

Jordan

Jordan, officially known as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, is a country in the Middle East. It shares control of the Dead Sea with Israel and the Palestinian Authority. Jordan's only port is at its southern tip at the Red Sea's Gulf of Aqaba, which it shares with Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Much of Jordan is covered by the Arabian Desert; however the North-western part of Jordan is part of the Ancient Fertile Crescent. The capital city is Amman and Jordanian society is predominantly urbanised. Jordan is a modern country, a holy river, and an ancient culture - a timeless physical and spiritual panorama of prophets, miracles, and human faith. The very name of the country - Jordan - retains the unique baptismal aura of a holy river and a blessed land. God's command of righteousness and His promise of eternal love and peace through faith are deeply etched into the earth and memories of Jordan.

Visitors and citizens daily walk through the plains, valleys, hills, mountains and streams whose names were forever fixed into human consciousness by the simple deeds and the profound messages of prophets - Abraham, Moses, Lot, Aroon, Elijah, Joshua, Jesus, John the Baptist, Mohammed and others who walked this land and crossed its river during their missions on Earth. Many of the sites where they performed miracles or reached out to ordinary people are identified, excavated, protected and easily accessible to visitors. For a religious pilgrimage or touristic visit to the holy land of Jordan, the bible is more than a document of faith: it is also gazetteer and the virtual road map of ancient places, people and events associated with this serene and spiritual land.

Getting into Jordan

Some nationalities may require a special permit issued by the Ministry of Interior or the Jordanian Embassy and/or Consulate abroad. Please check with your nearest Jordanian Embassy or Consulate at home.

Visas

Most nationalities can get a visa upon arrival at either airport, port or land borders (with the exception of Allenby / King Hussein Bridge, the border with Israel). The visa costs approximately JOD40 per person regardless of nationality. These needs to be paid in local currency so please ensure that you have cash when arriving at the airport or border.

The visa fee is waived for the clients staying for a minimum of 2 consecutive nights in Jordan, and coming through a Jordanian tour operator. However, we need the passport details 1 week prior to the arrival dates.

Upon arrival at Queen Alia International airport, you will be met by a representative, who will be holding a yellow and blue A&K sign for identification. After the immigration formalities you will be met by your Abercrombie & Kent driver.

Departure Tax

All nationals departing from any border in Jordan pay a departure tax of JOD10 Per person and if you are departing from any airport in Jordan it is usually included in your flight ticket

Your US Embassy in Jordan

Abdoun, Al-Umawyeen St.

Amman – Jordan

+962 (6) 590-6000

Keeping Healthy in Jordan

No vaccinations are required for Jordan, unless travellers are arriving from infected areas.

Warm temperatures and dry air rapidly evaporate the body's supplies of moisture. Short-term dehydration can cause various unpleasant symptoms including fever, headache and nausea. Fortunately these disappear rather quickly after a good long drink. We recommend that you drink as much water as possible while on tour. You should not drink tap water in Jordan and avoid ice in your drink unless it is made from mineral water. Abundant supplies of clean bottled drinking water are available in your vehicle. Exercise caution when eating and drinking outside good hotels and first class restaurants and avoid eating fruit and vegetables if they have been peeled already.

Please advise A&K of any special dietary requirements/allergies at least 6 weeks prior to the beginning of your journey. Every effort will be made to comply with your request. Travellers with physical disabilities and those who require frequent or on-going medical attention should advise A&K of their health situation at the time of booking (or at the time such a situation occurs should this be after the reservation is made).

We do recommend that you take out comprehensive travel insurance to cover you in the event of a medical emergency.

Tipping

Tipping is not compulsory, and often not expected, in Jordan. You are travelling on an independent itinerary and the cost of your program does not include gratuities. Tipping is a very personal matter and should only be considered when the staff have gone above and beyond for you.

Should you feel you would like to acknowledge their service, please consider the following as a rough guide, per person per day.

