# SPICEROADS

CYCLING





# **BIKE TRAILS OF JORDAN**

Tour Code
JOR-JBT



Destinations

Tour Meets
Tour Ends

Fly in to Fly out of

**PRICING** 

Group Size
Minimum Age

Jordan

Amman Amman

Queen Alila International Airport (QAIA) Queen Alila International Airport (QAIA)

2-16 riders

18 (on scheduled departures)

Price Bike Hire (Mountain Bike) Single Supplement

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- SpiceRoads jersey
- ✓ Water bottle
- ✓ Support vehicle
- ✓ Guide(s)
- ✓ Meals (as indicated)
- ✓ Airport drop off
- ✓ Accommodation
- Snacks and drinks

US\$ 2,450 US\$ 185

US\$ 400

### WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- × International flights
- × Domestic flights
- × Airport pick up
- × Visa fees
- × Alcohol
- × Tips
- ✗ Jordan pass (Mandatory purchase at US\$99)

# **ACTIVITY PROFILE**



5 Cycling days

 $39_{\text{km}}$  Avg distance / day

 $193_{\text{km}}$  Total cycling distance

483<sub>m</sub> Avg climbing / day

# **DEPARTURES**



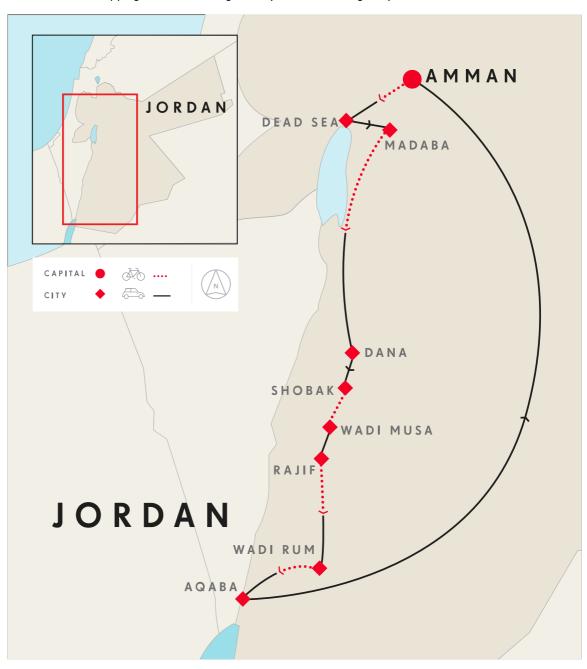
22 February - 01 March 2026
29 March - 05 April 2026
20 September - 27 September 2026
15 November - 22 November 2026

# TRIP PROFILE

We ride 192 km, about 80% off road, in 5 cycling days. The trails are single track to gentler dirt roads. We will be riding through valleys, alongside and into streams, and there will be some climbing. Please note that the daily ascents and descents listed in the itinerary. There are a few sections with limited vehicle support on this tour due to the remoteness of the trails. In case of an emergency, we will be able to call for assistance. Please bring a camelbak or similar hydration system for water and to carry snacks. Your guide's expert knowledge of the area and terrain means that you always know what is coming up in terms of distance and difficulty.

Suitability: You should be confident of your physical condition and bike handling skills. Some climbs are challenging, and so you should have a good level of fitness to cope with more than 1,000 m of climbing on Day 4. As mountain biking surfaces require competent bike handling skills, it is advisable to have off-road, and preferably some single-track experience, although difficult obstacles can always be avoided. Suitable for cyclists with a keen attitude and adventurous nature!

**Biking Conditions:** This tour follows a mixture of dirt trails, rocky surface, gravel paths, off-road biking as well as tarmac. The daily distances aren't long, between 20-54 km in a day, but we will be stopping to see sites along the way and be challenged by the ascents and descents.



