

14-DAY ADVENTURE

ULTIMATE JORDAN

Jordan

Explore the jewels of the Jordanian kingdom, from the ancient monuments of Jerash and the castles of the desert to the remote landscapes of Dana and Wadi Rum. Embark on a fascinating journey through the heart of Jordan's arid lands and engross yourself in the cultural traditions and hidden treasures secreted away along forgotten paths.
Accompanied by our specialist guides, we begin in the North of Jordan, visiting the ancient theatre of Jerash. After discovering this impressive ruin, we take the King's Highway towards the Byzantine mosaics of Madaba, gentle waves of the Dead Sea and the foreboding fortress of Kerak, before coming to rest amongst the rocky outcrops of the Dana Nature Reserve. After delving into this moonlike mountain landscape, we continue south to explore the wonders of the majestic Nabataean city of Petra. Then on to Wadi Rum. Here, to the steady rhythm of the camels, we trek into a remote desert of auburn sandstone. A culturally rich journey that ends snorkelling amidst the jewels of the Red Sea, on the relaxing shores of Aqaba.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the foreboding crusader fortress of Kerak
- Be awe inspired on a hike through the deep, red outcrops of the Wadi Rum desert
- Explore the hidden treasures of the ancient Nabataean city of Petra
- Experience trendy downtown Aman


Ajloun Castle
Jerash Ruins
Mediterranean Sea
Amman
Azraq Desert Castles
Mount Nebo
Dead Sea
Kerak Castle
Shobak Castle
Petra
Wadi Rum
Aqaba
Trek
Transfer
KANDOO
ADVENTURES

ITINERARY

DAY 1

ARRIVE IN JORDAN

We will meet you at the airport in Amman and transfer you to your hotel. For the remainder of the day, you will have free time to explore. You can order food at the hotel or why not head out into the city to find a local restaurant. The cuisine in Jordan is superb!

Accommodation: **Hotel**

DAY 2

AMMAN – JERASH – AJLUN

This morning we have an early breakfast before meeting the rest of the group in the hotel reception at 8am for our pre-trek briefing. We then leave Amman for the Greco-Roman city of Jerash, a marvellously well-preserved city steeped in history with an incredible amphitheatre in it's centre. We explore the ancient ruins then continue on to the Arabian fortress of Ajlun. Built stoically on a hill overlooking the Jordan Valley, we explore the maze of tunnels scorn into it's underground architecture. We then return to Amman in the late afternoon to sample more of the delectable local cuisine.

Transport: **Minibus**
Accommodation: **Hotel**
Meals included:
Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 3

DESERT CASTLES – MADABA

We head east this morning to discover the Azrak region and it's famous "desert castles": Azraq, Amra and Harana. Historically used to connect the trading routes between Medina and Damascus, these castles stand proud in the surrounding semi-arid landscape. After indulging in the grandeur of these ancient structures, we return to Amman and take time to explore the city; discover the ruins of the citadel, with the magnificent temple of Hercules towering over it. Then on to the theatre which again reflects the incredible architecture of Jordan's Roman ancestry. We continue on to reach Madaba, 'the mosaic city' where we spend the night.

Transport: **Minibus**
Accommodation: **Hotel**
Meals included:
Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 4

MADABA – MOUNT NEBO – DEAD SEA – KERAK – DANA

A day of cultural intensity, today we visit five incredible locations. Beginning with the Byzantine mosaics of Madaba, these artworks tell the story of the city in beautifully intricate designs. We then climb to Mount Nebo, a spiritual setting where it is told Moses contemplated the Promised Land before he died. From here, we continue and reach the gentle waters of the Dead Sea to enjoy a memorable swim before visiting the majestic stronghold of Kerak. This formidable fortress dates back to the time of the Crusades. We explore it's impenetrable walls before finally heading to Dana Nature Reserve at the end of the day for an unforgettable night in camp with a view of the entire valley under a blanket of stars.

Transport: **Minibus**
Accommodation: **Equipped Camp**
Meals included:
Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 5

TREKKING IN DANA NATURE RESERVE

A beautiful day awaits us in the heart of the Dana Nature Reserve, with its impressive sandstone monoliths and Mediterranean vegetation, that contrasts with the surrounding deserts. We will witness the spectacle of the Dana Mountains stretching from the Jordanian Rift Valley to the desert plains of Wadi Araba and let ourselves be fascinated by the plains of gravel mixed with amber sand dunes. Whilst we discover a very diverse fauna including a whole series of rare plants and animals. We have a traditional dinner in camp and again spend a night under the stars.

