

harmoniously coexist, offering an unforgettable experience.

As-Salam

Travelers would return to their homes from PETRA with a sense of Peace, Wisdom, and Harmony.



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The ancient city of Petra, shining in rose-red, still shrouded in mystery

Petra, a UNESCO World Heritage site also known as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, is Jordan's cherished treasure and the centerpiece of Jordanian tourism.

A pproximately 2,000 years ago, the capital of the Nabataean Kingdom was known as "Raqmu," and it was a cosmopolitan city where people from various regions gathered. It thrived as a significant crossroads for trade, connecting India, the Arabian Peninsula, Egypt, and other areas. However, in the 2nd century, it was annexed by the Romans, leading to its gradual decline, and Petra was gradually forgotten by people. In 1812, Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhardt rediscovered the ancient city of Petra, bringing it back into the public eye. Today, Petra is considered one of the most captivating travel destinations in the world.

The Treasury, which emerges dramatically at the end of the 1.2-kilometer Siq, is renowned, but Petra offers much more. The six trails within Petra Archaeological Park are strewn with ruins, are a testament to the collective wisdom of humanity. Still, many of Petra's treasures remain buried underground. Furthermore, the awe-inspiring vista of the Jordan Rift Valley, a geolog-

ical rift, and the ancient Bedouin culture are unique to the Petra region, waiting to be explored by those who venture beyond the archaeological park and into the surrounding communities.

Wadi Rum, an expansive red desert, remarkable rock formations, and the azure waters of coral reefs near Aqaba are easily accessible as day trips from Petra. Along the route from Petra to Jordan's capital, Amman, travelers can explore various attractions, including Karak, Mount Nebo, Madaba, the Dead Sea, and

Baptism site. With its six World Heritage Sites, Jordan extends a warm welcome to travelers seeking history, ruins, culture, adventure, resorts, and pilgrimage experiences.



Sites inscribed on the World Heritage List

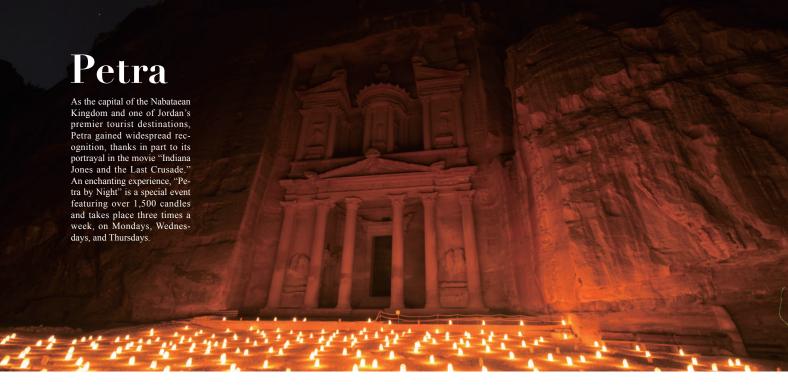
Cultural: As-Salt - The Place of Tolerance and Urban Hospitality (2021)
Baptism Site "Bethany Beyond the Jordan" (Al-Maghtas) (2015)
Petra (1985)
Quseir Amra (1985)
Um er-Rasas (Kastrom Mefa'a) (2004)
Mixed: Wadi Rum Protected Area (2011)

Wadi Huili Tolected Alea (2011)

Access to other destinations from Petra

⇔ Petra → Amman (268km): Kings Highway - Desert Highway
⇔ Petra → Aqaba (126km): Kings Highway - Desert Highway
⇔ Petra → Dead Sea (193km): Dead Sea Highway
⇔ Petra → Wadi Rum (112km): Kings Highway - Desert Highway

04



Madaba

Madaba, known as "the City of Mosaics," is one of the most unforgettable destinations in the Holy Land, boasting must-see attractions like the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George and the archaeological park.



Karak

Karak is a historic fortified city famous for its impregnable fortress, once inhabited by Crusader and Islamic Royals.



