






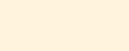
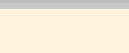
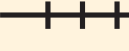








## MAP LEGEND

-  The Trail
-  Historical Site
-  Castle
-  Religious Site
-  Hotel Accommodation
-  Camping Facilities
-  Airport
-  Road
-  Highway
-  Railway
-  Bridge
-  Nature / Wildlife Reserve
-  Petra, the new world wonder
-  UNESCO, world heritage site





What is the Jordan Trail?

The Jordan Trail is a long distance hiking trail in Jordan connecting the length of Jordan from Um Qais in the north to Aqaba in the south. Offering 40 days of hiking over more than 650 kilometers of trail, and travelling through 52 villages and towns on its way. The trail traverses the diverse landscapes and vistas of the country, from the rolling wooded hills of the north, the rugged wadis and cliffs overlooking the Jordan Rift Valley, the rose rock of Petra, the dramatic sands and towering mountains in Wadi Rum, to the crystal waters of the Red Sea.

As you walk the Jordan Trail, it becomes a journey through the history of Jordan and an encounter with its diverse culture. Travelling the length of the country enables a chance to peel through the different layers of culture, to taste the varied cuisines of Jordan, encounter locals while walking and



spending your nights in their homestays. It is also an opportunity to learn the history of Jordan, the different civilisations who have made their marks on the land. The trail moves through major historical sites in the region such as Um Qais, Jerash, and Petra, while also harbouring hidden ruins resting amongst the land.

This website contains many of your tools to start planning your hike on the Jordan Trail, including information about the route, tips to prepare for your journey, and a list of groups and companies leading walks on the trail. It is a trail that is still growing and developing therefore we invite participation in the development and maintenance of the trail, building a strong community around it and the Jordanian outdoors. If you have information about a part of the trail, photographs or resources on travel logistics, share them!



In the most northerly and greenest part of Jordan, the hills and canyons are packed with the ruins of many ancient civilizations. The fertility of the hot Jordan Valley, the grasslands on the hills above it, and the oak forests of the highest mountains provide an enchanting natural backdrop to the trek between historic sites from the past two millennia and beyond. Hot springs, huge ancient olive trees, caves, mysterious prehistoric structures, Roman cities, and villages pioneering community-based tourism are some of the attractions of this northern corner of Jordan.

**Days:** 4  
**Length:** 80 Km  
**Main sites** in the region:  
Ruins of Roman Decapolis cities at Um Qais and Pella  
Ecopark at Wadi Ziglab  
Byzantine monastery ruins at Tel Mar Elias, traditional birthplace of the prophet Elijah  
Community tourism and rural scenery in the al-Ayoun villages  
Medieval mountaintop site of Ajloun Castle

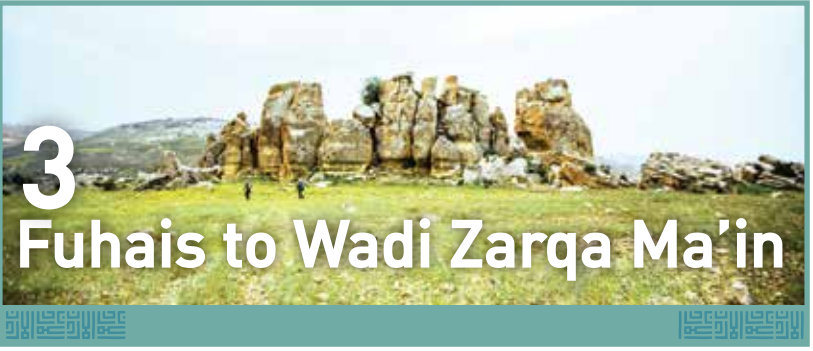
1: Um Qais to Ziglab  
2: Ziglab to Beit Idis  
3: Beit Idis to Rasoun  
4: Rasoun to Ajloun Castle



From the village of Burma, the trail descends to the King Talal Dam and provides a view across the large expanse of water stretching eastward between forested shores. It then crosses the dam wall and ascends to a hilltop ridge, which it follows south past rich farmlands to the mixed Christian and Muslim village of Rmemeen with its café and neighboring church spire and minaret. Beyond, it follows a track up a narrow, winding agricultural valley, climbing near Ahliyya University to reach the Christian village of Fuheis and the nearby Carakale Brewery – the first microbrewery in Jordan.

