



**JORDAN  
EXPLORER:  
12 DAYS**

A ONCE IN A LIFE TIME...

# JORDAN ADVENTURE

**A cultural adventure of Jordan with a small group of adventurous women just like you.**

Avoid the coach tours that take you from site to site and get underneath the 'tourism layer' of Jordan for a truly special experience.

## **Highlights:**

- Petra: In the morning, trek in via the back trail and experience the magic without the crowds. Petra is one of the most magical places on earth and you'll experience it like few others
- Stay with a local family in the village of Orjan. Prepare a meal with them & experience their daily village life
- Stay at Feynan Eco-Lodge, one of the world's 25 best eco-lodges as rated by National Geographic
- Visit the women of Ghor al Mazra'a and learn traditional crafts and bread making
- Spend two nights on the Dead Sea in the beautiful Hilton Dead Sea Spa & Resort
- All of this in a small group (max 12), ably guided by a hand-picked local Jordanian expert

# ABOUT YOU

Most Patchies are Aussie women, experienced travellers, in their 40s, 50s and 60s:

**You love adventure and truly knowing a country.** Just the idea of a 50 person 'big bus' tour makes you want to run for the hills!

**You're gracious and know how to get on with it.** You understand that even in the best vehicles, the air-con sometimes breaks. When travelling, all sorts of unexpected things can happen, sometimes uncomfortable: it's just part of the adventure.

**You also love the idea of living a day fully,** and then returning to unique, interesting accommodation!

**You're a great travel buddy.** You bring a positive energy to any group. You enjoy trying new food, visiting new places, and making new friends.

**You understand that** to fit in with local cultures might mean trying something you've never tried before, or sitting on the floor to eat with a nomad family.

**You're active** and don't mind working up a sweat, if that's the best way to experience a place.

**If that sounds like you, you'd make a great Patchie!**





# TRIP BREAKDOWN

**TRIP LENGTH** 12 Days, 11 Nights

**DATES**

Starts: Amman, Wed, 4 Nov  
Finishes: Amman, Sun, 15 Nov

**GROUP SIZE**

Maximum 12

**PRICE**

4590 AUD (twinshare)

- 4390 (twinshare) Earlybird rate. Book before March 31
- Super Earlybirds receive a free night additional accommodation upon arrival to get over jetlag. Deposit must be paid by February 9
- 1200 deposit
- Twinshare: we'll match you with a roomie if you're travelling solo
- Private supplement: 1150





## INCLUSIONS

- Airport transfers
- All entrance fees
- Transportation to all the above locations in a private bus with an English-speaking guide
- 9 Dinners, 8 Lunches, 11 Breakfasts
- All listed activities
- All accommodation

## EXCLUSIONS

- Visa fees
- International flights
- **Travel Insurance must be obtained** in order to join a Patch Adventures trip
- Additional nights in Amman or the Dead Sea
- Tips & Gratuities: Please bring \$100 AUD for tipping. (We know that tipping is not part of the Australian way of life, but unfortunately it has become a de rigeur part of travel.)
- Alcoholic beverages



## DAY ONE: AMMAN

Arrival in Amman. You can arrive at any time; the first activity is to meet the rest of the group for dinner.

Our representative will meet you at the airport and drive you to your accommodation.

Join the group for a special dinner, at a chilled out restaurant run by Syrian refugees. Simple, authentic, delicious food and a friendly team. The perfect intro to your trip.

**INCLUDED:** Dinner

**ACCOMMODATION:** Signature Hotel or similar





## DAY TWO: AMMAN

This morning, we'll get going with an intro to Amman, checking out the Citadel and Roman theater. Walk through the fruit and vegetable market, taking in the new sights, smells and sounds of this rich culture.

