

# **The Holy Land and Timeless Cultures**

## **Jordan**

**March 2-8, 2014**

# Jordan



|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Population              | 7.9 mil.                |
| Literacy                | 95.9%                   |
| Life Expectancy         | 74.1 y                  |
| Religions               |                         |
| Sunni Muslim            | 92%                     |
| Christian               | 6%                      |
| majority Greek Orthodox |                         |
| Unemployment            | 29.3%                   |
| Government              | Constitutional monarchy |

## Chronological Table

| <b>Persian Period</b>     | 568-332 BCE   | Persians  |
|---------------------------|---------------|---|
| <b>Hellenistic Period</b> | 332-37 BCE    | Greeks  |
| <b>Roman Period</b>       | 37 BCE-324 CE | Romans  |
| <b>Byzantine period</b>   | 324-638 CE    | Eastern Greek speaking<br>Roman Empire              |
| <b>Arab Period</b>        | 638-1009 CE   | Muslims   |
| <b>Crusader Period</b>    | 1099-1291 CE  | Christians  |
| <b>Mameluke Period</b>    | 1291-1561 CE  |   |
| <b>Ottoman Period</b>     | 1561-1917 CE  | Muslims (Orthodox Christians<br>and Jews tolerated) |

# Amman

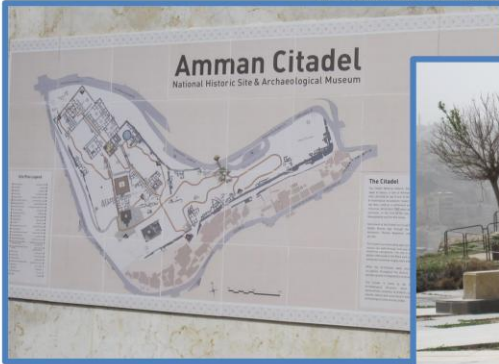


Ruins of a Roman temple dedicated to Hercules

# Amman

(Philadelphia of the Decapolis, renamed after Arab Muslims took over in 636 BC )

|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Population   | 1 mil. |
| Literacy     | 95.9%  |
| Unemployment | 29.3%  |



**The Citadel** includes a blend of ancient Greek, Roman, Byzantine, and Islamic ruins. Archeological evidence indicates it has been inhabited since the Neolithic period, making it among the world's oldest continuously inhabited places (over 7,000 years). The **Jordan Archaeological Museum** at Citadel was built in 1951. It previously held the only copper Dead Sea Scrolls but lost them following the 1967 Israeli occupation.

# The Citadel, Amman

The Jordanian capital, is mentioned in the Bible by the name of Rabath Ammon, in the story of King Og, an Ammonite King who was a giant of a man. Deuteronomy 3:11



Hill up to **Archeological Museum** containing treasure trove of ancient coins, glassware, and statuary. At the top of the hill are the ruins of a **Roman temple** dedicated to Hercules.

Amman once captured by King David and the Egyptian King Ptolemy, and occupied by the Byzantine Empire and the Christian Crusaders.



Alan, Bettye, Ellie

## **Amman, Roman Theater, built 170 AD**

City built of locally-quarried stone and capitol of Jordan since 1920s



Rabbah (Amman) was a walled city where Uriah, Bathsheba's husband was set up to be killed in battle at under the direction of King David. Uriah was sent close to the city wall while fighting the Ammonites. Here an arrow shot from the wall killed him. 2 Samuel 11:14-21.

Mentioned in the Bible Rabbath Ammon (now Amman Jordan) was the capital of the Ammonites.

# Amman

The blue-domed El-Malek Abdullah Mosque, completed in 1990 as a memorial to the late King Hussein's grandfather. It is located across the street from a Greek Orthodox church. Orthodox Christians and Muslims participate in each others celebrations and holiday festivities.



Solomon worshipped Milcom, the idol of the Ammonites:  
**1 Kings 11:33**

Both daughters of Lot were impregnated by their father. The firstborn birthed a son, and called his name Moab; he is the father of the Moabites. The younger, daughter also birthed a son. He was named Ben-ammi; He is the father of the sons of Ammon.“ Genesis 19:36-38



## Roman Amphitheater, Amman



The **Roman Amphitheater** was built the reign of Antonius Pius (138-161 CE). The large and steeply raked structure could seat about 6,000 people: built into the hillside, it was oriented north to keep the sun off the spectators. It has recently held as many as 10,000 for a summer concert.

