



ADVENTURES
IN GOOD COMPANY



DISCOVERING JORDAN-HIKING & CULTURE

TRIP SUMMARY

APRIL 5 – 14 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- Experiencing the breathtaking beauty of Jordan on foot
- Overnight in a Bedouin tent camp in Wadi Rum surrounded by stars
- Taking a sunrise camel ride through the Wadi Rum desert
- Enjoy & learn to prepare traditional & delicious Middle Eastern foods
- Meet local people to understand their culture and traditions
- Visit the ruins of the ancient Roman city of Jerash
- Explore the ancient Nabataean city of Petra- one of the 7 Wonders of the World
- Float and/or take a mud bath in the Dead Sea

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TRIP AT A GLANCE

Location: Middle East

Activities: Hiking

Arrive: Arrive at the Queen Alia International airport in Amman airport (AMM) on Day 1 group shuttles will be coordinated based on arrival times

Depart: Shuttles to the Amman airport will be arranged based on departure times. The airport is approximately 1 hour from the hotel and you will need to be at the airport 3hrs in advance of your flight.

TRIP OVERVIEW

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, which once captivated ancient travelers, continues to amaze a whole new generation of travelers. From the haunting starkness of Wadi Rum, to the teeming center of urban Amman, the majestic ruins of ancient civilizations of Roman and Nabatean civilizations. to the timeless splendor of the Dead Sea, Jordan is a unique destination offering breathtaking and mysterious sights, delicious food, wonderful people and rich history.

RATING

The trip is rated 2. Prior to beginning the trip, participants should be walking regularly at a brisk pace 3 to 4 days a week for 35 - 45 minutes. This trip consists of walking through ruins, hiking along dirt trails, rocky paths and occasionally uneven footing for 3 - 5 hours per day. Please note that Day 5 includes a hike that is 8.7 miles and is more typical for trips that are rated 3. The hike is mostly downhill. For this trip you should be working out at the upper end of these ranges. Rating: 1 [2] 3 4 5.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A local guide and an AGC guide (If there are fewer than 8 on the trip, there will not be an AGC guide)
- 9 nights double occupancy lodging
- All meals as specified by the itinerary
- Airport transfer to hotel for those arriving on the first day of trip
- All transportation within Jordan
- All entrance fees and activities as described in the itinerary
- Jordan Visa

Not included: Airfare to and from the Amman Queen Alia Airport (AMM), alcoholic beverages, guide gratuities, 2 lunches, \$15 exit tax (this is typically included in your airline tickets), Dead Sea spa treatments and mandatory travel insurance.

OUR ITINERARY

Below is the itinerary we have planned for the trip. As is true on any adventure travel trip, plans for any specific day may be modified due to weather considerations, unforeseen circumstances, new opportunities, and group interests.

DAY 1 – April 5

Arrive at Amman Airport (AMM), where we will meet you, assist with immigration and then transfer you to your hotel. Amman is one of the oldest cities in the world, inhabited since the bronze age. The city is growing into a modern city but retains its character and history. The drive from the airport in Amman takes around 30 minutes to 1 hr depending on traffic. We will meet in the lobby at 5pm and after introductions and orientation to the trip head to an early dinner. (D)

DAY 2 – April 6

We will start our visit to Jordan with a tour of the old city of Amman exploring the Citadel and the Roman Theatre, two of the most popular archaeological sites in the city and the Jordan Folklore Museum. We will explore the local markets with our guide and explore downtown. Afterward we will visit one the fruit market and get sample of local Falafel and Knafeh (a traditional Middle Eastern dessert). After our tour, we will go to Beit Sitti (House of my grandmother) and learn the essence of Arabic cooking. In the evening we introduce you to another side of Jordan by setting up a wine tasting session. Overnight Amman (B, L, D)

DAY 3 – April 7

In the morning we drive north to Jerash, the best example of a Roman provincial city outside of Italy. We visit the spectacular Forum, Roman colonnaded street, the Nymphaeum and Artemis Temple. Then head to a small town in Jerash called Souf, where you will spend a few hours in the company of the local women of Khayrat Beit Souf. The goal of Khayrat Beit Souf is to provide local women with a means to support themselves. They specialize in delicious traditional food made with local products, seasonal jams, and brewing a secret blend of decaffeinated acorn coffee with medicinal herbs. After a briefing about the project we will watch as the women begin to prepare jam, which you can then take home with you. As your jam cooks, we will learn about the local ingredients and traditional dishes. We will have lunch before we drive to Ajloun and visit the castle, which dominates the Ajloun skyline. It was built in the 12th century to ward off the Crusader armies at the key trade and pilgrimage intersection between Jerusalem, Cairo, Damascus and Mecca. After our visit we will drive to our hostel in Ajloun. Drive time total of 1hr & 40min. Total Walking: 3-4 miles Overnight Ajiourn (B, L, D)

