

# Road to Jerusalem

## 11 days | Amman to Tel Aviv



*Combine Jordan and Israel on one amazing trip. Discover the wonders of Petra, camp out in Wadi Rum and float like a cork in the Dead Sea before crossing the border into Israel. Take in the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem and the oldest church in the world in Bethlehem before travelling down the Mediterranean Coast from Haifa to Tel Aviv.*

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Amman - Ancient hilltop citadel, fascinating Archaeological Museum and bustling souqs
- Jerash - Ruins of the ancient Roman city, which at over 2000 years old is still surprisingly well-preserved
- Umm Qais - Roman Decapolis city, once a cultural centre, home to poets and great philosophers
- Dead Sea - Beautiful landscape with warm buoyant mineral-rich waters
- Shobak Crusader castle - Perched dramatically on a hill top
- Petra - The fabled 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
- Mt Nebo - Perhaps one of the most sacred sites in Jordan with views across the Promised Land
- Panoramic views of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives
- 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
- Wadi Mujib - trek the Siq Trail of Wadi Mujib Biosphere Reserve
- Jerusalem (West Bank) - The Armenian, Jewish and Christian Quarters of the Old City; the Wailing Wall; Cardo (Roman Road), Via Dolorosa and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- Bethlehem (West bank) - Shepherd's Field, Rachel's Tomb, Church of the Nativity & Manger Square
- Haifa - walk through the beautiful terraces of the Bahai Gardens, set on the slopes of Mount Carmel, and see the UNESCO listed Bahai Shrine
- Caesarea – discover Roman and Crusader-era ruins
- Jaffa - stroll around the picturesque fortified old town
- Tel Aviv - independently explore Israel's "City That Never Sleeps", with its long stretch of beautiful beaches

#### What's Included

- 10 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- 9 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, Jerash, Dead Sea, Petra, Wadi Rum, Shobak, Umm ar-Rasas, Mt Nebo and Madaba
- Escorted by licenced Jordanian Tour Guide in Jordan
- Touring in Israel - Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Haifa, Caesarea & Jaffa
- Airport arrival and departure transfer day 1 and day 11
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

#### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$40-60pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$140-160pp, paid in local currency
- Laundry, drinks and items of a personal nature
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guides in Jordan and Israel. We recommend you allow USD\$5 -

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updated on 25-08-2019 11:18:36

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7 per day, per traveller. Tipping your tour guides is an entirely personal gesture

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Amman

Saturday. Welcome to Jordan and the start of an amazing adventure. Arrive Amman, included transfer to our hotel and overnight.

**Overnight - Amman**

### Day 2 : Ancient Cities, Roman Ruins

Amman - Jerash - Umm Qais - Amman. Heading north, we visit Jerash, the Graeco-Roman city known as the 'Pompeii of the East'. Built over 2,000 years ago, Jerash is widely regarded as the best-preserved city of the Decapolis, a confederation of 10 Roman cities dating from the 1st century! We'll explore the site taking in the colonnaded street, amphitheatre, nymphaeum, forum and more before continuing to Umm Qais (Gadara), a dramatic black-basalt Roman city of the Decapolis with panoramic views over the Sea of Galilee and the Golan Heights. Tonight we head out for a meal and a stroll along Amman's famed Rainbow Street. **Overnight - Amman (B, D)**

### Day 3 : Mt Nebo & Umm ar Rasas

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 Um 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 4 : The Rose City



Chief among Jordan's many archaeological riches is the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Rose City of Petra. The city was first settled around the 6th century BC by the Nabataean tribe from Western Arabia. Rediscovered in 1812, it remains on the list of many travellers. We access the hidden archaeological treasures of the Rose City on a walk through a narrow, deep siq, where the rocks finally give way to reveal the famous facade of Al-Khazneh (the Treasury). Continuing our walk, we'll then go on to explore chunks of this fantastic once-lost city which is full of tombs, temples, an impressive amphitheatre and a Roman colonnaded street. The intrepid can ascend the hundreds of rock-cut steps to Ad-Deir. 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 cliff-tops are awesome. Want to learn how to cook Middle Eastern food? Consider opting for our

