

# DO'S AND DON'TS

1. **DO** learn and understand the host country's language.
2. **DO** respect the culture, traditions and practices of your host country.
3. **DO** know the provisions of your employment contract and know your rights and responsibilities.
4. **DO** abide by laws, rules and regulations of your host country.
5. **DON'T** carry, use or sell drugs, substances, compounds and chemicals classified as illegal in the host country.
6. **DON'T** accept any hand-carried package from anyone unless you first see what is inside. Many people have been arrested and jailed for carrying firearms and drugs without their knowledge.
7. **DON'T** engage in activities considered illegal in the host country (gambling/lotto, liquor/alcohol use, cyber sex, possession and/or sale of pirated video materials and/or obscene materials/articles).
8. **DON'T** lend your laptop, smartphone, sim card, ATM, passport to friends or acquaintances who may use them for illegal purposes.
9. **DON'T** live beyond your means. Avoid falling into a debt trap. Avoid guaranteeing debt.
10. **DON'T** believe in get-rich-quick scams. Examples are text messages that you have won in an electronic lottery, e-mail offering to transfer huge amount of money to your bank account.
11. **DON'T** attempt to run-away from your employer. Try to settle any disagreement.

## PHILIPPINE REPRESENTATION in JORDAN:

### EMBASSY OF THE PHILIPPINES

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## Sampung Bilin ng PDOS

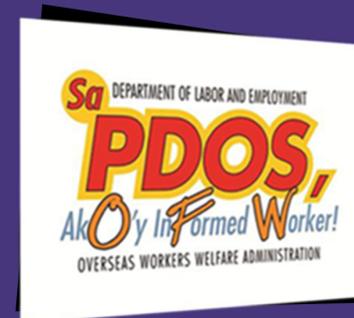
1. Isa-isip ang gusto mong makamit sa iyong pagtrabaho sa ibang bansa. Ito ang susi ng iyong tagumpay.
2. Ihanda ang sarili sa trabahong haharapin sa labas ng bansa.
3. Tandaan ang iyong responsibilidad at karapatan. Ito ay gabay mo sa pagganap sa iyong tungkulin.
4. Umangkop sa batas at kultura ng bansang pupuntahan. Ito ay iyong magiging pansamantalang tirahan.
5. Pangalagaan ang kalusugan. Kailangan ang malusog na pangangatawan sa trabahong gagampanan.
6. Buksan ang isipan sa bagong kaalaman at kasanayan. Ito ay hagdan sa tagumpay.
7. Makipag-ugnayan sa pamilyang naiwan. Panatilihin buo ang pamilya kahit malayo ka.
8. Mag-ipon dahil ang katuparan ng iyong mga pangarap ay nakasalalay dito.
9. Maghanda at magplano para sa iyong pagbabalik.
10. May mga ahensya ng pamahalaan na makakatulong sa oras ng pangangailangan. Huwag mag-atubiling sila ay lapitan.

***"Sa tamang kaalaman, sigurado ang Tagumpay at kaligtasan."***



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OWWA Member Mobile App



Paalis ka na pala.  
Nag PDOS ka na ba?  
Laging tandaan  
ang sampung bilin  
ng PDOS

**A Guide for  
OFWs  
Bound for  
JORDAN**



**Kahit Saan,  
Kahit Kailan,  
Maaasahan!**

## FACTS and FIGURES

**OFFICIAL NAME:** Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

**NATIONALITY:** Jordanian

**CAPITAL:** Amman

**GOVERNMENT:** Constitutional Monarchy

**NATIONAL DAY:** May 25

**LAND AREA:** 89,342 sqkm.

**LOCATION:** Jordan is an Arab country in eastern Asia, on the East Bank of the Jordan River. Jordan is bordered by Saudi Arabia to the south and the east, Iraq to the north-east, Syria to the north and Israel and Palestine to the west.

**CLIMATE:** Jordan has a hot, dry climate characterized by long, hot, dry summers and short, cool winters. The climate is influenced by Jordan's location between the subtropical aridity of the Arabian desert areas and the subtropical humidity of the eastern Mediterranean area.

**NATURAL HAZARDS:** droughts, periodic earthquakes, flash floods

**POPULATION:** 10,203,134 (2020)

**PEOPLE:** Arabs (98%), other Jordanian ethnicities (1%), Armenians (1%)

**LANGUAGES:** the official language is Arabic, other foreign languages used are English, French, and other minority languages include Armenian dialects, Tagalog, and Russian

**RELIGION:** Sunni Muslim (92%), Shia (1%), Christians (6%), others (1%)

**WORKING WEEK:** Sunday-Thursday;  
45 hours per week

**CURRENCY:** Jordanian Dinar (JOD)

**COUNTRY DIALING CODE:** +962

**INTERNET COUNTRY CODE:** .jo

**TIME DIFFERENCE:** GMT +2:00; Jordan is 5 hours behind the Philippines



## REMINDERS: Living in JORDAN

While Jordan is not considered a conservative state, the contrasting difference between the Arab/Middle Eastern culture vis-à-vis Philippine cultures is still too obvious to disregard. For your own security, protection, and coping-up, the following reminders, while at job-site, is strongly endorsed:

Remember that you are only a guest in the host country. You are expected to respect its culture, practices, and tradition.

