



ARAB SHEIKDOMS TOUR JORDAN, SYRIA & U.A.E. (Dubai)

US\$
2458

November 8, 2007 13 DAYS



November 8 MANILA/ AMMAN (D)

Depart Manila on board Emirates Airlines via Dubai via Amman. Enjoy in-flight meals & entertainment. **Ahlan wa Sahlan** – welcome is the cry we hear as we arrive at Amman airport. We are warmly received and then to our hotel.

November 9 AMMAN-MADABA- MT. NEBO-DEAD SEA (BD)

Full day tour to visit main sites in the capital Amman including the *Citadel, Roman Theatre, Archaeological and Folklore Museums*, as well as the modern area. Proceed to Madaba, best known for its spectacular Byzantine and Umayyad mosaics. Visit the famous *St. George Church* and see the famous 6th century Mosaic Map of Jerusalem and the Holy Land. With two million pieces of vividly colored local stone, it depicts hills and valleys, villages and towns as far as the Nile Delta. Drive to *Mt. Nebo* where prophet Moses was given a view of the Promised Land that God was giving to the Hebrews & it also said that Moses was buried on this mountain by God himself. At the top, admire the spectacular view of the Holy Land and descend to the Dead Sea, the lowest spot on earth, after which we return to Amman.

November 10 AMMAN - PETRA (BD)

Drive to visit one of the 'New 7 Wonders of the World' - Petra, an impressive examples of Middle Eastern culture. It is famous for having many stone structures carved into the rock and it is described as "a rose-red city half as old as time" and as "one of the most precious cultural properties of man's cultural heritage. After passing the main gate we ride on horseback for about 700 meters to the entrance of the SIQ and walk along the SIQ until the most astonishing monuments of Petra, the *Treasury*, suddenly appear. We wander among the *tombs, temples, water cisterns, Roman Theatre, street of Facades, Royal Tombs*, the massive *Courthouse, Roman Street, Triumphal Arch*, ending at *Qasr Al-bint*. Time flies at Petra and before we know, it will be time return to our hotel.

November 11 PETRA - WADI RUM - AMMAN (BD)

Drive to Wadi Rum for an exhilarating 4x4 jeep tour. Stunning in its natural beauty, *Wadi Rum* epitomizes the romance of the desert. It is like a moonscape of ancient valleys and towering weathered sandstone mountains rising out of the white and pink colored sands. Is also home to several Bedouin tribes who live in scattered camps throughout the area. *Wadi Rum* is probably best known because of its connection to the award-winning 1962 film *Lawrence of Arabia* based on the life of the enigmatic British officer T.E. Lawrence, who was based here during the Great Arab Revolt of 1917-18. After the tour, proceed back to Amman.

November 12 AMMAN-JERASH-BOSRA-DAMASCUS (BD)

Drive to visit *Jerash*, the Greco-Roman city, where we also cover the *Triumphal Arch, the Hippodrome, the Temple of Zeus, the Forum, a mile long street of Columns, the Nymphaeum, the Temple of Airtimes* and the *Viaduct Church*. Proceed towards the border with Syria. Meet & assist and proceed to *Bosra*, once the capital of the Roman province of Arabia, was an important stopover on the ancient caravan route to Mecca. Visit the magnificent 2nd century *Roman amphitheatre*, together with an ancient Islamic minaret. Early Christian ruins and several mosques are found within its great walls. Continue to our hotel.

November 13 DAMASCUS (BD)

Sightseeing of Damascus, the capital and the largest city of Syria and also the world's oldest city where many civilizations, such as the Americans, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines and Arabs, have left their marks over the centuries. Some of the most popular sites to visit are: The *Umayyad Mosque, Al-Azem Palace, the Chapel of St. Ananias, St. Paul's Window, the National Museum, Hamidiye Bazaar, Saladin Mausoleum* and the legendary *Straight Street of Damascus*. A panoramic view of Damascus from the *Mount Kasioun* will end the tour for this day. Back to the hotel dinner and overnight.

November 14 DAMASCUS-MAALOULA-PALMYRA (BD)

Drive to *Maaloula*, one of the most beautiful and picturesque villages in the region (60km from Damascus) and 1300 meters above sea level. It is said to be the first monastery in Christianity, unique in that the inhabitants still speak Aramaic (the language in which Christ preached and addressed his pupils). Continue to *Palmyra* which has long been a vital caravan city for travellers crossing the Syrian desert. Upon arrival we will start a part of the visit, a panoramic view of the city upon the sunset near the Arabic Citadel, arrival to hotel dinner and overnight.