Petra Kitchen Add-on tonight! **Overnight - Petra (B)**

### Day 5 : Wadi Rum



Petra - Wadi Rum - breakfast. 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 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. Boarding 4x4 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 6 : Shobak Castle & 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 500 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

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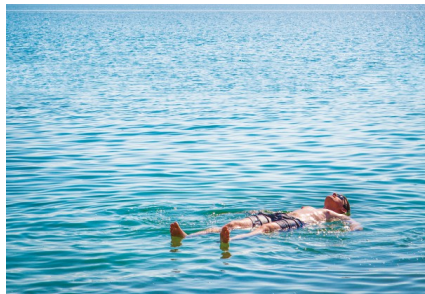
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Sea mud to give your skin an invigorating boost.

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. **Overnight - Dead Sea (B)**

## Day 7 : Dead Sea Relaxation



The lowest point on the earth's surface at more than 400m below sea level, the Dead sea is a natural phenomena and high on most travellers' bucket lists. Lucky for us we have a whole day to spend here, whiling away the time bobbing in its mineral-rich buoyant waters and lathering up with a detoxifying mud bath. Later today there will be an optional visit to the Ma'in hot springs - a series of waterfalls and hot springs, and a sacred baptism site where Jesus Christ is thought to have been baptised (book locally). **Overnight - Dead Sea (B)**

## Day 8 : Jerusalem



Dead Sea – Jerusalem (West Bank). This morning you'll be picked up at 9:00am and transferred to the Jordanian border where after immigration formalities you will transfer by public shuttle bus over the border into Israel, here you'll be met by a driver and escorted to your hotel in Jerusalem. The afternoon and evening offer free time. Today is the Sabbath and offers good opportunity to explore the World Heritage Listed city on foot without the usual hubbub. **Overnight - Jerusalem (B, D)**

## Day 9 : Bethlehem

Today we enjoy a guided tour of Jerusalem and Bethlehem in the West Bank. Our first stop is the holy Mount of Olives where there are amazing panoramic views of the old city. We take a walking tour of the atmospheric old city; wander through the Armenian and Jewish quarters to the Cardo (ancient Roman road). We continue on through the old City and the Christian quarter, visiting the famous Wailing Wall - a place of constant prayer and one of the most revered Hebrew sites. Retrace the final laboured steps of Jesus, burdened under the weight of the cross, along the Via Dolorosa to the hallowed Church of the Sepulchre; the site of the crucifixion, Jesus' tomb and the resurrection.

A short drive from Jerusalem is Bethlehem – the birthplace of Jesus; where we visit Manger Square and the Church of Nativity, which is reputed to be the oldest Church in the world and the site where Jesus was born. Spend the evening at leisure in Jerusalem. **Overnight - Jerusalem (B, D)**

## Day 10 : Haifa, Caesarea & Jaffa



Jerusalem – Haifa – Caesarea – Jaffa – Tel Aviv. We bid farewell to Jerusalem today and head north to the port city of Haifa. Here we'll visit the UNESCO world heritage listed Bahai Shrine and the beautiful tropical gardens set on the slopes of Mount Carmel. Travelling down the coast we stop in the historic city of Caesarea where Roman and Crusader-era ruins are strewn along the sea front. Continuing south we reach Jaffa, an ancient port where we enjoy a walking tour of the picturesque fortified town and marvel at the hilltop views. Then it's just a short drive to the vibrant, modern and cosmopolitan city of Tel Aviv, where we spend our final night. Dubbed "the city that never sleeps" Tel Aviv is renowned for its hedonistic nightlife and the city also has a plethora of trendy bistros, high-end restaurants and delicious street food stalls to choose from for dinner. **Overnight - Tel Aviv (B)**

## Day 11 : Tel Aviv



Tuesday. Our tour ends today with an included transfer from Tel Aviv to Ben Gurion Airport at any time of day.

