

# PETRA - WADI RUM ULTRA-TRAIL

## « THE KINGS ROAD »

FROM THE ANCIENT PETRA WONDER OF THE WORLD  
TO THE DESERT DU WADI RUM

DETAILED SHEET

--- PRE-CONTRACTUAL INFORMATION ---



**FROM THE 22ND OF OCTOBER TO THE 1ST OF NOVEMBER 2020**



The Kings road is a memorable 7 step adventure in Jordan, the "Switzerland" of the Middle East. Evolve off the beaten track, through a striking landscape in the heart of mythical places: ancient Temples, Petra's tapering canyons, the negative altitudes of the Dead Sea, the heat and sand of the Wadi Rum desert.

« VENTURE TOWARDS THE LOST ARK  
ON THE OCCASION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY CHALLENGE »

## GENERAL PRESENTATION



The Kings Road is a running or walking event consisting of 7 stages for a total distance of 160km for running and 100km for walkers. Both categories evolve on the same course.

The Kings Road is a demanding sporting adventure that will require endurance and resistance, but accessible to all thanks to the quality of the track and the very present frame.

Enter the heart of a striking and welcoming country in the footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia. More than two thousand years are about to March before your eyes, revealing the wonders of the world of antiquity to the roots of our civilization.

**Petra, one of the 7 Wonders of the world**, an ancient city of the 8th century BC and its imposing facades of temples carved from sandstone, the Khazneh (Treasure Of The Pharaoh), one of many, a mythical place that you find in The Last Crusade, when Indiana Jones discovers the Grail.



**The Wadi-Rum desert, an unusual desert** with its many mountains and sandstone cliffs, a setting that you will never tire of. Sand for hundreds of kilometers, a path dotted with welcoming Bedouin camps.



**The Dead Sea and its negative altitude**, forty times saltier than the others, where you will float like a cork without the slightest effort.

Welcome to Jordan, the Hashemite Kingdom, within a culture of another time and at the heart of Bedouin customs.

Welcome to Middle East Switzerland!

**« It's not just a race,  
it is a journey designed with care and passion »**



## GEOGRAPHICAL PRESENTATION

**« PETRA, THE DESERT OF WADI RUM, THE DEAD SEA, THIS IS A PRESTIGIOUS SETTING WAITING FOR YOU. »**

Jordan covers 91840km<sup>2</sup>. The country would be almost rectangular if it were not for the sleeve that extends to Iraq, in the East, which was bounded by the British who did not want Saudi Arabia, in the south, to have a border with Syria, in the North, then under French protectorate. Its other neighbours are Egypt and Israel to the Southwest and West.

A continental country, it is paradoxically the country of the two seas, the Red Sea and the Dead Sea. The first is a maritime oasis bordering absolute nudity; around the second, the White and blinding salt Halo sterilizes a soil on which it practically never rains.

Jordan is making the transition between Mediterranean and desert climates.



**In the North-South direction, Jordan can be divided into three different zones.**



**To the west**, bordering Israel, the Wadi Araba depression, which extends through the Dead Sea to the North, constitutes an immense tectonic furrow located below sea level and experiencing no temperature below 8°C. There is a subtropical climate.

**In the center**, from Syria to the Red Sea, a huge, very hectic backbone, cut from deep valleys (Wadis) sometimes peaks at more than 1500m above sea level. This region has a Mediterranean climate modified by altitude and it is not uncommon for snow in winter. This is the route of the Route of Kings.

**To the East** are the steppes and the desert to Iraq, more than ¾ of the territory where water points are rare. This desert area is not uniform since we find to the South the Wadi Rum where formidable sandstone and limestone peaks emerge from the ocher of the sand, thus forming one of the most beautiful desert landscapes in the world. This is the Historic Site of Lawrence Of Arabia!

Rarely will a country have presented for less than 300km such a succession of contrasts that make the route of the Kings an unusual sporting adventure.

