

Why JORDAN? TOURS



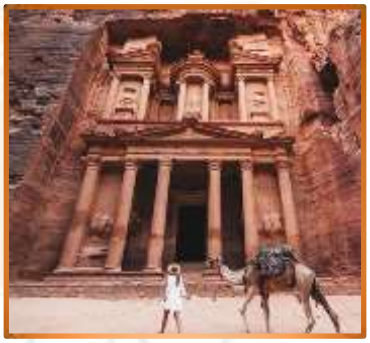














Why Jordan?

Jordan is a wonderful, beautiful country, housing one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, Petra and providing many other stunning sights such as the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Wadi Rum, as well as the lowest point on earth – the Dead Sea and many more. It is a must visit country where the warm hospitality of the people matches the outstanding scenery on offer.

Welcome to Jordan – Ahlan Wa Sahlan!

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CATALOGUE TEXT
WHY JORDAN TOURS






About us

Discover the treasures of Jordan with Why Jordan Tours. Visit famous sights such as Petra (one of the Seven World Wonders), float at the Dead Sea (lowest point on the earth's surface) and experience the beauty and silence of Wadi Rum desert. But also dive in the Red Sea, hike through the nature reserves and go on an adventure in one of the many canyons Jordan beholds. Jordan is a country with lots of diversity.

At Why Jordan Tours we have a team of very enthusiastic employees, ready to assist you! Together we have more than 20 years of experience and we have served thousands of satisfied customers. Customers always come first at Why Jordan Tours.

Why Jordan Tours is a professional and licensed travel agency, located in Petra. Our tours range from big classical group tours, family tours to individual tours. From horse tours to wellness, incentives and so much more!

We have a lot of standard tours set up, but we are always open for changes you might like to make. You ask and we deliver. Our specialty is Tailormade tours and we strive to accommodate all your wishes. After all, it's your holiday and we want you to leave Jordan with amazing memories to look back on.

Let us bring the real Jordan to you. Travel with Why Jordan Tours, because at Why Jordan it's not just travel, it's a lifestyle.










Travel responsible with Why Jordan Tours

We encourage you to travel responsible. Travelling responsible is a combination of "green tourism" and "eco-tourism". Meaning it cares about the environment but also about the people who live in the communities in Jordan. We'd like you to leave a positive impact on the environment, on the community and have a great holiday.
For you to travel responsible, we focus on several points:



* ***Go green!*** ***To protect the environment.***
- ***We aim to minimize waste at our office and ask you to never leave more than a footprint behind.***
- ***We support the conservation of all the sights in Jordan.***
- ***We kindly ask you to minimize the use of running water.***
- ***We do not allow smoking in the cars that are used for you to tour Jordan with.***



* **Go local!** **To support the communities.**
- **We are a team of local enforcement. At the office, drivers, guides all people are *locals.***
- ***We encourage you to eat at locally owned restaurants.***
- ***We encourage you to buy souvenirs from local artists.***
- ***All the people we work with are fairly compensated for their effort.***
- ***Although not mandatory, tipping is highly appreciated in Jordan.***

*** Respect!** ***And get a glimpse of local life.***
- ***Win favor by making an effort to observe local customs. And you will surely get a glimpse of local life in return.***

Let the people of Jordan show you their country. Let them overwhelm you with their heartwarming hospitality by travelling responsible with Why Jordan Tours.



Why Jordan, your guide to Jordan



Ahlan Wa Sahlan, welcome to Jordan (Official name: The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) is a Kingdom in the Middle-East, by the Jordan River. Jordan occupies an area of approximately 96,188 squ are kilometers including the Dead Sea, making it similar in size to Austria or Portugal. The country is bordered in the north by Syria, in the east by Iraq, and by Saudi Arabia in the east and south. To the west are Israel and the occupied West Bank, while Jordan's only outlet to the sea, the Gulf of Aqaba, is in the south. Only the northern highlands and the Jordan Valley have received enough rainfall to support large populations. Therefore, this area has always been more settled by farmers, villagers and townspeople. Most of the urban civilizations of Jordan have been based in these fertile lands.

The highest point in Jordan is the mountain Jebel Umm ad-Daami (1834 meters) and the lowest point is the Dead Sea (408 meters below sea level).

Climate



Western Jordan has essentially a Mediterranean climate with a hot, dry summer, a cool, wet winter and two short transitional seasons. In springtime, from February to May, this area of Jordan is full of flowers and plants; over 2000 different species. However, about 75% of the country can be described as having a desert climate with less than 200 mm of rain annually. In the highlands around Petra temperatures drop considerably in winter and there is a good chance of snowfall. The only exception is Aqaba where temperatures are still around 15 degrees Celsius in winter.







