

Cairo to Amman

15 days | Cairo to Amman



Discovering some of the world's best archaeological sites, we combine Cairo's ancient wonders, Luxor's greatest temples and tombs, the ever flowing River Nile and the rose red city of Petra - The Jewel in Jordan's crown.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Cairo - Pyramids & Sphinx at Giza Plateau
- Necropolis of Saqqara
- Mohamed Ali Mosque, Coptic Cairo and Khan el Khalili Bazaar
- Egyptian Museum
- The Temples of Abu Simbel
- Aswan - High Dam, Philae Temple, River Nile
- Nile cruising - islands en route
- Temple of Kom Ombo
- Luxor - Temples of Karnak and Luxor Temple by night
- Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon and Temple of Queen Hatshepsut
- Jordan - Amman
- Ajlun - crusader era Saracen Castle
- Jordan - Jerash - Ruins of ancient Roman city
- Rose City of Petra
- Madaba - St George Church and 6th century mosaics of the Holy Land

- Karak Crusader Castle
- Dead Sea - opt for a dip

What's Included

- Breakfast daily and all meals aboard Nile Cruiser
- 9 nights standard, superior or deluxe hotels (specific to your chosen itinerary), 3 nights deluxe Nile Cruiser (en suite cabin)
- Economy class return flights: Aswan - Abu Simbel
- 2 overnight trains: Cairo - Aswan and Luxor - Cairo (2 berth, 1st class sleeper cabin)
- Private air-conditioned transportation and all relevant transfers in Egypt and Jordan
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on day 1 and day 15
- Touring of Cairo, Aswan, Luxor, Amman, Petra, Madaba
- Dead Sea - free time, swim and detox
- Qualified, specialist guides at local sites
- Entrance fees for all included sightseeing

What's Not Included

- International flights, flight from Cairo - Amman on day 9 and visas
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Laundry, drinks, items of a personal nature

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Cairo

Welcome to Egypt. Prepare yourself for an exciting 2 weeks of sightseeing and sunshine! Upon arrival at the airport we will meet and transfer you to your hotel, where you can rest before our adventure begins. **Overnight - Cairo**

Day 2 : Pyramids & Saqqara

Today, enjoy a visit to the famous Pyramids at Giza, one of the sole survivors from the ancient Greek listed Seven Wonders of the World. The pyramids are the planet's oldest tourist attraction and will not fail to impress even the most seasoned traveller. In front of the pyramids sits the Sphinx, an enormous statue with the face of a man and body of a lion. This afternoon we explore the ancient necropolis of Saqqara, with its litany of ancient tombs and famous centre piece, Zoser's step pyramid. Constructed in 2700 BC by the Pharaoh's chief architect, it became the template for all future pyramid construction.

Overnight - Cairo (B)

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Day 3 : Egyptian Museum



Cairo - Aswan. We start the day's sightseeing with a trip to the Egyptian Museum to see the dazzling antiquities of ancient Egypt on display there, including the amazing treasures of King Tutankhamen and his stunning gold funerary mask. This afternoon we take a tour of Old Coptic Cairo, where we'll find the Citadel and some of the oldest Christian churches in the world, including the Hanging Church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and built in the 3rd century. This evening we board our overnight sleeper train to Aswan. **Overnight - Sleeper train (B)**

Day 4 : Aswan

Aswan. Arrive into Aswan and hotel check in. This afternoon we travel out of town to visit the mighty High Dam; a modern feat of engineering, the by-product for this immense construction is Lake Nasser-the world's largest artificial lake! We will also take a trip to the Philae Temple on Agilika Island, which is dedicated to the goddess Isis.

