

The Ultimate Jordan Adventure

Trip Code: JMA

Version: JMA The Ultimate Jordan Adventure



CULTURE



GUIDED GROUP



MODERATE



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the historical sites of Petra and the Roman city of Jerash
- Scramble on to the iconic Burdah Bridge rock formation in Wadi Rum
- Descend waterfalls and cool canyons to swim in the the Dead Sea
- Cycle down the King's Highway and take a camel ride in the desert
- Spend a night enjoying Bedouin hospitality in the desert

AT A GLANCE

- 6 days activities including canyoning hiking biking and scrambling
- Max altitude 1400 metres
- Join at Amman

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 7 Breakfasts
- 4 Lunches
- 6 nights Hotel
- 1 nights Bedouin Camp

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

There are many ways of exploring Jordan, but our Ultimate Jordan Adventure holiday is surely the definitive adventure experience. This trip is for those who want to trek, cycle, camel-ride, canyon and scramble their way across the incredible desert landscape of Jordan (No experience is needed as full instruction is provided). We start off with visiting the ruined remains of the Roman walled city of Jerash before enjoying the rather surreal experience of bobbing around in the buoyant waters of the Dead Sea. We can escape the heat by dropping into bottom of Wadi Mukheries, a twisting, winding gorge that descends down a set of small waterfalls, hidden caves and fun abseils. We head further south, taking to our bikes and cycling along the Kings Highway; an easy and enjoyable ride before transferring to Wadi Musa. Wandering through the quiet and atmospheric site of Little Petra whets our appetite for the rose-red city of Petra. We follow the Jordan Mountain Trail to enter Petra via the back route, a magical and unforgettable experience as you first glimpse the Monastery. Onwards, we travel to the stunning desert landscape of Wadi Rum. Here we can take a camel ride, scramble on to the iconic Burdah Bridge rock arch and enjoy the very best of Bedouin hospitality whilst camping under the stars.

Is this holiday for you?

You do not need to have any previous experience to take part in the activities on this holiday. The two walks (Petra and Wadi Rum) will be between 3-4 hrs. In Wadi Rum there is some very straightforward scrambling over some of the rocky ground near the Burdah Bridge. The canyoning is a day of fun travelling down a small river, scrambling over rocks, jumping into pools, swimming and some abseiling. You will need to be able to swim proficiently to take part. Our cycle ride is along hard-surfaced quiet roads. Various bike sizes and helmets are available. Jordan has a lovely hot and dry climate and you should take adequate sun protection for this, but it can also get cold at night in the winter months in the desert. The essence of this holiday is to see Jordan whilst being active and having fun!

Itinerary

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DAY 1

Meet at the group hotel in Amman. A single timed transfer from Amman Airport is provided.

Meet at the group hotel in Amman. A single timed group transfer from Amman Airport is provided. This transfer is normally in the late evening and a representative of our local agent will accompany the group on the 30 minute journey to the hotel.



Accommodation
Hotel

DAY 2

Tour the Roman city of Jerash. Drive to the Dead Sea for a salty dip. Visit Mt Nebo. Transfer to Madaba.

After breakfast at the hotel and a briefing from our guide, we will drive north to Jerash. Dating back to the 3rd century BC, this largely Roman city is one of the biggest and best-preserved outside of Italy. Its colonnaded streets, baths, theatres, plazas and arches remain in exceptional condition and we will have plenty of time to look around the site with our guide. After our visit, we will head south through the Jordan Valley to the Dead Sea, which at 400 metres below sea-level, is the lowest spot on earth. Those who wish can take the opportunity to experience the unique floating experience that this very salty, 75 kilometre-long sea offers. From here, we drive up and out of the valley to our next overnight stop at a hotel in Madaba. En route, we stop at Mount Nebo (known as Pisgah in the Bible) which is the place from which the Bible says Moses viewed the Promised Land. There is indeed a fantastic view towards the west, with a vista that includes the Dead Sea, the West Bank, the Jordan River and (on a clear day) Bethlehem and Jerusalem. After checking in at our Madaba hotel, we go out to one of the town's restaurants for dinner.

Meals: **B**



Accommodation
Hotel

DAY 3

Drive to Wadi Mukheries for day of canyoning. Return to Madaba.

