Explore Dana

Jordan's Rift Valley Spectacular

Activities       Accommodation       Dining       Directions

• Dana Guesthouse
• Rummana Campsite
• Feynan Ecolodge
Dana Biosphere Reserve

Dana is Jordan’s largest nature reserve, covering some 320 square kilometers of spectacular mountains and wadis along the face of the Great Rift Valley. From scorching sand dunes in the west to cool mountain tops in the east, the Dana Biosphere Reserve is home to a great variety of wildlife.

There are wild plants and animals characteristic of true deserts, Mediterranean forests, and the dry plains of Russia.

That biodiversity makes Dana a melting pot of species from three continents: Europe, Africa and Asia. Such a combination of natural communities in a single area is unique in Jordan, and many of Dana’s wild animals and plants are very rare. So far, a total of 894 plant species, 190 bird species, 37 mammal species and 36 reptile species have been recorded in the Reserve, of which 25 are known to be endangered, including the Blan Ford Fox, the Arabian Wolf, the Syrian Serin and the Spiny Tailed Lizard. Without special care, some of these could disappear from Earth forever, which makes the Dana Biosphere Reserve a place of global importance for biodiversity.
Perched on the edge of the precipitous cliffs of Wadi Dana, this beautifully styled building fuses elements of village vernacular architecture with more modern elements, creating a structure with a definable Arabic character, unlike any other in Jordan, offering breath-taking views of the Reserve.

The building consists of 24 comfortable rooms, which can accommodate up to 65 persons. 9 rooms share external toilets and showers, while 15 deluxe rooms have a private bathroom, adding character and authenticity to the entire experience. Considering that the Guesthouse was originally meant to house researchers, all the rooms have private terraces that offer spectacular views of the surrounding wadi and mountains.

The Guesthouse is also equipped with facilities for courses and conferences, making a perfect location for retreats and workshops. The Guesthouse is open all year round.
Wadi Dana Trail
(year-round, except during Ramadan)

Guided or self-guided
Grade: Moderate
Distance: 14 km
Time: 5 - 7 hours
Starting time: 8:00 a.m.
Group size: 10 - 20 people

Trail Description
Passing through sandstone gorges, to learn more about the 3 different biogeological zones of Dana and if you are lucky enough you may see some of the endangered animals such as the Nubian Ibex. This trail leads downhill to Feynan, where visitors can arrange for return transportation or stay overnight in the Feynan Ecolodge. Alternatively, visitors can begin this trail at Feynan Ecolodge and travel to the Dana Guesthouse or Rummana Campsite.

Dana Village Tour
(year-round)

Guided and self-guided
Grade: Easy
Distance: 2 km
Time: 1 - 1:30 hours
Starting time: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Group size: 4 - 20 people

Trail Description
Starting from the Dana Guesthouse, this trail winds above the Dana Village and through the terraced gardens and local craft workshops. Visitors can meet the local residents, see original Ottoman architecture, and learn more about Dana’s rich history.
**Shaq al Reesh Trail**

(year-round, except during Ramadan)

Guided only  
Grade: Moderate to Difficult  
Distance: 3 km  
Time: 4 - 5 hours  
Starting time: 8:00 a.m.  
Group size: 4 - 20 people  
Requirements:  
Transportation provided to and from Al-Barrah area; no fear of heights.

**Trail Description**  
This circular trail traverses Al-Barrah through a breathtaking siq, All the way to Shaq al Reesh.

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**White Dome Trail**

(March 15th - October 31st, except during Ramadan)

Guided only  
Grade: Moderate  
Distance: 8 km  
Time: 3 - 4 hours  
Starting time: 8:00 a.m.  
Group size: 4 - 20 people  
Requirements:  
Transportation provided to and from Al-Barrah area; no fear of heights.

**Trail Description**  
This trail follows the huge escarpments of Wadi Dana between the Rummana Campsite and Dana Village. Passing through terraced gardens, the trail offers breathtaking views of the Wadi. The trail can also be done from the Rummanah Campsite to the Guesthouse.
Nawatef Trail

(year-round)

Guided only
Grade: Easy to Moderate
Distance: 2 km
Time: 2 hours
Starting time: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Group size: 4 - 20 people
Requirements
Transportation provided from Dana Guesthouse to the starting/ending point in Al-Barrah, reasonable level of fitness; no fear of heights.

Trail Description
This circular trail begins from the Al-Barrah area and takes you to the beautiful mountains, springs and ancient ruins in the Nawatef Area and the Lodge.

Wadi Dathneh Trail

(year-round, except during Ramadan)

Guided only
Grade: Moderate to Difficult
Distance: 19 km
Time: 8 - 10 hours
Starting time: 6:30 a.m.
Group size: 10 - 20 people
Requirements:
Transportation provided to the starting point in Nawatef area and, if desired, for the return trip; high level of fitness; no fear of heights.