Overnight - Aswan (B)

Day 5 : Abu Simbel



Aswan - Abu Simbel - Aswan. It's an early start today as we fly south to Abu Simbel, possibly the greatest and most awe-inspiring temple of ancient Egypt, created to revere the mighty pharaonic ruler King Ramses II. The four colossal statues of the pharaoh himself

guard the entrance to this mighty temple with its spectacular rock-cut facade. Returning to Aswan there's time to amble around the towns excellent souk and relax by the Nile before boarding a luxury Nile Cruiser. **Overnight - Nile Cruiser (B, L, D)**

Day 6 : Nile Cruising

Aswan - Nile Cruising. Anchors away, as we set sail up the Nile. Relax, enjoy the facilities onboard and soak up the sun. We stop en-route to visit the unique, riverside temple of Kom Ombo, with its perfectly symmetrical architecture. **Overnight - Nile Cruising (B, L, D)**

Day 7 : Luxor Temple by night



Nile Cruising – Luxor. Ancient Luxor is the final port of call on our cruise and at over 4,000 years old it's steeped in history and often referred to as the world's greatest open-air museum. This evening we view the Luxor Temple, which comprises of numerous pylons, columns, an inner sanctum and a giant granite obelisk. The temple is beautifully illuminated at night. **Overnight - Nile Cruiser (B, L, D)**

Day 8 : Valley of the Kings

Luxor - Cairo. This morning we disembark the cruiser and tour the West Bank, home to the legendary Valley of the Kings, with its myriad of tombs, temples and monuments. The first monuments you'll see are the imposing Colossi of Memnon; these massive enthroned statues are all that remains of the temple of Amenophis. The often highly decorated tombs were constructed to once house the regal sarcophagi enclosed mummies of the mighty pharaohs awaiting their passage into the after-life. We also visit the Valley of the Queens (where the pharaohs' wives were laid to rest), the colonnaded Temple of Queen

Hatshepsut and the spectacular Karnak temple, which is dedicated to the Theban gods. This evening board the overnight sleeper train to Cairo.

Note: The Valley of the Kings ticket includes entry to 3 tombs. A subset of the 64 tombs at the site are open at any point in time and your guide will offer advice on the best ones to visit on the day. The tomb of King Tutankhamen is nearly always open and requires an additional entrance fee to visit. **Overnight - Sleeper train (B)**

Day 9 : Amman



Luxor – Dead Sea. Arrive into Cairo and transfer to the airport for a flight to Amman in Jordan (we can book this flight on your behalf). Upon arrival we transfer to the lowest point on earth - the Dead Sea; a natural phenomena, where you float like a cork in the intensely salt rich waters. The high concentration of mineral salts in the sea also gives your skin a fabulous detox! **Overnight - Dead Sea (B)**

Days 10-11 : Dead Sea & Karak Castle

Dead Sea – Karak Castle - Petra. Time for a bit of pampering - perhaps a day at a Dead Sea spa where you can indulge yourself in a variety of luxurious well-being treatments? Or simply relax in the sun by the Dead Sea, the choice is yours. In the afternoon of day 11 we drive south, visiting Karak crusader castle en-route to Petra. **Overnight - Dead Sea (1) Petra (1)**

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Days 12-13 : Petra



Petra – Madaba - Amman. The jewel in Jordan's archaeological crown is the Rose City of Petra, where you'll spend a full day sightseeing. Catching your first glimpse of the Treasury through the corridors of the siq, will be a memory sure to remain with you forever. We wander down the ancient Roman rock carved streets, exploring the Nabataean tombs, amphitheatre and other hidden treasures this once-lost city has to offer. If you're feeling daring, why not climb the hundreds of steps to Ad-Deir? Ad-Deir is better known as the Monastery and, with its impressive facade and the spectacular views, it is definitely worth the physical exertion! On day 13, you'll have the chance to revisit Petra before driving onward to St George's Church in Madaba to view the fascinating 6th century mosaic map of the Holy Land. Continuing to Amman. **Overnight - Petra (1) Amman (1) (B:2)**

Day 14 : Roman Jerash

Amman – Jerash - Ajlun - Amman. Today we take in the magnificent Roman provincial city of Jerash. With its colonnaded street, theatre, nymphaeum and Temples of Artemis and Zeus. To make these spectacular 2000 year old ruins come to life you'll join the throngs at the Jerash hippodrome watching a 7 lap chariot race and battle re-enactment. We drive onward to Ajlun for a tour of the crusader era Saracen Castle built by the armies of Salah ad din. **Overnight - Amman (B)**

Day 15 : Amman

Today we bid farewell to Jordan and onward departure transfer to the airport. (B)

Arrival Transfers

A complimentary airport arrival transfer is included in your tour. Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative

from On The Go Tours either just before immigration or in the baggage hall near the luggage belt of your respective arriving flight. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative. Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative. After collecting your luggage you will be escorted to our awaiting transportation.

