Explore Israel & Jordan - DOJNG

15 days: Jerusalem to Amman

What's Included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Jerusalem Lecture with Local Expert, Jerusalem
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Mahane Yehuda Market Walk & Kosher Cooking Class, Jerusalem
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Palestinian Women's Project Local Lunch, Bethlehem
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Galilee Winery tour and tasting, Galilee
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Women's Cooking Class & lunch, Jerash Governorate
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Petra Archaeologist Talk, Wadi Musa
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Wadi Rum Night Walk, Wadi Rum
- Your G for Good Moment: Beit Khayrat Souf women-run cafe, Jerash Governorate
- Your G for Good Moment: Numeira Community Cafe Lunch, Jordan Valley
- Arrival transfer
- Entrance to Yad Vashem (the Holocaust memorial)
- Visit the Israel Museum and view the Dead Sea Scrolls
- Visit old Jerusalem and Bethlehem
- Visit Masada
- Explore the Sea of Galilee area including Capernaum and Nazareth
- Tour Caesarea Maritima
- Visit to the Citadel and the National Archaeological Museum
- Guided visit to Jerash
- Tour the Madaba mosaics
- Visit Mt Nebo
- Petra guided tour
- Wadi Rum desert 4x4 jeep excursion
- Guided visit to Bethany
- Visit both sides of the Dead Sea
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing April 20th, 2020 and onwards

Itinerary

NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1 Jerusalem

Arrive at any time. Arrival transfer is included.

We highly recommend booking a pre-night in Jerusalem to recover from jet lag and relax as this is a fast paced trip with little free time.

Its important to remember that hospitality expectations can vary greatly from what you are used to in your home Country. The point of travel is to open yourself up to cultural differences and new experiences; practice patience and keep an open mind.

Arrival Day and Welcome Meeting
The adventure begins tonight. Feel free to explore before your welcome meeting, but make sure you're back in time to meet the group. Check for the meeting time on the welcome note at the hotel. After introductions, your CEO will review the details of your tour. Please note that normal check-in times apply at our start hotels, but you can usually store your luggage for the day if you arrive early.

Private Vehicle

Ben Gurion Airport - Jerusalem

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Accommodation

Leonardo Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Day 2 Jerusalem

Begin the day with a walking tour of Jerusalem's Old City, home to sites that are sacred to the three of the world's great faiths. At the Temple Mount, visit the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque. Continue to the Western Wall, then make your way through the winding lanes of the Jewish Quarter to the historic Hurva Synagogue. Walk along the Way of the Cross, the route that Jesus is believed to have taken on his way to crucifixion, and end at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre--according to tradition and to recent findings, Jesus's tomb is located here. This afternoon, ascend to the top of the Mount of Olives for panoramic views of the city. Later, we'll enjoy a talk with a local scholar about the struggles of daily life in Jerusalem, discussing interfaith issues, political conflict, and hopes for a peaceful future.

Lectures are included to provide context to different viewpoints and the wide range of cultural differences within Israel. As everything in Israel relates directly or indirectly to vastly different Political and Spiritual opinions, its important to keep an open mind and see these interactions as learning experiences.

Depending on the time of year and festivals/holidays, the old city can be very crowded with visitors and pilgrims.

While we do visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, we often do not have time to visit the "Tomb of Christ", due to long lineups. Should you wish to spend more time in the Church and visit the Tomb, we recommend doing this on your own in your free time (the church is open in the evenings).

Mount of Olives Viewpoint

Jerusalem

Named for the olive groves that once covered its slopes, the Mount of Olives is a mountain ridge just east of Jerusalem's Old City, separating it from the Judean Desert. Enjoy sweeping views of Jerusalem and enjoy this prominent site which is referenced in Holy Scriptures.

Private Vehicle

Jerusalem

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Jerusalem Lecture with Local Expert

Sit down with a local Jerusalem scholar and business owner for a discussion on what daily life is like from the perspective of a Palestinian resident. Gain insight into life in this hotly contested city discussing aspects of religious, political and cultural differences. Also discuss the varying opinions within the city and community on what a peaceful resolution looks like and hopes for what the future can hold.

