ENCOUNTERS TRAVEL

Your passport to adventure

Ancient Encounters

COUNTRY(IES)	Egypt , Jordan
TOUR TYPE	Small Group
TRANSPORT	A/C minibus, internal flight & Nile cruiseboat, Bedouin jeeps
GROUP SIZE	Min: 2 | Max: 14
DURATION	16 days
STARTS	Cairo, Egypt
ENDS	Amman, Jordan
MEALS	Breakfasts - 15, Lunches - 5, Dinners - 6

TOUR ROUTE MAP **16 Days**



ROUTE: **Cairo** (Start) → **Karnak** → **Edfu** → **Aswan** → **Amman** → **Dana Biosphere Reserve** → **Aqaba** → **Wadi Rum** → **Petra** → **Madaba** → **Amman** (End)

HIGHLIGHTS

Pyramids & Sphinx, Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM), Nile cruise, Karnak, Luxor, Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut, Medinat Habu, Philae, felucca sailboat, Foodie tour, Dana, Red Sea, Wadi Rum, Petra, Dead Sea, Wadi Mujib hike, Madaba, Mount Nebo, Jerash.

Itinerary

DAY 1 Arrive into Cairo, transfer to hotel

Arrive in Cairo and meet the local team at the airport, where assistance is provided with visas and luggage before the transfer to your city hotel. Once settled, the rest of the day is free to rest after travelling or explore nearby streets and cafés independently. The relaxed arrival gives you time to adjust to the capital before the organised sightseeing begins, while keeping the schedule free of fixed visits.

ACTIVITIES

- **Arrive at Cairo International Airport**
  Arrival at Cairo International Airport with meet & assist for visa and luggage handling.

- **Transfer from Cairo Airport to City Hotel**
  Enjoy a comfortable transfer from Cairo International Airport to your city hotel. Sit back and take in your first glimpses of Egypt's bustling capital as you travel through its lively streets.
- **Free Time at Cairo**
  Enjoy some leisure time in Cairo to relax, explore local cafés, or take in the city's vibrant streets before continuing your journey.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS	EXTRAS
Cairo hotel	None	Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - pre-tour, Single room supplement (JOSGAE18)

DAY 2 Visit the Pyramids in Giza and the stepped Pyramid in Saqqara

Start the day on the Giza Plateau, home to the iconic Great Pyramids, magnificent structures declared by the Greeks to be among the Seven Wonders of the ancient world and breathtaking for their sheer size and intricate construction. Explore the pyramids of Giza, including the Great Pyramid of Khufu, and meet the enigmatic Sphinx standing guard over these ancient wonders. Travel on to Memphis, the first capital of the ancient kingdom, to come face to face with the colossal statue of Ramses II, a powerful reminder of the pharaohs who once ruled this land, then continue to Saqqara for the Step Pyramid of Djoser, an architectural masterpiece that predates the Great Pyramids and offers a fascinating glimpse into the evolution of pyramid construction.

ACTIVITIES

- **Explore the Great Pyramids of Giza**
  Stand in awe before the Great Pyramids of Giza, the last remaining Wonder of the Ancient World. Learn about its construction and the pharaohs who built these monumental tombs that have stood for over 4,000 years.
- **Explore Great Sphinx of Giza**
  Marvel at the enigmatic Great Sphinx, guarding the plateau with its lion's body and human face. This ancient monument is one of Egypt's most enduring symbols, shrouded in mystery and legend.
- **Explore Memphis**
  Explore the ancient city of Memphis, once the capital of Old Kingdom Egypt. Visit the open-air museum to see the remarkable statue of Ramses II and other artefacts that showcase the grandeur of Egypt's earliest dynasties.
- **Explore Step Pyramid**
  Discover Saqqara, home to Egypt's first pyramid, the Step Pyramid of King Djoser. This ancient necropolis marks a major innovation in architecture and provides fascinating insight into the early evolution of Egypt's royal tombs.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS	EXTRAS
Cairo hotel	Breakfast	Nile dinner cruise in Cairo

DAY 3 Early flight to Luxor. Morning visit to the West Bank of the Nile and Luxor Temple by night

Fly from Cairo to Luxor, the heart of ancient Thebes, and begin your exploration on the city’s storied West Bank. Visit the towering Colossi of Memnon, the royal tombs of the Valley of the Kings, and the grand temples of Hatshepsut and Medinat Habu. As evening falls, experience the enchanting Luxor Temple illuminated under the night sky, a breathtaking finale to a day of timeless wonder.

ACTIVITIES

- **Travel from Flight Cairo to Luxor**
  Take a short flight from Cairo to Luxor, journeying from Egypt's modern capital to its ancient heart. Enjoy sweeping views of the desert and the Nile as you travel to the city of temples, tombs, and timeless history.
- **Explore Colossi of Memnon**
  Marvel at the towering Colossi of Memnon, twin statues of Pharaoh Amenhotep III that have watched over the Theban Necropolis for more than 3,000 years. A breathtaking photo stop amid Luxor's open-air history.
- **Explore Valley of the Kings**
  Explore the legendary Valley of the Kings, burial site of Egypt's greatest pharaohs, including Tutankhamun. Step inside beautifully painted tombs that reveal stories of the afterlife and royal power.
- **Explore Temple of Hatshepsut**
  Admire the stunning mortuary temple of Queen Hatshepsut, one of ancient Egypt's most remarkable female rulers. Set beneath dramatic cliffs, its elegant terraces celebrate her reign and divine legacy.
- **Explore Medinat Habu**
  Explore Medinat Habu, the magnificent mortuary temple of Ramses III. Its towering gateways, vivid wall carvings, and detailed reliefs offer an extraordinary glimpse into Egypt's New Kingdom art and royal legacy.
- **Explore Luxor Temple at Night**
  Explore the magnificent Luxor Temple under the night sky, when its ancient columns and hieroglyphs are bathed in golden light. The illuminated complex creates a magical atmosphere that brings Egypt's history vividly to life.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
On board 5-star cruise boat	Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

DAY 4 Explore Karnak Temple and continue sailing to Edfu

Begin your day with the chance to see the sun rise over Luxor’s ancient West Bank from a hot air balloon before exploring the magnificent Karnak Temple Complex, a vast maze of towering pillars and sacred sanctuaries. Later, cruise along the Nile toward Edfu, watching Egypt’s timeless scenery drift by as you sail through Esna Lock on your 5-star riverboat.

ACTIVITIES

- **Explore Karnak Temple**

  Wander through the awe-inspiring Karnak Temple complex, an enormous sanctuary dedicated to Amun-Ra. Its forest of columns, sacred lake, and intricate reliefs capture the grandeur of Egypt's New Kingdom.

- **Cruise from Luxor to Edfu**

  Embark on a relaxing Nile cruise from Luxor to Edfu. Enjoy the serene pace of river travel as you pass ancient temples, lush palm groves, and small riverside villages that reflect the timeless beauty of Egypt's heartland.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS	EXTRAS
On board 5-star cruise boat	Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner	Hot air balloon in Luxor

DAY 5 Visit Edfu Temple and cruise to Kom Ombo & Aswan

The included sequence is Edfu Temple, Nile cruising to Kom Ombo, the twin temple visit and continued sailing towards Aswan. The source specifically mentions mummified crocodiles at Kom Ombo. No exact sailing times, meals, docking location or additional temple stops are stated, so these details should not be added. The day remains focused on the two archaeological visits and river journey.

ACTIVITIES

- **Explore Temple of Edfu**

  Explore the magnificent Temple of Horus in Edfu, one of Egypt's best-preserved ancient temples. Dedicated to the falcon god Horus, its towering columns and hieroglyphs offer a vivid glimpse into Ptolemaic-era craftsmanship.

- **Cruise from Edfu to Kom Ombo**

  Continue your journey downstream from Edfu to Kom Ombo. Take in sweeping Nile views and watch daily life unfold along the riverbanks as your cruise glides toward the next ancient wonder.

- **Explore Kom Ombo Temple**

  Explore the unique Kom Ombo Temple, dedicated to both Sobek the crocodile god and Horus the falcon-headed god. Its symmetrical design, fascinating carvings, and riverside setting make it one of the Nile's most photogenic ancient sites.

- **Cruise from Kom Ombo to Aswan**

  Cruise south from Kom Ombo to Aswan, enjoying tranquil views of palm-lined shores and traditional feluccas sailing the Nile. This stretch of river offers some of the most scenic vistas in Upper Egypt.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
On board 5-star cruise boat	Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

DAY 6 Abu Simbel option. Sail the Nile on a traditional Felucca. Visit Philae Temple & Aswan Dam

Morning plans allow either the optional Abu Simbel excursion or time on the water around Aswan before the afternoon sightseeing begins. Later, visit Philae Temple and the Aswan High Dam, moving from ancient religious history to the modern engineering that reshaped the Nile. The optional element remains separate from the scheduled afternoon visits.

