

# JORDAN TRAIL THRU-HIKE 2024

AN EVER-CHANGING STORY North to South

11/10-20/11/2024

Organized by:





The Jordan Trail unveils Jordan's beauty and its varying manifestations along the eastern rim of Jordan's Rift Valley.

A transition between the Fertile Crescent in the north, to the edge of the Arabian Desert and the Red Sea in the south, makes for an ever-changing experience, showcasing Jordan at its most authentic. Join us on a mesmerizing journey and wander through the country's hidden treasures, explore the heights and depths of its wonders, and delve into its rich history and heritage.

Agood hiker is always prepared. If you see these boots, stay calm; they're there to tell you how difficult a section is.











# **REGION 1: UM QAIS TO AJLOUN**

In the most northern region of the trail, lush, green hills and canyons carry you to ancient Roman sites over rolling hills, and through oak forests. The diverse and fertile landscape here with its ancient olive trees and hot springs bursts into bloom every spring, with the trees laden with fresh fruit. The villages here are pioneers of community-based tourism with homestays, home-cooked meals, and handicraft stalls adding a true cultural experience to this beautiful northern corner of Jordan

**Days:** 5 hiking days and 4 nights

**Length:** 83 km

Main sites in the region:

➤ Ziglab Dam

► Jesus Cave, Beit Idis Church

Ruins of Roman Decapolis cities at Um Qais and Pella Decapolis cities at Um Qais at Um Q prophet Elijah

Description > Community tourism and rural scenery in the al–Ayoun village

➤ Medieval mountaintop site of Ajloun Castle

#### DAY 1: UM QAIS TO MAKHRABAH

Date: Friday, October 11

Distance: 14 km Overnight: Wild Camp

Difficulty level: L

#### **DAY 4: BEIT IDIS TO RASOUN**

Date: Monday, October 14

Distance: 16 km Overnight: Homestay Difficulty level:

#### DAY 2: MAKHRABA TO ZIGLAB

Date: Saturday, October 12

Distance: 12 km

Overnight: Homestay/ Wild Camp

Difficulty level: L

#### DAY 3: ZIGLAB TO BEIT IDIS

Date: Sunday, October 13

Distance: 23 km Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level: L

#### DAY 5: RASOUN TO AJLOUN

Date: Tuesday, October 15

Distance: 18 km Overnight: Hotel Difficulty level: \[ \]



Break days are for thru-hikers only Distance may vary depending on weather conditions and camping sites Overnight arrangements may vary depending on availability and other conditions



crosses King Talal Dam, before ascending a hilltop following rich farmlands to the village of Rmeimeen with its beautiful church

**Days:** 4 hiking days and 3 nights (4 hiking days +1 break day for thru-hikers only)

**Length:** 66 km

Main sites in the region:

➤ Khirbet Sarabis and Springs

➤ King Talal Dam

> Rmeimeen village

➤ The UNESCO city of Salt

#### DAY 6: AJLOUN TO KHIRBET AL-SOUQ

Date: Wednesday, October 16

Distance: 17 km

Overnight: Homestay/ Wild Camp

Difficulty level: L

#### DAY 9: RMEIMEEN TO AL SALT

Date: Saturday, October 19

Distance: 16 km Overnight: Homestay Difficulty level:

#### DAY 7: KHIRBET AL-SOUQ TO KINGTALAL DAM

Date: Thursday, October 17

Distance: 17 km Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level: L

#### DAY 10: (Break Day): As-Salt

Date: Sunday, October 20 Overnight: Homestay

#### DAY 8: KING TALAL DAM TO RMEIMEEN

Date: Friday, October 18

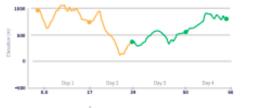
Distance: 16 km

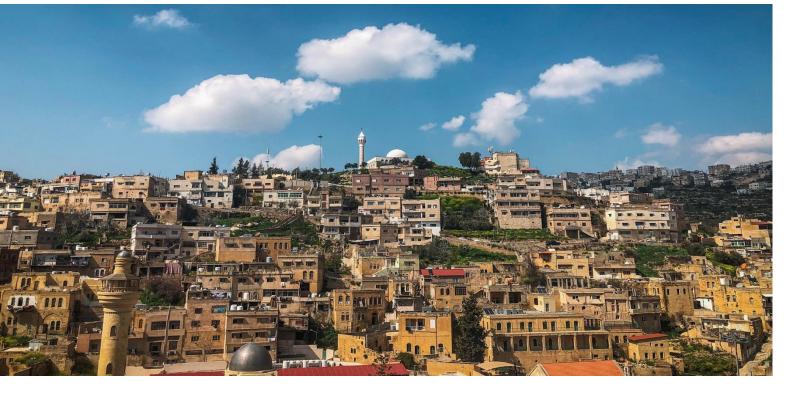
Overnight: Wild Camp/Homestay

Difficulty level:

