Welcome!

A guide to Jordan for new families

Compiled and prepared by the ACS Parent-Teacher Group (PTG)
Updated: August 2012
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On behalf of ACS, the Parent Teacher Group would like to wish you a warm welcome to Jordan. We hope you get a chance to experience the beauty of Jordan, a country rich in history and culture. From the Lost City of Petra—one of the Seven Wonders of the World, to Lawrence of Arabia’s mesmerizing Wadi Rum, to the Greco-Roman ruins of Jerash, to the therapeutic magnificence of the lowest point on earth— the Dead Sea, there are many, many marvels that Jordan has to offer.

We know that relocating to a new country can sometimes be overwhelming so we have created a basic guide to help you settle into life in Jordan. We have tried to include information ranging from medical care to looking for help in setting up your new home, and other essentials particularly helpful to families when relocating. We encourage you to have some fun too, so we have also included lists of places to go and many activities to do.

We hope that you enjoy living in Jordan and that you will soon feel at home!

Sincerely,

PTG Hospitality Committee
PTG Tip:

Get acquainted with the “circles” of the Amman streets - they are indicated in red numbers on the map above. There are 8 circles along Zahran Street and you can get to almost anywhere in Amman from these circles!
Malls

- Al Baraka Mall - Swefieh  
  www.albarakamall.com  
  06-5808888
- City Mall - King Abdullah II Street  
  www.citymall.jo  
  06 5868502
- Mecca Mall - Close to City Mall  
  www.kurdigroup.jo  
  06-5527948
- Taj Mall - Abdoun  
  www.tajlifestyle.com  
  06-5921122

Groceries

- Cozmo - Sweifieh  
  06-5501240
- Safeway – Sweifieh  
  06-5815558
- Carrefour – City Mall  
  06-5505800
- Miles – Mecca Mall  
  06-5853444
- Spinneys – Taj Mall  
  06-5933377

Specialized Shops

- Nour Home -Sweifieh  
  06-5827455
  *Inexpensive kitchenware & home basics*
- Mr. Fix IT - Sweifieh  
  06-5865366
  *Shoe/bag repair, dry cleaning, key service*
- Bashiti - King Abdullah II Street  
  06-5350009
  *Hardware store*
- Ace - Mecca Mall  
  06-5541919
  *Hardware store*
- SmartBuy - Taj Mall & above Cozmo  
  06-5809999
  *Home electronics & Whitegoods*
- Freddy For Music - Abdoun near Bella Market  
  06-5920085
  *Instrument sales & rentals*
Amman Road Runners
Serious runners with an annual Dead-Red Marathon, usually in March.
info@aiec.jo

Bike Jordan
Bike Jordan organizes weekend bike trips around Amman and monthly around Jordan. info@cycling-jordan.com
Tel: 078 555 2525

Bisharat Golf Club
Located off the Airport Road, they offer lessons, rentals, and the best “browns” in Jordan.
www.golfjordan.com
Tel: 079-5520334

Climbat Amman
The first indoor climbing center in Amman! The center is situated on Naur /Dead Sea Road.
www.climbat.com
Tel: 06 5736177

Arthur Murray-Sweifiyeh
Salsa, Latin, and Ballroom dance lessons.
Tel: 06 586-2404

Freeway Dance – Wakalat St -Sweifiyeh
Salsa, Breakdance, HipHop, Ballet
Tel: 0777833842

Tempo—behind Whispers, 5th Circle
Hip-hop, salsa, classes for youth.
Tel: 06 593-8939

Dozan wa Awtar Musical Estab
Chorale music events for amateurs and professionals; including a children’s choir.
www.dozan-awtar.com
Tel: 06 592-0542

Freddy For Music
Instrument music lessons; Abdoun near Bella Market, across from Abdoun Mall.
Tel: 06 592-0085

Jordan Speed Center
Go-carting -- off Airport Road, near Bisharat Stables.
Tel. 06 429-0306

Hashemite Hash House Harriers (HHHH)
The local group of partying runners meets on Monday evenings.
http://www.hashemitehhh.googlepages.com

Mountain Breeze Country Club
In the Gilead Mountains near Zai. Numerous outdoor activities (eg paintball, archery) or just enjoy a good meal at the terrace restaurant.
Tel: 0777-234569

National Music Conservatory (NMC)
Provides private and group voice and instrument lessons for beginning, intermediate, and national with seasonal concerts. British testing is offered in the spring. King Hussein Cultural Center, near Amman City Hall. Tel. 06 473-7148

Royal Chess Club
Open daily from 16:00-22:00 with pick up games during those hours. The RCC offers trainers and sponsors tournaments.
Tel: 06 566-6382.

