

Jordan Private Journey

JERASH, WADI RUM, PETRA, AND THE DEAD SEA



WHEN TO GO

October to April

For our Private Journey trips, you choose your own group and your preferred dates—there are no set departure dates. Private Journeys are available to groups as few as two people or as large as you like. While many guests choose to book this tour exactly as is, our Area Specialists can work with you to customize it to your wishes. Contact us for availability, questions, or to book your adventure!

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Jordan Private Journey

JERASH, WADI RUM, PETRA, AND THE DEAD SEA

Fabled Petra, long-lost city of the Nabateans, Jerash, a fabulously preserved Roman city, the great Crusader castle at Kerak—the ancient legacy of Jordan is rivaled only by the stunning beauty of the landscape, exemplified by the stunning desert canyon of Wadi Rum. On this Private Journey, take in the extraordinary wonder of the “rose-red” city of Petra, a desert fortress carved out of craggy rocks in a remote canyon in the 3rd century BC, forgotten by the outside world for 1,000 years, then rediscovered in 1812 by a Swiss explorer. In addition to Petra, Jerash, and Kerak, your journey also includes an overnight at a tented camp in Wadi Rum, haunt of T. E. Lawrence. Throughout the trip, enjoy the leadership of a private English-speaking guide, wonderful accommodations, air-conditioned vehicles, and lots of wonderful interactions with the Jordanians, among the most hospitable people in the world.

ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

Wilderness Travel Private Journeys are designed for people who want to travel with their own small private group, but who still want to experience the same superb itinerary design, great accommodations, and signature quality of Wilderness Travel’s escorted group trips. These Private Journeys allow you to choose your own dates and your traveling companions—even if it’s just the two of you—yet still enjoy a guided adventure.



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Itinerary

DAY 1

AMMAN, JORDAN

Arrive at Amman Airport, where you are met and transferred to your hotel. Amman is one of the most ancient cities in the world, with archaeological finds dating back 3,000 years. Inhabited since the Bronze Age, the city is mentioned in the Old Testament and it was here that David met Bathsheba. Amman is also the very modern capital of Jordan. Overnight at the Fairmont Amman, located in the heart of the city...Meals on your own

DAY 2

AMMAN / JERASH

After breakfast, meet your private guide for the trip and begin with a city tour of Amman, including its Citadel, archeological museum, and Roman theater, then visit the ancient Roman city of Jerash. Located 30 miles north of Amman, Jerash is an archaeological masterpiece framed by the hills of Gilead. It was founded by the soldiers of Alexander the Great during the 4th century BC and later joined the Roman Decapolis. The city was organized along a grid of wide, colonnaded streets. These expanded at the two major intersections to form small, circular piazzas that contain four-pillar monuments and, at the south gate, a large oval forum. Other monuments of this prosperous Roman city—considered one of the best preserved provincial cities of the Roman Empire—include a triumphal arch, a stadium, a monumental fountain, and temples. Jerash's main ruins were identified in 1806 by German traveler Ulrich Seetzen. Restoration began in 1925 under the British Mandate. Most of the ruins at Jerash date from the Roman and Byzantine eras. Return to Amman for overnight...BL

DAY 3

MT. NEBO / MADABA / SHOBAK / PETRA

After breakfast, travel to Petra with visits to Mt. Nebo, Madaba, and Shobak en route. Mt. Nebo is the mountain where Moses was allowed to view the Holy Land, yet not allowed to enter it. Today it is the site of the Church of Moses, built by the first Christians. Mt. Nebo has long been a holy place and a destination for Christian pilgrimage. Like Moses, you will enjoy a great view over Jordan, the Dead Sea, and Israel. When the weather is clear, you may even see Jerusalem, about 30 miles away. Continue to Madaba, with a stop en route at the Mosaic Handicrafts Center. At Madaba, known as the City of Mosaics, St. George's Church houses a world-famous mosaic floor that is a large map of Palestine, including a detailed mosaic of Jerusalem as it was during the 6th century AD. After lunch in Madaba, continue on to Shobak. Set on the edge of plateau with its imposing brick walls, the Shobak Castle was built by the Crusader king Baldwin I in 1115 AD. After its fall to the armies of Saladin in 1189 AD, it was occupied by the Mamluks, who expanded its complex. The castle itself has many secret passageways, and we'll pass under arches, walk through tunnels, and see the ruins of a lesser-visited crusade fortress. Continue to the Petra Movenpick Resort in time for dinner and overnight...BL