After a falafel and hummus lunch in one of our favourite spots, the rest of the afternoon will be free for you to explore or rest on your own. Tonight you will visit the Iraq al Amir Women's Co-op to learn how to cook a Jordanian dish firsthand.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**ACCOMMODATION:** Signature Hotel or similar





## DAY THREE: COUNTRYSIDE CULTURE

This morning, visit Jerash, one of the cities of the ancient decapolis and one of the largest Roman cities in the Middle East. Lunch will be at the Beit Kheytrat women's association, a group of fantastic ladies who will host us for a tasty meal prepared with fresh local products.

We finish up in the nearby village of Orjan where you'll meet your local homestay hosts. You'll join the family in preparing a home cooked meal to share together.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**ACCOMMODATION:** Local homestay



## DAY FOUR: MYSTERY DAY

At Patch, we like to keep some things as a surprise.

The local villagers of Orjan are waiting for us and have planned a day of activity. Very authentic and VERY tasty, get those tastebuds ready!

Yes, this is a mystery day, just know that we're going to have some relaxed fun and experience a side of Jordan that very few will ever see.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**ACCOMMODATION:** Local homestay





## DAY FIVE: ROAD TRIP

Road trip! Hop in the vehicle for a scenic drive along the length of the Dead Sea. Upon arrival to the Baptism Site of Jesus, you will find yourself winding your way through paths and ancient churches on your way to the Jordan River (approx. 2km walk).

Then, Mt Nebo, where Moses looked out across the Holy Land before passing away. The quaint cobblestoned Christian town of Madaba is where we'll spend the night, take the chance to wander.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Lunch

**ACCOMMODATION:** Grand Hotel Madaba or similar





## DAY SIX: PETRA AT NIGHT

Back on the road today! After some historical stops and a special home-cooked lunch with a local mother and her two daughters, we'll arrive to our home for the next two nights: a Bedouin camp run by a local cooperative.

In the evening, you will head to the main gates of Petra to explore the ancient city lit up by more than 1500 candles, completed by a lights show with the ancient Siq as the background. The 3km walk into Petra is magical. The light show is a little touristy, but worth it.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**ACCOMMODATION:** Bedouin Camp



## DAY SEVEN: PETRA

A group of camels will be waiting outside your tents as you wake up this morning. Mount up and make your way to a little-known back entrance on our exclusive camel trek. After around an hour, you'll dismount and your Bedouin guide will take you up a mountain to Petra's Monastery. It's like entering Petra for yourself as you enter away from all other tourists. **There is no better way to visit this wonderful place.** Once you reach the summit, you will have the rest of the day to explore Petra with your guide (approx. 10 - 13km walk).

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Dinner

**ACCOMMODATION:** Bedouin Camp





## DAY EIGHT: WADI RUM

Today, make your way to the Mars-like Wadi Rum.

Our Bedouin guide will take you on a jeep tour through the nature reserve, sharing his love for the desert with you.

You'll scramble up sandstone boulders and take in a silent, otherworldly sunset. Please note; there are no showers at tonight's camp.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**ACCOMMODATION:** Wadi Rum Bedouin Camp





## DAY NINE: FEYNAN ECO LODGE

After a beautiful drive this morning you will reach the award winning Feynan Eco Lodge, which is off the power grid and lit by candle light (you are welcome to join the staff in lighting the lodge.)

Take the afternoon to relax or explore at your leisure. The lodge also has a multitude of activities from which to pick. Because there is no refrigeration or electricity, all meals are vegetarian. You'll love it; the chef is fabulous.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**ACCOMMODATION:** Feynan Eco Lodge





## DAY TEN: GHOR AL MAZRA'A

After breakfast you'll drive north to the village of Ghor al Mazra'a on the southern shore of the Dead Sea. There you'll learn how to make traditional crafts, cook Arab bread over a fire, and have lunch with the local community. A portion of your trip fee goes directly to this village. This is one of the most special experiences of the trip and is way off the tourist trail.

This afternoon, your driver will take you to your BEAUTIFUL hotel resort at the Dead Sea.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast, Lunch

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hilton Resort & Spa Dead Sea



## DAY ELEVEN: DEAD SEA

After your adventure of a lifetime, you'll need a break.