We make an early start and drive down to the top of Wadi Mukheries, which is one of a number of rugged, steep-sided valleys that drop down to the Dead Sea. This one holds water year-round and our route follows a stream throughout. This is classic gorge exploration, involving a series of small waterfalls (3 to 7 meters high), with boulders to negotiate and pools through which we have to wade. The depths of the wadi hide secret pockets of vegetation and there is also a magical cave with stalactites of amazing shapes. The route is 12 kilometres long and will take us 6 to 7 hours to complete, including our stop for a picnic lunch. At the lower end of the gorge is a spectacular 20 metre waterfall, which we will pass by abseiling. A stop beside the plunge pool here gives us the chance for a swim and for a natural full-body massage. Remember to take a second pair of lightweight boots or trainers for this day, as they will get wet and may not dry in time for tomorrow's activities. We finally reach the trail head on the Dead Sea road, where we meet our vehicles and drive back to spend a second night at the hotel in Madaba.

Meals: **B L**



Accommodation
Hotel

DAY 4

Cycle the Kings Highway to village of Mukawir. Drive onto Petra.

A 10 minute transfer takes us the start of our approximately 42 kilometre cycling route. After being kitted out with our bikes, we ride south on the King's Highway. The King's Highway twists and winds its way through the heart of Jordan, connecting Madaba, Karak, Tafileh, Shobak and Petra. It is the world's oldest continuously used communication route and is mentioned in the Bible. Although it is called a highway, it is just a local road with low traffic and we ride only a few kilometers on it, heading south, before turning off onto even smaller and quieter roads and tracks. Leaving the King's Highway behind, we ride west on a hilly road through the villages of Bani Hamida. We reach the low hill on which stands the remains of King Herod's ancient fortress of Machaerus, where John the Baptist was imprisoned and beheaded. Hiking to the top of the hill, there is a wonderful panorama out across the Dead Sea. We then head to the nearby village of Mukawir, where our lunch is provided by a local family. Another chance for some local interaction and part of our responsible tourism effort to support the local communities at the places we visit. After lunch, we drive to Wadi Musa, the gateway to Petra and check in at a hotel.

Meals: **B L**



Accommodation
Hotel



Distance
42KM

DAY 5

Trek on the Jordan Mountain Trail to Petra, via Litte Petra.

Today we have an early start, visiting the quiet site of Little Petra. From here, we join the Jordan Mountain Trail, taking in the scenic balcony route, to enter Petra via it's back trail. We arrive first at the Monastery before taking the stone-carved stairway (around 800 steps) down into the heart of Petra. After a lunch break at one of the cafes in Petra, we will continue our exploration of the rest of Petra's most important sites, including the Theatre, the Court and the Treasury. Finally, we will walk out through the kilometre-long cleft of the 'siq' to the Visitor Center in Wadi Musa. We spend a second night in our Wadi Musa hotel.

Meals: **B**



Accommodation
Hotel



Time
6 - 8hrs trekking



Distance
14KM

DAY 6

Transfer to Wadi Rum. Camel ride to Al Khazaali Canyon and onto Bedouin Camp.

After an easy morning, a 90-minute drive takes us across the desert and towards the collection of sandstone mountains or 'jebels' that define the marvellous Wadi Rum region. The scenery becomes more majestic as we turn into the 'valley' of Rum Village. Passing the 'Seven Pillars of Wisdom' formation on our left, we arrive at the village, where we meet our Bedouin hosts. As a slow-paced introduction to the desert experience, we will have a camel ride via 'Lawrence's Well' and into the Al Khazaali Canyon. Walking into this magnificent canyon will reveal some ancient rock inscriptions. We then continue by 4WD vehicles to our traditional Bedouin campsite, leaving us plenty of time to settle down, relax and enjoy the sunset. Dinner tonight is a feast known as a 'zarb' - a traditional Bedouin dish of meat and vegetables cooked underneath the desert's sand. We spend the rest of the night around the camp fire, exchanging banter with our Bedouin hosts and learning something about their culture. Overnight at a traditional Bedouin camp, with its central, black goats-wool tent.

Meals: **B L D**



Accommodation
Bedouin Camp

DAY 7

Desert trek to Burdah Bridge and dunes of Rum. Return to Amman.

After breakfast, we will board our vehicles for the short drive to Jebel Burdah, which leads through Khor Al Ajram, a wide valley with magnificent cliffs and high sand dunes. On the way to Jebel Burdah, we pass a particularly fine and very old rock inscription which shows a camel caravan. This morning's objective is the Burdah Bridge, a well-known landmark which is reached by way of relatively easy scrambling across open rock slabs. Our guide will show us the best route through a maze of blind alleys and dead ends.

