

MA in Humanitarian Assistance and Crisis Management

Housing Information 2024

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General Housing Information

Room and board are the responsibility of each graduate student, and costs are NOT included in the tuition. However, housing assistance is available through SIT. This document outlines recommended options, but students can find their own housing if preferred.

HOW IS HOUSING ARRANGED?

In both locations, students have two options for housing:

- **Homestays** with SIT-vetted families allow for greater cultural and linguistic immersion and lower costs. Breakfast and dinner are provided each day. Homestays also require that students be comfortable with greatly reduced personal space and the need to respect family rules including possible curfews. All homestays include a private room that locks and Wi-Fi access. Students may share bathrooms with other family members.
- **Apartments** - This option provides limited cultural and linguistic immersion and involves higher costs, as well as greater independence and personal space. Students are responsible for all their own meal preparation. Students are responsible for locating and confirming their apartments; SIT will provide recommended neighborhoods that are both close to the study centers and safe, and our staff are happy to review some possible listings in advance. Students also will have the opportunity to connect with other cohort members in advance to discuss possible apartment shares.
- **During orientation**, the program director and housing coordinator will take students on a tour of the available options which they will then be able to secure by the end of the orientation depending on preference.

ACCOMMODATIONS DURING ORIENTATION & FIELD VISITS

Students will share a double room with another classmate. The program covers the cost of meals, accommodations, and transportation during orientations and excursions.

Jordan Housing Options

JORDAN HOMESTAY	JORDAN APARTMENT
\$680 USD per month	\$700 - 1200 USD per month depending on neighborhood
Private bedroom and bathroom with laundry	1 to 3 bedrooms with kitchen and shared bathroom
Utilities (except internet) are included in the above cost	Utilities - \$100 USD per month
Internet- \$50 USD per month	Internet- \$50 USD per month
2 meals are included (breakfast and dinner)	Token laundry facilities are available in most of the buildings

Distance from program center: less than 15km	Distance from program center: less than 5km
3 Month Estimated budget for homestay: \$2190 USD	3 Month Estimated budget for apartment: \$2550 - 4050 USD

HOW DO I PAY FOR HOUSING?

- You may pay with a credit or debit card in some places but be prepared to pay cash in homestays and for apartments owned by landlords (not part of a business). Using your credit card or debit card in Jordan is easy and highly recommended. Homestays often prefer cash in hand.
- The local currency in Jordan is Jordanian Dinar. ATMs are widely available and are usually a reliable way to get funds in Jordan's larger cities. A major credit card (Visa or Mastercard) is often necessary in emergencies. If you have a medical situation that requires an overnight visit to the clinic you must have a credit card; your program insurance will reimburse your expenses, but you must pay your bill in cash or credit card before leaving the clinic. You should be able to use a credit card in many shops as well.
- Wise.com is an international money transfer service that is safe, and charges low rates should students need to transfer money to local bank accounts.
- Renewing and receiving reissued credit and debit cards while on the program will be an expensive and highly inconvenient process. Before you leave for your program, please check the expiration dates on your cards to ensure that they will not expire while you are abroad. It is also very important that you make photocopies of all your debit/credit card information and leave them with someone you trust in case your cards are lost or stolen.

PHOTOS OF SAMPLE APARTMENTS IN AMMAN



ACCESS TO FOOD

- Staple foods in Jordan include rice, vegetable dishes, chicken, meat, beans, nuts, coffee, tea, figs, and many other fruits and vegetables.
- Students can maintain a vegetarian diet.
- Markets and grocery stores are widely available in Amman and accessible within a 15-minute walk from housing or via a short taxi ride.

Morocco Housing Options

MOROCCO HOMESTAY	MOROCCO APARTMENT
\$400 USD per month	\$500 - \$1000 USD per month depending on neighborhood
Private bedroom and bathroom	1 to 3 bedrooms with kitchen and shared bathroom
Internet- \$65 USD per month	Utilities - \$50 USD per month
2 meals are included (breakfast and dinner)	Internet- \$65 USD per month
Laundry is included	Some buildings may provide laundry services and cleaning of the apartment
Distance from program center: less than 15km	Distance from program center: less than 5km
3 Month Estimated cost for homestay: \$2190 USD	3 Month Estimated cost for apartment: \$1395-\$3345 USD

HOW DO I PAY FOR HOUSING?

- You may pay with a credit or debit cards in some places but be prepared to pay cash in homestays and for flats owned by landlords (not part of a business). Using your credit card or debit card in Morocco particularly for those apartments that are registered. Payment will only be done after a contract is signed with the selected apartment. Homestays are paid upfront but it is required that you can only have a guest after informing your homestay parents.
- The local currency in Morocco is Moroccan Dirham. ATMs are widely available in Rabat at the program base as well as in all regions where site visits and excursions are done. A major credit card (Visa or Mastercard) is often necessary in emergencies and is highly recommended. If you have a medical situation that requires an overnight visit to the clinic you must have a credit card; your program insurance will reimburse your expenses, but you must pay your bill in cash or credit card before leaving the clinic. You should be able to use a credit card in many shops as well.

- <https://www.westernunion.com> is an international money transfer service that is safe, and charges low rates should students need to transfer money to local bank accounts.
- Renewing and receiving reissued credit and debit cards while on the program will be an expensive and highly inconvenient process. Before you leave for your program, please check the expiration dates on your cards to ensure that they will not expire while you are abroad. It is also very important that you make photocopies of all your debit/credit card information and leave them with someone you trust in case your cards are lost or stolen.

ACCESS TO FOOD

- Food in Morocco is a blend of many influences and cuisines with wheat, meat, and vegetables as common ingredients. Couscous is the most familiar and popular Moroccan dish, made from wheat pasta and steamed with meat and vegetables. It is prepared differently depending on the occasion and the region. Other Moroccan foods include tagines, stews, roasted meats, and pastries.
- Students can maintain a vegetarian or fruitarian diet.
- Markets and grocery stores are widely available in Rabat and all towns where excursions and site visits are held and are accessible within a 15-minute walk from housing or via a short Uber ride.