ACTIVITIES

- **Felucca Sail in Aswan**
  Step aboard a traditional felucca and experience the timeless charm of sailing on the Nile. Glide peacefully past palm-lined banks, islands, and riverside villages as the gentle wind fills the sails, a truly relaxing way to enjoy Aswan's serene beauty.
- **Explore Philae Temple**
  Sail across the Nile to the magnificent Philae Temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis. This beautiful island sanctuary is one of Egypt's most atmospheric sites, with intricate carvings and tranquil surroundings that tell stories of ancient devotion.
- **Explore Aswan High Dam**
  Visit the mighty Aswan High Dam, one of Egypt's most significant modern engineering achievements. Learn how this colossal structure tamed the Nile, created Lake Nasser, and transformed Egypt's landscape while exploring its lasting cultural and environmental impact.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS	EXTRAS
On board 5-star cruise boat	Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner	Abu Simbel overland

DAY 7 Morning flight to Cairo. Visit the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM). Optional afternoon tours

Bid farewell to Aswan this morning and take a short flight back to Cairo, where the day centres on the renowned Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM), a treasure trove of ancient artefacts spanning millennia. Accompanied by an expert Egyptologist guide, wander halls each dedicated to a particular historical period and marvel at the intricate sarcophagi, the delicate jewellery and the imposing statues that bring ancient Egypt to life, culminating in the treasures of Tutankhamun and his iconic golden mask. Please note that while dedicated time is set aside for the museum highlights, the GEM holds one of the largest archaeological holdings in the world and it will not be possible to explore it in its entirety; a GEM re-visit package can be added if you would like to return and explore at leisure during your scheduled free time. The afternoon is then free to explore Cairo at your own pace, whether wandering the bustling streets or relaxing at a charming café in the warm Egyptian sunshine, and an optional afternoon tour of the labyrinthine Khan el-Khalili bazaar is available for anyone who wants to lose themselves in its maze of spice, perfume and craft stalls.

ACTIVITIES

- **Travel from Flight Aswan to Cairo**
  Take a short morning flight from Aswan to Cairo, returning to Egypt's lively capital.
- **Explore Grand Egyptian Museum**
  Explore the world-renowned Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM), home to one of the greatest collections of ancient artefacts including the treasures of Tutankhamun. Your visit offers a fascinating glimpse into Egypt's royal past.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS	EXTRAS
Cairo hotel	Breakfast	Khan-el-Khaliali bazaar walking tour, Nile dinner cruise in Cairo

DAY 8 Fly to Amman, free time

Travel by air from Cairo to Amman before transferring from the airport to your hotel. Once you have arrived, the remainder of the day is at leisure with no organised visits specified. The time can be used for rest or independent exploration according to personal preference. The schedule remains focused on the international flight, airport transfer and a free period in the capital rather than adding unsupported activities.

ACTIVITIES

- **Transfer from Amman to City**
  Upon arrival at Amman airport, meet our local representative and transfer to your hotel in the city. Settle in and get introduced to the neighbourhood while finalising tomorrow's collection time with your guide.
- **Free Time in Amman**
  Spend the afternoon at leisure exploring Amman's lively streets and local culture. Wander through its historic districts, discover charming cafés and markets, or visit highlights like the Citadel and Roman Theatre. This is the perfect opportunity to unwind after your flight and soak up the city's friendly atmosphere.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Amman hotel	Breakfast

DAY 9 As-Salt, Amman City and Local Food Tasting

Travel from Amman to As-Salt and walk the Harmony Trail before returning to the capital for the afternoon sightseeing. Explore the Citadel and its Temple of Hercules, Umayyad Palace and Byzantine church, then continue to the Roman Theatre. The day finishes downtown with a food-tasting experience featuring falafel, manakish, mansaf and knafeh.

ACTIVITIES

- **Drive from Amman to As-Salt**
  Scenic drive from Amman to the historic hilltop town of As-Salt.

- **Explore As-Salt**

  Explore the charming hilltop town of As-Salt, once a key trading hub and the former capital of Jordan. Stroll through its narrow lanes and learn about its unique mix of Islamic and Christian heritage on the fascinating “Harmony Trail.

- **Drive from As-Salt to Amman**

  Return drive from As-Salt back to Amman for afternoon touring.

- **City Tour of Amman Panoramic**

  Enjoy a panoramic tour of Amman, viewing key districts, modern neighbourhoods and historic areas. Gain an overview of the city before heading to your hotel.

- **Explore Amman Citadel**

  Visit the ancient Amman Citadel, home to the ruins of the Temple of Hercules, the Umayyad Palace, and a Byzantine church. Enjoy panoramic views across downtown Amman and gain insight into the city's multi-layered history.

- **Explore Roman Theatre in Amman**

  Discover the impressive Roman Theatre of Amman, a 6,000-seat amphitheatre dating back to the 2nd century AD. Still used for cultural events today, it stands as a testament to the city's ancient architectural heritage.

- **Taste Local Food in Amman**

  Experience authentic Jordanian flavours on a food-tasting tour through downtown Amman. Sample traditional dishes such as falafel, Manakish, and the national favourite Mansaf, finishing with the sweet delight of Knafeh.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Amman hotel	Breakfast,Dinner

DAY 10 Dana Biosphere Reserve hike. Drive to Aqaba

The experience includes a gentle hike in Dana Biosphere Reserve followed by a picnic lunch and the road journey south to Aqaba via the Desert Highway. Highland scenery gradually gives way to the warmer Red Sea setting. Arrival in Aqaba brings the active part of the day to a close and leaves the evening at a slower pace.

ACTIVITIES

- **Hike the Dana Biosphere Reserve**

  Take a guided hike through the Dana Biosphere Reserve, Jordan's largest nature reserve. Walk amid rugged canyons, terraced cliffs, and diverse plant and birdlife while enjoying sweeping views of the Great Rift Valley.

- **Drive from Dana to Aqaba**

  Travel from the mountain village of Dana through dramatic desert landscapes to the Red Sea city of Aqaba. This journey reveals Jordan's changing scenery, from highland ridges and rocky gorges to the coastal plains near the Gulf of Aqaba.

- **Free Time in Aqaba**

  Enjoy a relaxing afternoon in Aqaba on the shores of the Red Sea. Swim, snorkel, or simply unwind at your beach resort, taking in views of the surrounding mountains and Jordan's southern coastline.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Aqaba Resort	Breakfast,Lunch

DAY 11

Free morning in Aqaba and overnight Wadi Rum Bedouin Camp

Spend the morning at leisure in Aqaba before travelling inland to Wadi Rum. Any snorkelling or diving undertaken during the free period should be treated as optional rather than included. After reaching the desert camp, the scheduled evening includes a traditional Zarb dinner. The day therefore moves from unstructured Red Sea time to an overnight desert setting with a defined meal and no additional activities inserted.

ACTIVITIES

- **Drive from Aqaba to Wadi Rum**
  Depart from the coastal city of Aqaba and drive into the desert wilderness of Wadi Rum. The journey takes you from the Red Sea shoreline into a landscape of towering sandstone cliffs and vast open valleys, a true taste of Jordan's rugged beauty.
- **Jeep Safari and Bedouin Experience – Wadi Rum**
  Experience an adventurous jeep safari through the golden sands and towering cliffs of Wadi Rum. Join local Bedouins for an authentic cultural encounter, walking with shepherds, learning traditional crafts, and sharing a freshly prepared meal in their desert camp.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Wadi Rum Bedouin Camp	Breakfast,Dinner

DAY 12

A jeep safari and Bedouin experience in Wadi Rum, travel to Petra

After breakfast in the camp, set out on a jeep safari through the sands and beneath the towering ‘jebels’ of Wadi Rum, stopping to climb sand dunes and to see some of the strange rock formations, including a spectacular rock bridge. The day also takes in local activities inspired by Bedouin traditions, walking with a local shepherd and his sheep and goats to a Bedouin tent. You can join in and learn about other traditional Bedouin activities too, such as shearing the sheep and goats’ hair, milking, grinding grains, making bread and roasting coffee until lunch is ready, a freshly prepared meal shared in the desert. Finally, after really getting a feel for nomadic Bedouin life, return by jeep to the camp and then drive north to Petra. You have the option of a spectacular and atmospheric introduction to Petra tonight with the Petra by Night tour, walking through the Siq to the Treasury, the whole way atmospherically lit up by hundreds of candles. This holdings pairs a full day among the red sands and towering cliffs of Wadi Rum with an evening arrival in Petra.

ACTIVITIES

- **Jeep Safari and Bedouin Experience – Wadi Rum**
  Experience an adventurous jeep safari through the golden sands and towering cliffs of Wadi Rum. Join local Bedouins for an authentic cultural encounter, walking with shepherds, learning traditional crafts, and sharing a freshly prepared meal in their desert camp.
- **Drive from Wadi Rum to Petra**
  Depart Wadi Rum after your Bedouin adventure and drive north through Jordan's rugged desert landscapes toward Petra. Enjoy the scenic journey to the rose-red city, with the option to join the magical Petra by Night tour upon arrival.
- **Free Time in Petra**
  Relax for the evening in Petra with time to unwind, explore shops, or enjoy local cafés. Optional experiences such as Petra by Night are available for those seeking a magical introduction to the site.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Petra hotel	Breakfast

DAY 13 Reverse-route mountain hike to Petra via Little Petra

Begin at Little Petra and hike along the back route to Petra, reaching the Monastery before descending into the main archaeological city. Continue past rock-cut tombs and colonnaded areas towards the Treasury. The source supports this walking approach and the named monuments but does not specify transport to the trailhead, meal arrangements or additional side trails, so none has been added. The day remains focused on the hike and Petra exploration.

