



## Wonders of Jordan - Mountains, Canyons, & Seas

Canyoneering | Hiking | Diving/Snorkeling | Jeep Safari

**May 3-7, May 2018 (5 days)**

While widely known for its historical, cultural, and religious sites, Jordan has many other hidden wonders that await adventure seekers. Join Rahhalah on an adventure across the spirited and ever-changing landscapes of Jordan. Discover Jordan's magnificent canyons, Petra off-the-beaten path, life with Bedouins in Wadi Rum, the view from the summit of its highest peak, and the colorful underwater world in the Red Sea.



## Highlights:

- Canyoneering in Wadi Al Mujib- one of Jordan's most scenic canyons
- Witnessing the Treasury at Petra by the glow of candle light
- Hiking to Petra via an ancient Nabatean path from Little Petra
- Diving and snorkeling in the Red Sea to witness the world's most diverse coral reef
- Bedouin experience and jeep safari in Wadi Rum -The Valley of the Moon.
- Summiting the highest peak in Jordan- Jabal Um Al Dami (1,875 m)

**Difficulty Rating: (3)** Moderate (Good physical fitness required; ~4-6 hours activity/day)

**Group size:** 4-10

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## ITINERARY:

**You must arrive in Amman, Jordan on Wednesday, May 2, 2018.**

**Day 1: 3<sup>rd</sup> May - Thursday**

**Amman/ Wadi Mujib/ Petra (L, D)**

Welcome to Jordan! Our trip begins at 8:00am with a pick-up in Amman by a Rahhalah representative for our transfer to Wadi Mujib.

**10-10:30 am** Arrival in Wadi Mujib. Well equipped with life jackets, we start maneuvering our way through the rocky bottom of the canyon to explore the spectacular sandstone formations of the gorge. We will hike, swim, abseil, and slide through the canyon to witness the beautiful scenes along the way. Zig-zag ropes along the trail gives us support when needed. Our trail takes us through some mild rapids and pools of calm water at the bottom of rocky dams as we make our way through the gorge. Our experienced guide will be always there to lend us a hand when needed to reach a breathtaking waterfall where we can swim and enjoy the scenery before hiking back again down the gorge.

**1:30-2:30 pm** Lunch

**3:00 pm-** Transfer to Petra's Seven Wonders camp for check in. Have free time to rest and refresh.

**8:30 - 10:30 pm** Petra by night – witnessing the ancient ruins be lit by hundreds of candles under the illuminating moonlight is a truly magical experience. The path takes us down and up a 2.1 km walk through the narrow gorge to reach the Treasury where we can sit down for a cup of tea amongst hundreds of candle lights and take in the breathtaking views of the historical sight. We listen to a story about the site, whilst being serenaded by the soothing sounds of old bedouin instruments and music before making our way up again to return to our camp for an overnight stay.

Overnight at Bedouin camp near Petra.

**Driving distance:**

*Amman to Wadi Mujib- approx 1hrs*

*Wadi Mujib to Petra transfer- approx 3hrs and 30 min*

**Activities duration:**

*Canyoning : approx 3 hrs; Petra by night –approx 2 hrs*

**Meals:** *Lunch at Dead sea Area/ Dinner at camp- Mansaf the famous Jordanian dish*

**Day 2: 4th May - Friday****Petra- Aqaba ( B, L, D)****7:00 am Breakfast**

**8 :00 am** Hike ancient trails to Petra – UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Totaling a distance of 12.4 km, we will be hiking through the historical site of Petra through the back route. This gives us the opportunity to discover Petra's rich history and culture in a truly authentic way keeping us away from the crowds. The hike starts from an area called Little Petra and follows the ancient Nabatean path; we pass through narrow goat trails, stony paths and make our way to the Ad Deir or 'Monastery' admiring the beauty of the carved sandstones, and then proceed our way down approximately 900 steps and a short walk to reach the world-famous Treasury before continuing our way back up to the visitor centre.

Picnic lunch will be provided.