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes in the arrival hall) or your flight to Egypt is delayed, please call or send a text message to the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

Tipping

Tipping is an essential part of the culture. For a job well done, we would suggest for your tour guide: USD\$5 - 6 per person for each day of sightseeing.

For your driver and On The Go representative we'd recommend USD\$2 - 3 per person for each day of service. Tipping is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Entrance Fees & Local Payment

Entry fees to sites of antiquity are not included, although reasonably priced. In Egypt, we collect entrance fees on Day 2 of the tour (the amount is noted under exclusions). A breakdown of the entrance fee total is provided upon arrival. Entrance fees and optional excursions that you may wish to undertake are payable in local currency - Egyptian Pounds (EGP).

If travelling on a Budget tour, a Local Payment of cash GBP150pp (or USD equivalent as per the Egyptian bank rate of the day), if applicable to your tour and noted under the exclusions is also payable on day 2. On tours that also travel to Jordan, entrance fees there are payable in Jordanian Dinar (JD). In Israel (on our Pyramids Petra Promised Land tour) entrance fees are included.

Tip Kitty

At the start of your tour we will collect a tip kitty (the amount is noted under exclusions) from all tour participants to cover tips throughout your holiday. This saves you the hassle of knowing when and how much to tip bellhops, luggage luggers, bus drivers, antiquity guards, train conductors and other support staff throughout the tour.

This amount does not include a tip for your tour guide. For a job well done, we would suggest USD\$5 - 7 per day for your tour guide. Tipping your guide and crew is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

Your tip kitty in Egypt is collected in Egyptian Pounds (EGP). If you are travelling to Jordan, the tip kitty for this part of your holiday is collected in Jordanian Dinar (JD).

In Israel we do not collect a tipping kitty. As a guideline we recommend that you budget USD\$5-7 per day per traveller for your guide and USD\$2-3 per day per traveller for your driver.

Travelling By Overnight Train

For journeys between Cairo and Aswan and/or Luxor on our Signature tours, and from Luxor to Cairo on our Budget tours, we utilise the overnight 1st class sleeper train service (excluding Treasures of the Nile). On the train the two berth cabins are lockable, equipped with bunk beds, linen, washbasin and towel, allowing passengers to relax and stretch out. A simple dinner and breakfast is included on the service. Dinner, served within an hour of your boarding is of a very average standard and we recommend that you eat dinner prior to boarding the train. A basis breakfast is served in the morning and tea and coffee is offered complimentary. There is a bar carriage located toward the centre of the train where hot and cold beverages can be purchased, and sometimes alcohol. The sleeper train is the highest class of rail travel available in Egypt, though by western standards it would be considered of a moderate standard.

We always request our cabins to be side by side in the same carriage, though ultimately

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the location of our cabins, and whether they are together rests with the rail authority.

If you are a solo traveller and have opted to share a room for your tour and not pay the single supplement you will be sharing a cabin with another On The Go traveller, or if this isn't possible, a member of the public (of the same sex).

Arrival Transfers

A complimentary airport arrival transfer is included in your tour. Upon arrival at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative from On The Go Tours PRIOR to immigration. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative who will fast track you through the immigration queue. Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative. Our representative will assist you with your luggage and escort you to our vehicle, where you will wave goodbye and be transferred to your hotel.

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes in the arrival hall) or your flight to Egypt is delayed, please call or send a text message (standard text message, not messenger or what's app) to the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

Egypt Country Guide

Visas - Egypt

Visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Egypt.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book trains and flights tickets, if included within your holiday.

Visas are required by all visitors to Egypt.

