

# Jordan History & Culture: Amman, Petra & the Dead Sea

Pre-departure information for your tour



## Passport, visa & entry requirements

- In order to enter Jordan (and the United Arab Emirates on the tour extension), U.S. and Canadian citizens need a valid passport with an expiration date extending at least six months beyond the date of reentry.
- We recommend having at least two blank passport pages for entry stamps.
- U.S. and Canadian passport holders must obtain a visa in order to enter Jordan. You can purchase your visa at the airport upon arrival for approximately \$56 USD using either cash or a credit card.
- On the tour extension, there is no visa required for U.S. and Canadian citizens to enter the United Arab Emirates. For travelers who sign up for the A Day in Oman optional excursion, the Omani visa is included in the price of the excursion.
- If you are not a U.S. or Canadian citizen, you must contact each country's consulate for your specific entry requirements.
- You can see the most up-to-date entry requirements for the destination(s) you'll visit on tour by going to [goaheadtours.com/entry-requirements](https://goaheadtours.com/entry-requirements) and searching the code JRD.

## Tour pacing & mobility

- You will walk for at least three hours daily across uneven terrain, including paved roads, cobblestone streets, and dirt paths, with some steep hills.
- Travelers should be healthy enough to participate in all included walks without assistance. Adding optional excursions may increase the total amount of walking on your tour.
- You should feel comfortable managing your own baggage at times.
- Go Ahead Tours and the Tour Director who accompanies your group are unable to provide special, individual mobility assistance to travelers on tour. The responsibility of the Tour Director is to ensure the group as a whole enjoys an immersive and informative journey, and they cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing, individualized assistance to any one traveler.
- If you have any mobility concerns or physical

restrictions, please contact our Customer Experience Team.

## Tour Director

- You will have a different Tour Director in the United Arab Emirates on the tour extension.

## Transportation & arrival information

- Round-trip flights booked through Go Ahead Tours arrive in and depart from Amman, Jordan. (For travelers on the extension, return flights will depart from Dubai.) A representative from Go Ahead Tours will meet you at the airport and take you to your hotel. Please remain in the arrival lounge, as the representative might be escorting one of your fellow travelers to the bus at the time of your arrival.
- Transfers to and from the airport at your destination are included for travelers who have purchased their flights through Go Ahead Tours. Travelers who purchase their own flights may request airport transfers with Go Ahead Tours for an additional cost.
- A flight from Amman to Dubai is included in the cost of the tour extension.
- All other included transportation on this tour is by private motor coach.

## Baggage allowance

- Please note that our travelers are limited to one checked bag and one carry-on bag per person due to storage limitations on motor coaches and other transfers, which may include train connections or flights.
- Contact your airline(s) for baggage size and weight restrictions for your flights, which may include on-tour flights in addition to your round-trip flights to and from tour. Please note that your included on-tour flights may have more restrictive baggage limits.
- Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage or exceed baggage size and weight restrictions. Be advised that you are responsible for any baggage fees incurred on all flights.
- Make sure you label your baggage and keep valuables, medication, and documents in

your carry-on bag.

## Clothing & packing tips

- We recommend packing lightweight, loose-fitting clothing that can be easily layered, as well as a light jacket or rainwear.
- A sturdy pair of walking shoes or sneakers is recommended for sightseeing.
- A sun hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen are recommended for outdoor activities.
- A small bottle of hand sanitizer may be helpful when other facilities are not readily available while on the road.
- You may want to pack dressier attire if you plan to visit a high-end restaurant or attend a special performance.
- It is preferable not to visit churches, temples, mosques, or other religious sites with bare legs and shoulders (and entrance may be denied on this basis).

## Health

- At least 60 days prior to departure, check with your doctor or healthcare provider for the latest updates and entry requirements, or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).
- Please be sure to take proper care with sun exposure, as the sun can be especially strong in some of the areas you're visiting.
- Bring a small first aid kit, including antacids, antidiarrhea medication, motion sickness medication, and any prescription medications, in your carry-on bag.
- If you have medication that you take daily, be sure you have enough for each day of the tour as well as any possible delays encountered.
- On the tour extension, temperatures in this region often exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit (30 degrees Celsius), especially during the summer months. Drinking plenty of water, limiting your alcohol intake, and using proper sun protection is extremely important in order to prevent the effects of dehydration and heat stroke.
- Be sure to take proper care for sun exposure by regularly applying sunscreen or covering up with long, loose-fitting layers.
- There are inherent risks associated with water activities, particularly for those with

# Jordan History & Culture: Amman, Petra & the Dead Sea



Pre-departure information for your tour

preexisting medical conditions. Discuss your planned activities with your doctor or healthcare provider for the best advice on participation.