Hiking time: **5 hours**
Accommodation: **Equipped Camp**
Meals included:
Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 6

DANA – SHAWBAK – LITTLE PETRA

This morning we take a short drive to Shawback Castle; an impressive, solitary castle dating from the glory of the Crusaders. It was built on top of a mountain and crowns a cone of rocks that rises regally above a wild, rugged landscape. Marvel at it's presence before continuing on to Little Petra, part of the Nabataean necropolis enclosed in the Beidha Mountains. Here we have time to appreciate the spectacular view of the mountains of Beidha and get a taste of what remains to be discovered in Petra.

Transport: **Minibus**
Hiking time: **2 - 3 hours**
Accommodation: **Equipped Camp**
Meals included:
Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 7

DISCOVER PETRA

Petra, the triumph of the Nabataean culture. This rich, caravan city which transited myrrh, frankincense, cinnamon and diamonds, shelters more than 800 monuments cut into the chiselled sandstone. More than its architecture, it's the colour that fulfils Petra, between purple and gold, each sandstone has its own nuance. We begin the discovery of Petra by its forgotten paths, entering through the small door from the Neolithic village of Beidha and "Little Petra", we follow the mountain by a magnificent aerial path. Arriving at Deir - "the Monastery", a former place of pilgrimage for the Nabataeans, there is a great sense of importance. We then descend the 800 steps that connect the plateau to Petra site.

Hiking time: **6 - 7 hours**
Accommodation: **Equipped Camp**
Meals included:
Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 8

FURTHER DISCOVERY OF PETRA

We start early in the morning with the "official" entrance to the Siq. The crossing of this narrow gorge is awe inspiring and crescendos at the discovery of the Khazneh - "the Treasury", undoubtedly the iconic masterpeice of Petra. After visiting the Royal Tombs, we then gain height, going from discovery to discovery along Wadi Farasa, to the High Place of Sacrifice. From here the view is extraordinary. We revel in it before returning via the forgotten paths.

Hiking time: **4 - 5 hours**
Accommodation: **Equipped Camp**
Meals included:
Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 9

PETRA – WADI RUM

We begin the morning with a short transfer to the outcrops of the Wadi Rum, also called "Valley of the Moon". Of the Wadi Rum, Lawrence of Arabia famously said: "Rum, the marvel...vast and resonant...a processional way beyond imagination". Here we meet our local camel drivers and depart on our trek into the remote desert wilderness.

Transport: **Minibus**
Hiking time: **4 hours**
Accommodation: **Camping**
Meals included: **Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner**

DAYS 10 TO 12

TREKKING IN WADI RUM

We spend the next three days in the majesty of nature, where the wind transforms the rocks into grains of sand and the sand is ignited in the fires of the setting sun. We relive the epic of 'the prince of the desert', taking us off the beaten track, where the Bedouins still live traditionally in tents woven from goat's hair. We hike through the middle of these impressive jebels, their towering profiles, huge dunes of red sand and gigantic stone stairs soaring towards the sky. We pass near the iconic arch of Burdah and set up camp each night where we feel fit, embracing the traditions of the Bedouins and revelling in the natural surroundings. At the end of the trek, take a comfortable transfer to Aqaba, settled on the gentle shores of the Red Sea. Here we have the evening free to sample some of the local Jordanian restaurants.

Hiking time: **5 hours**
Accommodation: **Camping, Hotel**
Meals included: **Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner**

DAY 13

AQABA – AMMAN

Waking in Aqaba, we enjoy a much needed day of relaxation and swimming. Uncover multicoloured corals and the thousands of varieties of fish that live amongst them. In the afternoon, we return to Amman and have our final meal in one of the delicious restaurants nestled in this historical city.

Transport: **Minibus**
Accommodation: **Hotel**
Meals included: **Breakfast / Lunch**

DAY 14

DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel and return transfer to the airport.

Meals included: **Breakfast**

PLEASE NOTE

It is in the nature of a trip of this kind that arrangements and participants have to be flexible. While we use all reasonable endeavours to ensure a trip runs according to your itinerary, the day-to-day agenda and ultimate goal of the trip are taken as aims and not as contractual obligations. It is a necessary condition of your joining any of our trips that you accept this flexibility. Occasionally, we may have to make changes and we reserve the right to do so at any time.

TRIP INFORMATION

DIFFICULTY

This adventure is of **moderate difficulty**. You will be required to walk for 5 to 6 hours a day on consecutive days. There may be between 500-800m of vertical ascent and the temperatures could reach as high as 35°C. It is essential that you drink plenty of water and stay well hydrated. Pathways are often uneven and care should be taken to avoid slips and trips. You should be in **good physical condition with recent experience of hiking** for several days in row.

To ask about your suitability for this trip and what you can do to prepare please feel free to give us a call.

FOOD & DRINK

Whilst staying in hotels, breakfasts will be taken at the hotel or in small adjoining restaurants. Whilst trekking, we will be accompanied by a cook who will prepare a breakfast of tea, coffee, flat breads, humus, yoghurt, dates and jams.

