Welcome in B&B Petra Fig Tree Villa

So nice that you chose to stay here in the B&B. To find your way in and around the house and make your stay comfortable, we've collected some information in this booklet. If you, after reading, still have a question or a request, feel free to ask. We'll do our best to make your stay here as comfortable as possible.

The B&B

There are four bedrooms available in the B&B. The living room, the kitchen, the bathrooms and the garden around the house are shared and you can just sit just anywhere to relax, read a book, have a cup of tea, talk, listen to the birds singing or just sit and do nothing.

Breakfast

In the morning I serve breakfast with tea or coffee from 7 to 9 am. The breakfast is included in your stay. If you'd like to start your visit to Petra more early (as Petra opens in summer time at 6 am) you can have an quick breakfast. I will show you in the evening how you can help yourself in the early morning with yoghurt and fruit or bread with some dips.

Check in and check out time

Check in times are between 3 pm and 6 pm. Check-out time is 11 am.

Upon availability it's possible to check in more early or late for a fee of 35 JOD. If you wish to arrive more early or late, please let me know in advance to set up your Priority check-in time.

If you visit Petra on your departure day and you would like to have a late check out, in consultation it's possible to leave your luggage here and have a shower before you leave for a surcharge of 35 JOD.

The garden and terraces

Around the house is a big garden and there are three terraces for the guests to share. When the rainy season is over, somewhere in the end of March until somewhere in October or November, the chairs and tables are outside.

And there is a kind of inside/outside terrace. We call this 'the salon'. It has big wooden doors.

In the middle of the summer, when the sun is high up, you can sit there in the shade (with hopefully a soft breeze) and enjoy the beautiful view over the Petra mountains and the Petra Visitors centre.

At the back terrace, connected to the Petra room, is another sitting area, especially for guests staying in the Petra room.

It's a marvellous place to watch the sunset at the end of the day. Or to enjoy tea with a view over the Petra mountains after your visit to Petra.

Local habits

Although the warm weather maybe invites you to go sunbathing on the terrace, please keep the local custom in mind and be suitably dressed when/where the neighbours can see you. The B&B is located in a residential area and I want to respect the cultural habits. So for both women and men it's good to have your shoulders and knees covered. And better to not walk hand in hand or kiss each other around the house or on the street. That's not appropriate here.

The bathrooms

At the end of the long hallway is the shared bathroom with a shower, a toilet and a sink. This is the pink bathroom. At the beginning of the hallway there is the green bathroom, with a shower and a sink. It has a sliding door. When the door is fully closed, it means there is somebody in it. On the other side of the kitchen, next to the living room, opposite the two black sinks, is another bathroom with a toilet and a sink. The green bathroom. This one is also shared with the other guests.
When there are more than five guests staying in the B&B, my bathroom is also available to take a shower and use the toilet. This is the white bathroom.

Toilet

The sewer pipes in Jordan are not that wide and to prevent them from getting clogged we ask you to please throw your toilet paper in the bin.

Cats

Ginger and Pumpkin are my two cats. They will be around or in the house. If you don't like cats or if you are allergic, it's better to keep the door to your room closed to prevent them from sneaking in. They love to be in these rooms because I always keep the doors to the guest rooms closed. So when there are people, they get curious and would like to explore.

Parking your car

If you are traveling by car it's easy to park your car at the property. When you arrive you can drive up the drive way and park to bring your luggage to your room after checking in. Probably I've heard you coming and I'm waiting for you. If not, you could ring the doorbell or knock on the door to get me out. After you can park your car just after the entrance.

Water

Taking a shower with solar heated water

On the roof of the house are four solar panels where the water for the shower is heated by the sun. The hot water is kept in the round tank, also on the roof.

From this tank a hose is going down the side of the house and then underneath the house to a distribution point. From there it goes to the different hot water taps.

This is the reason that it takes a while for the hot water to reach the bathroom when you open the hot water tap.