**#Petra #WadiRum #MerMorte**



## PROGRAM

Octobre 2020						
Lun	Mar	Mer	Jeu	Ven	Sam	Dim
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Novembre 2020						
Lun	Mar	Mer	Jeu	Ven	Sam	Dim
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### Thursday 22th/10

- Flight Paris - Amman (Turkish Airlines to be confirmed)
- Transfer by bus at Madaba 45mn (35km)
- Installation, dinner & night at the Madaba 1880 Hotel (or similar) at Madaba

### Friday 23th/10

#### Step 1 Madaba – Mer Morte

- Lunch at Amman Beach, bathing in the Dead Sea.
- Dinner & night at the Madaba 1880 Hotel (or similar) at Madaba

### Saturday 24th/10

#### Step 2 Al Rashidie – Nawatef Camp

- Transfer by bus to Al Rashidie (3h)
- Lunch, dinner and night at Nawatef Camp

### Saturday 25th/10

#### Step 3 Nawatef Camp – Shoubak

- Transfer Marche: 11,5km
- Lunch, dinner and night at Jaya Camp of Shoubak

### Monday 26th/10

#### Step 4 Shoubak – Petra

- Transfer 12km
- Lunch at the arrival of the mountain stage
- Transfer Marche 1h30 to join the bus, then Petra
- Dinner and night at the Petra Palace hotel (or similar)

### Tuesday 27th/10

#### Step 5 Little Petra

- Transfer 15mn
- Lunch, dinner and night at the Petra Palace hotel (or similar).



### Wednesday 28th/10

- Visit of the historical site of Petra.
- Lunch in a restaurant in the Petra site.
- Dinner and night at the Petra Palace hotel (or similar).

### Thursday 29th/10

#### Step 6 Taybeyh – Togra

- Transfer bus 20 mn.
- Lunch, dinner and overnight bivouac in the desert at Abassie.

### Friday 30th/10

#### Step 7 Abassie – Bridge Roc

- Departure since the bivouac for the Runners. Transfer Marcheurs 6 km.
- At the end of the afternoon announcement of results, delivery of compensation.
- Lunch, dinner and overnight bivouac at Bridge Roc in the Wadi Rum Desert.

### Saturday 31th/10

- Transfer Bridge Roc / Petra Palace at Wadi Moussa Marche 13km
- Lunch, dinner and night in bivouac at Petra Palace hotel (or similar)

### Sunday 01st/11

- Departure for Amman in bus
- Flight Amman – Paris (Turkish Airlines to be confirmed)

## STEPS DESCRIPTION

# PETRA WADI-RUM ULTRA-TRAIL

*From ancient Petra to desert sands*

7 étapes de course



160,5 km 3230 D+ 4265 D-



100 km 2435 D+ 2645D



*Sports level of adventure*



TrailRunning from 5km/h



TrailRunning ou Trekking from 3,5km/h

Departure allowed on the following days an abandonment (unless medical contraindication decided by the doctor)

### Step 1 – From Madaba to the Dead Sa



22km 150D+ 1290D-



12km 110D+ 650D-

A short set up, you will dive to the lowest point of the planet: Dead Sea (- 420m). Via a small dirt road, about 5 km, you will arrive in a lunar landscape facing the mausoleum of Moses. After passing through an oasis at the bottom of the Valley, and 4 km of big radadas it will be the discovery of many Bedouin camps. It will follow, a single track at km 9, which will take you, then, to the road of the Dead Sea that we follow for 1 km. There, you will discover the desert until the arrival under the tent of a Bedouin family, tea assured!

At the end of the stage, lunch at the restaurant and swim in the Dead Sea in Amman Beach.

### Step 2 - From Al Rashidiya at Nawatef Camp



15km 310D+ 360D-



10km 310D+ 360D-

Short & exceptional stop, passing through the protected village of Dana. You will arrive on the edge of a high cliff overlooking the Wadi Araba. From the 1st km, passing a rocky barrier by a small herd trail. You would continue by crossing the Dana Nature Reserve and its spectacular rocks. The ascent to Nawatef Camp is rough. Hard camp with toilets, showers and an unforgettable sunset over Palestine. Bedouin atmosphere provided by Ali.

### Step 3 - From Nawatef Camp at Jaya Camp Shoubak



24km 595D+ 815D-



12,5km 525D+ 565D-

Départ du campement. 5 km d'échauffement, passage devant un camp militaire, et c'est la descente dans la vallée conduisant à Shoubak et son château des croisés. Enfin, l'itinéraire de la Route des Rois et des caravanes de chameaux s'ouvrent à vous.