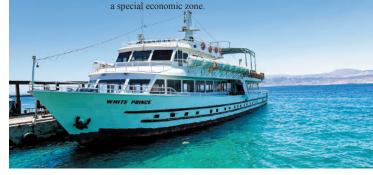


As-Salt

The historic old city of Salt flourished from the 19th to the 20th century and still retains much of its traditional architecture, built with local yellow stone.



Overlooking the Red Sea, Aqaba offers opportunities for water sports like snorkeling. It serves as a port of call for large cruise ships and is frequently utilized by low-cost carriers (LCCs). Furthermore, it holds the designation of



Amman

Jordan's capital, where modern buildings coexist with traditional coffee shops and ancient souks throughout the city, offers a diverse nightlife with cultural events and traditional performances.



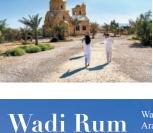
Baptism site

As the place where Jesus Christ was baptized by John the Baptist two millennia ago, making it one of the focal Christian pilgrimage sites.

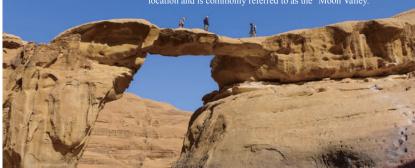


Dead Sea

This is the Earth's lowest point, situated at over 400 meters below sea level. The high salinity and buoyancy of the water ensure that the body does not sink.



Wadi Rum is a natural reserve located near the border with Saudi Arabia, featuring an expansive reddish-brown desert spanning over 700 square kilometers. It is renowned as a popular filming location and is commonly referred to as the "Moon Valley."



Mt. Nebo

This location is believed to be the land of demise of Moses and holds the destination of being the most revered holy site in Jordan.



#1

A village that connects traditional and modern culture

Baidha



Situated to the northeast of the archaeological park, the people of Baidha preserve and share the traditional Bedouin ethos of coexisting harmoniously with nature. The local folklore museum is accessible to tourists and showcases their exceptional history and cultural traditions.

The Cultural Village hosts a diverse range of concerts, adding vibrancy to the nights in Petra







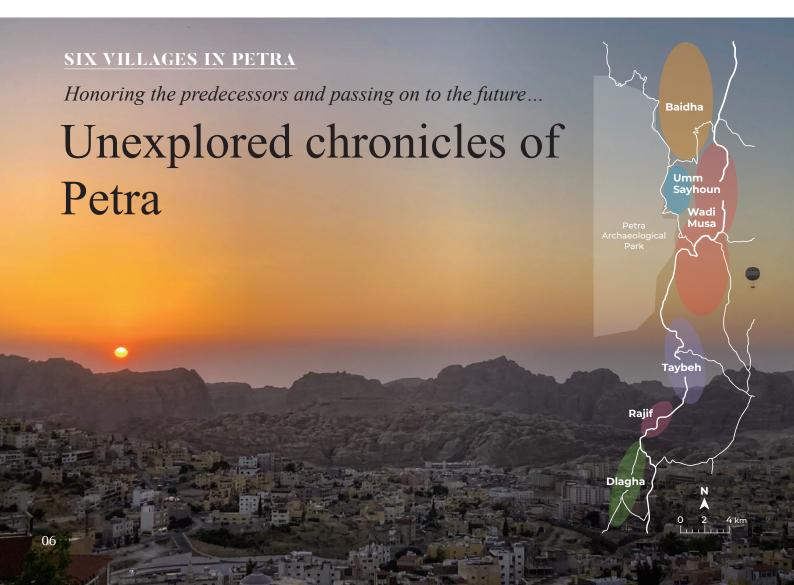


The Henna plant has been traditionally used in Bedouin culture for ancient body art. In the past, Bedouin brides would adorn themselves with henna as part of their wedding rituals, believing it would bring them good luck.