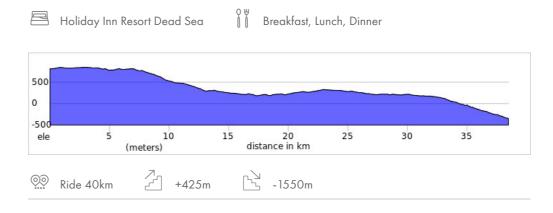
Day 1 Arrive in Amman

Welcome to the Kingdom of Jordan! We meet at the hotel for a welcome dinner and go over the details of our upcoming adventure.

Art Hotel

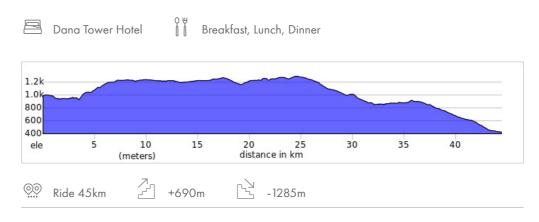
# Day 2 Amman - Dead Sea

Early in the morning, after breakfast, enjoy a short tour of the city before heading to the ancient Citadel and Roman Amphitheatre, two of the most popular and impressive archaeological sites in the city. We then head north by car to Anjara to visit Mount Nebo, where we can see Moses' view across the Promised Land before he died. We start the first day of biking from the village of Fayha where head south across the plains of the Madaba plateau. We will ride a mixture of roads, dirt tracks, rocky paths, and gravel roads. We end the day with the unique experience of floating in the salty waters of the Dead Sea, then it's onto the hotel to relax by the pool.



# Day 3 Dead Sea - Dana

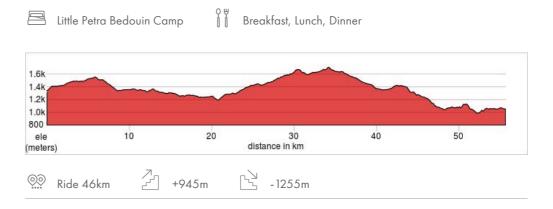
We start today with a visit to a medieval castle, but we need to transfer to the city of Karak first. The castle dominates the skyline, an ancient Crusader Castle, where we will explore the maze of stone-vaulted halls and passageways. The castle provides an impressive insight into the architectural and military skills of the Crusaders. We get into cycling right after the city of Karak. This section passes through rural countryside and then races downhill along the King's Highway passing the Tanour Dam just outside of Karak Governorate limits, ending at the bottom of Wadi Hasa. We overnight on the edge of the Dana Biosphere, Jordan's largest nature reserve and home to a great variety of wildlife. Our hotel is in Dana Village, occupied since about 4,000 BC. Today, Dana is inhabited mostly by clans of the Al Ata'ata, who settled in the area during the Ottoman period, about four hundred years ago, and built the present village. The crumbling village was nearly abandoned, but now 70 traditional stone houses have been restored, enabling some families to remain in the village. It will then take about an hour to transfer to Dana Nature Reserve for our overnight stop.



# Day 4 Dana - Little Petra

This morning, we drive a short distance to visit Shobak Castle. The first of the Crusader Castles were built in Jordan, it was constructed by Baldwin I in 1115 and surrendered in 1189 to the Great Salahdin. We will have more climbing today than any other day, and we start with an incline on a paved road, curling around the castle, until we reach the top of the hill. Here, we hit a dirt trail and begin a stunning section, traversing the side of the mountain, overlooking the mountains of Ras Al-Feid, Mount Safaha, and Gbour Wahdat. The jeep width dirt track crosses dry streams

and then climbs to a higher elevation giving us our first glimpse of Petra, Wadi Musa, and the small town of Um Sayhoun, with Aaron's Shrine barely visible in the distance on top of Jebel Haroun. Finish with a slightly technical descent to the entrance of Petra. Then we take a tarmac road to the entrance of Little Petra. We walk through and clamber up to a dining room with 2,000-year-old frescoes recently discovered in 2010. It is a short cycle from here to our Bedouin camp for the night. We are in tents with cots and shared facilities.