Put the tap to the left to get hot water.

Unfortunately the water pressure is not that high as I was used to in The Netherlands. This is how it is in Jordan.

So when you take a shower, the first water that comes out is cold.

Water is precious here so if you prefer a warm shower, which I do, please collect the first cold water in the bucket.

It can take up to ¾ of the bucket before the hot water is there! In winter time it can even take a whole bucket!

We will reuse this to water the plants in the garden (or you can use it to flush the toilet).

To make optimal use of the solar heated water in wintertime, it's best to take a shower at the end of the day! The water had all day to heat up (and it costs less electricity to heat it up if needed).

If there was little or no sun in the daytime you can still have a warm shower. Just let me know and I will switch on the heater, that is inside the tank on the roof. After thirty minutes the water in the tank is hot and you can take your shower! But remember, the first water will still be cold so please collect it in the bucket!

And again, the water pressure is not that high because it's only the pressure from the water tank on the roof, a few meters above the shower.

Do you know that Jordan is the 2nd water poor country?

Water is precious, where ever you are but especially here. So please help to safe water.

Bigger towel needed?
If you would like a bigger towel, just ask and we will provide you with one.

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Unlocks the secrets of Petra's hidden world

Drinks

Drinking water

There is no problem to use the water from the tap to brush your teeth. However it could have a different taste. So if you like to drink water when you are here in the B&B, just take a glass and fill it with drinking water from the little water tank in the kitchen.

There is also a bottle of drinking water in your room. Feel free to refill it with the water from the tank in the kitchen.

Re-use your water bottle by refilling it!!

If you would like to refill your water bottles with this drinking water to take with you to Petra, that's also possible. For **0.5 JD you can fill up a 1,5 liter water bottle**.
If you keep track of how many bottles you filled up (or how many liters if you have smaller bottles) and let me know, I will add it to your bill.

Tea

Tea is offered during your stay. There is a water cooker in the kitchen to boil the water. Cups are in the cupboard. I will show you at your arrival day. Feel free to make a pot or a mug!

I have different kinds of herbal teas to choose from; green tea, mint tea, ginger and cinnamon tea, green tea with lemon, hibiscus for example and of course black tea. Make your choice from the assortment in the kitchen.

Not to forget there is even the special Bedouin tea mix, specially chosen by Bedoubag, and served in the B&B. And to bring that relaxing feeling of drinking tea home with you, you can buy this tea mix in the B&B and bring it home as a souvenir. 4 JOD for 80 gram.

Other services

Wash your clothes with washing nuts

Almost running out of clean clothes? And still some days left to travel? Have your clothes washed in the B&B.

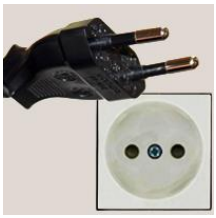
For 5 JD per load you can have your clothes washed and hang it on the washing line yourself on the front or back of the house. Just tell me, bring the washing and I'll switch the washing machine on. (If it's not a full load I'll add some washing to make it water efficient ☺)

Or I can do it for you while you are visiting Petra and hang and fold it for you for 10 JD. (When you are traveling with your kids and do a washing with their clothes I'll ask you to hang it yourself).

honeyberrydiary.com/2015/01/17/day-267/

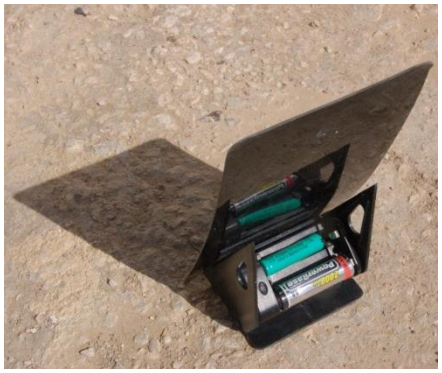
Solar charging possible with Waka Waka!