Experience of the traditions and vitality of the people who live with the history of Bedouin

Umm Sayhoun

The people of Umm Sayhoun possess deep wisdom and a rich knowledge of their Bedouin traditions, carefully preserving and passing them down to future generations. These traditions include the art of Henna design and the preparation of traditional foods known as "Rashouf" and "Arbud."



The gateway to a journey to experience Petra's diverse history Wadi Musa

Wadi Musa, situated at the heart of the Petra region, serves as the primary gateway for tourism in Petra. In Wadi Musa, you can find well-preserved historical water systems dating back to the Nabataean era. Petra itself provides an opportunity to explore historical legacies spanning various eras, not only the Nabataean but also from the Neolithic age to the Ottoman period. As an example, the Wu'ayra Castle is a Crusader castle

dating back to the 12th century, located near downtown Wadi Musa.

In the high season, locals open a weekly market near the Visitor Center for tourists to buy local crafts and agricultural products.





Taybeh, the Petra's second largest town, is located at a high elevation overlooking the villages of Wadi Musa and Rajif. In the evening, the sunset over Wadi Araba illuminates the entire village in orange.





Escape from modern life by staying in a traditional country village converted into luxury accommodation.

#____

Greeted by the timeless moment in a traditional village and the beautiful sunset

Taybeh



A Bedouin village with lush greenery

Rajif

Rajif is a Bedouin community known for its plentiful agricultural produce, which includes olives, apricots, almonds, figs, and lentils. In this small village, the residents actively preserve Bedouin culture, which includes traditional dances like "Samer" and more.

In Rajif, there are historical water reservoirs dating back to the Roman period that are still in use by the local population for purposes related to livestock and agriculture.









A secret garden of serenity with authentic nomadic life

Dlagha

Located just off the King's Highway, the village of Dlaghah is a place where traditional Bedouin life persists. The local residents continue to practice a nomadic way of life, herding livestock and primarily sustaining themselves with a traditional dairy diet, often crafted from goat milk.



In March, almond blossoms burst into full bloom, heralding the arrival of spring.

8



Explore all the marvels of Petra

The Petra Archaeological Park provides a range of trails to offer you a comprehensive view of the ancient city of Petra.

Once you immerse yourself in Petra's history, a single day will not be enough to explore all it has to offer.



14 Monastery

This immense facade tomb, constructed in the 2nd century and towering at around 50 meters in height, is believed to have originally served as a religious structure. In later years, it was repurposed by Christians as a chapel.



15 Little Petra Trail View Point

While on this trail from Little Petra to the Monastery, you can relish the splendid sight of mountains adorned with Juniper trees. Just before the Monastery, there is a camel relief.



16 Umm Al-Biyara

During the Nabataean era, a magnificent royal residence stood atop this plateau. Additionally, the remains of a 2,700-year-old settlement from the Edomite Kingdom, mentioned in biblical history, can also be found.





High Place of Sacrifice

This is where Nabataean religious ceremony were performed; Incense was burned and animal sacrifices were probably offered. There are two obelisks in the vicinity.



12 Lion Fountain

It was a magnificent fountain with a lion carved in relief on the rock face, spouting water from its mouth. The fountain is located in the middle of the water channel that drains the city of Petra from a spring.



13 Garden Temple

It has a dam and other water storage facilities, and may have been a religious facility during the Nabataean period, but its function is still a mystery.





Qasr Al-Bint

Qasr al-Bint (means "Castle of the daughter(of Pharoah)" in Arabic), was a Nabataean temple that was probably dedicated to Dusares and Al-Uzza-Aphrodite. The height of this free-standing architecture reachs 23m.



Winged Lion Temple

It was the main temple in Petra dedicated to Al Uzza or Allat, worshipped in the Nabataean Kingdom. Major artifacts, including the winged lion relief, are displayed at the Petra Museum.



