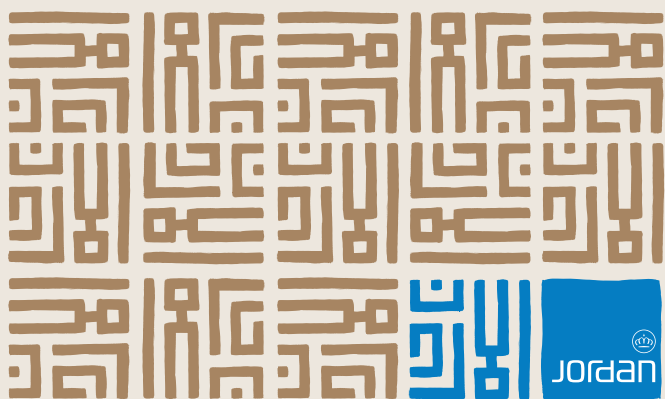
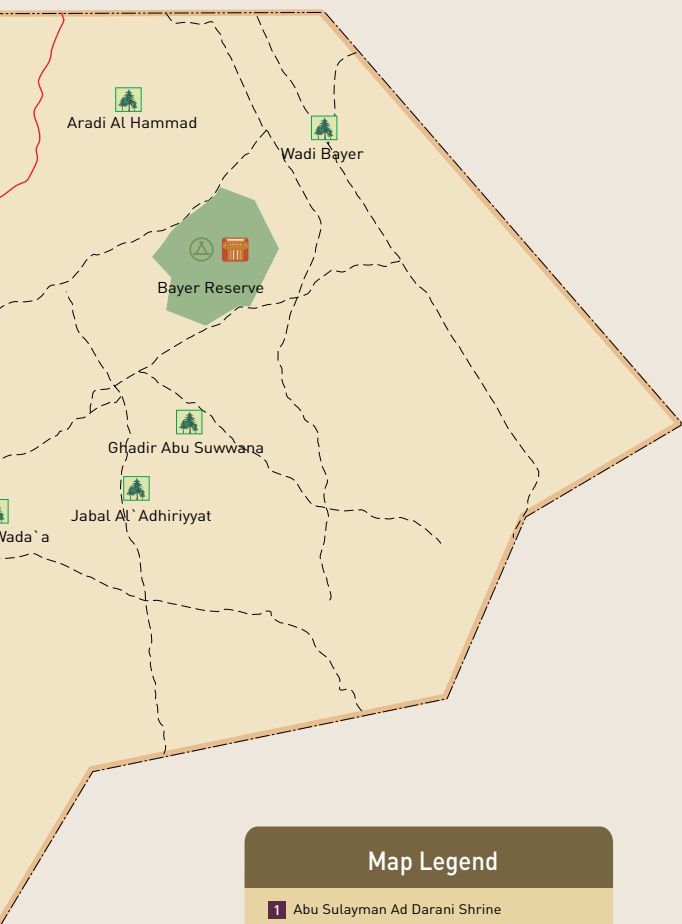




Ma'an





Map Legend

- 1 Abu Sulayman Ad Darani Shrine
- 2 Wadi Hamam Ad Dathna
- 3 Qaryit Al Mansura
- 4 ALJiya
- 5 Qal`at Ash Shaubak
- 6 Madaybi
- 7 Shammakh
- 8 Al Gunayna
- 9 Bir Khidad
- 10 Tal Al`As`hari
- 11 Uthruh
- 12 Petra
- 13 Qal`at Al W`ayyra
- 14 Qal`at Al Habis
- 15 Qasr Al Bint