# **REGION 2: AJLOUN TO AL SALT**

This section weaves through farmland and a spattering of rural villages as you leave Ajloun and its hilltop castle behind. The trail spire and minaret. Winding down through fertile valleys, the trail reaches the historically fragrant city of As Salt.





# REGION 3: AL SALT TO WADI ZARQA MA'IN

Here you leave the more northern regions and Amman behind and head towards the Dead Sea. Walk past the ancient palace of Iraq Al-Ameer before descending along the spectacular King Hussein's Rally Road to the Jordan Valley. The climate and scenery changes as the Dead Sea looms from a plateau and Bedouin camps scatter the path. The trail now follows a roman road, encountering basalt cliffs and Wadi Zarga Ma'in with its year-round stream.

**Days:** 4 days and 3 nights

**Length:** 82 km

Main sites in the region:

- ➤ Al Salt
- ➤ Iraq Al-Ameer, Qaser Al Abed and Burial Caves
- ➤ Iraq Al-Ameer Women's Cooperative

- ⊳ Mount Nebo
- ⊳ Roman Road
- > The Dead Sea canyons of Wadi Zarqa Ma'in and Wadi Wala

#### DAY 11: AL SALT TO IRAQ AL-AMIR

Date: Monday, October 21

Distance: 23 km

Overnight: Iraq Al-Amir Women

Cooperative

Difficulty Level:

#### DAY 12: IRAQ AL-AMIR TO HUSBAN

Date: Tuesday, October 22

Distance: 19 km Overnight: Wild Camp

Difficulty level: 🌭

#### DAY 13: HUSBAN TO OYOON AL-THEEB

Date: Wednesday, October 23

Distance: 19 km
Overnight: Wild Camp

Difficulty level:

#### DAY 14: OYOON AL-THEEB TO WADIZARQA MA'IN

Date: Thursday, October 24

Distance: 21 km
Overnight: Wild Camp
Difficulty level:



Break days are for thru-hikers only



# REGION 4: Three WADIS TO AL-KARAK

By this point on the trail, you encounter some of the spectacular Dead Sea wadis mainly Waid Zarqa Ma'in, Wadi Al Hidan and Wadi Al Mujib, wihich one of the grandest wadis in Jordan, Fertile farmland with rich red soils and Bedouin tents create a dramatic landscape. The ruins of Majdaline. Wadi ez Zaiyatin takes you to the imposing crusader castle of Karak, impressively situated to overlook the surrounding landscape

**Days:** 4 days and 3 nights (4 hiking days +1 break day for thru-hikers only)

**Length:** 76 km

Main sites in the region:

➤ Wadi Zarqa Ma'in

➤ Wadi Hidan

➤ Wadi Mujib

Ruins of Majdaline

#### DAY 15: WADI ZARQA MA'IN TO WADI HIDAN

Date: Friday, October 25

Distance: 18 km Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level:

#### DAY 18: MAJDLEEN TO AL-KARAK

Date: Monday, October 28

Distance: 23 km
Overnight: Hotel
Difficulty level:

# DAY 16: WADI HIDAN TO WADI MUJIB

Date: Saturday, October 26

Distance: 15 km Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level: 5 5 5 5

#### DAY 19 (Break Day): Al-KARAK

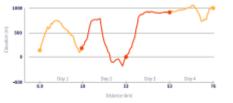
Date: Tuesday, October 29

Overnight: Hotel

#### DAY 17: WADI MUJIB TO MAJDLEEN

Date: Sunday, October 27

Distance: 20 km Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level:



#### Break days are for thru-hikers only



# **REGION 5: KARAK TO DANA**

The crusader-themed landscape continues in this section as you exit Karak, passing the old crusader village of Shehabieh and the abandoned village of Khirbet Ainun. Orchards and olive groves grow abundantly through fertile plains. Crossing another Dead Sea canyon, Wadi Hasa, the landscape becomes a series of towering limestone cliffs and ridges before reaching Edomite ruins at Sela and Ma'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 Dana Biosphere Reserve

