

Dana to Petra Trek on the Jordan Trail (6 Days): Experience Beauty like You've Never Seen Before



<u>Difficulty Rating: 4 — Vigorous</u> (Must be physically fit; hiking experience preferred; 5-8 hours activity/day)

Each day requires 13-18Km (8-11.5 miles) of hiking. Day 2 is the most strenuous hike, ascending over 1300m (4,265') up from the Jordan Valley. However, no technical skills are required.

Summary

The famed Dana to Petra hike allows trekkers to see some of the most magnificent scenery that the south of Jordan has to offer. The 4 biospheres inside of the Wadi Dana Reserve are just the beginning. The diversity of scenery on this hike is most surprising to visitors who expect to see just the quintessential desert. Seriously, there is much more!

Along the hike you will stay at Feynan Ecolodge, one of the top ecolodges in the world. Also enjoy traditional hospitality at Seven Wonders Bedouin Camp. Our hike ends with two days in the rose red city of Petra, a UNESCO World Heritage site. We enter the site from the secret back entrance. After enjoying the site we will transfer you to your Dead Sea Resort.

Highlights

- Hike through 4 biospheres as you descend through Wadi Dana
- Enter the rose red city of Petra from the secret back route
- Stay at Feynan Ecolodge one of the top rated Eco-Lodges in the world
- Experience the renowned hospitality of the Jordanian people

Day 1 – May 2: Hike from Dana Village to Feynan Ecolodge

NOTE: You must arrive in Amman, Jordan on May 1, 2018



Amman - Larsa Hotel at 7:00AM

Our trip begins with a pick-up at the Larsa Hotel at 7:00AM. The drive from Amman to Wadi Dana where we begin the hike is about 2.5 hours. Once we arrive the hike will start from Dana Guest House, 1,200m above sea level, and head west into Dana valley with our trekking guides. The trail drops steeply at first and then levels into a more gradual descent through the Dana Biosphere Reserve towards the eco-lodge at Feynan. The reserve, Jordan's largest, includes four distinct bio-geographical zones, which means that Dana supports an astonishing diversity of birds, plants, and animals. On our way down the valley, we may see Griffin Vultures overhead as well as hyrax and copper-blue lizards on the rocks; if we're lucky we might even catch a glimpse of an ibex or a desert fox or see the footprint of a wolf in the dust. We finish the hike at the highly acclaimed Feynan Eco-Lodge.

Every day, a guided sunset walk leads from the lodge on a short walk (around 20-30 min) up to a nearby hilltop, for freshly Bedouin tea and stunning views westwards as the sunsets over the vast Wadi Araba deserts. The sunset walk is well worth the visit. After dinner, gaze at the stars from the Feynan roof.

Hiking Distance 13.2 Km, Ascent 108m, Decent 1007m

Feynan Ecolodge – Twin share rooms

Breakfast – Hotel Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – Feynan Ecolodge (Vegetarian)

Day 2 – May 3: Hike from Wadi Feynan to Furon



Feynan Ecolodge 7:00AM Breakfast

From Wadi Feynan we walk through the historic landscape around Feynan, where copper has been mined for some 3000 years. Mining reached it peak under the Romans, when thousands of slaves died here working the mines and furnaces, and millions of tons of ore were smelted into a metal that was exported all over the empire.

As we walk out of Feynan, we see the mountains of slag that are the waste product of this ancient industry, as well as ruined buildings from the Nabataean and Roman periods. Passing the entrance to Wadi Ghuweir, we ascend through the mountains with great views behind. In the afternoon, we arrive at the wilderness campsite set up by the crew at Furon.

Hiking Distance 18.2 Km, Ascent 1310m, Decent 447m

Wilderness Camping - Single Tents

Breakfast – Feynan Ecolodge Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – Cooked Meal

Day 3 – May 4: Hike from Furon to Gbour Wehdat



Furon 7:00AM Breakfast

We begin hiking from Furon past Ras Al-Feid towards Ghbour Whedat. The views into some of the most remote, wildest corners of Jordan are astonishing. Contouring the Sharah Mountains, we follow Bedouin shepherd trails.