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

- Length:** 7 days
Arrive: Amman, Jordan
Depart: Amman, Jordan
Lodging: 5 nights in 5-star hotels, 1 night tented camp
Meals: All meals included except dinners (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
Activity: Archaeology, Cultural Adventures, Walking
Trip Level: 1 ② 3 4 5 6
Overland touring, cultural exploration, easy walks of 2-4 hours a day

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fabled Petra, an amazing lost city hidden in a desert canyon for 2,000 years
- Spectacular desert canyon of Wadi Rum, haunt of T. E. Lawrence; the legendary Dead Sea
- Jerash, a magnificent Roman city



Itinerary (cont'd)

Petra By Night

To visit Petra during daylight is awe-inspiring, but to experience it at night by the light of 1,800 candles is out-of-this-world! Walk a candle-lit path through the Siq to the Khazneh and enjoy the haunting music of the Bedouins performed in front of the Treasury. Tours start at 8:30pm and finish at 10:00pm. Available Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights. We can purchase tickets for you ahead of time if you are interested. Please call for details.



DAY 4 PETRA

Today's full-day visit begins around 9 a.m. with a short horseback ride (or walk) from the main gate of Petra to the entrance of the old city. From here, walk through the narrow canyon called the Siq to visit the rose-red city of Petra. The city was a fortress carved out of craggy rocks in an area that was virtually inaccessible. In the first and second century AD, after the Romans took over, Petra reached the peak of its fame. The archaeological site covers an area of about 50 square miles, with over 800 monuments excavated. Petra's famous Al-Khazneh ("Treasury") was featured in the film Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade. Enjoy a buffet lunch

inside Petra at the Basin Restaurant and continue your visit in the afternoon. This evening, enjoy an optional cooking class for a chance to learn about Jordanian cuisine. Overnight at the Petra Movenpick Resort...BL

Petra: The fabled ruin called Petra was carved from solid red sandstone in the 3rd century BC. It was the capital of the Nabataens, a nomadic Arabian tribe who ruled the Trans-Jordan area in pre-Roman times and derived their great wealth and power from the passing trade caravans. With the rise of the coastal trading center at Palmyra and the opening of sea trade routes, Petra declined in importance and was forgotten by the outside world for 1,000 years. In 1812, Swiss explorer John Lewis Burckhardt, a young convert to Islam traveling the Middle East's deserts in Bedouin disguise, heard local Bedouins tell of fantastic ruins hidden in the mountains of Wadi Musa. He persuaded one to lead him there. His journal and sketches of Petra eventually made their way to London, where they inspired many to seek this lost city. Petra is spectacularly set on the edge of the Wadi Araba, where sheer sandstone hills form a deep canyon that protects the city in all directions. The sandstone is a deep rust color banded with gray and yellow and shades in between. The modern town outside of Petra is called Wadi Musa (Valley of Moses). This is the spot where Moses is thought to have struck the rock, bringing water flowing forth as it does today.



Rose-Red Petra: John William Burgon took his degree from Oxford in 1845 and the same year wrote his famous sonnet for Petra, a site that he had never visited. The last two lines are an oft' quoted description of this epic lost city.

It seems no work of Man's creative hand,
by labor wrought as wavering fancy planned;
But from the rock as if by magic grown,
eternal, silent, beautiful, alone!
Not virgin-white like that old Doric shrine,
where erst Athena held her rites divine;
Not saintly-grey, like many a minster fane,
that crowns the hill and consecrates the plain;
But rose-red as if the blush of dawn,
that first beheld them were not yet withdrawn;
The hues of youth upon a brow of woe,
which Man deemed old two thousand years ago,
match me such marvel save in Eastern clime,
a rose-red city half as old as time.