Old Jerusalem Walking Tour - Journeys

Jerusalem

Take a walking tour of the Old City of Jerusalem with your CEO and gain a deeper understanding of the diverse cultural, religious and political aspects of Israel. Visit key sites including the Temple Mount, Dome of the Rock, and the Al Aqsa Mosque, the western wall and Hurva Synagogue. Also walk the Stations of the Via Dolorosa, ending at the Holy Sepulchre Church.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation

Leonardo Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Day 3 Jerusalem
This morning, pay a visit to Yad Vashem, Israel's moving memorial to the Holocaust. Continue to the Israel Museum to view the Dead Sea Scrolls, one of the most important archaeological finds of the past century, and opt to walk through the museum's state-of-the-art exhibition on your own. This evening, join an Israeli chef on a walking tour of the lively Mahane Yehuda Market. We'll learn about the key ingredients of Israeli cuisine, and enjoy a hands-on lesson in kosher cooking.

**Yad Vashem (Holocaust Museum) Visit**

Jerusalem

The Holocaust History Museum is home to state-of-the-art exhibits on this horrific tragedy. It also showcases original artifacts and survivor testimonies.

**Israel Museum & Dead Sea Scrolls**

Jerusalem

Visit the famed Israel Museum and view the Dead Sea Scrolls, housed in the Shrine of the Book. Considered one of the greatest archaeological finds of the past century, these ancient manuscripts (dated at over 2000 years old) were discovered between 1947 and 1956 in 11 caves near Khirbet Qumran, on the shores of the Dead Sea. After, enjoy free time to walk through the museum's state of the art archeological exhibition which showcases some of the most significant finds in the region.

**Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Mahane Yehuda Market Walk & Kosher Cooking Class**

Considered one of the culinary hotspots in Israel, the bustling Mahane Yehuda Market (often referred to as "The Shuk"), is a vibrant local market full of sights, sounds, colours and flavours of the Middle East. Led by a local Israeli Chef, we explore this popular spot for locals and visitors alike; as Jerusalem's largest market it features fruits, vegetables, spices, sweets, speciality food stalls and numerous spots for food and drink. Wander our way through the maze of laneways, with our expert who ensures we taste and sample some local treats and learn about key ingredients in Jewish cuisine. After, continue to a local Kosher Restaurant where our Chef will instruct us in the finer points of kosher cooking. At the end of a busy day, we enjoy a dinner of our creations.

**Private Vehicle**

Jerusalem

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner**

**Accommodation**

Leonardo Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

**Day 4 Jerusalem**

Spend the day in the ancient town of Bethlehem, located in the hills of the West Bank. Begin with a visit to Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity, where Jesus is believed to have been born. Walk through a nearby Palestinian refugee camp on your way to a local women's collective, created by and for refugee women. Learn how to prepare traditional Palestinian dishes in the camp's shared kitchen, and sit down to a delicious meal with the women while gaining insights into their lives as refugees.

Depending on the time of year and festivals/holidays, Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity can be very crowded with visitors and pilgrims. Access to the grotto is not guaranteed, it is often very crowded with long lines and is closed on some days (without notice).

**Bethlehem Tour - Journeys**

Bethlehem

Explore ancient Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus and King David; the city is an important site to all three major religions of Israel: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Visit Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity, the Milk Grotto and Shepard's field. Continue for a walk through a nearby Palestinian refugee camp neighbourhood.

**Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Palestinian Women's Project Local Lunch**

Visit the Noor Women's Empowerment group, a grassroots project created by and for refugee women who have children with disabilities and/or are the sole family provider. These engaging women are all experienced home cooks who will teach us how to prepare traditional Palestinian dishes in their shared kitchen in the Aida Refugee camp. After the demonstration, we will eat together and learn about our host's families and life in a refugee camp.

**Private Vehicle**

Jerusalem

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch**
Day 5 Jerusalem/Tiberias

Start the day with a guided visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Masada, King Herod's 2,000-year-old mountaintop fortress. Explore the remains of elaborate palaces and bathhouses, then travel to the shores of the Dead Sea for a chance to float in its fabled waters. Continue north to the Sea of Galilee and enjoy a visit to a kibbutz—an Israeli communal settlement—while learning about the origins of the kibbutz movement.

In the Galilee area we stay in a local resort-style hotel which is operated by a Kibbutz.

Masada Guided Tour

Masada

Take a tour of Masada, a UNESCO World Heritage site and stunning rock fortress that was the last stronghold of the Jewish in their war against the Romans. The story of the site reveals the courage of the defenders of Masada and their battle against the conquering Romans. Visit Herod's palace, the mikveh, storerooms, watchtowers, and the synagogue.