DAY 4 – April 8

Today we will explore the town of Madaba and discover the amazing Byzantine mosaics excavated from throughout the town. The Madaba Map is the oldest preserved mosaic map of the Holy Lands. The map depicts Jerusalem in prior to the year 570. It is part of a floor mosaic in the early Byzantine Church of St. George. We will also visit the Shrine of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist. You can climb via narrow stairs to the highest point of the church, the bell tower overlooking the city of Madaba. The bell tower is the highest vantage point in Madaba, where you will have a wonderful panorama view of Madaba and its surroundings. Later we will drive to Mount Nebo and wonder at the view where Moses looked across to the Promised Land and later died and was buried. We will have a chance to visit La Storia Tourism Complex in Mount Nebo, it was well established to tell the main bible stories and onward to show the Jordanian culture past to present, an exciting journey through history to experience Jordan's religious, historical and cultural heritage. After a busy day we will head to Dana Nature Reserve overlooking the Wadi Dana. If time permits, we tour the Dana Village. Drive time Ajloun to Madaba 2 hours and Madaba to Dana 2 hrs and 30 min. Overnight Dana Guest House or similar. Total Walking: 2-3 miles including the village tour (B, L, D)

DAY 5 – April 9

Our first full day of hiking will start from Dana Guest House, 1,200m above sea level, and head west into Dana valley with your trekking guides. The trail drops steeply at first and then levels into a more gradual descent through the Dana Biosphere Reserve towards the eco-lodge at Feynan. The reserve, Jordan's largest, includes four distinct bio-geographical zones, which means that Dana supports an astonishing diversity of birds, plants, and animals. On your way down the valley you may see Griffin Vultures overhead as well as hyrax and copper-blue lizards on the rocks; if you're lucky you might even catch a glimpse of an ibex or a desert fox or see the footprint of a wolf in the dust. Finish at the highly acclaimed Feynan Eco-Lodge. Every day, a guided sunset walk leads from the lodge on a short walk (around 20-30 min) up to a nearby hilltop, for freshly Bedouin tea and stunning views westwards as the sun sets over the vast Wadi Araba deserts. The sunset walk is well worth the visit! Ascent 87ft descent 3,000ft Total hiking: 8.3 miles Overnight Feynan Ecolodge (B, L, D)

DAY 6 – April 10

After breakfast enjoy one of the local community activities offered in the eco-lodge such as: Hiking, biking, cooking classes, making kohl (Bedouin eye makeup), Arabic coffee, baking earthy "Arbood" bread or weaving goat-haired tents. What we do will depend on what is offered that day at Feynan Ecolodge. We will transfer you to little Petra where you will hike around 6 miles, there will be a couple of miles with amazing views across the Araba mountains and all the way to the Negev desert before we enter Petra via "The Back Door" avoiding most of the tourists. This way follows a Nabataean route out of the valley and skirting round the final mountain on a natural rock terrace which has been "improved" for the safety of walkers. Even so, it still narrows slightly before reaching a hidden plateau high above the impressive chasm of Wadi Siyyagh. Just beyond, carved into the cliff face, "The Monastery" suddenly comes into view, where there is a Bedouin café for refreshments if you would like. We will take the 850 Nabataean steps down into ancient Petra. We will have our first introduction into this amazing place as we walk through it to our hotel. Drive time: 2 hours Total Hiking: 8.4 miles Ascent: 1,625ft Descent: 1,700ft Overnight Petra (B, L, D)

DAY 7 – April 11

After breakfast we will spend the morning back in the Nabatean Red Rose City of Petra, one of the 7 world wonders. We will enter the city through the same 1km long narrow gorge that we left yesterday, which is flanked either side by 80m high cliffs! The site is massive, and contains hundreds of elaborated rock-cut tombs, a treasury, Roman-style theatres, temples, sacrificial altars and colonnaded streets. We explore and learn more about these before leaving. After leaving Petra we will drive to Wadi Rum. Wadi Rum is a desert valley cut into the sandstone and granite rock. It has been occupied to the Zalabia Bedouin people and known for its red sand and shots of it are in the 1962 Lawrence of Arabia movie. We will enjoy the wilderness adventure of a 4x4 (2 hour) jeep tour of Wadi Rum to watch the sunset, following in the footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia, climbing sand dunes and rock bridges. After the Jeep tour we will drive you back to the camp where you will enjoy the legendary hospitality of the Bedouins. Drive from Petra onto Wadi Rum takes around 2 Hours. Overnight in a Bedouin Camp. Hiking Approximately: 4-5 miles (B, L, D)

DAY 8 – April 12

We will start our day with a 1-hour camel ride to watch sunrise in the dessert. We will return to camp for breakfast. After breakfast we will have to say good-bye to Wadi Rum and head to the Dead Sea. It is a 4 hour drive but we will stop along the way for a short hike to explore the area and stretch our legs. We will arrive at our lovely hotel by the Dead Sea in the late afternoon. Drive time: 4 hours Hiking: 1-3 miles Overnight Dead Sea (B, D)

