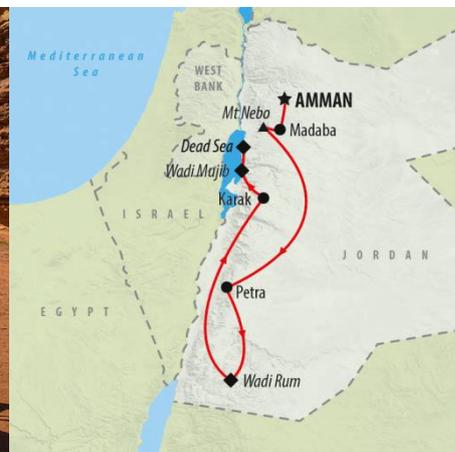


Passage to Petra

6 days | Starts/Ends: Amman



Spend two incredible nights in Petra's lost city, camp under the stars in Mars-like Wadi Rum, relax in the otherworldly Dead Sea and explore the Siq Trail of Wadi Mujib in six adventure-filled days.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Wadi Mujib - trek the Siq Trail of Wadi Mujib Biosphere Reserve
- Two nights in Petra - UNESCO-listed Nabataean city that was all but lost to the modern world until its rediscovery in 1812
- Wadi Rum - Vast red desert landscape with rolling dunes and dramatic rock formations
- Dead Sea - Beautiful landscape with warm buoyant mineral-rich waters
- Shobak Crusader castle - Perched dramatically on a hill top
- Mt Nebo - Perhaps one of the most sacred sites in Jordan with views across the Promised Land
- Madaba - Christian market town, Church of St George, Jordan's finest Byzantine mosaics
- Umm ar-Rasas - An ancient city and important stop on the caravan route between east and west

- Amman - Ancient hilltop citadel, fascinating Archaeological Museum and bustling souqs

What's Included

- 5 breakfasts and 1 dinners
- 4 nights - 4 star hotels and 1 night - Wadi Rum deluxe desert camp
- 4x4 desert safari through the sand dunes of Wadi Rum
- Dead Sea - Free time to swim and detox
- Touring of Amman, Dead Sea, Petra, Wadi Rum, Shobak, Umm ar-Rasas and Mt Nebo
- Escorted by a licensed Jordanian tour guide
- English speaking specialist guides at some local sights
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on day 1 and day 6. Please note departure transfers on day 6 are only offered at 04:00, 07:00 and 12:00
- All transfers and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$40-50pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$120-140pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Laundry, drinks and items of a personal nature

- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$5 - 7 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Amman



Sunday. Welcome to Jordan and the start of your holiday! Arrive Amman, included transfer to hotel and overnight. **Overnight - Amman**

Day 2 : Mt Nebo & the Promised Lands



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Amman - Madaba - Mount Nebo - Umm ar Rasas - Petra. Today we tour the citadel and Archaeological Museum of Amman before we take a walk through the bustling local souk to enjoy typical Jordanian street treats of falafel and hummus at the country's most popular local street stand. As the pictures on the wall will prove, the unglamorous food stand was a great favourite of the late King Hussein.

Leaving Amman we'll stop first at Mt. Nebo, the site from which Moses saw the Promised Land. Having led the Israelites for 40 years through the wilderness, Moses finally saw them from this awesome vantage point. This amazing panorama includes the Jordan River Valley, the Dead Sea, Jericho and the spires and domes of the Mt. of Olives and Bethlehem on the Judean hills just across the wide valley. Later we visit Madaba en route to Petra where we see the Church of St George, the Madaba Archaeological Park, Apostles Church and Madaba Museum.

Our next port of call is Umm ar-Rasas, one of Jordan's World Heritage sites and once an important stop on the busy caravan routes. The impressive mosaic floor of the St. Stephen Church features medallions commemorating all the early Christian pilgrimage sites of the region, and the extensive ruins also include one of the area's earliest Stylite towers, where a Byzantine hermit lived atop the tower and preached to the pilgrimage visitors.

Our final stop of the day is Petra. Consider doing a Petra by Night excursion (payable locally) for a tantalizing candlelight stroll through Petra's Siq....a romantic preview of things to come. **Overnight - Petra (B)**

Day 3 : The Nabatean City of Petra



Wadi Musa (Petra). The beautiful UNESCO listed heritage site of the Rose city of Petra is a definite highlight of Jordan, and this has been seconded by people all over the world who have recently voted Petra one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.