Spend the whole day at your hotel at the Dead Sea, floating in the remarkable waters, laying by the pool or relaxing at the spa.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hilton Resort & Spa Dead Sea





## DAY TWELVE: FINISH

Your Jordan experience will sadly come to a close today. But, the good news is you have a great new group of travel buddies - your fellow Patchies! You've seen a beautiful country in a way few others will, and you've got new memories to hold on to.

You'll be escorted to the airport for your departure, but if you decide to stay on in Amman, we'll drop you at your hotel.

**INCLUDED:** Breakfast

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hilton Resort & Spa Dead Sea



# ACCOMMODATION PREVIEW

Please note that our accommodation in Madaba and Amman is in standard 3 star hotels. There are no showers at Wadi Rum Bedouin Camp, and there's no electricity at Feynan Eco Lodge.

## FEYNAN ECO LODGE



## AMMARIN BEDOUIN CAMP



## HILTON DEAD SEA SPA & RESORT





# TRIP SUMMARY

**B**   **L**   **D**

**DAY 1:** Meet your guide and group at the hotel.  
Dinner at Syrian restaurant

-   -   ✓

**DAY 2:** Amman tour, market visit, Iraq al Amir  
Women's co-op cooking class

✓   ✓   ✓

**DAY 3:** Jerash historical city visit, Beit Kheyrat  
women's association, Orjan village homestay

✓   ✓   ✓

**DAY 4:** Mystery day in Orjan village

✓   ✓   ✓

**DAY 5:** Road trip, Jordan River, Mt Nebo, Madaba  
historical town

✓   ✓   ✓

**DAY 6:** Family lunch visit, Bedouin camp, Petra  
by night

✓   ✓   ✓

**DAY 7:** Full day in Petra with our expert local  
guide

✓   ✗   ✓

**DAY 8:** Wadi Rum jeep tour

✓   ✓   ✓

# TRIP SUMMARY

**B**   **L**   **D**

**DAY 9:** Scenic drive, Feynan Eco Lodge activities



**DAY 10:** Ghor Al Mazra'a traditional crafts, bread making, Dead Sea



**DAY 11:** Relaxation and exploration of the Hilton Dead Sea Resort



**DAY 12:** Tour closes, transfer to airport





# HOTEL SUMMARY

## SIGNATURE HOTEL

Nemr Al-Edwan St. 17, Amman

+962 6 465 0999

**DAY 1, 2**

## ORJAN VILLAGE HOMESTAY

Hot showers in the afternoon/evening only.

**DAY 3, 4**

## GRAND HOTEL MADABA

Aisha Um Al Mumeneen St.,  
Madaba

+962 5 324 0403

**DAY 5**

## AMMARIN BEDOUIN CAMP

Hot showers in the afternoon/evening only.  
Note: Bring your own towel

**DAY 6, 7**

## WADI RUM BEDOUIN CAMP

Note: no shower available

**DAY 8**

## FEYNAN ECO-LODGE

Wadi Feynan

+962 6 464 5580

**DAY 9**

## HILTON DEAD SEA RESORT

Dead Sea Rd., Sweimeh, +962 5 349 3000

**DAY 10, 11**

# FAQ

## ARRIVAL

Airport transfers are included. You can plan to arrive at any time, but we recommend giving yourself time to get ready before the group meets for dinner.

## PRIVATE SUPPLEMENT & SHARING

Solo travellers will be matched with a room-mate. Of course, if you prefer to have your own space, you can take the private supplement! **Note:** in the community home stay the private supplement won't apply.

## FITNESS LEVELS

You'll need a decent fitness level to participate in this trip. Petra is the day with the most walking. You can expect to walk approx 10-13km. A lot of time will be spent on foot in Petra especially, with **an hour or so** of demanding uphill/downhill walking. The other days are much gentler on the legs. If you'd like a 'gentler' Petra, we can organise this but at an additional cost as a second guide would be needed.

## SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

Orjan Village Homestay: Single beds in shared rooms

Bedouin Camps: Simple, comfortable, single beds in shared tents



# FAQ

## MONEY MATTERS

Jordan is not a cheap country and prices are similar to Australia. Amman has many ATMs and money changers, and it's better to obtain your Jordanian Dinars once you've arrived. In the countryside, getting money can be more difficult.

A nice meal in a restaurant will set you back ~\$35. Street food costs ~\$2-3. Nearly all meals are included on this trip, but we recommend bringing a decent amount of spending money to ensure enjoyment.

## WEATHER & CLOTHING

You're visiting Jordan at the perfect time, with the extreme summer heat long gone. The max temperature rarely exceeds the low 20s, which is why we recommend packing mostly pants and long sleeves. The nights are cool, with minimum temperatures of 7-8 degrees. Come ready for this. That being said, you'll receive heavy, warm blankets at night to stay cozy!

For cultural reasons, it's recommended to cover up, with clothing that reaches to the elbows and that doesn't show your chest. Shorts would need to reach your knees. Note that Amman is much more relaxed and in Petra, you can wear whatever makes you feel comfortable. You don't need to wear a veil unless you enter mosques, at which point it will be provided to you.

Comfortable walking shoes will serve just fine for you in Petra.

# FAQ

## DIET & FOOD

YES! We **can** easily accommodate vegetarian, vegan and gluten free diets no problems, or any variation of the above. Just let us know in advance so we can prepare. We **cannot** cater for those with severe nut allergies. Any other medical conditions get in touch.

## POOLS

We're going to spend the last 2 nights at the Hilton Dead Sea Resort, which is beautiful. You might find the weather a bit cool for swimming, but the pool is available for use.

## ANIMAL WELFARE

We take animal welfare seriously and do not work with providers who treat their animals poorly. But, please note that in developing countries, animals often co-exist with their owners in what can be very difficult conditions. This is part of the reality of life for them and it's not our intention to impose on their cultures.

## ADDITIONAL NIGHTS

We can organise additional hotel nights in Amman for you, no problems.



# FAQ

## VISAS

We can organise your visa; the cost is \$50. If you're not an Australian, UK, US, or New Zealand citizen, please check with us before booking.

## PAYMENT TERMS

Deposit of \$1200 to confirm your spot, \$500 is non-refundable. Note: deposits *are* transferable to other trips.

Final payment is due at least 95 days in advance. Any cancellation from this point is 100% non-refundable. If the trip is cancelled by us due to some external event, we will refund 100% of your trip payment.

## ALCOHOL

Alcohol will largely not be available on this trip, with the exception of Amman and our stay at the Hilton Dead Sea Resort.

## POWER ADAPTORS

You'll need a universal power adaptor on this trip as Jordan has a swide variety of power plugs.

# FAQ

## SAFETY

Jordan is a safe, stable and secure country, largely unaffected by problems elsewhere in the region.

The only exception would be the border areas with Syria and Iraq, and we are going nowhere near either.

As at the time of writing, Australia has Jordan at a 'yellow' advisory, **which is the same as Thailand.**

A note about the newsmedia:

Aussies media tends to sensationalise news from the Middle East, while offering little nuance or context. In considering any trip to the Middle East, we sadly recommend that you do not pay attention to any Australian media outlet as all of them are hopeless. We only listen to the advice of the Australian Government.

**CNN International**, in our experience, tends to offer the most balanced reporting.

**Note:** we follow the advice of the Australian government in setting trips. A trip will only be canceled for security reasons if the Aus government switches the travel advisory to 'Red'.





**Welcome to Patch!** Mat and I put crazy amounts of effort into every single trip, including this one. Mat designed this Jordan trip using his Middle East expertise, in coordination with our ground coordinator Hannah. He spent time in Petra, Amman, the Dead Sea and Wadi Rum testing out different experiences to come up with the best outcome. Hannah is an expert in community tourism in Jordan. We're proud to offer the Jordan Explorer to you!

**Rebeca, Founder & Chief Patchie, Patch Adventures**