

GUIDELINES TO TRAVEL IN JORDAN

CAPTIVE ANIMAL ATTRACTION:

- We do not offer any kind of activity with animal being held captive. We do suggest though, when absolutely in need to use captive animals in Jordan, to be extremely careful to the condition of the animals. For example, that the camel, donkey or horse that you're going to use has the following aspect: Freedom from Hunger and Thirst, Freedom from Discomfort, Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease, Freedom to Express Normal Behavior, Freedom from Fear and Distress.
- Millennium Tours deeply condemn the use of horses, camel and donkeys in Petra as their owners do not comply to the Five Freedom Requirement (Freedom from Hunger and Thirst, Freedom from Discomfort, Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease, Freedom to Express Normal Behavior, Freedom from Fear and Distress).

Wildlife watching and visiting protected areas

Activities offered:

- Wildlife watching in Shawmari reserve (next to Azraq);
- Bird watching in Aqaba and Azraq reserve;
- Jeep safari tour in Shawmari reserve;
- Hiking in Dana Reserve;
- Hiking in Ajloun Reserve;
- Hiking in Azraq Reserve;
- Canyoning in Wadi Mujib;
- Cycling in Umm Qays;
- Hiking in Umm Qays;

Guidelines:

- Do not corner or chase wildlife, nor interrupt their direction of movement
- Do not provoke wildlife to display specific behaviors, e.g., defensive or territorial displays;
- Do not handle (pick up) wildlife unless with explicit approval from conservation authorities to do so;
- Do not disturb nocturnal species on night viewing activities, e.g., only use lights that cause minimal disturbance and use them appropriately;
- When multiple locations to view a species are possible, rotate use to minimize cumulative impacts;

- Repair and compensate for any damage caused to the activity area;
- Participate in conserving activity area integrity; notify authorities of concerns and participate in rehabilitation projects.
- Use eco-friendly products, e.g., cleaning products for hiking equipment;
- Be waterwise and take pro-active measures to use water sparingly;
- Minimize energy used in the activity as part of a climate action strategy;
- Show respect for the land, waterways, wildlife, and other activity area users;
- Stay on designated route and apply least impact principles where no trail exists;
- Participate in conserving activity area integrity; notify authorities of concerns and participate in rehabilitation project.

DIVING & SNORKELING

Guidelines:

Millennium Tours discourages the use of gloves (to discourage participants from touching coral)

- Millennium Tours discourages the use of sunscreen that is not “reef-safe”
- Ensure that flash photography is not excessive as repeated flash can cause undue stress
- Confirm that all diving equipment is secured to prevent damage from dragging
- Monitor divers for neutral buoyancy to avoid contact with coral reef, seagrass, sandy surfaces
- Find an area free from fragile organisms should a rest / pause in the dive be necessary
- Use low intensity lights for night dives to avoid confusing and causing harm to marine wildlife
- Repair and compensate for any damage caused to the activity area
- Participate in conserving activity area integrity; notify authorities of concerns and participate in marine conservation and rehabilitation projects.
- Show respect for the land, waterways, wildlife, and other users in the activity area.
- Use eco-friendly products, e.g., sanitizing products for diving / snorkeling equipment

SAFARI TOUR in Wadi Rum and Shawmari reserve

Guidelines:

- Respect Wildlife: Maintain a safe distance from animals and never attempt to feed or provoke them. Observe quietly and avoid making loud noises.

- Stay on Designated Paths: Always stick to marked trails and roads to prevent damaging habitats and disturbing wildlife.
- Leave No Trace: Do not litter or leave any waste behind. Carry out what you bring in, including food wrappers and other waste.
- Support Local Communities: Choose tours that benefit local communities and use local guides. This supports the economy and promotes cultural preservation.
- Use Eco-Friendly Products: When packing for your safari, opt for biodegradable soaps and shampoos, and avoid single-use plastics.
- Practice Responsible Photography: Ask for permission before photographing individuals from local communities and avoid using flash photography near wildlife.
- Follow Tour Operator Guidelines: Listen to your guide's instructions and adhere to the rules set by the tour operator to ensure everyone's safety and the protection of the environment.
- Educate Yourself: Learn about the ecosystems you are visiting and the conservation efforts in place to protect them.

VISITING COMMUNITIES

When visiting local communities be aware of the following guideline:

- **Iraq al Amir woman association**
- **“Baraka destination”**
- **“BookAgri’ association**

- Ensure applicable legal permits & permission to access the area are in place;
- Ensure insurance is in place for guests and team;
- Identify health & safety risks, implement management systems, and provide appropriate safety equipment;
- Ensure enough team members are available in case of emergency;
- Monitor activity area conditions (including weather) in advance & during the activity;
- Be familiar with activity area and ensure that navigation and communication tools are in good working order;
- Maximize local economic benefits through employment and supporting local businesses;
- Avoid single use & disposable items, provide adequate waste collection facilities for safe disposal (or pack out what you take in), and pick up any rubbish found along the way;
- Minimize energy used in the activity as part of a climate action strategy;
- Provide information in advance about your sustainability actions, activity accessibility, what to expect, and what to bring with;
- Screen participants to make sure that the activity is well suited to their fitness & level of ability;
- Manage group size to minimize impacts on people & the planet;

- Obtain written confirmation, e.g., via indemnity, from participants that they are aware of activity risks;
- Brief participants about do's and don'ts, safety, what to expect, applicable etiquette / conduct to be respectful of, and logistical considerations before the activity starts;
- In sensitive socio-economic or cultural contexts, e.g., under-serviced areas, someone from the local community must accompany the group;
- Share information about local nature and culture, and social development / conservation projects that participants may want to support;
- Facilitate opportunities for meaningful exchange with local people;
- Show respect for the land, waterways, wildlife, and others in the area, ensuring that local residents are not disturbed;
- Repair and compensate for any damage caused to the activity area;
- Contribute to conserving activity area integrity; let relevant authorities know about any concerns and participate in rehabilitation projects.

VISITING TRADITIONAL/RURAL COMMUNITIES

- **Bedouin families**
- **Local families**

Guidelines:

When visiting traditional and rural communities, it's important to engage in a way that is respectful, responsible, and sustainable. Here are some guidelines to follow:

- **Respect Local Customs:** Learn about and honor the cultural practices, traditions, and norms of the community you are visiting. This includes appropriate dress and behavior (Cover your shoulder and chest, always ask if it's acceptable to consume alcohol in their house).
- **Seek Permission:** Always ask for permission before taking photographs of people or their property. Respect their wishes if they decline.
- **Support Local Economies:** Purchase handmade crafts and products directly from local artisans rather than from mass-produced sources. This helps support the community economically.
- **Use Local Guides:** Hire local guides who understand the culture and environment. They can provide valuable insights and help ensure that your visit is beneficial to the community.
- **Minimize Environmental Impact:** Practice Leave No Trace principles by not littering, using biodegradable products, and conserving water and energy.

- Participate in Community Activities: Engage in cultural activities or volunteer opportunities that benefit the community. This fosters goodwill and understanding.
- Educate Yourself: Take the time to learn about the history, struggles, and successes of the community. This enhances your appreciation and understanding of their way of life.
- Be Mindful of Resources: Avoid overwhelming the community with tourists, and be considerate of their resources, such as water and food.
- Leave a Positive Impact: Consider how your visit can contribute positively to the community and help with its development without causing dependency.
- Provide Feedback: Share your experiences and suggestions with tour operators to help improve sustainable practices in the future.

By following these guidelines, you can ensure a respectful and enriching experience for both you and the communities you visit.