Little is known about the Nabataeans, the tribe from Western Arabia who settled in the city around the 6th century BC, though it's obvious when visiting the Rose city that they were gifted engineers and architects. The city was a flourishing centre of trade for many years until an earthquake devastated many buildings and their water management system around AD 663. A succession of habitation, leadership and further development followed, but as the caravan trade routes were gradually displaced by the advent of sea trade routes, the city's importance gradually declined and Petra passed into obscurity, and it was abandoned in 1189. The city lay undiscovered for hundreds of years until it was discovered by a Swiss explorer, Johann Burchardt in 1812. The approach to Petra is very undulating. The town itself is set across some rather steep hills that wind downwards to the star attraction, the Rose City.

We take a guided walk through the narrow and 100 metres deep cleft in the mountains, known as the siq. We pass numerous inscriptions and carvings until reaching the awe inspiring Treasury, carved entirely from the Red rock. This building actually served as a royal tomb but got its name from a legend of pirates who stored their treasure there. It's natural to have an Indiana Jones moment here as it was this building that served as the Holy Grail's resting place and the prize Indy so coveted.

As the Treasury is passed, the hidden valley widens to reveal the remains of the city proper. Continuing our walk, we'll then go on to explore more of this fantastic once-lost city. Many more amazing ruins follow including a huge 8000 seat amphitheatre and more royal tombs and mausoleums. If you are feeling energetic, climb the ancient steps to the Monastery to see stunning views of the area.

In all, there are some 800 registered sites in Petra, including some 500 tombs. Just as fascinating as the rock-carved monuments are the rocks themselves. Petra is an erosion-hewn masterpiece. Sandstone shot with minerals burst into colour giving off blue, red, orange and green hues. Amongst the rocky and sometimes jagged scenery, it's sometimes hard to know what is man-made and what is the result of pure nature. Our exploration takes us past many tombs, temples, an impressive amphitheatre and a Roman colonnaded street. Concluding the guided aspect of the tour, you're free to head off and further explore.

Better known as the Monastery, Ad-Deir has a similar facade to that of the Treasury, but is far bigger and the views from the nearby clifftops are awesome.

Today's sightseeing tour of Petra is conducted at a moderate pace covering approximately 12 - 15km (including the Monastery). Much of the ground will be rocky and uneven and you will need to have an average level of fitness to complete the full tour. There will be short breaks along the way. Some travellers choose not to complete the full tour and skip the climb to the Monastery and should you do this you'll be able to independently explore and stroll back toward the siq at a leisurely pace.

Want to learn how to cook Middle Eastern food? Consider opting for our Petra Kitchen Add-on tonight! See our website or brochure for details. **Overnight - Petra (B)**

Day 4 : Wadi Rum desertscape



Petra - Wadi Rum. A chance to revisit Petra before our afternoon drive to Wadi Rum. A vast, silent landscape of ancient riverbeds, pastel coloured stretches of sandy desert and

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Passage to Petra

amazing rock formations known as jebels that rise from the desert floor, the desertscape of Wadi Rum represents some of the most stunning countryside on the planet.

This desert is home to the once nomadic Bedouin people who would roam the desert tending to their flocks of goats. Most Bedouins now are village based although they still rely on goats to provide milk, yoghurt and cheese. Quite often Bedouins will return for a period of the year to their original nomadic lifestyle. Boarding 4 x 4s jeeps, we take a safari through the sand dunes, getting up close and personal to the surrounding scenery of Wadi Rum. Tonight, we enjoy a Jordanian dinner.

Overnight - Wadi Rum (B, D)

Day 5 : Shobak Castle, Wadi Mujib Canyoning & the Dead Sea



Wadi Rum - Shobak – Wadi Mujib - Dead Sea. After breakfast at the campsite, we head north along the Desert Highway to visit Shobak Castle, which is perched dramatically on a hill top and was built by the Crusader king Baldwin I in 1115. After exploring the castle we descend some 1300 meters to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on the earth's surface. More than 400 meters below sea level, the mineral-rich Dead Sea is the world's original health and beauty spa. Drift out and bob in the waters and slap on some of the famous black Dead Sea mud to give your skin an invigorating boost.

