



8 Days

# Jordan

## Feminism & Falafels

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**A WOMAN'S  
PERSPECTIVE**

Crusader castles, bewitching deserts and the spectacular 'lost city' of Petra: This journey offers you and your students the chance to discover Jordan's highlights, sleep under star filled desert skies and enjoy the country's legendary hospitality. On this incredible journey into the heart of the Middle East you will also learn about the women of Jordan - visiting a women's cooperative and learning how to make traditional handicrafts. You'll also get to perfect the art of 'bread spinning' and learn how to cook a traditional Arabic meal. Although it's only an eight day trip, you'll come away with a better appreciation of Jordan's legendary hospitality and the role of women in Arab society.



# Recommended tour itinerary

Day  
1-2

## Arrive Amman for tour, cooking lesson & Golden Souq

Situated in the heart of the old city of Amman, 'Beit Sitti' is located in one of the oldest neighbourhoods of the city. This morning we will experience true Jordanian culture by learning how to cook a four course Arabic meal with a traditional hajjeh. In addition, we learn how to spiral "Shrak" bread in the air; we are able to eat freshly prepared bread straight off the hot cooking stone. In the afternoon we explore the city on a walking tour encompassing The Golden Souq, the King Hussein Mosque and the vegetable markets just off Quraysh Street, finishing at the citadel. Through all of this our guide will help illustrate as much as possible the role of women in Amman and talk about the contrasts between living in the city and the country side. There will be ample opportunity to talk about these issues with our carefully selected female tour leaders. We return to our hotel by bus for a tasty dinner.

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Day  
3

## Wadi Rum, Bedouin style camp, star gazing

Today we travel south to Wadi Rum along the Desert Highway (approximately 320kms, 4 hrs). Wadi Rum offers some of the most extraordinary desert scenery anywhere in the world. As an optional excursion it is possible to arrange a four hour camel safari amongst the sand dunes and see the spectacular rock formations of the desert. We camp close to the entrance of the Wadi and in true desert fashion we sleep in a traditional Bedouin tent or under the stars. The influence of Lawrence of Arabia is still evident today, the Howeitat Bedouin, who have claimed the Wadi for their own, are reputedly the remainder of Lawrence's Arab army who marched with him from Azraq in the north, then stayed behind once battle was done. At night, if blessed with clear skies, the Milky Way, satellites and shooting stars can clearly be seen.

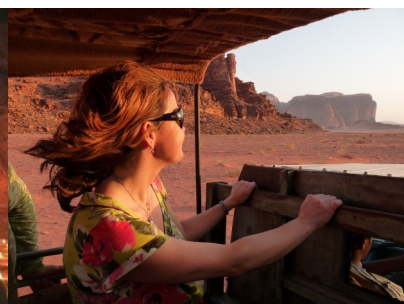
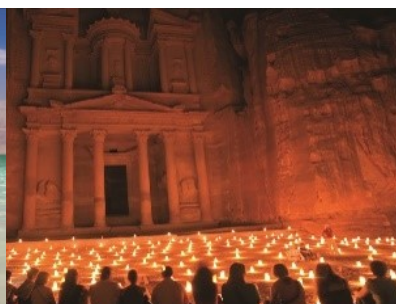
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Day  
4

## Wadi Rum by 4WD, Little Petra

We explore the Wadi by 4WD as this is a perfect vehicle for examining the varied desert environment and for us to see how it is shaped by natural forces. We then head to Little Petra where we are able to explore the many rock-cut dwellings and caves that litter the area. Climbing up some worn sandstone steps we are rewarded with spectacular views over the site. Our visit to Little Petra today is a great taster of the 'main event' tomorrow.

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Day  
5

## Explore Petra

This morning we make our way to the fabled site, following the same path as the site's discoverer Burckhardt, we are funnelled through the banded rock walls that tower above. At the end of the kilometre-long path, we are rewarded by a glimpse of the most beautiful building of all - the Khazneh or Treasury so-called because the Bedouin believed that the urn crowning the edifice held a cache of gold and jewels. The first sight of this perfectly proportioned tomb, carved from the towering rock, is truly unforgettable, but there's much more to come! Some 2,400 years ago the Nabateans taxed the trade caravans that plied between Arabia and the eastern Mediterranean and using the proceeds built the first houses and temples here. Later these taxes proved even more rewarding and today the Nabatean legacy includes houses, tombs, temples and much more. It is well worth making the hour or so ascent up the rocky path leading to the Monastery, a vast structure rivalling even the Treasury. If time allows, climb to one of the High Places, the mountain-top altars where ritual sacrifices were made; from here there are spectacular views of the mountains, valleys and canyons below.