ACTIVITIES

- **Hike from Little Petra to Petra**
  Begin your adventure with a scenic hike from Little Petra along the mountain trail leading into the main site of Petra. This lesser-travelled back route offers stunning desert views, peaceful solitude, and a rewarding arrival at the magnificent Monastery before descending into the ancient city below.
- **Discover Petra Main Site**
  Spend the day exploring Petra, Jordan's breathtaking Nabataean capital and one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Walk through the Siq to the Treasury, admire the carved tombs and temples, and trace the ancient colonnaded streets that once thrived with traders and pilgrims.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Petra hotel	Breakfast

DAY 14

Dead Sea road to Wadi Mujib - Siq Trail Hike. Dead Sea 'swim'

After breakfast in Petra, head north along the Dead Sea road to Wadi Mujib for the exciting Siq Trail hike, rewarded along the way with great views of the Salt Flats at the southern end of the Dead Sea. Continuing along the shores of the Dead Sea, the route eventually reaches the visitor centre of Wadi Mujib, where you have time for lunch (not included) before entering the water and embarking on the hike. Descending into the gorge, you enter the Wadi Mujib Nature Reserve, where between the months of April and October it is possible to take an exciting hike through the shallow waters that fill this narrow canyon of waterfalls and sandstone cliffs; along the way you'll climb up small waterfalls where steps have been installed to make it easier, until eventually you reach the end of the gorge and can relax beneath a large waterfall. The entire hike generally takes two to three hours round trip, and a dry-bag (so your camera or mobile phone don't get wet) and water shoes are highly recommended , it is possible to hire a dry bag at the visitor centre for around US$7.00 and to purchase water shoes for US$7.00. Please note that in the months from November to March, when it isn't possible to hike the Siq Trail, a visit to the Baptism site in Bethany is included instead: a relatively recently excavated site believed to be the biblical 'Bethany-beyond-the-Jordan' where John baptised Jesus Christ, where several churches, caves and pools dating from Roman and Byzantine periods have been discovered and where both Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI have visited, with an electric minibus taking you from the visitor centre to the three sites of Tell Mar Elias, the Baptism Pools and John the Baptist's Church. After a day of activities, make your way down to the resort right on the banks of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on Earth, where free time allows you to swim , or rather float , in its incredibly salty waters and to relax by the hotel pool; don't forget a newspaper or magazine for your iconic Dead Sea photo.

ACTIVITIES

- **Drive from Petra to Dead Sea area**
  Travel north from Petra along the King's Highway toward the Dead Sea, enjoying breathtaking views across Jordan's rugged landscapes. This scenic drive passes dramatic canyons, desert plains, and shimmering salt flats before descending to the lowest point on Earth.
- **Hike the Wadi Mujib Siq Trail**
  Embark on an adventurous hike through the Wadi Mujib Siq Trail, a narrow gorge filled with flowing water and natural pools. Between April and October, you'll wade, climb, and swim beneath waterfalls in one of Jordan's most thrilling outdoor experiences.
- **Dead Sea swim and float**
  Relax and float effortlessly in the mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on Earth. After your day's adventure, unwind at your resort, enjoy the therapeutic mud, and capture the iconic newspaper photo as you drift on the surface.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Dead Sea hotel	Breakfast

DAY 15

Madaba, Mount Nebo and Roman Jerash

Begin in Madaba and discover the city’s Byzantine mosaic heritage before continuing to Mount Nebo for views across the Jordan Valley when weather is clear. Afterwards, travel north to Jerash and explore its extensive Roman remains, including theatres, temples and colonnaded streets. The day moves through three distinct layers of Jordan’s past, connecting Christian heritage, biblical tradition and the monumental architecture of the classical world.

ACTIVITIES

- **Explore Madaba**
  Discover the ancient city of Madaba, renowned for its stunning Byzantine mosaics. Visit St. George's Church to see the famous Madaba Map, the oldest surviving cartographic depiction of the Holy Land.
- **Explore Mount Nebo**
  Visit Mount Nebo, where tradition says Moses viewed the Promised Land. Enjoy sweeping vistas toward the Jordan Valley and Jericho, and see the site's beautifully restored mosaics and memorial church.
- **Explore Jerash**
  Explore Jerash, one of the best-preserved Greco-Roman cities outside Europe. Walk through the oval Forum, visit the Nymphaeum, and admire the grand Temple of Artemis overlooking the ancient city.
- **Drive from Jerash to Amman**
  Travel south from Jerash back to Amman, enjoying views of Jordan's hill country along the way.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS
Amman hotel	Breakfast

DAY 16

Amman, free time, departure airport transfer

The morning is free in Amman, allowing time for rest, shopping or an independent café visit before departure. Bethany on the Jordan River remains an optional excursion when timing allows. Later in the day, meet the airport transfer and travel to the terminal for your onward flight, completing the final organised journey after your time in Jordan.

ACTIVITIES

- **Departure Transfer Amman to Airport**
  Enjoy some free time in Amman before your scheduled airport transfer. We'll pick you up from your hotel and take you to Queen Alia International Airport in time for your departure flight.
- **Departure from Amman Airport**
  Your tour concludes at Amman Airport, where you complete departure formalities and continue with your onward flight.

OVERNIGHT	MEALS	EXTRAS
N/A	Breakfast	Extra day in Amman - post-tour

INCLUDED

- Egypt: 3 nights accommodation in 5-star hotels, 4-night 5-star Nile cruise from Luxor to Aswan
- Jordan: 5 nights in 3 to 4-star hotels, 2 nights at resorts in Aqaba and the Dead Sea & overnight Bedouin camp in Wadi Rum in comfortable tents
- Felucca sailboat experience in Aswan
- The Back Route hike into Petra
- Siq Trail Hike in Wadi Mujib
- 24-hour airport arrival & departure transfer service
- All transport and transfers in private AC vehicles (plus Bedouin jeeps in Wadi Rum)
- Sightseeing tours as detailed in the itinerary
- Services of an English speaking tour leader and local guides in Jordan
- Domestic flights in Egypt (Cairo-Luxor, Aswan-Cairo)
- Services of a local Egyptologist guide in Egypt
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

EXCLUDED

- International flights (available on request)
- Cairo to Amman flight (available on request or bookable with your international flight ticket)
- Egypt Visa fees (available on arrival for US$25 for most nationalities)
- Jordan Visa fees (free visa available with your Jordan Pass - see tour notes)
- Travel insurance (compulsory, get a quote here)
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Entrance fees in Egypt (allow approx. US$135)
- Entrance fees (discounted package included in the Jordan Pass, available in advance for JD70)
- Drinks, snacks and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Tipping kitty in Egypt (allow US$80) plus tour guide tips
- Tips in Jordan
- Hotel gala dinners (see Tour notes)
- Any other items not mentioned above

Notes

Hotel Gala Dinners:

Many of Egypt's hotels and Nile cruise boats arrange a very special gala dinner with entertainment in the evening on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Payment for these is often optional on Christmas Eve (24 Dec) but normally compulsory on New Year's Eve (31 Dec), whether you attend or not. Prices can range from around US$50 to over US$180 per person in 5-star hotels. Final decisions on prices and whether dinners are compulsory are made relatively close to the time. We aim to always select hotels that make their Gala Dinners optional, though this is not always possible, especially for New Year's Eve. Gala dinner prices are therefore not included in our prices above, but will be added to your booking if they become required. Please budget accordingly. More information is available on request.

Tour Options

Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you're visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

All accommodation based options (e.g. Single supplements, extra nights, cruise upgrades) should be booked and paid for in advance so that we can make the appropriate arrangements. Other options may either be booked and paid for in advance or while you are on the tour, though we recommend booking in advance to ensure there are no issues with availability.

Many options are priced the same throughout the year, but some may incur single or high season supplements , full details are given on the tour reservation form or on request.

Hot air balloon in Luxor

Min numbers: 1

This popular optional tour starts early in the morning so that you experience the sunrise over the Valleys of the Kings & Queens, temples and desert. We endeavour to use the earliest flights of the day as they are timed to fit with the rising sun, this means that times may vary. You get around 1 hour in the air.
The price of this option is approximately $170.00. Please note that this option is only available to be booked locally, via your tour guide who will also advise you of the current price.

Alexandria day trip

Min numbers: 1

Alexandria is about 2.5 hours drive, north of Cairo on the Mediterranean coast of Egypt. This ex colonial city is the second largest in Egypt and our visit will include the Roman amphitheatre with its twelve semi-circular marble tiers, the Catacombs of Kom al-Shoqafa which is the largest Roman cemetery in Alexandria, Pompey's Pillar, Fort Qaitbey (from outside), the famous modern library before returning to Cairo. If time allows you can tour inside Fort Qaitbey and we may also visit the Montazah Palace gardens. Lunch at a seafood restaurant is included. As the tour takes a full day you will either need a late evening flight departure on the last day of the tour to accommodated it, or to add an extra day to the start or end of your trip.

Prices are based on a minimum of 2 travellers choosing the option. Solo traveller supplements apply. Entrance fees to sites visited are not included (budget approx. USD 28)

Cairo city tour

Min numbers: 1

This half day guided tour of Cairo tour begins with Islamic areas including the Citadel of Saladdin, boasting the famous Alabaster Mosque of Mohammed Ali. Then we head onto the Coptic area of Cairo where the Romans constructed the fortress of Babylon. The church of St. Mary was built over the ruins of two towers of the fortress whilst it is more commonly known as the Hanging Church next stop is St. Sergius which is said to be the resting place of the Holy Family. The tour finishes at the Khan-el-Khalili bazaar. The entrance fees budget covers the Coptic Museum, the Citadel and the Sultan Hassan Mosque. Depending on your day, you may not have time to visit all of

these.

Entrance fees to sites visited are not included (budget approx. USD 22)

Prices shown are based on a minimum of 2 people travelling. Solo traveller supplements apply.

