



## 8 Day Best of Jordan First Class Inspirational Tour

### Day 1: Departure

Our life-changing journey begins this evening as we board our overnight flight to Jordan.

### Day 2: Arrival Jordan

We arrive in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and transfer to our lodging for the evening in Amman.

### Day 3: Jabbok, Um Qays, As Salt, Amman

Our first stop today is Um Qays, the old Decapolis city of Gadara, with its spectacular panoramic views overlooking the Sea of Galilee, is the proposed site of Jesus' miracle of the Gadarene swine. A rare five-aisled basilica from the 4th century was recently discovered and excavated at Umm Qays. Everything about this distinctive arrangement of a church above a tomb at this particular place, strongly indicates that it was designed and built to commemorate the very spot where the early church believed that Jesus performed his miracle. Nearby we find Jabbok, the place

that is said to be where Jacob wrestled with God who was in the form of an angel (Genesis 32:24-30). We pass through As Salt, the city that houses the tomb & shrine of Job and tomb of Jethro before returning to Amman. Free time will be allowed for shopping and an optional visit to the Archeological Museum.

### Day 4: Machaerus, Bethany on the Jordan, Dead Sea

Traveling southward we stop at a Dead Sea resort for a relaxing float or optional spa treatment. The infamous Sodom and Gomorrah are believed, although not confirmed to be the burned remains of two cities in the nearby southeastern Dead Sea plain. We will view from a distance a hillside cave near to the small town of Zoar (modern-day Safi). The Bible says Lot's daughters gave birth to sons whose descendants would become the Ammonite and Moabite people, whose kingdoms were in what is now central Jordan. It is here that Byzantine Christians built a church and monastery dedicated to Lot. Our next stop today will be at the hill-top palace/fortress of Machaerus, where John the Baptist was beheaded. Next we visit the fascinating site of Bethany on the Jordan, the place where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, where Elijah and Elisha crossed the Jordan as well as the area where the children of Israel led by Joshua entered the Promised Land.

### Day 5: Jerash, Petra

This morning we travel to Jerash, one of the best preserved and most complete provincial Roman cities. Jerash, Gerasa of Roman Times, was one of the cities of the Decapolis, a confederation of 10 Graeco-Roman cities dating from the 1st century BC situated in Jordan, Syria and Israel. Known as the Pompeii of the East for its extraordinary state of preservation, the ruins indicate human occupations at this location for more than 2,500 years. From here, we continue on to our lodging for the evening in Petra.



### Day 6: Petra

This morning we visit the amazing mountain fortress of Petra, known to be inhabited by the Edomites - the descendants of Esau. Begin the tour with a walk through the "Siq," an immense crack in the Nabatean sandstone, to the city of Petra carved out of the rose red rock. The Treasury, El Khazneh, is one of the most elegant remains of antiquity. Beyond El Khazneh we are surrounded on both sides by hundreds of Petra's carved and built structures. Departing Petra, we travel northward on the famous ancient route of the King's Highway used by Abraham and Moses where to the west we view from a distance the hills bordering the Dead Sea. We overnight in Amman for the next two evenings.

### Day 7: Mt Nebo, Madaba, Amman

Mt. Nebo, believed to be the site of the tomb of Moses, commands a spectacular view across the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea. The drive continues to the town of Madaba, the biblical Medeba, 30 kilometers south of Amman. Madaba is best known for its Byzantine and Umayyad mosaics and at the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George we may view the earliest surveying original map of the Holy land. Looking to the northwest we view the Plains of Moab, the area where the tribes of Israel camped before crossing the Jordan. We enjoy a driving tour of the highlights of Amman including visits to the Citadel, Roman Theatre and Old City before checking into our lodging for one last night.

### Day 8: Homeward

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

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### INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE

Amman Airport Greet and Assist Service (eliminates \$60 visa fee normally required on arrival), 4 star lodging, expert Biblical guides, admissions, baggage handling, sightseeing, breakfast & dinner daily.

**Please Note: Jordan gratuities will be paid in advance (\$64 per person will be added to your final invoice for gratuities to be paid to drivers, guides and hotel staff).**

### NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE

Flight departures (low cost fares available nationwide), gratuities, transfers are included only when airfare is purchased from Pilgrim Tours. Taxi service is available for those purchasing their airfare elsewhere.

**PRICE PER PERSON:**  
BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

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**Many departures throughout the year.**

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