Dead Sea Visit (Israel)

Dead Sea

The Dead Sea is actually a lake, without any from of life whatsoever in its waters, hence its name. The water is so dense that it is practically impossible to sink and its five to ten times as salty as regular sea water. While swimming, cover yourself with the sea's mud, which is reputed to have special healing powers, and don't forget to take a photo of yourself reading a book while floating! You will notice that the salt penetrates any cuts on your body and has an unusual smell, but there are showers to wash off under after swimming.

Kibbutz Experience

Tiberias

Enjoy an introduction to the Kibbutz movement history which started about 100 years ago around the Sea Of Galilee. Discuss the difference between the the "Original" movement to the Kibbutz of today. Learn about the Kibbutz structure including the use of shared public buildings and areas including; dining room, children's houses, laundry station, as well as the agricultural areas.

Private Vehicle

Jerusalem - Tiberias

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Accommodation

Ohalao Kibbutz Hotel (or similar)

Day 6 Tiberias

Venture to the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus is believed to have delivered the Sermon on the Mount. Visit the church that commemorates the event, and take in breathtaking views of the Sea of Galilee and the surrounding countryside. Continue to the ruins of Capernaum, often called "the town of Jesus." Learn about the lives and perspectives of Israeli Arabs en route to Nazareth, where we stop at the Basilica of the Annunciation, one of the largest churches in the Middle East. Later, visit a local winery for a tour and private tasting.

Sea of Galilee area tour

Tiberias

Enjoy stunning sights this morning with a drive to the Mt. of Beatitudes with sweeping views of the Sea of Galilee. Visit the church that was built atop this hill, where Jesus is believed to have delivered his "Sermon on the Mount" speech. Next, tour the ruins of Capernaum, where Jesus lived and preached, and where many apostles, including Peter, made their home.

Nazareth Tour

Nazareth
Visit Nazareth, a city of religious importance and spirituality. Delve into its rich historic and biblical significance, but also admire its modern culture and Middle Eastern charm. Visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, one of the largest churches in the Middle East.

Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Galilee Winery tour and tasting

Visit a local winery in the lush farmlands near the Sea of Galilee and learn about the process and production and the growing popularity of Israeli wine. With an expert we will embark on a guided tour of the wine production process, visit the oak barrel cellar and then indulge our taste buds with an enhanced tasting session, featuring a wide variety of high-quality wines. The tasting takes place in a private room with our wine expert explaining each selection and will be accompanied by a variety of boutique Golan Heights cheeses.

Private Vehicle

Tiberias

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Accommodation

Ohalao Kibbutz Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Day 7 Tiberias/Tel Aviv

Head to the sparkling shores of the Mediterranean, stopping at the coastal city of Haifa. Then travel south to Caesarea Maritima to explore the ruins of Herod's great harbour city. Afterward, continue to bustling Tel Aviv for our last evening in Israel.

After a very busy trip, should you wish to enjoy some relaxation and leisure time, we do recommend booking post nights in Tel Aviv,

Caesarea Guided Tour

Qesarya - Tel Aviv

Visit the majestic Roman ruins of Caesarea. It was built as part of Herod the Great's ambitious plan to "Hellenise" the Holy Land in the 1st century BC. He chose the site of a small Phoenician port and built a classical Greek city. Herod also constructed an artificial harbour by making use of concrete piling underwater - the first ever such use of concrete.

Private Vehicle

Tiberias - Tel Aviv

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation

Cinema Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Day 8 Tel Aviv/Amman

Travel to the border and transfer to Amman, Jordan. Check into your hotel, meet your new CEO and spend the evening at leisure.

You will have one CEO in Israel and one in Jordan. In this case you will be transferred to the border and cross over unescorted to Jordan - either on your own or with any other travellers who are continuing on for the Jordan portion of the tour. You will be met on the Jordanian side of the border and transferred to Amman, where there is free time to relax until the welcome meeting with your new CEO in the evening. See the "Detailed Trip Notes" section of the Tour Details page for helpful instructions on crossing the Israeli-Jordanian border.

Please remember that Israel and Jordan are very different Countries, in terms of culture, daily way of life and infrastructure. The best part of travel is gaining insight into these difference and keeping an open mind.

Its important to note that transport vehicles in Israel are usually much more modern than in Jordan.

Private Vehicle

Tel Aviv - Beit She'an

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Border Crossing (Israel - Jordan)
Beit She'an - Sheikh Hussein 1h-3h

The border crossing process takes about an hour on average. Please note that depending on security check process and traffic, the border crossing time can take anywhere from 1 to 3 hours.

