King Hussein Park + the Royal Automobile Museum: a half-day in the biggest green space in Amman

The largest urban park in Amman, with the Royal Automobile Museum (Hashemite-era cars) and the Children's Museum on the same site — a deliberate counterweight to the Citadel/Roman-theatre tourist axis.

Anas Hu · May 5, 2026

In a city famous for its archaeology and its old quarters, King Hussein Park is the deliberate counterweight: a sprawling green park that's home to two of Amman's most underrated visits — the Royal Automobile Museum, with King Hussein's vintage cars, and the Children's Museum, a hands-on science centre that's worth two hours even without kids in tow. Local families come on Fridays for the lawns; tourists come for the museums.

If you have a half-day in Amman with no archaeological appetite left, this is where you spend it.

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1Why visit King Hussein Park

The park provides a different lens on Jordan than the heritage trail: a modern, working green space that anchors a residential west-Amman district. Two cultural institutions inside the park's perimeter make it worth a deliberate trip:

- The Royal Automobile Museum (vintage cars of the Hashemite royal family).
- The Children's Museum (interactive science exhibits — a hit with kids and adults).

The lawns are well-maintained; on Fridays in spring and autumn, half of west Amman picnics here.

2The Royal Automobile Museum

Opened in 2003 upon King Abdullah's wishes, the Royal Automobile Museum holds a rare collection of Jordan's vehicles ranging from Hussein bin Ali's cars that came to Amman in 1916 to modern sports cars.[1] The collection includes Rolls-Royces used by King Hussein, the customised cars he raced, and the Hashemite-era convertibles used for state visits.

The unexpected highlight: a rover from the Hollywood film *The Martian* — gifted to Jordan in return for the hospitality with which Jordan extended to the movie cast and crew during the filming at Wadi Rum. Worth the entry by itself for cinema-history travellers.

> King Hussein's racing cars next to the Mars rover from *The Martian*. The same Wadi Rum that was Mars in the film is two hours south.

3The Children's Museum

Across the park, the Children's Museum Jordan is a modern interactive science centre — exhibits on physics, biology, weather, and Jordanian heritage. Most exhibits are tactile or kinetic; even adults without children should plan 90 minutes. Free entry weekends to under-12s; modest fee otherwise.

4Getting there

King Hussein Park is in west Amman, roughly 12 km from downtown. Options:

- **Taxi or rideshare.** 15–25 minutes from Jabal Amman or downtown depending on traffic. ~3–5 JD via Careem/Uber.
- **Self-drive.** Free parking inside the park. Easier than driving downtown.
- **Public bus.** Possible but fiddly; taxi is recommended.

> **For solo travellers**
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> The Auto Museum is a calm 90 minutes. The park is large and walkable; bring a paperback for an hour on a bench.

5Practical tips

- **How long.** Half a day for both museums + a park walk. Full day with the Children's Museum and lunch.
- **Best day of the week.** Friday morning before noon for the park; weekday afternoons for the museums (less busy).
- **Tickets.** Each museum has its own ticket; small fees in JD. Park entry is free.
- **Combine with.** Madina al-Tibb (medical city, neighbouring district) or the Sweifieh shopping district to the south.

References

1. Wikipedia — Royal Automobile Museum

Verified by locals: TBD — this article will be reviewed by an Amman-resident editor before final publication. Drafted from Wikipedia and the Royal Hashemite Court's published descriptions.