There's so much to see and do in Tel Aviv that we highly recommend extending your stay to enjoy its beautiful beaches, art galleries and markets, including the popular

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Nachiket Benjamin market, which is only open on Tuesdays. We can book post tour accommodation upon request.(B)

## HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard. If you require a complete list of the confirmed hotels for your tour please request this from your reservations consultant two weeks prior to your departure. **Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.**

### 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.



### Petra Moon Hotel

Just 300 ft from the entrance gate to Petra, the Petra Moon hotel features spacious rooms with private balconies and flat-screen TVs. It also has a roof garden with a seasonal outdoor pool. The soundproofed rooms and suites at Petra Moon come with satellite channels, a DVD player and extra-long beds. Each has air conditioning and a private bathroom. The hotel's restaurant serves a delicious selection of international meals in both buffet-style and a la carte.



### Rainbow Camp

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.



### Eyal Hotel

Opened in 2014, the Eyal Hotel offers a modern stay in the ancient city of Jerusalem. It boasts an excellent location within walking distance of many points of interest, such as the Great Synagogue, the Damascus Gate and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, to name just a few. Each guestroom is fully equipped with essential amenities, with WiFi available free of charge, and the hotel also features an onsite buffet restaurant. However, its real highlight is the rooftop terrace, from which you can enjoy fantastic views over the city center and ancient city walls.



### Prima Royale

A private hideaway for all guests is an accurate way to describe Jerusalem's Prima Royale Hotel. The hotel's contemporary and artistic vibe attracts guests from all over the world. Rooms are modern and comfortable and include Wi-Fi connectivity. There is a delightful infusion of Middle-eastern ambiance throughout the hotel, no more so than on the Roof Top where guests can enjoy cocktails and a guided aerial view of the city. Perfectly located on a quiet street in the Talbieh district of Jerusalem.

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## Prima Kings Hotel

Offering an excellent location between Jerusalem's exclusive Rahavia neighborhood and the Old City, Prima Kings is just metres away from the Great Synagogue. It's façade features colourful bougainvillea cascading over each balcony, with guestrooms offering free WiFi, a private bathroom with a bath and soft carpeted floors. A buffet breakfast and dinner are served daily in the Carmel and Zion Hall, with a coffee shop also selling an array of snacks and drinks. Be sure to also take advantage of the hotel's spa facilities, which include a fitness centre, sauna and a range of rejuvenating treatments and massages.



## BY 14 Hotel

Well-located on one of Tel Aviv's central streets, this boutique hotel is just minutes from the Carmel Market, Dizengoff Square and the lively cafes and restaurants of Sheinkin Street. Its guestrooms are spacious and comfortable, featuring modern décor and free high-speed WiFi. An extensive sweet and savoury breakfast is served daily in the hotel's café, and guests can also take advantage of the free gym and bike rental. Although as the beach is just footsteps away, you'll most likely be spending your time soaking up the sun on the sands.



## PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same gender on your tour, this can be arranged, thus avoiding the single person supplement.

## PRICES / DATES 2019

Date	Twin Share	Single
03 Aug	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
08 Aug	AUD 4,395	AUD 5,875
17 Aug	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
07 Sep	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
21 Sep	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
05 Oct	AUD 4,495	AUD 5,975
19 Oct	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
26 Oct	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
02 Nov	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
16 Nov	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
23 Nov	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
07 Dec	AUD 4,295	AUD 5,775
22 Dec	AUD 4,395	AUD 5,875

## PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
04 Jan	AUD 4,495	AUD 6,115
11 Jan	AUD 4,495	AUD 6,115
25 Jan	AUD 4,495	AUD 6,115
08 Feb	AUD 4,495	AUD 6,115
22 Feb	AUD 4,495	AUD 6,115
07 Mar	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
21 Mar	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215

## PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
28 Mar	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
11 Apr	AUD 4,745	AUD 6,365
18 Apr	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
02 May	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
16 May	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
06 Jun	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
20 Jun	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
04 Jul	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
18 Jul	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
01 Aug	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
08 Aug	AUD 4,695	AUD 6,315
15 Aug	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
29 Aug	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
05 Sep	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
26 Sep	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
03 Oct	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
10 Oct	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
17 Oct	AUD 4,745	AUD 6,365
24 Oct	AUD 4,745	AUD 6,365
31 Oct	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
07 Nov	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
21 Nov	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
05 Dec	AUD 4,595	AUD 6,215
19 Dec	AUD 4,695	AUD 6,315

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