**Days:** 5 hiking days and 5 nights

**Length:** 88 km

#### Main sites in the region:

- ➤ Karak Castle
- ➤ Khirbet Ainun village
- ➤ Tor al Taboun crags

- ➤ Wadi Hasa –Burbaita village
- ➤ Ma'tan and Buseira and Edomite ruins
- ➤ Dana Village and Dana Biosphere Reserve (entrance fee)

#### DAY 20: Al- KARAKTO WADI AL-**MUGATR**

Date: Wednesday, October 30

Distance: 20 km Overnight: Wild Camp

Difficulty level:

#### DAY 23: AIS TO MA'ATAN

Date: Saturday, November 2

Distance: 15 km

Overnight: Homestay/ Wild Camp

Difficulty level:

DAY 24: MA'ATAN TO DANA Date: Sunday, November 3

Date: Thursday, October 31

Overnight: Homestay/ Wild Camp

DAY 21: WADI AL-MUGAIR TO WADI

Distance: 16 km

Distance: 14 km

Difficulty level:

HASA

Overnight: Hotel/Wild Camp

Difficulty level: L

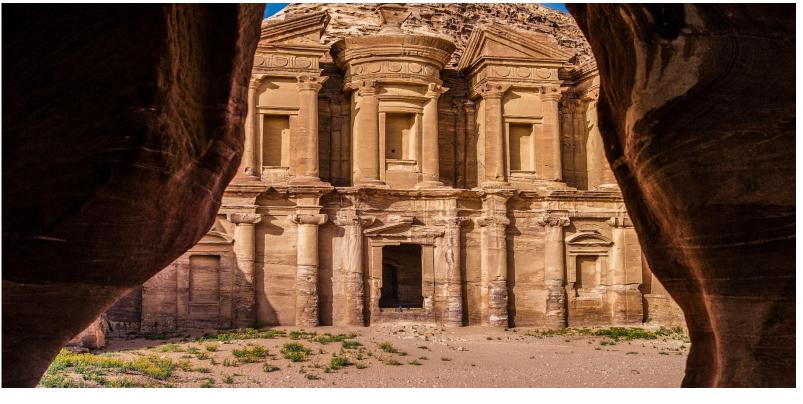
#### DAY 22: WADI HASA TO AIS

Date: Friday, November 1

Distance: 23 km Overnight: Hotel Difficulty level:



#### Break days are for thru-hikers only



# **REGION 6: DANA TO PETRA**

A truly awe-inspiring section of the Jordan Trail and named by National Geographic as one of the 15 best hikes in the world. The trail descends the hilltop village of Dana into Wadi Feynan and onto the dramatic mountain plateaus of Wadi Araba. This region crosses several climate zones, diverse ecosystems, hidden 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, fertile farmlands with new landscapes presenting themselves every few kilometers. This section's most dramatic and memorable aspect is the departure at the Nabatean masterpiece, Petra. A chance to enter the city through the 'back door' to walk in the footsteps of ancient traders. Few other trails can boast a site as spectacular as Petra

**Days:** 4 days and 4 nights (4 hiking days +1 break day for thru–hikers only)

**Length:** 75 km

#### Main sites in the region:

➤ Dana Biosphere Reserve

> Feynan ruins and ancient copper mines

> Feynan ecolodge

> Petra, Nabatean capital and wonder of the world

#### DAY 25: Dana TO WADI MALAGA / BARWAS

Date: Monday, November 4

Distance: 25 km Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level:

#### DAY 28: LITTLE PETRA TO PETRA

Date: Thursday, November 7

Distance: 12 km

Overnight: Homestay/Hotel

Difficulty level:

#### DAY 26: WADI MALAGA TO RAS AL-FEID

Date: Tuesday, November 5

Distance: 14 km
Overnight: Wild Camp
Difficulty level:

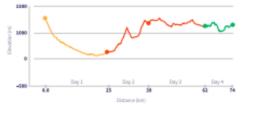
#### DAY 29 (Break Day): PETRA Date: Friday, November 8

Overnight: Hotel

# DAY 27: RAS AL-FEID TO LITTLE PETRA

Date: Wednesday, November 6 Distance: 23 km

Overnight: Camp
Difficulty level:



