

Amman

Written by Administrator

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During its long history, Amman has been inhabited by several civilizations. The first civilization on record is during the Neolithic period, around 8500 BC, when archaeological discoveries in 'Ain Ghazal, located in eastern Amman, showed evidence of not only a settled life but also the growth of artistic work, which suggests that a well-developed civilization inhabited the city at that time. ...

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In the 13th century BC Amman was called Rabbath Ammon or Rabat Amon by the Ammonites Rabbat ׀ Ammon, Tiberian Hebrew Rabba ׀ ׀ Ammôn). It was later conquered by the Assyrians,

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followed by the Persians, and then the Greeks. Ptolemy II Philadelphus, the Hellenic ruler of Egypt, renamed it Philadelphia. The city became part of the Nabataean kingdom until 106 AD when Philadelphia came under Roman control and joined the Decapolis. In 326 AD, Christianity became the religion of the empire and Philadelphia became the seat of a bishopric during the beginning of the Byzantine era. One of the churches of this period can be seen on the city's Citadel. Temple of Hercules, Roman Corinthian Columns at Citadel Hill Philadelphia was renamed Amman during the Ghassanian era, and flourished under the Caliphates (with nearby capital) of the Umayyads (in Damascus) and the Abbasids (in Baghdad). It was then destroyed by several earthquakes and natural disasters and remained a small village and a pile of ruins until the Circassians settlement in 1887. The tide changed when the Ottoman Sultan decided to build the Hejaz railway, linking Damascus and Medina, facilitating both the annual hajj pilgrimage and permanent trade, putting Amman, a major station, back on the commercial map. The Citadel: The Hill of the Citadel (Jabal al-Qal'a) in the middle of Amman was occupied as early as the Neolithic period, and fortified during the Bronze Age (1800 BC). The ruins on the hill today are Roman through early Islamic.



Iraq al Amir: Iraq al Amir is within the municipality of Amman in the Jordan Valley. Located about 15 km southwest of the town of Wadi Al Seer, it has a population of about 6000 people, mostly members of the tribe of Abbadi. It is located on the hills with high and medium altitude, the area has many springs, and is famous for its olive trees, in addition to other forest trees. About 0.5 km south of the town is located the so-called Al-Iraq historical site, which was built by a Persian prince in the 3rd century BC. There are many caves in the hills which date back to the

Copper Age. >The cave of the Seven Sleepers: The story of the Seven Sleepers occurs both in Islam (as Sura 18 of The Koran) and in Christianity ('The Seven Sleepers of Ephesus' in Jacobus de Voragine's 13th century collection of apocrypha known as 'The Golden Legend'). In each case the story concerns a group of young men escaping from persecution by a local pagan ruler who fall asleep in a cave. Through divine intervention they sleep safely for a hundred years or more and wake up after the area has converted to the appropriate religion. Although Voragine sets the story in Ephesus (in modern Turkey), the Koranic version is clearly identified with this cave in a southern suburb of Amman. This identification must have occurred by the 8th century as the Umayyads built a mosque outside and it appears to have been something of a pilgrimage site. King Hussein Mosque: King Hussein Mosque bustles with pedestrians, juice stands and vendors. The area around the King Hussein Mosque, also known as al-Husseini Mosque, is the heart of modern downtown Amman. The Ottoman-style mosque was rebuilt in 1924 on the site of an ancient mosque, probably also the site of the cathedral of Philadelphia.

The Suq: A great experience in Amman is walking in the souq of the town. Here you can see nice moments of daily life of Jordanian people. One of the things which you can see is the contraposition between old and new.

The Roman Theatre: The theatre was built during the reign of Marcus Aurelius (169-177 AD). 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 was divided into three horizontal sections (diazomata). Side entrances (paradoi) existed at ground level, one leading to the orchestra and the other to the stage. Rooms behind these entrances now house the Jordanian Museum of Popular Traditions on the one side, and the Amman Folklore Museum on the other side. The highest section of seats in a theatre was (and still is) called "The Gods". Although far from the stage, even there the sightlines are excellent, and the actors could be clearly heard, owing to the steepness of the cave.

MUSEUMS:

Folklore Museum: Amman's Folklore Museum, located at one end of the Roman Theatre, recreates traditional Jordanian life. Costumes, home furnishings, musical instruments and handicrafts dating back to the 19th century are all on display. Other notable exhibits include a Bedouin goat-hair tent with rug weavings and household equipment, plus replicas of traditional domestic interiors.

Archaeological Museum: Situated on Amman's Citadel Hill, this small museum has an excellent collection of Jordanian antiquities, dating from prehistoric times to the 15th century. Don't miss the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Royal Automobile Museum: The Royal Automobile Museum depicts the history of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from the early 1920's until the present day. The featured cars highlight the life of His Majesty the late King Hussein and his reign, as well as the many aspects of his leadership.

Children Museum: This exciting venue is the first hands-on establishment of its kind in the Kingdom and is filled each day with the joy of new discoveries. Opened in May 2007, CMJ was brought to life as part of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah's commitment to children's well-being, education and development. The staff at CMJ are dedicated to serving children, families, schools and the community at large. With over 150 interactive exhibits, the Museum is guaranteed to delight visitors of all ages. A variety of inventive, educational programs and dynamic activities ensures that the Museum is a stimulating setting where learning and fun go hand in hand. Above all, CMJ is a place where children can touch, experiment, create and interact comfortably with their environment and with each other.

Amman by Night: Enjoy a drive in the capital. Drive through the most modern areas to end downtown. If you would like a stroll in the shopping area, don't miss Sweifiglieh where you can enjoy Arghile and western food. If you prefer malls, don't miss Macca Mall, City Mall and Zara Center.

Jordan River Foundation – Rainbow Street: The Jordan River Foundation (JRF), established in 1995 and Chaired by Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah, is a non-profit Jordanian non-governmental organization (NGO). The Jordan River Foundation's mission is to promote, in partnership with stakeholders, the development of a dynamic Jordanian society by initiating and supporting sustainable social, economic and cultural programs that empower communities and individuals based on their needs and priorities. You will find a high selection of handcrafts and a lovely place where to eat.