E-Visa. You can obtain an e-Visa for tourism purposes prior to travel by completing an application and making payment online. The e-Visa can be obtained up to 3 months prior to travel and is valid for 30 days from the

date of entry. The e-Visa is available to a long list of eligible countries and the Government of Egypt is constantly adding to the list. The current cost (Mar 2018) of a single entry e-Visa for tourism purposes is USD25 or equivalent. The visa cost is set to rise to USD60 and this may happen at any time. We recommend you secure an e-Visa prior to travel as it will speed up and smooth the immigration process upon your arrival.

Online applications can be completed at: visa2egypt.gov.eg

Visa upon arrival.

It still remains possible for nationals of some countries to procure their tourist visa upon arrival at Cairo International Airport. Please contact your nearest Egyptian Embassy or Consulate to see if this is available to you. The current cost of the visa (Mar 2018) is USD25 and is payable in USD CASH ONLY. The visa upon arrival cost is also set to rise to USD60 and this could happen without notice. Although not official a visa can near always also be paid in equivalent GBP or Euro CASH ONLY according to the exchange rate of the day. Please note that in the event of visa refusal at port of entry, On The Go Tours cannot be held responsible.

Important: RSA, Chinese and passport holders from a number of other countries cannot obtain an e-Visa or Visa upon arrival. Citizens of these countries must obtain an Egyptian Tourist Visa prior to travel. Please contact your nearest Egyptian Embassy or Consulate for further details.

Note: When filling in an Egyptian visa form, you will be asked to provide your address in Egypt. For the purposes of this form, please use either of the following addresses:

Holiday Inn Cairo Maadi.
Corniche El Nil, Maadi, Cairo 11431
Tel + 202 25260601

Steigenberger Cairo Pyramids Hotel
Alexandria Road, Pyramids - Giza, Cairo, Egypt
Tel +202 33772555

Le Meridien Pyramids
El Remaya Square, Pyramids, Cairo, 12561, Egypt

Tel: +202 33777070

Mecure Cairo Le Sphinx Hotel
1 Alexandria Desert Road, Pyramids, Cairo, 12556, Egypt
Tel: +202 33776444

Oasis Hotel
Cairo-Alexandria Desert Road, Pyramids 12556 - Cairo / Egypt
Tel: +202 38387333 & +202 38387666

Currency

The currency of Egypt is the Egyptian Pound.

Pound Sterling, US Dollars, Euro and other major currencies can be exchanged in Egypt. Exchange facilities are available at most hotels and all major towns have ATMs. It's advisable to request notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities. Traveller's Cheques are not recommended as they're often difficult to exchange.

Health Requirements

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Egypt from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Tetanus, Diphtheria, Typhoid, Hepatitis A and Rabies are strongly recommended. As tap water is not safe to drink in Egypt, only drink bottled mineral water which is readily available in hotels, shops and restaurants.

Climate

Temperatures in Egypt are generally high (25 - 30 degrees) and even hotter in the summer months from May to September, when the sun can be fierce and temperatures soar, so pack light comfortable clothing, sunscreen and a hat.

In Cairo and the Nile Delta region, winter (October to February) can be cooler - so take a jacket, long-sleeved tops and trousers for the cooler evenings. The south remains warm during this time but again, temperatures do drop in the evenings. Rainfall is negligible with the most falling along Egypt's Mediterranean coastline.

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Time & Voltage

Egypt is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Standard voltage is 220 volts. Primary sockets require the European, 2 pronged variety. We recommend that you pack a universal travel adaptor. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adaptor in order to use U.S. appliances.

Camera Fees

At some sites there is an additional fee for use of a camera or video. Camera/video (not professional) fees range between USD\$3 – 30 per site. There is no fee for taking as many photographs as you like at the Pyramids and Saqqara. The cost for using camera inside Valley of the Kings (though not permitted inside the tombs) is approx. USD\$18. The cost for photographing the treasures inside the Egyptian Museum is USD\$6

Essential Packing

- Towel for the felucca (if applicable to your chosen tour)
- Lightweight cotton garments
- Comfortable walking shoes for the Pyramids and Valley of the Kings. Pack flip flops/thongs/jandals to wear aboard the Nile felucca or Nile Cruiser
- DEET based mosquito repellent and antihistamine cream
- 2 pin, European electrical adaptor
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch
- Sleep sheet or sleeping bag if travelling with us on the felucca or onward to Jordan.