Wadi Rayan day trip (Valley of the Whales)

Min numbers: 1

This tour provides a great contrast to the Pharaonic sites you have visited on the rest of your tour. We leave Cairo and head to the Fayoum region where we head for the Wadi Rayan Protected Area, which surrounds a fresh-water lake in the middle of the desert, filled by the remaining irrigation water from the Fayoum area. There are several waterfalls here (popular in Egyptian pop music videos), and a bird hide which gives good views of the lakes birdlife, particularly in the winter months when the lake is an important stop for migrating water-birds. We also visit the Springs Oasis area, a rare example of an uninhabited Saharan oasis, and host to many different plants and animals, including Dorcas Gazelle, Ruppell's Sand Fox and Fennec Fox. Before lunch, we'll make a stop in the sand dunes surrounding Wadi Rayan to have a go at Sandboarding. After a stop for a packed lunch, we then drive into the stunning desert & mountain scenery of Wadi Hitan (Valley of the Whales). This World Heritage Site is accepted as the most significant site in the world to demonstrate the evolution of whales, and we take a 2-3km walk here to see several specimens of fossilised whales of different types sitting on the surface of the sand, as well as fossilised mangroves and the remains of crab holes.

This tour requires a full free day in Cairo, but can also be arranged straight after you arrive back in Cairo from Luxor/Aswan from the overnight sleeper train. We can also arrange it on any tour if you add extra days before and after your main tour. Prices shown are based on 2 or more people travelling, with an additional supplement due for solo travellers.

Entrance fees are excluded, please budget $25 per person.

Abu Simbel overland

Min numbers: 2

The temples built by Ramses II at Abu Simbel are one of Egypt's highlights, and have a fascinating story behind them to go with their impressive size. When Lake Nasser was flooded, the final water level was going to submerge several temples, the most important of which being Abu Simbel. The temple was therefore dismantled completely and rebuilt further up the hillside where it sits today. The temple stands today as a testament to Ramses II and the great building prowess of the ancient Egyptians, as well as to modern engineering. We depart Aswan very early in the morning (around 4am), with the aim of getting to Abu Simbel to see the temples in the light of the rising sun. We then have a guided tour with one of our Egyptologists and some free time before we drive back to Aswan (approx. 3 1/2 hours drive each way, with around 2 hours at the temples). The tour itinerary is designed so you will not miss any other activities if you choose this option.

Note - we choose the overland route to get to Abu Simbel as the flight times there are unreliable and the journey using the flight is much more segmented (you get more rest on the coach), not to mention it is much more expensive to fly. Please note that we only offer Abu Simbel by Flight on private or tailor-made tours.

Entrance fees to the site (approx. US$17, 50% for children) are not included in the option price and should be paid

locally . A minimum of 2 people is required to operate this option.

Request a quote for Amman to Cairo flight

Min numbers: 1

This flight is a required part of the tour. It is left out of the set tour price as it is often more cost effective for you to include this flight as part of your main international flight ticket. We are happy to book all your flights, just the Amman-Cairo flight, or none of them at all, whichever works best for you. UK residents will need to book their own flights. Direct flights are available with both Egypt Air and Royal Jordanian Airlines. You can fly at anytime during the day - all transfers in Amman and Cairo are included. If you add this option to your booking, we will get back to you with a quotation for this flight.

Saqqara, Dashour & Memphis

Min numbers: 1

This half day guided tour on the outskirts of Cairo tour provides more insight into the history and evolution of pyramid building, and of the Egyptian civilisation. Our tours are based in the area of ancient Memphis, a former capital of Egypt. First we'll visit Saqqara, a huge desert necropolis which was built for the kings and nobles of the Old Kingdom. Here we see Zoser's 'step' pyramid and the adjacent Imhotep museum where we learn more about Memphis and the history of the region. Next we head to Dashour to see one of the next attempts at pyramid building. Dashour's moniker of the 'bent pyramid' shows they still had a bit to learn, but this is a fascinating site and the pyramid still has much of its original limestone cladding. We'll then return you to your hotel.

Prices are based on a minimum of 2 people choosing the option. Entrance fees to the sites visited are not included (budget approx. USD 21). Solo traveller supplements apply.

Camel Ride in Wadi Rum

Min numbers: 1

This option adds on a fun sunset or sunrise camel ride through the Wadi Rum desert.

Extra day in Cairo (5-star) - pre-tour

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the start of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport arrival transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Felucca to Hotel upgrade

Min numbers: 1

If you would like some more comfort in place of sleeping on the deck of the felucca, then this option provides an extra night in the hotel or Nubian guesthouse accommodation in Aswan instead. You can still do some sailing on the boat in the afternoon and enjoy a meal on board, before getting dropped off and transferred back to your accommodation. Dinner is not included. You then rejoin the rest of the group after they finish on the felucca before continuing with the tour. Single room supplements apply.

Extra day in Amman - post-tour

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the end of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport arrival transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Pyramids Camel Ride

Min numbers: 1

Experience the Giza Pyramids from a unique vantage point with an optional camel ride. This excursion takes you across the desert to a scenic view point, offering panoramic views of the pyramids. Capture memorable photos and enjoy the desert landscape.

Cairo Sunset Felucca

Min numbers: 1

Take a relaxing felucca ride on the Nile at sunset. See Cairo's landmarks from the water as the sky changes colour. Enjoy a peaceful break from the city, and get great photo opportunities of the skyline. This trip offers a calm way to experience the Nile and create memorable moments of your time in Egypt.

The price of this option is based on a minimum of 2 travellers, single supplements may apply when this tour is operated for just 1 passenger.

Cairo Tower inc.transfers

Min numbers: 1

Experience breathtaking panoramic views of Cairo by night with an optional evening visit to the iconic Cairo Tower. This trip includes convenient round-trip transfers from your hotel, ensuring a comfortable and hassle-free journey. Ascend to the tower's observation deck and witness the city's glittering skyline, the Nile River, and the illuminated landmarks stretching into the distance.

Please note: The Cairo Tower entrance fee is not included and is approximately $8. Pricing is based on a minimum of 2 passengers, a single supplement applies when this tour is operated for just 1 adult.

Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) Visit

Min numbers: 1

Elevate your Egyptian exploration with an unmissable optional guided visit to the awe-inspiring, brand new Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) in Cairo. This monumental museum is a landmark achievement, eagerly anticipated for years, and now ready to share its treasures with the world. We will provide comfortable and convenient return transportation directly from your accommodation to the museum, allowing you to relax and anticipate the wonders ahead without the hassle of navigating Cairo's bustling streets.

Upon arrival, you will embark on an enlightening tour led by an expert guide. They will bring the wonders of the GEM to life, providing fascinating insights into Egypt's rich and captivating history and navigating you through its vast collections. Your guide will highlight the most significant artefacts, ensuring you don't miss the key exhibits, including colossal statues, intricate jewellery, and the famed treasures of Tutankhamun, all presented in a state-of-the-art setting befitting their historical importance. This guided experience will deepen your understanding and appreciation of the splendours on display.

Please be aware that the entrance fee to the Grand Egyptian Museum is not included in the cost of this optional excursion. As of the time of publication (June 2026), the standard entrance fee is approximately $35 per person.

Don't miss this exceptional opportunity to be among the early visitors to what is destined to become one of the world's most important cultural institutions, all while benefiting from the knowledge and passion of a dedicated guide. Secure your place on this excursion and prepare for an unforgettable and insightful encounter with the splendours of ancient Egypt in a truly twenty-first-century museum.

Karnak Sound & Light Show

Min numbers: 1

Experience the magic of Karnak Temple at night with a captivating sound and light show. This optional extra includes convenient round-trip transport from your hotel, ensuring a hassle-free evening as you witness the ancient wonders illuminated against the Egyptian sky.

Pricing is based on a minimum of 2 passengers travelling together. Supplements may apply when this option is operated for just 1 passenger.

Siwa Oasis Extension (3 Nights)

Min numbers: 1

Discover the wonders of Siwa Oasis on a 4-day optional tour from Cairo, featuring ancient sites, unique natural landscapes like salt lakes and desert springs, and cultural experiences before returning to Cairo.

Philae Sound and Light Show

Min numbers: 1

Experience the magic of Philae Temple at night with a captivating sound and light show. This optional extra includes convenient round-trip transport from your hotel, ensuring a hassle-free evening as you witness the ancient wonders illuminated against the desert sky.

Pricing is based on a minimum of 2 passengers travelling together. Supplements may apply when this option is operated for just 1 passenger.

Nubian Village Visit by Boat

Min numbers: 1

Embark on a captivating journey along the Nile and immerse yourself in the vibrant culture of the Nubian people. This optional day trip, departing from Aswan, offers a unique opportunity to experience traditional Nubian life.

Board a motorboat and sail upriver, enjoying breathtaking views of the Nile's picturesque scenery. Arrive at a colourful Nubian village, where you'll be welcomed with warm hospitality. Explore the village's distinctive mud-brick houses, adorned with bright colours and intricate designs.

Discover the rich history and traditions of the Nubian people, learning about their unique customs and way of life. You'll also have the chance to browse local handicrafts and souvenirs, supporting the village's artisans.

This optional excursion provides an unforgettable glimpse into Nubian culture, offering a peaceful and authentic experience away from the bustling city of Aswan. Return to Aswan by boat.

