

Petra

Petra is a city carved out of the rocks in Jordan. The central point of the city, the temple, has been featured in many Hollywood films, including 'Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade'.

Until 30 years ago, Petra remained home to cave-dwelling natives. The Bedouin people who lived there were eventually relocated to caves nearby in order to preserve the site of Petra; however they remain the only people allowed to work and trade within the city. It is rumoured that some lucky tourists manage to find a cave to sleep in for a night, although this is not official practice!

Petra has become a focal point for the incredible abilities of the Nabatean people to carve buildings out of solid rock and construct a working water system in the middle of a dry desert.

Petra was used to attracting around 800,000 visitors per year; however, owing to political unrest and war in neighbouring countries such as Syria, tourist numbers have dwindled in recent years.

