

ACOR

The American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan, is a private, non-profit academic institution dedicated to promoting research and publication in the fields of archaeology, anthropology, art and architecture, history, languages, religious studies and other aspects of Near Eastern studies.

Since it was founded in 1968, ACOR has served as a liaison between Jordanian institutions, both academic and governmental (such as the Department of Antiquities), and international scholars interested in working in the Near East. ACOR provides advice, coordination, equipment, research facilities and living and meeting space for scholars in an environment that is both academically exciting and personally congenial.

Over the years more than 170 archaeological and anthropological field projects have been affiliated with ACOR. These projects have been instrumental in uncovering Jordan's wealth of prehistoric and historic remains. ACOR scholars have been involved in some of the most significant discoveries in the area, including the unique cache of Byzantine papyrus scrolls found at Petra as well as the Neolithic sculptures from 'Ain Ghazal, the oldest of their kind ever found.

ACOR, in cooperation with the Jordanian Department of Antiquities, is also involved in the excavation and restoration of several sites. These projects, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), have included development of the Jordan Antiquities Database and Information System (JADIS); the restoration of the Great Temple of Amman; excavation and restoration of a Byzantine church at Petra; and the creation of archaeological parks in Madaba and Aqaba. These projects help to increase tourism, which is important to the Jordanian economy. As a result of these projects, ACOR is recognized as a leader in the movement to protect the cultural heritage of Jordan.

ACOR is committed to research which focuses on all phases of Jordan's past and to the preservation of sites which are of particular significance to the country's rich and varied cultural heritage. Training, education and public service are among the most important activities at ACOR, a place where Jordanians, Americans and others work together on a daily basis to increase understanding of our common past. Founded primarily to facilitate American archaeological research in the region, ACOR now serves scholars from a wide variety of disciplines from North America, Europe, the Near East and, indeed, from all parts of the world.

The ACOR building is the only purpose-built research center of its kind in the Near East. The five-story facility, completed in 1986, is located on a hill across from the University of Jordan and is near both the British and German archaeological institutes. Its construction was the result of great effort by ACOR's friends and supporters, including the governments of the United States and Jordan. The structure is viewed as a symbol of international cooperation and friendship.

Facilities include: hostel rooms and apartments to accommodate more than 40 persons; a living and dining area, supplemented by a large outdoor terrace; a library, open to the public, of over 30,000 volumes and periodicals; offices and workrooms for resident scholars; computer facilities; drafting facilities; a 90-seat lecture hall; a conservation laboratory; a darkroom; and storage space for artifacts and equipment. Lunch is served daily and cooking facilities are available at other times. There are also telephone, fax, copying and laundry services. Equipment available for field research expeditions includes excavation, surveying, mapping, and photographic equipment.

ACOR is supported by contributions from foundations, corporations, and individuals and by funds generated by the Amman operation. ACOR is tax exempt as a 501(c)(3) organization, as determined by the United States Internal Revenue Service. Donations are tax deductible. By contributing to ACOR you can help assure the continuation of ACOR's work.

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ACOR is not responsible for rate/price changes, availability of equipment and/or services, changes in institute policy, printing or information errors.

ACOR

The ACOR Environment

Living at ACOR is residential and requires that each resident be prepared to share and compromise in a mature fashion, and to treat other residents and staff with respect. Use of the kitchen facilities, common lounge areas, television and video equipment necessitate cooperation and consideration.

Rates

<u>Type of Resident</u>	<u>Daily</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
Regular/Scholar	\$ 27.00	\$ 735.00
Student*	\$ 23.00	\$ 630.00
Children (8 - 14)	\$ 12.00	\$ 315.00
Children (7 & below)	free	free

There is an additional charge of \$2.00 for those staying only one night.

*Student: Current enrollment in a university program leading to a degree in a field related to ACOR program activities.

Rates include self-serve breakfast and a served lunch at 2:00 PM (1:00 PM during Ramadan)

Paying your bill **Check out time is noon.**

Please check with reception the day before you leave (before 5:00 PM; or 2:00 PM during Ramadan) in order to settle your account. The office is closed on Fridays. Long-term residents should settle their bills monthly.

In payment for services, ACOR accepts:

1. Jordanian dinars in cash;
2. U.S. dollars in cash. We do not accept currencies other than dinars or dollars;
3. U.S. dollar Travelers checks;
4. U.S dollar checks drawn on a U.S bank. We cannot cash Canadian personal or Travelers checks, or EuroChecks;
5. American Express (6% fee added);
6. Visa (3.5% fee added).

Rooms

1. Because you may be sharing your room with another, be considerate of your roommate's needs and wishes.
2. Residents are encouraged to study in their rooms and/or library rather than in public rooms. Please respect the privacy of others and keep the noise to a minimum (especially after 11:00 PM and before 8:00 AM).
3. ACOR is not responsible for money or other valuables left in rooms. There is a safe where you can deposit valuables-see a staff member. ACOR will use ordinary care and diligence in regard to items placed in the ACOR safe but is not responsible for those items. By placing items in the safe, you have agreed to this condition.
4. Hostel rooms are cleaned once a week and sheets and towels replaced. You are responsible for daily cleanliness of your own room.
5. Bathrooms (toilets and showers).
The toilet flushes by lifting the handle at the top. PLEASE be sure it goes back down.
Please leave the common bathrooms clean.
Please leave the shower curtain fully extended so that it will dry quickly and prevent the formation of mildew.
Water is a limited resource. Please conserve water.
Please discard ALL paper items in the plastic pail provided in the bathroom.
Extra toilet paper is kept in the kitchenette off the residents' lounge.
6. Lights. Please turn off the hostel room lights if the room will be empty for more than a few minutes.
7. Repairs: If something in your room is broken and especially if there is a water leak, please inform the office.
8. There is a heater in your room that can be regulated by the black knob on the right side. If you will not be in your room for an extended period, please turn the heater off.
9. The shutters can be pulled up with the gray strap near the window. If you pull the shutter up too high, it will jam. Be gentle. To put the shutters down, release the strap.