9 Royal Tombs

Royal tombs consists of many elegant Nabataean facade tombs, including Urn Tomb, Silk Tomb, Corinthian Tomb, and Palace Tomb. Urn Tomb was later converted to the Byzantine church in the 5th century.



10 Al-Khazneh View Point

Here is a speciacular view of the magnificent 40-meter-high Treasury, built by skillfully carving the rock face of the precipitous cliff at the back of the Siq from above.



1 Flood Diversion Tunnel

During times when the valley of Wadi Musa experienced flooding, a tunnel built during the Nabataean period allowed water to drain, preventing the Siq from flooding.



2 Camel Caravan Reliefs

A relief of a camel caravan is carved into the rock face of the Siq, depicting a scene of Nabataean traders journeying through the Arabian desert.



3 Al-Khazneh

The most magnificent facade tomb in Petra. It is about 40 meters high and is thought to be the mausoleum of Aretas IV, the king of Nabataean at the height of the Kingdom in the 1st century.



4 Theater

This theater, carved into the beautiful rock of Petra, was built probably in the 1st Century by Aretas IV, King at the height of the Nabataean kingdom, and could accommodate 4,000 spectators.



5 Nymphaeum

Located in the heart of Petra-Raqmu city, it was a magnificient urban public fountain to provide water, delivered from Moses Spring (Ain Musa) via long water channel along the valley of Wadi Musa.



6 Great Temple

Situated in the heart of the city of Petra, this structure is believed to have served as a temple to Dushala, the principal deity of the Nabataean kingdom, or potentially as the administrative hub of Petra.



Al-Khazneh



View Point

LIVING WITH WATER

Water, the lifeblood sustaining the Nabataean Kingdom to the present day

The ancient Nabataeans, who inhabited this region, demonstrated remarkable skill in creating a sophisticated system to capture, store, and distribute water collected from the mountains located several kilometers away throughout their city. They directed this water into a narrow canyon known as the Siq, which guided it to the heart of their capital, "Raqmu" (now known as Petra). This ingenious system provided crucial water resources for the city's growth, contributing not only to its architectural and agricultural advancements but also satisfying the thirst of animals, including traders and camels, traveling along the challenging desert routes.

Segments of the ancient hydraulic system remain intact even today, with water from the Moses Spring continuing to flow through the traditional channels.

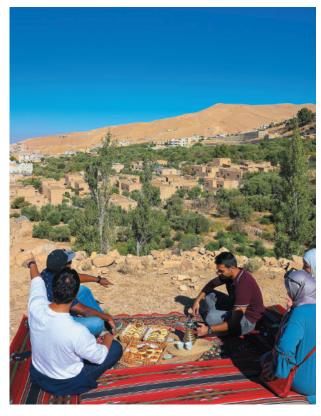
This water plays a significant role in sustaining crop cultivation.

Wadi Musa features terraced olive groves meticulously designed to enable crop growth on mountain slopes, optimizing exposure to sunlight and ensuring ample water supply to the farmland. Strolling through these fields reveals flourishing olive and fig trees heavy with fruit, accompanied by an array of vibrant flowers at their bases. The olive groves, nourished by the traditional waterways, continue to be cultivated, and the hardworking people pause for a respite, enjoying homemade salted olives, pastries, and tea. The centuries-long development of historically significant ancient cities relied on water. The people who have lived in Petra, both in the past and today, have depended on water for their existence.

Breathtaking Scenery and Tea Experience

Following exploration of the Nabataean water system, indulge in a moment of relaxation with locally-made bread and cookies, accompanied by the aroma of mint tea freshly brewed and served over an open flame right before your eyes. The breathtaking scenery unfolds, revealing lush green olive terraces, and a gentle breeze caresses your cheeks, enhancing the experience.

















Ain Musa

Ain Musa, also known as Moses's Fountain, is believed to have originated when the Prophet Moses struck a rock, causing water to burst forth and create a spring. The water from this spring is regarded as holy, with many individuals using it to cleanse their hands and faces or collecting it in small bottles to take home.

