



Difficulty Rating: 5 – Challenging (Very physically fit, mountain biking experience required; up to 10+ hours activity/day) – This trip is composed of physically challenging mountain biking ranging from 37-71 km/day on 7 days of the trip.

Overview

The Jordan Bike Trail is a new, long-distance, mixed-track cycling route connecting the length of Jordan from Um Qais in the north to Aqaba and the Red Sea in the south. The aim of the trail is to connect the diverse geography of Jordan; and allow riders to see many hidden treasures of this wonderful Kingdom, meet local people, and experience the delights of the food and hospitality.

Ten days along the Jordan Bike Trail allows us to experience the “real Jordan” – in the rural countryside, small villages, and city centers outside of Amman. Experience true Arab hospitality along the trail, meet locals who offer us tea, and ride alongside numerous shepherds in Jordan, their flock, and of course, their dogs.

Highlights

- Cycle on the newly created Jordan Bike Trail
- Stay in a local family’s home and taste traditional meals
- Explore Jerash, Amman, and Petra
- Experience a night with the Bedouins under the stars in the desert
- Snorkel in the Red Sea

Day 1 – April 28: Um Qais to Pella - 46 Km

Note: You must arrive in Amman, Jordan on Friday, April 27



We will pick you up at Larsa Hotel at 8:00AM to begin your pre-adventure. We begin with a 2-hour transfer from Amman to Um Qais, at the northwest tip of the country overlooking the Sea of Galilee. Today's cycling routes starts and ends at the Greco-Roman Decapolis cities of Um Qais and Pella. The mountainous terrain and greenery of the north immediately become apparent as you cycle along rolling hills. The route follows a

beautiful descent down to Ziglab Lake and Jordan Eco Park and then follows a canal path before turning off to Pella.

From Pella, we will transfer to the Ajloun Forrest Reserve area.

Distance: 46Km, Ascent: 1197m, Descent: 1587m, Off-road: 55%

Overnight in a local family's house – Mixed dormitory style, up to 4 people per room (no Wi-Fi)

Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – Traditional meal with a local family

Day 2 – April 29: Ajloun to Wadi Zarqa - 46 Km



Today's cycling starts from the castle; the trail skirts round the side of the hill on quiet mountain roads overlooking orchards in the valley below. The route continues along the edge of the town of Anjara and past the old abandoned village of Sarabees before descending to Wadi Mahmoud.

Upon reaching the wadi, the trail continues through a wooded valley before heading west

and starting the long descent into Wadi Zarqa and the Zarqa River. From the top of this mountain and along the descent, there are breathtaking panoramic views. This 985m descent is the longest on the trail, and the route takes a mixture of quiet roads and dirt tracks all the way to the river. In biblical times, the river was known as the Jabbok River, where Jacob wrestled with God. The beautiful long descent caps off one of the best sections of the Jordan Bike Trail with over **2000 meters (6,562') of descent** for the day.

Distance: 46Km, Ascent: 1279m, Descent: 2265m, Off-road: 75%

Overnight in Amman – Larsa Hotel – Single rooms

Breakfast – Local Family Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner - Hotel

Day 3 – April 30: - Jerash & Amman City Tour



We will pick everyone up from the Larsa Hotel in Amman and head north to walk through history in Jerash, regarded as one of the most important and best preserved Roman cities in the Middle East. Back in Amman, we visit the Citadel and the Roman Theatre, two of the most popular archaeological sites in the city. Free time to walk through the old market in the downtown, visiting the shops and the fruit market. We stop at local restaurants to sample falafel, hummus, and "Kenafah," the arab delicacy eaten at times of celebration. After sightseeing, this evening will provide time to relax at the hotel or explore the various local restaurants to sample local food.

Overnight in Amman – Larsa Hotel – Single rooms

Breakfast – Hotel Dinner – Hotel

Day 4 – May 1: Madaba & Mount Nebo, Cycle Ma'in Village to Wadi Hidan - 35 Km



Head to the Christian town of Madaba. It is famous for its exquisite 6th-century mosaics; 'Madaba Map', the oldest preserved mosaic map of the Holy Lands. The history of this town dates back at least 3500 years, witnessing a number of great civilizations that inhabited this area, like the Romans and Byzantines.

At Mount Nebo, we stand where Moses looked across to the Promised Land. He later died and was buried here. Mt. Nebo offers a fantastic view westward, with a vista that includes the Dead Sea, the West Bank, the Jordan River, and on a clear day, Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

After sightseeing, transfer to Ma'in Village, where we begin cycling. The characteristic large canyons and wadis of the central region quickly becomes apparent as we leave the Madaba plateau descending to Wadi Zarqa Ma'in, climbing up a canyon past Mukawir, before plunging back down into Wadi Hidan.