Felucca (Egypt): We suggest hiring locally a freshly laundered winter warmth blanket for USD\$15 (total) for the 2 night stay.

Wadi Rum Camp (Jordan): All bedding (which is freshly laundered) is provided at Wadi Rum and therefore bringing a sleeping bag is not a necessity but your own personal choice.

If doing a felucca cruise or travelling between November and March, pack warm clothes (i.e. – fleece, jacket, trousers, jeans, hat and scarf) as temperatures plummet at night.

Troubleshooting

These things will most likely never happen, but it's good to be prepared if they ever

do. Here are a few tips to keep your trip hassle-free. Egypt is no worse than anywhere else when it comes to crime. Minimise your chances of being robbed with these tips:

- Leave valuables in the hotel safe deposit or better still, at home
- Keep bags locked at all times with a combination/padlock. Bags should also be locked when being transferred in vehicles, onboard the train, felucca or when taking a flight.
- Carry your passport on your person
- Carry spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- Carry your bag close to your person rather than over your shoulder
- Travel in a group or pair, especially if you are female

Please note On The Go Tours will not be held liable for loss or damage to personal property under any circumstances.

Etiquette

Despite the inevitable ups and downs of travelling abroad, you will generally be shown great hospitality in Egypt. In return, please demonstrate sensitivity and respect for the local customs. Egypt is a Muslim country; so care should be taken to dress respectfully in large cities and towns, for example, when at markets and in public places.

- Ladies should avoid wearing 'clingy, tight or suggestive' attire, and stick to cool, flowing, cottons in busy city areas and markets
- Take care to dress conservatively and ensure that limbs are covered and remove footwear prior to entering a mosque
- Ex-military style clothing should not be worn
- Ask permission before taking photographs of people
- The standard form of greeting is a handshake. Men and women do not kiss at any time as a form of greeting.

Ramadan

The majority of the Egyptian population is Muslim (approx 86%), with a small minority of Jews and Christians. Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims in Egypt and throughout the world and adherents of the Muslim faith fast during daylight hours and break their fast with lavish meals and lively celebrations in the evening. Ramadan

culminates a month later in a 3 day celebration called Eid al - Fitr. Many shops (excluding those which cater mainly to tourists) and attractions close earlier during Ramadan. As such we will start our tour earlier during this period to make the best use of time and itineraries will be slightly altered to ensure we visit all attractions, leisure time will be offered in the late afternoon. Non-Muslims are not expected to fast over Ramadan, but it is considered impolite to eat food or drink on the street.

Note: Traffic is exceptionally heavy during Ramadan, especially toward the time of breaking the fast. Forthcoming Ramadan dates are as follows, (approximate) -

23 April – 23 May 2020

12 April – 11 May 2021

It's not like home

Travel to far - flung corners of the earth involves lifestyles and conditions that are sometimes very different from what you are used to back home. You must come prepared to cope with unusual situations, local inadequacies and unpredictable events as and when they occur. Foreign travel is definitely not suitable for people who expect or demand everything to go exactly as planned. With the greatest respect and in the interest of your ultimate enjoyment you must understand this. Things can and do change in foreign countries.

Shopping

Egypt is a virtual Aladdin's Cave. While Cairo's Khan al-Khalili bazaar is cavernous and full of unusual and everyday objects, smaller souqs and bazaars abound in other towns, too. Top buys include - perfume concentrate, carpets and rugs in innumerable hand-loomed designs, backgammon boards, hand-crafted shisha pipes, Pharaonic objects fashioned in marble and alabaster, Egyptian cotton clothing and of course - authentic papyrus.