Nabataean Water Remnants in Wadi Musa

While strolling through the town of Wadi Musa, several remnants associated with Nabataean water utilization can be discovered.





Nabataean Flood **Control Legacy**

The archaeological park is home to numerous remnants spanning from the Nabataean era to modern times, offering insight into the advanced flood control technology employed by the Nabataean people. The Petra Museum introduces these legacies, illustrating both the discoveries within the archaeological park and the flood control techniques passed down from the Nabataeans.



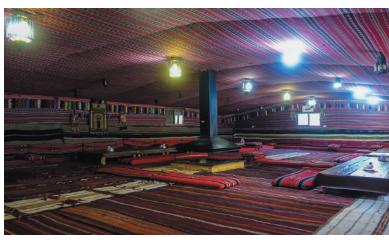
Explore awe-inspiring landscapes and timeless Bedouin culture

Surrounded by rugged cliffs and rock formations, Petra offers stunning views of the Wadi Araba and Palestine from the communities around the archaeological site.

The sunset vista from Rajif, a community situated to the south of the Archaeological Park, is truly enchanting. The sky takes on a remarkable shade of red as the sun dips below the horizon, creating a striking and uniquely beautiful contrast with the deep blue hues of the evening.







P etra's history traces back to the Neolithic period, approximately 10,000 years ago, marking the presence of ancient settlements. Subsequently, Petra's unique lifestyle and traditions have been profoundly shaped by various cultures, including the Nabataean Kingdom around 2,000 years ago, the Roman and Byzantine Empire. Furthermore, even prior to the Nabataean Kingdom, the Petra region, was inhabited by the Edomite people mentioned in the Bible.

Today, there is a growing trend toward a semi-nomadic lifestyle coupled with settled living, yet the influence of Bedouin culture continues to permeate daily life in Petra. The spirit of hospitality for travelers and the traditional wisdom to understand the nature of Petra, independent of modern civilization, are still alive today. The local Bedouin culture, recognized as the cultural landscape of Bedu in Petra and Wadi Rum, has been registered as UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Hospitality is a hallmark of the Bedouin culture, and guests are warmly received as if they were family. Venturing into the communities in the Petra region offers a glimpse into Bedouin culture in numerous settings. In Petra, you have the opportunity not only to explore the archaeological park but also to immerse yourself in Bedouin life, culture, and hospitality by visiting the surrounding communities.







Within Baidha (refer to page 6), a community in the Petra region, renowned for its numerous historical sites from ancient times, you'll find a Bedouin cottage accommodation situated near Little Petra. This lodging is run by the local community, offering an authentic insight into local life and culture. You can also savor traditional Bedouin cuisine and partake in a mesmerizing stargazing experience.

Immersing in Bedouin Culture Near Petra

The five communities encircling the Petra Archaeological Park, namely Baidha, Umm Sayhoun, Taybeh, Rajif, and Dlagha (as mentioned on pages 6-7), are deeply imbued with Bedouin culture in their daily existence. Here, you have the opportunity to visit local homes or Bedouin families and partake in authentic local cultural experiences.



Bread making experience



Henna experience



Arabic coffee experience with view



Traditional instrument: Shababah

Unveiling more about Petra's hidden stories

L ocated at the entrance of the Petra Archaeological Park, the Petra Museum is the place where you will discover the history and culture of the Nabataeans who built the Red Rose City of Petra. You will also explore the history and culture that has flourished in the Petra region since the Stone Age through exhibits of archaeological artifacts from the region, as well as the living heritage that carries the Nabataean legacy.