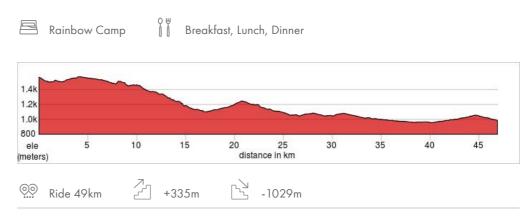
# Day 5 Petra Discovery

A highlight of any trip to Jordan is to see first-hand the archaeological wonders of Petra. Famous for its rock-cut architecture and water conduit system, the Rose City is not to be missed. After breakfast at camp, we drive to the modern visitors' centre and start our walk to the narrow and famous entrance to the Treasury. Then, you enter the Siq, exploring the ancient rock carved ruins of Facades Street, the theatre, and the court. After lunch, you explore on your own to discover some of the less visited monuments, such as the monastery, the Khubtha Mountain, and the High Place of sacrifice.



# Day 6 Rajif - Wadi Rum

A long, gradual downhill takes us through quintessential Middle-Eastern desert landscape on caravan tracks. We transfer uphill to the small town of Rajif where we get on our bikes for the desert descent. After a short section on the King's Highway, the fun begins with a downhill dirt track through pure countryside. On reaching the desert highway, we transfer to Wadi Rum, also known as the Valley of the Moon. Cut into sandstone and granite rock, it is Jordan's largest Wadi. Scenes of Wadi Rum in "Lawrence of Arabia" kick-started Jordan's tourism industry, but you may also recognize it from "Red Planet" and "The Martian". We go for a sunset jeep tour to experience a beautiful night under the stars in the desert.



# Day 7 Wadi Rum - Aqaba

A morning cycle on the desert salt flats around Wadi Rum will give you yet another perspective on this stark and harsh landscape. Mid-morning, we transfer to Aqaba, Jordan's window to the sea, to enjoy and relax on a well-deserved boat ride on the Red Sea. We have a leisurely lunch onboard and ample opportunity to see the vibrant coral while snorkelling. Meet up for our farewell dinner at the hotel and the last night of the tour.

# **Day 8 Departure**

After breakfast at the hotel, there will be one group drop off at Queen Alia International Airport at approximately 11:30 am. Please schedule your return flight accordingly. If you wish to extend your stay in Jordan, Aqaba is the perfect place to dive or snorkel the Red Sea, and the city also borders Israel and is a popular place to cross.

o₩ || || Breakfast

Disclaimer: The adventure cycling tours we operate often go beyond the beaten track, and the countries where we ride are not always predictable. Due to these reasons, it is occasionally necessary to reroute or update itineraries. Our guarantee is that we will not change a trip unless for safety or to improve it. Our listed hotels are always accurate at the time of writing, but should we have to change any hotel, it will always be for a similar or better one.

### **NUTS & BOLTS**

### **Bikes**

Because some people can't imagine going on a trip without their own beloved bicycle, we do not provide them as part of this tour. However, you can hire bikes locally for the price listed in the tour pricing section.

If you bring your own bike, please make sure it is a mountain bike, preferably with front suspension, in good mechanical order.

## **Bike Repairs**

Basic spares and tools are carried by the guide and on the support vehicle, though we cannot guarantee having spares for every conceivable problem. Carrying a basic tool kit, a spare tube and a pump while riding is recommended.

#### Safety

Wearing a helmet is required on all our biking adventures and is non negotiable. If you do not wear a helmet you will not be allowed to cycle. Your tour leader is trained in first aid and emergency rescue, but to a large degree you must be responsible for your own safety while riding. It is therefore compulsory that you take out travel insurance that will cover you for a mountain biking tour.

### Guides

You will be led by a local English-speaking guide and if the group is 9 people or more we will add another guide to the tour. All our guides are well informed in the history, culture and religions of the area where you are biking and are skilled at passing that knowledge on to you. Your guide is also medically trained and an experienced cyclist, able to handle most minor repairs en route.