**Private Vehicle**
Sheikh Hussein - Amman 90km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**Accommodation**
Landmark Amman Hotel (or similar)
Hotel

**Day 9 Amman**

Awake in the Jordanian capital and venture to Jerash, home to one of the world's largest and most well-preserved Roman ruins. Wander amid the colonnaded streets, soaring temples, and spacious squares of this ancient city; then visit a G Adventures-supported café run by local women, where we'll enjoy a cooking class and delicious traditional lunch. Back in Amman, visit the Jordan Archaeological Museum and explore the ruins of the Citadel--one of the oldest continually inhabited places in the world.

**Private Vehicle**
Amman - Jerash Governorate 1h-1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**Jerash Guided Visit**
Jerash Governorate 3h-4h

Take a step back in time visiting Jerash, one of the most well-preserved Roman sites outside of Italy. Wander amid its paved and colonnaded streets, soaring hilltop temples, handsome theatres, spacious public squares and plazas, baths, fountains, and city walls pierced by towers and gates - all in exceptional condition.

**Your G for Good Moment: Beit Khayrat Souf women-run cafe**

Part of the G Adventures for Good program, Beit Khayrat Souf is a women-run cafe with the purpose of training and employing women to gain their own financial independence. Women manage the cafe and lead cooking classes on site. They engage more women outside the organization by sourcing and making preserves sold at the cafe.

**Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Women's Cooking Class & lunch**

As part of an experience exclusive to National Geographic Journeys travellers - and part of our G Adventures for Good program, prepare your own traditional Jordanian meal with a lively group of women at Beit Khayrat Souf. This café is run and managed by women seeking financial independence. Here, women help prepare food along with leading cooking classes on-site. The café also sources and makes preserves which are served and sold at the café, helping to engage even more women living in the charming hills of Souf.

**Private Vehicle**
Jerash Governorate - Amman 2h-2h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**National Archaeological Museum & Citadel**
Amman 2h

Visit the museum for an overview on Jordan's history and ancient sites. Continue on to the Citadel archaeological site, best known for the Roman Temple of Hercules, but used by numerous civilizations dating back to the Bronze Age.

**Meals included:** Breakfast | Lunch

**Accommodation**
Landmark Amman Hotel (or similar)
Hotel
Day 10 Amman/Wadi Musá

Depart early towards Petra, driving along the scenic King's Highway. Stop at Mount Nebo, where Moses was offered a glimpse of the Promised Land according to the Hebrew Bible. Take in stunning views of the Dead Sea from the summit, and continue to Madaba, famed for its Byzantine mosaics—including the oldest surviving map of the Holy Land. Arrive in Wadi Musa, our base for exploring Petra, and enjoy a talk by an archaeologist about the legendary sandstone city and the ongoing excavations taking place there.

Private Vehicle

Amman - Wadi Musá3h-4h240km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Mt Nebo Visit

Jabal Naba - Madaba

Visit Mount Nebo, a historic site believed by many to be the location of Moses' death and has thus been a centre for pilgrimage since the earliest Christian times. Trek to the summit (817m or 2,680 ft), and be rewarded with views of the stunning surrounding countryside and Israel in the distance.

Madaba Mosaics Guided Tour

Madaba

Explore Madaba's long history on this guided tour, including its role as the centre of early Christianity. See some of the finest Byzantine mosaics in the world, including the famous sixth-century mosaic map of the Middle East. Tour churches, the Archaeological Park, and the local museum that's housed in several old Madaba residences.

Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Petra Archaeologist Talk

Join an archaeologist for a talk about the UNESCO World Heritage site of Petra, the ancient city that was half-built and half-carved into a sandstone landscape. Learn about the ongoing excavation taking place here, and get a better understanding of the site for when you explore it yourself.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation

Hotel Petra Moon (or similar)

Hotel

Day 11 Wadi Musá

Rise early to discover the legendary city of Petra, carved out of sandstone cliffs by the Nabataean Arabs as early as the second century BC. Venture into the city by way of a gorge called the Siq, and enjoy a guided walking tour of the magnificent rose-red ruins. Spend some time exploring on your own before returning to our hotel. This evening, opt to experience Petra by night, when the site glows in the light of thousands of candles, and take in a performance of Bedouin music.