Type of Service	Group Size (Number of People)					
	1	2	3	4	5-9	10+
Tour Director	N/A					
Guide	25\$ Per Person Per Night	25\$ Per Person Per Night	25\$ Per Person Per Night	25\$ Per Person Per Night	10\$ Per Person Per Night	
Guardian Angel	N/A					
Driver	15 \$ Per Person Per Night	15 \$ Per Person Per Night	15 \$ Per Person Per Night	15 \$ Per Person Per Night	10 \$ Per Person Per Night	
Hotel Porters	Included					

Please note: Currency is in USD

The above tipping guidelines are recommendations only and are not compulsory. Please use your own discretion in tipping, based on quality of service.

Restaurants

Hotels and restaurants will usually add up to 10% of the total bill; however, a small gesture for the waiters is appropriate.

Taxis

When using a public taxi, we suggest you should always pay the driver the nearest round figure to the amount shown on the meter.

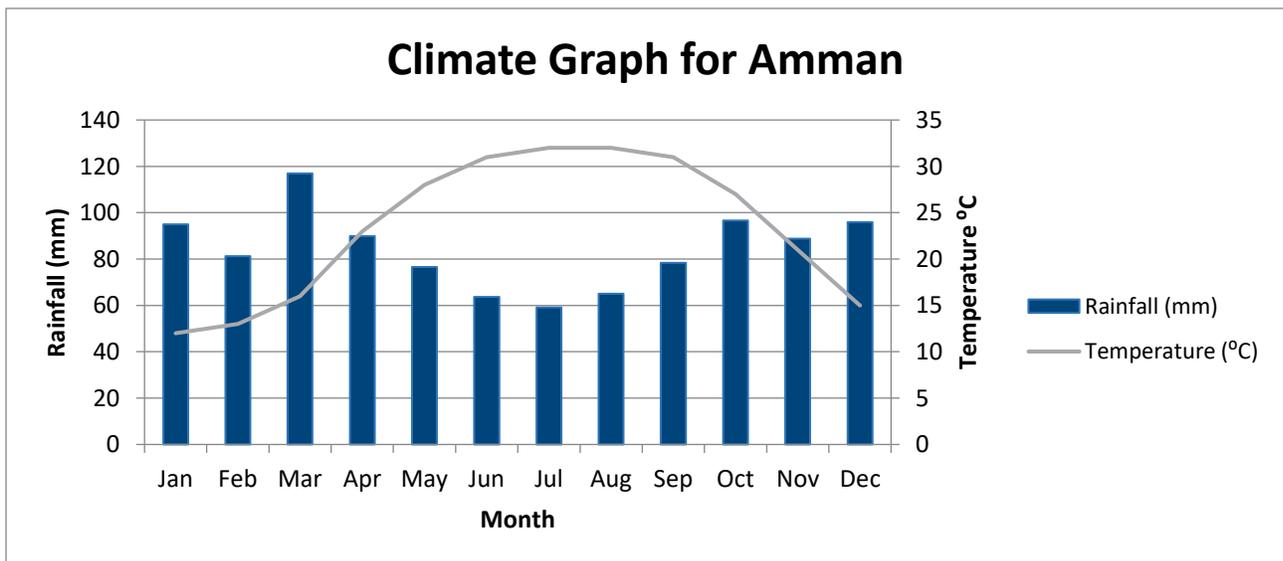
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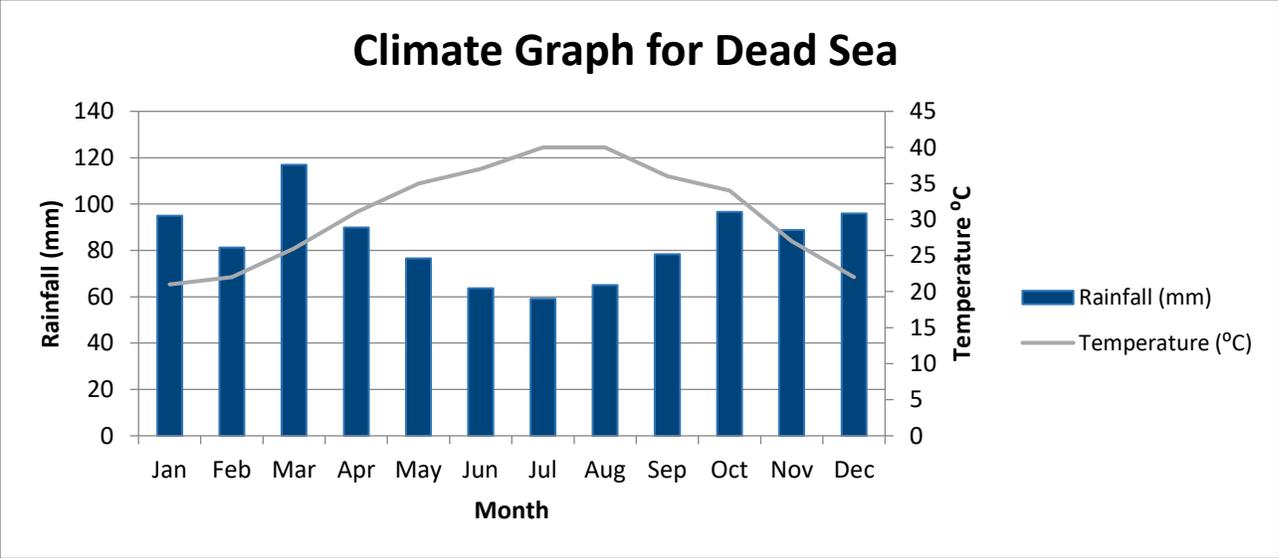
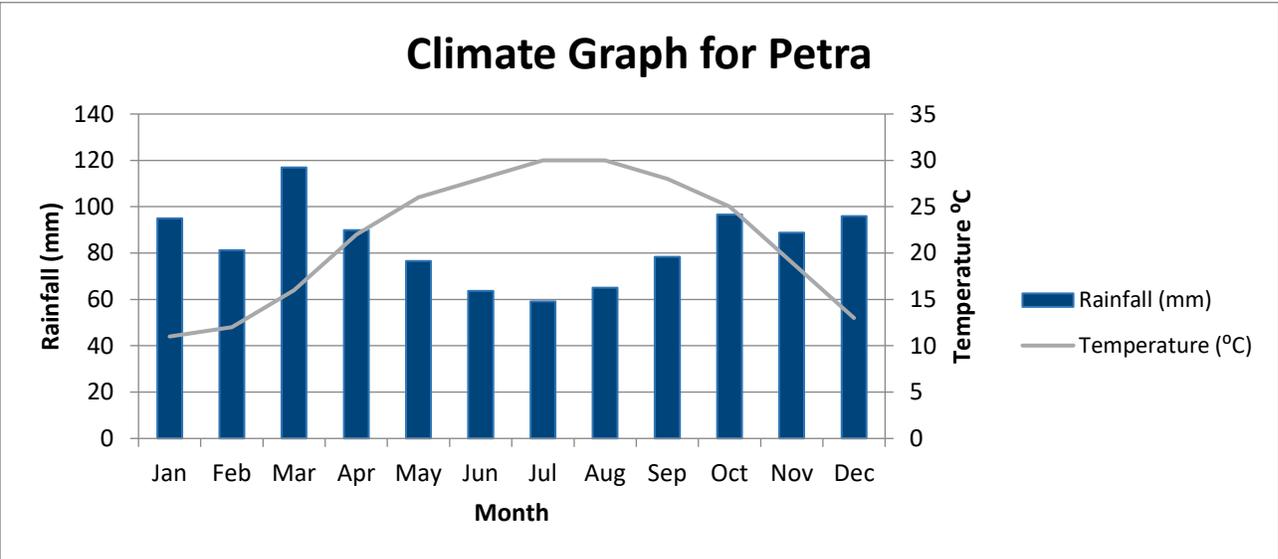
If you are being transferred by an Abercrombie & Kent representative to a hotel, then porterage and tipping of porters is already included. You are not expected to tip the A&K representative.