There are some steeper sections and you will need to use your hands at times. A jumble of rocks leads to a small plateau, through a valley and then over a steep slab. From here, we turn a corner into a hidden gully that provides us with a wonderful view of the bridge above. Obligatory photo stop. We then climb a short, steeper wall and here the guide will use a climbing rope to safeguard our passage. Above, we will cross the dramatic Burdah Bridge - another fantastic photo opportunity. There are magnificent views from here, extending over the whole area of Wadi Rum. Back on the desert floor after a 3-hour round-trip, we meet our vehicles and have lunch in the shade. Fruit juice and tea/coffee will be waiting for us. Lunch is usually a lighter meal than supper, very often heavier on vegetables than meat. After a siesta, we will drive across to the biggest sand dune in the area, for an opportunity to take-off our shoes and run up and down its soft sand. Sounds childish, but lots of fun! Returning to Rum village, we say goodbye to our Bedouin hosts and set off on the 3-hour drive north to Amman, where we check in at our hotel.

Meals: **B L**



Accommodation
Hotel

DAY 8

Departure day. A single timed transfer to Amman Airport is provided.

The holiday ends after breakfast. A single timed transfer to Amman Airport will be provided. For those on an evening flight out of Amman, there is time for a leisurely breakfast and to do some sightseeing. High above the city, the Citadel (site of ancient Rabbath-Ammon) is a good place to start, whilst the Roman Theatre, dating from the 2nd century AD and built to accommodate 5000 spectators, is also pretty impressive. At the heart of downtown Amman, the colourful souk is also worth a visit.

Meals: **B**

Holiday Information

What's Included

- a professional and qualified tour leader
- Specialist canyoning and cycling guides
- Cultural guide at Jerash and Petra
- All entrance fees required by the itinerary
- All activities as described in the trip dossier
- All accommodation as detailed in the trip dossier
- Meals as indicated in the Meal Plan

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Visa
- Some meals as indicated in the Meal Plan
- Tips for local guide and other local staff
- Miscellaneous expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc.

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the hotel in Amman.

A single transfer from Amman Airport to the group hotel will be provided on the evening of Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, there will be a single transfer back to Amman Airport.

Anyone may join the group transfers by prior arrangement. Travelling as a group or on public transport saves energy. If this is not practical, we can provide private transfers at an additional cost. Taxis are also available.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All breakfasts, 4 lunches and 1 dinner are included in the holiday price. You will need to pay directly for lunches and/or dinners while staying in hotels in Amman, Madaba and Wasi Musa (Petra). a total of 7 or 8 meals. We recommend you budget around £7 - 10 for each of these meals.

Food & Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. If you are on a trekking or cycling holiday, water is supplied to fill up your individual bottles. This will be boiled, filtered or provided in large jerry cans or 5 litre bottles. Additionally you should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) to treat your water when in towns or where water is not supplied. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Breakfasts can vary a little with the accommodation, but typically consist of labaneh (thick sour creamy yoghurt), hummus, cheese, beans, eggs, olives, za'atar (thyme, sesame seeds, sumac and salt), tea and coffee. Lunch on some days may be in the form of a picnic (sandwiches, fresh vegetables, fruit and juice and tea) or a simple hot meal such as fresh tomato cooked with garlic, onion and olive oil. Dinner will again vary with the location, but we will aim to sample a variety of traditional Jordanian meals. Salad, rice, chicken, vegetables and yoghurt are usual dinner ingredients. In Wadi Rum, we'll get to try the Bedouin 'zarb', a meal of meat and vegetables cooked under hot sand. Complimentary water, biscuits, cakes and fruits will be offered on most days.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your diet with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Accommodation

We will spend 2 nights in a comfortable family-run hotel in Madaba, 2 nights in Amman and 2 nights in Petra in a similar standard of hotel. All rooms are en suite.

We will also spend one night at a comfortable fixed camp, sleeping in spacious Bedouin tents with proper beds and shared bathrooms with hot showers. At the Bedouin camp there is also a cosy communal tent and open air seating areas we can gather round an open fire.

Accommodation is twin share. If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex. Single hotel rooms and/or single tents are available for a supplementary cost. If you are planning to extend your holiday, additional nights are available on request.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be led by a professional and qualified tour leader.. There will be additional specialist canyoning guides and cycle guides as required.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

Approximately £250 should be allowed for miscellaneous expenses and the 7 or 8 meals that you will pay for directly. You should carry your travel money in the form of currency rather than travellers cheques, since you will exchange the majority of this on the day of your arrival at the airport in Amman. Sterling and US Dollars are equally acceptable in Jordan. The unit of currency is the Jordanian Dinar (JD). You should also allow a total of approximately £60 for driver, guide and trek crew tips. On this trip, you will pay directly for your lunches on Days 2, 5 and 8 and for your dinners on Days 1 (if you arrive early enough), 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7. The cost of the Petra visit is included in the trip price. If you are intending to buy expensive souvenirs, you should budget accordingly (credit cards can be useful in this respect). Also, if you expect to buy considerable quantities of drinks or other refreshments, you should allow for this.