People

The majority of Jordan's 4.4 million people are Arabs descended from the various tribes that have migrated to the area over the years from all directions. One of the best known groups from Jordan's population is the Bedouin. It is difficult to count Bedouins, but it is generally known that the majority of Jordan's population is of Bedouin origin. Some Jordanians are of Palestinian origin, having been forced from their homeland during the 1948 and 1967 wars with Israel. Jordan was the only Arab state to grant all Palestinians the right to Jordanian citizenship and many have exercised that option, playing an important part in the political and economic life of Jordan.





Religion



More than 92% of Jordanians are Sunni Muslims, and about 6% are Christians who live mainly in Amman, Madaba, Kerak and Salt. The majority of Christians belong to the Greek Orthodox Church, but there are also Greek Catholics, a small Roman Catholic community, Syrian Orthodox, Coptic Orthodox, Armenian Orthodox and a few Protestant denominations found mostly in Amman. Several small Shi'a and Druze populations can also be found in Jordan.



Holidays in Jordan are either religious (Islamic or Christian) or celebrations of important events in Jordanian or Arab history. Non-Islamic holidays are fixed, while Islamic holidays vary according to the lunar Muslim calendar.

The most important holidays are Eid al-Fitr: a three day celebration that marks the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting and Eid al-Adha: the end of the month of Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca).

Culture

The tradition of tolerance and appreciation for diversity has long been a hallmark of Hashemite Jordan and it has helped to provide a stable social foundation on which to build the country. It can be said that many of the characteristics of the Jordanian society are found in their strongest form in Bedouin culture. For instance, Bedouins are most famous for their hospitality, and it is part of their creed—rooted in the harshness of desert life—that no traveller is turned away. The tribal structure of Arab society is also most visible among the Bedouins, where the clan is at the centre of social life.





Language

Arabic is the official language but many Jordanians speak English, especially in big cities and in touristic sites.



Passport and visa



Entrance visas are obtainable at the airport for visitors arriving by airplane. All you need is an international passport (6 months valid) and 40 JD. Those arriving by land through the Allenby Bridge/ King Hussein Bridge (Israel-Jordan at the West Bank) must get a visa prior to arrival as visas cannot be obtained at this border. At the Wadi Araba Border (Aqaba/Eilat) you are able to get your visa for free and at the Sheikh Hussein Border (most northern border of Jordan-Israel) you are able to obtain a visa for 40 JD. If you plan to stay for more than two weeks in Jordan, you will need to register at the nearest police station.

Safety

Jordan is a stable and safe country and it makes big efforts to guarantee the safety of tourists. Crime in Jordan is very low by international standards. This is mainly due to the preventative measures designed to reduce crime and provide education and alternative activities for teenagers.







Money

The Jordanian currency is the Dinar or JD. It appears in paper notes of 20, 10, 5 and 1 JD. Coins come in denominations of 1 JD, 500 fils, 250 fils, 100 fils, 50 fils, 25 fils, 10 and 5 fils (1 JD = 1.000 fils)

Credit cards are accepted at most large hotels, restaurants, car rental companies and tourist shops. The most widely accepted cards are American Express, Visa, Diners Club and MasterCard. In most cities you can also use your cards to draw cash (up to 500 JD) at any bank linked with your credit card network. You can change foreign cash or traveller's cheques at any bank in Jordan. Only traveller's cheques will be charged a commission. There are also authorized moneychangers in Amman, Aqaba and Irbid, and you will usually get a slightly better rate of exchange at moneychangers than at banks. Hotels of three stars or above will also change money but at a less favourable rate.



Tipping

Many of the better hotels and restaurants will add 10% to your bill. However, smaller establishments usually expect you to leave a tip in line with the service you received. Taxi drivers are generally not tipped, but it is customary to pay the nearest round figure to the price on the meter. It may be difficult to get change for a large bill, so carry plenty of small denominations and coins for taxis. Porter usually get 1 JD and guides received 5 JD tip per day.





Food and alcohol

Arabic cuisine delights the gourmet, and feasting is a preoccupation of Jordan. Dishes will even satisfy the health conscious because many of them are made with grain, cheese, yogurt, fresh and dried fruits and vegetables. With the use of these grains and vegetables, meat goes a long way and even the simplest ingredients can produce a surprisingly attractive creation. Jordan's cuisine, although unique, is part of a distinctive culinary heritage of the Middle-East, which have been savoured for well over a thousand years. In most hotels alcoholic beverages can be bought but in most local restaurants no alcohol is served.





