

## **Jordan is invited to host the world's first International Sea Station.**

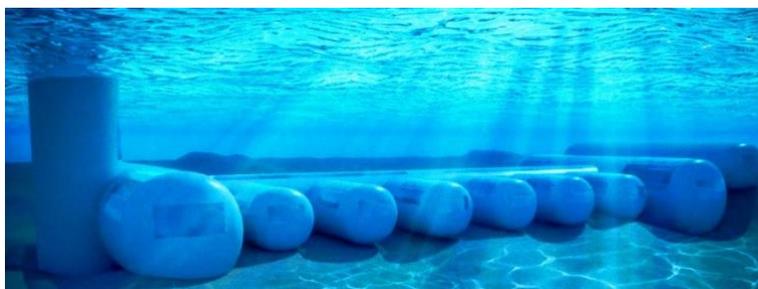
On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 1946 at the signing of the Treaty of London a newly independent nation declared its independence. The land of Jordan that King Abdullah I reigned over would be unrecognisable from the modern, metropolitan land we know today. Ever growing and developing in the decades that followed Jordan has transitioned from its largely mineral based economy of the 60s to a modern industrial country with a growing manufacturing and commercial sector and as the world opened up the tourists have been flocking to this lesser known middle eastern pearl.

In 1985 UNESCO recognised the ancient city of Petra as a world heritage site and over the years countless tourists have visited this amazing place and the many other ancient and natural wonders ranging from Wadi Rum and the Dead Sea to the ruined city of Jerash and the old city of Madaba.

As Jordan continues to develop the tourists seeking new experiences are now looking beneath the waves to for their vacation experience and whilst Jordan only has 17 miles of coastline these Red Sea waters are among the most biologically productive on earth and many of the best dive sites on earth are just a short boat trip from the port of Aqaba. Recently this has seen a tourism boom in the city and many hotels and dive schools have sprung up over the last few decades and this looks likely to continue for years to come.

Thanks to King Abdullah II's love of diving the Aqaba Marine Park was created preserving a wide range of unspoilt dive sites that can be accessed from the shore or from small boats such as the Seven Sisters, an underwater rock formation of seven rocky pinnacles providing an incredible habitat for coral, octopus and sea turtles or the Japanese Garden with it's many moray eels, sea horses and groupers. For more experienced divers deeper sites like the Rainbow Reef provide a vivid and complex coral reef extending to depths of up to 40m and there are even a handful of wrecks to dive such as the MV Cedar Pride which was scuttled in 1985 and even a US M40 tank that has found a new life as a habitat for a wide variety of marine life.

It is no surprise to see such rapid growth in the dive industry with Aqaba described by DiveMagazine.co.uk as "the Red Sea's most complete holiday destination" in a place where "you will be made to feel special among the friendliest people you will meet anywhere in the world". With more visitors set to visit Jordan to experience it's marine treasures this raises the question what's next?



The dive tourism market is extremely competitive so it is no surprise that billions of dollars are spent building and developing dive resorts at beauty spots around the world with the option to stay in a number of multi million dollar sea front hotels and mega resorts that dominate the landscape or dive from villas standing on stilts above the reefs this is a

rapidly growing market, but for many that is not enough. The fact is people visit these places not for the luxury hotels but for the stunning marine habitats and the creatures inhabiting them but unfortunately once your pressure gauge enters the red zone you have to return to the surface leaving the watery realm behind. That is how it has always been but it is not how it has to be. Wouldn't it be so much better if we could find a solution to allow us to remain beneath the waves as we eat, sleep and observe the stunning marine life from comfort and with the development of the the Conrad Maldives Rangali Island under water residence it seemed like this would be a possibility, but the \$30,000 a night price tag means that for all but the richest we continue to have to come back up for air and sleep in a terrestrial hotel.

Now, the reality is changing, thanks to the Planet Ocean Underwater Hotel and Marine Research Center we don't have to come up for air any more. Underwater sea bases have long been the realm of science fiction but with the launch of Planet Ocean, a dive holiday beneath the waves for days or even weeks can be a reality as you dine with a dolphin and sleep among stingrays. Planet Ocean is not just a luxurious hotel as it offers the full benefits fully functional marine research station, fully equipped for any scientific research project capable of handling a wide range of remotely operated underwater vehicles launched from the moon pools and constantly providing scientists with live data from it's extensive camera network and sensor array topping off this facility there is a fully functional laboratory and hyperbaric chambers also allows for divers to experience deep water dives and explore locations that would be normally be inaccessible. Planet Ocean has secured the rights to operate in The Solomon Islands and because the facility is fully self sufficient with renewable energy providing much of the electricity required to operate the facility and the zero discharge waste system Planet Ocean has also earned the right to operate in the protected area of the Dry Tortugas National Marine Park in the Florida Keys coastal waters. If permission is granted to operate in Jordanian coastal waters the entire facility can raise the anchors and travel across the Atlantic and through the Suez Canal atop it's cutting edge heavy lift submersible transport ship and set up shop off the coast of Aqaba immediately.

**PLANET OCEAN**  
**Underwater Hotel**



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**Underwater Hotel**



With a capacity for up to 24 guests in comfortable state rooms Planet Ocean provides an incredible opportunity to experience the best dive sites in Jordan in a new and exciting way. You can have your dinner among the Seven Sisters, drink a coffee in the Japanese

Garden or wake up above the Rainbow Reef. Planet Ocean also has a feature that separates it from any other facility on earth because under tow from the 145 foot support vessel you will be able to enjoy an underwater cruise at speeds of up to 4 knots as you travel in comfort in effectively the worlds first moveable underwater hotel.

Thanks to the cutting edge design the Planet Ocean Underwater Hotel and Marine Research Center will cost much less to construct and operate than some of the more expensive projects that have so far taken off with budgets approaching a quarter of a billion dollars. Planet Ocean comes in much less even than some basic underwater residences without the diving facilities that will be available at Planet Ocean. Existing underwater hotels have seen costs per room balloon to over \$11,000,000. Because of the modular design and simplified manufacturing method this design costs as little \$2.5 million per module making a stay at Planet Ocean far more affordable than you might think with VIP Guest deal opportunities which allow you to visit Planet Ocean for a full week, revisiting once every 15 months for less than it would cost for a weekend at a luxury underwater villa in the Maldives with deposits starting at as little as \$3,500 with the remaining balance of \$38,500 payable once enough VIP Guests have been found to fund the \$30 million project and construction can begin in Louisiana before the interior prefabricated modules will be moved from Florida to be reassembled and launched before it can be transported to Jordanian waters and provide numerous jobs for a largely Jordanian crew and support team.

Planet Ocean, the International Sea Station is ready to take Jordan on the first steps into a new era of dive tourism when coming up for air does not mean leaving the ocean and you can experiencing the majesty of the and you can experience the majesty of the deep for days.



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