Please Conserve Water-We only receive it one day each week.

	<u>Normal Use</u>	<u>Conservative Use</u>
Shower*	Water running, average: 25 gallons	Wet down, soap, rinse off: 4 gallons
Shaving	Tap running: 10 gallons	Fill basin: 1 gallon
Washing hands	Tap running: 2 gallons	Fill basin: 1 gallon

*Please get into the habit of taking a “Navy Shower.” This conserves a tremendous amount of water and ensures that everyone will be able to take a shower and be able to flush the toilet, even when there are 40 or more people in the building.

1. Turn on shower briefly to get wet.
2. Turn shower OFF!
3. Use soap
4. Rinse briefly and turn water off.

Lunch

1. ACOR serves one meal in the dining room at 2:00 PM daily; 1:00 PM during Ramadan.
2. If you will not attend lunch, please inform the office as early as possible.
3. As a resident, you may invite guests for lunch. Please inform the office before 10:00 AM the same day. The charge is 3.500 JD/\$5.00 per guest. Guests are welcome for lunch only. The kitchen facilities and food stocks are for residents only.

Breakfast

Residents are permitted to use the kitchen to prepare their breakfast before 10:00 AM. ACOR provides basic items such as cereal, bread, milk, eggs, coffee, tea, butter, and jam. Complimentary items that are not always provided include yoghurt, cheese, and peanut butter. ACOR does not provide specialty items such as fruit juice, Coffeemate, etc. These items can be purchased at any supermarket by the resident.

Supper

The ACOR kitchen is available for light supper preparations after 4:00 PM. The basic food items (see list under Breakfast) are usually on hand and occasionally there are leftovers from lunch. During busy seasons, it is not uncommon for supplies to be exhausted; therefore, you may need to purchase your own supplies. A refrigerator and storage cupboards are available in the hostel kitchenette for your personal food. Please put your name and the date on any food. The housekeepers regularly clean the refrigerator and will throw out anything without a name and date.

Please do not put personal food in the main kitchen refrigerator. ACOR does not have any vending machines for drinks or snacks; they can be purchased locally. Please keep all empty bottles in your room or the garbage. Aluminum cans are recycled. There is usually a bag for cans hanging near the public toilets near the front door.

The kitchen is for staff use from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM ONLY. Please respect this period.

Drinking Water

We recommend drinking only boiled and filtered water or bottled water, which may be obtained from any supermarket. ACOR boils and filters water for its in-house supply. The boiled water is found in pitchers in the kitchen refrigerator. You may take these pitchers (one at a time, please!) to your room. That water should also be used for brushing your teeth.

When you empty a water pitcher, please refill it with boiled water from any of the blue filter tanks in the back right corner of the kitchen-not from the tap. Then return the pitcher to the refrigerator. Likewise, refill ice cube trays with boiled water only.

Please return any items removed from the kitchen as soon as possible

If you need large quantities of drinking water away from ACOR for surveys, digs or trips, please make arrangements with the kitchen staff. Do not take from the house supply.

The kitchen staff is responsible for washing dishes and keeping the kitchen clean from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. At all other times, it is the responsibility of each resident to clean the table and wash his/her own dishes, pots, and pans with hot soapy water and place them in the drying rack.

Laundry

ACOR provides a laundry service (operated by household staff only) for residents. The rate for this service is \$4.00 per load (wash and dry). Procedures:

1. Place clothes in a basket (these can be found in the residents' kitchenette). Do not overstuff the basket; otherwise, your load will be split.
2. Take the basket down to level 1 near the elevator where there is a table with instructions.
3. Write your name, room, date, and number of loads on the receipt-type slip you will find on the table.
4. Write your name and how you would like your clothes washed on a blank piece of scrap paper and place this on top of your basket.
5. Finished laundry is left on the same floor across from the elevator. Laundry is usually ready the same day in the late morning or early afternoon. During the busy season, your laundry may not be ready until the following day.

Dry cleaners in Amman generally provide good service and are less expensive than in the U.S. A couple of dry cleaners can be found within walking distance of ACOR.

Dress

Please be considerate of the more conservative dress practices of your host country. Women should not wear shorts, short skirts, or tank tops, in public areas of the ACOR building, especially during business hours. Men should also dress in accordance with local customs. Hats are not allowed at the dining tables. Shorts should not be worn on the main floor during business hours; however, shoes or sandals must be worn. In addition to being a residence, ACOR is also a place of business, and residents should dress accordingly.

Living Room

The living room is ACOR's public space; feel free to use it. However, be aware that the living room is where our visitors, Jordanian and other, first get an impression of what ACOR and ACOR scholars are like. A room full of people lounging with their feet up on the sofas, dressed sloppily, and surrounded by a litter of beer bottles doesn't serve you and certainly doesn't serve us.

The Neighborhood Cats

The cats around the building are feral. Do not feed them. If you do insist on feeding them, do not take food or plates from the ACOR kitchen. If you do feed a cat, please arrange to take it home when you leave, as you have domesticated it. To just abandon it when you leave is animal cruelty.

Electricity

The Jordanian electrical system is 220 volts 50 cycles. The service is reliable and clean, and blackouts are rare. There is no standard outlet, although the British 3 square pin is the most common. Adapters are readily available. Transformers are also available. Talk to a staff member for tips before plugging any computer equipment into the electrical system.

**SOME ACOR EQUIPMENT IS 110 VOLT-IF YOU PLUG IT INTO THE 220 SYSTEM
WITHOUT A TRANSFORMER, YOU WILL DESTROY IT.
THINK BEFORE YOU PLUG IT IN!**

House Rules

Harassment of fellow residents, guests, or visitors for any reason-including sex/sexual orientation, religion, race, color, disability, etc., will not be tolerated.

