



# Jordan 2023





At the end of January and early February I joined a tour to Jordan. OK it was winter so temperatures were not much better than they were at home but it seems we just missed one period of bad weather and left before a second one so the sun shone all the time. Not only did we get Petra but we also enjoyed the Roman ruins at Jerash and found out that when people say the desert is cold at night they are not wrong!

There's a relevant blog post at [bit.ly/3ZZhHCs](https://bit.ly/3ZZhHCs) and a photo album at [adobe.ly/3I0zcf6](https://adobe.ly/3I0zcf6)



The view from Mount Nebo. It's reputed to be the point from which Moses saw the Promised Land. There are impressive mosaics (right) at the memorial viewpoint and even more at neighbouring Madaba (where we had an excellent lunch at the Haret Idouna)





Views of Amman from the Capitol in the centre. Amman seems to be a most pleasant city. Earlier in my trip I spent a couple of hours at the Arab Medical Hospital where I experienced the health care which we expect of our NHS but sadly is not always delivered







The road to Jerash (left and clockwise from top left): the castle at Qasr el-Karaneh, Health & Safety in action, a memorial to TE Lawrence at Qasr-Azraq and a choice of roads you'd rather not have. And above Jordanian children enjoying the Roman ruins at Jerash.



The Roman ruins at Jerash. Very impressive and worth a trip to Jordan in their own right. Above shows the Artemis temple in the foreground with the Zeus temple on the right and Hadrian's Arch in the distance. On the right is the Forum.





Petra. One of those sites which easily meets and exceeds expectations. We were fortunate to be visiting off season when it was cool and not crowded. However there are always people at the Treasury (right)





The Monastery. It comes after a 900 step climb and as you look back you get a sense of the vastness of Petra





Not quite the desert but nonetheless it's pretty barren scenery. It is cold in the desert and even the locals see a need to keep themselves warm (right)





Little Petra is interesting in its own right but coming after the main one it's a bit of an anti-climax.



The Hejaz Railway was built to carry pilgrims from Damascus to Mecca. It was partly destroyed in the Arab revolt of 1917 and now just carries freight and appears in films and TV programs



Wadi Rum. A stereotypical desert and the location for many film sets. It was cold!



You are at the lowest  
point on earth  
420 meters  
below sea level.