Talk the talk

English	Arabic
Yes	Na'am
No	Laa
Hello	Marhaba
Bye	Ma'asalameh
Please	Lao samaht
Excuse me	'An iznek
How much?	Addeysh?
What time is it?	Edesh el sa'aa?
Thank you	Shukran
You're welcome	Afwan
What is your name?	Shoo ismek?
I don't speak Arabic	Ana laa ahkee Arabee
Left	Shmaal
Right	Yameen
Straight	Dughree

Weather





What to Pack

Please make sure not to bring binoculars, as holding binoculars will cause delays at the airport upon arrival and/or departure. Security personnel holds bags for inspection if they contain binoculars, and the security officers open the passenger's luggage with the guests' presence to conduct the inspection. This holds guests off and causes a delay.

By the law, it is not mentioned anywhere that binoculars are not permitted into the country, but I think it is better to inform the guests NOT to bring it to the country to avoid any delays at upon arrival. Also, they are not needed while touring.

Religion & Etiquette

Jordan is an ideal destination for those seeking cultural knowledge and spiritual enrichment. Jordan values its ethnically and religiously diverse population, consequently providing for the cultural rights of all its citizens. This spirit of tolerance and appreciation is one of the central elements contributing to the stable and peaceful cultural climate flourishing within the country.

More than 92% of Jordanians are Sunni Muslims and approximately 6% are Christians. The majority of Christians belong to the Greek Orthodox Church, but there are also Greek Catholics, a small Roman Catholic community, Syrian Orthodox, Coptic Orthodox, Armenian Orthodox and a few Protestant denominations. Several Shi'a and Druze populations can also be found in Jordan.

Time Zone

There is only one specific time zone within the geographic area of Jordan.

Jordan is 9 hours ahead of Los Angeles, California, USA.

During your visit, at 09:00 AM in Jordan it will be 00:00 AM in California, Los Angeles, USA.

Money

The local currency is the Jordanian Dinar, or JD, which is divided into 1000 fils. Both coins and paper denominations are used. The daily exchange rate is published in the local newspapers. Money can be exchanged not only at banks, but also at hotels and Currency Exchange offices

Shopping

As a courtesy to our clients, our office will, if requested, help refer you to a shop that carries the merchandise you are looking for. This is not intended as A&K's endorsement of the shop nor Jordan is a shoppers' paradise offering hand-blown glassware, inlaid boxes, silver, gold, jewellery, brass, copper, carpets, antiques, leather wear, spices, perfumes, alabaster, embroidered covers, wall hangings and furniture. It is prohibited to export any ancient artefacts.

Be careful when investing in "genuine antiques" which in many cases are excellent forgeries. responsibility for merchandise (or shipping arrangements) purchased from the shop.

Local Food & Drink

The Middle East enjoys some of the most sophisticated and elaborate cuisines, and is rated amongst the finest foods in the world. Dishes will even satisfy the health conscious because many of them are made with grain, yoghurt, fresh and dried fruits and vegetables. With the use of these grains and vegetables, meat goes a long way and even the simplest ingredients can produce a surprisingly attractive creation.

Arabic cuisine is mainly a combination of Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Indian food. It has been influenced by the mingling of Arabs and non-Arabs over the centuries. Many cultures such as the Spanish, Italian, French, Indian, Turkish and Greek have had an impact on Arabic cooking. Muslim Arabs do not consume pork meat or alcohol because it is haram (forbidden). That said

Arabic markets in many Arabic countries sell pork meat and a variety of liquors and alcohol because Christian Arabs consume these products

The most distinctive Jordanian dish is mansaf: the national dish of Jordan. To serve mansaf to ones guests is the greatest symbol in Jordanian culture of generosity. Mansaf consists of lamb seasoned with aromatic herbs, sometimes lightly spiced, cooked in yoghurt, and served with huge quantities of rice.

