Discover Ancient Jordan & Petra

12 Days

MT SOBEK
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL
Discover Ancient Jordan & Petra

With stunning desert landscapes and wondrous historical sights, Jordan exemplifies the magic of the Middle East! On this 12-day adventure, experience the country’s highlights and its lesser-known desert routes as you hike through the Dana Biosphere Reserve and take Bedouin paths through the Sharah Mountains. Your reward for six days of epic hiking? Quiet sunset strolls, tea on the dunes, and nights under endless desert skies. Treasure every moment as you explore ancient Petra, float in the Dead Sea, and behold views across the biblical Promised Land from Mount Nebo.

Details

Arrive: Amman, Jordan
Depart: Amman, Jordan
Duration: 12 Days
Group Size: 5-14 Guests
Minimum Age: 16 Years Old
Activity Level: 

Testimonials

“Our guide was exceptional. He was knowledgeable about history, archeology, and nature—and also personable and attentive to our needs. We could not ask for a better guide.”
David L.

“I have taken 12 trips with MT Sobek. Each has left a positive imprint on me—widening my view of the world and its peoples.”
Jane B.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.
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Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01
MT Sobek has been crafting insightful cultural journeys for 50 years, offering the best in immersive exploration.

REASON #02
This trip is expertly led by local Jordanian guide Ayman Abd Alkareem, who has been leading groups through the country for 7 years.

REASON #03
More than a driving tour, this trip includes 6 days hiking through the Dana Biosphere Reserve and Sharah Mountains.

What to Expect

ACTIVITIES
Insightful cultural touring of Jordan’s top sites with six days hiking up to 9 hours per day on Bedouin paths and mountain trails.

LODGING
A perfect blend of luxurious five-star hotels, comfortable hotels with modern amenities, MT Sobek trail camps and a Martian-like experience at Sun City Camp.

CLIMATE
Temperatures range from lows in the mid-to-high 40’s and highs in the low 60’s to low 70’s. There is a slight possibility of rain.

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips’ success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Ayman grew up in Jordan’s historic capital city, Amman. He studied Tourism and Archeology at university and then qualified as a licensed guide. Ayman is a passionate person: he loves his country, he loves hiking and exploring the trails, canyons and deserts of Jordan, and he loves sharing Jordan with visitors. He even helped with the scouting and mapping of the Jordan Trail. Ayman has guided thousands of visitors from various nations and backgrounds and cultures. His infectious smile and hospitable personality mean you meet him as a guide, but leave with a new friend.

Ayman Abd-Alkareem

**Itinerary**

**DAY 1**

**ARRIVE IN AMMAN**

Welcome to Jordan! Meet your MT Sobek representative at Queen Alia International Airport and transfer to your hotel in Amman. Enjoy an activity today, depending upon your flight arrival time. Later in the evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: D

**DAY 2**

**DISCOVER AMMAN**

Start today at Amman Citadel, where in the Old Testament King David arranged to have his lover’s husband murdered. Drive to Jebel Webdeh, the arts and cultural district, passing art galleries, antiquities, and handicraft shops. Then take a walking tour of the old city, stopping at local restaurants to sample falafel, hummus, and kenaqah, an Arab delicacy eaten at times of celebration. Continue through the streets and markets, visiting the Al-Husseini mosque and, time permitting, the Roman amphitheater. Tonight experience another side of Jordan with a wine tasting and dinner.

Meals: B, L, D

**DAY 3**

**JOURNEY TO JERASH & AJLOUN**

Head north to stroll through history in Jerash, regarded as one of the most important and best-preserved Roman cities in the Middle East. After absorbing the wonders of Jerash, drive to Ajloun and visit the castle, which dominates the skyline and was built to ward off the Crusader armies at the key trade and pilgrimage intersection between Jerusalem, Cairo, Damascus and Mecca. Before heading back to Amman, visit a local home and savor a delicious home-cooked Jordanian meal.

Meals: B, L

**DAY 4**

**HEAD SOUTH TO MOUNT NEBO & MADABA**

After breakfast, drive south to Mount Nebo and wonder at the view where Moses looked across to the Promised Land and later died and was buried. Continue to Madaba, where you discover the town’s amazing Byzantine mosaics and the Madaba Map — the oldest preserved mosaic map of the Holy Land. After lunch head to the ancient Crusader castle in Karak, exploring the maze of stone-vaulted halls and passageways. Arrive at the Dana Nature Reserve overlooking Wadi Dana, and explore the old village before settling in for dinner.

Meals: B, L, D
DAY 5

HIKE FROM DANA TO FEYNAN ECOLODGE

Begin your hike at Dana Guesthouse (4,000’) and head west into Dana Valley. The trail drops steeply and then descends gradually through the Dana Biosphere Reserve. Jordan’s largest reserve includes four distinct biogeographical zones supporting an astonishing diversity of flora and fauna. Look for Griffon vultures, hyrax, copper-blue lizards, and, if you’re lucky, ibex or desert fox. Finish at the Feynan Ecolodge, from where a guided sunset walk takes you to a nearby hilltop for fresh Bedouin tea and stunning views of the sunset over the vast Wadi Araba desert.