#### THE NITTY GRITTY

#### Passports and Visas

A passport with a validity of at least six months and a visa are required for entry into Jordan. **We require all clients to purchase the <u>Jordan Wanderer Pass</u> online prior to arrival. This pass includes your visa-on-arrival fee and entrance to 40 attractions, including Petra. The Jordan Wanderer Pass can be purchased <u>here</u> for around USD 100. Make sure to get your pass well in advance and please print it out to show at immigration (you'll also need to show it at the attractions).** 

**Note**: On our "Dead Sea Circuit" tour, we cross the border into Israel. There is a departure tax of 10 Jordanian Dinar (around 15 USD). This cost is not included in the tour price and you are responsible to have the cash with you and make payment to the border officials. Prices are subject to change with no prior notice.

#### Health

No vaccinations are needed.

#### Weather

The optimal months to visit Jordan is March – May, and Sept- Nov when the temperature is comfortably warm, not scorching. The heat will hit in summer from June – September, when temperatures can rise up to 40 C, and lots of water and sun cream is a must! However, it's dry heat rather than humid. December – February is winter time; snow and rain can be found throughout the country along with short days and freezing nights. It is also regarded as a quiet time for visiting.

#### Food

Meals are included as per the itinerary where B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner. Middle Eastern cuisine is a highlight of this tour in both Israel and Jordan. Popular everyday snacks include hummus, falafel, baba ghanioush, tabbouleh, olives and pita bread. Israel continues to adapt, elements of various styles, but also incorporating local agricultural products such as avocado. As Jordan is one of the largest producers of olives in the world, olive oil is the main cooking oil. Jordanian cuisine ranges from baking, sauteeing and grilling of meats to stuffing of vegetables – leaves and eggplants. Also common is roasting or preparing foods with special sauces. In Southern Jordan a specialty and delicacy of the area that you will get to enjoy is the Zarbs, which is prepared in a submerged oven called a taboon.

#### Drink

Keeping you completely hydrated is a job we take very seriously, especially in a desert environment. Cold water, some energy-restoring soft drinks are included in the tour price while riding. Soft drinks and other beverages during meals are not included. But you may also want to bring electrolyte in powder or tablet form. Alcoholic drinks are available in Israel everywhere but only in hotels in Jordan. Alcohol is NOT included in the tour price.

### Solo Travelers

SpiceRoads does not require you to pay a surcharge for traveling alone. We will arrange for you to share accommodation with another traveler of the same gender and if we can not match you up we will provide a single room at no extra charge. If you prefer not to share a single supplement is payable to guarantee your own room. The cost of the single supplement is listed above.

### **Extra Expenses**

We recommend that you tuck away a few extra liras for possible incidentals that might arise. It is always wise to have some paper currency in case of ATM absence or credit card problems. This will save you a lot of unnecessary worries. It is also customary to tip local tour guides and drivers; however, the amount you give should be dependent on the level of service you receive.

#### Money

The Jordanian Dinar (JOD) is the currency of Jordan. ATMs are available in Amman and Aqaba. The use of credit cards; American Express, Visa, Master Card, Diners club are accepted at some hotels, however, it is recommended to have some cash at hand.

### Be Aware

Overall, the level of petty crime is much less than in most Western countries. However, take the usual precautions about avoiding rowdy political demonstrations, not flashing money around and

being aware of pickpockets in crowded places.

### **GENERAL BOOKING INFO**

If this is the tour for you here's what you need to do to confirm your place:

#### FLEXIBLE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Booking a SpiceRoads cycling adventure is easy and we try to do everything possible to make sure you have full flexibility and peace of mind. We do not require a deposit to hold your place on a tour and once full payment has been made your money is protected in our client account and you have the flexibility to cancel or change your booking if needed.

#### CONFIRMING YOUR BOOKING

Just complete our online booking form or send your booking details offline (email or post), and we will confirm your participation. No deposit is needed to confirm your place on a SpiceRoads tour.

You are advised to read our <u>Booking Conditions</u> in full before you make your payment and should you require further clarifications of any of the conditions below, please <u>email us</u> or call our office.