The site is large so please be prepared for a lot of walking over sand and rocks for the entire day. Pace yourself, stay hydrated and be sure to have proper walking/hiking shoes.

Petra Guided Tour

Petra4h-6h

Journey to Petra to explore this UNESCO World Heritage site. Wind your way through the Siq, a narrow, 1km-long (.6 mi) gorge flanked by soaring 80m-high (262 ft) sandstone walls. Take in the astounding colours and patterns of the rock, and, at the end of this passage, catch your first glimpse of Al-Khazneh, the famed treasury of Petra.

Explore in depth with your CEO and get a brief history of the city, one of the greatest attractions in the Middle East. The Nabateans carved this capital from the living rock of the surrounding mountains in Petra. Visit monuments that include the Pharaoh's Castle, the triumphal arch, the amphitheatre, and the monastery.

Free Time

Wadi Musá Afternoon

Continue to explore Petra on your own.

Optional Activities - Day 11

Turkish Bath

Petra

20JOD per person
You've done some walking this tour, so take this opportunity to give your muscles some much needed attention. Enjoy this true hammam experience.

**Petra by Night**

Petra
17JOD per person

Enjoy a magical night at Petra. Sit back in the candle lit Siq and treasury, and enjoy bedouin live music show.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**Accommodation**

Hotel Petra Moon (or similar)

**Day 12 Petra/Wadi Rum**

After breakfast, continue to Wadi Rum—a vast landscape of sweeping red sand dunes and towering sandstone arches. Enjoy lunch at our desert camp, then set out on a thrilling 4x4 excursion into the desert. Drive past spectacular rock formations, look for ancient petroglyphs, and pick the perfect spot to watch the sunset. Return to camp for a typical Bedouin feast. Later, head out with your Bedouin guide for a nighttime walk, admiring the dazzling, starry skies of the desert.

After breakfast, drive to Wadi Rum, a vast, silent landscape of ancient riverbeds and the largest and most magnificent of Jordan's desert landscapes. Spend the night in a simple, but comfortable desert camp; The authentic goat-wool tent provides a glimpse into traditional Bedouin living. Each tent has ensuite and is outfitted with sheets, pillows, a raised bed, towels, electricity and thick covers against the desert cold. While the accommodation is simple, it is quite comfortable and offers a truly unique experience.

November - February: The desert can get very cold after the sun sets and it can be cool during the days. If you are visiting during the winter months you should pack warm comfortable clothing for daytime and especially the evenings (a jacket, hat, gloves and warm pajamas).

September/October & March/April: evenings can still get chilly so you should bring something warm to wear. Daytime is usually warm and comfortable but you can bring a sweater or jacket just in case.

May - August: the weather is very hot during the day and the evenings are usually comfortable and warm.

**Private Vehicle**

Petra - Wadi Rum 2h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**4x4 Desert Trip**

4h

Head deep into the desert by 4x4 and enjoy the amazing natural beauty and unique landscape on this unforgettable drive. Along the way we drive up red sand dunes, view stunning rock formations and visit ancient sites to view rock art and inscriptions.

**Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Wadi Rum Night Walk**

There's nothing quite like counting stars in the night sky from the desert below, away from the noise and light pollution of our modern world. Enjoy this experience while walking with a Bedouin who's lived in this remote region his entire life.

**Meals included:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**Accommodation**

Rahayeb Camp (or similar)

**Day 13 Wadi Rum/Dead Sea**

Travel towards the Dead Sea, one of the saltiest bodies of water on the planet. Stop for lunch at a G Adventures-supported community café, located on lush green farmland surrounded by desert. Continue to the shores of the Dead Sea and settle into our hotel. Spend the rest of the day relaxing poolside, or choose to take a dip in the mineral-rich waters of the lake, long known for their therapeutic properties.

At 423m (1,388 ft) below sea level, the shores of the Dead Sea are at the lowest land elevation on Earth. The sea is named because its salinity is so high (up to nine times that of the world's oceans) that only a few microorganisms can live in its waters.
The Dead Sea is a resort area, with chain hotels whose sole purpose are to allow access to the Dead Sea. This allows time to relax, float in the sea or opt to visit a spa. Dinner is in the hotel, as there are no local restaurants within the resort area.

Note: Due to major road works in the area, access to Numeira Cafe can be limited and sometimes inaccessible. If we are unable to visit during your departure, your CEO will advise, and take the group to a different area for the included lunch.