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Day  
6

## Dana Nature Reserve, Kerak Crusader Castle, Madaba

The recently developed nature reserve around Dana village aims to protect some of Jordan's endangered species and has also managed to preserve the timeless traditions still practised in the village. Later we travel onto Kerak where a formidable Crusader castle overlooks a long, winding road down to the Dead Sea. Finally we visit Madaba famous for its 6th century mosaics. We will spend the night in Madaba.

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Day  
7

## Madaba, Mt Nebo, Dead Sea swimming, Amman

We spend time in Madaba then head to the biblical site of Mt Nebo. The Bible tells us this is the final resting-place of Moses; from here he looked out onto the Promised Land. We continue to the Dead Sea, at 400 metres below sea level it's the lowest and saltiest place on earth. There will be time to swim (or rather float!) before heading back to Amman.

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Day  
8

## Amman, Iraq-Al Ameer Women's Cooperative Society

In the morning we can arrange a visit to a women's co-operative in Amman to gain further insight into women's issues in Jordan. At the women's co-operative you can view the many handicrafts made by Jordanian women as well as learning more about women within Jordan at the visitor centre. Fly out of Amman back to the UK.

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# Further information

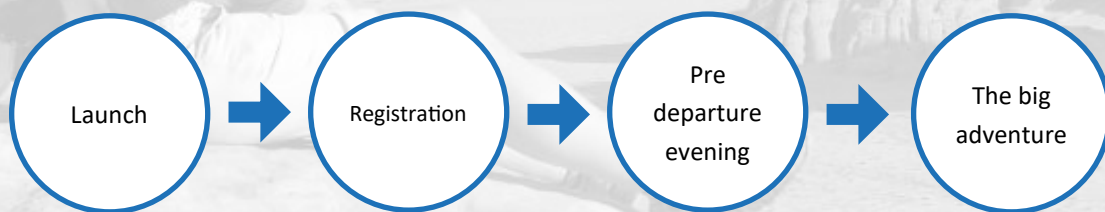
## Look what's included!

- International flights
- All accommodation
- All food
- All transportation and activities
- Bi-lingual, first-aid qualified local tour leader
- Parent and student trip launch evening
- Pre-departure preparation evening
- 1-day offsite safety INSET day for staff
- ATOL financial protection
- Medical Emergency / Repatriation Travel Insurance
- Group first aid kit and prescription meds pack
- BS8848 safety management and risk assessments
- Detailed pre-departure information and kit lists
- Comprehensive teacher travel packs
- Permanent operations team in your destination
- 24-hour UK operational support whilst overseas
- Carbon offsetting of all flights
- Free t-shirt for every participant and teacher

## What's excluded?

- Transport to airport in UK
- Drinks (advice will be given on purification of water)
- Visas or tourist cards if required
- Any required inoculations
- Personal spending money
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters
- Airport departure taxes paid locally
- Cancellation and personal effects insurance

## Your educational journey timeline



## Physical journey rating:



Some low level physical activities included in your trip, including walking on uneven terrain, maybe a morning/afternoon trek of two to four hours. That said, no physical preparation is required to make the most of the tour. High humidity and temperatures can occur at certain times of the year.

## Culture shock rating:



Students should expect some culture shock. You'll be exposed to signs of poverty. The food will be quite different to home and English, whilst still spoken, will be less prevalent. Respecting the local culture will make it easier to fit in and get the most out of your trip. We're likely to visit remoter locations on this tour where access to western style services may be sporadic. Often on trips of this grading there are parts of the itinerary which are more remote, interspersed with sections which are more 'comfortable'.

# A journey of 1,000 miles...

Starts with a single step... Contact us now to start your educational journey.

## 1 Get your tailor-made proposal and further information

If this itinerary doesn't quite scratch your educational travel itch then let us tailor-make one for you. Our wealth of experience and expert in-country contacts means we can design an itinerary just for you. Contact us for more information and a detailed quote.

## 2 Ask for risk assessments and marketing materials

We can provide initial risk assessments and destination threat assessments to help you with your expedition approval process. Ask for posters and your pre-booking information pack too.

## 3 Arrange a trip launch evening at your school

This is a chance for students and parents to hear more about the planned adventure with a comprehensive information evening and an opportunity for questions.



t: 01392 660056 | e: [schools@thestc.co.uk](mailto:schools@thestc.co.uk) | w: [www.thestc.co.uk](http://www.thestc.co.uk)