#### TRIP STATUS

There is a minimum number of participants (usually 2) required to enable the trip to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to Depart'. Once a trip is guaranteed to depart you are free to book your flights and make other travel arrangements. If the trip status is 'Limited' will mean we have only a small number of spaces available for booking. If you are unsure about the trip status, please <a href="mailto:em

#### **BOOKING ONLINE**

From the tour page, click the 'Book Now' link. All departures for this tour will appear, just select the date you'd like to travel. For the next steps, you'll need to know the names of the people travelling. If you wish you can also provide extra details such as passport numbers, height (for bike hire), or you can add that later by logging into <a href="Manage My Trip">Manage My Trip</a> (we'll set up an account for you automatically if you don't already have one). Our system will contact you from time to time to fill in the missing information, as it will be required before departure. However, if the trip that you are booking offers a child discount, you will have to fill out the date of birth of each rider (so we can calculate the appropriate discount).

If you are having any problems <u>please send us an email</u>, or give us a call (+66 026 3295) and one of our travel specialists will assist you with your booking.

## **BOOKING OFFLINE**

Just call us or send an email indicating which trip you want to join and we will happily send you a list of questions and process your booking for you.

# **DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS**

We do not require a deposit or full payment to book a place for you on a tour.

The balance of the tour's cost (final invoice) will need to be paid 60 days before the departure date with fees for any bicycle rental(s), single supplement(s) and extra hotel nights.

In the case where a booking is made when there are less than 60 days until the tour departure date, the tour's cost should be paid in full within 72 hours of receiving an invoice from SpiceRoads. Payment can be made by credit card using our online payment gateway or by bank transfer. When making payment online you will need to confirm that you have read these booking conditions during the "checkout" process, which equates to agreeing to the terms of services and stipulations as indicated in this document.

In all cases, tour fees need to be paid "in full" before participation in a tour. No person(s) will be allowed to join a tour without fully settling their invoice and receiving a confirmation number from SpiceRoads.

The exception can be made for last-minute miscellaneous fees that can be paid locally (visas, additional local hotel bookings, etc.) can be settled on the day of arrival.

#### **FULL FLEXIBILITY FOR TOUR CANCELATIONS**

If the tour is cancelled or postponed by SpiceRoads because we didn't make the trip numbers and the tour can't run, we will make a full cash refund (by bank transfer or on your credit card).

If the tour is cancelled for any other reason, including due to Covid related travel restrictions, we will give you a full credit (with no deductions for admin or any other small-print item) to use on any SpiceRoads tour with no time limit. (Exceptions being flights, special permits and other non-refundable items and these will be advised when booking the trip).

Before paying for your tour, you can cancel your booking with no charge and up until 40 days before departure, you can change your booking to another travel date or move your booking onto another SpiceRoads tour with no charges.

If you need to cancel after you have made full payment, please see our cancellation policy.

# Loyalty Riders Club

For those who have been on several long tours with us, we reward customer loyalty by offering repeat customers a special discount off the tour price (excludes single supplement and bike rental). If this is your fourth scheduled tour or more you will receive a 5% discount. If this is your eighth scheduled tour or more we will extend a 10% discount. The discount will be reflected in your online booking, but please contact us if any questions. Loyalty discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Note: Only tours of 7 days or more will be applicable for a loyalty discount.

### International Flights

International flights, to and from the start and finish points are not included in the tour price. Once your tour is Guaranteed to Depart you can book your flight. Please contact us for advice before arranging flights for the best arrival and departure times. We would only cancel a trip for an extreme circumstance, but in that case, where we cancel your trip, we cannot be liable for losses incurred relating to any flight booking you have made. Please claim any losses from your <a href="travel insurance">travel insurance</a> that you acquired when you booked your holiday.

#### Newsletter

Our adventure travel <u>e-newsletter</u> is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from SpiceRoads, be sure to subscribe.

# **CONTACT US**

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