Historical Castles



Religious Tourism



Desert Castles



Eco-Tourism



Cultural Tourism



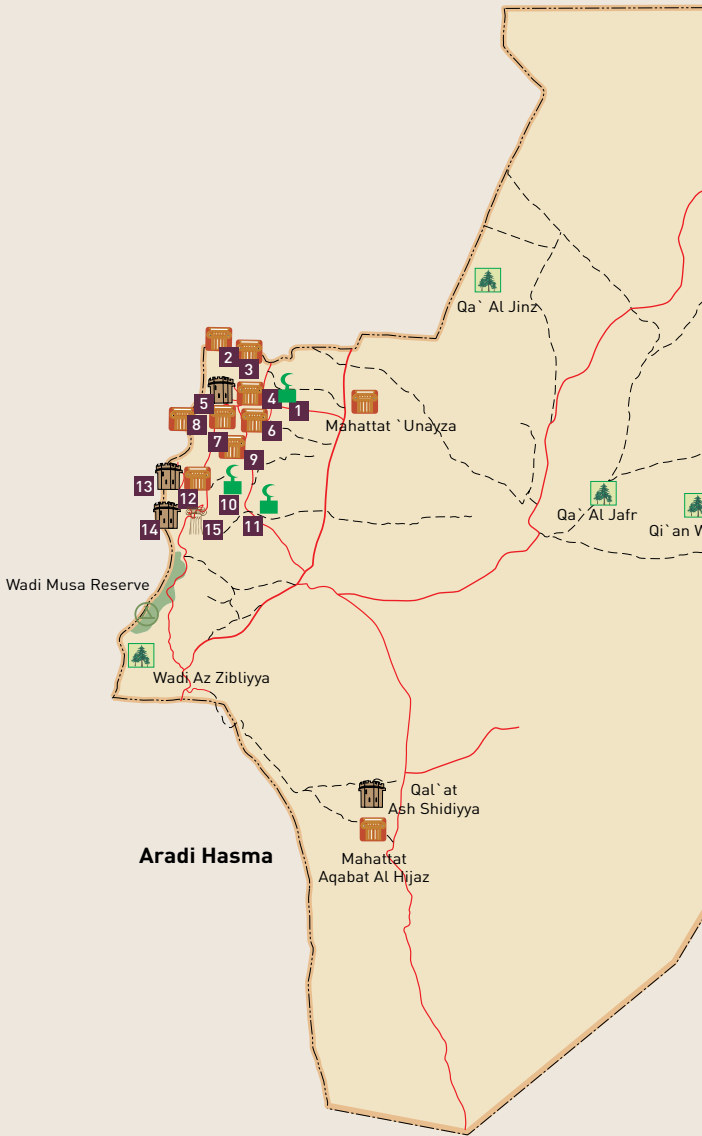
Therapeutic Tourism



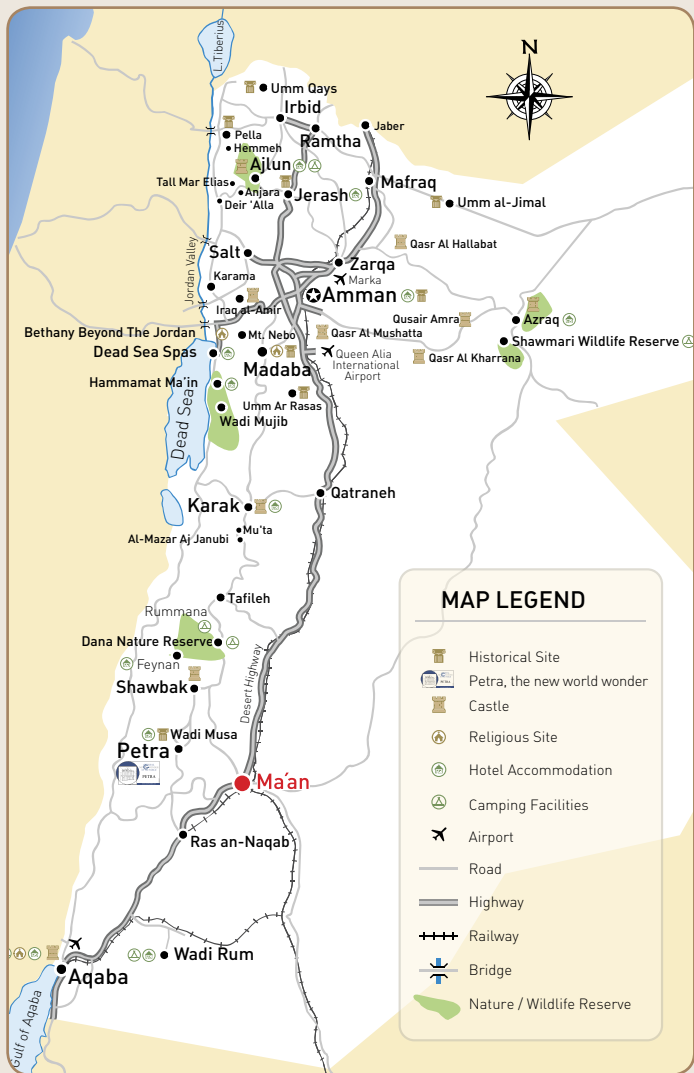
Natural Reserve



Camp



Máan



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inscription has been recently discovered at Udhruh, which confirmed that the camp received the Roman Legion VI Ferrata around the beginning of the 3rd century AD.