IMPORTANT: Set your budget and don't be swayed, remember the caveat – 'Let the buyer beware'. Any purchases made whilst on holiday with us, irrespective of whether the store is recommended by us or other,

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are at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with the product you are purchasing and the delivery arrangements (we would recommend you take away with you any purchases rather than rely on shipping services). On The Go cannot be held responsible or accountable for items bought in country or shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.

Jordan Country Guide

Arriving to Jordan

For all clients that arrive to into Amman Queen Alia International airport to start their Jordan holiday (not applicable to Highlights of Israel & Jordan tour), upon arrival you will pass through immigration, baggage claim and customs. As you exit customs into the public arrivals hall, please be on the lookout for our representative, who will be holding an On The Go Tours logo signboard. Our representative will introduce you to our driver, who will transfer you to your hotel. At the hotel reception desk, please take note of the On The Go Tours information sign on the counter which will tell you what time our Amman representative will be in the hotel lobby to meet with you and discuss the details of your touring program, to give you our informative welcome letter and to answer any questions you may have.

If for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes at immigration) or your flight to Jordan is delayed, please call or send a text message to emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

Mosques, Religion & Ramadan

93% of the population are Muslim. Others are Christians or followers of other faiths. All mosques are open to non-Muslims but cannot be visited during prayer times. If visiting a mosque you will need to dress conservatively. Ensure limbs are covered and shoes removed when entering any Mosque. Men must refrain from wearing shorts, as must women.

RAMADAN

Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world and adherents of the Muslim faith fast during daylight hours and break their fast with lavish meals and lively celebrations in the evening. Ramadan culminates a month later in a 3 day celebration called Eid al - Fitr. Many shops (excluding those which cater mainly to tourists) and attractions close earlier during Ramadan. As such we will start our tour earlier during this period to make the best use of time and itineraries will be slightly altered to ensure we visit all attractions, leisure time will be offered in the late afternoon. Non-Muslims are not expected to fast over Ramadan, but it is considered impolite to eat food or drink on the street.

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Health Requirements

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Jordan from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Tetanus, Diphtheria and Hepatitis A are strongly recommended. As tap water is not safe to drink in Jordan, only drink bottled mineral water which is readily available from hotels, shops and restaurants.

Visas - Jordan

Visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Jordan.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book all services.

As a registered holiday operator we are able to obtain Jordan tourist visas free of charge for UK, EU, AUS, NZ, SA, CAN and USA passport holders travelling with us on a holiday including a stay of more than 2

consecutive nights in Jordan or if arriving via a land border staying more than 3 nights. If your holiday complies with these requirements we will arrange the visa for your stay/s and present it to you upon arrival.

If we are obtaining a free of charge visa on your behalf, our airport representative will meet your PRIOR to immigration at Amman International Airport and escort you through immigration presenting your free visa approval letter to officials. If you are unable to make contact with our representative prior to immigration please do NOT proceed through immigration (as you will need to pay the visa cost) but instead call our emergency contact number.

Please be sure to provide us with your full passport details at least 4 weeks prior to your arrival in order for the free visa to be arranged.

Should you NOT wish to take advantage of a free visa or you are not staying in Jordan for more than 2 consecutive nights, UK, EU, AUS, NZ, CAN and USA passport holders can obtain a visa upon arrival at a cost of 40JD/USD\$60/EURO42 for single entry. South African passport holders can obtain a visa upon arrival at no cost.

If you are arranging your visa independently, our airport representative will meet you in the Arrivals Hall. (Representatives are not permitted to enter the immigration area to assist clients who have/will arrange their visa independently).

It is no longer possible to get a multiple entry visa for Jordan. If planning to leave Jordan and travel to Egypt or Israel and re-enter Jordan at a later date you will need to arrange a second visa. If you are travelling with us and staying in Jordan for more than 2 consecutive nights, we will obtain this second visa for you. Alternatively, you can obtain a second visa at the border at the cost noted above.

On departure (via land or sea), a 10JD departure tax of is applied to all visitors. If departing Jordan by air then the departure tax is included in the airfare.

Currency

The currency of Jordan is the Jordanian Dinar.