- If you have dietary restrictions and/or food allergies, please notify Go Ahead Tours at least 30 days prior to departure by logging in to your account and updating your traveler info. To update this information closer to your departure date, please call our Customer Experience Team.
- You can see the most up-to-date entry requirements for the destination(s) you'll visit on tour by going to [goaheadtours.com/entry-requirements](https://goaheadtours.com/entry-requirements) and searching the code JRD.

## Cuisine

- Jordanian cuisine resembles that of much of the Middle East. Olives, hummus, sesame seeds, and herbs are typical in many meals. Falafel is the main street food, and many meals are served with rice. Hummus and salad are also popular and available at many restaurants. You'll find plenty of opportunities to sip mint tea or Turkish coffee.
- On the tour extension, the United Arab Emirates reflects its diverse history in its cuisine. Asian, Moroccan, and Levantine influences feature heavily, as do spices brought through the country by trade routes. Saffron, cardamom, and turmeric flavor many meals.
- Fresh seafood and one-pot dishes, like fareeth, a stew made with vegetables and bread, and al harees, a porridge of barley and meat, are popular recipes.
- Consumption of alcohol is strictly regulated throughout the United Arab Emirates. Alcoholic beverages may only be served to non-Muslim visitors at certain licensed hotels and restaurants.

## Electricity & air conditioning

- Jordan operates on 220 volts and uses Type C or G plugs with two round pins or three flat pins, respectively.
- The United Arab Emirates (on the tour extension) operates on the European standard 220–240 volts and uses a Type G

plug with three pins.

- We recommend packing a universal adapter, as well as a voltage converter if you plan on using your own hairdryer or other device without a built-in converter.
- The strength of the air conditioning in Middle Eastern hotels is often not as strong or as cool as what you might be used to in the U.S. or Canada. When air conditioning is available, it is usually regulated seasonally and controlled centrally by the hotel.
- Your hotels may provide hairdryers, irons, and other small appliances. However, these amenities cannot be guaranteed.

## Connectivity

- Wi-Fi is available in most hotels, though some charges may apply.
- There is no Wi-Fi on any of the motor coaches.
- Please contact your mobile service provider for information on roaming charges.

## Currency

- You will use the Jordanian dinar in Jordan (plus the United Arab Emirates dirham in Dubai and Abu Dhabi).
- Better rates of exchange are usually available overseas, although it's worth ordering some currency from your local bank to use when you first arrive.
- We strongly advise that you take debit/bank cards and credit cards, which can be used to withdraw cash at local banks as needed.
- You can use most debit/credit cards at ATMs on the international networks Cirrus and Plus, but make sure to check with your home bank about withdrawal fees.
- Inform your bank and credit card company of your travel plans so that they won't confuse your international purchases for fraudulent charges.
- International banks and businesses primarily accept debit and credit cards that work with the EMV chip system. If you do not already have at least one debit or credit card with a chip in it, we strongly recommend requesting one from your bank prior to your tour.
- You may find it useful to have a supply of U.S. currency in small denominations when

bargaining for everything from taxi rides to souvenirs.

## Tipping

- At the conclusion of your tour, it's customary to offer your Tour Director and driver a gratuity in local currency. Please keep current exchange rates in mind.
- We recommend tipping the equivalent of \$8USD to \$10USD per person per day for your Tour Director, \$1USD per person per day for the bus helper, and the equivalent of \$3USD per person per day for your driver.
- If applicable, we also recommend the equivalent of \$2USD per local guide.
- Tips can only be paid in cash.

## Purchasing excursions on tour

- Most optional excursions will be available for purchase while you are on tour.
- Your Tour Director will only accept cash (in USD only), Visa, or MasterCard as payment for excursions.
- Please be advised that if you pay for an excursion by credit card while on tour, it may take up to three months for your card to be charged.
- Some optional excursions may only be purchased in advance. See page four of your tour itinerary for more information.

## Local laws

- Oman, on the tour extension, is an Islamic country that follows Sharia law. While both Dubai and Abu Dhabi are considered more liberal than some neighboring cities, it's important to note that very conservative laws governing public behavior are strictly enforced.
- Among these laws are prohibitions against public displays of affection. Hand-holding is permissible, but kissing and other affectionate displays are expressly forbidden, even between married couples.
- Obscenity laws are also upheld throughout the country. Offenses for using foul language and making indecent gestures are punishable by jail time.