

# 10 Lowest Points on Earth

## 1. Dead Sea Depression

Elevation: 413 meters below sea level (approximate and fluctuating)

Country: Israel, Jordan, Syria

Latitude/Longitude: 31° 32' N 35° 29' E

The Dead Sea Depression is an extensive area of land that is below sea level. It contains the Dead Sea, the Sea of Galilee, a portion of the Jordan River, large areas of cultivated land and many communities. The shoreline of the Dead Sea is the lowest dry land on Earth. It is approximately 413 meters below sea level. However, this elevation is constantly changing. The surface of the Dead Sea rises and falls as precipitation, evaporation, irrigation, salt production and other natural and human activities consume the water of the Jordan River, the Dead Sea and its tributaries.

*This is a story about great edifice, that "wrapped" in unprofessional management. Pitty. This is a story about hotel that want to take from u hundreds of dollar, and give u back verry little. The rooms furniture need to be replaced. Matress is terrible, soft, need be replaced (good recepie for backache). The rooms are not clean enough. The staff is ok - not more than that. And the climax is the food: 2-3 star hotal ingredients (if so how dare you demand those rates?) 5 kind of cheap burecas, cheap cheeses, etc.*

## 2. Lake Assal (in the Afar Depression)

Elevation: 155 meters below sea level (approximate and fluctuating)

Country: Djibouti

Latitude/Longitude: 11° 39' N 42° 25' E

The shoreline of Lake Assal is the lowest point in Africa and the second lowest location on Earth. Lake Assal is located in the Afar Depression which is formed at a triple junction of tectonic plates (Indian, African and Arabian). The relative motion of these plates produces a divergence that results in a lowering of Earth's surface. Lake Assal's water emerges from springs which are believed to be fed by ground water flow from the Gulf of Tadjoura. This water evaporates rapidly because the climate there is one of the hottest and driest on Earth. This high evaporation rate makes Lake Assal the saltiest body of water on Earth.

*I reviewed this hotel a few months ago, but it looks like they decided not to publish it. The staff are pathetically slow, rude and really just incompetent. Room service takes forever, and like everything else, overpriced for the poor food you get. Housekeeping just as bad, they obviously miss the layers of dust in the room, as well as the stained*

*and ripped bed sheets that don't seem to get thrown away. Cockroaches EVERYWHERE! In the rooms, in the hallways, in the restaurants, by the swimming pools! Its so gross! There is a small handful of staff members at this hotel that are really excellent and know exactly what good service is supposed to be, but unfortunately, all of those are in the back offices and don't really deal with customers at all. The gym is nice, and the pools are really pretty. The dive center is really good too! Oh, and the beds are amazing, just a shame about the ripped and stained sheets.*

### **3. Turfan Depression**

Elevation: 154 meters below sea level (approximate and fluctuating)

Country: China

Latitude/Longitude: 42° 40' N 89° 14' E

The Turpan Depression or Turfan Depression is a fault-bounded trough located around and south of the city-oasis of Turpan, in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region in far western China, about 150 kilometres (93 mi) southeast of the regional capital Ürümqi.

*First of all the hotel is rundown and old. The front desk called twice at 11pm to ask if we wanted "in room massages"... code for prostitution much? Did not appreciate that since we were asleep by then, and I'm not even sure why they did that cuz we were travelling as a couple. Not to mention they tried to charge us twice by saying it was a no-show (which I don't understand because they took our passports/IDs and photocopied them!). I had to deal with this while I was still travelling. The breakfast at the hotel was so bad... but then again food around Turpan is pretty questionable, had diarrhea only in Turpan during my China trip.*

### **4. Qattara Depression**

Elevation: 133 meters below sea level (approximate)

Country: Egypt

Latitude/Longitude: 29° 32' N 27° 07' E

*The Qattara Depression is located in the Libyan Desert of northwestern Egypt. At 133 meters below sea level it is the second lowest point in Africa. The depression has no settlements and other than nomadic herders it supports no commercial activity.*

*I stayed there for one day in October, the rooms were unclean, the bathroom was rusty including all the taps, the toilet seat was broken and leaks water to the bathroom floor, the food was terrible I ate dinner outside the hotel that night. No AC remote control and when I requested I got no response till I borrowed one from the room beside me. Beside all that key employees were rude and unfriendly. Really it was the*

*worst stay I've ever experienced. Room Tip: don't go there unless you wanted to have a really bad time.*

## **5. Karagiye Depression**

Elevation: 132 meters below sea level (approximate)

Country: Kazakhstan

Latitude/Longitude: 43° 27' N 51° 45' E

The Karagiye Depression is located in southwestern Kazakhstan. It has an elevation of approximately 132 meters below sea level.

*I actually stayed in this hotel twice, first time August 2010 and second time in April 2011, For 2nd time I did it coz I did not knew any other hotel. It is clean hotel but staff are not friendly! I felt like I am not welcome there apart from 1-2 receptionist everybody else was just odd! Rooms are clean, beds are small, I am not tall person (176cm) but for their bed I was tall!!! lol ! Breakfast are ok but suggest if you want it for dinner or Lunch try other restaurant near by.*

## **6. The Denakil Depression (in the Afar Depression)**

Elevation: 125 meters below sea level

Country: Ethiopia

Latitude/Longitude: 13° 16' N 40° 54' E

The Denakil Depression is a low area within the Afar Depression of Ethiopia. The Afar Depression is formed at a triple junction of tectonic plates (Indian, African and Arabian). The relative motions of the plates produce a divergence that results in the Denakil Depression.