Drug Free Environment: The unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession or use of controlled substances is illegal in Jordan and prohibited at ACOR in all of its public and private facilities.

Noise: Residents must observe quiet hours from 11:00 PM to 8:00 AM in all areas, including the veranda.

Smoking is not permitted in the library (both floors), kitchen, conservation lab, darkroom, resident's lounge, or the dining room.

Visitors are not allowed in hostel areas. This means absolutely no visitors on level three, in the housing areas of levels one and zero, or in the annex.

Jordanian law views cohabitation as illegal. Thus it is ACOR's policy not to mix unmarried men and women in the hostel or in other ACOR housing.

Antiquities: Purchase and sale of antiquities are illegal. This and other antiquity laws shall be followed at all times.

General: Remember you are a guest in Jordan. You must obey Jordanian law and should comply with local customs as a courtesy.

Residents who violate ACOR rules are subject to revocation of the right to use the facility and its services. In all cases, the decision of the director is final.

Parties/Gatherings

Private parties are not allowed in public spaces at ACOR. This means that if you want to have a party/gathering in an ACOR public space, ALL ACOR RESIDENTS MUST be invited and the rules on noise (above) must be observed.

Permission for parties must be obtained from the ACOR Director. If you want to have a private party/gathering, please inform the Director, and private space will be arranged if possible. If space is unavailable, you will have to take your party outside of ACOR.

Telephone & Fax

There is a telephone book in the main office that you may use in the office. Information: call 121. You will find some local phone numbers for local businesses, such as airlines, located next to the phone in the lobby/living room.

Local calls Telephones are available for your use in rooms, carrels, and public areas. Dial "9" for an outside line. Calls within greater Amman are free of charge. (ACOR does pay a unit charge for local calls.)

International calls ACOR's switchboard is open for outgoing international calls during normal business hours. Calls through the switchboard must be staff assisted. Incoming calls will be answered during office hours between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM and can be transferred to your room or study carrel. It will not be possible to make charge calls from the office after hours. For the moment, such services as collect calls, AT&T, USADirect, and Sprint have been banned by the Jordanian government. Pre-paid Weinak? phone cards from Jordan Telecom, that can be used for international or other charge calls from your room or the lobby phone, can be purchased from the office.

Evening calls There may be someone to answer calls in the evenings; however, do not rely on this. If you are expecting a call in the evening, you should be in the lounge to answer it yourself. It is best to schedule a time for your party to call you in the evening. Feel free to answer the lobby phone when the office is closed; it may be for you. If someone you don't know asks for ACOR's address, don't give out the address; tell them to call during office hours the next day. If you must make a charge call, you can purchase a pre-paid Weinak? phone card from the office; this card can be used from your room or the lobby phone. However, if there is a real emergency, you may call the assistant director (x513) or director (x100) for assistance. Be prepared to explain what the emergency is.

ACOR Phone # 962-6-534-6117; ACOR Fax # 962-6-534-4181
962 = Country Code; 6 = City Code; seven digit telephone number

Note: When making an international call from Jordan, dial 00 first.

Charges for long distance calls through the ACOR office:

Greater Amman	No charge
Cellular (079 or 077) calls	J.D. 0.250/minute
Greater Jordan	J.D. 0.150/minute
Arab Countries and Israel	J.D. 1.200/minute
European Countries	J.D. 1.500/minute
North America	J.D. 1.500/minute
Australia (and others)	J.D. 1.500/minute

1. Fax transmission must be staff assisted through the Administrative Office, again during business hours.
2. You must arrange for service during office hours.
3. FAX rates: JD 1.000 service charge + cost of timed telephone call (rates as above).

Mobile Phones If you will be staying in Jordan for an extended period, you may want to consider purchasing a mobile phone and pre-paid cards through one of the two cellular service providers, Fast Link or MobileCom. For about 65 JD, you can get set up with a phone, number, and one pre-paid card.

E-Mail

ACOR's business e-mail address is acor@go.com.jo. You may give this address to others for EMERGENCY USE ONLY. If we receive messages at that address for you that are anything other than a true emergency, you will be charged a service fee, whether you want the e-mail or not. There is a computer with e-mail for ACOR fellowship holders ONLY. They should contact the office for instructions on this. ACOR has only three telephone lines for general use. Please keep your calls, including Internet connections, short. Use an off-line reader/writer for your e-mail. Do not surf the web during business hours and then you should wait until after 11:00 PM.

ACOR HAS ONLY THREE OUTSIDE PHONE LINES FOR YOUR USE. LIMIT YOUR TIME ON LINE, PLEASE!

Library

1. The library is open for residents 24 hours a day; however, visitors are advised that the library closes at 5:00 PM Sunday-Thursday, 12:00 PM on Saturdays and is closed all day Friday. Keys to the library for residents are available at the office.
2. No smoking, eating, drinking, or radio playing is permitted in the library or periodicals room.
3. If you wish to take a book to your office or room, fill out an "in-house borrowing" form and leave it on the shelf where the book should be.
4. The collection does NOT circulate outside the ACOR facility.
5. Please do not help yourself to the librarian's office supplies. Ask if you need any special assistance.
6. If you are an official appointee of ACOR, you may ask for stationery with ACOR's letterhead - for official use only.

Computers

ACOR has computer facilities for residents only. Two computers are reserved for fellows only. ACOR's computers are configured with a variety of software. Other hardware and software is available for specialized needs. Please check with the office staff about using the computers.

	Rates:
Computer time:	\$ 2.00 per hour
Laser Printer:	\$ 0.15 per page

Study Carrels and Workrooms

Rate: Carrel - \$ 3.00 per day (free for ACOR fellows), Workroom - \$ 6.00 per day. All analysis of archaeological material (e.g. ceramics, lithics, bones, etc.) should be conducted in sub-basement work areas and not in the hostel rooms, library, or storage rooms.

