

GARP FAQs.

Q: Do I need any archaeology experience?

A: No. Just bring your enthusiasm to learn.

Q: What age range are your team?

A: Our team has included all ages from 18 to 80+

Q: Do we get any time off?

A: Yes, there are generally two free days when you can do whatever you wish. Most team members visit Petra on one of these days and there is usually another trip organised for the other day. In recent years visits have been arranged to Aqaba, Shoback, Kerak and the Dead Sea.

The evenings are also your free time. However there are some informal talks arranged during our stay and some members like to help with processing small finds and completing site drawings.

Q: Are all meals provided?

A: Breakfast and the evening meals are provided in the hotel. Lunch is a picnic generally with bread, cheese, fruit, tinned meat, olives, tea etc. Vegetarian options are always available. **Please bring a mug with you for the all important tea (chai)!**

Q: What about drinking water?

A: You will be provided with adequate supplies of bottled water.

Q: Where do we stay?

A: We use a hotel in Wadi Musa, the town that has developed in the valley leading to Petra.

Q: What is the weather like?

A: You can usually expect clear skies and bright sunshine and low humidity. Temperatures can peak in the low 30s C (low 90s F) over the mid-day period but it can be quite cold in the early morning, late afternoon and evening when a sweater / light jacket may be required. Rain is uncommon but not unknown and you should be prepared for this.

Q: Do women need to cover their heads?

A: Generally no. However we sometimes visit places in Ma'an, local villages or you may encounter Bedouin settlements when wearing a headscarf or kefiya is respectful of local customs. This year (2011) we hope to be visiting a traditional and conservative area and all women are strongly advised to have a scarf / kefiya available in addition to any hat you may choose to wear.

Q: Do I need a visa ?

A: Yes, but this is bought at Amman airport on arrival for UK, European, Canadian, USA and Australian nationals. Make sure you have 20 Jordanian Dinar to pay for it. Certain nationalities are required to obtain a visa in advance. See www.visitjordan.com and look under 'General Information' for details or check with the Jordanian Diplomatic mission in your own country. Different arrangements may apply if travelling to Jordan overland. **It is your responsibility to determine your visa requirements.**

Q: Do I need injections?

A: Current advice is: up-to-date vaccination against hepatitis A, polio, tetanus, and typhoid is recommended for visitors to Jordan, however, check with your own doctor's practice or the Foreign Office website for the most recent advice.

Q: What should I wear on site?

A: Your work clothing must include: a) strong, comfortable, protective work-boots; b) hard-wearing protective gloves; and c) some form of sun-hat/head covering and a high factor sun cream. Trousers, NOT shorts and T-shirts with short sleeves. A kneeling pad or knee-pads are also strongly recommended.

Q: How do we get to site?

A: Transport is provided to and from site in a bus and several 4x4 vehicles. Occasionally the journey can take up to 90 minutes.

Q: What facilities are there on site?

A: None! Please be aware that we are generally working in remote desert areas so be prepared to duck down a nearby gully or behind a rock outcrop. Carry wet-wipes or antiseptic gel with you as these are needed at lunch breaks as well.

Q: Do I need a trowel?

A: Yes. This should be a WHS 4" forged (not riveted or welded) pointing trowel. They can be bought or ordered through specialist hardware stores, or bought over the internet from www.pasthorizons.com/shop. For those of you shopping from the USA you can find the correct trowels, known as London style, on this website: www.store.marshalltown.com

Q: Do I need insurance?

A: We have full insurance cover for both travel and archaeological risks during the fieldwork season for UK residents **but those travelling from outside the UK must arrange their own 'working holiday' insurance.**

Q: Will non-experienced volunteers be allowed to do other things than dig?

A: All volunteers will be organised into small work-teams, to excavate and draw, under expert supervision, where they will receive on-site training and support as required. One aim of the project is to facilitate skills development so that all volunteers can contribute increasingly effectively and achieve personal growth. If there is something you would particularly like to try, then ask your supervisor.

Q: How much spending money will I need?

A: This is really up to you. You may need spending money for souvenirs or visiting a nearby hotel bar and entry fees and meals on your two free days. There are places to change money at reasonable rates near to the hotel. The entry fee to Petra has recently increased significantly and if you wish to visit this exceptional site then you should allow 60 dinar for entry and say 20 dinars for food, drink.

Q: Is there an ATM machine in the hotel?

A: No, but there is one in the Movenpick hotel just down the road and several up the hill in the town of Wadi Musa.