Royal Dive Club
A great resource for lessons, guides, and equipment rentals. Located in Aqaba.
Tel: (03)-201-7035

YWCA Choir
International-Jordanian group meets in the autumn and early winter. Their annual Christmas concert is a real treat. Look for Jordan Times ad in August for tryouts/rehearsals. Tel: 06 464-1119
### Gyms

- **Body Design (women)** 06 592-9669
- **DNA "Personal Training"** 06 592-1449
- **Family Tae Kwon Do Center** 06 592-0239
- **Fit 4 Life** 065924499
- **Fitness One** 06 585-9924
- **Fitness First Mecca Mall** 06 586-3046
- **Fitness First – Abdoun (ex-Vy)** 06 592-3828
- **FLEX** 06 581-1240
- **Galleria Yoga Center** 079-5521099
- **One with Nature (Yoga, Dance)** 079-6223099
- **Power Hut** 06 568-6349

### Bowling

- **Jordan Bowling Center** 06 5512987
- **Royal Automobile Club** 06 5850626
- **Kempinski Strikers** 06 5200200

### Riding

- **Arabian Riding Club (Bisharat)**
  Riding and jumping lessons, some exhibitions and go-carts. Located off the Airport Road
  Tel. 06 4291387

- **Country Riding Center of Jordan**
  Located in Jelad
  Tel: 05-3514008

- **Princess Alia Center for Riding**
  Located at the Hussein Sports City,
  Tel: 06 5675739

### Activities

**Saifi Stables**
Learn how to ride, go on a hack, or host a BBQ at Saifi, off the Airport Road.
[www.safistables.com](http://www.safistables.com)
Tel: 0777-44-2222

**For Kids**

- **Jordan Bowling Centre**
  These compact lanes are located on the top floor of Mecca Mall. Bowling shoes are available, and a game costs 4JD. It’s a fun place for a birthday party. Air hockey is also available.
  Tel. 06 551-2987

- **Early Childhood Music Lessons**
  Focus is ages 2-7. Lana Piano Studio; Abdoun-Cairo Str. Building 103 (In front of Housing Bank)
  lana-music@hotmail.com.
  Tel: 079 564 3043; 06 593 1832

- **Family Tae Kwon Do Center**
  This center, located in Sweifieh, offers martial arts instruction in a number of disciplines throughout the week.
  Tel: 06 592-0239; 079-579-5762

- **Jordan Adventure Camp**
  For older elementary kids and up—climbing and other challenging outdoor activities. Birthday and leadership group packages. Off Airport road, Dunes exit but uphill to the west (opposite Bisharat – Arabian Riding Center).
  [www.adventure-jordan.com](http://www.adventure-jordan.com)

- **Royal (National) Performing Arts Center**
  Classical ballet training and performances.
  Tel: 06 569-0291/2
Play & Parties

Bambolina
This cheerful establishment is a discovery center geared toward 2-8 year olds. It’s a great birthday party option. Admission is 4JD (adults free). Bambolina is open 10:00-20:00 Saturday through Thursday and 15:00-20:00 on Fridays. Tel: 06 585-4410.

Fun Factory
Daily activities such as free play, art, music, dance, martial arts and yoga classes for children 18 months plus. Birthdays, individual & family packages are offered. Located in Sweifieh near 5th Circle and the Bristol Hotel. www.funfactory.com.jo Tel: 06 592-3475

Funtastic
Located in Um Uthaina, Funtastic is a children’s “edutainment” center — a day care, a play place, a summer camp, and a party center in one, catering to kids ages one to nine. Each of Funtastic’s sections focuses on a child’s development stage, physically, mentally, and socially. Tel: 06-5540850