At the camp, you can still see several towers surrounding the defensive walls, two colonnaded streets, and four gates. You can also visit the Byzantine Church that stands nearby. This church is one of the rare Arab Christian monuments that represent Christianity at the closest point to Arabia when the Islamic faith first appeared. Christianity was prevalent in Udhruh until the 18th century. The priests of Udhruh met the Prophet Mohammad with the Ayla (Aqaba) delegation, at which time he signed a peace treaty assuring them of their right to live in peace and safety.

A large segment of the church has been excavated and you can see many Arab-period Christian inscriptions scratched onto different areas of the interior wall plaster. Greek inscriptions have also been found on stone and the plastered walls of the church. The late Islamic period Mihrab (prayer niche) was constructed on the southern wall of the church which is almost in the direction of Mecca (Kiblah). On the same wall is a well-constructed stone staircase leading up to the roof on the southeast corner, which might have been used for the call to prayer. Parts of the mosaic floor are uncovered, but most of it was destroyed. There is another floor that is made partly of stone pavement and mostly of plaster. Additionally, human burials were found under the floor of the church and many other discoveries have been made.

The last archaeological attraction at Udhruh, and within the camp, is the Ottoman fort. This was probably constructed during the reign of Sulaiman the Magnificent. It is similar to other pilgrim (Hajj) forts that were constructed as early as the Mamluk Period to provide pilgrims with safety and security. Outside the camp you will see an ottoman windmill, which indicates that the area was suitable for cultivating crops.



intended to provide protection for the soldiers guarding the castle inside.



In medieval times, the castle played an important role in the cultural and social life of the region. Later on, Shobak Castle was considered a genuine scientific institution and was known for graduating many prominent scholars in science, religion and history of the area, and in developing the political and educational institutions in Syria and Egypt. Many judges, hadith (Prophet's sayings) narrators, historians, and high ranking officials gained their fundamental education and knowledge from this school.

The fertile land and prolific water springs in the vicinity of the castle made the area an attractive settlement for farmers and villagers. Among the major crops produced during Medieval times was sugar, which was exported to Egypt and Syria. The remains of a number of water mills dating to the Ottoman period can still be seen in the wadis (valleys) and ravines surrounding the castle. The area also enjoys a number of tourist attractions, which date to the same period as the castle, such as the Shrine of Abu Sulaiman al-Dirani, the Shrine of Yousha Bin Nun and the Dawsaq Palace.

2 Udhruh

Located 15 km east of Petra, Udhruh is worth a visit. Here you can learn more about an important Nabataean settlement, as this is a village that flourished and prospered during the Roman, Byzantine and Islamic periods. The huge and fortified Roman camp stands out in Udhruh. The large blocks used to build this camp were taken from an earlier Nabataean quarry located two kilometers from the camp. A long Latin



The Great Arab Revolt

The Great Arab Revolt (1916-1918) was led by Sharif Hussein Bin Ali to secure independence from Ottoman rule and create a single, unified Arab state. His Majesty King Abdallah constructed his house in Ma'an in the beginning of the twentieth century. This was considered the leadership center of the modern Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and his house is today being transformed into a museum that displays mementos and historic items from the Great Arab Revolt.

Other places to visit near Ma'an

1 Al Shobak



While you are in Ma'an, pay a visit to Al Shobak. This is located between Karak and Petra. Al Shobak represents an area dotted with villages and its origins can be traced back to the Paleolithic age. One of the main tourist attractions here is a Crusader Castle, which was constructed around AD 1115 and was besieged and eventually captured by Saladin (Salah al-Din) in AD 1189. The fortified castle was known as Mont Real. It was constructed to strategically overlook a magnificent landscape. At the castle you can still see a well, which can be accessed by descending 375 steps that were carved out of the rock. Also, inside the castle you will find the house of the Mamluk Governor, baths, well-preserved Medieval churches, shops, streets, and a huge gate as well as rectangular round towers



MA'AN

Maan has always been an important city for Jordanians; politically, economically, and religiously. This city was the heart of the Great Arab Revolt, and today it lies along a major trade route and is an important transport hub situated on the Desert Highway. Ma'an lies 218 km south of Amman.

Religious importance

The importance of Ma'an started during the Islamic era, when its ruler, Farwah al Judhami, became Moslem and the Romans executed him near the Afrah Hot Water Spring in Tafileh.

A major trade route

For centuries, since the Bronze and Iron ages, Ma'an was an important trade route. During the Ottoman period in Jordan, Ma'an also became a major city station for the Ottoman Hejaz Railway in the south of Jordan. A railway station was built in Ma'an to offer security and safety to the Moslem pilgrims heading to Hijaz in Saudi Arabia.

In addition, the Ottomans built a fort, a huge water reservoir, and a large military base to facilitate and secure the pilgrim caravans.