The sheer peeks of black mountains overlooking our trail and steep precipitous drops of the canyons below make this day spectacular. We gradually climb up the hills following Bedouin shepherds' paths, uncovering more spectacular views over the desert below. Approaching the end of the hike there are signs of increasing human habitation of Bedouin camps, sheep pens, and small agricultural plots. We finish the day at our wilderness campsite in the Gbour Wehdat area.

Hiking Distance 18.3 Km, Ascent 774m, Decent 913m

Wilderness Camping - Single Tents

Breakfast – Wilderness Camp Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – Cooked Meal

Day 4 – May 5: Hike from Ghbour Wehdat to Little Petra



Gbour Wehdat 7:00AM Breakfast

Between Gbour Wehdat and Little Petra we pass many sites such as Ba'ajah ruins, siq Ba'ajah, the Nabataeans wine and olive presses, water tanks, wells and the Nabataean rock carved facades. After visiting Little Petra, we continue following the timeline markers through history to the remains of a Neolithic village. Overnight enjoy the scenic Seven Wonders Camp, sipping Bedouin tea, and listening to songs and poems around the camp fire.

Hiking Distance 13.2 Km, Ascent 415m, Decent 366m

Little Petra – Seven Wonders Camp

Breakfast – Wilderness Camp Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – Seven Wonders Camp

Day 5 – May 6: Hike from Little Petra to Petra



Little Petra 7:00AM Breakfast

After breakfast it's time to hike! Enter Petra via "the back door" avoiding most of the tourists. Good tracks go pleasantly down Wadi Ghurab amidst sandstone mountains guarding the approaches to Petra. This way follows Nabataean route out of the valley and skirting round the final mountain on a natural rock terrace which has been "improved" for the safety of the walkers. Even so, it still narrows slightly before reaching a hidden plateau high above the impressive chasm of Wadi Siyyagh.

Just beyond, carved into the cliff face, "The Monastery" suddenly comes into view, where there is a Bedouin café for refreshments. Nabataean steps then lead down into ancient Petra; our route takes us through Wadi Muthlim (weather dependent) to Wadi Musa.

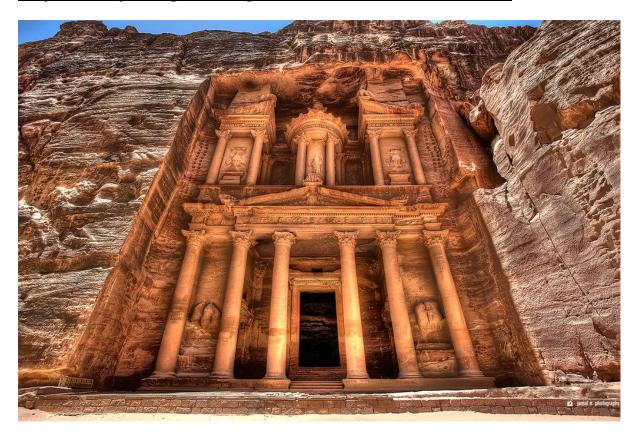
We will arrange for your luggage transfer from Little Petra to our hotel in Petra.

Hiking Distance 15.5 Km, Ascent 693m, Decent 755m, Max Elevation 1130m, Min Elevation 876m

Petra – La Maison Hotel

Breakfast – Seven Wonders Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – Hotel

Day 6 - May 7: Sightseeing in Petra & Drive to Dead Sea



Petra 7:00AM Breakfast

After breakfast, we re-enter the city through 1KM long narrow gorge called the Siq, which is flanked on either side by 80m high cliffs and arriving at the Treasury. Notice the dazzling colors and formations of the rocks. The site is massive, and contains hundreds of elaborated rock-cut tombs, a treasury, Roman-style theatres, temples, sacrificial altars and colonnaded streets. More time to visit other trails and sites inside Petra, such as the High Place of Sacrifice. After exploring this world-renowned site, we transfer to the Dead Sea, arriving by 4:00PM.