Funtown
Sweifieh Mall 3rd Floor
Tel: 06-5822299

Hakawati Books & Art for Children
The first children’s bookstore in Jordan; Arabic, English, and French. Offers art classes, story & craft times, language clubs, and various other activities. Relocated to Mecca Street near Social Security. hakawati@gmail.com Tel: 06 556-1466

Haya Center
Small children’s museum with shows and an amusement park open daily (Except Tuesday and Friday) from 0830-1700. Admission 500fils. Shmeisani.
Tel: 06 566-5195

Activities

Jungle Bungle
Fun with balls, big slides, tunnels, and climbing. Birthday rooms. JB-I is located at the bottom of residential Sweifieh (near the Modern American School). Outdoor and indoor areas. Toddler section too. Admission 5JD per child.

JB-II is located on the top floor of Mecca Mall. Also available: Laser X, Mechanical Bull, and Electronic Sport games. Admission 4JD per child (separately for Jungle Bungle area or Laser X). Sweifieh
Tel: 06 586-1796; 06 586-5115

Kids Zone
Play area for young children. Sweifiya-Abdoun
Tel: 06 592-6677

Soapy 4 Fun!
Fun play areas for kids that include huge slides, jumping castles and many more activities.
www.soapy4fun.com
Tel: 0795102911

My Gym
A great childrens’ fitness center that offers classes for kids of all ages.
www.my-gym.com
Tel: 06 592 5113/4
### Clubs & Societies

**The American Women of Amman (AWA)**
Created by American women from the Embassy and those married to Jordanians. Promotes friendship, the exchange of ideas, understanding between American women and the Jordanian community, and charitable activities. [www.awajordan.com](http://www.awajordan.com)

**British Council**
The British Council, on Rainbow Street, has a library and sponsors cultural events as well as English & Arabic language training. [www.britcoun.org/jordan](http://www.britcoun.org/jordan)
Tel: 06 463-6147

**British Ladies of Amman**
BLA has many sub-clubs that might interest you such as Mah Jong, Bridge, Craft, and others. [www.britishladiesofamman.com](http://www.britishladiesofamman.com)

**French Cultural Center**
Many Francophone cultural activities from film showings to art exhibitions and one of the best colloquial Arabic programs in Amman. In Islamic College Street, Jabal El Weibdeh, Tel: 06 463-0061

**Friends of Archeology Society (FOA)**
Offer lectures and conduct day trips with professional archeologists as guides to historical sites. The office is near 5th Circle, behind Sweet Supermarket.
Tel: 06 554-7905

**L’Institut Français de l’Archeologie du Proche-Orient (IFAPO)**
The archeological arm of the French government, with projects in Iraq al Amir, Jerash, Wadi Musa, and Wadi Rum.
Tel: 06 464-3840.

**Instituto Cervantes**
The Spanish Cultural Center, by 3rd Circle in Jabal Amman, offers Spanish instruction and some cultural events. [www.amman.cervates.es](http://www.amman.cervates.es) Tel: 06 461-858

### Parks

**Orthodox Club**
The Orthodox Club in Abdoun has a lovely, shaded, preschool playground at the end of the parking lot. Requires membership for its use, but they kindly allow moms and tots to use the playground.
Tel. 06 592-0491

The following clubs offer membership with all sorts of amenities. They are great diversions, but most require a hefty one-time initiation fee, with more modest annual dues. Many hotel gyms/pools offer special rates for seasonal memberships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Al Ahli Club - Wadi As Seer</td>
<td>06 586-1412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunes Club - Airport Road</td>
<td>06 412-5290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Automobile Club - next to ACS</td>
<td>06 585-0626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Diving Club - Aqaba</td>
<td>03-2017035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports City (more reasonable)</td>
<td>Univ St. 06 565-1103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Humane Center for Animal Welfare-HCAW**
This charity welcomes assistance from young and old alike, and it offers seasonal walks in the countryside. King of Bahrain Park (formerly “Ghamadan Park”) off the Airport Road. [http://www.hcaw-jordan.org](http://www.hcaw-jordan.org) Tel. 06 412-9077