Déjà au km 14 et jusqu'au 20eme km, une montée, un peu rude, sur une piste caillouteuse et une descente raide au pied du château. Enfin, le dernier km, pentu, pour rejoindre Jaya Camp, situé face au château. Nous le visiterons l'après-midi avant de pouvoir admirer son spectaculaire coucher de soleil.



## STEPS DESCRIPTION (SUITE)

### Step 4 - From Shoubak at Petra

 23,5km 895D+ 420D-  15km 770D+ 360D-

This is the step that approaches us to the ancient city of Petra. High quality track, totally in balcony with a succession of radadas dominating the Wadi Araba a thousand meters below.

Very spectacular route with an arrival at altitude (1400m) for lunch prepared by Ibrahim the Bedouin of the Wadi Rum. After the meal, a walk (about) 1h30 to join the bus that takes us to the hotel Petra Palace in Wadi Moussa, at the entrance to the historic site.

### Étape 5 – Little Petra

 20km 330D+ 330D-  12km 270D+ 270D-

Light warm-up of 15 minutes before diving in the Nabatean atmosphere. A track through tombs and numerous Bedouin camps. At km 4, passing in front of the finish gorge of Little Petra to reach the high plateau via a steep climb, you are at km 7. Through a lunar landscape, the trail will take you around a plateau overlooking deep canyons. From km 17, dive into a gorge, narrow, to connect the Nabatean site of Little Petra. Breathtaking, unique, a 1 m wide rift to open to the temples! The arrival is here, great.

### Visit of Petra

One-day Break for a visit to Petra, one of the 7 Wonders of the world. You will take "the high places" the route reserved for seasoned walkers ... that you are (it is not a day of rest!). The table of Sacrifices, The Lion's Fountain, The Temple of the Roman soldier, the aisle of the columns and many other mythical places, nothing will escape us!

Departure from the hotel at 8 am and lunch on the site of Petra (buffet). In the afternoon, for the bravest, visit the temple of El Deir (1 hour walk in addition!). To close this day, full of colour and history, you will enjoy the restorative side of the pool of the Petra Palace.

### Step 6 - From Taybeh at Togra

 34,5km 800D+ 900D-  18km 220D+ 310D-

The longest of the route of Kings that leads us to the entrance of the Wadi Rum desert. The route crosses the village of Rajif (km 10) then dominates Dilaga (km 17) and passes through Bir Hamat (km 27) to cross the Togra pass (km 30). An arrival under the Bedouin tent of the village of Togra.

The Wadi Rum and its high cliffs rising from the ochre sand are ahead of us. A short transfer (30 minutes) takes us to the Bedouin camp of Abassie organized by Ibrahim, our collaborator, for almost 20 years! Traditional Bedouin tents, mattresses, showers and toilets ... in the middle of the desert.

### Step 7 - From Abassie at Rock Bridge

 21,5 km 150D+ 150D-  13,5km 130D+ 130D-

One of the most beautiful deserts in the world "the Wadi Rum" offers you. After 7 km, on a small asphalt road (Rav1) we cross the Desert Highway that connects Amman to Aqaba. The track on carrier sand passes under a large pylon and then sinks into this maze of rocks and dunes. The markup is very tight, because the orientation is delicate.

The arrival at The Rock Bridge is unique. In front of you, two natural arches of great purity, and our second bivouac installed nearby. The afternoon is dedicated to rest, photography of shapes and colours and ... the unforgettable sunset of Jordan. As on every bivouac, Bedouin lunch and dinner very adapted to the efforts of the day with the staff of Ibrahim.

## TECHNICAL ORGANISATION

The Kings Road has been the subject of a very sharp recognition (we had not returned there for 5 years). The routes and routes were checked and adjusted on the ground by both NED staff and our Jordanian correspondents. The 2020 program was enriched by the constructive feedback and suggestions from both our participants and the staff present on the raid.

### Administrative formalities

Participants must hold a passport valid 6 months after the return date. NED is responsible for obtaining the visas.

