



General Information Note 2

RPME/CONF/JOR/2016_2
Madrid, October 2016

Regional Conference INVESTING IN TOURISM FOR AN INCLUSIVE FUTURE: Challenges and Opportunities 26-27 October 2016 - Petra, Jordan

I. PLACE AND DATE

1. The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Ministry of Tourism of and Antiquities (MOTA) of Jordan are jointly organizing a **Regional Conference on Investing in Tourism for an Inclusive Future: Challenges and Opportunities in Petra, on 26 and 27 October 2016**.
2. The Conference will be held at:

Beit Zaman Hotel PETRA
Address: PO Box 122, Petra - Wadi Musa, Jordan
T: +962 77 2238758

II. REPLIES TO INVITATIONS

3. Participants of the Conference are kindly requested to confirm their participation by registering online at <http://middle-east.unwto.org/investing-tourism-challenges-opportunities>, as soon as possible, and no later than **10 October 2016**.

III. STATUS OF PARTICIPANTS

4. The Government of Jordan will take the necessary measures to facilitate the arrival and departure of participants invited by the Organization, as well as through their stay in Jordan. Throughout their stay, participants will enjoy the privileges and immunities provided for in the Agreement concluded between the Organization and the Ministry of Tourism of and Antiquities of Jordan.

IV. RECEPTION AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

5. The Jordanian Authorities will organize the reception of participants at **Queen Alia International airport** (Amman) and will facilitate the free transfer of delegates to and from Petra, on arrival and on departure between the airport, the selected hotels and the venue of the Conference. All participants are therefore requested to forward to the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of Jordan, as well as to the UNWTO Secretariat, the details of their arrival and departure.
6. Upon arrival in the Queen Alia International Airport participants will be picked up by representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities holding signs of the conference and will guide them to their corresponding transfer bus. The transfer service coordinator is Mr. Mohammed Shorafa (Mobile: +962 7760 0556)

V. ENTRY FORMALITIES

7. A valid passport is necessary for visitors coming to Jordan. Participants who require an entry visa are requested to contact diplomatic or consular missions of Jordan in their countries in order to obtain their entry visa.

8. Non-restricted nationalities from the following countries do not require prior visa clearance and can obtain their visas upon arrival at the airport:

Europe: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom & North Ireland, Vatican City, Serbia

Africa: Algeria, Cape Verde, Egypt, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Montenegro, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles, South Africa, Rwanda, Tunisia, Zimbabwe

Asia: Bahrain, Bhutan, Brunei, Burma, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, North Korea, Oman, Palestine/PNA Passport Holders, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan

Ocean Asia: Australia, Federal States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Nauru

Pacific Ocean: Tuvalu, Vanuatu

North America: Canada, Mexico, United States of America, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Costa Rica, Dominica, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, El Salvador, Trinidad and Tobago

Caribbean Sea: Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent

South America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Surinam, Uruguay, Venezuela

9. For more information regarding entry visas please visit the following link:
<http://international.visitjordan.com/generalinformation/entryintojordan.aspx#top>

10. Participants in whose countries Jordan has no diplomatic mission are requested to contact the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of Jordan, Mrs. Ansam Ousama Malkawi (ansam.m@mota.gov.jo), sufficiently in advance, **by 26 September 2016 at the latest**, submitting a scanned copy of their passport valid for at least 6 months, and indicating all the necessary information below, in order to enable the authorities of Jordan to take the necessary measures in this respect:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| - Name and surname | - Place and date of birth |
| - Nationality | - Validity of passport (no less than 6 months) |
| - Number and type of passport | - Travel information (date, time and flight number) |

VI. DISCOUNTS ON AIR FARES TO AMMAN

11. Royal Jordanian offers a **15% discount** for participants of the Conference on all Royal Jordanian published fares, as per the following details:

- Discount applicable through Royal Jordanian's [website](#) and through Royal Jordanian's app for mobiles
- Booking period: until 24 October 2016
- Travel period: valid from 18 October until 2 November 2016
- Valid on all RJ routes worldwide to Amman
- Valid on Economy and Business class
- Change and cancellations rules apply per terms and conditions of fare
- **Code to be inserted for discount: UNWTO**



VII. ACCOMMODATION

12. The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has negotiated special rates with some hotels in Petra for participants of this Conference. Participants are invited to contact hotels directly for reservations, indicating that they will participate in the Regional Conference on *Investing in Tourism for an Inclusive Future: Challenges and Opportunities*.