Try to learn and understand, as much as possible, the host country's language. It is your key to better communication with your non-English speaking employer and other Arabs.

Bring clothes appropriate for four (4) seasons but prepare more items for very long cold days in Jordan.

Do not carry with you any prohibited item/s such as illegal drugs/substance/compounds, offensive reading/video/obscene materials, and foods made from pork, among others.

Do not interrupt or pass in front of an Arab while they are praying in public places or open spaces.

Respect the month of Ramadan. Moslem and Christians are forbidden to eat, drink or smoke whether in private or in public places.

Do not shake hands with Arabs of opposite sex, e.g. male to female, female to male. It is taboo.



Do not cook or fry fishes whether fresh or dried or any deemed offensive smelling Filipino foods such as bagoong, balot, etc. As Arabs are empathic to its odor.

Do not show disliking for Arabic food. Politely tell them that your palate is not yet used to its taste.

Do not discuss topics on politics, religion, belief, and other deemed sensitive issues to employers and other Arabs for security reason.

Arabs traditionally kiss each other on both cheeks as a warm gesture of welcome and affection. In the Philippines we called such gesture as "beso-beso".

Arabs usually overfeed their visitors by constantly offering them food. This is their way to show their warm gesture of welcome and affection.

Dress appropriately, if not conservatively, when in public and private places.

Haggle when shopping in public and other open market.

Always show the good side of Filipino values and culture while in Jordan.

Do not trust easily and go along with strangers. Alcohol is freely available in the host country and you might end-up a victim of robbery, sexual molestation, extremism, which you might regret later on.

**Transportation.** Travel by taxi if you want to see the sights on a strict timeline or on your own. You can hire a taxi for either short trips or long distance travel around the country. Like in most countries all over the world, you can almost expect taxi drivers to overcharge. It is customary for men to sit in the front seat, and unaccompanied women should sit in the back when they use a taxi.

Take a bus if you have time to spare and an interest in meeting people. There are not many buses within Jordan, but at least they ply the major routes, and the buses are cheaper than taxis. They're reliable and they're the best way to get around the country if you have the time. The mini buses don't have fixed timetables, they leave once they are full.

## REMINDERS: Working in JORDAN

Bring clothes appropriate for four (4) seasons but prepare more items for very long cold days in Jordan.

Know the provisions of your employment contract and the basic labor laws of the host country to enable you to acquire a clear understanding of your rights and responsibilities as a foreign worker.

Understand that you will sign a similar contract later on upon arrival and it is written in Arabic. This is normal and required by Jordanian authorities for work visa application.

Expect a long period of processing of your **iqama** upon arrival to make your stay legal and for identification purposes. In exchange, your employer needs your passport to be forwarded to authorities.

Carry with you your **iqama** always, especially when going out of employer's household premises.

Strictly observe the employer's curfew imposed during days-off. It is for your own security and welfare.

Do not bring original, valuable, and personal documents if not required by your employer. It also is not wise to bring jewelries and expensive gadgets.

Do not do disgusting activities while at work as most employers' houses and/or establishments are secured with CCTV.

Talk to your employer one month before if you wish to extend or terminate your contract. You have the rights to decline his offer of extension if you want to.

Do not talk openly about your monthly wages to your foreign counterpart/co-worker to avoid harboring their jealousy, envy, and/or insecurity. It is for your own good.

Do not argue with Arab employers and elderly, it is a show of disrespect and may lead you to physical harm. Show understanding and humility. Refer your problem to an appropriate person, entity or office.

Do not engage in any part-time job while still under contract as this is prohibited under Jordanian labor laws. Neither join in any gambling or drinking session, watching pornographic materials, cyber-sex or similar viewing as they are heavily punishable under Sharia Law.

Call/communicate with your Jordanian agency or respective human resource/personnel manager in case of violations of contract or any issues and concerns affecting your work. Record their contact number/s.

Observe immigration and labor laws to avoid the penalty of imprisonment and fine.

Respect the Arabs especially the elderly, whether they are your employer or not.

Always show the good side of Filipino values and culture while in Jordan.

Do not be easily persuaded by a *kababayan* who tells you to run-away in exchange for a promised lucrative job outside of employer's premises. It is illegal and it may endanger your status as well as enhance your vulnerability.