Darkroom

ACOR has a darkroom with basic equipment. \$20.00 per day; \$15.00 per 1/2 day; \$5.00 per hour. (Chemicals and chemical storage jars must be purchased by the user).

Copy Machine

Located in the library, price per copy is 50 fils (5 piasters). A metal box is provided for direct payment. All copies made must be recorded. Extended stay residents may enter the number of copies they make into the machine book and be billed at the end of each month.

Dig and Survey Equipment

ACOR has a full range of equipment available for archaeological work being done in Jordan. Contact the Administrative Office or the Director for more information.

Conservation Laboratory

ACOR has a fully equipped lab, with storage, table and counter space, lab ovens, airbrasive unit, microscopes, fume hood, flotation separator, etc. Rate is \$20.00 (JD 15.000) per day. Chemicals and small tools are not provided. Contact the Administrative Office or the Director for complete information.

Services and Facilities ACOR does NOT Provide

The ACOR Hostel. The office is open from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM except Fridays. Please conduct your business between those hours. With regret, ACOR does not offer four-star hotel services including: late night doorman, late night telephone access, answering, or messaging, on-call housekeeper, dry cleaning, taxi service, or 24-hour check-in.

Travel Services. Booking, confirming and paying for airline flight reservations are the responsibilities of fellows and/or guests. ACOR is in no position to provide "up to the minute" advice on cheapest air tickets, routes, etc. ACOR can provide you with a list of travel agents whom ACOR has worked with in the past (see phone list).

Tourist Services. ACOR is able to provide information on tour agencies, etc. However, arranging, paying for, and picking up tickets are the responsibilities of fellows and/or resident guests.

Vehicle Rental Services. ACOR is able to provide information on rental agencies, etc. Arranging and paying for rental vehicles are the responsibilities of fellows and/or resident guests. ACOR is not obligated to provide up to the minute advice on rental rates, and ACOR does not rent vehicles.

Taxi Services. According to recent statistics, 25% of the cars in Amman are taxis. Getting a taxi on University Road is rarely a problem. It may be possible to hitch a ride with a staff member on ACOR business, but this is at the discretion of the staff member. Likewise, ACOR does not run an airport taxi service. ACOR may be able to assist you with arranging for a driver, but the office will need advance notice.

Secretarial/Research Services. If you need research assistance, translations, or field liaison interpreters, ACOR may be able to assist you in finding someone. ACOR staff will not type up final reports, provide translation or interpretation services, expedite overseas shipments, or conduct research or business on anyone's behalf.

Purchasing Services. ACOR can provide suggestions on where specific items may be purchased. ACOR does not provide office supplies such as staplers, pens, paper, etc. These items are available at local shops. Likewise, ACOR is not a grocery store. ACOR provides one prepared meal only (at 2:00 PM). Items in the refrigerators are for self-prepared breakfast and for self-prepared dinner. ACOR does not provide ingredients for self-prepared meals for groups or guests. These can be purchased by the resident at any one of a number of local shops.

Computer Services. ACOR provides a variety of popular programs, but does not always have the resources to procure the latest version. (Donations are welcome if your favorite program is not in our library.) ACOR does not have the staff time nor expertise to provide much in the way of instruction or advice on using the computers and software. If you need hardware or software for your project, bring it with you.

Embassy/Consular Services. While ACOR will gladly provide anecdotal and/or general information on visas, bridge permits, residence permits and other travel regulations and legalities, regulations often change from week to week. The latest information is always available on the spot from the proper ministry, embassy consular or visa section.

Medical Services. If you believe you have a medical issue that needs to be dealt with, ACOR and/or the Embassy can provide you with a list of doctors or hospitals where you may seek medical assistance. The names and phone numbers of the US Embassy's medical and dental advisors are on our phone list. ACOR will assist with medical emergencies at the institute in all ways possible, but accepts no responsibility for first aid or other measures taken.

AMMAN

Money

The basic unit of currency in Jordan is the dinar, typically called JD (Jordanian dinar) in the expat community. (Note that some other countries in the region call their currency dinar also.) The exchange rate of the dinar changes little if at all against the US dollar. The rate has been JD .708 per US\$1.00 (JD 1.000 = US\$1.412) for some time.

For units smaller than a dinar you will hear the words:

-fils - there are 1,000 fils in a dinar

-piastre - there are 100 piastres in a dinar - a piastre is 10 fils

-qirsh - equal to a piastre

Coins come in 1/2 dinar, 1/4 dinar, 100 fils (10 piasters), 50 fils (5 piasters), 25 fils (2.5 piasters), and 10 fils (1 piaster). Paper money comes in 1/2, 1, 5, 10, 20, and 50 dinar denominations. They vary in size and color, but it is possible to mix up the 1 and 10 and the 5 and 50 if you are not careful.

Personal checks take up to four (4) weeks to clear at local banks if you have an account. In order to exchange currency for Jordan dinars on the spot at the **bank**, you should bring:

- a. Travelers Checks drawn on a U.S. Bank
- b. U.S. dollars in cash
- c. American Express, MasterCard or VISA card. You may draw cash on your card at the local AMEX office (near Commodore Hotel), the BritishBank in Shmeisani (MasterCard), the Housing Bank (Plaza Hotel office only for your VISA card) and BritishBank Automated Teller Machines at 2nd Circle (by Far East restaurant) and Abdoun Circle (Visa from PLUS network only).
- d. ATM cards of some kinds will work in the BritishBank machines in Abdoun and second circle, also in Safeway, and the Amman Mall located near ACOR. Plus network cards work at the Arab Bank machine in the parking lot of the Intercon Hotel. Don 't forget to take your passport when you visit a bank.

There are also a number of **money exchangers** located nearby on Gardens Street and also downtown near the King Hussein Mosque. When changing American dollars, they are quick, do not charge a fee, and give the normal exchange rate (usually).