Lunches are also prepared by our cook. On some of the days, you will be provided with a picnic lunch of traditional breads, pastries, fruit, vegetables, boiled eggs etc. While in the desert, lunches are freshly prepared and will include tuna, rice, salads, humus and local breads.

Hot evening meals are provided each night (except in Amman) and you can expect chicken, lamb meat balls, potatoes, rice, fresh vegetables and salads. We can cater for most dietary requirements on request. In Amman expect to pay roughly 18-20$ for a meal.

Please be aware that the water in Jordan is not drinkable. Bottled water can be purchased in nearly all towns and villages but not in the desert. We recommend you bring a water bottle with a filtration system to save on plastic waste. Whilst trekking in the desert we will carry an ample supply of filtered water with us.

ACCOMMODATION

On this trip we will be staying in **comfortable 3 star hotel accommodation, guesthouses and on campsites**.

Hotel accommodation will be in twin or double en-suite rooms. Our hotel in Amman is positioned on the outskirts to avoid potentially long delays due to traffic when leaving the city.

In Dana, we use a well equipped **quiet campsite**. You will stay in a fixed camp with twin beds in small but comfortable tents with shared bathroom facilities. Blankets are provided and there is Wifi throughout the camp. In winter when there is a risk of snow we may stay in a nearby hotel instead.

In Petra you will stay in a simple guest house, with the Hasanat family, depending on availability. The place is ideal, quiet, and very well located at the top of the village of Wadi Musa. Here you will get to know your hosts Rana and Fayes, their house, their life in their neighbourhood (and even learning to cook Jordanian mezzes!). Unfortunately they cannot accommodate all groups due to the size of the house. If the house is already occupied, you will stay in an equipped camp, ideally located near "Little Petra", at the gates of the site. It is a "Bedouin" style camp, similar to the one in Dana, with large traditional tents, shared showers and toilets. There is a single electrical socket in each tent which is turned on at night fall. It is a good idea to bring along a multi USB charging hub to make the most of the single socket in your tent. In winter when there is a risk of snow we may stay in a nearby hotel instead.

In the Wadi Rum Desert we will sleep in 3 man tents (2 people per tent unless you requested a single supplement). Mattresses, tents and eating utensils are all provided but you will need to bring your own sleeping bag. As we can only carry a limited amount of water in the desert, there is no water provided for washing on these two nights. We recommend bringing some wet wipes so you can wash inside your tent.

TRANSPORT

All transportation costs including airport transfers are included. We will use comfortable private minibuses with seat belts for travel around the country. Your support vehicle in the desert is a 4x4 pickup with trailer for carrying gear.

LUGGAGE

Bag Weight: 15kg

During your trip your luggage will be transported by vehicle. Your main bag must be flexible (a duffle bag and not a rigid suitcase) and weigh a maximum of 15kg. Your luggage will be transported to your accommodation each afternoon and you will not be able to access it during the day. You should also bring a small day pack to carry water, snacks and anything else you may need whilst walking or sight seeing.

HOW DO I GET THERE?

You will need to arrive in Amman on Day 1 of the trip. Queen Alia International Airport (AMM) is located 30km south of the capital city.

From London there are direct flights to Amman with British Airways and Royal Jordanian. The flight time is roughly 5 hours. Turkish Airlines and Lufthansa both offer indirect flights from Birmingham, Manchester and Edinburgh.

For those traveling from the US, Qatar have convenient flights via Doha from New York, Boston and Atlanta. Turkish airlines offer flights via Istanbul from San Francisco and Los Angeles. British Airways have convenient flights departing from Seattle.

Once your flight has landed, as you enter the airport building, please look out for a Kandoo representative who will be holding 'Kandoo Adventures' sign. They will be waiting before passport control and will assist with your visa before guiding you through the airport collect your luggage and meet your driver.

If you are changing airlines or re-checking your luggage at an airport on route, please ensure you leave a minimum of 3 hours between flights. This will account for any delays on arrival, travel time across airports (this can take longer than you think) and time taken to re-check baggage.

Travelling Responsibly

Here at Kandoo, we like to support our guests to make their travel more sustainable. As of 2025, we are offsetting the carbon on all of our trips from arrival in destination to dropping you back off at the airport. As we don't include flight travel in our trips these aren't included in our offsetting calculations, so we are providing you with the calculator below for you to do this yourselves.

eC02 Flights Calculator

PRE-TREK BRIEFING

Your pre-trek briefing is held in the hotel reception in Amman at 8am on Day 2 of your trip. You will be expected to have had breakfast prior to the briefing.