Private Vehicle

Wadi Rum - Dead Sea 3h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Your G for Good Moment: Numeira Community Cafe Lunch

Stop for lunch at Numeira Environmental Cafe to enjoy a traditional Jordanian meal. Take a tour of the grounds and learn about how this small nonprofit is working to create a sustainable future for community members near the Dead Sea.

Dead Sea Visit

Dead Sea

Discover the legendary healing qualities of the Dead Sea, famous for its unique mineral makeup and salinity. Spot salt chunks drifting by like icebergs on the water's surface. Take a dip yourself and float like a buoy or cover yourself in the mud along the shore, believed to have medicinal and therapeutic benefits. There are showers nearby to wash off after.

Free Time

Dead Sea

Relax under an umbrella next to one of the freshwater swimming pools or enjoy the other facilities at the resort hotel. Why not indulge in an optional massage or one of the other health and beauty therapies available?

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Accommodation

Crowne Plaza Dead Sea Jordan (or similar)

Hotel

Day 14 Dead Sea/Amman

Enjoy a visit to the archaeological remains of Bethany, where Jesus is believed to have been baptized. Explore the churches, chapels, monasteries, and caves of this fascinating UNESCO World Heritage site, then travel back to Amman. Join the group for an optional farewell dinner tonight.

Bethany Beyond the Jordan

Dead Sea Afternoon

Visit the archaeological site of Bethany, thought to be the site of John the Baptist's settlement and where Jesus was baptized. Fairly recently rediscovered, the site is an important archaeological find, numerous sites are being uncovered including Roman and Byzantine Baptismal pools, ancient churches, and caves.

Private Vehicle

Dead Sea - Amman 1h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation

Landmark Amman Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Day 15 Amman

Depart at any time.

Check-out time from the hotel is normally mid-morning, but luggage storage facilities are available. We also encourage you to book a few additional nights if you want more time to explore the city.

Speak to your CEO about arranging your transfer to the airport (additional cost).
Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

Meals included: Breakfast

What's Included

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Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Petra Archaeologist Talk, Wadi Musa
Your G for Good Moment: Beit Khayrat Souf women-run cafe, Jerash Governorate

Highlights

Wander the quarters of Jerusalem's Old City, Taste your way through a local market, Learn about Israeli, Palestinian and Jordanian cooking, Ride through the Wadi Rum desert on a 4x4, Explore the awe-inspiring ancient city of Petra

Dossier Disclaimer

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VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

Important Notes

COMBO TRIP

Please note that this trip is part of a combination of multiple tours. As such, the CEO, staff and/or particular vehicles operating your tour may change between tour segments. You may also expect some group members to join or leave the tour, between tour segments.

RAMADAN

According to the lunar cycle, Ramadan will fall between April 23rd and May 23rd, 2020. Please note that Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world, during which time the followers of Islam should not eat or drink between sunrise and sunset. There may be some limitations to services and disruptions to schedules during Ramadan, but generally our tours still operate effectively during this period and food is available to non-Muslims throughout the day. It is very important to display increased cultural sensitivity during Ramadan. Please wear loose fitting clothes, that cover knees and shoulders, and try to avoid eating, drinking or smoking in public out of respect for those who can't at that time.

SATURDAY'S IN ISRAEL

For travellers with accommodation arranged on a Saturday evening, please be advised that Saturday is the religious day of Shabbat in Israel. Shabbat is observed as a day of rest, therefore, travellers who check in on a Saturday will only be able to check in after 7:00pm in the evening.

Group Leader Description

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great
local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

**Group Size Notes**

Max 16, Avg 10.

**Meals Included**

14 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 5 dinners

**Meals**

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

**Transport**

Private van/bus, walking.

**About our Transportation**

On this trip we will travel by air-conditioned private minivan for most journeys. En route to Wadi Rum and our desert camp we will travel in 4x4 vehicles.

**Solo Travellers**

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

**Accommodation**

Hotels (13 nts), desert camp (1 nt).

**My Own Room**

Please note that if you have booked the “My Own Room” option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops.

**Joining Hotel**

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

**Joining Instructions**

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous. Arrival transfers will not be available to passengers who have booked pre-tour accommodations independently of G Adventures.

If you have booked pre-tour accommodations through G Adventures, please note that you must contact us to confirm the included arrival transfer.

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel. Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned, so you may arrive at any time. Similarly the last day is a departure day in which no activities are planned.

Your CEO will contact you at the hotel on Day 1 and make sure you are settled comfortably. If you arrive late, they will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning. Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip.