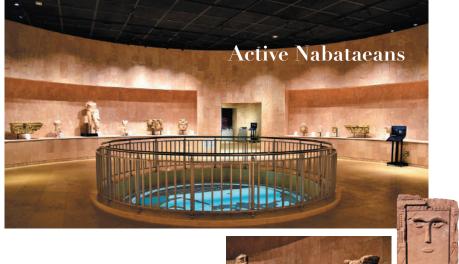
Many artifacts discovered during archaeological excavations in Petra that eloquently illustrate the history of Petra are on display in the Petra museum, such as bust of Nabataean deity Dushara from the Nabatean period, ancient Nabataean water pipes, artifacts excavated from Al-Khazneh (the Treasury), Nabatean pottery made with sophisticated techniques and artistic design, inscriptions written in Nabatean script, wall painting and floor mosaic of gorgeous Nabataean villa, a Roman statue of Aphrodite, etc. The funerary rites performed by the Nabataeans in Petra and the salons of the luxurious Nabataean mansion with heated floors

are restored in the museum exhibit, allowing visitors to feel the atmosphere of the times when the people lived in Petra. You can also see artifacts that still bear drawings of the Edomite people mentioned in the Bible hundreds of years before the Nabataeans built Petra, as well as gorgeous Stone Age ornaments from thousands of years ago.

The Petra Museum provides a wealth of information about Petra and the Nabataean culture through interactive touch-screen information terminals, video programs featuring 3D computer-generated reconstructions of historical scenes, and a complimentary mobile app offering audio-guided exhibitions. Additionally, future plans include the introduction of augmented reality (AR) experiences for various exhibits.

Travel back in time to Petra nearly 2,000 years ago and encounter the great Nabataean civilization at the Petra Museum!





Nabataean **Expressions**

The Nabataean realms, their royal court, the Nabataean language, and their trade practices.





Aqua Kaleidoscope

advanced Nabataean water engineering and flood control systems in Petra.

> MAIN **ENTRANCE**



Unearth the history of the Nabataeans and their cultural exchanges through artifacts reflecting Greco-Roman and Egyptian influences.

Waning of Petra

Explore the historical journey of Petra, spanning from the Roman annexation of the Nabataean kingdom to the Islamic period.

Revitalization of Petra

Unearth the contributions of archaeologists and the folklore that mirrors the enduring Nabataean heritage in the Petra region.





Delve into the natural wonders of Petra, its chronological evolution, and its pre-Nabataean history, spanning from the Stone Age to the Edomite Kingdom.

Nabataean Life

Uncover the way of life in a Nabataean villa within Petra.







GET APP!

Petra Museum by the Museum **Mobile App!**

Android



iPhone









Within the Plaza at the Visitor Center, one can find the tour guide office and shops that sell handicrafts made in Petra

Let's paint the town!

Wadi Musa

Wadi Musa serves as the central hub for the Petra Archaeological Park and its adjacent areas, and it's the largest town in the surrounding community. For dining and shopping, a visit to the Tourism Street area and the downtown is highly recommended. Downtown Wadi Musa is vibrant throughout the day, featuring not only grocery stores but also stylish cafes, restaurants, Arab sweets shops, and spice vendors. You'll also come across travel agencies offering day trips to destinations like Aqaba and Wadi Rum.

The Plaza in the downtown area is another great spot where you can discover more restaurants, cafes, and souvenir shops. It's a convenient 15-minute walk from the hotels around Tourist Street or a quick 5-minute taxi ride. At the Visitor Center adjacent to the Archaeological Park, you can purchase entrance tickets for the park and Petra by Night, the evening optional tour, at the ticket office. If you're in need of a tour guide, the tourist guide office is available in 14 languages.



EXPLORE WADI MUSA

PLAN:1

Exploring Wadi Musa extends beyond a visit to the Archaeological Park. One can explore Mose's Fountain and the local olive farms, relish breathtaking views from 300 meters above ground, or partake in a cooking class to master the art of Arabic cuisine.



PLAN: 2 Venture into the city and choose your dinner based on your daily mood. There is a plethora of options, including Jordanian specialties, Yemeni cuisine, and BBQ. Don't forget to savor some Arabic coffee or refreshing lemon mint juice.