We also suggest you tr

Galayet Bandora: tomatoes sautéed and stewed with garlic, olive oil, salt, and topped with pine nuts; it can be served on rice but most Jordanians prefer it with bread.

Maglouba: also known as 'upside-down', maglouba is a casserole made of layers of rice, vegetables and meat. It is in a pot and turned upside down onto a dish when served.

Ara'yes: A word literally meaning 'bride'; ara'yes are flatbreads filled with spicy mincemeat.

Shrak: traditional Jordanian bread stretched very thinly before being tossed onto a hot iron griddle called saj that is shaped like an inverted wok.

Eating Out

Pricing Guideline

\$ = USD \$30 and under

\$\$ = USD \$31- 50

\$\$\$ = USD \$51- 70

\$\$\$\$ = USD \$71 and upwards

This is based on an average price for a 3 course meal dinner per person without wine

Jordan

AMMAN

Le Vant

[Lebanese Restaurant – \\$\\$\\$\\$](#)

Le Vant is the place where the sun rises, geographically it covers the region bordering the eastern Mediterranean Sea including Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Palestine, this region hosted a vast variety of cultures through history creating what now is known as the Le Vant cuisine which is the specialty of Le Vant Restaurant. Do not leave without having the Sharwerma!

3rd Circle behind Le Royal Hotel Tel: + 962 6 46 28 948

Romero

[Italian Restaurant – \\$\\$\\$](#)

Romero Restaurant was established in 1979 in the heart of Amman's modern business district, bringing the authentic ambiance of the Italian cuisine to the country which Flavia Romera and her family held dear to their hearts. Don't leave before trying Flavia's artistic streak that quickly made Romero a heaven for the renounced legacy of Mediterranean cuisine. While in Romero try the Pollo - it is amazing.

Jabal Amman, 3rd circle Tel: + 962 6 4644227

Fakhr El Din

[Lebanese, Middle Eastern Restaurant – \\$\\$\\$](#)

Fakhr El Din Restaurant is considered one of the leading Lebanese restaurants in Amman and is one of the few remaining vestiges of its type. It is in the heart of the city; however, during the

1950's Amman was just beginning to spread out of the downtown area. The *gallayet bandora*, the *kubbeh neyyeh*, and the *muttabal* are highly recommended dishes.

Jabal Amman, 2nd Circle Tel: +962 6 4652399 – 4641789

Ren Chai

Chinese - \$\$\$

Ren Chai Restaurant is a fine dining Chinese restaurant set in an atmosphere that emphasizes elements of nature and contemporary design with seating areas that overlook a refined Asian styled garden. Ren Chai restaurant offers a large menu of Cantonese specialties and Szechwan delicacies such as lobster, shark fin and abalone which may be served with either Chinese cocktails, tea or a selection of other drinks. During the summer evenings, you will dine outside in the Asian garden. The vegetarian spring rolls are delicious!

Jabal Amman, 4th circle Tel: +962 6 4625777

Whispers

International Restaurant - \$\$

Whispers Restaurant with a nice atmosphere, offering a rich menu with different international meals includes some vegetarian dishes with fresh salads. This restaurant doesn't have an outdoor terrace, but have a very nice view with a great shark's aquarium. Their steak is very famous for its tenderness.

5th circle Tel: + 962 6 5921850

Reem Al Bawadi

Middle Eastern Restaurant - \$

Reem Al Bawadi is a huge restaurant complex popular with tour groups and Jordanian families. The Restaurant menu includes a wide range of mezze and grills, giving you a chance to explore beyond the normal falafel and hummus dishes. You can eat on brass tables in the cavernous main halls or in Bedouin tents, either way the live music gets things going. We recommend that you try the fresh traditional bread which is made by a bread lady and a small oven.