Post

The Central Post Office is located in downtown Amman with branches throughout the country. Stamps may be purchased in the ACOR office on a cash basis or at most Post Offices. Postage Rates for airmail:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Letters (10 gr)</u>	<u>Postcards</u>
Jordan	.100	.100
Arab countries (Turkey-Morocco, Arabian peninsula)	.400	.400
Europe, including former Soviet Union, and (non-Arab) Africa	.500	.500
Rest of the world	.600	.600

Courier Services

ARAMEX	535-8855	
DHL	585-8514	7th circle shopping area
FEDEX	569-5415	Shmeisani, Abu Saud Center
UPS	560-1313	ACOR's contract service

Shipping Companies

Amin Kawar & Sons	560-3703
Amman Shipping & Trading Co.	551-4620
Jordan Express	566-2723

Airlines

CONFIRMATION OF TICKETS ON ALL FLIGHTS THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF DEPARTURE IS A MUST!! Also, re-reconfirmation is advised one day in advance. The Royal Jordanian Airlines main office is located in Shmeisani in the Housing Bank Commercial Center. Branch offices are located in the Intercontinental Hotel (Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle), and near 7th Circle. Most other Airline agents are located on King Hussein Street, downtown. Check your Guide to Amman booklet for addresses and telephone numbers of airline companies.

To get to the **airport** from ACOR, you can either take a taxi or the airport bus from Abdali for 500 fils (every half hour). A taxi will cost approximately JD 15.000 - negotiate the fare before you start. For RJ flights you can check in at the city air terminal near 7th Circle. You can check your luggage and get a seat up to 24 hours in advance. For 1 J.D., there is a bus to the airport. This service is available from about 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM. Please check in advance for the hours.

Airport Tax is payable by all international passengers departing Jordan from Queen Alia Airport. Non-Jordanian passport holders pay JD 5.000 per passport. Persons on domestic flights are not subject to departure tax.

If you are flying on Royal Jordanian there is a city terminal at the Seventh Circle, open from about 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM. You can check in, pay your airport tax, obtain you boarding pass and, for 1 JD, get a bus ride (about every half hour) to the airport. You can check in up to 24 hours before you flight and then go back the next day for the ride. During peak travel seasons it is advisable to check in 24 hours in advance.

Transportation around Amman

Taxi You can catch a taxi on University Road at the bottom of the hill. Ask the driver to use his meter or be prepared to pay inflated fares. A driver usually will use the meter without asking. If he does not, remind him. Drivers are not

obliged to use their meters after midnight. Arrange the fare before leaving. Adding one dinar to the normal fare (if you know it) is usually sufficient.

Approximate prices (from ACOR):

Downtown	JD 1.800
"Duwar Dakhlyah" or Ministry of the Interior Circle	JD 0.900
3rd Circle, Jabal Amman	JD 1.400

A private taxi can be rented to go anywhere in the country, but it is expensive (ca. \$85 for a full day). You must arrange a price with the taxi driver before you leave and do not pay him until you arrive.

To get back to ACOR, tell the driver Jordan University (al-Jami'a al-Urdania). Some people find it easiest to get out at the foot bridge, cross over the bridge, and walk up the hill to ACOR. Otherwise, continue to the mosque circle, tell the driver to make a U-turn (or just left – ash-shamal) and then direct him to ACOR-first right after the foot bridge.

Buses You can catch a bus going to Downtown or to Abdali from University Road (80-100 fils). Buses and Serveeses depart from Amman on a regular basis to all major cities in Jordan. Most public transportation destined for points north (Jerash, Irbid, etc.) leave from Abdali Bus Station. Buses and Serveeses to Kerak, Aqaba and other points south depart from WAHDAT on the southern edge of Amman. You can also catch a bus for Salt, Jerash, Madaba, and Irbid at the main entrance to the University.

Car Rental

Commercial rental in Jordan is generally a straightforward matter, and a number of agencies are familiar with ACOR (some even deliver and pick-up at ACOR!) A variety of vehicle types are available, including 4-wheel drive vehicles. Generally, a compact automobile can be rented for \$35 per day (or approximately \$600 per month - you can negotiate); whereas, a jeep or similar vehicle may be obtained for \$100 per day. In order to rent a car, you need a valid driver's license from home (over one year old). An international driver's license is recommended but not absolutely required. Some of the companies require a deposit.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Avis	569-9420, 569-4883 (FAX)
Europcar (at most major hotels)	463-9197
Samer	568-0310
Budget	569-8131, 567-3312 (FAX)
Hertz	568-8406 (voice and FAX)
Rally Rent a Car	569-9983, 562-0878 (FAX)

Restaurants

Restaurant meals are often late. Upscale restaurants are typically open from 7:30 PM to midnight for dinner, with few people besides tourists appearing earlier than 9:00 PM. A meal will cost JD 15 to JD 20 for two courses and beer or wine. All the major hotels have a variety of restaurants. Reservations are sometimes necessary, depending on the restaurant and the night. Thursday nights can be crowded.

At the other end of the scale is the shwarma stand, in most cases for carry-out only. Beef or chicken is wrapped in small unleavened bread, usually with pickles and sauce. The "sandwich" is usually around JD .250 to JD .400 and the "super" is around JD .600 to JD .800. Stands will normally be open from before noon to fairly late in the evening, and usually sell soft drinks and water. In between there are many informal restaurants and many fast food places. Many are oriental, with staples such as hummus or shwarma, but there are also western-style restaurants with hamburgers, pizza, and chicken. Some are open all afternoon. Following are a selection of the better ones. The price range has been indicated for some restaurants below: inexpensive (JD 5 or less with a beer if available), medium (around JD 10), expensive (around JD 15). For takeout, see the Meals on Wheels book in the lobby. For all restaurants and phone numbers, see the Yellow Pages in the office.