# Amman Market



# Jerash

Population  
Literacy

42,000  
95.9%



**Jordan OAT Pre-Trip Group at South Gate entrance through Hadrian's Arch into Jerash:**  
Mohammed (Trip Leader), Mo and Margaret Mow, Dr. Alan and Ellie Sandler, David and Linda Pearce,  
Bettye Cotton, Jeanne Poe Henderson, Judith Martin

# Jerash

First established as a town in the year AD 70



Called the "*Pompeii of the East*," Jerash is the world's best-preserved and most complete Greco-Roman city. It is located about *80 miles north of Amman*.



Shops around outside of hippodrome



Hippodrome

# Jerash

Inhabited during the Bronze Age (3200 BC - 1200 BC), Jerash was captured by the Persians and Romans and was partially destroyed by several earthquakes.

Excavation of Jerash began in the 1920s and continues today. It contains graceful colonnades, an oval plaza, an amphitheater and temples to Greek Gods.



# Jerash

Most Complete And Best Preserved Graeco-roman City In The Middle East



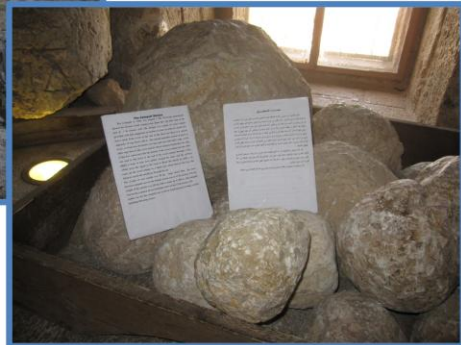
Luke 15: 13-16  
Mark 5:1;  
Luke 8:26

**Luke 15: 13-16** <sup>13</sup>“...the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup>After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.”

# Ajlun's Saracen Castle (Qalat ar-Rabad), 1194-1185 AD



Arrow slits in Fort (castle) wall



A castle fortress in northern Jordan to protect against the Crusades. It had 4 corner towers and a moat ~52' wide and 50' deep.

## Muslim Family Home Visit



**Suzan, Raya, Farah and 7 mo. old Maya**



**Mohammed with Maya  
Upside down chicken and rice**



# Mount Nebo



Plaque showing the distance from Mount Nebo to various locations in promised land  
Deuteronomy 34:1-4

Deuteronomy 34:1-4 NIV Then Moses climbed Mount Nebo from the plains of Moab to the top of Pisgah, across from Jericho. There the LORD showed him the whole land—from Gilead to Dan, <sup>2</sup> all of Naphtali, the territory of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Mediterranean Sea, <sup>3</sup> the Negev and the whole region from the Valley of Jericho, the City of Palms, as far as Zoar. <sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to him, “This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it.”

## View of Promised Land from Mt. Nebo

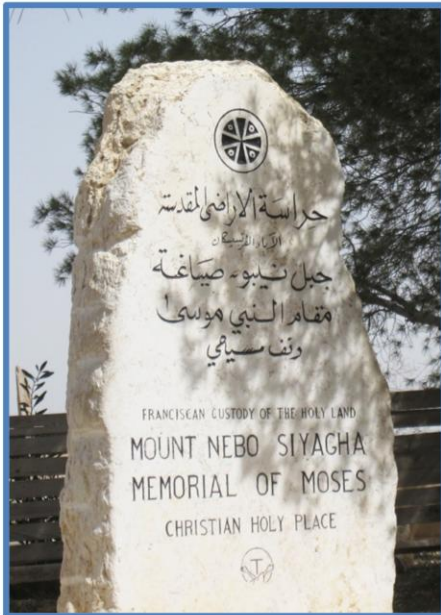


### Mount Nebo **Deuteronomy 34:4-7** (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to him, “This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it.”

<sup>5</sup> And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said. <sup>6</sup> He buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is.

<sup>7</sup> Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone.



**Serpentine Cross Sculpture**  
Numbers 21:4–9, John 3:14

#### Mount Nebo **Deuteronomy 34:4-7** (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to him, “This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it.”

<sup>5</sup> And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said. <sup>6</sup> He buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is.

<sup>7</sup> Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone.

## **Madaba**      Population 60,000 **(“City of Mosaics”)**

Known for a large Byzantine-era mosaic map of *The Holy Land* which was discovered in 1896 . Madaba is located about 19 miles south-west of the capital of Amman.

Once a Moabite border city, it has been inhabited for over 4,500 years.

An earthquake in 749 AD leveled the city and it was abandoned.