Guidance on Tipping

Tips are the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your local guides, drivers and other crew. They do not form part of their wages. KE pays its local crews the best rates of pay, no matter what country they are in and any tips they receive are seen as a personal thank you from group members. We advise local teams that tips are not a duty or a prerequisite but are a bonus and entirely dependent on the service that was given. You can expect to pay a total of around £60 in tips.

Baggage Allowance

During the trip your baggage will be carried by bus and by 4WD vehicles. The only baggage limit is that which is imposed by the airline. However, Jordan is a hot country and you will not require any heavy clothing, nor are you required to bring a camping mattress. We recommend that the weight of your packed trek bag does not exceed 15 kgs / 33 lbs as this will make transiting airports a much more pleasant experience for you.

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status and so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

Visa Jordan

If you are a UK, Canada, USA or Australia passport holder, travelling on a KE organised itinerary (inc pre or post tour extensions), you may now be eligible to receive a free visa upon entering Jordan. Please look for a representative with a KE sign between the arrival gate and before the immigration desks and they will accompany you to arrange the free visa and passport stamp. The free visa is reliant on us receiving your passport and flight details prior to travel and to you meeting with the KE representative before heading to immigration to join the single timed transfer. If you have not given us these details or if you do not meet with the representative for the single timed transfer you will have to purchase an individual visa for 40JD. Please ask for further details.

If you are arranging your own pre or post trip accommodation/excursions or transfers we will be unable to arrange a free visa for you and you will need to purchase an individual visa on arrival for 40JD

Other nationalities are included in the free visa scheme, please check with your individual embassy.

Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella, along with hepatitis A and typhoid. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

Currency

The unit of currency in Jordan is the Jordanian Dinar.

Preparing for your Holiday

The better conditioned you are the more you will enjoy your trip. We suggest that you adopt a sensible weekly exercise regime and fit in a number of long walks in hilly country to ensure you are in good shape.

Climate

The best period for travelling in Jordan is in the late autumn through to early spring season, from October through to mid April. The best period for trekking in Jordan is in the late autumn through to early spring season, from October through to mid April. Outside of this period it can be very hot, with temperatures rising to 40 degrees centigrade in July and August. In October and in April, the maximum daytime temperature is likely to be in the high 20's or low 30's, falling as low as 10 degrees centigrade at night. Heading into November the temperatures begin to cool and by December/January, typical daytime maximum temperatures are around 12 to 15 degrees centigrade, dropping as low as 5 degrees centigrade at night. In December and January it can even snow in Amman.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's ['Travel Aware'](#) campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that prior to travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates direct from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Maps

Jordan - Reise Know-How Verlag 1:400,000

Double-sided and detailed map, dividing the country horizontally just underneath al-Karak. Combines clear road and tourist detail with general relief indicated by contours, altitude tinting, mountain passes and peak heights.

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

You SHOULD bring the following items:

- Approach shoes or lightweight walking boots, suitable for scrambling
- Pair of trainers for the canyon day - these shoes are likely to get wet
- Trainers or sandals for sightseeing and camp use
- Walking socks (2 or 3 pairs)
- Trekking trousers
- Lightweight waterproof overtrousers
- Underwear
- Shorts
- Travel pants
- At least 1 long sleeve shirt with collar (for sun protection)

- T-shirts
- Warm jacket (eg. Fleece)*
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Swimwear
- Sunhat
- Warm hat (for chilly evenings in the desert)
- Sunglasses
- Daypack of approx 30 litres
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 litre (x2) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Camera
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash
- Small Towel
- Insect repellent - (DEET)
- Basic First Aid Kit. Including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters and blister treatment, Insect repellent, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite).

The following items are optional:

- Sleeping bag liner
- Trekking poles
- Thermarest (a foam mattress is provided)
- Pen-knife (note: always pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Repair kit - (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- Spare laces
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Notes:

*For trips in November, December and February when night-time temperatures can fall below freezing in the desert, we recommend a warm (down-filled or equivalent) jacket and thermal baselayers.

As Jordan is an Islamic country, modest dress is preferable in the towns and cities. Shoulders should be kept covered, and full-length trousers/skirts are recommended.

Cotswold Outdoor



Many of the Equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive 12.5% discount voucher from Cotswold Outdoor and other retailers.
[-> Find out more](#)

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for joining in Amman. Single timed transfers to/from Amman airport are included at the start/end of the holiday.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Amman International Airport. Outbound flights will depart from the UK in the afternoon, arriving late evening. Return flights will depart from Amman late morning on the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK in the afternoon.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

Featured in the Telegraph's 50 Amazing Adventure Holidays, and encompassing walking, biking, canyoning and camel riding, this adventure explores the highlights of Jordan in a unique and active way.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 01/05/2024 and the trip is subject to change