

**World Economic Forum on the Middle East  
18 – 20/05/07  
Dead Sea – Jordan**

**Optional Tours Detailed Programs**

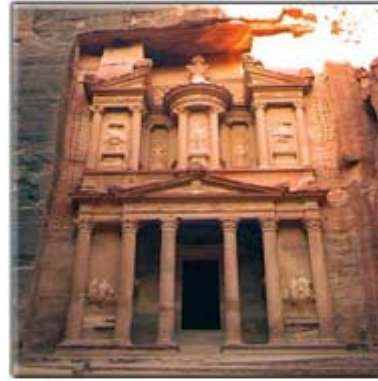
**T 1 – The ‘Red – Rose’ City of Petra [Full day]**



Hidden behind an almost impenetrable barrier of rugged mountains, the legendary “Red – Rose” city of Petra is, perhaps, the most stunning site in the entire Middle East, carved out of craggy rocks by the Nabateans, an industrious Arab people who settled in the South more than 2,000 years ago.

The approach through the cool gloom of the Siq, a long narrow gorge whose steeply rising sides all but obliterate the sun, provides a dramatic contrast with the magic to come. Suddenly, the gorge opens into a natural square dominated by Petra’s most famous monument, the ‘Treasury’ [Al Khasneh], whose intricately carved facade glows in the dazzling sun.

The Monastery [El Deir] and the High Place of the Sacrifice [Al Madbah] are among the myriad archeological wonders to be explored in Petra.



8:00 AM – Depart from the lobby of your hotel toward Petra via the Desert Highway [over 3 hrs drive]

11:30 AM arrival to Petra & start site visit.

16:00 hours - Late afternoon transfer back to hotel at the Dead Sea.

## T 2 - Amman City Tour [Half Day]

Located 50 km from the Dead Sea, a sprawling city spread over 19 hills, **Amman** is the modern as well as the ancient capital of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Known as Rabbath- Ammon during prehistoric times and under the Greeks as Philadelphia, Amman now boasts a population of around 1.5 million. Your first stop will be at the Royal Automobile Museum. At the Royal Automobile Museum, built by His majesty King Abdullah II to commemorate the interest in cars of his father, the late King Hussein, you'll take a stroll through the history of the Kingdom from the early 1920s until the present. The featured cars highlight the life and reign of the late King Hussein, as well as the many aspects of his leadership.



Your tour will continue with the Citadel, a site not to be missed, located on a hill crowning Amman, which treasures impressive remnants of Amman's many lives: the regal columns of a Roman temple, the elegant capitals of a Byzantine church and the unique carvings in the Ommayad Palace. At the foot of the Citadel there is the 5,000 seat Roman Amphitheater; a deep-sided bowl carved into the hill and still used for cultural events.



### **Tour Program:**

Pick-up time: 09:30 hrs – Hotel Lobby

09:30 - 10:15 hrs – Transfer Dead Sea - Amman.

10:15 – 10:45 hrs – Visit Royal automobile Museum

11:15 - 11:45 hrs – visit the Citadel

12:00 – 12:30 hrs – visit Roman Amphitheater

12:30 – 13:30 hrs – Transfer Amman – Dead Sea

*Tour can be organized in the afternoon, starting 14:00 hrs.*

### T3 – Excursion to Jerash [Half Day]

Over one hour drive from the Dead Sea, towards north, you will visit the Graeco-Roman City of Jerash [ancient Gerasa], close second to Petra on the list of favorite destinations in Jordan.

Boasting an unbroken chain of human occupation dating back more than 6,500 years and hidden for centuries in sand before being excavated and restored over the past 70 years, Jerash is a fine example of the grand, formal and provincial Roman towns found throughout the Middle East.

You can walk beneath two imposing gates or down the "Street of Columns" north from the "Oval Plaza" while stepping over the tracks of chariot wheels still visible in the paving stones that will lead your way to impressive theaters, temples & churches.

You can also view the unique live show of Roman Army chariots & gladiators.



**Tour program:**

09:00 AM – departure from the Lobby of your hotel at the Dead Sea

10:15 AM – arrival to Jerash

10:15 – 12:30 hrs – Site visit

12:30 – 13:30 hrs – transfer back to Hotel at the Dead Sea

**Not included:** Supplement for Roman Army Show

Tour can be organized in the afternoon, too.

## T 4 – Madaba & Mt. Nebo visit [Half Day]

Afternoon departure towards Mt. Nebo via the picturesque Panorama Highway. Mount Nebo, the memorial of Moses and the presumed site of the prophet's death and burial place is one of the most revered places in Jordan.

From a platform in front of the church built by the early Christians in 393 AD, you will enjoy a breathtaking view across the Jordan Valley & the Dead Sea.

10 minutes drive from Mt. Nebo, you will visit Madaba, also known as the "City of Mosaics". In St. George Church you will have the chance to admire a wonderfully vivid, sixth century Byzantine mosaic map, showing Jerusalem and the Holy Land.



### **Tour program:**

13:30 hrs – departure from the Lobby of your hotel at the Dead Sea.

14:15 – 15:00 hrs – Mt. Nebo visit

15:30 – 16:30 hrs – visit St. George Church in Madaba & look for souvenirs in the nearby shops.

16:30 – 17:30 hrs – transfer back to your hotel at the Dead Sea.

Tour can be organized also in the morning.

## T 5 – Baptism Site visit [Half Day]

Baptism site [Bethany beyond the Jordan River], is located 12 km from your hotel at the Dead Sea. The large loop in the Jordan River, opposite Jericho has long been identified as the spot where John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ. It is called al Maghtas in Arabic. This site and surrounding area were designated by the Vatican as a Millennium 2000 pilgrimage site and have quickly become the focal point for spiritual travelers from all around the world.

From the visitors centers you'll be transferred by minibus near the Jordan River where baptism spring & other significant remains of early Christian settlements have been discovered.



### **Tour program:**

13:30 hrs – departure from the Lobby of your Hotel at the Dead Sea

14:00 – 15:30 hrs – Baptism Site visit

15:30 – 16:00 hrs - Transfer back to your Hotel

**Tour can be also organized in the morning.**