Walking Distance

Down the hill and to the left a short distance are a shwarma stand, KFC, Popeye's, Pizza Hut, McDonalds and Burger King. These are legitimate franchise operations with quality equivalent to US standards, but no pork products.

Slightly Farther

If you go down the hill, turn right on University Street and go right at the interchange, you are on Madeenah (Medina) Street. Down a few blocks on the right is Subway and then Boston Fried Chicken. Across from Boston Chicken is Pizzeria Al-Reef, which has very good pizza. If you go to the first traffic light (Gardens - Wasfi al Tal Street), called Duwar al Waha by the taxi drivers, and turn right, you come to three Arabic restaurants: Al Waha, the Windmill, and Reem al Buwadi. The former has a large outdoor seating area, the latter is slightly more swank and slightly more expensive. It is frequented by tour groups taking an early lunch. The Windmill is a little smaller and has received the best reviews from ACOR residents. Although the atmosphere is cafeteria style, Jabri on Gardens Street (off Duwar al-Waha) has very good mansaf (Jordan's national dish) and frika (green wheat).

Shmeisani

Shmeisani has the largest concentration of restaurants in Amman. Most restaurants are clustered on or near a one-way loop that runs east-west through the commercial area, north of the Arab Bank and several blocks south of the Marriott and Forte Grand Hotels. The loop is cut by one north-south street. Restaurants in this area are indicated as NE, NW,

SW, etc., depending where they are on the loop. The north-south street is center, with Jabri at the south end. Following are some places people have liked. The numbers refer to locations shown on the enclosed maps.

- 30-Something, Shmeisani SE next door to Mama Mia's. Excellent steaks at reasonable (like JD 6) prices. Licensed. 568-8122. Shmeisani map "3"
- Ata Ali, on SW corner near KFC.
- Frosti has very good ice cream. Center, across street from Chili's.
- Jabri, center. Extensive pastry selection.
- La Maison Verte, French, just off loop NW, high. 5685-746
- Leonardo Da Vinci, half block north of Chili's on N-S street, next to Tom & Jerry. Good veal, felt by many to be the best Italian food in Amman. High. 566-2441
- Mama Mia, SE near Babiche, 568-2122. Try the meatball sub. Outdoor seating. Beer.
- Milano, SE by Babiche, 568-0670. Try the hot Italian sub.
- Pizza Hut, NE corner
- Popeye's, SW side of commercial district
- Houston's, near La Maison Verte

Other Locations

- Bukhara, Intercontinental Hotel, 564-1361. The best Indian food in town, many say. Jebel Amman map "I"
- China, east from first circle on Rainbow, right at third cross street after the mosque. Medium. Some say the best Chinese (Cantonese) in Jordan. 463-8968. Jebel Amman map "21"
- Chez Hilda, Sweifieh, 532-4808. Pastries. Sweifieh map "3"
- Corfu Taverna. Go north from 4th circle on Queen Noor St. past interchange, turn right at traffic light, then two quick rights. Mid range. The only Greek restaurant in town, and not bad. Medium-high. 695-308. Shmeisani map "c"
- Lebanese House Restaurant, Jerash. From Roman city parking area go south, right at circle, left at first road (sign). From Amman, via Sweileh towards Jerash, exit Jerash south, left at traffic circle, then first left. The food and setting are worth a trip even if you are not going to visit the ruins. Don't go to the Rest House at the ruins, go here! Moderate. Licensed.
- L 'Olivier, Continental in winter, Arabic in summer. Follow Cairo Road past Abdoun Circle, turn left at T-junction by Orthodox Club. Fine garden seating area. High. 819-564. Abdoun map "L"
- McDonalds, University St. across from UJ; across from Mujama'a Jaber (Amman NW map), and also in Sweifieh.
- Burger King, next to MacDonaldis on University St.; Madina and Mecca St. Circle.
- Romero, Italian. Second street on right going from 3rd circle towards 2nd circle. Reservations necessary. 464-4227. High. Jebel Amman map "3"
- Rozena, two blocks north of Circle Road, one block east of 2nd Circle. Continental, medium to high, 461-3572. Jebel Amman map "11"
- Villa D'Angelo, from 2nd circle toward 1st, turn right just past large commercial building. Separate bar. Some people consider this the best Italian. 463-8112
- Champions, in the Marriott, which is located near Duwar Dakhliyah.

The News

The daily English-language Jordan Times provides good coverage of wire service, US and world news. The evening news in English on Jordanian Television draws heavily on CNN. BBC radio is available about 18 hours a day on AM 1323 and 640 in Amman and northern Jordan and Syria. The Voice of America is on AM 1260 some hours. For southern Jordan (including Petra), a shortwave radio is necessary. ACOR provides CNN and other news channels via Orbit satellite.

Shopping

Most of your common needs can be met in the nearby Suq T'la al-Ali. The shopping street is about 3/4 mile from ACOR. Go up the hill to the top and turn left. At the bottom of the hill, turn right for food, stationery, film and a dry cleaner. Turn left for the liquor store. For pork products, a wider variety of imported goods and bread in loaves, go to Safeway (open 24 hours) (several maps) or Alahlia Abela (open 7 - 11) (Shmeisani map). All taxi drivers know where Safeway is, and there are always taxis waiting there for fares. Abela has a better deli section, and has become the favorite with the expat community, but has no taxi stand. If your luggage was lost and you need some basics, C-Town at the Amman Mall located near Duwar Al-Waha and within walking distance is the easiest. The Amman Mall offers a variety of small shops and a food court and C-Town has an upper floor department store and a large supermarket with many imported food goods on the lower floor. For shoes there are several shops in Sweifieh. Sweifieh also has several gold shops (prices about the same as in the gold suq downtown), several hardware stores, at least two fitness centers, and a money exchanger - a good area to get to know.