**Days:** 4  
**Length:** 59.1 km  
**Main sites** in the Ajloun to Fuhais Region:  
Burma village  
King Talal Dam  
Rmemeen village  
Town of Fuheis & Carakale microbrewery

1: Ajloun Castle to Khirbet Al-Souq  
2: Khirbet Al-Souq to King Talal Dam  
3: King Talal Dam to Rmemeen  
4: Rmemeen to Fuhais



The route starts near the Carakale Brewery – the first microbrewery in Jordan located in the Christian village of Fuheis, then takes walkers past the ancient palace of Iraq Al-Ameer before descending on the spectacular King Hussein's Rally Road to the Jordan Valley. The climate and scenery now changes, becoming warmer and more arid as the trail crosses the harsh plateau overlooking the Dead Sea and passes scattered Bedouin camps. Here, the path joins a Roman road connecting the northern Dead Sea with the fortress of Mukawir (Machaerus). Along the way, it passes over a ridge before descending through the basalt cliffs and permanent stream of Wadi Zarqa Main. Walkers then pass north of Mukawir before descending into the deep chasm of Wadi Wala.

**Days:** 4  
**Length:** 77.5 km  
**Main sites** in the Nebo Region:  
Fuhais & Carakale microbrewery  
Iraq Al-Ameer  
Iraq Al-Ameer Women's Cooperative  
Roman Road  
The Dead Sea canyons of Wadi Zarqa Main and Wadi Wala

1: Fuhais to Iraq Al-Amir  
2: Iraq Al-Amir to Husban  
3: Husban to Oyoun Al-Theeb  
4: Oyoun Al-Theeb to Wadi Zarqa Ma'in



The Three Wadis to Karak Region begins at the south rim of Wadi Wala; from there, it follows the edge of a plateau with stunning views over Wadi Hidan and Wadi Mujib before descending to cross Wadi Mujib – the Grand Canyon of Jordan. The wadi is extremely wide and 800 meters deep, with a perennial stream at the bottom and patches of farmland and the occasional Bedouin tent breaking up the otherwise arid scenery. After a long ascent, the trail heads south across a fertile plateau with rich red soils and farmlands, passing the ruins of Magdelina on the rim of Wadi ibn Hammad (a conservation area) before descending 300m into Wadi el Tawahin. It then climbs back up via Wadi ez Zaiyatin to reach the imposing Crusader castle of Karak, which rises impressively above the surrounding landscape.

**Days:** 4  
**Length:** 75 km  
**Main sites** in the Three Wadis to Karak Region:  
Wadi Mujib  
Ruins of Magdelina  
Karak Castle

1: Wadi Zarqa Ma'in to Wadi Hidan  
2: Wadi Hidan to Wadi Mujib  
3: Wadi Mujib to Majdalein  
4: Majdalein to Karak

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"calendar:jo" provides you with an updated calendar of events and happenings taking place in Jordan!



The Jordan Trail exits Karak at its southern fortifications and moves downward into a beautiful winding valley. Perched atop a series of cliffs on the opposite side of the valley is the village of Shehabieh, originally called Ifranji by the Crusaders who settled there after the fall of Karak's castle. Further down the valley, walkers reach the abandoned old village of Khirbet Ainun, situated dramatically above an oxbow bend in the wadi.

Continuing, the trail rises onto a fertile plain and descends to Al-Iraq, its orchards and olive groves overlooking Wadi Numeira. The trail then crosses another hill before reaching the rim of the impressive Wadi Hasa, cutting a cleft 1000 meters deep into the landscape above the southern end of the Dead Sea. Descending, the trail follows a track between the towering limestone cliffs of Tor al-Taboun, zigzagging down to cross the wadi bed and climb up the other side, passing Bedouin encampments on the way.

Upon returning to the plateau, the trail follows an undulating ridge southward before running through a number of villages east of Tafileh and then reaching the Edomite ruins at Sela and Mi'tan. After moving on through the deep Wadi Labun, the trail



turns to easier terrain as it passes over the next hill to the restored village of Dana, its hotels and campsite resting on the rim of Wadi Dana at the edge of the RSCN Reserve. Note that there is an entrance fee to the Dana reserve; this price includes a mandatory local guide who will walk through the reserve with you. Walkers pay the fee at the reserve entrance and meet their guides inside.

