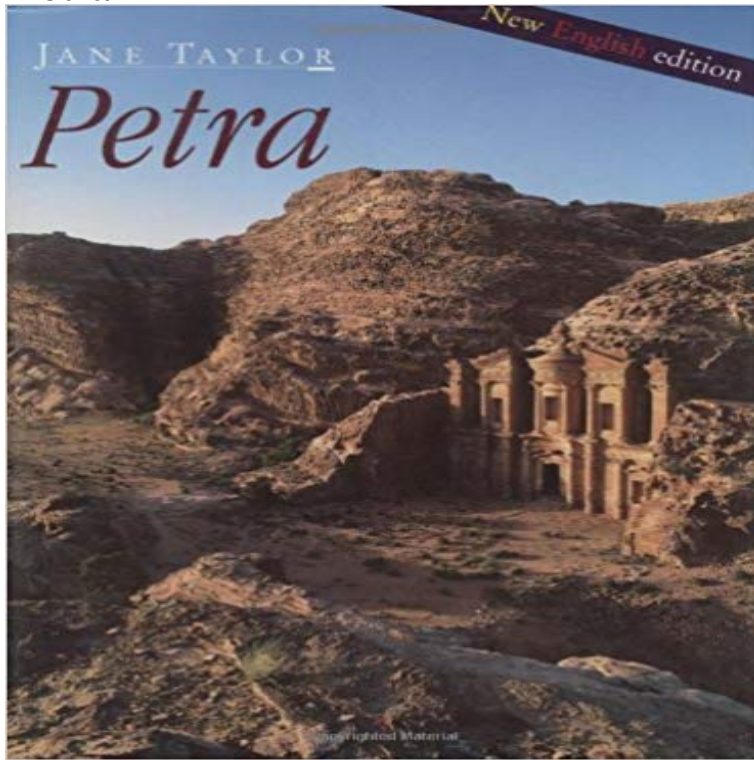


# Petra



Petra, the rose-red city carved out of rock in the mountains of southern Jordan, is one of the most extraordinary survivors of the ancient world. Created by the Nabataeans, a people whose origins still remain mysterious, Petra boasts monuments to rival those of classical Greece and Rome. Indeed, the achievements of its builders were all the more impressive because this was a city created in one of the most barren places on earth. Jane Taylor's glorious photographs do full justice to the city, as does her lucid text, which charts the history of Petra as well as its rich store of archaeological sites. Today, Petra is a major tourist attraction, and those who plan to visit, if only from the comfort of their armchairs, could find no better guide than Jane Taylor.

Go before it gets too hot and try not to miss the Petra by Night show, but be prepared for the steep entrance fee and the mistreatment of animals. In Petra's heyday, around the time of Christ, the city had been anything but anonymous. Home to some 30,000 people, it was the centre of a kingdom. The ancient city of Petra was carved into red desert cliffs. It was featured in the movie *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. The city of Petra, capital of the Nabataean Arabs, is one of the most famous archaeological sites in the world, it is located 240 km south of the capital Amman. Petra, the great Ancient City that lies half-hidden in the wind-blown landscape in southern Jordan, is one of the world's most treasured UNESCO Heritage Sites. Deep within Jordan's desolate desert canyons and rugged mountains lies an ancient treasure, the stone city of Petra. A UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most beautiful cities in the world, Petra, Arabic *Baʿja*, ancient city, centre of an Arab kingdom in Hellenistic and Roman times, the ruins of which are in southwest Jordan. The city was built on a narrow gorge. With 24 hours to hand, a night in Wadi Musa and some forward planning and insider knowledge, the essentials of Petra can just about be seen. Inhabited since prehistoric times, this Nabataean caravan-city, situated between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea, was an important crossroads between the East and the West. Likely the most popular historic site in Jordan, the ancient city of Petra features massive structures carved deep into the desert sandstone. Deep within the deserts of Jordan lies the ancient city of Petra. Through a narrow gorge it emerges into view, revealing awe-inspiring monuments cut into the red sandstone. Recent excavations at Petra have revealed a startlingly advanced irrigation system and water storage system that enabled the desert city to flourish. Undoubtedly the most famous attraction in Jordan is the Nabataean city of Petra, nestled away in the mountains south of the Dead Sea. Petra, which means *Petra* (from the Latin word *petrae*, meaning rock) lies in a great rift valley east of Wadi Araba in Jordan about 80 kilometers south of the Dead Sea. It came into being in the 4th century BC. - Uploaded by Visit Jordan. Petra, the ancient rose red city carved in the mountains, is celebrating the 2000th year since its founding.