**Arrival Complications**
We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

**Emergency Contact**

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

**AIRPORT TRANSFER**

If you have purchased an arrival transfer or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS**

G Adventures Local Representative (Israel)
Emergency Phone Number: +972 54 554 4905 (Simon)

G Adventures Local Office (Istanbul, Turkey)
Emergency number: +90 532 481 51 73 (Yavuz, Israel Regional Manager)

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below, which will connect you directly with our 24 hour Sales team, who will happily assist you.

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100
Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000
Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000
Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618
Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307
Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

**Finishing Point Instructions**

For 2017 departures this trip ends at the Dead Sea where a a transfer to the Amman airport can be easily arranged for approximately 50 JOD. Should you like more time to relax at the beach, we are able to organize extra accommodation post-trip. Please inquire at the time of booking.

For 2018 departures this tour will end in Amman.

**What to Take**

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage.

It is important to pack clothes for warm to hot days and cool evenings. A set of smart casual clothes is also advisable.

**Packing List**

Conservative Dress:
* Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
* Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Documents:
* Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
* Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
* Passport (required) (With photocopies)
* Required visas or vaccination certificates (required) (With photocopies)
* Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)

Essentials:
* Binoculars (optional)
* Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
* Cash, credit and debit cards
* Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
* Ear plugs
* First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, l mediums or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra
prescription drugs you may be taking)
* Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
* Fleece top/sweater
* Footwear
* Hat
* Locks for bags
* Long pants/jeans
* Moneybelt
* Outlet adapter
* Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
* Reusable water bottle
* Shirts/t-shirts
* Sleepwear
* Small travel towel
* Sunglasses
* Toiletries (Preferably biodegradable)
* Watch and alarm clock
* Waterproof backpack cover
* Windproof rain jacket

Health & Safety:
* Face masks (required)
* Hand sanitizer (required)
* Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)
* Rubber gloves

Smart Dress:
* Smart outfit (For evenings out)

Warm Weather:
* Sandals/flip-flops
* Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
* Sun hat/bandana
* Swimwear

Note: For departures from Nov-Feb the weather can be cold, please bring warm clothing.

Laundry

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

Visas and Entry Requirements

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy, or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

ISRAEL AND PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES:
Most tourists to Israel and the Palestinian Territories will be issued a free visa, on arrival valid for 90 days, at air and land borders. Known exceptions to this are India, Singapore and many African countries. Please double check the requirements in relation to the passport you travel on. Usually your entry and visa will not be stamped into your passport, but onto a separate piece of paper.

IMPORTANT NOTE
Israeli hotels have new requirements due to the Israeli Value Added Tax (VAT) authorities regulation. According to the law, hotels must receive photocopies of passports and B2 visas of all visitors.
The B2 visa is a small document travelers receive upon entering Israel at passport control. Please hold on to that document as it will be requested at the hotels. If the hotels do not receive that information then they will charge an additional 17% to the rate of accommodation.

JORDAN:
For our groups the Jordanian visa will be organized at the border. Not all nationalities automatically qualify for this visa on arrival, and it is vital that you contact your local embassy or consulate for updated information according to your passport nationality. You will need to retroactively pay the 40 JOD for your visa when you depart Jordan (either at the airport in Amman or by a land border crossing). If you are departing Jordan by air, no additional departure tax will be required as it is already included on the air ticket. If you are departing Jordan by land there is a 10 JOD departure tax.

Please note: Egypt and Jordan have a peace agreement with Israel, which allows travellers to cross boarders between these countries; having an Israeli stamp in your passport will not affect your ability to travel to Egypt or Jordan.
If you are planning to enter Israel via land from Egypt or Jordan, the exit stamps from these neighbouring countries will indicate that you have visited Israel. Even without an Israeli visa in your passport, these stamps will impact your ability to use the same passport to travel to Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Saudi, Libya and Yemen.

**Detailed Trip Notes**

Please keep these helpful instructions in mind when crossing the border between Israel and Jordan:

1. Arrive to The Israeli Border and proceed to desks # 1-3. Here, you will be required to pay the exit fee in cash (177 NIS). Please note that there are no ATM machines in the border crossing point, only currency exchange kiosks.

2. Proceed to Customs desks #6-8 to have your passport stamped. You may be required to answer some security questions at this point. Exit the building through the Duty Free shop.