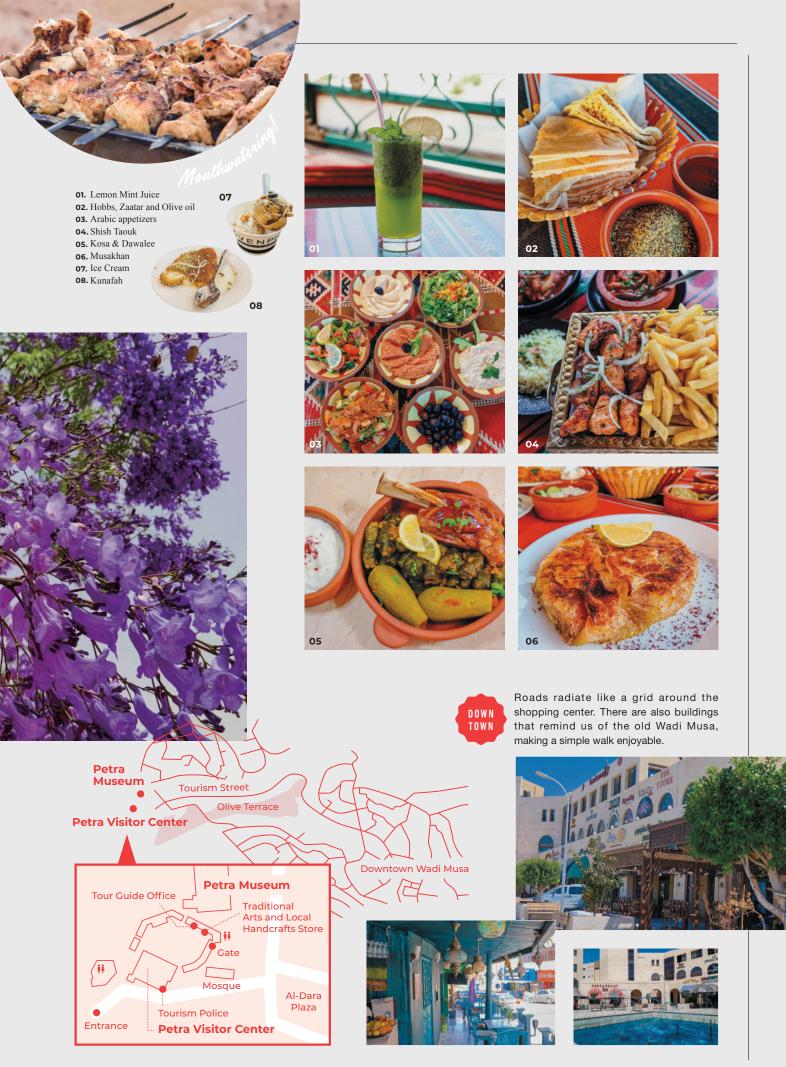




Club Car

A club car is available for transportation from the entrance of the Archaeological Park to the Al-Khazneh (the Treasury), allowing stops at points of interest along the way or at preferred locations. Tickets can be purchased at the club cart's parking lot.





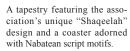
Handing down treasured local crafts for the future

Inside the Petra Visitor Center's Plaza, the Traditional Arts and Local Handicraft Store offers a variety of products thoughtfully crafted by passionate locals, each using their distinctive methods.

Bait Al-Anbat

As the name "The Nabataean House" implies, Bait Al-Anbat's products are meticulously crafted following in-depth research and a deep understanding of Nabataean history. Among its symbolic designs is a unique representation of a Nabataean queen's profile through Arabic script, bearing the name "Shaqeelah". Bait Al-Anbat, the first association utilizing Nabataean symbol, offers exclusive products. These include pouches featuring Nabataean letters and symbols, depictions of the Nabataean goddess, cushion covers embroidered with camel mural designs from the archaeological

site, and bags crafted from traditional Jordanian scarves known as Shemagh in red or black.