*There's a certain attraction to the old wing of this hotel - it could be the setting for a period drama, with its huge, high ceilinged bar and entrance area. And the outside courtyard is very attractive. But go upstairs to the bedrooms and you are confronted by an atmosphere of grubby decay. The bathroom walls have been hacked to attempt some sort of repairs, but the holes remain. The ceiling is stained with mould and the window frame chipped. The shower does no more than drip - and it's not just one room like that. This might be excusable in a \$10 a night doss house, but for a place that charges \$60 it is outrageous.*

## **7. San Julián's Great Depression**

Elevation: 105 meters below sea level

Country: Argentina

Latitude/Longitude: 49° 35' S 68° 20' W

San Julian's Great Depression is located in southeastern Argentina. It is the lowest land location in both the Western and Southern Hemispheres. The deepest part is Laguna del Carbón, at approximately 105 meters below sea level. The area has abundant salt marshes.

*Worse in everything except location - poor breakfast, worse cleaning (forgot to put new bath accessories like soap), worse pillows and mattresses... But the most awful - bedbugs in the room 212!!! Beware of this hotel! Looks like a really nice place, but served me rotten octopus (i had to point them the mold) and sandy fish (i heard my own teeth grind).*

## **8. Death Valley**

Elevation: 86 meters below sea level

Country: USA

Latitude/Longitude: 36° 51' N 117° 17' W

Death Valley is the location of the lowest land elevation in the United States. It is a north-south trending valley between the Amargosa Range on the east and the Panamint Range on the west. Death Valley is part of the Basin and Range Physiographic Province where north-south trending valleys are bounded on both sides by normal faults. The north and south ends of the valley are formed by the Sylvania Mountains and the Owlshhead Mountains. The valley is one of the hottest locations in the United States. The record high temperature for the United States was measured there in 1913 at 134 °F (56.7 °C). Death Valley gets very little rain and the deepest part of the valley is generally dry. However, heavy rains can cause flash floods that produce a large lake in the bottom of the valley.

*The hotel rooms are lovely but very overpriced! We had previously stayed at the Inn (a few years ago) and the restaurant food was amazing then. We were really expecting the same standard of food and were bitterly disappointed. The chefs special was anything but! The duck leg was undercooked, tasteless and was served with, what tasted like, burnt spinach and one potato croquet for \$36. I cannot believe that a professional chef would think that this was an acceptable meal.*

## **9. Akdzhakaya Depression**

Elevation: 81 meters below sea level

Country: Turkmenistan

Latitude/Longitude: 41° 02' N 58° 18' E

The Akdzhakaya Depression is located in north central Turkmenistan. It is a very arid area located in the Karakum Desert.

*Usually when hotels booked through friends i do not interfere in the details too much, especially if the period is less than three nights ?! When I entered the room I was very tired from a long night flight and boring entry procedures ?? I want to be rested and enough .. nice to find such a hotel reminds you 80ths. ! Lived in Room 318.. i Squeezed my body in as a vagabond dog Tykeoverlooking the pool dusty smell of cigarettes fills the place ? A torn mattress at the corner and the floor of the room narrow unhappy, big new screen TV and furniture does not fit the rickety wooden green ?? Minibar poor as the breakfast perfectly !.. washbasin was not look any interest (normal Russian taste) and bath towels are not enough .. as if they were literally apply that label instructions on the back of the bathroom door .. the hotel lobby and the introduction inserted next Wegger often at first glance .. Price amounts, they took me an extra day rate to sleep for five hours?? What intercession of the hotel is its location in the city center .. The Waste Land ??*

## **10. Salton Trough**

Elevation: 69 meters below sea level

Country: USA, Mexico

Latitude/Longitude: 33° 19' N 115° 50' W

The Salton Trough is the second lowest depression in the United States. The lowest land in the Salton Trough is along the shoreline of the Salton Sea. The lake level is approximately 69 meters below sea level; however, the lake rises and falls in response to runoff from the New, Whitewater and Alamo Rivers plus some agricultural runoff. The bottom of the Salton Sea is about two meters higher than the bottom of Death Valley.

*Shortly after checking into our room, the toilet flooded, flooding the whole bathroom with water and urine. Since no one was at the front desk after 12 am, we called the emergency number that was posted to the office door. The guy that answered us did not offer a new clean room, but promised the maintenance guy is on his way. After long waiting ours an another similar call, were the maintenance guy was "still on his way".. we gave up and fell a sleep in that smelly room, after trying to clean the bathroom ourselves. We paid for that room 110\$, which was surely not worth the money, neither the unprofessional treatment we received. The manager promised us a 20\$ which we NEVER saw...(not to mention she asked for proofs we had called for help) So they are also LIARS!! Do yourself a favor, stay anywhere else but here!!*