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Pound Sterling, US Dollars, Euro and other major currencies can be exchanged in Jordan. Exchange facilities are available at various bureau de changes and all major towns have ATMs. It's advisable to request bank notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities. Traveller's Cheques are not recommended.

Time & Voltage

Jordan is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Meantime (GMT). From the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October Jordan observes Daylight Saving and is 3 hours ahead of GMT. Standard voltage is 220 volts. Primary sockets require 3 pin UK and often European, 2 pronged variety. In Israel the preferred variety is European 2 prong. We recommend that you pack a universal travel adaptor. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adaptor in order to use U.S. appliances.

Climate

The maximum daily temperature in Amman ranges from 12°C in January to 32°C in August. The weather in the Jordan Valley (Petra) and south of the country is very hot during the summer months of April through to September. At this time of year daytime temperatures can exceed 38°C and increase to as high as 49°C. The sun can be fierce so it is advised to apply plenty of sunscreen, especially at the Dead Sea.

In winter (December to February) temperatures can range from 0°C to 12°C. If visiting during winter you will need to pack warm clothes for sightseeing, although the Dead Sea region will still be quite warm. If your holiday includes a stay in the Wadi Rum desert, winter wear items such as hat, scarf and gloves are also advised.

Essential Packing

- Camping at Wadi Rum - All bedding (of a well-laundered standard) is provided at our Bedouin camp. It is of a personal choice should you wish to bring your own sleep sheet or sleeping bag

- Pack insect repellent and a torch or headlamp if staying in Wadi Rum
- If visiting in winter pack warm clothes and an umbrella
- In summer bring lightweight clothing, sunscreen and a hat
- UK 3 pin and European 2 prong (European more so for Israel) electrical adaptors as the sockets vary from one hotel to another
- A copy of your travel insurance policy, spare passport photos and a photocopy of your passport
- Proper walking shoes (joggers/ trainers) for sightseeing in Petra
- If visiting Wadi Mujib Siq trail/canyon you'll need clothing and footwear that can get wet. Ideally a t-shirt & shorts or swimmers and trainers/walking shoes that will spend most of the walk submerged
- Binoculars IMPORTANT - are considered as surveillance equipment. Should you be carrying binoculars expect that you'll be asked to hand these over briefly at times (with your passport) by police or military for inspection. You should not be concerned by the event, as this is merely a routine inspection of the item

Petra Park Services Charge

The cost of the entrance ticket to Petra includes a compulsory 7JD fee to ride an Arabian horse. This Government-approved directive is in support of the local Bedouin who own the horses and also live in the surrounding town of Wadi Musa. As you have paid this obligatory charge, you are indeed entitled to ride a horse 800 metres down to the entrance gate at Petra. However, please be aware that you'll need to tip the horse handler an extra 2JD. IMPORTANT- On The Go Tours only recommends that you do so if you are an experienced rider. The decision to ride a horse is a personal one.

Shopping

Jordan offers a range of quality souvenirs. Look out for high-quality artefacts including rugs, pottery, paintings, jewellery, embroidery and woven items produced by local Jordanian women under the auspices of the Noor-Al Hussein Foundation and the Queen Alia Fund. A popular form of ceramic ware is 'Jerusalem Pottery'. Platters are highly decorated with biblically-inspired designs

including fish, peacocks, grapes and goblets of wine. Known as Hebron glass, colourful handmade glassware in brilliant colours is a nice buy, as is silver jewellery crafted by the Bedouin people. Dead Sea products of all guises, olive oil and soaps, sweetmeats and olive wood objects are also uniquely Jordanian souvenirs.

IMPORTANT: Set your budget and don't be swayed, remember the caveat – 'Let the buyer beware'. Any purchases made whilst on holiday with us, irrespective of whether the store is recommended by us or other, are at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with the product you are purchasing and the delivery arrangements (we would recommend you take away with you any purchases rather than rely on shipping services). On The Go cannot be held responsible or accountable for items bought in country or shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.

Cairo to Amman - 15 days

www.onthegotours.com
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

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This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.