



Hidden Treasures of Jordan

A PRIVATE TOUR WITH COX & KINGS

Amman • Jerash • Desert Castles • Dana Reserve •
Petra • Wadi Rum • Dead Sea

TOUR DETAILS

12 Days / 11 Nights

START/FINISH

Amman/ Dead Sea/Amman

PRICE:

JANUARY 1 THRU OCTOBER 31, 2012

\$ 4985 per person double occupancy

Single supplement: \$ 1455

Holiday Supplement may apply

Prices subject to change

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Hotel accommodations with breakfast daily, other meals as noted.

All drives, transfers and sightseeing by private car and driver.

Services of a private Cox & Kings' naturalist/ guide throughout your journey

Entrance fees into historical sights and museums, camel ride in Wadi Rum.

Baggage assistance at all airports and hotels

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

International air travel, Airport departure taxes.

Hot Air Balloon flight at Wadi Rum. Travel insurance

Excess baggage fees. Visa fees. Personal items and alcoholic beverages.

Gratuities for guides, drivers and hotel services.



This tour highlights the rich cultural heritage and stunning landscapes of Jordan. The journey takes in the beautifully preserved classical city of Jerash, the biblical sites of Mt. Nebo, Madaba, and Petra – the rock city lost to the world for a millennium. The shifting sands of Wadi Rum and the curative waters of the Dead Sea complete your exploration of the country. Often overlooked in Jordan, are the nature reserves of this desert kingdom. Your tour encompasses the Azraq Wetlands Reserve where an estimated 160 species of birds migrate seasonally to this restored marsh. Enjoy a hike through Dana Nature Reserve with its spectacular wadis and mountains, extending from the top of the Rift Valley down to the desert lowlands of Wadi Araba. Stay at the newly built, Feynan Eco-Lodge. Set among the arid mountains of Wadi Feynan on the western border of the Dana Nature Reserve, this wilderness lodge offers a cool, atmospheric retreat. The lodge's unique arabesque desert design uses environment-friendly technology including solar and candle power. In the evening the lodge is completely lit by candle and lantern light to afford the guest a most romantic setting under the desert sky.

Day One

Arrive Amman

Today arrive at Amman's Queen Alia International Airport. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Kempinski Amman [deluxe room]

Day Two

Amman

B

Today enjoy a walking tour of old Amman. Here you can see the ancient ruins of the Temple of Hercules, dating from the reign of Emperor Marcus Aurelius (161-180 AD) and the restored massive Roman theater, dating back to the 2nd Century AD, the highlight of downtown Amman. Experience Amman's 'architectural and artistic community' stopping along the way to enjoy Jordan's

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unique ethnic cuisine, such as felfel, sweets and coffee houses. Time permitting this afternoon, visit the Royal Auto Museum and the King Hussein Mosque [permit required for Mosque visit]

Day Three Jerash/Umm Qais B, L
This morning visit the ancient site of Jerash, widely regarded as the best-preserved city of the Decapolis. Here you will see the Roman Army and Chariot Experience (11am) perform in a 2000 year old Hippodrome. The re-enactment bristles with action and culminates with a Ben Hur style chariot race. Explore various ruins including the imposing Triumphal Arch, the oval shaped forum, market place, temples and two theatres. From here drive to one of Jordan's truly spectacular vistas, Umm Qais. The view from this Decapolis city reveals Lake Tiberias, the Yarmouk River canyon and the Golan Heights, all comprising part of the great rift valley. You will lunch at this site and walk through the acropolis and the ruins of the basilica of Gadara.

Day Four Amman [Desert castles] B
This morning depart on your drive into Amman's desert, a region of sand and barren basalt. Here Umayyad caliphs of the early Islamic area who cherished the hard desert life, built a string of palaces, hunting lodges and fortresses, in what were then the farthest reaches of the desert. You will visit a series of these 'castles', among them the Azraq castle crafted from the black basalt rocks found in the region. This was where Lawrence of Arabia [T.E. Lawrence] was stationed during the 1917 Arab revolt. You will have an opportunity to enjoy a walk through the Azraq Wetland Reserve, with its birdlife and aquatic life surviving in one of Jordan's 'desert oases'.

