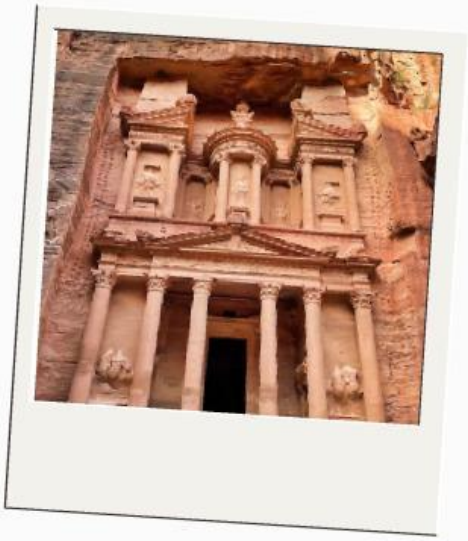
Level: A2 Pre Intermediate

Skill: Reading

Petra, The Lost City

One of the world's seven wonders, Petra is one of the most famous archaeological sites in Jordan.

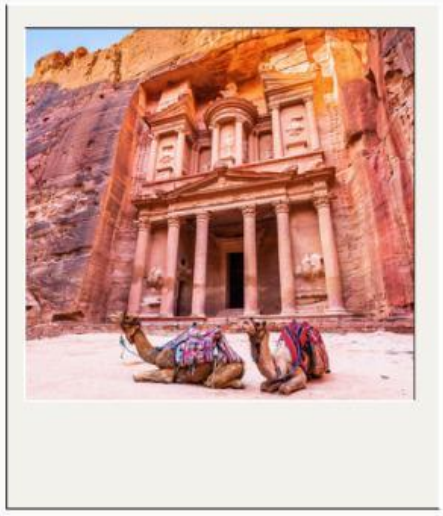


Petra is one of the oldest cities in the world

Petra is believed to be one of the oldest cities in the world. Archaeologists think that the city was established in 321 B.C. when it became the capital of the Nabataean Empire.

Petra means rocks

The name 'Petra' is derived from 'petros' which means 'rocks' in Greek. The name was probably given to the city due to its carved sandstone and rock structures.

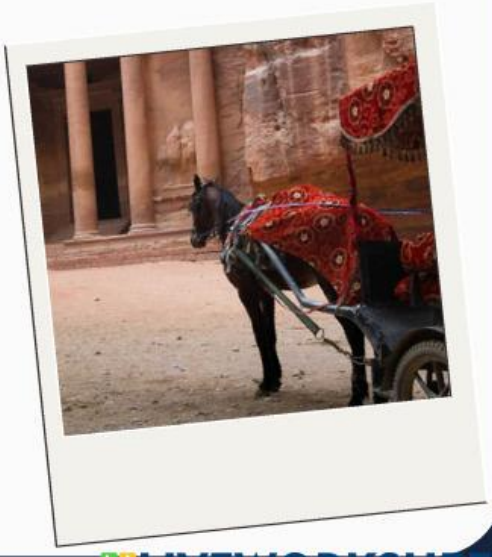


85% of Petra remains undiscovered

Archaeologists have been able to discover only 15% of Petra so far. The rest remains largely underground and unexcavated.

A little historical background of the city

Petra was a famous historical trade route connecting Greece to South Asia. It was a thriving commercial hub from which Chinese silks, Indian spices and Arabic incense passed to Africa, Western Europe and the Middle East.



No motor vehicles were allowed in Petra

For a long time, no cars or motor vehicles were allowed in the city, and only animal-driven carriages such as horse-drawn carriages or camel rides were permitted. But recently, in 2021, cars became an accepted mode of transport. Tourists can now buy tickets to use a car from the Visitor Centre.

The Royal Tombs

Petra is home to roughly 800 tombs, therefore known as the "Royal Tombs", with the most renowned being The Treasury. The Treasury was originally built as a mausoleum and crypt, and is estimated to be over 2,000 years old.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Level: A2 Pre Intermediate

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Petra, The Lost City

Decide if the sentences are TRUE or FALSE

Petra is one of the most famous archaeological sites in Egypt.

Petra is believed to be one of the newest cities in the world.

The name 'Petra' means 'rocks' in Greek.

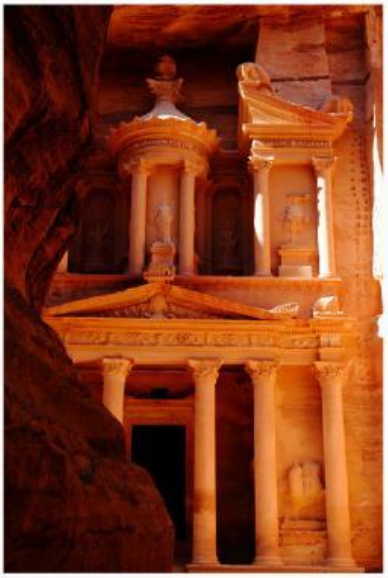
Archaeologists have discovered 85% of Petra.

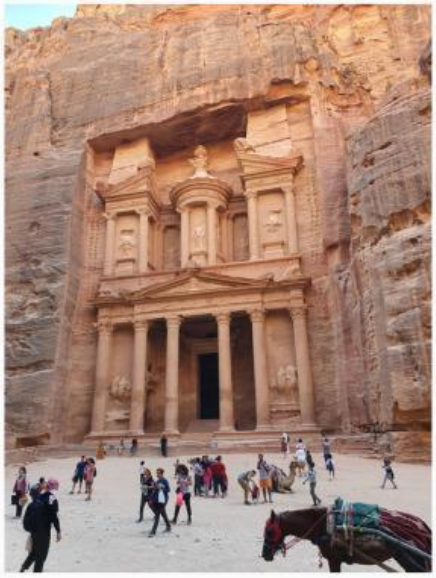
Petra was a historical trade route connecting Greece to South Asia.

Motor vehicles were never allowed in Petra.

Petra is home to roughly 800 tombs, known as the "Royal Tombs".

The Treasury in Petra was originally built as a library.





LIVEWORKSHEETS