In 1897 three Christian families settled in Madaba, and now it is predominately Christian.

Likely the area near where the Israelites camped before crossing the Jordan River and entering Canaan. Madaba is south of Amman Jordan just northeast of the Dead Sea and across the river from Jericho.

**Numbers 33:49;  
Joshua 2:1; 3:1-17**



Visit to a Mosaic Factory with skilled workers

## St. Georges Church Madaba



St. George,  
"the dragon slayer"



# Madaba

In Madaba, “*the city of mosaics*”, St. George Church floor displays an ancient mosaic map of the route towards the Promised Land.



# Petra

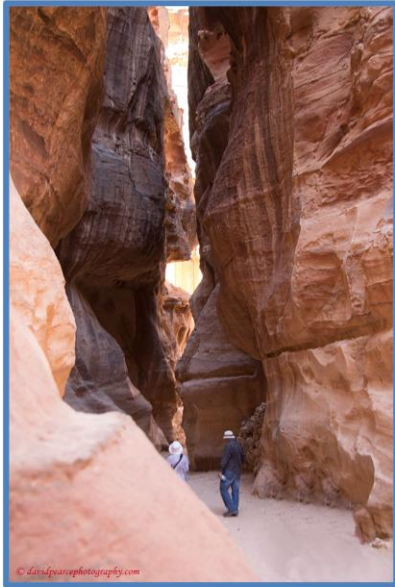
Inhabited since pre-historic times Petra is located in Southern Jordan between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea. Only the local Bedouin people knew of Petra's existence for many years. Johann Ludwig Burckhardt a Swiss traveler, converted to Islam and disguised himself as an Arab. He rediscovered the lost city of Petra in 1812.



Travel guide, Mohammed describes journey through Petra  
Flowers inside Petra near The Basin Restaurant, March 2014

# Petra Entrance

*a narrow gorge entrance flanked by 262 feet high rock cliffs*

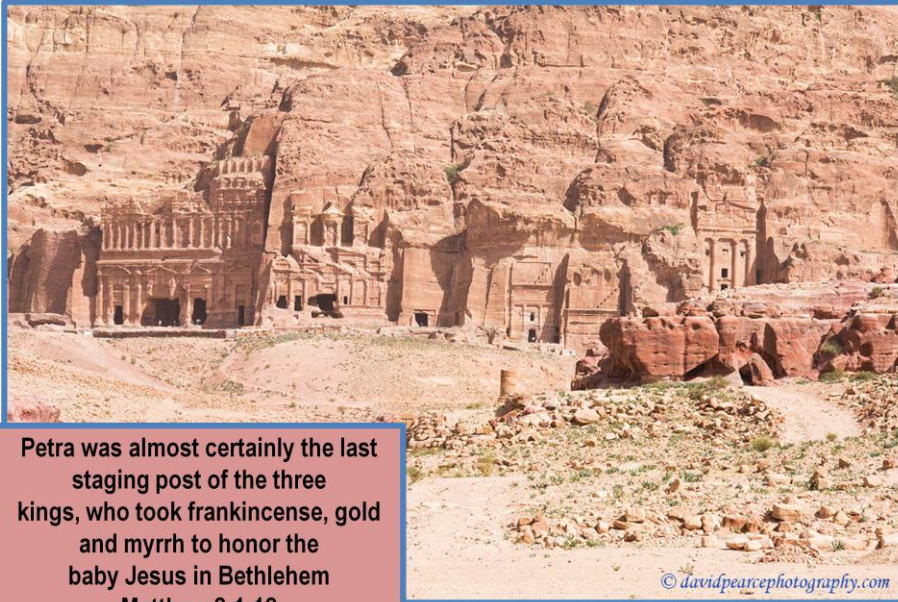




## Petra Ampitheater (3,000-7,000 Seat)



**Petra** The “*rose-red city*” carved out of stone in Southern Jordan



Petra was almost certainly the last staging post of the three kings, who took frankincense, gold and myrrh to honor the baby Jesus in Bethlehem  
Matthew 2:1-12

## **Tombs and Caves in Petra**



**Aaron, the brother of Moses and Miriam, who was called by God to be Moses' prophet, died in Jordan and was buried in Petra at Mount Hor. Numbers 33:37-38**