3. Upon exiting, you will be required to take a 3-5 minute shuttle (5 NIS - cash only) to the Jordanian border; this shuttle will leave when it is full, so be prepared to wait.

4. Upon arrival, proceed to the main building where there will be a G Adventures Representative will be waiting with a “National Geographic Journeys with G Adventures” sign. The group will be escorted to passport control, and will receive a group visa (free of charge). Please note that you will be charged an exit fee when leaving the country independently (via border or airport), at the end of your tour.

5. Follow the G Adventure representative to the customs room to check your luggage through the security scanner. You will then be escorted to the bus, and transferred to your hotel in Amman.

**Spending Money**

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

**Money Exchange**

ATMs are found widely in Israel and will generally accept cards on the Visa and Mastercard networks. While this is the best way to get the majority of your money in Israel, and the vast majority of Cirrus network cards work fine, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will work in the Middle East. Check with your bank before travelling.

Credit cards are accepted by most larger restaurants and stores. You should be aware that to purchase products or services on a credit card a fee of 5-10% usually applies.

Cash advances can also be made with some banks.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money.

Cash is recommended for times when ATMs are not accessible. Euros and US Dollars are all easy to exchange to local currency.

Travellers cheques can be tricky to exchange and we do not recommend that you use them as your primary source of funds.

In large cities you can exchange them in some 5-star hotels and banks but this takes time and incurs a high fee. Thomas Cook or American Express travellers cheques in US or Euro currencies are the easiest to exchange.

Always take more funds rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

The currency in Israel is the Israeli Shekel (NIS).

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

Note that almost all local purchases (meals, souvenirs, most optional activities, etc) will be paid for in local currencies.

**Emergency Fund**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD $200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

**Departure Tax**

As you cross from Israel to Jordan there is a 177 NIS departure tax for all nationalities to be paid at border in cash when departing Israel and crossing into Jordan. As well, you will take a shuttle bus service between Israel and Jordan, the cost is 5 NIS per person and 2 JOD per bag cash.

10 JOD departure tax for all nationalities to be paid in cash if departing overland.

**Tipping**

Tipping is a way of life in the Middle East. Locals themselves will usually tip anyone who provides them with services. In many cases, people depend on the tips they receive to supplement the low salary and wages of the Middle East region. While on tour in the Middle East, it is customary and even expected to tip small service providers such as restaurant and bar waiters, hotel staff, reception, cleaning personnel, bell boys, taxis and van drivers. Tips are regarded as an essential
means of supplementing income for those working in the tourism industry.

To make things as easy as possible and avoid embarrassing situations, G Adventures has developed a tipping kitty system where your CEO will collect a contribution from everybody at the start of your tour and use this kitty to tip anybody who has provided services to the group as a whole. A guideline for tipping is about $5-10 USD per day, depending on the quality of the service (this does not include your G Adventures CEO). On Day 1 of your tour, your CEO will be able to advise on the amount required from everybody to form the tipping kitty for your trip. You can pay in USD or the equivalent local currency (preferably local currency). The CEO will be able to advise you on the exchange rate and the total required in either currency.

If at any time you feel that any service provider failed in maintaining or delivering good service, please bring it immediately to the attention of your CEO so a deduction of tips can take place.

If you felt that your G Adventures CEO(s) did an outstanding job, tipping is also expected and appreciated. The precise amount is entirely a personal preference, however $35-40 USD per person per week can be used as a general guideline.

**Optional Activities**

- **Petra**
  - Petra by Night (17JOD per person)
  - Turkish Bath (20JOD per person)

**Health**

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

There are no specific health requirements for this trip. However, we recommend protection against typhoid, tetanus, infectious hepatitis and polio. You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit, hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities for some time during this trip, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc.

**Safety and Security**

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:


**Trip Specific Safety**

Like anywhere in the world, major cities have areas safer than others, use common sense, be aware of your surroundings and mind your personal belongings.

**A Couple of Rules**

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect
towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures’ itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra’s largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating $1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

Local Dress

While visiting mosques and other religious monuments you should dress modestly, cover your shoulders and you shouldn't wear short shorts or skirts. Outside of capital cities and the more touristic centres, local dress is often more conservative and as a matter of respect we ask that both men and women are aware of this and recommend loose-fitting clothes with your shoulders covered. Ask your CEO for more specific advice.

Feedback

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we’ll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customerservice@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation - Planeterra. Sign up for Planeterra’s monthly news to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

Minimum Age

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

International Flights

Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.