Petra by night (local payment)

Min numbers: 1

This magical experience takes you in through the narrow and winding Siq to the Treasury at the entrance to Petra. The whole route and the sand in front of the Treasury is lit up by numerous candles creating a beautiful and atmospheric sight. While at the Treasury you'll also enjoy some traditional Bedouin music and tea.

Pricing includes your entrance ticket and any transfers required to and from your hotel. Please bring a flashlight/torch with you for this trip as the path through the Siq is rough underfoot in places and while there are candles all the way, a torch provides extra assurance against mis-stepping.

Please Note: This is a local payment option, payment will be collected by your tour guide whilst in Jordan.

Petra Kitchen - Cooking Class

Min numbers: 1

Enhance your Petra experience with a delightful evening immersed in Jordanian culture and cuisine at the renowned Petra Kitchen. This popular optional activity offers a fantastic opportunity to participate in a hands-on cookery class, working alongside local chefs and women to prepare a range of traditional Jordanian dishes. You'll learn about local ingredients, master authentic techniques, and discover the secrets behind delicious regional specialities, typically culminating in enjoying the multi-course feast you've helped create together. It's a fun, interactive, and social way to spend an evening after exploring the wonders of Petra.

Please note that spaces for the Petra Kitchen Cookery Class are limited and it is exceptionally popular. Therefore, pre-booking is essential to guarantee your participation, and we strongly recommend securing your spot well in advance to avoid disappointment due to high demand.

Wadi Rum Astronomy Experience

Min numbers: 1

Venture into the heart of Wadi Rum's captivating desert landscape after nightfall and witness a celestial display like no other. Far from city lights, the vast, clear skies above this ancient valley reveal a breathtaking panorama of stars.

Join our optional astronomy tour and embark on a journey through the cosmos. Our expert guides will illuminate the constellations, planets, and deep-sky objects visible to the naked eye, sharing fascinating insights into their mythology and scientific significance.

Experience the profound silence and tranquillity of the desert night as you gaze upon the Milky Way's shimmering expanse. With the aid of powerful telescopes, you'll delve deeper into the universe, observing distant galaxies and nebulae with remarkable clarity. This is an unforgettable opportunity to connect with the cosmos and appreciate the sheer scale and beauty of the night sky in one of the world's most spectacular natural settings.

Wadi Rum Hot Air Balloon Flight

Min numbers: 1

Enhance your Wadi Rum visit with an optional hot air balloon flight. Experience a sunrise view of the 'Valley of the Moon' from above. Observe the desert landscape as the sun rises, providing unique photographic opportunities. Flights are early morning, conducted by professional pilots, and subject to weather conditions. Bookings are confirmed the evening before. A full refund is provided if the flight is cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

Wadi Rum Quad Bikes

Min numbers: 1

Unleash your adventurous spirit and explore the magnificent desert landscapes of Wadi Rum on an exhilarating quad biking excursion. This optional activity puts you in control of your own All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV), allowing you to navigate the sandy plains and weave between the iconic towering rock formations under the guidance of local experts. 1 Feel the thrill as you power through the stunning scenery of the 'Valley of the Moon', accessing unique viewpoints and experiencing the vastness of the desert in a truly dynamic way. It's a perfect add-on for those seeking an adrenaline rush and a different perspective on Wadi Rum's breathtaking beauty.

Single room supplement (JOSGAE18)

Min numbers: 1

This group tour is based on twin-share accommodation. If you are a single traveller and would like to guarantee yourself a single room throughout the tour, please add this option onto your booking. If you are happy to share a room, please let us know and we will see if we can pair you up with another single traveller of the same sex. If a room share is not available when you pay your balance, then 50% of the single room supplement fee will be payable. If a room share becomes possible after you have paid your balance then your payment rowards the supplement will be refunded. Room shares are arranged in order of booking.

Note: Single supplement prices may vary seasonally.

Important Notes

1 Accommodation

The hotels used on this tour are rated at the 3 and 4-star level in Jordan, and 5-star level in Egypt. This gradual increase is intentional to improve your comfort as your time away goes on. Local star ratings may vary from international standards but we ensure we use some of the best hotels available at the level stated. Accommodation is based on twin or double en-suite rooms with air conditioning. All couples will have a private double room.

A friendly local homestay is included for one night in Rasoun village. Accommodation here is in shared rooms holding up to 4 people. There are a number of homes in the village that will accommodate guests, so depending on our final group size we may split across several houses. We will all eat together in one house with the hosts, who will also provide a tour of the village. All beds and bedding are provided. Bathrooms are separate and shared but quite basic. Overall you can expect a simple but comfortable, and very welcoming experience with good food and interesting insights into local village life in rural Jordan.

In Wadi Rum we use a Bedouin camp located inside the Wadi Rum Protected Area. Accommodation is in permanent traditional goat hair tents with proper beds and all bedding provided. Bathrooms are separate, though some en-suite tents are also available and subject to availability you can upgrade to these locally if you wish. You can also bring a sleeping bag if you wish, and find a sheltered spot on the rocks on the edge of the camp and sleep under the stars.

Please see the Felucca note for more information on the overnight Nile felucca cruise.

One night is also included on a sleeper train in Egypt (see Transport).

Please check the Single Room Supplement option for details on room sharing options and charges for solo travellers on this tour.

Gala Dinners

Many of Egypt and Jordan's hotels arrange a very special gala dinner with entertainment in the evening on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Payment for these is often optional on Christmas Eve (24 Dec) but may be compulsory on New Year's Eve (31 Dec), whether you attend or not. Prices can range from around US$50 to over US$150 per person. Final decisions on prices and whether dinners are compulsory are made relatively close to the time. We aim to always select hotels that make their Gala Dinners optional, though this is is not always possible. Gala dinner prices are therefore not included in our prices above, but will be added to your booking if they become required. More information is available on request.

2 Felucca Sailboat

This tour features an overnight felucca cruise. Feluccas are very basic traditional Nile sailboats and are a fun and relaxing way to travel down the river. You sleep on the deck of the boat (mattresses and some blankets are provided, but we suggest that you bring a sleeping sheet, blanket or light sleeping bag during the winter months of November-February). There are no toilet facilities on board, but you will be joined several times each day and at night by our support boat where a toilet and warm showers will be available. Mosquito nets are provided for use while you are sleeping but you should bring mosquito repellent for the evenings and early mornings. Your Nubian

boat crew will cook all your meals while on board and entertain you in the evenings.

If you would prefer some more comfort in place of the felucca cruise, then an upgrade to an extra night in the hotel in Amman is available. You then rejoin the group the next morning after they finish on the felucca, and carry on with them to Luxor.

3 Transport

Our trips feature a mix of different transport options. We want you to feel like you're really experiencing the country you're travelling through, but at the same time we want you to finish journeys refreshed enough to enjoy the next stage of the tour.

In Jordan we use private AC minivans/minibuses for all the transfers and journeys throughout the tour, depending on the number of travellers in the group. The jeeps used in Wadi Rum are provided by the local Bedouins we work with, and while suitable for your desert safari, they may fall below the normal safety and quality standards for vehicles we use during the rest of our tours.

In Egypt we again use AC minivans/minibuses/coaches, many of which are fitted with speed limiters, and all are inspected and checked daily.

For the overnight train journey from Cairo to Aswan (approx. 12 hrs) this tour uses the overnight sleeper train. This train has private twin berth cabins with large seats and fold-down beds with sheets, pillow & blanket. The lockable cabins also have a washbasin and storage cupboard, and an airline tray-style evening meal and breakfast is included. If you wish you may upgrade this journey to an internal flight.

Amman to Cairo flight

The connecting flight from Amman to Cairo is not included in the price of this tour. It is left out of the set tour price as it is sometimes more cost effective for you to include this flight as part of your main international flight ticket. We are happy to assist with all your flights, just the Amman-Cairo flight, or none of them at all, whichever works best for you. Direct flights are available with both Egypt Air and Royal Jordanian Airlines. To try to keep the group together we recommend Egypt Air flight MS720 which departs Amman between 09.30 and 10.30, though if necessary you can fly at other times too - all transfers in Amman and Cairo are included.

4 Group Size/Tour Leaders/Guides

We are committed to being a small group operator, as we feel this gives everyone in the group the best chance to get to know their fellow travellers and to hear and make the most of their guide. There's no point in us providing great guides if you've got to peer over 30-40 shoulders to see them! So, on our small group tours we won't ever put you in a full size coach packed with other people and just one guide. Having a smaller group size also allows us to stay in more interesting accommodation, like the homestay in Rasoun, and to include some activities and experiences that just wouldn't be possible with large numbers.

This tour has a minimum group size of 2, and maximum of 14 for the Jordan section, and 18 in Egypt where we may join with other travellers doing one of our Egypt only tours.

To accompany you on the tour in Jordan we provide an English speaking local tour leader/driver and specialist guides in Jerash, Amman and Petra. Groups of 5 or more will have both a driver and a professional guide

throughout the trip. In Egypt a professional Egyptologist guide will accompany you for all the tours in Cairo, and then from Aswan to Luxor. We also have representatives in all the major towns/cities en-route who will look after the practical arrangements for the tour.

At Encounters Travel we only use local Jordanian and Egyptian guides and reps. We feel this gives you the best experience of the country and the sites you are seeing.

5 Activity level

This tour includes several walks or hikes in Jordan and while you do not need to be super fit by any means, you should bring suitable footwear.

In the Ajloun Forest Reserve we will hike through scrubland and forest for several hours in the afternoon. The guide will vary the route and duration of the walk based on how everyone is feeling and the current weather.