This briefing is a great opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have before starting the trip and also a chance for the guide to check everyone has the correct equipment and is fully prepared. Please bring your insurance documents and passport to the briefing with you.

BUDGET & CHANGE

The currency in Jordan is the **Jordanian Dinar** (JOD). For the latest exchange rates please see www.xe.com

It is best to take cash in US dollars, GB pound or Euros and exchange it locally. US Dollars are the most commonly used currency so will be easiest to exchange. There is currency exchange next to Baggage Claim as you exit the airport or you can exchange your cash in the currency exchange, hotels or banks, generally these offer the best rates than the airport. Credit and Debit cards are widely accepted and there are ATMs in the larger towns and cities. Travelers cheques are best avoided as you will be charged a hefty commission for exchanging them.

Expect to pay between $10 - $35 for a meal out in a local restaurant in Amman. To get around the city, a taxi will cost you around $5.26 for a 5km journey whereas the bus will be less than $1. Souvenirs are also relatively cheap so budgeting $50 for souvenirs will get you plenty! Our recommended guidance for spending budget in Jordan would be between **$50-100** on top of your tips, to give you ample souvenir spending money.

TIPS

You should budget for tips for your lead guide, Wadi Rum guides, cook and driver. The tip amount should be based on the service you feel you have received, but JOD 150 (equivalent to $200 / £160) will provide enough tips for each week on your trip.

Recommended tip amounts:

Lead Guide: JOD 50 per person per week
Wadi Rum Guides: JOD 25 per person per week
Driver: JOD 5-10 per person per journey

Drivers can be tipped after each journey, between 5 and 10 JOD depending on the length of the drive. Your Bedouin guides should be tipped at the end of your trek before you leave Wadi Rum. Your lead guide can be tipped after you return to Amman at the end of the tour. Tips are preferred in local currency.

FORMALITIES & HEALTH

PASSPORT

Your passport should be valid for at least 6 months after your day of departure from Jordan.

VISA

A visa is required by European and US citizens and this can be purchased on arrival. Please check the latest requirements before departure.

VACCINATIONS

No mandatory vaccinations are required.

INSURANCE

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are fully and adequately insured for the duration of your trip. Please ensure that all activities, excursions and destinations in your itinerary are included in your travel insurance policy, in addition to your regular cover for cancellation and medical expenses. We ask that you keep a copy of your policy summary (containing policy number and the emergency contact number for your insurer) in your daypack at all times, so that we can access this information should we need to contact the insurer on your behalf.

MEDICATION

Your guide carries a first aid kit at all times but we recommend you carry the following items: - Painkillers - Sunscreen for lips and skin - Moisturising cream (for sunburn) - Elastic bandage, regular bandages and Blister bandages - Sanitary products

EQUIPMENT & CLOTHING

EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY KANDOO ADVENTURES

- Tent (per 2 people)
- Mattress
- Eating utensils

CLOTHING TO BRING

Depending upon the time of year you are travelling to the desert, the temperatures can be significantly different and equipment that may be essential for one month may not be necessary for another. Below we have outlined your main equipment list for the summer shoulder seasons of Sept - Nov and March - May, then included additional items that you may find useful in the cooler periods of December - February.

Main essentials:

- Sun hat with wide brim
- Sunglasses
- Neck gaiter or scarf
- Walking boots (with ankle support and sturdy soles)
- Comfortable shoes (for the evenings)
- Socks (quick drying and not too warm)
- Short or long sleeved t-shirts
- Trekking trousers or shorts
- Fleece or soft shell jacket (for the evenings)
- Waterproof and windproof hard shell jacket
- Waterproof and windproof hard shell trousers
- Swimming suit / shorts
- Quick drying underwear
- Pyjamas, travel towel

December to February only:

- Lightweight gloves
- Warm beanie style hat
- Insulated jacket
- Thermal base layers

EQUIPMENT TO BRING

- Sleeping bag with a comfort rating of 0°C
- Head torch and spare batteries
- Water bottles or hydration pack
- Wet wipes and hand sanitiser
- 30-40 litre day pack
- 80 – 100 litre duffel bag, max weight 15kg
- Camera
- Walking poles
- Plastic bags for wet/dirty clothing
- Your mask and snorkel if you want to enjoy the corals in the Red Sea (swimming goggles and fins provided)

HOW TO BOOK THIS TRIP

1 CHOOSE YOUR DATE AND CHECK AVAILABILITY

A full list of available dates can be found on our website.

2 CONTACT US

Contact us by phone, email or through our website. We will answer any questions you may have and send you a personalized itinerary and quote.

3 COMPLETE BOOKING AND PAYMENT

When you are ready to book, we will send you a link to our online booking forms and participation agreements. We accept all major credit and debit cards and require a low 20% deposit to secure your place.