13. A list of hotels with special rates for participants of this Conference is provided below:

Classification	Hotel name	in JD on BB basis (tax inclusive)		Contact person
		Single	Double	
5 stars	Petra Marriott	91	99	Nisreen Hassan +962 3 2156407 mhrs.ammjr.ebc.mgr@marriotthotels.com
	Mövenpick Resort Petra	140	150	Rania Bawalsa, +962 3 2157111 Rania.Bawalsa@movenpick.com
4 stars	Petra Guest House	70	78	Issam Alaya +962 3 2156266 issam.alaya@ihg.com
	Petra Panorama	65	85	Fadi Hawarneh +962 3 2157398 fadihawarneh@petrapanorama.com
3 stars	Amra Palace International	40	50	Raya +962 3 2157070 info@amrapalace.com
	Petra Palace	33.5	43	Hardan Hawarneh +962 3 2156723 reservation@petrapalace.com
	Silk Road	20	25	Adnan +962 3 2157222 info@petrasilkroad.com
	Lamaison	35	45	Mahmoud Farajat +962 3 2156401 mfarajat@lamaisonhotel.com.jo
	P Quattro Relax Hotel	30	40	Zeyad Amarat 00962 3 2156577 info@p4hotel.com
	Sella Hotel	35	50	Tariq Masadeh +962 3 2157170 info@sellahotel.com
	Candles Hotel	23	32	Abdallah Helalat 00962 3 2156954 candles@net.com
	Seven Wonders Hotel	38	43	+962 3 21 55 156 reservations@sevenwondershotel.com
	Tetra Tree Hotel	35	45	Ibraheem Nawafleh +962 3 2155550 info@tetratreehotel.com
	Alanbat Hotel 1	25	30	Hesham Nawafleh +962 3 2156265 info@alanbat.com
	Nabatean 1	25	30	Hesham Nawafleh +962 3 2156265 info@alanbat.com

3 stars	Al-Shomo'e	23	30	Ahlam khlifat +962 3 2156954 candles@nets.com.jo
	Edom	35	42	Sami Nawafleh +962 3 20156995 info@edomhotelpetra.com

VIII. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES

14. A registration desk will be open at the **Beit Zaman Hotel** in Petra on **Wednesday, 26 October 2016 from 8 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.** Badges will be issued at the time of registration. Participants are requested to wear their identification badges in the area reserved for the Conference, as well as at all social events.

IX. WORKING LANGUAGES

15. The working languages of the Conference will be Arabic and English. A simultaneous interpretation service will be provided.

X. SOCIAL PROGRAMME

16. The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of Jordan has arranged an optional social programme (attached as Annex I) for participants of the Conference:

XI. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

17. **Local currency and exchange rates:** The local currency is the Jordanian Dinar (JOD). The applicable exchange rate, as of August 2016, is *1 U.S. dollar = 0.71 JOD / 1 Euro = 0.79 JOD*

18. **Weather:** Jordan boasts almost year-round sunshine with temperate, comfortable weather. Spring and autumn are fresh and crisp with rain being more common in the spring. This is when the wildflowers bloom and the fields are full. The long summer days are sunny with cool evenings – perfect for rooftop sunsets and outdoor activities. Wintertime can be cold in the desert, but is pleasantly moderate in most of the country. Any time of the year is a perfect time to visit Jordan.

The average maximum temperature in Petra in October is 24 °C and the average low is 9 °C.

19. **Attire:** Jordan is a primarily Muslim country, although the freedom of all religions is protected. Muslim women's clothing often covers their arms, legs and hair. Western women are not subject to these customs, but very revealing clothing is never appropriate and conservative dress is advisable for both men and women in the old part of Amman (downtown), and outside the cities. Shorts are rarely worn by either sex, and would be out of place in the downtown Amman area. Topless sunbathing is prohibited and one-piece swimsuits are preferred, although two-piece swimsuits are acceptable at hotel pools.

When visiting Petra, make sure to bring comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen and a hat to protect you from the sun, and always carry plenty of drinking water. A light jacket is also recommended for the evening.

20. **Official language:** the official language of Jordan is Arabic, but English is widely spoken, especially in the cities. Many Jordanians have travelled, or have been educated abroad, so French, German, Italian and Spanish are also spoken, but to a lesser extent.

21. **Official time:** official time in Jordan is GMT + 2 hours from October.