**Days:** 4  
**Length:** 83.2 Km  
**Main sites** in the Karak Region:  
Karak Castle  
Khirbet Ainun village  
Tor al Taboun crags  
Wadi Hasa  
Mi'tan and Buseira villages and Edomite ruins  
Dana Village and Dana Biosphere Reserve (entrance fee)

1: Karak to Tor Al-Taboun  
2: Tor Al-Taboun to Karaka  
3: Karaka to Ma'tan  
4: Ma'tan to Dana



One of the most awe-inspiring sections of a trek across Jordan, this route was recently named by National Geographic as one of the fifteen best hikes in the world. The trail drops from the heights of the mountain plateaus to the Araba Valley and climbs back again, crossing several climate zones, diverse ecosystems hidden in canyons, and dramatic labyrinths of hills and valleys displaying the full spectrum of the region's geology. The scenery spans from majestic and epic mountaintops to peaceful, bucolic countryside, and new landscapes present themselves every few kilometers: the one thing this region does not offer is monotony.

If the natural attractions aren't enough, the route ends with the Nabatean masterpiece, Petra. The city in the rocks holds days worth of exploration by itself, and the short route the Jordan Trail takes through it is meant only to display a few of its highlights and to provide a base for further wanderings, not to fully capture its depth. Few other long-distance trails can boast stages as consistently spectacular as this or end in a place as worthy of a visit as Petra.



Note that entry to Petra requires a pass, which can only be purchased at the front entrance. This route does not approach Petra through this entrance, so a pass must be purchased in advance.

**Days:** 4  
**Length:** 72.6 km  
**Main sites** in the Dana to Petra Region:  
Wadi Dana Biosphere Reserve and countless other natural wonders  
Feynan ruins and ancient copper mines  
Feynan ecolodge  
Hidden stream and waterfall in Wadi Feid  
Little Petra, an outpost of Petra in the same city-in-the-cliffs style  
Petra, Nabatean capital and wonder of the world

1: Dana to Wadi Malaga  
2: Wadi Malaga to Ras Al-Feid  
3: Ras Al-Feid to Little Petra  
4: Little Petra to Petra



Connecting the two legendary sites of Petra and Wadi Rum is a week-long trek across one of the longest stretches of wilderness on the Jordan Trail.

Here in the empty, high-elevation desert, stargazing is at its best, and silent contemplation comes naturally. Beginning with deep, rugged wadis and leading into open, sandy plains surrounded by otherworldly sandstone buttes, this segment of the trail takes you deep into the places where humans seldom go. While Wadi Rum may offer visitors a taste of desert silence, the trek into it is the real thing.



**Days:** 5  
**Length:** 90.6km  
**Main sites** in the Petra to Rum Region:  
Petra  
Jebel Haroun (mountaintop burial place of Aaron, off-route)  
Humeima, ancient and Umayyad ruins  
Sandstone mountain "islands" in a sea of sand  
Wadi Rum, Jebel Rum, and Jebel Um Ishrin

1: Petra to Gaa' Mriebed  
2: Gaa' Mriebed to Wadi al-Saif  
3: Wadi al-Saif to Wadi Gseib  
4: Wadi Gseib to Wadi Aheimar  
5: Wadi Aheimar to Humeima



Heading south down Wadi Rum, the trail passes beneath the towering cliffs of Jebel Rum and Jebel Um Ishrin through the region described by T E Lawrence as "Rum the magnificent, vast, echoing, and godlike." It passes between the cliffs of Jebel Khazali and their ancient rock art and crosses Jebel Qattar with its concealed "dripping spring," still winding between the unique and colorful backdrops of Wadi Rum's sandstone desert mountains. Turning west again, the trail leaves Jebel al Qiddar and its wadi to head west down Wadi Waraqa, passing a number of cisterns dotting the route to the Bedouin village of Titen.

From Titen, the trail follows old shepherd paths, weaving its way west across desert wadis and over granite mountains striated with basalt dyke intrusions. At the last pass, hikers suddenly gain their first view of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba, beyond which are the mountains of Sinai. The descent from the pass leads down to long sandy wadis reaching all the way to the welcoming and warm waters of the Red Sea – the end of the Jordan Trail – between the border with Saudi Arabia and the port of Aqaba.



**Days:** 6  
**Length:** 112 km  
**Main sites** in the Rum to Red Sea Region:  
Wadi Rum (World Heritage site)  
Wadi Rum Bedouin village  
Lawrence's Spring (Ain Shellaleh) and the Nabataean Temple  
Dramatic desert scenery – sandstone domes and granite and basalt striated mountains, changing color constantly throughout the day  
Bedouin encampments  
Village of Titen  
Red Sea  
Aqaba Red Sea Resort

1: Humeima to Jabal Kharazeh  
2: Jabal Kharazeh to Shakriya  
3: Shakriya to Rum Village  
4: Rum Village to Wadi Waraqa  
5: Wadi Waraqa to Final Camp  
6: Final Camp to Aqaba