



TREK JORDAN CHALLENGE



# ITINERARY – OUTLINE FOR BESOPKE TRIPS

This trek takes us into the biblical tales of lost cities, hidden amongst the jebels and wadis of the Arabian desert. Our challenge from the shores of the Dead Sea, deep into the desert and the stunning hidden city of Petra, has us spending three nights under the stars in Bedouin encampments. We experience the profound silence of the desert as Moses, Lawrence of Arabia and camel trains have for centuries.

## DAY 1 AMMAN

We depart London on an early morning flight bound for the Jordanian capital. Arriving early evening we transfer a couple of hours south to our hotel in Madaba close to the Dead Sea.

## DAY 2 MOUNT NEBO – DEAD SEA 8KM

After breakfast we transfer to Mount Nebo - the most revered and holy place in Jordan where tradition has it that God showed Moses the Promised Land into which he was never destined to enter. On a clear day there is a breathtaking view across the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea, to the domes and spires of Jerusalem and Bethlehem. En-route to the trailhead we visit the Moses Memorial Church and mosaics. Our trek commences along a wadi (dry river-bed) climbing to various view-points which offer stunning vistas of the Dead Sea. We descend via Bedouin settlements and transfer to the Dead Sea where we enjoy a late lunch and refreshing dip in this salty body of water. Late afternoon we then transfer to Dana to overnight in a campsite in the heart of the nature reserve.

## DAY 3 WADI FINAN 25KM

Breakfast is taken on the shores of the Dead Sea before the transfer to Wadi Finan. Our trek today is challenging and varied – through ruins, across small wadis with the Edom Mountains in view. Pausing with our donkeys for lunch at Wadi Um Sakakin where we enjoy a small excursion off the trail we continue on to our campsite at Tlatat Al Sufer. The terrain today is mainly flat, but it will be stony underfoot and there will be very little shade so sun protection is a must! We camp tonight in a beautiful spot next to the dunes.

## DAY 4 WADI ARAVA – BEER MADKOUR 20KM

A hearty desert breakfast is served by our Bedouin camping team before we embark from the campsite on the camel & donkeys track towards Alfارش. Today our terrain is mostly uphill, with some minor undulations in places. Soon we reach the hiking trail which we follow all the way to our lunch stop. Our trek continues from over the camel track and through an area with a few acacia trees, until we reach a wide wadi area with lots of small terraces for our penultimate night under the stars!

**DAY 5****LITTLE PETRA****20KM**

Today we enjoy some of the most un-spoilt and stark terrain of the challenge with views over the Petra Mountains. Climbing gradually for 2 hours we summit Jabal Haroun 1023m (resting place of the Prophet Aaron, brother of Moses). We descend again for a final push to the Red Mountains ridge and Mount Quarar for lunch. In the afternoon we continue walking deep in the Wadis to Little Petra, a caravan station where we explore the cave system and temples before continuing to our overnight campsite at Ras Suleman.

**DAY 6****PETRA****16KM**

Today is the challenge highlight as we trek from our campsite on relatively flat terrain to the over the 2000 year old city of Petra. The vast complex stretches over several kilometres and was a strategic centre for the old silk and spice routes which crossed the Middle-East, Asia and Africa. It prospered for centuries with a population of about 25,000 at the height of its power. The Nabateans built Petra on a terrace pierced from east to west by Wadi Musa (Moses) one of the places where Moses struck a rock and 'water gushed forth'. The valley is enclosed by sandstone cliffs veined with shades of red, purple and pink, out of which the city's monuments and temples were hewn. On arrival at the site we climb up to the Monastery, Petra's most awe-inspiring monument and one of the most challenging to reach. There are well-worn steps that lead up to it and the climb takes about an hour. Tonight our hotel is a welcome delight!

**DAY 7****WADI RUM****15KM**

Today we experience the magic and beauty of the desert with a full day of trekking through Wadi Rum, which descends gradually from 700m to sea level – allowing us to enjoy the walking and reflect upon our achievements. We have enjoy a final night of camping in Bedouin tents and share dinner with our guides and muleteers.

**DAY 8****AQABA**

This morning we transfer direct from our camp to the Red Sea Resort of Aqaba for some well deserved rest and recuperation, souvenir hunting and swimming are the order of the day, before we embark upon a boat, for a celebratory dinner afloat!

**DAY 9****ARRIVE HOME**

Early morning departure from Amman

LOGISTICS



## **COSTS OF CHALLENGE**

From £1745 per person

For groups less than 15, please get in touch

## **CHALLENGE COST INCLUSIONS**

Pre-trip briefing by Action Challenge staff

International flights

Action Challenge Representative

Action Challenge medic

English-speaking local guides

All accommodation

All meals, except in free time

All participant and luggage transfers

All National Park fees

3 litres of water provided daily

All entrance fees as per the itinerary

Pre-event client support

## **NOT INCLUDED**

Alcoholic drinks

Travel insurance

Visas

Local departure tax

Fuel supplement

## **DISTANCE**

100KM undulating desert terrain

## **RATING**

Moderate/Moderate +

## **FITNESS**

This challenge requires a good level of fitness to walk the route.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

5 nights hotel (3\* twin-share basis), 1 night Eco Lodge, and 3 nights camping – Bedouin style including mattresses, blankets, lighting, mobile showers and toilets

## **FOOD**

Breakfasts each morning will be at the accommodation, lunch en-route and evening meals will be in camp, at a hotel or in a local restaurant. A celebratory dinner is included aboard a boat in Aqaba.

## **WEATHER**

October, November, March, April and May are the cooler months in Jordan. Temperatures during the day can range from 20-30 degrees with the nights being much cooler. Rain rarely falls at this time of year.

## **ABOUT ACTION CHALLENGE**

As our name suggests, Action Challenge specialises in the creation of challenging, travel-based activities the world over. Since 1999, we have worked with many blue chip companies, over 600 national and regional charities, schools, sports clubs, groups of friends and individuals on both UK and overseas events. With over 160 itineraries in some of the most unexplored places on the globe, we are proud of lengths we go to, to bring our clients experiences they would be unable to find elsewhere.

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