Distance: 35.1km, Ascent: 443m, Descent: 1755m, Off-road: 45%

Overnight in Mukawair at a Local family home or camping - Mixed arrangements, single tents or up to 4 people per room (no Wi-Fi)

Breakfast – Hotel Lunch – Local Cooked Lunch Dinner – Local Cooked Diner

Day 5 – May 2: - Wadi Hasa to Dana – 58 Km



Starting from a viewpoint over the Dead Sea and the "Valley of Dreariness," cycle through the countryside of Jordan's heartland, passing small family farms. Afterwards, start a long downhill, zooming along for 10 km and crossing the Tanour Dam. From here, we transfer up to the town of Tafila.

From Tafila, cycle on mostly level paved roads before a decline into Ma'atan where there are accommodations, further down the hill, amongst village ruins and an Eco Village. From Ma'atan the path, with boulders all around, undulates as it curls around the canyon over Wadi Labun. Upon reaching the other side of the valley, the path cuts through the town of Basira. After passing Basira, there is a tough circuitous climb for 5km along the road before topping off at over 1,500m in altitude. At the top, the trail cuts off from the road through a forested patch and then along a dirt track before the decline to Dana village. Here is the most technical portion of the route that descends through Dana Biological Reserve with stunning views overlooking Dana Village, Wadi Dana, and Wadi Aqaba.

Distance: 58.4km, Ascent: 1470m, Descent: 2031m, Off-road: 50%

Overnight in Dana – Dana Guest House – Twin shared rooms

Breakfast – Breakfast with local family Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – Hotel

Day 6 – May 3: - Mountain Bike Shobak to Little Petra – 45km



A short transfer from Dana and on to visit Shobak Castle, the first of the series of Crusader Castles built in Jordan; which was constructed by Baldwin I in 1115 and only surrendered in 1189 to the Great Salahdin. Then we cycle mostly off-road as the route contours around the mountains with great views across the Jordan Valley all the way to Little Petra. Finish the ride with a visit to Little

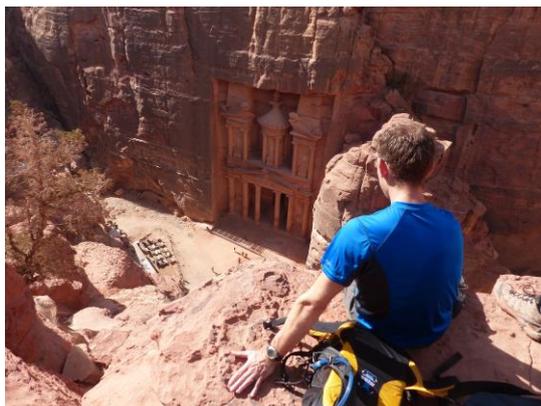
Petra. Then cycle to your overnight camp hidden in the rocks and enjoy the hospitality of the Bedouins.

Distance 45 Km, Ascent 1,440m, Decent 1753m, Off road: 65%

Overnight in Little Petra – Seven Wonders Bedouin Camp – Single tents

Breakfast – Hotel Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – At Bedouin Camp

Day 7 – May 4: Explore Petra



After breakfast in camp, we drive for 10 minutes to the Petra Visitor Centre. Now one of Modern Seven Wonders of the World, Petra is known by many names, a masterpiece half as old as time, the Red Rose city. Marvel at the beauty of the 'Lost City', only recently re-discovered by the outside world. Walk through the Siq and be astounded as you reach the magnificent Treasury, the entrance guarding the ancient Nabatean city.

Then continue into the city, viewing the amphitheater, exploring its many caves and tombs. After lunch there is time to explore off the beaten path where many tourists don't tread and visit some of the hidden treasures of Petra, such as the high place of sacrifice or Jebel Khubtha and the view overlooking the Treasury from above.

Hiking Distance: 10-20 Km (various options to explore)

Overnight in Petra – La Maison Hotel – Twin shared rooms

Breakfast – Hotel Lunch – Basin Restaurant Dinner – Hotel

Day 8 – May 5: Petra to Wadi Rum - 71 Km



After breakfast, take a transfer to just past the small town of Rajif at the top of the large hill after Petra. Start cycling where the pavement meets dirt, just after turning off the main King's Highway and begin a long descent off-road towards Wadi Rum. Lunch boxes will be provided on our way. You can cycle the full distance to Wadi Rum, up to 100K, or 49k and transferring once you reach the highway, or any point in between. Enjoy the hospitality of the Bedouins and sleep under the stars in Wadi Rum.