Film developing, passport photos: Salem in Green Valley/Um Uthaina and Norma at 3rd Circle have excellent, comprehensive service. Also Konica in Wadi Zaqra. For quick passport photos, go to the Kodak shop just north of the University mosque.

Istiklal Library in Sweifieh offers the best selection of **office supplies**, though the store is a little on the expensive side.

Bookstores: The Philadelphia Bookstore on Wasfi al Tal (Gardens) across from the mosque has the best selection of English titles. The Jordan Book Company on University Street (north side, east of the University Hospital interchange) is another place to look, particularly for technical works. Dandis Book Shop downtown (Saqf as Sayl Street [the rear street of the downtown suq] across from the housing bank) has probably the best selection of Islamic texts, both classical and modern, Arabic poetry and history.

Maps: Major hotel newsstands carry tourist maps. The ACOR library has an extensive reference collection of maps. Topo maps can sometimes be purchased from the Royal Geographic Centre - you will need a letter of introduction from ACOR. ACOR sells a map of Amman for JD 2.500

Computer supplies can be found at numerous stores in Amman; there are several stores on Gardens St. and one in the Amman Mall. Do not install pirate software on any ACOR computers - there are viruses, and many of the programs are pre-release versions with significant bugs. (Furthermore, it is against ACOR policy to use illegal software.)

Museums in Jordan

Jordan Archaeological Museum, Jabal Al-Qala 'a (Citadel), Amman

Amman Folklore Museum (for Jewelry and Costumes) located in the west vaults of the Roman Theater, Downtown Amman

Jordan Museum of Popular Traditions (for Jordanian costumes, jewelry, rugs and everyday utensils and implements) located in the east vaults of the Roman Theater, Downtown Amman

Jordan Crafts Center (for exhibits and sales of traditional and authentic Jordanian crafts, including: embroidery, woodwork, glass, leather, woven rugs, sheepskins, ceramics, mother-of-pearl objects, jewelry, brass and silver) located on a small side street off the Second Circle of Jabal Amman, behind the Lebanese Embassy.

Jordan National Gallery (for a permanent collection of Contemporary Art and Ceramics from Jordan and the Arab and Islamic World) located on Jabal Weibdeh, next to the Public Gardens

Martyrs' Monument and Military Museum (for a permanent exhibition of Jordan's Military History) located on a hill overlooking Hussein Sports City

Madaba Museum (for archaeology and folklore). Closed Tuesday

Kerak Museum (for archaeology and folklore), Kerak Castle. Closed Tuesday

Petra Museum, actually two museums, at the lower end of the road through the basin

Salt Museum (for archaeology)

Yarmouk University of Archaeology and Anthropology, beautiful presentation of small collection. Yarmouk University campus, Irbid. Closed Fridays.

Museum of School Books, Salt, Jordan

Libraries

The **Amman Public Library** is located near the Roman Amphitheater in downtown Amman. It has a lending library of Arabic and English Books.

The **American Center** (USIS) has a library where books may be borrowed free of charge. There is also a selection of American periodicals and newspapers on microfilm.

The **British Council**, located at the 1st Circle, Jabal Amman, on Rainbow Street has a lending library with a small membership fee. They also have a good childrens' book collection.

The **French Cultural Center**, located at Jabal al-Webdeh, has a circulating library-nominal fee.

The **Goethe Institute** has a small library of German language books.

Abdel Hameed Shoman Foundation, located in Shmeisani.

University of Jordan, University Campus opposite the ACOR building.

Council for British Research in the Levant, near the University of Jordan.

German Archaeological Institute, opposite the University of Jordan.

Darat al-Funun (The Little House of Art), Jebel al-Webdeh, good collection on art and art history.

Touring

Jordan has a plethora of interesting archaeological sites. Take advantage of your stay to see as many as possible. We cannot attempt to list them all (the Insight Guide is probably the best now in print - available at hotel bookstores), but suggest that you try to get to all of the following:

-Petra, the rose city of the Nabataeans (featured in The Last Crusade), where our mosaics and scrolls were found.

-Jerash, one of the more intact Roman cities, and Ajlun, a half hour's drive from Jerash

-Madaba, site of the greatest concentration of mosaics yet found in Jordan

-The Desert Castles, most built during the brief Ummayyad Caliphate

-Um al Jimal, a prosperous town during the Nabataean, Roman and Byzantine era, where even ordinary houses were built of stone (basalt)

-Um Qais, a major city of the Hellenistic and Roman eras. Spectacular view of the Golan Heights

-The Dead Sea

Some sites, such as Madaba and Jerash, can be visited by taking a bus from the Abdali station. Jett bus goes to Petra, but not everyday, so you need to check their schedule with them. You may consider renting a car to tour certain areas of Jordan; you will have more flexibility and driving outside Amman is not confusing. The Friends of Archaeology sponsors one or two day trips a month, usually to more obscure sites and led by archaeologists who have been working the sites. You can find information on their trips and membership in the the FoA newsletter, which is posted in the library,

Visa Regulations

As you enter the country, you are given a stamped permit in your passport valid for 2 weeks. To renew this permit, you should appear, in person, at any police station of the area in which you reside (Sweileh Police Station for ACOR) with your passport before the permitted period has expired. You will receive a 3 month permit. If you overstay your visa permit without renewal, you will be charged a 1.500 JD per day fine when you leave. It is possible to renew a tourist visa for a total of six months (three months at a time), but after the first 3 months you must have an AIDS test. If you are going to be in the country for longer than six months, you will have to leave the country and re-enter (possibly a trip to Syria or Egypt).

Travel to Israel, the West Bank, and Syria

Border crossing rules are in a state of flux. The information that follows is as valid as we could make it.