DAY 9 – April 13

After a very busy week we can spend the day floating and relaxing at the Dead Sea at one of the resort hotels. Enjoy the sunshine at the lowest point on earth or try out the invigorating mud bath to cleanse the skin, check out the spa, schedule a spa treatment, walk through the hotel's gardens or grab a book and relax by the pool or the Dead Sea. In the late afternoon we will head out to the Panorama Dead Sea Complex/Museum to checkout the exhibits, have dinner and watch the sunset. Overnight in Dead Sea (B, D)

DAY 10 – April 14

Sadly, it is time to leave this beautiful country. Transportation is provided to the Amman airport. For planning purposes, it takes approximately 1 hour to get to the airport, and you will need to be there 3 hours in advance of your flight. Check out time is 12pm at our Dead Sea Hotel. If your flight is in the evening a hotel space can be arranged for day use at the Dead Sea. Transportation to the airport will be arranged from that hotel. (B)

ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

GETTING THERE

You will be flying into the Queen Alia International Airport in Amman. (AMM) The airport is serviced by many airlines. There are direct flights to Amman from New York and Chicago through Air Jordan. As well as, many connecting flights from many cities throughout Europe. Upon arrival at the airport you will go through airport security where you will present your Jordan Pass/Visa - this will be emailed to you - and you will meet your driver at baggage claim.

GETTING BACK

Transportation is provided to the Amman airport. For planning purposes, it takes approximately 1 hour to get to the airport, and you will need to be there 3 hours in advance of your flight. Check out time is 12pm at our Dead Sea Hotel. If your flight is in the evening a hotel for day use can be arranged in Amman. Transportation to the airport will be arranged from that hotel.

AIRFARE

If you would like assistance with airfare, we recommend contacting our AirDesk Partner, [Exitto Travel](#). Start by submitting this form: https://pay2.exitotravel.com/referral_form?affiliate_id=1090&client=1. Just fill in your dates and destinations, including any additional notes about preferred carriers, class of service, possible stopovers, etc., and an agent will typically respond via email within a few hours. If you prefer to call, the number is 800-655-4053; be sure to tell them you are traveling with Adventures in Good Company.

Please note: Most of the international airlines are in-network for Exitto, so they do not charge extra for their services (and often have access to discounted rates). When necessary, processing fees out-of-network carriers are minimal at around \$35-\$50 per ticket.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The accommodations will vary as much as the landscape. On some nights you will stay in a modern hotel with double-occupancy and an ensuite bathroom. While at the hostel, which we will have all to ourselves, you will share a room and a bathroom with up to 4-5 people per room. The Milky Way Camp Bedouin camp in Wadi Rum will be hard-sided tents with 2 people per tent. (think glamping) Each tent is equipped with beds, linens, pillows and comfortable duvets. The camp has common bath house with 2 showers, 4 toilets and 3 sinks. Hot water is provided by solar panels. You will be sharing the bathrooms with people from other groups and they are mixed gender. At the Dead Sea you will be staying at modern resort hotel. Single are available for an additional cost but are not available at the hostel and at the Wadi Rum Camp. If interested and available select this option when you register.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer travel protection through Travelex Insurance Services. For more information on the available plans or to enroll, visit www.travelexinsurance.com or call 1-800-228-9792 and reference location number 06-0331.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. All products listed are underwritten by, Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation charges reflect the many expenses Adventures in Good Company cannot recover if you cancel, even if you must do so due to illness, injury, or personal emergencies. These fees are not meant to be punitive. The charges made reflect the expenses Adventures in Good Company has incurred in administering your reservation and planning for your participation. We recognize that the majority of those who cancel their reservations do so out of necessity. Please note that we do not make any refunds for any unused portion of your trip, not arriving, arriving late, or leaving the trip early.

To qualify for any refunds, we must receive notification in writing, by email to info@goodadventure.com or mail to: Adventures in Good Company, PO Box 455, 2601 S. Lemay Ave, Ste 7, Ft Collins, CO 80525. Cancellation date is the date the notice is received by Adventures in Good Company in writing.

In the unfortunate event that you must cancel your trip, the following fees apply and are due to AGC at the time (prior to departure) that we receive written notice of your cancellation.

Days Prior to Departure		
International	Domestic	Cancellation Fee
120 + days	90+ days	\$50
120 - 60 days	90 - 45 days	50% of trip cost
59 days or less	44 days or less	100% of trip cost

If you have paid in full, we have a waiting list, and we can fill your spot from that list, everything but your deposit will be transferred to another trip of your choosing for which you register in the next 365 days. AGC will allow you to transfer trip fees to another person, if in AGC's discretion, the other person is in the appropriate physical condition to participate in the trip.

Adventures in Good Company reserves the right to cancel or alter a trip due to unforeseen weather, unsafe conditions, low registrations or other circumstances. On the rare occasion when Adventures in Good Company must cancel a trip, all payments received to date will be refunded, including the non-refundable portion of your deposit.

Adventures in Good Company is not responsible for expenses incurred in preparation for any canceled trips, including airplane tickets.