For departures between April and October we'll head up the King's Highway to Wadi Mujib. We'll embark on a moderate –paced two hour trek along the Siq Trail. Measuring 500 metres in depth and spanning 4 kilometres across, the impressive Wadi Mujib is one of Jordan's most remarkable natural

features. This dramatic canyon features sheer rocky walls and sparkling waterways that range from puddle height to depths that are perfect for swimming (chest height or deeper) depending on the rainfall. When the water level is high you should be prepared for having to climb up ladders, clamber across boulders and be happy to wade through water. The canyon is just one feature of the Mujib Biosphere Reserve, the lowest nature reserve in the world, home to a surprising diversity of wildlife and plant species. After our trek we make our way to the Dead Sea. For those not interested in taking the full hike, you can walk part of or wait by the Visitor Centre till the group returns. After our trek we make our way to the Dead Sea.

After check in at the Dead Sea, re-confirming your departure transfer time to Amman Airport and answering any questions you may have, it will be time to say goodbye to your tour guide who will be returning to Amman today. Your time at the Dead Sea is offered purely as rest and relaxation and with no formal arrangements your guide will take his leave.

Note: Lunch and dinner at the Dead Sea are not included in our stay. A buffet lunch is offered daily at a cost of 13 JD and a dinner buffet nightly at a cost of 19 JD per person. There is also an a la carte menu and other restaurant choice available onsite.

Overnight - Dead Sea (B)

Day 6 : Dead Sea



Friday. Dead Sea - Amman Airport. Hotel check out and included onward transfer to the airport in Amman. Departure transfers are offered at 04:00, 07:00 and 12:00 on day 6. If you would like a departure transfer at any other time or a transfer with post tour

accommodation this can be arranged at an additional cost.(B)

HOTELS

The hotels listed below are ones which we frequently use on this tour. We reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard when necessary.

Al-Qasr Metropole

Recently refurbished, the Al Qasr Metropole is a modern and chic boutique hotel. Guest rooms are beautifully furnished and include free Wi-Fi connection and luxury en suite facilities. All guests at the Al Qasr gain free access to the on site Fitness First gym as well as a complimentary breakfast. The rooftop restaurant has fantastic panoramic views of Amman and is a great place to spend the evening. The hotel is well located in Shmeisani, one of Amman's most prestigious neighbourhoods.



Old Village Resort

Located above Wadi Mousa, Old Village Resort has a wonderfully traditional feel about it with open stonework and original architecture. Rooms are full of character, some with delightful archways and all directly accessed from the outside. The hotel boasts an indoor swimming pool and sauna and beautiful views of the surrounding mountains. For dinner why not dine al fresco at the restaurant overlooking the mountains. Well located in forested wadis facing Petra's mountains.



Rainbow Camp

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A row of permanent tents in the desert make up the popular Rainbow Camp. Inside the tents are comfortable camp beds and warm bedding. Showers and toilets are close by and are cleaned thoroughly every day. Guests can relax in the communal area which is adorned with colourful rugs and cushions. The food at Rainbow Camp always gets rave reviews. Taking an evening stroll around the beautiful surroundings is a great way to work up an appetite before dinner. This accommodation is well located in the heart of Wadi Rum.



Holiday Inn Resort

Graced with interconnecting palm fringed swimming pools leading to the Dead Sea, the Holiday Inn is an Arabesque style hotel. Guest rooms are elegantly furnished and benefit from complimentary high speed internet. The hotel also has an on site fitness centre and a fine choice of Spa facilities. The 24 hour sleek bar is the perfect place for a tittle at any time of the day or night. The accommodation is located on the shores of the world famous Dead Sea.



Wadi Mujib Gorge

If travelling between 01 Apr - 31 Oct, you have the option to take a walk through the canyons of Wadi Mujib. Starting at the visitor's centre near the Mujib Bridge we walk/ wade upstream through the gorge nestled deep within the sandstone outcrop to the base of a large waterfall. Depending on seasonal rainfall levels, the gorge may contain pools deep enough for swimming. It's an ideal walk to take slowly and enjoy the cool water and shade, especially in the heat of the summer.

Despite being relatively easy at times, it does have hidden risks. When the water level is high you should be prepared for having to climb up ladders, clamber across boulders and be happy to wade through water. The river bed changes after each winter flood and this can create deep pools and strong currents making this walk harder (speak to your guide about the current conditions). Always take care along the walk, avoid pools and rapids, respect any rope barriers and take care if scaling up wet rocks using the ropes. Depending on conditions this would be unsuitable for travellers that are not confident swimmers.