**4:00 pm Transfer to Aqaba****8:00 pm Dinner**

Overnight in Tala Bay at a 4- Star Hotel

**Driving distance:** Petra to Aqaba- approx 2 hrs**Activities duration:** Hiking – 6-8 hrs**Meals:** Breakfast Buffet style/ Picnic Lunch /Dinner Aqaba - Seafood**DAY 3 : 5th May - Saturday****Aqaba (B, L, D)****8:00 am Breakfast****9 :00 am** Shore Dive and exploration of the Red Sea marine life.

Today we experience a shore dive in one of the most world renowned diving sites - the Japanese gardens.

The dive site has an easy access from the shore and is perfect for beginners. Diving equipment will be provided and the dives supervised by professional dive instructors. With the Red Sea's plentiful coral reef, the most diverse in the world, as well as the bountiful amounts of fish and sea creatures, be ready to be amazed by the marine experience along the gorgeous shores of Aqaba.

**12:00 pm Lunch****2:00 pm -5:00 pm** We will spend the afternoon snorkeling and relaxing at the Red sea. For those interested, It is possible to do more diving at your own expense this afternoon. Additional scuba dives can be arranged and paid for on site.**7:00 pm Dinner**

Overnight in Tala Bay at a 4 Star Hotel

**Activities duration:** Shore dive: approx 2 hrs ( 1 shore dive); Maximum dive depth is 8 meters for beginners according to international standards. Certified divers can dive to a depth of up to 20 meters depending on experience level.**Meals:** Breakfast Buffet style/ Lunch /Dinner



**DAY 4: 6th May Sunday**  
**Aqaba- Wadi Rum (B, L, D)**

**7:00 am** Breakfast

**8:00 am** Transfer to Wadi Rum- the greatest desert landscape in the Middle East

**9:00 am** Bedouin experience – Today we will have an authentic Bedouin immersion; we will be dining with a Bedouin family, the nomads of Wadi Rum, and experience some of their traditions carried out in the desert. We will make fresh bread, cook our own BBQ lunch, and herd goats as a part of our desert learning experience. We will then embark on a journey by jeep and on foot through the beautiful rocky terrain before reaching our campsite destination in the desert.

**12:00 pm** Lunch BBQ

**2:00 pm** Jeep Safari– We will experience a jeep ride through the beautiful desert and sandstone mountains, exploring the red sand and rock wilderness of Wadi Rum. We'll be visiting signature locations including some of the famous sites used for filming various famous movies, some historical sights related to the Lawrence of Arabia, as well as some beautiful rock formations and some insight into vegetation and terrain of the expansive area of Wadi Rum.

**5:00 pm** Enjoy the sunset in Wadi Rum- a short walk will take us on a hill from where we can silently witness the magnificent sunset in the Valley of the Moon.

**7:00 pm** Dinner

Overnight at Bedouin wilderness camp under the stars (tent).

**Driving distance:** Aqaba – Wadi Rum – approx 1 hr

**Activities duration:** Bedouin experience- approx 5 hrs with lunch; Jeep ride – approx 2 hrs

**Meals:** Breakfast Buffet style/ BBQ Lunch /Dinner

**DAY 5: 7th May - Monday**

**Wadi Rum /Dead Sea ( B, L)**

**5:00 am** Early breakfast and hike to the summit of Jordan's Highest Peak – Um Al Dami at elevation of 1,854 m. The hike is moderate level starting from the foot of the mountain and it takes 2-3 hours to reach the top. Reaching the Summit, there are stunning views of the landscape from the highest natural vantage point in the country.

**11:00 am** Leave Wadi Rum to Dead sea.

Taking the Namalah route that spans a gorgeous winding road parallel to the occupied state of Palestine taking us through varied ecological terrain, from volcanic rocks to metamorphic rock formations in the mountains as we drive through Wadi Araba. As we near the Dead Sea, we drive alongside the Jordanian farmlands and salt flats before reaching the Dead Sea hotel area. Lunch enroute.

