



SYRIAN AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY

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Jordan Medical Mission FAQs

1. PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP

- You are responsible for all travel expenses including airfare, hotel and food. Breakfast is usually included in hotel price. You may share a room to decrease cost of the hotel.
- You may arrange your own flight or you may use the travel agent we recommend. Her name is Manal Mashal with Noor Travel (noortravel@rocketmail.com). Noor travel is not financially nor logistically associated with SAMS.
- If you are a Canadian, US, EU you can purchase the visa at the airport \$60=40 JD, if you carry a Syrian passport check ahead of time. You may require a pre-approved visa to enter Jordan.
- You will need whatever spending money you feel you need for visa purchase and food while in Jordan. Food is very inexpensive and a few meals will be provided for us.
- You may bring small snacks for while you are working.
- Make sure to bring your passport and any other documents you need. Keep your passport on you at all times. Do not leave it at the hotel. It is very expensive to use your phone in Jordan. There is free wifi at the hotel and it is very good. You can buy a sim card there if needed. Make sure to bring an outlet adapter for the trip to charge your phone, computer etc. Jordan uses the European prong. If you have a universal adapter with several options on it, that will be fine.

2. DURING THE MISSION

- Jordan is a very safe country. English is very widely spoken. There will be plenty of Arabic speakers for translation if necessary. Routine travel safety is all that is needed while in Jordan.
- Plan on bringing a backpack to work daily. It will hold passport, snacks, stethoscope, water bottle, itinerary and any supplies you may need.
- In the spring and summer it is hot and dry. It is cool in the mornings/evenings. Dress in layers. Fall and winter are cooler with rain/occasional snow.
- You will be given a schedule at the beginning of the mission with your group for the day, which van to ride in and where you will be working. The workday is usually 8a-4p. The drive from the hotel to the camp is approximately 1 to 1-1/2hrs. We return to hotel each day to clean up, eat, fellowship and sleep.
- Some groups will work at the refugee camp and some groups will work in clinics in Jordan that support a large number of refugees.

- You will never be alone and are recommended not to leave the group while working. You will be with a larger group and will always have Arabic speaker with you if you don't speak the language.

Telephone: if you choose, we can provide you with a telephone and a SIM card so we can communicate with each other in Amman, it will cost you around \$20-25. You can also get SIM card and put it in your unlocked smartphone. Jordan has a great cell and data coverage. It will be expensive to use your phone and we will not be able to call you on your international line. There is no Wi-Fi everywhere but the hotel has a good Wi-Fi.

3. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- There are not any immunizations required for entry into Jordan. It is highly recommended that you be up to date on routine/childhood vaccines. Hepatitis A vaccine is highly recommended as it is endemic in the Middle East. If you are travelling during flu season, you may want to consider a flu shot
- You may wear scrub, jean, or comfortable pants and shirts to work. You will be provided a mission t-shirt and/or vest.
- For non-Muslim females, it is not necessary to cover your head or hair. However, please be respectful of the culture and wear modest clothing that covers the shoulders and knees, and chest.
- If you are bringing medicines from the SAMS warehouse or OTC meds of your own, make sure to pack them in small numbers and distribute them randomly amongst your suitcase, otherwise they may be confiscated at customs. Make sure you have a letter from SAMS and inventory with the number of medications/supplies you have.

Can I stay longer, arrive late, and or leave early?: Yes you can, please let us know so we can adjust the schedule accordingly.

If I did not arrive Friday between 6-8 pm, would I still be picked up from the airport?: As long as we have an email with your flight itinerary, you will be picked up.

4. USEFUL INFORMATION

- The hotel where we will be staying:
Landmark Hotel: (+962 6) 560 7100
- Majd Isreb, MD: (503)8805053 nephronmd@hotmail.com
- Barbara O'Neill, RN: (540) 424-8031 bloneill@hotmail.com
- Syrian American Medical Society: www.sams-usa.net
- Facebook Page for Jordan Missions: The Underscore