In Jordan we have an abundance of sun! I try to catch some of this energy with one of my Waka Waka solar chargers. If you like you can charge your phone with this solar energy! If you have a USB charger you can just plug it in to the Waka Waka battery and get the power running!



There is also normal electricity in the house where the sockets are of type C.

And if you have (spare) rechargeable batteries with you, you can put them in the GP solar to be charged in the daytime.



And please switch off the light(s) if you are not in your room or the bathroom to safe energy.

Buy local souvenirs at the B&B

If you would like to bring home some nice souvenirs, you can have a look at the locally made items from Bedoubag, Tribalogy, tea cosies made by Um Fadi, the secret spice mix used to cook the delicious saniye and many other items.

Wifi

There is an internet connection with wifi in the B&B. You can connect with Petrafigtree. The password is sunshine (or sunshine2 when you are in the Shady or Rosemary room and want to connect with Petrafigtree2).

Books and magazines

In the living room and the rooms are books and magazines. There are also some books about Petra, Jordan, the animals and birds in Jordan and hiking trails. Also some brochures and flyers of other nice places to visit in Jordan are available. Feel free to thumb through them during your stay.

And if you want to leave your magazines or books behind, my pleasure! I will share them with my guests!

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Food

Up from three people it's possible to have dinner here, upon availability. Please let me know a week in advance so I can check and confirm and do the shopping in time. For dinner I serve a three course vegetarian menu. Soup for starters. A main dish, for example pasta with vegetable sauce and a salad and a dessert, which can be fruit or some other nice sweet bite. The rate for this dinner is 16 JD per person.

The main dish can also be a local dish.

What to think of maglooba, which means upsidedown in Arabic. It's a rice dish with aubergine, cauliflower and potato. And when it's ready, the pot is turned upsidedown on a serving plate, revealing all the tasty veggies on top of the rice! Or saniye, a dish from the oven with a lot of vegetables.

If you'd like to have a local experience I can suggest to have dinner at a local family. Just ask me about it and I can tell you more.

Petra Hikers picnic lunch

If you like to bring a lunch box with you when you visit Petra I can prepare one for you. It's some fruit, bread, something sweet and cucumber and carrot. 6 JD per person.
Please let me know at least two days before if you would like to have lunch boxes so I have time to prepare them.

Have a relaxing chair massage

If your body is tired of all the hiking in Petra and your back still feels your backpack, you maybe need some extra relaxation by having a chair massage. I am a certified TouchPro practitioner and I brought my special massage chair with me to give my guests a relaxing and refreshing.

A chair massage is given on a person who sits on an ergonomic chair, over the clothing. So almost everybody can enjoy this kind of massage. The massage I give is based on a traditional Japanese sequence of acupressure points. This sequence follows the neck, shoulders, back, arms, hands, hips and head. The chair massage stimulates the blood circulation and will let you feel relaxed, revived and energised. Price for guests of the B&B is 9 JD.

Pictures for sale

I love to hike in the mountains around Petra and wander in the garden to make pictures of small and big wonders nature offers. I've printed some of these pictures on canvas and they are hanging in the rooms of the B&B. If you are interested let me know and we can see if I can have them printed for you too.

Beautiful high quality prints of historical images of the Middle East

In my living room are two pictures of Petra, printed from negatives which are about a century old! It gives you an idea what Petra looked like in that time, when tourism wasn't that big yet! These old negatives are restored by Kelvin Bown. He has been living in the Middle East for 13 years. He specializes in restoring antique photographs to the highest quality. His themed exhibitions have been well received in the region. His work is available as highest quality prints for artistic display on 100% cotton paper and canvas. He also edits images for photographers, and professionally enlarges photographs without pixellization or degradation. If you are interested let me know and I will get you in touch with Kelvin.

www.reawakeningthepast.com

Looking forward to welcome you in the B&B. And if you have any more questions, feel free to ask.