**4:00 pm** Arrive at the Dead Sea hotels. End of tour.

**Driving distance:** Wadi Rum- Dead sea -approx 3 hrs

**Activities duration:** Hiking: approx 3-4 hrs / distance 2,7 km / elevation gain 444 m

**Meals:** Breakfast Buffet style/ Lunch en route

*Important: The itinerary and schedule are subject to change due to weather, road conditions, operating conditions, or numerous reasons beyond our control. In any case, the guide retains the right to change the program for the safety and convenience of the travelers.*

**Inclusions:**

- Transportation during the activities as required
- 4 nights accommodation based on **double occupancy** - 2 nights hotel, 1 night permanent Bedouin camp, 1 nights tented expedition style camp (Quechua tents, sleeping bag, and mattress pad provided)
- Meals from lunch on day 1 through lunch on day 5. Water, healthy snacks and fruits available throughout the trip.
- English Speaking guide
- First Aid Kit
- All Activities as described
- Entrance Fees to all included sites

**Exclusions:**

- International Airfare
- Travel Insurance
- Meals not specified above
- Visa fees/Jordan Pass (Note: JTB will cover this expense for hosted delegates)
- Drinks and personal expenses
- Tips and gratuities

**Discounted Price for non-hosted delegates:** 1295 JOD per person, Double occupancy

*Regular Sale Price:* 1595 JOD per person, based on double occupancy

**Payable:** by wire transfer

**Cancellation policy:**

90 to 30 days before departure, the cancellation fee is 50% of the trip cost.

Less than 30 days before departure, the cancellation fee is 100% of the Trip Price.

## Weather

May is one of the best months to visit Jordan with perfect weather throughout Jordan with warm days and cool nights.

Average temperature for the month of May:

Petra: 20-35 C °, Aqaba: 20-34 C °, Wadi Rum: 14-30 C °

## Packing List:

Layering is key to remaining comfortable while on an active trip. To achieve maximum comfort with minimum weight, you need versatile layers that mix and match to create the right amount of ventilation, insulation, and weather protection. **Adequate sun protection is important!**

Jordan is a conservative country. Therefore, modest dress is preferable in the towns and cities as well as in rural area when interacting with Bedouins. Clothes should be loose fitting, shoulders kept covered, and full-length trousers/skirts are recommended.

Note: The following gear is provided: Sleeping bag and mattress pad for camping in Wadi Rum; Diving and snorkeling equipment.

<p><b>Luggage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Medium duffle or rolling soft-sided luggage (10kg)</li> <li>● Luggage lock</li> <li>● Packing cubes/stuff sacks</li> <li>● Day pack - 30 litres / 1800 cubic inches capacity</li> <li>● Money belt/purse</li> </ul> <p><b>Clothing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Casual clothing/shoes for travel and city wear (lightweight, easily washable)</li> <li>● Light rain/windproof jacket</li> <li>● Mid-weight fleece/softshell</li> <li>● T-shirts</li> <li>● Long sleeve shirt with collar</li> <li>● Lightweight Hiking pants/capris</li> <li>● Underwear/sports bra (quick drying)</li> <li>● Sleepwear</li> <li>● Thin buff/neck scarf</li> <li>● Swimsuit &amp; cover-up</li> </ul> <p><b>Footwear:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hiking shoes, good tread and lateral support</li> <li>● Hiking socks, synthetic or wool</li> <li>● Comfortable shoes/sandals for camp use</li> <li>● Water shoes (with good tread to hike through the canyon)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Health, Safety and Hygiene</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sun hat/ Broad-brimmed sun hat</li> <li>● Sunscreen (30 SPF or higher) and lip balm with SPF</li> <li>● Insect repellent</li> <li>● Wet wipes</li> <li>● Hand sanitizer</li> <li>● Toiletries (Soap/ Shampoo/ Toothbrush/Toothpaste/ Comb, etc)</li> <li>● Personal first aid kit; blister kit</li> <li>● Prescription Medicines</li> <li>● Lightweight travel towel</li> <li>● Sleeping bag liner (optional)</li> </ul> <p><b>Miscellaneous:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sunglasses</li> <li>● Digital camera/memory cards/charger/extr batteries</li> <li>● Waterproof case/dry bag for electronic equipment (water, dust, sand)</li> <li>● Travel Alarm clock</li> <li>● Binoculars</li> <li>● Headlamp (very useful at camp)</li> <li>● Water bottles</li> <li>● Toilet Kit: Toilet paper, Ziplock bags (at least one for clean TP, one for dirty TP), wet wipes, hand sanitizer (You must pack out all toilet paper of out the wilderness)</li> <li>● Universal Electricity adapter</li> </ul>
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