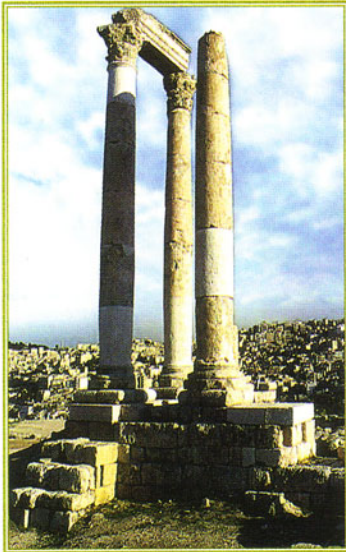


JORDAN (8 Days / 6 Nights)



Day 01

Depart from the USA

Day 02

Arrive in Amman, Jordan
Transfer to hotel.

Day 03

Amman (Amra, Azraq)
Morning orientation tour of Amman, formerly the Ammonite capital city of Rabbath-Ammon, and later the Graeco-Roman city called Philadelphia, and one of the Decapolis cities. Visit the Citadel, the Temple of Hercules, the Roman Amphitheatre.

Jordan's deserts are dotted with architecturally interesting castles; visit Qasr Amra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and marvel at the ceiling frescoes and floor mosaics. The black basalt Roman/Medieval Islamic fort of Azraq was the headquarters of Lawrence of Arabia during the Arab revolt. Also stop at the fortress-like Qasr Kharanah.

Enjoy a special dinner at the walled village of Kan Zamman, just outside of Amman.

Day 04

Amman, Petra
Petra is what remains of the Nabataean Kingdom, an Arab people who settled here more than 2000 years ago. From this strategic area they dominated the trade routes of

ancient Arabia. Petra opens her treasures once you pass through the very narrow, winding gorge (siq). Walk along the ancient streets, the Royal Tombs, the Theatre, the Treasury, the temples, houses, baths.

Day 05

Petra (Beidha, Wadi Rum)
Tour Beidha, a 9,000 year old excavated Stone Age village near Petra. Then on to Wadi Rum, where much of David Lean's "Lawrence of Arabia" was filmed. This wildly scenic area is studded with sandstone hills.

Day 06

Petra, Kerak, Bethany, Dead Sea
Along the Kings' Highway, stop and visit the 12th Century Crusader fortress of Kerak. Continue to Bethany beyond the Jordan, where Jesus was baptized. Remains here include structures from the 1st Century A.D. settlement of John the Baptist who lived, preached and baptized here. Afternoon at leisure for swimming in the Dead Sea.

Day 07

Dead Sea, Jordan Valley, Ajlun, Jerash, Amman
Drive along the Jordan Valley to visit the wonderful ancient sites north of Amman. In Ajloun visit the Qala'at Ar-Rabad, the Castle of Ajlun, built in 1184-5 by Usama ibn Munqich, a nephew of Saladin. Continue to Jerash, considered the best preserved and most complete of Roman cities in the Middle East. Jerash was also one of the Decapolis cities. Continue to Amman.

Day 08

Departure
Transfer to the airport.

