



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Jordan - Petra

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Amman
- ✓ **Language:** Arabic
- ✓ **Population:** 6831
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 6,900 (*Wadi Musa*)
- ✓ **Currency:** Jordan Dinar (JOD)
- ✓ **Phone code:** +962
- ✓ **Visa:** Most countries, [check!](#)
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 911
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A, Hep-B, Typhoid, Yellow Fever, (Rabies).



History Recap Over 1 Drink

1922: Transjordan state under British supervision. Shortly after: home to 100,000s Palestinian refugees. '46: Independent sovereign kingdom (UN). '48: State of Israel created → more Palestinian refugees. '50: Jordan annexes West Bank. '51: King Abdullah (*1st monarch*) assassinated by Palestinian gunman for apparent collusion with Israel. '57: UK complete withdrawal. '67: Six-Day-War Israel: more refugees. '70: Clashes between Palestinian guerillas and government: Black September – civil war. '89: 1st general election since '67. '94: Peace treaty with Israel, ending 46-year of official state of war. '96: Food price riots. 2000: Death sentence for men plotting attacks against Israeli & US targets. '01: Electricity line between Jordan/Egypt/Syria. '02: Riots Ma'an. Jordan & Israel joint project to pump water from Red Sea into Dead Sea. Start of 'Al Quada' attacks. '03: King Abdullah 'wins' parliamentary elections. '05: Suicide bombings in international hotels Amman – 60 killed, mostly Jordanians. '11: Tunisian protests unseating president encourage protest in a.o. Jordan. Thrice new Prime Minister. Syrian refugee camps in Jordan. '14: US+Jordan+3 other Arabic states: Air strikes against Syrian Islamic State (*back and forth attacks IS-Jordan*). Arrest of leader Muslim Brotherhood. Jordan against IS.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Winter												
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Best												

Altitude: 810m. Climate: Tropical Climate (Am).

Worth The Extra \$€¥

Get the [Jordan Pass!](#) I regretted not taking it every second of my visit, as it also includes your visa fee and entrance to Petra. Petra by Night is additional.

👍 **Petra's Main Sights:** Petra Museum, Siq, High Place of Sacrifice, Treasury (*Al-Khazneh*), Monastery (*Ad-Deir*), Theatre, Urn Tomb / The Court, Royal Tombs, Silk Tomb, Corinthian Tomb, Palace Tomb, As-Siq, Byzantine Church, Street of Facades, Obelisk Tomb, Qasr Al-Bint Temple, Sextius Florentinus Tomb, The Dam, Colonnaded Street, Great Temple, Winged Lions Temple, Garden Temple, Farsa Valley, Renaissance Tomb, Tomb of Roman Soldier. [See trails in blog story.](#)

Bucket List For Free

☺ **Sights:** Little Petra (*Al Beidha*), Mosesquelle.

Sleep Cheap

❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are pretty affordable in Jordan. (*Wild*) Camping is another option.

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [Housesitting](#). Also check [WorkAway](#) or [HelpX](#) for work-exchanges.

The Earth Becomes My Throne

Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Supermarkets:** Minimarkets in Wadi Musa.
- ⌘ **Local food:** Falafel, Moutabel (*eggplant dip*), Hummus, Mansaf (*rice with lamb/yoghurt*), Labneh (*thick yoghurt*), Galayet Bandora (*stewed tomatoes*), Za'atar (*thyme spread*), Kanafeh (*sweet cheese dessert*), Mezze (*tapas*), Maqluba (*communal plate – pile of rice/potatoes/cauliflower/ chicken etc.*), Manakish (*Jordan version of pizza bread*), Zarb (*underground BBQ*), Warek Enab (*stuffed wine leaves*), Kousa Mahshi (*stuffed zucchini*), Bazarek (*sesame cookie*), Mujadara (*rice, lentils and cumin*), Ara'yes (*lamb pita*), Goat Organs, Maftul (*couscous balls with garbanzos and chicken*), Mo'ajanat (*cheese/spinach/ beef pie*), Sambusak (*fried dough balls stuffed with cheese, meat, pine nuts and onions*).
- ⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is very easy and cheap in Jordan, be it monotonous. You'll eat mainly hummus, falafel and moutabel your entire stay. Try to find vegan Galayet Bandora, Mujadara and Tabbouleh. More vegan food suggestions in the [Amman blog!](#)

Mama Said

- ☠ Jordan is generally safe, and people are welcoming and friendly. Take common-sense precautions like you would everywhere else in the world, but don't be paranoid.
- ☠ Jordan is an Islamic country, so dress slightly appropriate. Harassment is uncommon, people are understanding, but respect their culture.
- ☠ As a non-local you can be regarded as a 'wallet on legs' on certain occasions. Always check the local price and negotiate in advance if the price isn't quoted. Be prepared to negotiate with the same person for the same product/service on several occasions, as they might try again when the moment of payment comes.
- ☠ Tap water is not drinkable.
- ☠ Most mosques aren't accessible for women... there are separate rooms of prayer for them. In many occasions mosques are muslim-only.

Nights Best Spent

- ◆ **Nightlife areas:** Downtown Wadi Musa.

Free-Riding?

- Walking is the prime way to get around Petra. Wadi Musa and Petra are at walking distance from one another.
- Jettbus has daily buses from Amman (6:30AM – Jettbus Station Al-Abdali), Aqaba (8AM – Jettbus office) and Wadi Rum (10AM – visitor center), which are better reserved in advance. Local minibuses and shared cabs leave from the bus station (*in Amman: South Bus Station*) whenever they are full.
- Cabs are rather expensive as they tend to overcharge foreigners. Try Uber or [Careem](#) (*the Jordanian version of Uber*).
- **Airport:** Queen Alia International Airport (AMM), King Hussein international Airport Aqaba (AQJ).
- **Hitchhiking** is possible, but uncommon. Locals will consider it dangerous, and possibly ask you for money afterwards. I did it as a woman by myself though, without problems.

Next?

- ➔ **In Jordan:** Wadi Rum, Aqaba, Amman.
- ➔ **International destinations close by:** Israel, Saudi-Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon. [*Check current political situation, not all accessible*]