### Refuelling

Every 8 km, about. The exact locations will be confirmed at the daily briefing, the day before each step. They include: mineral water (clogged bottles), solid energy foods (dried fruits, cookies, etc.), fresh fruits (bananas, oranges, etc.).

### Meal

Lunch shared at the end of the stages. Dinner in hotels or bivouacs.

The meals, hearty and quality, are composed mainly based on chicken and rice and suitable for sports efforts, whether they are made in the hotels where we will stay or in the camps of our Bedouin correspondents.



### Accommodation

The hotel in Madaba is of a very decent standard (3 stars), located in the city center.

In Petra, Hotel of very good standing (3 stars), the welcome is warm and the service quality. NED has been loyal to this establishment since the first edition of the Route of Kings.

Meals in hotels are served as buffets.

The bivouacs are comfortable, with showers and toilets! Foam mattresses provided during each night in camp.

**Don't forget your down as well as a headlamp.**

### Transports

- air: flight Paris / Amman / Paris (Turkish or Egyptair).
- terrestrial: comfortable bus, sometimes 4X4 for transfers.

### Step markup

The stages are all checked the week before the race and the marking is carried out with red and white rubalisa. The refuelling and control points are announced by signs 1km ahead and the arrival every km on the last 5 km. Mandatory systematic scoring at each refuelling station.

## TECHNICAL ORGANISATION (SUITE)

### Assistance and safety vehicles

One or two vehicles are on the route for possible interventions, ready to overcome any possible problems.

### Health

Each participant will return to NED the medical certificate that was sent to him upon confirmation of his registration.

No vaccination is mandatory. Please inform the team doctor of any pathologies and/or any medical treatment (and take it in sufficient quantity for the duration of the stay)

A list of mandatory equipment will be sent to you with your airport summons (emergency kit ....., sunscreen total screen, lip protection stick)

In Jordan, the sun is king, do not forget your sunglasses.

Drink water only from clogged and capsulated bottles.

### Climate

The temperature in October fluctuates between 25 and 30°C in desert areas, it can rise up to 40°C during the 1st stage.

It can fall sharply on mountain stages, especially at night (15°C). The risk of rain is almost zero!

### Clothing

For sports stages, classic outfit identical to that worn in France.

Trail shoes may be welcome on some stages (sometimes cluttered with pebbles), but are not essential! Essential gaiters for stages in the Wadi Rum desert.

Jordan is not a "closed" country and tourism is well developed there.

### Monnaie

Jordanian Dinar (JD) 1 JD = €1.20

In large hotels, possibility of payment by credit card.

It is not necessary to carry US \$, the Euros can be exchanged there without any problems.

### Language

Arabic is the official language. English is very practiced, especially in tourist centers and hotels.

### Voltage

220V in hotels, no adapter.

### Security

Jordan is a safe country where the slightest misconduct is severely punished (drugs in particular).

### Nature of the tracks

Hard dirt tracks, and Rocky in the first stages. The difference in level is therefore on the first 4 steps.

### Internet

Wi-Fi in all hotels.



## THE BUDGET

### The price includes...

#### Registration fee: 2 350 €

- Flight Paris – Amman – Paris (Turkish Airlines to be confirmed).
- Technical supervision by Nature Extrême Développement and our Jordanian correspondents.
- Accommodation and meal throughout the stay.
- Entrance to protected sites for a fee (nature parks, archaeological sites).
- All refuelling during the stags as well as all transfers
- Obtaining visas.

### The does price include...

- Beverages other than those take into account by Nature Extrême Développement.
- Personal expenses, phone, other purchases.
- Activities or visits other than those provided for in the program.
- Cancellation insurance – repatriation.

ATTENTION: the cost of overweight possibly charged by the airlines remains at the expense of the participants.

### Insurance

Each participant must have individual civil liability as well as individual multi-risk warranty in order to protect themselves from incidents or accidents that may occur before or during the hike or trip. Please note that payment with a credit card generally only covers assistance provided you have used your card to pay for the trip. Payment by credit card usually does not cover the risk of cancellation.