### Activities

**King Hussein Park**
Jordan’s finest outdoor public park, with playgrounds, walkways, and soccer fields. On the Amman-Jerash Road (Medinat at-Tabiyya Street). Very busy on summer evenings and Fridays. The Royal Automobile Museum Tel: 541-1392 and The Children’s Museum are at top of hill behind the Park. [www.cmi.jo](http://www.cmi.jo) Tel: 06 541-1479

**Prince Hashem Bird Park—“Birds Garden”**
A nice diversion in Shmeisani, off Wadis Circle, with caged exotic and local birds, duck pond, monkeys, and playground (close supervision is needed – equipment is not always in good repair).
Entertainment & Leisure

Al-Pasha Turkish Bath “Hammam”
A Turkish Bath, located off Rainbow Street, with sauna, Jacuzzi, loofa scrub, and massage. Separate hours for men and women. Reservations required.
Tel: 06 463-3002

Cinemas
Cinema City - Mecca Mall 06 5518611
Grand Cinemas - City Mall 06 5818808
Grand Cinemas - Zara Bldg 06 4613260
Le Royal Cinemas - Royal Hotel 06 4603022
Plaza Cinemas 06 5699238
Prime Cinemas - Al Baraka Mall 06 5858500

Amman Waves
Jordan’s first water park is located on the Airport Road. It’s guaranteed fun on a hot day, but not cheap; so give yourself several hours to enjoy it.
Tel: 06 412-1704

Al Wadi Water Park
New water park located at the Dead Sea.
Tel 05-3493333

Travel, Events & Culture

Queen Alia International Airport 06-4452700
Flight Enquiry 06-5937724

Suq JARA
A Jabal Amman neighborhood market with variety of local vendors, refreshments and music, set up on the street off Rainbow Street, corner of Jordan River Foundation Crafts Shop. Held in good weather (usually from May – October) on Fridays from 10 am till 10 pm.
JARA Neighborhood Association
www.jara-jordan.com
Tel: 06 463-4760

Suq al Ard
A Saturday market of mainly food stuffs and some handicrafts, held at Bayt al Bawadi, the Abdoun showroom for handcrafts of the JOHUD-Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development, featuring many of the women producers in their community-based development projects outside of Amman.
Seasonal – usually April through October. Watch for announcements. Tel: 06 592-5841

Museums
Darat al Funun/J. Al Webideh 06 464-3252
Daret Wasi Al Tal (Salt highway) 06 534-0113
Haya Cultural Center-Children’s 06 566-5195
Heritage & Science Museum
Jordan Archaeological Museum 06 463-8795
Jordan Museum of Popular Tradition 06 465-1760
Jordan Folklore Museum 06 465-1742
Children’s Museum Jordan 06 541-1479
Jordan Museum 06 462-9317
Jordan National Gallery of Art 06 463-0128
The Martyr’s Memorial 06 566-4240
Dead Sea Panoramic Museum (Geology) call RSCN
Royal Automobile Museum 06 541-1392

Useful Websites
www.jordantimes.com - local English daily
www.beamman.com - Amman city guide
www.mealadvisors.com - local restaurant reviews
www.visitjordan.com - Jordan’s official tourism website
Training & Research

America-Mideast Educational and Training Services, Inc. (AMIDEAST)
A private, non-profit organization strengthening mutual cooperation and understanding between Americans and the people of the Middle East. Services include educational testing [SATs] and advising, educational training and program design, public outreach, and technical assistance programs.
http://www.amideast.org/jordan
Tel: 06 581-0930

American Center for Oriental Research (ACOR)
A private, non-profit academic institution dedicated to promoting research and publication in the fields of archeology, anthropology, history, and Arabic. Has a large historical library and provides tours of historic sites upon request. Currently most active in Petra, Aqaba, Rum, Karak, and Madaba. Inquire about dig work or intensive study with ACOR.
acor@go.com.jo Tel: 06 534-6117

American Language Center (ALC)
Quality English language programs for Jordanians/others. Off Medina Street
www.alc.edu.jo Tel: 06 552-3901

Badia Research & Development Program
A scientific desert research operation, branching out into eco-tourism, with facilities for hosting researchers and tourists in the eastern Badia.
www.badia.gov.jo. Tel: 06 534-0401

Darat al Tasweer
Photography classes.
linda@darataltasweer.com
Tel: 06 4611538; 07 77861891

Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN)
This NGO has taken the lead in encouraging conservation and environmental preservation in Jordan. Offer a number of programs and oversee a dozen nature reserves and campsites RSCN publishes a journal, Al Reem, and offers adult and children’s programs. The RSCN eco-tourism unit offers guided hikes and camping.
www.rscn.org.jo
Tel: 06 533-7931/4610

Also: Wild Jordan/ RSCN’s marketing unit
Wild Jordan center holds regular environmentally themed exhibitions and events, a café-restaurant, gift shop and info on all RSCN campsites/reserves. Jabal Amman, off Rainbow Street.
Tel: 06 463-3542
Emergency Numbers

Ambulance 193
Fire Department 199
Security Police 191
Capital Police 192
Traffic Police 06-4888360
Highway Police 06-5343401

Information & Complaints

Information 1212
International Information 1322
Foreign Ministry Emergency Consular Affairs 06-5501444
Amman Municipality 06-5359970
Water Authority 06-5679141
Electricity Authority 06-4750981
Telephone Repair 1214
Women’s Complaint Line with JNCW 080022955
Food and Drug Quality Complaints 080022660

Hospitals

Arab Medical Centers (5\textsuperscript{th} Circle behind Sheraton Hotel) 06-5921199
Jordan Hospital (Queen Nour Street) 06-5608080
King Hussein Medical Center (King Abdullah II street) 06-5856856
Khalidi Medical Centern (Ibn Khaldoun Street) 06-4644281
Farah Hospital (3\textsuperscript{rd} Circle behind Hotel Royal) 06-4603555
Istishari Hospital (Near Shmeisani) 06-5001000

ACS School Nurse

\textbf{Hiyam Gammoh:}
Telephone 06-5813944/6 ext-225
E-mail: hjahshan@acsamman.edu.jo
## General Medical Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Issa Kawalit</td>
<td>Internal medicine, Blood pressure, Cholesterol, Diabetes, Kidney</td>
<td>06-4612296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Samir Saqer</td>
<td>Internal medicine, Blood pressure, Cholesterol, Diabetes, Kidney</td>
<td>06-5921199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Haitham AbdulHadi</td>
<td>Ear, Nose &amp; Throat</td>
<td>06-4640040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Mazen Rahahleh</td>
<td>ENT</td>
<td>06-4619440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Yousef Nawas</td>
<td>Pulmonary medicine, upper respiratory infections, lung diseases</td>
<td>06-4619999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Hind Dawani</td>
<td>Pediatrician, vaccinations, follow-ups on children 0-16 years</td>
<td>06-5621020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Imad Madanat</td>
<td>Pediatrician</td>
<td>06-4610307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Samir ElMulki</td>
<td>Pediatric Ophthalmologist</td>
<td>06-5516808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Khaled Al Sharif</td>
<td>Ophthalmologists</td>
<td>06-4644066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Omar Al Omari</td>
<td>Obstetrics and gynaecology, OB/GYN</td>
<td>06-5609052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Ibrahim Mashini</td>
<td>Ob/gyn</td>
<td>06-5929088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Eman Al Ajabi</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
<td>06-5667670</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Lama Al Jarrah</td>
<td>Orthodontists</td>
<td>06-5934534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Mohammad Mana (Palesta Clinic)</td>
<td></td>
<td>06-581-6800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Maha Sami Al Zagha</td>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>06-4610555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Husam Shaban</td>
<td>General Surgery-Oncologist</td>
<td>06-4641290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Amr Amr</td>
<td>Orthopedic surgeon</td>
<td>06-5931611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Kamel Afifi</td>
<td>Orthopedic Surgeon</td>
<td>06-5676767</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Dina Zakka</td>
<td>Endocrinologist</td>
<td>06-4625044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Muna Khater</td>
<td>Allergies</td>
<td>06-5626198</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Salah Salah</td>
<td>Neurosurgeon</td>
<td>06-4642002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Yousef Qssous</td>
<td>Cardiologist</td>
<td>06-4650888</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Louai Khalifeh</td>
<td>Dermatologist</td>
<td>06-4652468</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Disclaimer

The list of doctors and hospitals provided in this document are only suggestions. ACS and PTG will not take responsibility for malpractices or other experiences with doctors and hospitals listed in this document.