What you need to bring:

Clothes: Should be light and comfortable. T-shirts and long shorts are advisable (to protect legs). You are advised to wear a bathing suit under your clothes and bear in mind that all your clothes will get totally wet so don't wear anything that you don't mind getting ruined. Shoes will also get totally wet. Therefore wear something that is not slippery and avoid flip flops or thongs - rugged water shoes are a good option. You may wear hiking sandals as well. Sunscreen is important along with caps. (The beginning of the hike is under the sun but later you are shaded by the mountains). You may want to bring clothes to change into after the walk. Prescription eye glasses and sunglasses may get damaged and are best left behind.

Perseid's Meteor Shower departure – 09 Aug 2019

The 09 Aug 2019 & 09 Aug 2020 departures, offer the chance to witness the spectacular Perseids Meteor Shower which occurs once a year and has been observed for the last 2000 years. At its peak the meteors rain down at a rate of about 60 meteors per hour. Special arrangements on this tour are as follows:

Days 1 - 3: Arrangements as per normal Passage to Petra itinerary, with the inclusion of a visit to Madaba to see Jordan's finest Byzantine mosaics on day 2.

PLEASE NOTE: Petra by Night (candlelight walk along the Siq) is not offered on this departure as the site is closed on both Friday and Saturday evenings.

Day 4: Petra - Wadi Rum. There is a chance to revisit Petra this morning before leaving

at noon to drive to Wadi Rum. Upon arrival in Wadi Rum, we enjoy a jeep safari through the area once favoured by the legendary Lawrence of Arabia and his Arab uprising. Wadi Rum is a vast, silent landscape of ancient riverbeds, pastel coloured stretches of sandy desert and amazing rock formations known as jebels that rise from the desert floor, the desert scape of Wadi Rum represents some of the most stunning countryside on the planet. Tonight, we'll tuck into a Jordanian dinner before the stargazing begins. The Perseids Meteor Shower occurs once a year and has been observed for the last 2000 years. At its peak the meteors rain down at a rate of about 60 meteors per hour. The clear and night sky of the Jordanian desert is the ideal place from which to view these celestial wonders. The Perseids were traditionally known as the "tears of St Lawrence" because they often appeared around the saint's feast day.

In previous years, our groups have enjoyed a spectacular show staying up well into the night and counting well over 150 meteors shooting across the sky and we hope to have the same experience this year. Overnight – Wadi Rum (B, D)

Day 5: Wadi Rum - Wadi Mujib - Dead Sea. This morning we get the chance to experience Wadi Rum as the Bedouins do - by camel. Until recently, the Bedouins were a nomadic people who made their living through looking after their herds of goats. Although most of the Bedouins have now become villagers, they still rely on the goats for the milk, yoghurt and cheese, and some families do return for a part of the year to a wandering existence, minding their flocks. As we ride through Wadi Rum on camel back we have a chance to see some of the desert wildlife including many small birds and various Geckos and Agamas, including the striking bright blue Agama.

Departing Wadi Rum, we'll head up the King's Highway to Wadi Mujib. We'll embark on a moderate paced two-hour trek along the Siq Trail. Measuring 500 metres in depth and spanning 4 kilometres across, the impressive Wadi Mujib is one of Jordan's most remarkable natural features. This dramatic canyon features sheer rocky walls and sparkling waterways that range from puddle height to depths that are perfect for swimming (chest height or deeper) depending on the

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level of rainfall. The canyon is just one feature of the Mujib Biosphere Reserve, the lowest nature reserve in the world, home to a surprising diversity of wildlife and plant species.

After our trek, we make our way to the Dead Sea. Drift out and bob in the waters and slap on some of the famous black Dead Sea mud to give your skin an invigorating boost. Overnight – Dead Sea (B)

PLEASE NOTE: We are unable to visit Shobak Crusader Castle today as is usually done on the Passage to Petra year round tour, due to the altered itinerary and time constraints.

Days 6: Dead Sea - Amman Airport. Hotel check out and included onward transfer to the airport in Amman. (Please note that departure transfers are offered at 04:00, 07:00 and 12:00 on day 6. If you would like a departure transfer at any other time or a transfer with post tour accommodation this can be arranged at an additional cost.)