Breakfast – Hotel Lunch – Lunch Box

Map of Route



Group Size: 4-12 People

Price per person (non-hosted delegates) - \$799

Inclusions

- 2 nights camping in wilderness
- 2 nights in hotels
- 1-night permanent Bedouin camp
- All food and water while camping
- Local Bedouin guiding the route
- Tour guide as well to give insight into history and politics of the country whilst you walk
- A donkey will accompany the group as a safety precaution, to support any one who is injured or needs some rest
- Mattress and blankets provided for the 2 nights in wilderness
- Transport by A/C bus

Exclusions

- Flights
- Travel/Medical/Evacuation Insurance
- Departure taxes (Jordan \$15 pp at land borders). Airport tax is usually included on airtickets.
- Tips to driver & guides
- Visa to Jordan -Purchase the <u>Jordan Pass Explorer</u> includes your Jordan entry visa and entrance to Petra (2-day pass). (NOTE: JTB will provide the Jordan Pass at no cost to hosted delegates)

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.

While hiking, you only need to carry in your day pack what you need for the day (water, camera, snacks, etc). We recommend you keep your day pack as light as possible. Your luggage will be transported by vehicle to our accommodation each night.

Packing list is on the next page.

Accommodation Summary:

Day 1: Feynan Ecolodge: Twin shared room (Wi-Fi in lobby – note it is a very weak signal)

Days 2 & 3: Wilderness Camping (2 nights): Single tents (no Wi-Fi)

Day 4: Seven Wonders camp: Single tents (Wi-Fi in the camp)

Day 5: Petra: Twin rooms (Wi-Fi in Rooms)

Packing List:

Luggage:		Assorted Personal Items:	
	Medium to large duffle (no		Water bottles - 1 liter/1 quart x 4 (4 liters
	wheels/handle)		total) and/or hydration bladder
	Luggage lock		Sunblock and lip balm with SPF
	Packing cubes/stuff sacks		Sun hat
	Day pack – 20-30 liters		Sunglasses
			Personal hygiene items (toothpaste,
Clothing:			toothbrush, hand sanitizer, small travel
	Casual clothing/shoes for travel and city		towel, etc.)
	wear (lightweight, easily washable)		Personal first aid kit, medications, blister
	Light rain/windproof jacket		prevention/treatment kit
	Mid-weight fleece/softshell		 Women: Tampons – difficult to
	T-shirts		obtain in rural areas
	Long sleeve shirt with collar		Toilet Kit: Toilet paper, Ziplock bags (at
	Hiking pants		least one for clean TP, one for dirty TP),
	Underwear/sports bra (quick drying)		wet wipes, hand sanitizer (You must pack
	Sleepwear		out all toilet paper of out the wilderness)
	Warm hat (for chilly evenings in the		Insect repellant Alarm Clock
	desert)		Camera/memory cards/battery/adapter
	Thin buff/neck scarf		 Charging not possible at
			wilderness camps
Footwear:		Optional:	
	Hiking boots/approach shoes; suitable		Snacks - Dates, fruits, or candy bars
	for rough terrain and easy scrambling		(energy for the trail)
	Hiking socks, synthetic or wool		(energy for the truly
	Comfortable shoes/sandals for camp use	Don't f	forget!
		□ Passport	
Campi			<u>Jordan Pass -Explorer -</u> includes your
	A sleeping bag liner or sheet (blankets		entry visa and entrance to Petra.
	provided) *Sleeping bag, optional		Travel/Medical/Evacuation insurance
	Headlamp with spare batteries		Air tickets
			Health requirements arranged
			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, 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!