In Dana Biosphere Reserve we'll take a short walk through the hills around the restored Dana village. Trails are generally always dry and a little rocky but we won't be taking one of the longer more challenging hikes here.

In Petra, you will be doing a lot of walking to explore the site. The minimum distance you'll walk, from the entrance to the Siq, through the Siq to the Treasury, through the site to the Theatre and Byzantime church, and then back out again, is around 8km. If you would like to hike up to the Monastery, or High Place of Sacrifice, you should expect to add another 2 or 3km, much of it up or down. You can take everything at your own pace, but do be prepared for a long day. Again comfortable walking shoes and a daypack are required.

There are no walks of similar durations on the Egypt section of the tour. However, access on and off the feluccas is by way of planks and steps, and you do need to be fairly mobile for this part of the trip.

6 Dates & Prices

We run regular small-group departures on this tour starting on Saturdays throughout the year. All departures are guaranteed to run with a minimum of 2 travellers and a maximum of 18. Departure dates and prices are listed on our website and on a separate dates & prices sheet available on request. Please do check our website for special offers on particular dates.

7 International Flights

We want to give you as much flexibility as possible when it comes to booking your holiday with us. So, to take account of people with varying travel plans, we don’t include your international flights in the main tour price. We are however very happy to suggest flights to go with the tour. Please contact us with your preferred dates and departure airport and we’ll give you a selection of airlines, times and fares to choose from.

Your airport arrival & departure transfers are included on the first and last days of the tour.

On tours combining Jordan and Egypt we do not include the connecting flight between the two countries in the tour price (normally between Amman (AMM) and Cairo (CAI) - see the inclusions/exclusions or extension option sections for details). This flight can often be built into your main international flight ticket, or we may be able to book this flight for you separately if you prefer - please contact us and we will advise you on available airlines, times and

prices.

We do also sometimes advertise flight inclusive packages from selected airports. Where these are shown on our website, prices are correct at the time of quoting, but are subject to continued availability of the fare used. Prices will be reconfirmed at the time of booking, and we will also provide the flight times and airline details before tickets are issued.

Flight inclusive prices are based on the cheapest Economy ticket class available which is generally non-refundable and non-changeable unless the flight is cancelled for reasons such as Covid-19, in which case the airlines are more flexible. More flexible ticket options, as well as Premium Economy and Business Class tickets are available on request for an additional supplement. Any changes made to flight inclusive bookings will be subject to the airline rules on your ticket.

Flight CO2 Emissions:

Traveling by air is an amazing way to explore the world, but flights also contribute to carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions that impact the environment. By considering the airline's CO2 emissions when you choose your flight, you can help minimize your travel footprint.

When selecting your international flights and airline, we do therefore recommend that you try and also take into account the flight CO2 emissions. Some airlines and flight search websites (eg. Google Flights, Skyscanner) do publish this information, so you can compare between your flight options and make an informed decision. Thankfully, many airlines are working towards sustainability efforts, and choosing a greener option allows you to contribute to positive change while still enjoying your incredible adventure.

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8 Tipping

Jordan: Tipping is common practice in Jordan, as a sign of appreciation for services provided. You may therefore wish to tip your guide and driver at the end of the tour. You should not feel obliged to tip any particular amount, and should consider your personal budget. We are often asked to provide a guide however, and can suggest that approx. US$10-15 per person per day would be appropriate.

Egypt: Tipping is also very much a part of Egyptian culture and customs, and many people you meet along the way will expect and make it clear they are waiting for a tip. To make it easier for you to budget and to remove much of the stress and hassle of tipping lots of people as you go along, we collect a 'Tipping Kitty' at the start of your time in Egypt. The kitty provides tips for a wide range of people you'll meet along the tour including hotel porters, train and station staff, drivers, site guards, local reps etc. Your guide will pay some of these tips as you go along on behalf of the group, and others are paid by our local reps in each location before or after your visit (eg. hotel housekeeping staff). Please check the Excluded section below the tour itinerary for a budget for this tour. Your Egyptologist guide is not included in this kitty and you may tip them at the end of your tour subject to your satisfaction with and appreciation of the service they have provided. Again you should not feel obliged to tip any particular amount, and should consider your personal budget. As a guideline, approx. US$10-15 per person per day would be appropriate.

Children under the age of 12 do not need to pay this tipping kitty.

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9 Transfers

Our Egypt and Jordan tours include a 24-hour airport meet & assist service in Amman and Cairo airports, your arrival and departure airport-hotel transfers and all other transfers.

On arrival in Jordan our representative will meet you in the immigration hall of Amman airport, before passport control. They will assist with visa formalities and then help you with your luggage and take you to your hotel.

On arrival in Egypt, our representative will meet you in the immigration hall of Cairo airport before you get to passport control. They will assist with visa formalities before helping you collect your luggage and taking you to your hotel.

Your airport transfers are only included on the first and last day of the set tour itinerary, plus on any additional days if you book your hotel room with us. If you make your own arrangements for additional accommodation at either the beginning or the end of the tour then you will need to arrange your own airport transfers on these days.

On our Shoestring group tours we do offer optional hotel upgrades in Jordan. This may mean that additional pick-up and drop-offs are required each day. We do endeavour to ensure that all hotels used are close to each other and to streamline and time arrangements to limit any extra driving time as much as possible.

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10 Entrance Fees & Jordan Pass

The tour price does not include entrance fees to the sites visited on the tour.

Jordan:

We strongly recommend that you purchase a **Jordan Pass** prior to your travel to Jordan. This is a special package that has been designed by the Jordanian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities for tourists visiting Jordan. As well as including a discounted package of entrance fees covering all the sites in Jordan that you will visit on this tour (plus many others), the Jordan Pass also provides free downloadable digital brochures on each attraction, plus a free tourist visa for entering the country (40JD if obtained on arrival in Jordan). It also allows us to speed up our entry to each site as if everyone has the Jordan Pass we won't need to queue for tickets.

A handful of sites that we visit on our tours are not covered by the Jordan Pass (eg. Mt. Nebo, St. George's Church at Madaba, and the Shawmuri & Azraq Reserves), so to keep things simple for you while you are in Jordan, where these are visited in our itineraries, the entry fees are included in your tour price. If you visit any other sites not covered by the Jordan Pass during your free time or on additional tours you arrange while in Jordan, you will need to pay the entrance fee at the site.

The cost for the **Jordan Wanderer Pass** which is suitable for all our tours which visit Petra on one day is JD70 (approx. US$99). You should also check if your tour visits the Baptism Site at Bethany and if it does, add on the supplement for this site (an extra JD8, discounted from the JD12 payable at the site). Passes are available by completing a simple online form before you travel, taking care to make sure your passport details are entered correctly as this doubles as your visa application. Your Jordan Pass will then be emailed to you as a pdf document, which you should print out and bring with you. You will then need to show this print out at the immigration desk on arrival in Jordan to obtain your free entry visa, and also at each attraction where it will be scanned to confirm your entry. Obtain your Jordan Pass here

If you do not obtain the Jordan Pass before arriving in Jordan, you will need to pay the entry fees when you arrive at each site and also pay JD40 for your Jordan visa when you enter the country (or arrange your visa in advance).

More information about the Jordan Pass.

Egypt:

In Egypt, the tour price does not include entrance fees to the tourist sites mentioned in the itinerary. Please check the Exclusions section for a guide to the amount you should allow for this tour (a 50% discount for minors or ISIC card holders is often, but not always available and prices are changed from time to time). For your convenience, your guide will be normally collect payment for all the entrance fees in cash at the start of the tour, and pay them for you as you go along.

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11 What to take

Luggage: Suitcases, rucksacks or fabric holdalls are all fine to bring with you to Egypt and Jordan. You should also bring a small daypack/bag to take out during the day. Your main luggage will normally be left in the hotel during your sightseeing trips - you will not need to carry it far, and there are nearly always hotel porters to assist.

Luggage limits: There is no luggage limit for this tour. However, most airlines restrict you to between 20kg and 25kg for your hold luggage and between 5kg and 10kg for hand luggage. Please check with your airline before travelling to the airport.

Clothing: Most of your time in Egypt will be in a hot weather, while the climate in Jordan varies widely from hot days in the summer to cool and sometimes wet days in the winter months. However, at night, and especially in the deserts, the temperatures can drop quite dramatically. So you must pack for cool conditions. Formal dress (eg. suits & ties) is not required on the cruise boats or in 4 or 5-star hotel restaurants. Long sleeves are recommended to protect from mosquitoes if you are on the felucca. Modesty rates highly in Egypt and Jordan, especially for women, so to respect the local culture & people, please ensure all clothes are loose fitting and not revealing. Shorts (not hot-pants) are OK in tourist sites, as are T-shirts, but these should not show too much bare flesh (we suggest that your shoulders should remain covered). In the centre of Cairo and Amman, and when visiting any mosques, legs and arms should be covered.

Other items: We recommend that you bring a sun hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, a basic first aid kit, toiletries, small towel, money belt, small torch, camera & charger. If you will be travelling on a felucca sailboat in Egypt then we recommend bringing a light sleeping sheet or sleeping bag liner all year round for comfort, and a light sleeping bag in the winter months (November to February). If your tour includes an overnight Bedouin camp in Jordan then bedding (sheets, blankets, pillow) is provided but we recommend bringing a light sleeping sheet or sleeping bag liner for comfort all year round (even with the best efforts, sand does find its way pretty much everywhere). In the winter months, or if you think you would like to sleep under the stars instead of in your tent, then we recommend you bring a sleeping bag with you as it can get very cold at night.