DAY 5 WADI RUM

Depart this morning for Wadi Rum, and on arrival, enjoy an optional ride by camel (or on foot) to T. E. Lawrence's spring. After lunch at your camp, explore by 4WD to take in the grandeur of the famed desert canyon of Wadi Rum, where massive rock peaks rise out of pink sands. Your remote accommodation, Hayat Rum, offers a glamping desert getaway in a superb wilderness setting, or upgrade to Discovery Bedu Camp...BLD

Wadi Rum: The landscape of Wadi Rum, with its immensity, ever-changing palette of colors, and awe-inspiring rock spires, creates an other-worldly atmosphere. This extraordinary canyon (wadi means canyon) was the headquarters of Prince Feisal bin Hussein and T. E. Lawrence during World War I as they fought the Arab Revolt against the Turkish Ottoman empire. Parts of the film Lawrence of Arabia were staged here, and Lawrence's famous book, The Seven Pillars of Wisdom, was named after Wadi Rum's natural landmark of seven jagged rock columns. Wadi Rum is known for its good springs, and the Bedouin frequently pitched their tents here. Today it is still home to a number of Bedouin families, who welcome visitors with hospitality and generosity.

DAY 6 WADI RUM / DEAD SEA

After a short walk this morning to a small natural arch with inscriptions dating from the time of the Nabateans, the builders of Petra 2,000 years ago, continue to the legendary Dead Sea, where you enjoy lunch on your own. The rest of the day is at leisure for swimming. Overnight at the 5-star Dead Sea Movenpick Resort & Zara Spa, built of traditional local



Itinerary (cont'd)



stone and handcrafted woods, with an impressive collection of antiques and artwork...B

The Dead Sea: 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 oxygenated. With the highest content of minerals and salts in the world, the Dead Sea waters are thought to possess healing properties, and the dark mud found on the shores has been used for therapeutic purposes for over 2,000 years.

DAY 7

DEPART

Transfer to the Amman airport (45 minutes) for your departing flight...B



Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$4395 (4-8 members)

\$4995 (2-3 members)

Single supplement: \$1100

Prices are based on double occupancy and not guaranteed until services are confirmed.

Make it Your Trip!

The prices above are for the ready-to-book adventure outlined in this Detailed Itinerary, a popular option that has been handcrafted by our Area Specialists to include the best of every destination. While many travelers choose to book this tour as is, our Area Specialists are also happy to work with you to customize this Private Journey to suit your specific interests and style of travel. We can arrange for longer or shorter stays, offer hotel upgrades (see below for sample costs), or add an extension to additional places of interest. We can even add special activities or customize excursions depending on your interests. We invite you to contact us to discuss your options!

Optional Hotel Upgrades

All upgrade pricing is per person, based on double occupancy.

Please call for single occupancy pricing.

Wadi Rum: Discovery Bedu, from \$200

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Two nights at Fairmont Amman, two nights at Petra Movenpick Resort, one night Wadi Rum Night Camp in Wadi Rum, one night Dead Sea Resort
- English-speaking guide from morning of Day 2 until morning of Day 6
- Transfers and excursions in private air-conditioned car with English-speaking driver
- Mineral water on board the vehicle
- All meals included except dinners as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Entrance fees (one-time entrance fee to Petra)
- Short horseback ride at Petra during the first visit to the site
- Porterage at airports and hotels

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Jordanian visa fee; airport departure tax; optional activities; any meals not specified after each itinerary day, gratuities for guide and driver, small tips for horse boy at Petra, waiters, etc.; drinks during meals; items of a personal nature (telephone calls, laundry, room service, etc.).

SIGNING UP FOR A TRIP

Early reservations are recommended since accommodations often sell out far in advance. Please call 1-800-368-2794 and ask for our Middle East Manager or email us at middleeast@wildernesstravel.com with any questions that you may have about this trip. To reserve your Private Journey, we will need to know your preferred dates of travel. We will then check availability and send you a proposed itinerary with exact pricing for your adventure. We can typically hold a provisional booking for one week. At that time, we must collect your initial deposit or accommodations will be released. We accept Visa, Mastercard, or American Express card. Upon receipt of your deposit, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a letter of confirmation, Detailed Itinerary, Trip Application, Medical Form, and Pre-Departure Information Booklet with information to help you prepare for your adventure. Please see our Cancellations and Transfer Fee Schedule for specific payment information.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation	25%
90 days prior to departure	Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Minimum fee: 25% of trip cost
90 days or less: 100% of trip cost

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details:

<http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/travel-insurance>

Accommodations



FAIRMONT AMMAN

Amman, Jordan

Days 1 to 2 (2 nights)

Set in the heart of ancient Amman, this large modern hotel offers spacious guest rooms with exceptional views over the city's skyline. Hotel amenities include four restaurants, a fitness room, outdoor pool, and a holistic wellness sanctuary with swimming pools, treatment rooms, and even a traditional Dead Sea water plunge pool.