Xmas Tour - 23 Dec 2019

If travelling on our Passage to Petra tour departing 23 Dec 2019, we include special Christmas dinner. After touring Petra on day 4, you are invited to take part in a cuisine course at the Petra Kitchen, where you'll help prepare a memorable Jordanian Christmas feast. Taking part in the lesson is optional and you are very most welcome to just sit back and relax till our chefs serve the meal.

New Year's Tour - 28 Dec 2019

If travelling on our Passage to Petra tour departing 28 Dec 2019 we spend New Year's Eve in Wadi Rum. Here, we ring in the New Year with a Bedouin party featuring folkloric dancing, Bedouin musicians, hands-on demonstrations of traditional Bedouin coffee and bread making, fireworks and more....along with a lavish buffet dinner and champagne toast at midnight.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Visas

Please be advised that 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.

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.

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.

Note: Traffic is exceptionally heavy during Ramadan, especially toward the time of breaking the fast. Forthcoming Ramadan dates are as follows, (approximate) -
05 May – 04 June 2019
24 April – 23 May 2020
14 April – 13 May 2021

Wadi Rum Desert Camp

On all group tours in Jordan we include a night in Wadi Rum at a Bedouin desert camp, where camping is the best way for us to experience the beautiful desert landscape. You can choose to spend the night camping under the stars or bedding down in our comfortable permanent tents with twin beds and linen provided, although you may want to bring your own sleeping bag liner. If visiting in winter (Nov - Mar) it can be very cold at night in the desert and you may wish to bring your own sleeping bag for warmth. There are environmentally friendly shared

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bathroom facilities with hot and cold running water, toilets and showers. Our communal tent furnished with small tables and cushioned seating area, is the place to gather at night where we enjoy a hearty Jordanian meal and some traditional Bedouin music.

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.

Arriving to Jordan

Upon arrival to Amman Queen Alia International airport and if we are arranging a visa for you, we will meet you PRIOR to immigration and fast track you through the process. If we are not arranging your visa please proceed through immigration, baggage claim and customs. As you exit customs into the public arrivals hall, please look 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. You

will also be given a welcome letter at this time highlighting the departure time for your sightseeing program tomorrow.

If for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes PRIOR to immigration, if we are arranging your visa) or your flight to Jordan is delayed, please call or send a text message (standard text, not messenger, what's App etc) to the emergency contact number as noted on your tour voucher.

Entrance Fees & LP

Entry fees to sites are not included in your holiday and are subject to change at the discretion of the Ministry of Tourism. There is no reduction for ISIC student card holders at Jordanian sites. A two day pass for Petra is currently 55JD (approximately USD\$77) and a one day ticket is 50JD (approximately USD \$70), included in the above budget.

In Jordan, we collect entrance fees on Day 2 of the tour, the amount is noted under exclusions on page one of this document. On our Road to Jordan, Temples Tombs & Treasury and Pyramids Petra, Promised Land tours entrance fees will be collected upon your arrival to Petra or the following morning. You can take advantage of exchanging money and ATM facilities at the airport. All funds collected in Jordan are payable in Jordanian Diner (JD).

If travelling onto Egypt, your entrance fees for this part of your holiday is payable in EGP and will be collected on the second day of arriving to Cairo

If your tour includes a Local Payment of GBP 150 or USD equivalent (noted under exclusions) this amount will also be collected on Day 2 in Jordan.

Tipping Kitty

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

however the decision to tip or how much is entirely up to you.

If you are travelling on to Egypt, the tip kitty for the Egyptian sector of your holiday will be collected in EGP on the second day of arriving there. You should also allow a tip of USD\$5 - 7 per day for your Egyptian tour guide, though ultimately the decision to tip or not and the amount is a personal choice.

If travelling onto Israel we would also recommend you budget USD5 - 7 per day, per traveller for your guide and USD2 -3 for your driver. Tipping your guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture.

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.

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.

Currency

The currency of Jordan is the Jordanian Dinar. 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

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Passage to Petra

and gratuities. Traveller's Cheques are not recommended.

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.

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.

Guides & Groups

Many of our tours offered are sectors of a larger tour. As such, on your holiday you may have travellers join you part way through your tour or end their holiday when you continue on. You also may have a number of escorting guides throughout your tour, ie one guide escorting your time in Jordan and the remainder of the holiday another in Egypt (or in reverse depending on your tour booked).

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.

Passage to Petra - 6 days

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