Tla' Al-Ali - Al Waha circle - In front of Amman Mall Tel: +962 6 5512030 Tel: +962 6 5515419

Wild Jordan Café

International Healthy Food Restaurant – \$\$

Wild Jordan Café is located in the Wild Jordan Nature Centre, which has a magnificent location overlooking the old city of Amman, the Citadel and the huge Jordanian flag. The centre is a work engine run by the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, aiming to generate an income for the rural communities of the 6 reserves in Jordan; Dana, Wadi Rum, Shaumar, Al Azraq, Ajloun and Wadi Mujib. Being part of the nature centre, the café aims to support locals from the reserves, in order to help sustain an income for them and their families. The outlet offers a healthy low fat cuisine set in outstanding surroundings.

1st circle, Jabal Amman Tel: +962 6 4633542

PETRA

Basin Restaurant

Lebanese Restaurant – \$

It is located about 1 mile inside the gates of Petra, the Basin Restaurant by the Crowne Plaza Petra stands amongst all the splendour of Petra. Situated in the heart of the ancient city, this is a great place to stop and rest your tired feet and one of the few places to eat inside Petra, apart from snack bars. Luckily, the Basin Restaurant provides a more hearty meal to ensure that you are ready to keep exploring this wonderful city!

Inside the old city Petra Tel: +962 (0) 3 215 6266

MADABA

Harret Jdoudna

Oriental Restaurant - \$

Harret Jdoudna represents an authentic village in the city of Madaba, offering everything from amazing traditional food to entertainment and local crafts, mosaics and souvenirs. The restaurant is a 19th century house, with historical-like rooms and floors. Its menu is absolutely exquisite, offering local mezza dishes, oven-baked delicacies, and home-made meals. The restaurant also hosts special events with oriental music and entertainment for a lovely night out, or for a relaxing winter afternoon by the fireplace, where you can unwind to old tunes and a hot cup of mint tea.

Adel Jumean Street, Madaba - Jordan Tel: +962 324 86 50

JERASH

Green Valley

Lebanese Restaurant – \$

This roomy restaurant offers a large variety of traditional food. We recommend that our guests try the Lebanese barbeque there.

South of the archaeological site of Jerash Tel: + 962 2 6353330

AQABA

Ankyra

Greek Restaurant – \$\$

If you are looking for traditional Greek cuisine, Ankyra at Ayla Oasis is definitely worth a visit. Chic, elegant and stylish with soft and light interior, enhancing the subtle simplicity of the Mediterranean style. Advanced reservation is a must for entry to Ayla Oasis

Ayla Marina Village, +962 7 9011 1022

Kegs House of Ale

International – Pub – \$\$

Stylish contemporary decor, relaxed dining, and a welcoming pub atmosphere. If you're looking for tasty authentic ales and lovely pub food nearby, come and visit Kegs the House of Ale today! Choose from roast chicken, fresh steaks, sea food, pastas and many more goodies. Advanced reservation is a must for entry to Ayla Oasis

Ayla Marina Village, +962 7 7906 5808

Bar Thirteen

Sports bar – \$\$

The hottest new sports bar in Ayla Oasis. Keeping it casual & sporty makes it one of the most fun places in Ayla to watch sports matches, while enjoying their delicious international menu from burgers to wings to decadent desserts and drinks. Advanced reservation is a must for entry to Ayla Oasis

Ayla Marina Village+962 7 9011 1022

Silica

Nestled in Ayla Golf Club and overlooking the Greg-Norman designed golf course, Silica Restaurant provides guests quick and casual food and drinks. Advanced reservation is a must for entry to Ayla Oasis

Aqaba, Ayla Golf Club +9627 9230 0003

Romero

Italian Restaurant – \$\$\$

In 1994, Romero group's vision was transferred to Aqaba, where the group collaborated with the Royal Yacht Club in establishing Romero restaurant on the shores of the magnificent Red sea. The genuine essence of Italian cuisine was conveyed to Aqaba, and authentic international dishes were added to the menu. Creating a haven of good food & refreshing atmosphere.

Aqaba, Royal Yacht Club, Tel: +962 – 3 – 2022404 / +962 7 7844 1444