Trail Description
Perfect for adventure lovers who have no fear of heights, this trail descends through Wadi Dathneh, past an oasis, and through Wadi al Hamra to the Feynan area.
Wadi Ghweir Trail

(year-round, except during Ramadan)

Guided only
Grade: Difficult
Distance: 16 km
Time: 7 - 8 hours
Starting time: 6:30 a.m.
Group size: 10 - 20 people
Requirements:
Transportation provided to the starting point in Al Mansoura near Shoubak area and, if desired, for the return trip; high level of fitness; no fear of heights.

Trail Description
This trail stretches along the gravel river bed of the Wadi, alongside a flowing stream, to the entrance to Wadi Ghweir. Very similar to the famous Siq in Petra, the trail leads through magnificent sceneries of different stone formations and many unique plants and trees on both sides of the river. The scenery is so breathtaking it has been known to cause visitors to forget about everything else - including how long they have been hiking! After 3-5 hours, you will have tea and you can rest and learn more about the area from your guide. From there, continue to the Byzantine archaeology at Khirbet Feynan until you reach your final destination at Feynan Ecoodge.
The Rummana Campsite occupies a rare and exceptionally beautiful location within the designated core zone of Dana Biosphere Reserve. Originally, the location of the campsite was a favored Bedouin camping area, reserved every summer season for goat grazing. At present, the campsite contains 30 large tents that can house up to 110 person, shared bathrooms, barbecue grills for visitor use, and a big Bedouin tent where the guest can enjoy the starry sky by night and have a real Bedouin experience making a cup of tea on the bonfire.

Each tent comes equipped with mattresses, blankets and pillows. Traditional Arabic meals are also provided upon request.

The campsite is open from March 15th to October 31st, depending on weather conditions.
Campsite Trail
(March 15 - October 31)

Guided and self-guided  
Grade: Easy  
Distance: 1.5 km  
Time: 1 hour  
Starting time: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm.  
Group size: 4 - 20 people

Trail Description
This circular walk around the Rummana campsite is a great place to see birds, especially during migration seasons. The scenic viewpoints along the trail offer picturesque views of the Dana Mountains.

Rummana Mountain Trail
(March 15 - October 31)

Guided or self-guided  
Grade: Moderate  
Distance: 2.5 km  
Time: 2 hours  
Starting time: 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. from the Rummana Campsite  
Group size: 4 - 20 people

Trail Description
This circular trail starts from the campsite and ascends to the top of Rummana Mountain, with breathtaking views of Wadi Araba. Highlights on the trail include magnificent sandstone and limestone formations, birds of prey, and beautiful views of the nature reserve.
**The Caves Trail**

(March 15 - October 31)

Guided and self-guided
Grade: Easy to moderate
Distance: 1.5 km
Time: 1.5 hours
Starting time: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm.
Group size: 4 - 20 people

**Trail Description**
Starting at the Rummana campsite, this trail passes by the unusual sandstone formations of Shaq al Kalb (Wadi of the Dog) to a group of small caves, believed to have been a religious retreat or hermitage.

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**Dana’s Nature Inspired Crafts**

Make sure to visit the four handicraft workshops located in Dana Guesthouse.

**Dana Jewelry-Making Workshop**
Local women from Dana produce fine hand-crafted copper, silver, and bronze jewelry. All the designs have been inspired by the wildlife and landscapes of the area.

**Dana Fruit-Drying Workshop**
The sun-drenched terraces of Dana Village provide a perfect place for growing fruit. The women of the village harvest the fruits by hand and lay them out in the Jordanian sun to dry. Afterwards, they are turned into delicious sun-dried fruit products that make perfect snacks for the whole family.

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**The Nature Shop**
Browse through the Nature Shop and find truly original gifts and souvenirs. This shop displays nature-inspired crafts produced by local communities at the reserves.
The 190 km trip from Amman to Dana takes approximately 3 hours. Starting at the 7th circle, take the Desert Highway (Airport Road) south. After approximately 165 km you will come to the Al-Husayniya Village. As you pass the village, you will view a bridge.

Prior to reaching the bridge, you will find exit signs to Dana Biosphere Reserve and Qadisiya Village. Take a right at the exit. This road leads to Dana.
Chosen by National Geographic Traveler as one of the best 25 Ecolodges in the world, Feynan Ecolodge is much more than a hotel. It is a destination that offers a multitude of unique and authentic experiences engrained in nature, culture, adventure and history. Located at the Western edge of the reserve in Wadi Araba, 8 km from the closest paved road, the lodge features 26 ensuite-rooms, dining facilities, terraces and meeting facilities. The lodge is totally off the grid, with electricity only available in the bathrooms, kitchen, reception and meeting room.

At night, Feynan is entirely lit by candles. Whether you’re there for a physically challenging adventure, a leisurely stroll, a deep cultural experience, time off from the hectic life, or oneness with nature; Feynan has something for everyone.

The all-inclusive stay includes 3 meals and a selection of varied group guided activities such as short and long hikes, canyoneering, Bedouin experiences, cooking classes, cooking demonstrations, candle-lighting and stargazing.
Activities

Your stay at Feynan is all-inclusive of a range of guided activities available in our daily changing schedule (published on Feynan’s website). The schedule includes hikes, Bedouin experiences, cooking experiences, stargazing and candle-lighting.

A small supplementary fee applies to activities involving the local community, where the fee goes to the family hosting the experience.