November 15 PALMYRA-DAMASCUS (BD)

Palmyra (Tadmor in Arabic) is in the heart of Syrian Desert, and is often described as the bride of the desert. Its magnificent remains tell of a heroic history during the reign of Queen Zenobia. Your sightseeing will give you an idea of the beauty of the remaining architecture such as *Baal-Shamin Temple, Bel Temple, Arch of Triumph, the Amphitheater, the Baths, the Straight Street* and the Congress Council. Drive back to Damascus for dinner and overnight.

November 16 DAMSCUS/DUBAI (BD)

We fly to richest of the United Arab Emirates, Dubai. We will be met Assistant and transfer to hotel for check in. Tonight, enjoy a dinner buffet cruise.

November 17 DUBAI Excursion to Abu Dhabi (BD)

Sightseeing to *Abu Dhabi* city tour : visit *Women's Handicraft Centre*, drive around the city passing along the impressive *Abu Dhabi Corniche* and *Fountain*, pass by *Sheikh Zayed Palace, Emirates Palace Hotel* and the *Man Made Island - Marina Mall* area. Tour also includes a drive through the *Heritage Village* and *Dhow Yard*. Then back.

November 18 DUBAI City Tour & Sand Dune Safari (BD)

Our morning city tour of Dubai includes the *Jumeirah Mosque* & continues along the *Jumeirah Beach Road*, photographs at the *Burj Al Arab* (Arab Tower) Hotel. Continue towards the *Nad al Sheeba Camel & Horse Race Tracks*, where can witness camels training, pass by the *Emirates Towers* and *Dubai World Trade Center*, passing by the *Palace of Sheikh Mohammed*, as well as the *Sheikh Rashid Palace, Dubai Creek*. Pass by the historical *Al Fahidi Dubai Museum*, then *Abra Station* where to take an *Abra* to cross to the opposite side of the creek. Then walk to *Spice & Gold Souks*. In the afternoon, experience the thrill of a roller coaster ride on

the sand dunes. We stop on the highest sand dune to view the beautiful sunset, a great chance to take amazing photographs - so don't forget your camera! We then continue our journey to the Bedouin Campsite located in the heart of the Desert, where there are a lot of activities to choose from : enjoy a camel ride among the dunes, have a go at smoking a Shisha or Hubbly Bubbly (also known as narghile or water pipe), or try your hand at henna painting. While you relax in the comfortable pillow strewn tents, a delicious barbecue will be prepared for you, under the starlit sky. To make the evening a truly memorable event, a belly dancer will dance to the rhythm of Arabic music.

November 19 DUBAI Excursion Sharjah (BD)

Visit the cultural square. *Majahrah Souq* with its intricate mosaics & golden dome & popular with the local citizens. *Al Naboodah House*, pass by *Majestic King Faisal Mosque*, the *Pearl Monument*, symbol of the UAE federation, the fabulous blue souk, carpets, gold, silver, antiques, perfumes, clothes and many other goods. Afternoon is free for private activities or just simple shop!

November 20 DUBAI/ MANILA

After witnessing the lifestyles of the rich desert people of these magic sheikdoms, we bid farewell as we take our departure flight from the majestic Dubai Airport back to Manila.

TOUR COST

Twin/ Triple Sharing – US\$ 2,458 per person
Single Rate – US\$ 2,990 per person
Child Rate – US\$ 1,968 per person
(sharing with 2 Adults & NO BED)

INCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip AIRFARE via EMIRATES Airlines First Class Hotels
- Accommodation based on First Class Hotel
- Tours & Transfers as per Itinerary
- Entrance Fees as specified
- Professional English speaking guide
- Daily Breakfast and Dinner

VISA REQUIREMENTS

- Clear Scanned Copy of Passport with details
- Passport must be valid for minimum 6months upon entry to the Kingdom

DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS

- US\$ 200 upon booking (NON-REFUNDABLE)
- Balance due upon confirmation

NOT INCLUDED

- Any lunches en-route as well as any drinks with meals
- Insurance of any kind
- Tips at hotels as well as portorage
- Tips for the guide, driver, and representative
- Departure tax fees at Jordanian / Syrian border about \$8 per person
- All personal expenses
- VISA processing for Jordan & Syria USD 60.00 per person (3 weeks to process)
- VISA processing for Dubai (14 working days) & fees varies

Note: Visa processing charges are subject to change