Break days are for thru-hikers only
Distance may vary depending on weather conditions and camping sites
Overnight arrangements may vary depending on availability and other conditions



# **REGION 7: PETRA TO WADI RUM**

Connecting the two legendary sites of Petand Wadi Rum is a week–long trek across one of the longest stretches of wilderness on the Jordan Trail. Here in the empty but striking desert, with its dramatic rock formations, stargazing, and peace are found at their best. Starting with deep, rugged wadis and moving into open, sandy plains, this section of the trail takes you deep into the places where humans seldom go. Finishing at Wadi Rum village offers a taste of Bedouin life after the remoteness of this section.

**Days:** 7 days and 7 nights

Length: 129 km

#### Main sites in the region:

- ➤ Petra
- ➤ Jabal Haroun (mountaintop burial place of Aaron, off-route)
- > Humeima, ancient and Umayyad ruins

⊳ Sandstone mountain "islands" in a sea of sand

⊳ Wadi Rum, Jabal Rum, and Jabal Um Ishrin

#### DAY 30: Petra To Gaa' Mriebed

Date: Saturday, November 9

Distance: 22 km
Overnight: Wild Camp
Difficulty level:

# DAY 33: Wadi Gsieb To Wadi Alhaimer

Date: Tuesday, November 12

Distance: 16 km

Overnight: Wild Camp

Difficulty level:

#### **DAY 36: Jabal Kharaza To Shakriya**

Date: Friday,, November 15

Distance: 16 km
Overnight: Wild Camp
Difficulty level:

#### DAY31: Gaa' Mriebed TO Wadi Al-Saif

Date: Sunday, November 10 Distance: 15 km Overnight:

Wild Camp Difficulty level:

#### **DAY 34: Wadi Alhimer To Abbasiya**

Date: Wednesday, November 13

Distance: 24 km Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level:

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#### **DAY 32: Wadi Al-Saif To Wadi Gsieb**

Date: Monday, November 11

Distance: 13 km

Overnight: Wild Camp

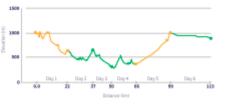
Difficulty level:

### DAY 35: Abbasiya To Jabal Kharaza

Date: Thursday, November 14

Distance: 23 km

Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level:



reak days are for thru-hikers only



# **REGION 8: WADI RUM TO AQABA**

Leaving Wadi Rum village behind you, the trail passes beneath the towering cliffs of Jabal Rum and Jabal Um Ishrin through the iconic landscape of Wadi Rum – vast, echoing and godlike wrote T.E. Lawrence. Continuing through the magnificent desert landscape, the trail passes the cliffs of Jabal Khazali, Jabal Qattar and weaves between the unique and colorful backdrops of Wadi Rum's sandstone desert mountains. The trail here follows old shepherd paths, winding its way west across desert wadis and over granite mountains striated with basalt dike intrusions. At the last pass, the first view of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba, beyond which lie the mountains of Sinai. The final destination is the warm waters of the Red Sea and the port of Aqaba.

**Days:** 5 hiking days and 5 nights

Length: 83 km

#### Main sites in the region:

- ➤ Wadi Rum (World Heritage site)
- > Wadi Rum Bedouin village
- ➤ Bedouin encampments
- ➤ Village of Titen

- ➤ 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
- ➤ Aqaba (Red Sea)

#### **DAY 37: SHAKRIYA TO RUM VILLAGE**

Date: Saturday, November 16

Distance: 17 km
Overnight: Camp
Difficulty level:

#### DAY 38: RUM VILLAGE TO AL-QIDR

Date: Sunday, November 17

Distance: 16 km Overnight: Wild Camp Difficulty level:

#### DAY 39: AL-QIDR TO TITEN

Date: Monday, November 18
Distance: 15 km
Overnight: Wild Camp
Difficulty level:

#### DAY 40: TITEN TO FINAL CAMP

Date: Tuesday, November 19

Distance: 16 km
Overnight: Wild Camp
Difficulty level:

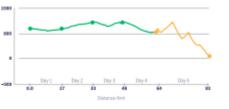
#### DAY 41: FINAL CAMP TO AQABA

Date: Wednesday, November 20

Distance: 19km
Difficulty level:

#### DAY 42 (Break Day)AQABA

Date: Thursday, November 21



#### Break days are for thru-hikers or

# TIPS SAFETY AND OUTFIT

Whether you're new to hiking or have been doing it for a while, it's always good to walk with a friend. That's not the only tip that can make your adventure safer and more enjoyable, though! Here are some tips you should keep in mind.



