# JORDAN

By now, you must be very excited about your upcoming trip to Jordan! This is a country filled with rich history, vibrant culture, and breathtaking landscapes, and we're certain you'll have an unforgettable experience. To help you get ready for your journey, we've put together a list of tips and information that we hope you'll find helpful.



**Dress appropriately:** Jordan is a conservative country, and it's respectful to dress modestly in line with local customs. Women are advised to avoid tight-fitting or revealing clothing and should cover their shoulders and knees. Men are generally expected to avoid wearing shorts in public. If you're planning to visit a mosque, remember to remove your shoes and cover your head, arms, and legs. Also, comfortable shoes are a must for walking and exploring Jordan's historic sites.

**Stay hydrated:** Jordan has a hot, dry climate, so staying hydrated is essential. Bring a refillable water bottle, and aim to drink bottled water whenever possible. It's also wise to avoid tap water and to be cautious with raw fruits and vegetables, as they might have been washed in tap water.

**Take precautions against the sun:** The sun in Jordan can be strong, especially during the summer months. Protect yourself with high-SPF sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses. Try to seek shade or limit outdoor activities during the peak heat of the day to avoid sunburn and heatstroke.

### **Know Before You Go**

Learn some Arabic phrases: While many people in Egypt speak English, it's always helpful to learn a few Arabic phrases. "Salam" means hello, "Shukran" means thank you, and "Ma'assalama" means goodbye. Learning some basic phrases can help you communicate with locals and show that you respect their culture.

**Be aware of cultural customs**: Jordan is a predominantly Muslim country, and it's important to show respect for local customs and traditions. During Ramadan, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset, so avoid eating, drinking, or smoking in public out of consideration. Always ask for permission before taking photos of locals, and be mindful of dress codes when visiting mosques or other religious sites.

**Prepare for transportation:** Taxis and ridesharing services are commonly available in Jordan, but it's best to agree on the fare before starting your ride. If you're taking a bus or renting a car to explore different parts of the country, plan ahead, especially if you're traveling during peak times. Jordan also has a reliable network of buses for affordable intercity travel, making it easier to experience the country's diverse regions.



**Money matters:** The official currency of Jordan is the Jordanian dinar (JOD). ATMs are widely available in cities and tourist areas, but it's helpful to have cash on hand for small purchases or tipping. Credit cards are generally accepted at larger hotels, restaurants, and shops, but it's always wise to carry some cash as a backup, especially when visiting smaller establishments or rural areas.



#### Know Before You Go cont.

**Safety considerations:** Jordan is generally a safe destination, but it's always wise to take basic precautions to ensure your safety. Avoid carrying large amounts of cash or wearing valuable jewelry in public. Be cautious of pickpockets in crowded areas, and avoid walking alone at night in unfamiliar areas. Additionally, it's a good idea to check the latest travel advisories before your trip to stay informed of any potential risks or security concerns.

**What to Pack?** For tips on packing and appropriate attire in Jordan, please check out this helpful blog post. Many travelers find it invaluable when deciding on what to bring. <u>Click here to read the blog post.</u>

**General Questions:** Check out both sections from the website, there is a lot of useful information for you.

<u>FAQ</u>s <u>Jordan Travel Guide</u>

**Restaurant Reservations:** Reach out to our Team TraveLab and we will be more than happy to help you.

**Money Exchanger:** Before travelling, please consult with your financial institution with regards to any foreign transaction fees should you withdraw money from an ATM or pay with your debit card. ATM machines are everywhere, we suggest withdrawing cash when you arrive, outside of customs, there are many ATMs. Your escort will direct you to the right location.

**WhatsApp Group:** We ask that you please download this app, so we can create a group chat with your guide and your TraveLab agent. This will be a priceless tool for everyone invoklved.

**Tipping:** Tipping is always appreciated in Jordan and, in some cases, expected. Be sure to carry small dinar banknotes for tips throughout your trip. For drivers during your stay in Jordan, we recommend tipping around \$3-5 USD per person per day, as they play an invaluable role throughout your journey and will likely accompany you for the entire stay in each city. For your guide, a good guideline is \$10-15 USD per person per day. Guides are essential to making your experience enriching and seamless, working hard to ensure a memorable journey.

**Alcohol**: Alcoholic beverages are available in select restaurants, bars, and hotels across Jordan. You'll also find liquor stores in major cities, which typically offer a selection of local and imported wines, beers, and spirits. If you have a specific preference, consider purchasing it at duty-free at your departure airport. If you're connecting, purchase at your final layover airport to comply with security's 100ml liquid rule. The legal drinking age in Jordan is 18, but please remember to consume alcohol only in designated areas. Avoid open containers in public or displaying intoxicated behavior outside of licensed establishments.

**Traffic**: Traffic in Amman and other major cities can be chaotic, especially if you're not used to it. Be careful when crossing streets, as pedestrian crosswalks and traffic lights are often sparse. Locals may cross anywhere they find convenient, sometimes in phases to dodge oncoming cars. A helpful strategy is to find a local crossing the street and mirror their steps; they'll act as your guide and shield in navigating the traffic flow.



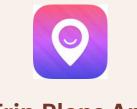
#### Know Before You Go cont.

**Weekeds:** In Jordan, the workweek follows a similar structure to that of other Muslim-majority countries, with Fridays and Saturdays as the weekend and the workweek running from Sunday to Thursday. That said, most stores, restaurants, and tourist attractions are open seven days a week. Standard hours for shops are typically from 11am to 11pm, while small convenience stores are often open 24 hours. Bars and restaurants usually close by 1am.

**Temperatures:** Be prepared for varying temperatures. While daytime can be quite hot, evenings, especially in desert areas, can be cool and breezy. It's a good idea to pack a light jacket or cardigan for those crisp desert nights.

**Credit Cards**: Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted across Jordan, though American Express may not be as commonly accepted. It's also wise to check with your credit card provider regarding any foreign transaction fees. If you prefer to carry cash, currency exchange services are widely available, but remember to bring your passport when exchanging money.

**Pharmacies:** Most pharmacies in Jordan operate 24 hours a day and offer a variety of over-the-counter items, including some antibiotics without a prescription. It's best to bring any prescription medications from home in their original container, which shows your doctor's prescription details.



## **Trip Plans App**

TRIP PLANS App: The icon resembles a purple guitar pick with a smile. Download and create an accout, you will be able to access your full itinerary inlcuding all uploaded docs. You can have access offline as well - and it has a convenient chat option as well. Let us know if you have any issues.