Distance: 49Km or extended up to 100Km, Ascent: 634m, Descent: 1303m, Off-road: 90%

Overnight in Wadi Rum – Al Captain Camp – Twin shared tents

Breakfast – At Bedouin Camp Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – At Bedouin Camp

Day 9 – May 6: Wadi Rum to Aqaba - 71Km



Cycle between the granite and sandstone mountains on the desert sands all the way through the largest Wadi in Jordan. The first 10 km on sand after Rum village are particularly tough but the next 24 km are easier, as they are all down hill. From this point, the caravan sand tracks join a road for just under 10 km. Afterwards, there is a small checkpoint before you enter the highway for the final quick descent to Aqaba. For the final minutes of the trail, cycle along the city streets of Aqaba until turning off to

the giant flagpole and Mamluk fortress by the Red Sea.

Distance: 71Km, Ascent: 763m, Descent: 1593m, Off-road: 70%

Overnight in Aqaba - Movenpick City Hotel

Breakfast – At Bedouin Camp Lunch – Lunch Box

Day 10 – May 7: Snorkeling in Aqaba



We have a more relaxed final day, with a boat ride into the Gulf of Aqaba, with views across to Egypt, Israel/Palestine and Saudi Arabia. Opportunities to swim and snorkel from the boat, to explore the coral and see the myriad of colors of the Red Sea Fish.

Our adventure ends with transfer to the Dead Sea to arrive at 4pm for the Adventure

Next Conference.

Breakfast – Hotel Lunch – BBQ Lunch on boat

Accommodation Summary:

Day 1 & 4: Homestay – Mixed arrangements up to 4 people per room (no Wi-Fi)

Day 2 & 3: Larsa Hotel: Single rooms (Wi-Fi in Rooms)

Day 5: Dana Guest House: Twin shared rooms (Wi-Fi in lobby/reception public area)

Day 6: Seven Wonders Bedouin Camp: Single tents (Wi-Fi in the camp)

Day 7: La Maison Hotel Petra: Twin shared rooms (Wi-Fi in Rooms)

Day 8: Al Captain Camp, Wadi Rum: Twin shared tents (Wi-Fi in lobby/reception public area)

Day 9: Movenpick Aqaba: Twin shared rooms (Wi-Fi in Rooms)

Map of Route

Use the link below to access the interactive map:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Ha2VkzaZqXNDAHNNDbE80lxaiHQ&usp=sharing>



All stages of the Jordan Bike Trail

Group Size: 4-12 People

Price per person (non-hosted delegates) - \$899

Inclusions	Exclusions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodations as noted in the itinerary • All food and water • Tour guide as well to give insight into history and politics of the country whilst you walk • Transport by A/C bus • Hardtail mountain bikes • Helmet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights • Travel/Medical/Evacuation Insurance • Departure taxes (Jordan \$15 pp at land borders). Airport tax is usually included on air-tickets. • Tips to driver & guides • Visa to Jordan -Purchase the Jordan Pass - Explorer - includes your Jordan entry visa and entrance to Petra (2-day pass). <i>(NOTE: JTB will provide the Jordan Pass at no cost to hosted delegates)</i>

Weather

Temperatures in Jordan can be hot and with little rain. The average temperature in May is 21°C/70°F, with highs reaching 27°C/80°F and lows around 14°C /57°C at night. The high temperatures may feel hotter in the sun all day. While the chance of rain is slight in May, it is still important to be prepared with a proper rain and wind proof jacket. Layering is important for protection from the sun and cool nights.

Things to Consider

Jordan is an Islamic nation and tends to be quite conservative, so you should dress accordingly. As a general guideline, shoulders and knees should be covered. Long shorts can be worn during hiking, though we generally recommend lightweight hiking trousers to keep the sun off. A light water and windproof jacket is useful and a sun hat essential. Loose, lightweight, long clothing is both respectful and cool in the predominantly hot climate.

For your luggage, we recommend large rucksacks/backpacks or soft duffle bags that can be locked. Your luggage will be transported by vehicle to our accommodation each night.

Cycling

We provide:

- Scott Hard tail 27.5" mountain bike (Scott Aspect 740) (if you want to bring your own, you can)
- Helmet
- Bike Water bottle

We will have a support truck with us for most sections, so you can leave personal items on the truck and they will be accessible through the day.

Note: Participants should be comfortable riding on a variety of surfaces including trails and paved and unpaved/gravel and rocky roads that may include vehicle traffic. Participants should have mountain biking experience that includes shifting gears, braking, riding in groups, and riding safety on both paved and unpaved, uneven gravel and rocky surfaces uphill and downhill.