### ONE DAYHIKE

#### **Footwear**

- ➤ Good hiking shoes
- > Hiking socks -wool are best (smart wool or similar)

#### Clothing

- ➤ Hat
- ➤ Sunglasses
- ➤ Shirt for walking
- > Pants / shorts (lightweight and comfortable for walking)
- ➤ Warm fleece (If cold)
- ➤ Waterproof jacket (If there is rain)

#### **Essentials for day pack**

- ➤ Backpack for day gear (25 liters)
- ➤ Headlamp
- ➤ Sunscreen and lip balm
- ➤ Water bottles or hydration system (at least 3 liters)
- ➤ Pocket knife/spoon/fork
- ➤ Personal items / toiletries
- ➤ Blister care products

#### Other

- ➤ External battery pack
- ➤ Camera
- ➤ Hiking poles (optional)
- ➤ Backpack rain cover
- ➤ Snacks

#### Bringing the red items is a must to join the hike

# REGION/WEEKEND/THRU HIKE

#### Footwear

- > Good hiking shoes, should be broken in and not too heavy.
- ➤ Hiking socks: wool are best (smart wool or similar)
- > Sandals or light footwear for evenings

#### Clothing

- ➤ Hat
- ➤ Sunglasses
- > Shirts for walking
- > Pants / shorts (lightweight and comfortable for walking)
- ➤ Warm fleece for evenings
- ➤ Long underwear for evenings
- ➤ Waterproof jacket (in case it rains)
- ➤ Underwear
- ➤ Warm hat

#### **Essentials for day pack**

- ➤ Backpack for day gear (40-25L)
- ➤ Headlamp
- ➤ Sunscreen and lip balm
- ➤ Water bottles or hydration system (at least 3 liters/day)
- ➤ Towel- lightweight travel type
- ➤ Pocket knife/spoon/fork
- ➤ Personal items / toiletries
- ➤ Blister care products

#### Sleeping gear

- ➤ Sleeping bag
- ➤ Sleeping pad
- ➤ Camping pillow

#### Other

- ➤ Overnight bag / duffle bag (carries everything for overnight)
- > ID or passport
- > Cash (In case you need to buy anything from the shops)
- > Phone & charger
- ➤ Earplugs (Optional)
- ➤ External battery pack
- ➤ Camera
- ➤ Hiking poles (optional)
- ➤ Backpack rain cover
- ➤ Solar panel to charge electronics
- ➤ Snacks



# **PRICING**

The Jordan Trail Association is a not-for-profit organization. Your contribution will fund the development of the Jordan Trail.

Visit: https://www.jordantrail.org/thru-hike2024/ and book your spot today!

# **DAILY RATES**

Starts on: October 11 Ends on: October 26 **Regular: JOD 35** 

#### **UM-QAIS TO MAKHRABA**

Date: Friday, October 11 Distance: 14 km

Elevation: Lowest 630 / Highest 1050m

#### **MAKHRABATO ZIGLAB**

Date: Saturday, October 12

Distance: 12 km

Elevation: Lowest 200 m/ Highest 300 m

#### KINGTALAL DAM TO RMEIMEEN

Date: Friday, October 18

Distance: 16 km

Elevation: Lowest 310 m/ Highest 600 m

#### RMEIMEEN TO AS-SALT

Date: Saturday, October 19

Distance: 16 km

Elevation: Lowest 538 m/ Highest 1020 m

#### WADI ZARQA MA'IN TO WADI HIDAN

Date: Friday, October 25

Distance: 18 km

Elevation: Lowest 190 m/ Highest 780 m

#### WADI HIDAN TO WADI MUJIB

Date: Saturday, October 26

Distance: 15 km

Elevation: Lowest -20m/ Highest 760m



# **WEEKENDRATES**

# **REGION 1 WEEKEND**

**UM QAIS TO ZIGLAB** From Friday morning October 11 Till Saturday afternoon October 12 Regular: JOD 160

Single Supplement: Add JOD 30

#### **REGION 2 WEEKEND** KING TALAL DAM TO AS-SALT

From Friday morning October 18 Till Saturday afternoon October 19 Regular: JOD 160