Health

Jordan is one of the cleanest and safest countries in the region, but it is nonetheless advisable to take some precautions until your digestive system adjusts. Hotels rated four-star and up have their own filtering systems, and their tap water is safe to drink. In other places, bottled water is recommended. All fruit and vegetables should be washed thoroughly, and salads and cold meats which have been sitting out for a long time should be avoided, especially during summer months. All Jordanian dairy products are pasteurized and safe.



Medical services are well developed throughout Jordan, with a medical centre or clinic in every town and village. There are hospitals in Amman, Aqaba, Ma'an, Kerak, Madaba, Zarqa, Irbid and Ramtha. In the larger towns and cities many of the doctors have been trained overseas and speak English. Antibiotics and other drugs normally sold on prescription in the West are often available over-the-counter in Jordan. You should carry prescriptions of any medicaments you may need, making sure you have the generic name as your specific brand may not be available. If you wear glasses, bring a spare pair and a copy of the prescription as well.

Clothing advice



In fall and winter evenings are cooler so a sweater or jacket is a good idea. In summer days are very hot so you need protection against the sun: long sleeved shirt, hat, sunglasses etc. Especially for women it is advisable not to wear clothes that are too revealing; Jordanian men have respect for women but they often get the impression that western women are "easy" and this can lead to unwanted advances. You will notice that the interaction with local people is most pleasant if you respect their culture.

Souvenirs





Handmade souvenirs of wood, ceramics and silver are very popular. They can be bought on markets or in souvenir shops. Don't forget to bargain when you are on a souvenir hunt! If you are buying a water pipe that you want to use at home, insist on trying it out in the shop to see if it works properly.

Photography



Taking photos is usually no problem but if you want to take a picture of a Jordanian then ask first if they are ok with it. Especially Muslim women can't be photographed without asking. Military installations or palaces and houses of the Royal Family cannot be photographed.

Time

Jordan is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Daylight Savings Time occurs between April and October.

Voltage



Jordan's electricity supply is 220 volts/50 cycles AC. Sockets are generally of the two-pronged European variety, while a variety of other sockets and plugs—especially the 13 amp square three-pinned plug—are in use. To be safe, bring a multi-purpose adapter. American equipment requires both an adaptor and a transformer. Most varieties of adaptors and transformers are readily available in electrical shops throughout Jordan.



Fun & Adventure

Jordan offers guaranteed sunshine for most of the year. Perfect for the outdoor thrill seekers! Action enthusiasts who want to go beyond the ordinary, can climb into a hot air balloon or micro light and fly above the mountain tops of Wadi Rum. Gallop on horses through the desert, conquer granite cliffs by climbing in Wadi Rum and hike through canyons to reach a magical pool and waterfall in Wadi Mujib. Jordan is an adventurer's playground for young and old.

Eco & Nature

Jordan's best kept secret is its awe inspiring nature. From pine clad mountains,running green valleys, wetlands and oases, to the breathtaking deserts and the beautiful underwater world of the Red Sea. But also the impressive ecological treasure at the Dead Sea, where many small streams flow down from the surrounding hills, creating gushing waterfalls. Every nature lover will be taken back by the beauty of Jordan.







Leisure & Wellness

Jordan provides the perfect holiday destination for those who seek a diverse but comfortable holiday. In Jordan you have lots of opportunities to improve both your physical and mental well-being. Float in the warm salty waters of the Dead Sea, enjoy a relaxing massage or pamper yourself with a spa treatment. Enjoy an exquisite meal amidst exotic surroundings. Immerse yourself in the therapeutic waters of a hot spring and sleep under millions of stars. We can assure you that Jordan will give you an unique and relaxing experience.



Religion & Faith

Jordan has been home to several Biblical leaders such as Abraham, Moses, Elijah, John the Baptist, Jesus Christ and many more. Jordan tells you the stories you read in the Bible, Torah and Qu'ran. There are many sights that have been of high importance in these three religions. Such as Bethany, where Jesus was Baptized by John the Baptist. Mukawir, where John the Baptist died and many more. Jordan beholds some of the world's earliest churches. You will also find many shrines of the Prophets that can be visited as well. And there is so much more, the religious history Jordan beholds is immense.





Do not forget

- ***Passport, valid 6 months.***
- ***Travel insurance.***
- ***Cash and credit cards.***
- ***Specific medication.***
- ***Camera and extra batteries.***
- ***Sunglasses / sunscreen / cap or hat / proper clothing.***
- ***Bathing suit or bikini, this is no problem in the hotels***

Get in touch! The adventure awaits you, book today!

Experience hospitality at its best. At Why Jordan Tours it's not just travel, it's a lifestyle.