Packing List:

<p>Luggage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Medium to large duffle or rolling soft-sided luggage (no wheels/handle)<input type="checkbox"/> Luggage lock<input type="checkbox"/> Packing cubes/stuff sacks/dry sacks<input type="checkbox"/> Backpack – 50-60 liters (overnight; including group gear, sleeping bag/pad, food, water)<input type="checkbox"/> Large plastic garbage bag to line backpack<input type="checkbox"/> Day pack – 15-25 liters <p>Clothing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Casual clothing/shoes for travel and city wear (lightweight, easily washable)<input type="checkbox"/> Light rain/windproof jacket<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-weight fleece/softshell<input type="checkbox"/> T-shirts<input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirt with collar<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking pants<input type="checkbox"/> Underwear/sports bra (quick drying)<input type="checkbox"/> Sleepwear<input type="checkbox"/> Warm hat (for chilly evenings in the desert)<input type="checkbox"/> Thin buff/neck scarf <p>Footwear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Hiking shoes<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking socks, synthetic or wool<input type="checkbox"/> Shoes/sandals for camp <p>Cycling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Stiff-soled cycling shoes (your hiking shoes can work if stiff enough)<input type="checkbox"/> Base-layer - short sleeve cycling top (x 1)<input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeved cycling top (x 1)<input type="checkbox"/> Regular biking gloves<input type="checkbox"/> Padded cycling shorts (x 2)<input type="checkbox"/> Eyewear - Biking sunglasses<input type="checkbox"/> Lightweight wind jacket	<p>Assorted Personal Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Water bottles - 1 liter/1 quart x 4 (4 liters total) and/or hydration bladder<input type="checkbox"/> Dry bag for camera & other essentials that cannot get wet<input type="checkbox"/> Sunblock and lip balm with SPF<input type="checkbox"/> Sun hat<input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses<input type="checkbox"/> Personal hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrush, hand sanitizer, small travel towel, etc.)<input type="checkbox"/> Personal first aid kit, medications, blister prevention/treatment kit<input type="checkbox"/> Women: Tampons – difficult to obtain in rural areas<input type="checkbox"/> Toilet Kit: Toilet paper, Ziplock bags (at least one for clean TP, one for dirty TP), wet wipes, hand sanitizer (You must pack out all toilet paper of out the wilderness or burn it.)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Lighter/matches to burn TP<input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent<input type="checkbox"/> Alarm Clock<input type="checkbox"/> Camera/memory cards/battery<input type="checkbox"/> Charging not possible at wilderness camps <p>Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Snacks - Dates, fruits, or candy bars (energy for the trail) <p>Don't forget!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Passport (for ID checks en route)<input type="checkbox"/> Jordan Pass -Explorer- includes your entry visa and entrance to Petra and Wadi Rum. <i>(JTB covers cost for hosted delegates)</i><input type="checkbox"/> Travel/Medical/Evacuation insurance<input type="checkbox"/> Air tickets<input type="checkbox"/> Health requirements arranged<input type="checkbox"/> Money - cash/debit cards/credit cards
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Cancellation Policy

<http://experiencejordan.com/terms-conditions>

For 1-9 people:

31+ Days before the trip 20% processing fee (with a \$100 minimum charge per person).

30 – 8 Days before the trip 50% cancellations charge

7 – 1 Days before the trip 100% cancellation charge

For Groups 10+ people:

31+ Days before the trip 20% processing fee (with a \$100 minimum charge per person).

30 – 1 Days before the trip 100% cancellations charge.

If paying by credit card directly through the office, there is an additional 6% charge to cover the credit card company commission costs, which we still pay even when providing a refund.

If paying by PayPal, there are no additional PayPal charges if the refund is requested within 2 months of the original payment. After this period the refund amount will be sent through PayPal, but the customer must pay the normal PayPal charges to receive this payment.

Refund Policy

If you cancel your trip and qualify for a refund, as per the cancellation policy above, we will process the refund within 1 week of agreement to the refund. The money will normally be refunded by the same method the payment was made, unless mutually agreed by both parties to transfer the refund by a different method.

About Experience Jordan

We hope you love this itinerary! We want you to know we do more than just offer unique experiences in Jordan. So here are our top 5 reasons to book with us.

1. Our attention to details will make your trip smooth and easy and ensure that you won't miss out on any fun adventures along the way.
2. Our knowledgeable staff will assist you in whatever your chosen activity is, whether you are sightseeing, hiking, biking, or any combo of the above.
3. Our deep love of Jordan means that we want to share with you what makes Jordan an amazing place to be by showing you the "real" Jordan beyond what tourists typically see and experience.
4. Our heart for the communities we interact with will allow you to interact with Jordanians and learn about what makes Jordanians unique in the Middle East.
5. Our passion for you our honored guests. Our goal is for you to finish your time in Jordan with unforgettable memories, amazing photos and stories, and full bellies. Because when you visit Jordan, you are family.

But don't just take our word for it. [Check out our reviews on Trip Advisor!](#)