PETRA MOVENPICK RESORT

Petra, Jordan

Days 3 to 4 (2 nights)

The best thing about the Petra Movenpick Resort is its prime location: just steps from the entrance to one of the most magical sites in the world. This is greatly appreciated after a long day of exploring on foot—and it's also nice to be able to get there first thing in the morning before most other groups arrive! The hotel features a pleasant rooftop restaurant/bar and an outdoor pool, and offers magnificent views across the desert. Be sure to sample the hotel's selection of ice creams (the mango is especially good!).



WADI RUM CAMP

Wadi Rum, Jordan

Day 5 (1 night)

In Wadi Rum, we stay at one of the following camps, based on pricing and availability:

HAYAT RUM

Experience true Bedouin hospitality at this eco-friendly camp, nestled in the heart of Wadi Rum. With eight tented suites and two duplex lodges, you're in for a wonderful glamping experience par excellence. Each stylish tent offers stunning views of the desert from every angle (even the shower!) and has a private bathroom, terrace and seating area, and air conditioning. Two onsite restaurants offer traditional Arabian food and memorable starlit dinners.

DISCOVERY BEDU (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

Tucked in a quiet corner of Wadi Rum and framed by dramatic desert landscapes, Bespoke Hideaways is an ideal tented camp for exploring (and relaxing!). Six tented guestrooms are set on separate wooden platforms, have comfortable beds, private en suite bathrooms with hot showers and western-style toilets, and an outdoor viewing deck to enjoy the surroundings. Savor the sunrise and sunset from the comfy lounge area and if you have time, explore the nearby sights including waterfalls, sand dunes, and desert springs.



DEAD SEA MOVENPICK RESORT

Dead Sea, Jordan

Day 6 (1 night)

Set among lush gardens on the northern shores of the Dead Sea, this resort is built of traditional local stone and handcrafted woods, and features tastefully decorated rooms with many amenities. Recreational facilities include the beach (a float in the salty sea is a must, but wear water shoes as the bottom is stony), an infinity swimming pool (among others), and a luxurious spa that's all about pampering the senses. Tip: book your spa treatments prior to arrival—it would be a shame to get there and find they were all booked up!

Arrival & Departure

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

Amman is the meeting point for the trip. Our representative will meet you at the airport on Day 1 for transfer to the hotel. At the end of the trip, you will be transferred to the Amman airport.

NOTE: If you book your flight on Royal Jordanian, you must present the credit card used for ticket purchase. The airline may deny boarding without verification of the original card used for purchase.

FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

Trip members are responsible for making their own arrangements for air transportation. Please do not purchase your airline tickets until you are confirmed on the trip and have reviewed your proposed air schedule with our office. Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule so that we can send it on to the local guide (make sure to include your Trip Name and Trip Dates on it). Note: The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly; otherwise you may be denied boarding. Please remember this when reserving your flights. In addition, your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US (in most cases).

Trip Details

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated Level 2, Easy to Moderate. It is an overland touring trip with day walks to explore the fascinating temples and wonderful towns of this ancient and modern civilization. It can be enjoyed by anyone in good health who has no mobility restrictions.

WEATHER

The best times to visit are October–December and March–June to enjoy the warm days and cool evenings. Temperatures range from 68–80F. Summers are hot, with temperatures running 90–100F. November to March is the rainy season. In the desert, the contrast between day and night temperatures is dramatic.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Middle East Manager or email us at middleeast@wildernesstravel.com.

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

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TOUCAN CLUB

Please note that Toucan Club discounts do not apply for our Private Journeys. However, your participation on these trips will count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular expeditions. For more information regarding our Toucan Club bonus program, please visit our website at <https://www.wildernesstravel.com/resources/toucan-club/>

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2021, 10-time winner

Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Condé Nast Traveller*, 2021 & 2020

Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today*, 2020

Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

March 19, 2024 11:00 AM