22. **Business hours:** Friday is the weekly holiday. Banks, government offices and most businesses are closed on Saturdays as well. Many businesses, including airline offices, travel agencies and some shops also close on Thursday afternoon, although department stores and supermarkets remain open.
- Banks (08.30-15.00)
 - Business Offices (08.30-13.00 / 15.30-18.30)
 - Government Offices (08.00-15.00)
 - Shops (Flexible but typically 09.30-13.30 & 15.30-18.00)
23. **Electricity:** 220 AC volts, 50 cycles, requiring rounded two-prong wall plugs.
24. For more information: <http://www.visitjordan.com/>

Annex I – Social Programme (optional)

In accordance to the Conference, the organizers offer a variety of optional tours for international delegates and their spouses/children. Delegates will be responsible for their tour expenses. The following is a summary of the tours offered before, during and after the conference.

For any inquiries, please contact Mr. Abdullah Alico at abdallah.alico@petratours.com

25 October 2016

Dinner in Petra Kitchen

Starting time: Gathering at the hotel at 6.30 p.m.

The Restaurant is located in the city of Petra, where guests can learn local recipes and actually cook their meal.

Rate per Person is 50.0USD [Including meal and transportation]

More information available at <http://petrakitchen.com>

26 October 2016

Dana Natural Reserve

Starting time: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. from the Dana Guesthouse [2KM]

Description

The Dana Nature Reserve is one of Jordan's hidden gems. The focal point of the reserve is the charming 15th-century stone village of Dana, which dangles beneath the King's Highway on a precipice, commanding exceptional views of the valley below. The reserve is the largest in Jordan and includes a variety of terrain, from sandstone cliffs over 1500m high near Dana to a low point of 50m below sea level in Wadi Araba. Sheltered within the red rock escarpments are protected valleys that are home to a surprisingly diverse ecosystem. About 600 species of plants (ranging from citrus trees and juniper, to desert acacias and date palms) thrive in the reserve, together with 180 species of birds. Over 45 species of mammals (25 of which are endangered) also inhabit the reserve, including ibex, mountain gazelle, sand cat, red fox and wolf. In addition to the natural wonders of Dana, there are almost 100 archaeological sites in the reserve, most still being excavated by British teams. Starting from the Dana Guesthouse, this trail winds above the Dana Village and through the terraced gardens and local craft workshops. Visitors can meet the local residents, see original Ottoman architecture, and learn more about Dana's rich history.

Rate per Person is 150.0USD [minimum 2 persons]

Including Dana Village tour of 2hrs with local ranger fees included, lunch at Dana, transportation.

Shoubak Castle

Starting time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Description

This crusader castle was known as "Mont Real." It is located about an hour north of Petra. The castle's exterior is impressive, with a large gate and encircling triple wall. Despite the precautions of its builder, the fortress fell to Saladin only 75 years after it was built, where Arabic inscriptions were added to the castle walls.

Rate per Person is 145.0USD [minimum 2 persons]

Including Lunch at Jana Restaurant, Local guide, entrance & transportation.

27 October 2016**Wadi Rum****Starting time:** 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**Description**

Over 1 hr. drive south of Petra will bring you to magical Wadi Rum, a vast, silent landscape of ancient riverbeds and pastel-colored stretches of sandy desert. By jeep, for around three hours, you'll explore the ancient valleys where the elements of nature have modeled and carved out extraordinary vistas and have left strips of scorched earth and stretches of sand which change into shades of yellow, red and orange. Among the famous sites to see are: Lawrence of Arabia's springs, Jabal Khaz'ali, the Mountain of the Seven Pillars of Wisdom and the moving sands.

Rate per Person is 180.0USD [minimum 2 persons]

Including 3hrs Jeep tour ride, local guide at Wadi Rum, Lunch at Jabal Rum, transportation.

Petra Site "Rose City"**Starting time:** 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Petra is a famous archaeological site in Jordan's southwestern desert. Dating to around 300 B.C., it was the capital of the Nabatean Kingdom. Accessed via a narrow canyon called Al Siq, it contains tombs and temples carved into pink sandstone cliffs, earning its nickname, the "Rose City." Perhaps its most famous structure is Al Khazneh, a temple with an ornate, Greek-style facade.

Rate per Person is 155.00 USD [minimum 2 persons]

Including Lunch at Basin Restaurant, entrance only.

28 October 2016**Dead Sea****Starting time:** 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**Description**

Time to relax, have a mud wrap and experience the unforgettable & unique sensation of floating effortlessly in the Dead Sea salty waters, at the lowest point on Earth; booking the night is doable at the Dead Sea if you wish not to go back to Petra.

Rate per Person is 120.0USD [minimum 2 persons]

Including Lunch at Dead Sea Spa hotel 4*, entrance & transportation.