Activity: 4-5 hours/8.5 miles hiking with 750' elevation gain & 3,750' elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

HIKE FROM WADI FEYNAN TO FURON

Start early on a challenging hike to Furon. Walk through the historic landscape around Feynan, where copper has been mined for 3,000 years. As you leave Feynan, see the slag mountains that are the waste product of this ancient industry, plus ruins from the Nabataean and Roman periods. Pass through the entrance to Wadi Ghweir and ascend with great views. This is a steep and challenging section of the route, but extremely rewarding. In the afternoon, reach your camp on a beautiful, open plateau in Furon.

Activity: 8-9 hours/11.5 miles hiking with 4,460' elevation gain & 1,575' elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7

HIKE FROM FURON TO GHBOUR WHEDAT

After breakfast, start your hike past Ras Al-Feid towards Ghbour Whedat. Enjoy amazing views into the remotest and wildest corners of Jordan! Contouring the Sharah Mountains, follow a trail of Bedouin shepherd trails. On the remotest sections of the trail, you are walking on less traveled and harder-to-identify hunters’ paths. The sheer peaks of black mountains overlooking the trail and steep precipitous drops of the canyons below make this day absolutely spectacular, with one view outdone by the next.

Activity: 6-7 hours/10 miles hiking with 2,450' elevation gain & 3,020' elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 8

HIKE FROM GHBOUR WHEDAT TO LITTLE PETRA

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Hiking between Ghabour Whedat and Little Petra (Siq al-Barid) today, pass many sights including Ba’ajah ruins, Nabataean wine and olive presses, water tanks, wells, and Nabataean rock-carved facades. Arrive in Little Petra—a mini, magical version of Petra—and then continue following the timeline markers through history to the remains of a Neolithic village. Tonight have an unforgettable desert experience as you sleep under the stars in an authentic Bedouin camp.

Activity: 5-6 hours/8.5 miles hiking with 2,000' elevation gain & 1,850' elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 9
HIKE FROM LITTLE PETRA TO PETRA

Hike along good tracks that go pleasantly down Wadi Ghurab amidst sandstone mountains guarding the approaches to Petra. This route follows a Nabataean path out of the valley and skirts around the final mountain on a natural rock terrace that narrows slightly before reaching a hidden plateau high above the impressive chasm of Wadi Siyyagh. Just beyond, carved into the cliff face, the monumental Monastery (aka Ad Deir) comes into view. Nabataean steps lead down into ancient Petra; our back-door, a route that avoids tourists and goes through Wadi Muthlim to Wadi Musa and to your hotel.

Activity: 8 hours/11.5 miles hiking with negligible elevation gain/loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 10
EXPLORE ANCIENT PETRA & TRAVEL TO WADI RUM

Today, visit other trails and sights inside Petra including the Siq. Feeling bold? Visit less-touristic spots such as the Canyon of the Sig, Al-Khubtha Mountain or the High Place of Sacrifice, exploring ancient rock-carved ruins and climbing steep ancient Nabataean steps along the way to magnificent panoramic views. After lunch, drive to Wadi Rum and have a thrilling 4WD sunset adventure, following in the footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia, climbing sand dunes and rock bridges. Back at camp, enjoy a delicious Bedouin dinner and a starry night in the desert.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 11
JOURNEY FROM WADI RUM TO THE DEAD SEA

After having breakfast in Wadi Rum, drive to the lowest point on earth to float and relax in the Dead Sea. Enjoy the sunshine and views while trying out an invigorating mud bath to cleanse the skin. Come evening, enjoy a festive farewell dinner!

Activity: Float in the Dead Sea
Meals: B, L, D
DAY 12

DEPART FROM JORDAN

Today bid the group and Jordan farewell, and transfer to Queen Alia International Airport for your homeward-bound flight.

Meals: B
Dates

Nov 5 - 16, 2019
Mar 4 - 15, 2020
Apr 4 - 15, 2020
Nov 6 - 17, 2020
Pricing

2019

$ 6,095 per person

Additional Cost

$ 1,100 Single Supplement

2020

$ 6,295 per person

Additional Cost

$ 1,015 Single Supplement

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expert leadership from experienced adventure guides
- Accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary
- Potable water and snacks throughout
- 1 glass of wine or beer at dinner (except on Day 4 at Dana Nature Reserve and Day 5 at Feynan Ecolodge)
- All tips and gratuities for support staff with the exception of your lead adventure guide(s)
- All necessary specialty activity gear
- All group entrance fees, activities, and ground transportation
- Individual or small group arrival airport transfers and one departure day group airport transfer

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, any airport taxes, or excess baggage charges
- Dinner on Day 3
- Optional tips to your lead adventure guides
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, phone calls, laundry, or souvenirs
- Airport transfers if arriving outside of Day 1 and departing outside Day 12
- Optional travel protection
- Wine or beer at dinner on Day 4 at Dana Nature Reserve and Day 5 at Feynan Ecolodge

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

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Awards

[Images of various awards]
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