

EcoHotels/Feynan Ecolodge

Experience Feynan Ecolodge, Jordan's Great Escape

3 days of adventure, hiking, nature and culture

Dana Biosphere Reserve



Dates:

5-7 May, 2018

Pickup/Drop off:

Note: You need to arrive in Amman, Jordan by Friday, May 4, 2018.

Pickup up time: Saturday May 5, 2018 at 6:30 am at an Amman Hotel (to be determined)

Be dressed and ready to hike with a day pack packed with water and what you need for the day. It is recommended to carry at least 3 liters of water for our 16 km/10-mile hike and adequate sun protection. We will transfer directly to the start of our 16 km/10-mile hike.

Drop off time: Monday May 7, 2018 – afternoon at the Dead Sea Hotel area

Feynan Ecolodge's location on Google maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/TmZc7WeQo122>

The Experience:

Chosen by National Geographic Traveler Magazine as one of the best 25 ecolodges in the world, Feynan Ecolodge is a destination like no other. Located at the western edge of Dana Biosphere Reserve, totally off-the-grid and 8 kilometers/5 miles from the closest paved road, Feynan offers a plethora of unique and authentic experiences in nature, adventure, culture, food and history while supporting the local community and maintaining a minimal environmental footprint.



The lodge contains 26 ensuite rooms, with electricity restricted to lighting the bathrooms, kitchen and offices. Otherwise, at night the lodge is lit by candles.

Electricity is solar generated, shower water is solar heating, waste is recycled and food waste is composted. Feynan offers an exclusively vegetarian menu.

Your stay at Feynan benefits 80 families/400 people from the local community around Dana Biosphere Reserve.

You will spend 3 days and 2 nights at Feynan sampling some of the experiences the lodge offers in nature adventure and culture including:

- Wadi Ghwayr canyon hike (level 4 - vigorous)
- Local plants hike (level 3 - moderate)
- Sunset hike (level 2 – easy active)
- Sunrise hike (level 3 - moderate)
- Stargazing (level 1 - relaxed/social)
- Bedouin experiences/cultural exchange (level 1 - relaxed/social)

Itinerary:

Saturday, May 7:

Our experience starts with an exciting adventure, hiking through one of the most beautiful wadis (canyons) in the Great Rift Valley, Wadi Ghwayr.

We meet in Amman at promptly 6:30am at a hotel in Amman. We transfer to the entrance of the canyon near the village of Mansoura near Shobak, arriving around 10:00 am where our local Feynan eco-guide meets for the beginning of the 16 km/10-mile hike (6-8 hours). Luggage is transferred by vehicle and will be at the lodge when we arrive.



Wadi Ghwayr features a stream winding through the gorge, lined with flowering pink oleanders, palm trees and acacias. At the bottom of the narrow canyon carved into the mountains by water over millennia, the siq floor passes under massive boulders and breathtaking rock formations. Depending on the rain and flash floods this winter, some pools may form which means that we will get wet and we may need to swim across them. The hike will include several rest stops to take in the spectacular scenery, enjoy a packed lunch and drink a few cups of Bedouin tea. The hike ends at the lodge, where you can enjoy a shower and rest before dinner. This evening we can join one of Feynan's guides on the rooftop terrace for a guided stargazing presentation using our powerful telescope.