Nabataean Ladies Society Cooperative

The Nabataean Ladies Society Cooperative specializes in crafting silverware that symbolizes the strength and autonomy of Bedouin women. Their mission is to preserve the value of "Bedouin jewelry," which is dwindling in contemporary times. Notably, their creations feature a diverse array of designs. Drawing inspiration from daily life in Petra, visits to archaeological sites, and the Petra Museum, the local women of the association produce a wide range of both historical and modern designs. Within their collection, you'll discover distinctive accessories unique to the Petra Region, boasting a wide array of items showcasing insects, flowers, various flora and fauna, as well as historical designs.

A ring reproducing a stone tablet of "Goddess of Hayyan" from the Nabataean period, and a ring with a swirl design from snail motif.

Petra Pottery Association

Based in Taybeh, a neighboring community to Wadi Musa, the Petra Pottery Association is dedicated to crafting traditional and historical pottery. Skilled female potters within the association meticulously create a diverse array of items, utilizing manufacturing methods and designs inspired by the Nabatean era. These reddish-brown Nabatean potteries, fashioned from iron-rich clay sourced from Mount Sharah in the Petra Region, are renowned for their delicate, "eggshell" thinness. Inheriting Nabataean designs dating back to the 1st century B.C., these products are characterized by

exquisitely painted patterns of plants and birds on the interior.



Modern pottery items inspired by ancient Nabataean plant patterns.

Silver Hands Women Society

Silver Hands Women Society crafts handmade silver products in Wadi Musa, featuring designs inspired by local archaeological sites and nature. They make designs based on drawings by actually visiting the Petra Archaeological Park and taking the time to sketch them out. For example, some motifs are based on Al-Khazneh (the Treasury) and Ed-Deir (the Monastery). They also produce small items and accessories with designs of beautiful local nature, such as camels that live in the region and the black iris, the national flower of Jordan. The association maintains its secure manufacturing methods, utilizing natural clay as a fire stand and employing harmless citric acid for polishing.

Women wear traditional Al-Khazneh (the Treasury) ornaments, including rings, anklets, earrings, piercings, necklaces, or bracelets for celebrations.

Wadi Musa Widows Association and Families Development

The Wadi Musa Widows Association and Families Development is dedicated to crafting exquisite embroidered items with the skilled hands of local women in the Petra Region. These talented artisans infuse their delicate work with traditional designs, imparting a sense of luxury to a variety of products, including garments, bags, cushion covers, and pouches. The most prized form of embroidery is known as "Falahi," each piece meticulously handcrafted one by one. "Abayah" and "Madraghah," garments adorned with splendid

embroidery, represent the enduring tradition of Arab women's attire, still proudly worn by local women today.

Cushion covers adorned with a vibrant array of traditional embroideries.





- **01.** Cushion covers crafted by Bait Al-Anbat featuring historical designs inspired by the Nabataean era and traditional embroideries.
- 02. A traditional scarf known as the "Shemagh" with a unique decorative pattern at the end, symbolizing the Jordanian royal family's connection to olives.
- **03.** An artisan from the Petra Pottery Association meticulously crafting a ceramic piece by hand.
- 04. A skilled craftswoman from the Silver Hands Women Society expertly handcrafting a silver item
- 05. Exquisite silver accessories by the Nabataean Ladies Society Cooperative available at the Traditional Arts and Local Handcrafts Store.
- Petra Pottery Association's ceramic pieces adorned with intricate plant-inspired Nabataean designs.
- **07.** A diverse range of silver jewelry and accessories crafted by the Silver Hands Women Society.
- 08. Handwoven woolen rugs produced by the Wadi Musa Widows Association and Families Development.

SHOP

Traditional Arts and Local Handcrafts Store

- At the corner of the plaza in the Petra Visitor Center
- ⊙ 8:30am -18:30pm



Welcome!



Visit Petra https://www.visitpetra.jo/

Visit Petra















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