Hiking and Canyoneering

The reserve and its surroundings offer an incredible array of hiking trails with a variety of difficulty levels, duration and experiences, revolving around nature, adventure & history. Full details on all the hikes can be found on Feynan’s website (www.ecohotels.me/feynan).

Short Hikes (2 hours)
- Sunrise hike
- Sunset hike
- Feynan plants hike

Half Day Hikes (up to 4 hours)
- Copper mines
- Archaeological treasures
- Wadi Dana sampler
- Wadi Ghwayr sampler

Full Day Hikes (up to 8 hours)
- Wadi Ghwayr*
- Wadi Dana*
- Wadi Dana to Wadi Ghwayr

* Some one-way hikes may require additional transfer charges which are not included in the room price.
Cooking Experiences

Join one of our chefs for a cooking class (2 hours) and learn how to make a few favorite Jordanian dishes and take the recipes home with you, or join a cooking demonstration (1/2 hour) and let the chefs do all the work while they share their secrets with you.

Local Community Experiences

These interactive experiences offer a unique insight into the lives of one of the last remaining Bedouin communities in Jordan. Join a local Bedouin family in their goat-hair tented home and learn about their rich culture and daily activities.

Available Experiences:
- Making kohl (eye liner)
- Making Arabic coffee
- Baking earthy “Arbood” bread
- Weaving goat-hair tents
- Spending a day with a shepherd grazing the family goats

There is a small supplement charge for the Bedouin experiences that goes to the hosting family.

Candle Lighting

As dusk falls over the lodge, you can join the staff and other guests in lighting the many candles that keep the lodge glow by night. Or simply find a spot in the courtyard and enjoy the sensation of the lodge flickering into the night as the candles are lit one by one around you.
Relaxing

The lodge offers endless options of lounging spots with different views where you can read a book or just relax and take in the soothing atmosphere.

Mountain Biking

Mountain bikes are available for hire at the lodge for guided or self-guided rides to the many archaeological sites and the local villages nearby.
Feynan’s nature-inspired crafts

Feynan Candle Making Workshop
Candles incorporating nature whether a flower, green vine, or a slice of orange. The design elements come from nature and the candles are produced in a nature friendly manner as well.

Feynan Leather Workshop
Candle lanterns, nature boxes, and other attractive gifts crafted out of goat leather, hand-made by the Bedouin women of Feynan. These natural cured goatskin products have helped to reduce the damage caused by grazing, by making each goat worth more to Bedouin herders, effectively reducing livestock without harming the Bedouins’ livelihood.

Feynan is operated by EcoHotels in partnership with RSCN.

For Reservations at Feynan Ecolodge:
Tel (+962 6) 4645 580 or (+962) 78 7777 240
Email: reservations.feynan@ecohotels.me
www.feynan.com

Awards won by Feynan Ecolodge:
From the 7th Circle, head south on route 15 (airport road). 5 km after the 7th Circle, exit route 15 (right) towards the Dead Sea via route 40 (Na’our road). Route 40 ends at the Dead Sea Highway (route 65). Turn left onto the Dead Sea Highway (route 65) and head south towards Aqaba. At 187 km from 7th circle (131 km before Aqaba), take the left turn at the Feynan and Qurayqura junction. Follow the road and turn right after 15 km. Drive straight for 1.3 km. At the next junction bear left. 1 km later turn left again. 3.7 km later you will see Feynan Reception Centre on your left. If you are driving a high clearance/4x4 vehicle, the staff at the Reception Centre will direct you to the off-road track that takes you to the lodge.
Tourism Trails

- Nawatef Trail
- Sunrise Hike
- Feynan area and medicinal route
- Sunset Trail
- Copper mines Hike
- Rummana Mountain Trail
- Main Roads
- Wadi
- Campsite Trail
- Shaq al Reesh Trail
- The Cave Trail
- White Dome Trail
- Wadi Dana Trail
- Wadi Al Dathneh Trail
- Wadi Ghwayr Trail
- Wadi Dana Trail
- Wadi Al Dathneh Trail
- Wadi Ghwayr Trail
- Wadi bed
- Reserve Boundary
- Visitor Center/Reception
- Cycling
- Camping
- Accommodation
- Shuttle
- Food
- Viewpoint
The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature is an independent national organization devoted to the conservation of Jordan’s natural resources. RSCN was established in 1966 with His Majesty the late King Hussein as Honorary President. RSCN has the mission of protecting and managing the natural resources of Jordan, as it is responsible for protecting wildlife and wild places. Thus, it is one of the few national organizations in the Middle East with such a public service mandate.

Wild Jordan

Wild Jordan is a registered trademark for The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature.

Wild Jordan’s revenues contribute to the sustainability of RSCN’s protected areas and supports the socioeconomic development of local communities.

NATURE INSPIRED, ETHICALLY DEVELOPED.

Contact Wild Jordan Adventures at:
Tel: (+962 6) 4616 523
Mob: (+962) 79 7000 086
Fax: (+962 6) 4633 657 / 4616 523
tourism@rscn.org.jo

www.wildjordan.com