Single Supplement: Add JOD 30

#### **REGION 4 WEEKEND** WADI ZARQA MA'IN TO WADI MUJIB

From Friday morning October 25 Till Saturday afternoon October 26

Regular: JOD 160

Single Supplement: Add JOD 30

The single supplement applies to tents or hotel rooms and not home-stays, home-stays are on sharing basis according to gender



2 **Ajloun** (5 Days, 74.3 km)

3 Iraq Al-Ameer (4 Days, 58.8 km)

4 Three Wadis (5 Days, 75 km)

**5 Karak** (6 Days, 84.5 km

6 Dana (5 Days, 72.6 km)

**7 Petra** (7 Days, 125.4 km)

8 Wadi Rum (5 Days, 75.9 km)

Red Sea

### **REGION RATES**

#### **REGION 1 - UM-QAIS TO AJLOUN**

5 days and 4 nights Starts on: October 11 Return on: October 15 Regular: JOD 525

Single Supplement: AddJOD 100

#### **REGION 2-AJLOUN TO SALT**

4 days and 3 nights Starts on: October 16 Return on: October 19 Regular: JOD 420

Single Supplement: Add JOD 100

# REGION 3 - AS-SALTTO WADI ZARQA MA'IN

4 days and 3 nights Starts on: October 21 Return on: October 24 Regular: JOD 450

Single Supplement: Add JOD 100

#### **REGION 4-THREE WADJESTO KARAK**

4 days and 3 nights Starts on: October 25 Return on: October 28 Regular: JOD 490 Single Supplement: Add JOD 100

#### REGION 5 - KARAKTO DANA

(1st night in Karak: October 29)

5 days and 5 nights Starts on: October 30 Return on: November 3 Regular: JOD 600

Single Supplement: Add JOD 100

#### REGION 6 - DANA TO PETRA (1st night in Dana: November 3)

4 days and 4 nights Starts on: November 4 Return on: November 7 Regular: JOD 650

Single Supplement: AddJOD 100

# REGION 7 - PETRA TO WADI RUM (1st night in Petra: November 8)

7 days and 7 nights Starts on: November 9 Return on: November 15 Regular: JOD 850

Single Supplement: Add JOD 100

# REGION 8 - WADI RUM TO AQABA (1st night in Shakriya: November 15)

5 days and 5 nights Starts on: November 16 Return on: November 20

Regular: JOD 680

Single Supplement: Add JOD 100

The single supplement applies to tents or hotel rooms and not home-stays, home-stays are on sharing basis according to gender



# THRU HIKE RATES

Regular: JOD 3800

# REGION / WEEKEND / THRU HIKE RATES INCLUDE:

- ➤ Licensed English/Arabic speaking guide
- ➤ Trail escorts (guide assistants)
- > Transportation from Amman to hiking location and back
- > JTA team support
- ➤ Water refill
- ➤ Meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner
- ➤ Accommodation in Homestays when available
- > Support car to carry excess luggage and sleeping gear
- ➤ Local guide from the local community for each section

# DAILY HIKE RATES INCLUDE:

- ➤ Local guide
- > Transportation from Amman to hiking location and back
- > JTA team support
- ➤ Water refill
- ➤ Meals: Lunch Bag

# THE THRU-HIKE IS ORGANIZED BY THE JORDAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION

The Jordan Trail Association (JTA) was established in July 2015 and registered as a Jordanian non-governmental organization (NGO) with the aim to develop and maintain the Jordan Trail, and to support and build the capacity of local communities that the trail passes through. This trail is 675 km starting from Um Qais in the top north to Aqaba in the very south of Jordan.

The trail is a national product that promotes Jordan nature and culture at its best and attracts local and International tourists

### **Sponsors**









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# Get Involved

The Jordan Trail is still a work in progress! The trail route presented in this booklet and on the website represents only one of many possible ways to walk the length of the country and to experience the Jordanian countryside. Feel free to discover your own route variations and to suggest new possibilities!

If you have resources that could be useful to potential Jordan Trail hikers, share them with us through <a href="mailto:info@iordantrail.org">info@iordantrail.org</a>. Help us develop our website by sending us any relevant information or materials you may have gathered whether from hiking the trail or from other experiences in the region. Be a part of this growing project!

www.jordantrail.org







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