Syria: For US passport holders, if you did not obtain a Syrian visa in the US, you will probably not be able to get one in Amman. You must obtain it in the Syrian Embassy of your home country. If your passport contains any hint that you have been to Israel (including the lack of an entry stamp at an appropriate place like Queen Alia International Airport), you will be denied entrance to Syria. If you plan to visit both Syria and Israel, visit Syria first. If you have a U.S. passport, it may be advisable to get a second U.S. passport immediately after you arrive in Jordan. The new passport is used for travel to Israel. Check with the consular office on procedures. The same may apply for visits to Lebanon although this is not yet clear. Visas for Lebanon may be obtained in Amman.

The Syrian border crossing is open 24 hours a day. JETT (call 566-4146 for information on this service) runs buses at 07:00 and 15:00 from their Abdali station for JD 4.500. Figure on 4 hours or so. Serveeses (which can be taken from Abdali) cost about JD 6 and are faster because processing time at the border is less. There is one train a week that takes at least 8 hours each way. Jordanian rental cars can be taken across, but special paperwork is required - inform the rental agent in advance of this requirement.

Israel and PNA: There are three border crossings, in the north the Sheikh Hussein Bridge (near North Shuna), in the middle the King Hussein/Allenby bridge, and in the south the Aqaba-Eilat crossing. One simply appears now at the crossing and is processed by Jordanian and Israeli immigration authorities. In the north and south, points that are considered true border crossings, passports will be stamped by both authorities. Both sides charge exit tax (JD 5 and ILS 95 - about \$7 and \$35 - respectively).

Crossing via the King Hussein/Allenby requires three legs. To the bridge you can take a JETT bus at 06:30 from Abdali and major hotels (JD 6), a taxi (about JD 15 - negotiate before starting) or a servees (JD 2 or 3). You then pay JD 1.500 (unless you came by JETT) to take a JETT shuttle across the border. On the other side, the standard servees fare to Jerusalem Damascus Gate is ILS 26 (about \$8).

If you ask, you may get through the King Hussein/Allenby crossing without your passport being stamped. However, don't count on it. Jordanian visas are NOT issued at the King Hussein crossing - you must have a visa in advance.

The King Hussein/Allenby bridge is open 8:00 - 20:00 Sunday through Thursday, and 08:00 - 14:00 Friday and Saturday. There are other times when it is closed according to the Israeli calendar of holidays, and sometimes arbitrarily and at very short notice. It is advisable to check one day before leaving and returning.

The Sheik Hussein bridge is open 06:30 - 22:00 Sunday through Thursday, and 08:00 - 20:00 Friday and Saturday. Sunday through Thursday bus service between Amman and Tel Aviv via the north crossing takes about 6 hours.

Departures at 07:00 and 14:30 from the Passenger Transportation Center in north Amman, fare about \$30 each way. The Aqaba-Eilat crossing has about the same hours as the north crossing. The only organized public transportation is a bus between Eilat and Aqaba.

Jordan rental cars may NOT be taken into Israel or the PNA.

There is air service between Marka and QAI airports and Tel Aviv/Ben Gurion, by Royal Wings and El Al. Royal Wings (book through RJ, 678-321) flies daily except Monday and Saturday at 17:15 from Marka. Standard fare is JD 52 (?) each way, with a sight reduction for a one month excursion ticket. El Al (Five Continents Travel near the Ambassador Hotel in Shmeisani [14 on Shmeisani map], 702-526) flies on about the same evening schedule at the same standard fares.

Health Notes

Immunizations (www.cdc.gov/travel/travel.html)

The American Embassy in Amman recommends the following immunizations for travel to Jordan. Record of immunizations should be listed in the "yellow book" to accompany your passport. You should also list your blood type in case of emergency. Please check with your physician for his/her recommendations regarding these immunizations.

Typhoid - required every three years.

Tetanus Diphtheria - required every ten years.

Poliomyelitis

Hepatitis A

Hepatitis B

Meningitis - recommended every three years.

Malaria - no malaria in Amman, occasionally present in the Jordan Valley.

Cholera - not required.

Poisonous Bites - any bite which provokes an unusual reaction (excessive swelling, soreness, redness, etc.) should be looked at by a doctor.

Scorpions - Yellow scorpions have the highest toxicity, followed by black. Light and dark brown scorpions are usually not poisonous.

Centipedes - can cause severe local and sometimes general symptoms, but are rarely fatal. The centipede locally known as the "Forty-four," yellowish-tan, approximately 8 inches long) is the most common poisonous type.

Spiders - Black Widow. The large "camel spiders" are not poisonous, but can inflict a bite. The brown recluse can cause damage.

Ticks themselves are not poisonous but carry endemic and Mediterranean tick typhus. Ticks are associated with, dogs, horses, camels, rodents, small mammals, cave dung, as well as other sources.

Wasps - The big brown and yellow "cow-killer" wasps will cause an immediate reaction even in those not normally allergic to bee stings. Local first-aid clinics will usually have anti-venom shots available. If you are allergic to bee stings, you should carry your "kit" with you at all times.

Snakes - Jordan has many snakes - some of which are not fully known or classified by biologists. Always assume it is poisonous. Local first-aid clinics may or may not have anti-venom shots available.

Introductory Readings

This selective bibliography is provided purely for your convenience. You will find most of these titles in the library.

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TRAVEL/TOURIST INFORMATION

Maps of major cities and towns, guide books (in various languages), Arabic phrase books, and archaeological books/pamphlets (including Al Kutba publications) are usually available at major hotels and tourist shops in Amman and throughout Jordan. Archaeological maps may be obtained from the Department of Antiquities in Amman.

Al-Kutba Jordan Guide Series

A series of booklets on archaeological sites in Jordan, including: Amman, Aqaba, Desert Castles, Jerash, Kerak (with Shobak and Ajilun), King's Highway, Madaba (with Mt. Nebo), Pella, Petra, Umm Qeis, Umm al-Jamal, and Wadi Rum. Amman: Al-Kutba Publishers.

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