to the Dead Sea.

The Dead Sea has a historical and spiritual legacy of its own. It is believed to be the site of five biblical cities: Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim and Zoar (Bela).

At 400 meters below sea level, the Dead Sea is infinite in what it has to offer. Ever since the days of Herod the Great, people have flocked to the Dead Sea in search of its curative secrets. Due to high annual temperatures, low humidity and high atmospheric pressure, the air is extremely exogenous, and the high content of oxygen and magnesium in the air make breathing a lot easier. With the highest content of minerals and salts in the world, the Dead Sea water possesses anti-inflammatory properties, and the dark mud found on the shores have been used for over 2000 years for therapeutic purposes.

Day 05

Dead Sea – Queen Alia International Airport      B

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel.

Check out from the hotel, meet your driver at the hotel's lobby for your transfer to Queen Alia International Airport for departure.