Footwear: For tours that are going on board a felucca sailboat, or walking on the Siq Trail in Wadi Mujib, we recommend that you bring some footwear that you don't mind getting completely wet. As there is a fair amount of walking involved on many of our tours in Jordan and Egypt, whether that be just sightseeing or some hiking, we recommend you bring comfortable walking shoes with you. You do not need any smart dress shoes, unless you want to visit some fancy restaurants and to dresss up accordingly.

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12 Booking & Payment

If you would like to book a place on this tour, please complete the online reservation form on our website (via the Dates & Prices tab on the tour page). You may make a deposit or full payment online, or just hold a reservation if you prefer (full payments are due 8 weeks before departure). We will then contact you with more details about how to complete your booking. Payments may be made by debit or credit card (subject to a card processing fee), or by making a bank transfer, or posting us a cheque/bank draft. Full details will be provided in your booking confirmation email. Please contact us if you would like any more information or have any questions before making a booking.

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13 Financial Security

We are a UK registered company and are committed to providing our customers with financial protection to provide peace of mind and to allow you to book with confidence.
We have therefore partnered with Trust My Travel Ltd., which provides financial protection services to over 2000 partners around the world. Funds paid to us by our customers are protected via an Insurance policy held by Trust My Travel. Each traveller and the description of services sold is declared against Trust My Travel's insurance policy directly against our financial failure. In the event of our insolvency, you will be refunded for any unfulfilled products and/or repatriation to the UK (where applicable). Please see our website or booking conditions for more information.

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14 Responsible Tourism

It is impossible not to have an impact on the local environment, cultures and eco-systems when you travel. However, it is very possible to try and ensure that these impacts are as limited, or positive as possible. We are committed to ensuring that we try to leave our host countries in a better state than we found them and encourage and assist our travellers to help us with this.
The following are a few simple tips that require very little effort on your part but which will help ensure that any effect you have on the locations you visit is positive rather than negative.

- Don't prejudge: Things in different countries will almost certainly be different. That doesn't make them worse or inferior, just different.
- Communicate: Don't expect locals to speak your language. Take the trouble to learn a few words or phrases of the local language. Don't worry about sounding silly. Most locals are patient and accommodating and appreciate you making the effort to communicate in their language.
- Conserve energy: Be careful not to waste valuable resources. Use local resources sparingly. Switch off lights, air-conditioning and fans when you leave the hotel room and don't waste water. Remove superfluous packaging. Many countries have far less efficient waste disposal systems than ours. Remove packaging from newly acquired items before leaving home.
- Don't litter: No matter how untidy or dirty the country you're travelling in may look to you, avoid littering, as there is no need to add to the environment's stress. Many of the countries we visit have a tough challenge dealing with rubbish and waste. Please consider taking home as much plastic waste as you can (e.g. water

bottles).

- Choose environmentally friendly products: By using environmentally friendly (bio degradable) sun creams, shampoos and detergents you can help reduce pollution.
- Respect local customs and traditions: As you are a guest in these countries, you should also comply with the local customs. If you are friendly and well mannered, the locals will reciprocate and it will only enhance your experience. It's important to follow dress and behaviour guidelines especially when visiting religious or sacred sites (your tour leader will advise you how best to do this).
- If a client commits an illegal act the client may be excluded from the tour and Encounters Travel shall cease to have responsibility to/for them. No refund will be given for any unused services.

All porters are employed and equipped following guidelines set by the International Porter Protection Group (IPPG).

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15 Follow Us Online

You can stay in touch with us online by following us on Facebook and Twitter. We post updates on relevant travel news in our destination countries, special offers and discounts and other interesting travel related news and information.

www.facebook.com/encounterstravel

https://x.com/encounterstravl (yes, without the 'e')

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16 Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is compulsory on all of our tours and needs to cover personal accident & liability, medical expenses and repatriation, travel delay & abandonment. We also strongly recommend that you take out cover against cancellation and lost/stolen baggage. Personal medical insurance does not normally provide sufficient cover and is generally not suitable for travel on our tours. You will not be able to join your tour if you have not provided us with details of your insurance or if you arrive without cover in place (no refunds will be due in this event).

Considering travel insurance for your trip? World Nomads Travel Insurance offers coverage for more than 150 adventure activities as well as emergency medical, lost luggage, trip cancellation and more.

If your tour includes car hire, or if you plan to arrange a hot air balloon flight locally or do some scuba diving during your tour, you should check the small print in your policy to make sure these are covered (these are covered in our policy). Please also check the maximum altitude that you will be reaching and that full cover including emergency evacuation is provided up to this altitude.

If you are taking expensive camera gear or other electronic equipment with you then please check the coverage and the fine print of your policy to ensure that you have sufficient cover.

IMPORTANT: We must have your travel insurance details (policy number and type of insurance) before you depart or you may not be allowed to join the tour. If you haven't told us already, please let us know the details when you can. You should take a paper copy of your insurance policy with you as you may be asked to show this at the start of the tour.

Covid-19

Before purchasing any travel insurance, please check the coverage provided for situations related to Covid-19, and for the rules about government travel advice. Your normal policy may not be suitable.

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17 Before you travel

It is important when considering and preparing to travel anywhere in the world that you have a good understanding of the country you are visiting, its laws and customs, and the possible risks and situations that may occur. This includes specific risks related to your itinerary (eg. does it involve water & can you swim, are you fit enough for the activities included), as well as more general risks such as terrorism and natural disasters.

General details and links to more information about health risks, visa requirements, money, and travel insurance are given in these tour notes. We recommend that you re-read all these before your departure as well as the small print of your travel insurance policy so you know exactly what is covered and what is not.

You should take copies of your important travel documents with you and ideally also store them online securely as a backup. Make sure that you have given us your emergency contact details and told that person where and when you are travelling. Ensure you take enough money with you and that you have access to emergency funds.

Finally, you should read through and stay updated with the current official government travel advice for your destination. We are registered partners with the UK Foreign Office's 'Travel Aware' campaign which provides further useful and invaluable information.

travel aware
gov.uk/travelaware

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18 Reduce Plastic Waste with Water-to-Go Filter bottles

Traveling responsibly means minimizing plastic waste, but staying hydrated on the go is essential. At Encounters Travel we are committed to reducing single-use plastics, which is why we've partnered with Water-to-Go. Their portable filtration system removes over 99.9% of contaminants from any non-saltwater source, turning even questionable water sources into safe drinking water.

Given that tap water is un-safe to drink in many of the countries in which we operate, we recommend purchasing a Water-to-Go bottle prior to departure. This will help you avoid the use of single use plastic bottles and keep you hydrated on the go.

Save big! Get a huge 25% off your Water-to-Go bottle and other Water-to-Go products (such as filters, lids, and carriers). Use code **ENCOUNTERS25** at checkout (valid in the UK, USA and Canada).

How Water-to-Go Technology works:

- Their reusable, BPA free water bottles contain their own unique 3-in-1 filtration technology effectively providing clean safe drinking water from any non-salt water source around the world.

- Three different (1 traditional and 2 nano) technologies are combined in one filter cartridge to remove up to 99.9999% of microbiological contaminants in water.

The three technologies used in a Water-to-Go filter are:

- Mechanical filtration – A tiny pore size, so small contaminants can't fit through.
- Electrical – A positive charge reduces the pore size even further and attracts contaminants like a magnet, trapping them inside the filter.
- Activated Carbon – Unlike most carbon based filters, instead of using adhesives to glue the carbon particles together, (which vastly reduces the carbon's efficiency) it is contained within the membrane, helping to reduce contaminants whilst eliminating bad tastes and odours. Try filtering water from your tap at home and taste the difference!

Water-to-Go filter bottles deliver safe, healthy water worldwide

- Water-to-Go filters remove bacteria, viruses, waterborne disease, protozoa, heavy metals such as lead as well as harmful chemicals.
- Their filters remove Chlorine and Fluoride from tap water.
- The filter will eliminate harmful contaminants from the water but allow beneficial minerals such as sodium and magnesium to pass through leaving you with the healthiest water possible.
- Water-to-Go filters have been independently tested against internationally recognised standards by industry specialists including The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (UK), BCS Laboratories (USA), Bangalore Test House (India) and IMI (China).

Use Water-to-Go products and you'll be healthier, wealthier and helping to make the world a better place!

- Depending on filter size, each Water-to-Go filter is able to replace 260 or 400 single-use plastic water bottles!
- They ensure you have access to safe water anywhere in the world without ever having to buy environmentally damaging bottled water.
- Their water bottles deliver safe, clean drinking water at just 5p per litre.
- The filter membrane is biodegradable and the shrouds are recyclable.
- The water bottles are used and approved by everyone from backpackers to commuters, gym users to expecting mums. Perfect for everyday, outdoor and travel.

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19 Private & Tailor-made Tours

While our group departures offer a fantastic way to explore with like-minded travellers, we understand that some guests prefer a more exclusive experience. Most of our group tours can be booked on a private basis, allowing you to enjoy the same expert-led routes with your own dedicated party. The primary advantage of choosing a private arrangement is the flexibility it provides; we can easily customise the itinerary to include your preferred style of accommodation or adjust the pace to suit your needs. Private tours can be run on the same start days as our group tours, or on other dates. However, some activities within our trips are restricted to particular days of the week - we

will advise you on anything like this that we need to work around. Pricing will be based on the number of travellers in your party, and any customisations you may like to make.