Temple Ruins

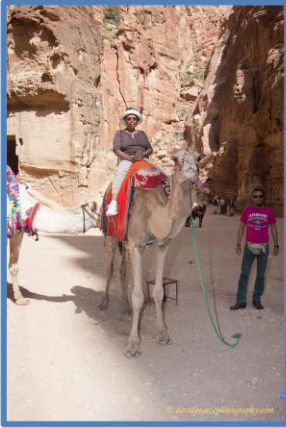
Artistic Rock

**Jehoash Defeated 10,000 Edomites in the Valley of Salt and Captured Sela (another name for Petra)**  
2 Kings 14: 1-5, 7



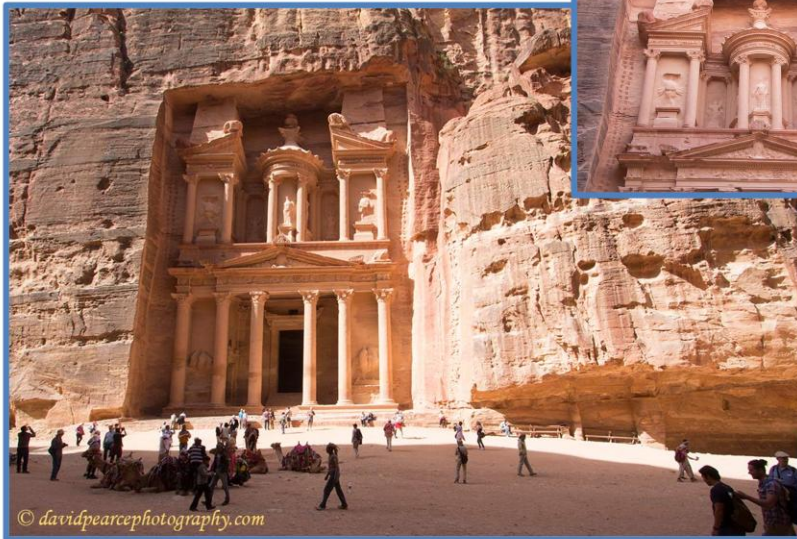
# Petra

Mentioned in Old Testament under several possible names, including Sela and Joktheel. Kings 14:7



Bedouin's camel ride or horse drawn carriage ride for the 6 mile trip in and out of Petra

# Petra



**Queen of  
Sheba  
Stores  
Treasures**  
1 Kings 10: 1-2,  
10

View associated with *“Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade”*

1 Kings 10:1-2,10 Queen of Sheba stores Treasures at Petra 10 When the **queen of Sheba** heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. <sup>2</sup> Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan—with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones—she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind...

<sup>10</sup> And she gave the king 120 talents<sup>[b]</sup> of gold, large quantities of spices, and precious stones. Never again were so many spices brought in as those the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.



## Petra

**A UNESCO World Heritage Site Since 1985  
Has survived many earthquakes**

1 Kings 10:1-2,10 Queen of Sheba stores Treasures at Petra 10 When the **queen of Sheba** heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. <sup>2</sup> Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan—with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones—she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind...

<sup>10</sup> And she gave the king 120 talents<sup>[b]</sup> of gold, large quantities of spices, and precious stones. Never again were so many spices brought in as those the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

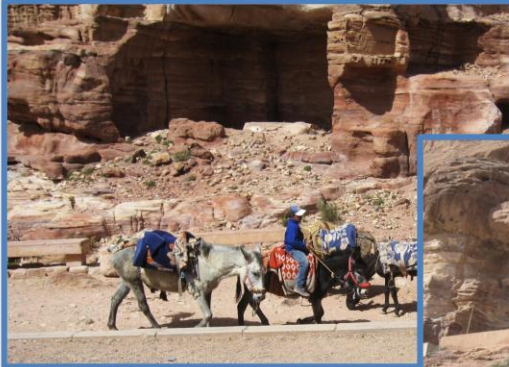
2 Kings 14:1-5, 7 Jehosah defeated 10,000 Edomites 14 In the second year of **Jehoash** son of Jehoahaz king of Israel, **Amaziah** son of Joash king of Judah began to reign. <sup>2</sup> He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years...

<sup>5</sup> After the kingdom was firmly in his grasp, he executed the officials who had murdered his father the king...

<sup>7</sup> He was the one **who defeated ten thousand Edomites** in the **Valley of Salt** and captured **Sela** in battle, calling it Joktheel, the name it has to this day

# Petra

Considered by Muslims to be the site where Moses brought forth water from a rock, Petra is also believed to be the final resting place of Moses' brother, Aaron.



4 year old Bedouin boy offers donkey rides to Petra visitors