Day Five Amman to Dana Nature Reserve B, D
Depart for Petra, driving down the King's Highway, visiting Madaba & Kerak. Madaba is home of the most famous 6th century Byzantine mosaics. See the earliest surviving original map of the Holy Lands, dating back to 560 AD at the Church of St. George. Travel through the spectacular Wadi al-Mujib canyon to Kerak and visit the famous 12th century castle built by the Crusader, King Baldwin I of Jerusalem. From here continue to the Dana Nature Reserve, a rugged landscape with its varied plant life and nearly 150 species of birdlife and over 200 recorded mammals and reptiles, including the ibex and mountain gazelle, among others. Here you will overnite at a simple guest house with its stunning views over Wadi Dana.

Dana GuestHouse [En suite room]

Day Six Dana/Feynan B, L, D
Rise early today and depart on your 5 to 6 hour guided trek through Dana Reserve, with its Bedouin camps scattered throughout the region. Your trek ends at the western edge of the Reserve, at the Feynan Eco-Lodge. This lodge is built in a traditional design and lit by solar panel and candlelight.
Feynan Eco-Lodge [standard room]

Day Seven Feynan to Petra B
Your drive to Petra today takes you through extraordinary scenery, from desert to mountain pass. Enroute you will visit Little Petra before arriving at Petra. This evening experience the beautiful spectacle of Petra by Night (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday). On these occasions the approach to the Treasury though the narrow Siq is lit by thousands of candles whose flickering light casts an eerie, moving and bewitching atmosphere. On a clear day this unique spectacle is complemented by the magnificent sparkling canopy of the desert night sky. **Movenpick Petra [Junior suite]**

Day Eight Petra B, L
Spend the day exploring the 'rose-red' city of Petra, built 2000 years ago as a temporary refuge by nomadic Nabataean Arabs - Bedouins - who came north out of Arabia. Journey through the 'Siq' a huge crack in the Nubian sandstone, to reach el Khazneh - The Treasury, and the city beyond. A lost city for one thousand years, Petra was not fully uncovered until 1958; the rugged hills,

which protect the buildings and tombs, make this an extraordinarily peaceful place.

Day Nine Wadi Rum B
Today travel to Wadi Rum and enjoy a camel ride through Wadi Rum's ancient valleys and towering weathered sandstone mountains. These rise out of the white and pink colored sands, offering some of the most spectacular desert scenery you are ever likely to see. Following, return to Petra.
OPTIONAL: Very early this morning [3AM] depart on your drive to Petra for Wadi Rum. Enjoy a hot air balloon flight over Wadi Rum, a unique viewpoint from which to observe this desolate desert region. [Weather conditions permitting]. *Cost to be advised*

Day Ten Petra to Dead Sea B
Today you will drive to the Dead Sea. You will enjoy lunch [payable locally] and a tour of the Dead Sea Panorama before transferring to your luxury hotel located overlooking the Dead Sea. **Kempinski Ishtar [Deluxe room]**

Day Eleven Dead Sea B
Today enjoy an easy trek through Wadi Mujib Nature Reserve, with its dramatic scenery of Jordan's Grand Canyon, where the altitude ranges from below Dead Sea level to 2600 feet above sea level. **Note:** *The RSCN has instituted new safety requirements when visiting Wadi Mujib Reserve. All visitors will be provided with life jackets and safety helmets for their excursion on the water trails. All visitors must sign a release form at the Visitors Center on arrival at the Reserve. To ensure the integrity of the Reserve the Siq trail is limited to a maximum of 60 visitors at one time, with a 3-hour maximum allowed for each traveler.*

Day Twelve Farewell to Jordan B
Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

End of Tour Arrangements



Visas: US citizens may obtain a Jordanian visa on arrival at Amman's Queen Alia International Airport provided that your passport has a minimum of six-months validity from the date of your departure from Jordan. For other nationalities Cox & Kings recommends contacting their Jordan Embassy for visa details.

Please Note: Certain monuments and tourist attractions in the Middle East are closed on certain days for religious/holiday reasons. If in the event your visit to any of these cities falls on a day when these sites are closed, your tour will be adjusted accordingly. Please also note that this program requires extensive walking over uneven and rocky terrain and some long days of touring with early morning starts.

As this tour is operated on an individual basis, hotel accommodations availability is according to the clients' requirements. Please be aware that minimum night stay requirements and supplement may apply during the Christmas & New Year holidays.

Eco Feynan Lodge