For those seeking something truly unique, our specialist sales team is available to collaborate with you on a completely tailor-made tour, designed from the ground up to match your specific interests, accommodation level and requirements.

To request a quotation for a private or tailor-made tour, please contact us.

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20 Passports and Visas - Egypt

Passports should be valid for at least six months after your departure from the country. Please do not bring an almost full or almost expired passport. Visa arrangements are the responsibility of the traveller, and requirements are subject to change by the local authorities.

We recommend that you contact your closest Egyptian consulate or embassy for current information for your nationality.

In general official advice is that all nationalities obtain their Egypt visas in advance, as we cannot guarantee that you can get them in the airport. An online e-visa is available through visa2egypt. Please do not use any other website as there are many scam sites offering Egypt e-visas.
In practice however, many nationalities (including British and European, Australian, New Zealand, USA) can and do obtain their visas on arrival in Cairo airport. The process is much quicker and simpler, the cost is currently **US$30 p/p** and must be paid in hard currency (i.e. GBP, USD or EUR) - you'll be given change in local currency if necessary. There are no forms to fill in and you don't need to bring passport photos. Visas are issued at one of the bank desks in the immigration hall, before you get to passport control. If flying into Cairo International Airport our representative will have met you by this stage and will assist with the process.

Important Update from 1st August 2026:
As per the ongoing efforts to enhance visitor services and facilitate entry procedures into Egypt, we are pleased to announce the launch of a new Digital Visa-on-Arrival System.
The new system replaces the current paper visa sticker with a fully digital process, providing a faster, more efficient, and seamless arrival experience for international travelers.

Pilot Phase:
The pilot phase will start on 1 August 2026 at Cairo International Airport (all arrival terminals) as the first stage of implementation.
During this pilot phase, both the new digital system and the current paper visa system will operate in parallel for a limited period to ensure a smooth transition. The duration of the pilot phase will be announced in due course.
Following the successful completion of the pilot phase, the current paper visa-on-arrival system will be discontinued, and the digital system will become the standard visa-on-arrival process. The rollout to all other Egyptian airports will then take place gradually according to an implementation schedule, which will be shared with you in advance.

- **Key Features of the New System:**
  Travelers may obtain a Visa QR Code instead of the current paper sticker, this will be through: the official

online portal (https://apps.visaonarrival.gov.eg/); the dedicated mobile application; or a self-service machine (SSM) located in Cairo International Airport arrival halls.

- After receiving the QR code; on email, or printed from the SSMs, it will be scanned by the passport control officer upon checking in with his/her passport.
- The QR Code may be issued before travel, onboard of a flight, or after arrival to the entry port, either by the traveler or through a travel agency.
- The QR Code will remain valid for up to 48 hours from the time of issuance.
- The total fees will be USD36, comprising: USD30 visa fee; and USD6 issuing and service fee (please note that whilst debit cards are accepted, credit cards are not).
- Once the new system is fully implemented, the current paper visa sticker will no longer be available.
- According to the progress of the Pilot Phase, we will announce the time plan for implementation in the other airports in Egypt.

All African & Indian nationals, and some others, will need to obtain their visas in advance.

For further information on your visa requirements, please either contact us or your local Egyptian embassy/consulate.

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21 Money - Egypt

The local currency in Egypt is the Egyptian Pound, often denoted 'LE'. The Egyptian Pound can vary significantly in value against the British Pound, but sticks fairly close to the value of the US Dollar. You do not need to arrange to bring any Egyptian Pounds with you to Egypt, as change facilities are available in all the hotels, airports and banks. You should try to obtain and keep hold of small denomination notes or coins on you during the tour as these are useful for toilets, tips and small purchases. ATMs are readily available in major towns and many local shops will accept VISA/Mastercard or Amex, but may charge fees of up to 10% - check before you pay. Travellers cheques are not recommended as they can not be changed in many places now, and can incur high fees.

While in Egypt you will need sufficient funds to cover meals not included in the itinerary, drinks, snacks, souvenirs and personal expenses such as laundry. These should generally all be paid for in Egyptian Pounds. You may also need to pay for the tour Tipping Kitty and site Entrance Fees while you are in Egypt. Payments for these may be made to your tour guide in hard currency (USD, GBP, EUR) at the start of your tour. Please see your tour Included/Excluded details for more information and guideline amounts for these.

It is difficult to recommend a level of personal spending money which will suit everyone as this can differ greatly, but as a guideline, we would suggest allowing USD 15-25 per person per day as a minimum. Allow more if you plan on doing lots of shopping, or buying many alcoholic drinks.

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22 Voltage

Sockets are two round pronged and 220 volts (Type C). Universal adaptors are available in most airport shops if you don't have one already. Standard European adapters will work fine, though sometimes they may feel a little loose in the sockets. All hotel rooms have electrical sockets where you can re-charge cameras, phones etc. Hair dryers are normally available on request from the hotel reception if not in your room already.

If you have US appliances (110 volts) you will need a voltage converter as well as a plug adapter.

23 Time

The time in Egypt, Jordan, Israel and Lebanon is GMT plus 2 hours and in UAE GMT plus 3 hours. Daylight saving adjustments have historically been applied in some years but not others. At present it appears that there will be no daylight saving changes in Egypt 2016 and beyond, though this may change at short notice (with a resulting impact on flight times and schedules). In Jordan and Israel, daylight saving of one hour is generally applied between the end of March and the end of October, making it GMT plus 3 hours. Exact dates vary from year to year and sometimes the changes may be scrapped altogether.

24 Health and Vaccinations

You should ensure you are fully insured for medical emergencies including emergency evacuation and repatriation.

Recommended vaccinations and other health protection measures vary according to the country you are visiting and where you are travelling from. We recommend you contact your GP/medical practitioner or a travel clinic for current information on vaccinations needed for your destination. You should ensure that you are up to date with vaccines and boosters recommended for your normal life at home, including for example, vaccines required for occupational risk of exposure, lifestyle risks and underlying medical conditions.
In addition, additional courses or boosters normally recommended for the countries in this region are:

Egypt: Tetanus, Typhoid, Hepatitis A
Jordan: Tetanus, Hepatitis A
Israel: Hepatitis A, Poliomyelitis
Lebanon: Dipheria, Hepatitis A

Malaria is not generally present unless it has been contracted abroad; you do not need to take malaria prophylactics.

More information is available here: Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon

Note: We are aware of some places in Egypt using 'black henna' instead of pure brown henna. Black henna contains a chemical dye PPD (paraphenylenediamine) which can result in severe allergic reactions and resultant scarring. To be safe we recommend avoiding any henna tattoos while in Egypt unless you are certain they are using pure brown henna.

25 Passports and Visas - Jordan

Passports should be valid for at least six months after your departure from the country. Please do not bring an almost full or almost expired passport. Visa arrangements are the responsibility of the traveller, and requirements are subject to change by the local authorities.

To promote tourism to the country, the Jordanian government has designed the **Jordan Pass**. This provides adults of most nationalities with a free single entry Jordan visa (for stays of 3 nights or more), a discounted package of entrance fees, and free digital brochures for the various sites in Jordan. Please check the Jordan Pass tour note for

more information.

Please note that whilst the Jordan Pass is recommended for the vast majority of our Jordan Tours where entrance fees are not included, this is not recommended for our Petra & the Bedouin Trail tour as entrance fees to Petra and Wadi Rum are already included in the cost of this tour.

Double or multi entry visas for Jordan are no longer available and you will need to arrange two visas if you are doing a combination tour (eg. with Egypt and/or Israel) that visits Jordan more than once. Exceptions may occur if you are crossing to and from Israel via the King Hussein Bridge - please contact us for details.

If you wish to arrange your visa separately in advance, or if your stay will be shorter than four days/3 nights, then a visa fee of 40JD (approx. USD 57) will be due.

Families with children under 12 are recommended not to purchase the Jordan Pass for the children as entrance fees are not charged in Jordan for children under 12. Instead, the adults should purchase a Jordan Pass and we will arrange a free visa for the children which you will receive when we meet you on arrival into Amman airport.

Other nationalities may require a visa prior to arrival and to obtain this in advance, please contact your local Jordanian embassy or consulate or a visa agency for details. In addition, if you plan to enter Jordan via the southern Wadi Araba crossing (Eilat-Aqaba) or the Allenby Bridge/King Hussein border with Israel in the north, you will need to obtain your Jordan visa in advance as these are not available on arrival at the border.

26 Money - Jordan

The local currency in Jordan is the Jordanian Dinar (JD). You do not need to arrange to bring any Jordanian Dinar with you to Jordan as exchange facilities are available in the international airports and in most hotels, banks and bureau de changes in major towns. You should try to obtain and keep hold of small denomination notes or coins on you during the tour as these are useful for toilets, tips and small purchases. ATMs are readily available in major towns and many local shops will accept VISA/Mastercard or Amex, but may charge fees of up to 10% - check before you pay. Travellers cheques are not recommended as they can not be changed in many places now, and can incur high fees.

While in Jordan you will need sufficient funds to cover meals not included in the itinerary, drinks, snacks, souvenirs and personal expenses such as laundry. These should generally all be paid for in Jordanian Dinar, though tips for guides and drivers may be paid in hard currency (GBP, USD, EUR).

It is difficult to recommend a level of personal spending money which will suit everyone as this can differ greatly, but as a guideline, we would suggest allowing USD 15-25 per person per day as a minimum. Allow more if you plan on doing lots of shopping, or buying many alcoholic drinks.