Nature extreme Development offers you to subscribe to the Global Assistance contract "temporary travel multi-Risk Solution". The amount of this insurance, which varies according to duration and destination, is indicated in the travel registration form, and offers extended guarantees according to the formula chosen : medical repatriation, interruption of stay, delay of transport, payment of the arrival of a relative in case of hospitalization on the spot, coverage of emergency medical expenses and hospitalization, baggage coverage in case of loss or deterioration, civil liability abroad. To find out the exact contractual terms, in particular the scope of warranties, deductibles and exclusions, we recommend that you consult the full contractual terms and the product information document available on the site or on request from Nature extreme Development.

The proposed insurance must be taken out at the time of registration. In the proposed insurance, the insurance premium and visa fees are not refundable either by extreme Development Nature or by the insurer.

### Carbon Offset

As responsible tourism is part of the values of an extreme Development nature, carbon compensation is proposed for each flight through the GOODPLANET Foundation ([www.goodplanet.org](http://www.goodplanet.org)).

### Payment schedule

For a reservation more than 35 days from the date of departure of the trip, you will need to pay the deposit mentioned on the registration form. For any registration less than 35 days from the date of departure, payment must be made in one time and for the entire price of the trip. The balance of the price of the trip must be paid, without any rebate from us, no later than 35 days before the trip.

## WHO ARE WE?

Nature Extrême Développement is a travel agency sharing through sport, world culture and discovering new horizons. Trips that can be both distant, close to home or indoors; timed or non-timed; alone or in groups

Founded in 1995 by Serge and Cathy MOREL-JEAN, **NED has organised more than 200 raids on 5 continents** over the past 25 years. Benoît LAVAL joined the company in 2020 as President.

**NED, it is a team of professionals surrounded by passionate volunteers and quality local partners to make you live the most beautiful sport and tourist adventures.**



### **Serge MOREL-JEAN**, Founder of NED since 1995:

Mountain Guide, Nordic ski instructor, mountain hunting officer military career in Annecy, Briançon and Chamonix.

Former director of the French military ski team, climbing the highest peaks of the Alps such as Eiger, Piz Badile, Matterhorn, Aiguille Verte, Grandes Jorasses, Mont Blanc...

The Transbaikal and the Moskova (Moscow – St Petersburg) performed with sled dogs.

### **Cathy MOREL-JEAN**, Manager since 2002:

Great spotswoman, swimming (European Youth Championships in 1968), running (Marathon des Sables, Desert Cup, Sierre-Zinal, and several marathons)

Former assistant professor of sport, lifeguard, sports educator, completed with a 2-years post high school degree Tourism and graduated in Ericksonian hypnosis, NLP and Sophrology.



### **Benoît LAVAL**, President since 2020:

Race on foot since the age of 9, more than 200 trails with more than 60 wins and more than 30 countries visited in running, a selection in team of France Trail, 2nd place in the Grand Raid of the Reunion, participations in the Barkley and the 400km of Gobi.

Founder of Raidlight and Trail station network.

Organizer of races since 1992, such as the challenge of the Oisans, the Chartreuse Terminorum, and more classic trails.

## RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

Responsible tourism is one of the values of an extreme Development nature.

For each flight, carbon compensation is proposed through the GOODPLANET Foundation ([www.goodplanet.org](http://www.goodplanet.org)).

Nature extreme Développement also carries out other actions for Responsible Tourism, and is a member of the association ATR (Act for Responsible Tourism).

As such, we invite every traveller to read and sign voluntarily the traveller's ethical charter: <https://www.tourisme-responsable.org/voyager-responsable/charte-ethique-voyageur/> so that all together participate at our level to this goal.

<p>NATURE EXTRÊME DÉVELOPPEMENT SAS au capital de 50.000€ Siège social : Le Bourg 38 380 Saint-Pierre-de-Chartreuse Tél : 00 (33) 4 79 25 84 30 E-mail : dream@natureextreme.run RCS Chambéry (73) 401 713 169</p>	<p>Immatriculation Atout France IM 073100049 Garantie financière : APST – 15 avenue Carnot 75017 Paris – ID 73420 Assurance Responsabilité Civile &amp; Professionnelle : HIXCOX – 12, Quai des Queyries – CS 41177 – 30072 Bordeaux Contrat n° HISCOX RCP0222709</p>
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