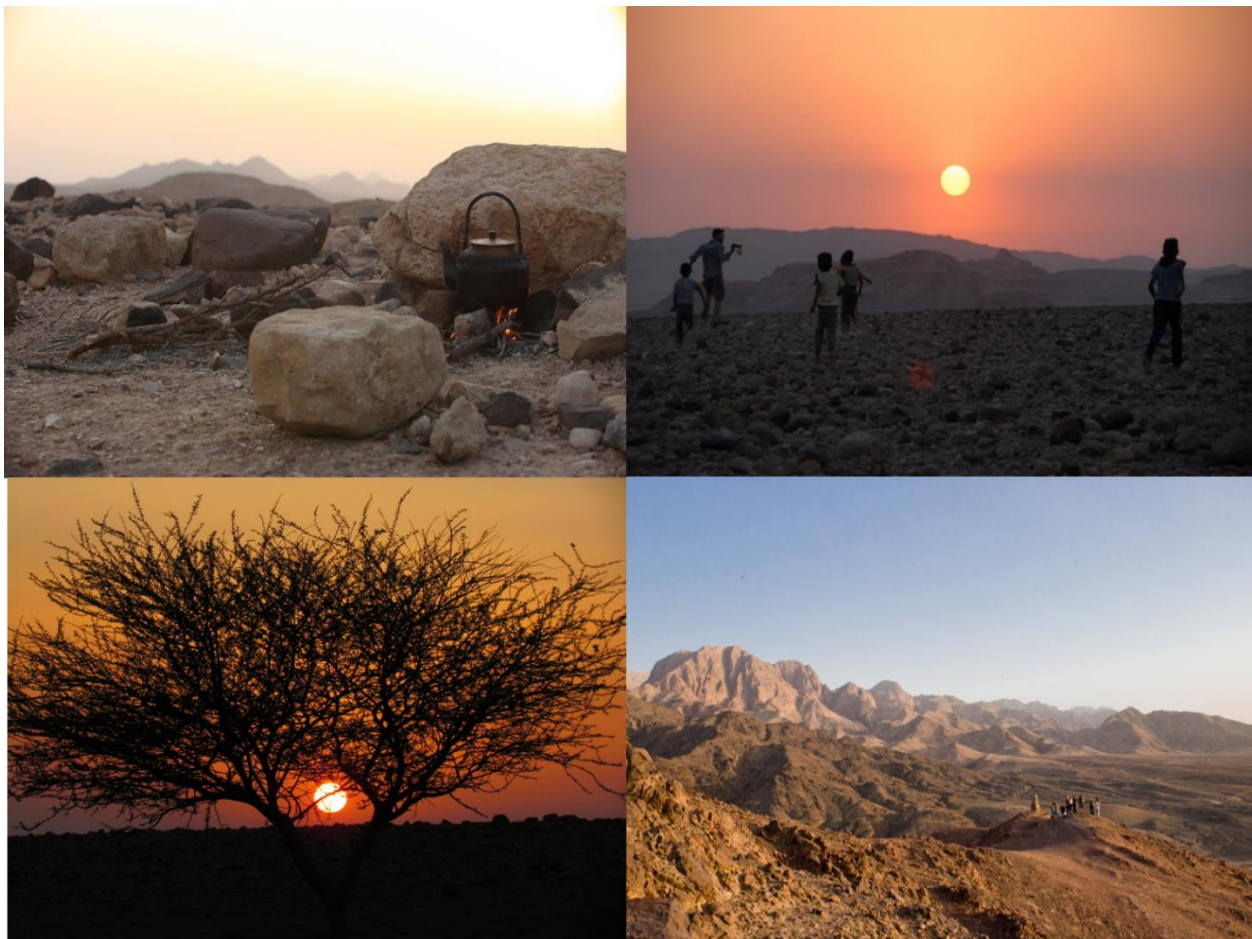
Meals: lunch box, dinner

Sunday May 6:

Day two is more relaxed and includes a two-hour hike to showcase the plants of the area and how the Bedouin use them in their-day-to-day lives. We visit the goat-hair tented homes of the local community to learn some of the traditions, such as making coffee & arbood bread.



An hour and a half before sunset, we set off on a 20-minute stroll to an area overlooking Wadi Araba and the surrounding colorful Sharah Mountain range. Here we enjoy a cup of Bedouin tea while watching the setting sun.



After dinner, there is another opportunity for stargazing on the rooftop terrace. Tonight, we are lucky, as it is the peak of the Eta Aquarid meteor shower, where we may potentially see up to 30 meteors per hour.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Monday May 7:

Our final morning begins with a challenging two-hour sunrise hike. After breakfast there is free time to relax around the lodge or do a short self-guided hike. At 11:00 am, we depart Feynan for the 2 ½ hour drive to the Dead Sea hotel area.

Meals: breakfast, lunch box

**What's included:**

- Twin occupancy accommodation with private bathroom
- All your food and drink (water, fresh juices, coffee and tea)
- All the activities and experiences (including local community activities)
- All transfers
- Reserve entrance fee
- Conservation fee

What's not included:

- Any staff tips/gratuities
- Any purchases from our shop
- Alcohol (not available)

Weather:

Spring (March – May) is the most popular time of year to visit Feynan and there's good reason! The days are warm, but not too hot and the rains from the winter mean there are green plants scattering the areas and pink oleanders in full bloom making spring a beautiful time for hiking. In May, the days are typically around the mid high 20s and low 30s (Celsius) (70s-mid-80s F), but the nights are cooler and once the sun goes down, you will likely need a light jacket outside in the evening.

It is important to bring adequate sun protection and remain hydrated.

Packing list:

Luggage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Medium to large duffle or rolling soft sided luggage<input type="checkbox"/> Packing cubes/stuff sacks<input type="checkbox"/> Day pack (20L) – big enough to carry enough water, sun screen, light jacket, etc for the day Clothing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Casual clothing/shoes for travel and city wear (lightweight, easily washable)<input type="checkbox"/> Water/wind proof jacket, lightweight<input type="checkbox"/> Fleece/softshell jacket - cool evenings<input type="checkbox"/> T-shirts<input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirt – sun protection<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking pants<input type="checkbox"/> Underwear/sports bra (quick drying)<input type="checkbox"/> Sleepwear<input type="checkbox"/> Sun hat<input type="checkbox"/> Buff – sun, sand protection Footwear: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Hiking shoes<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking socks, synthetic or wool<input type="checkbox"/> Light shoes (sneakers or water sandals)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Water crossing/post-hike shoes	Assorted Personal Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Water bottles (2 or 3 1-Liter or 2-3L hydration bladder)<input type="checkbox"/> Headlamp with batteries (& extra batteries)<input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen and lip balm with high SPF<input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses with UV filter<input type="checkbox"/> Personal hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrush, etc)<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 out of wilderness when hiking.)<input type="checkbox"/> Personal first aid kit, medications, blister kit<input type="checkbox"/> Bandana<input type="checkbox"/> Camera/memory cards/battery<input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent<input type="checkbox"/> Optional:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Trekking poles (collapsible)<input type="checkbox"/> Earplugs and eye shade<input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars<input type="checkbox"/> e-book reader
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Important notes:

Feynan is located amongst a conservative local Bedouin community. We ask you to be conscience and respectful of that. Here are some points to consider:

- Alcohol: We do **not** serve alcohol at Feynan out of respect for the local community. If you want to bring your own, we ask you to be discreet and take away your empty bottles when you leave.
- Dress modestly when participating in the Bedouin experiences as you will be visiting the homes of the local community (shoulders covered, loose fitting clothes, pants or skirts below the knee)
- Always ask before you take any photos of local people. Taking photos of women is usually not accepted.

Group size: Maximum 14

Price per person (non-hosted delegates):

Twin occupancy: 200 JOD (~\$280)

Payment terms:

by credit card at time of booking

Cancellation fees:

Within 14 days of arrival or no show: 100% of the total charge

Between 15-29 days of arrival: 50% of the total charge

30+ days from arrival: 10% of the total charge

Further questions?

If you have any questions about this trip, Feynan or the experiences on offer, please check our website www.ecohotels.me/feynan, or contact us on +962 6 464 5580, or email reservations.feynan@ecohotels.me.