PETRA

SHEET 2

• A famous archaeological site in Jordan’s southwestern desert. Dating to around 600 B.C.

• Accessed via a narrow canyon called Al Siq, it contains tombs and temples carved into pink sandstone cliffs, earning its nickname as the “Rose City”.

• It was once the capital of the Nabatean Kingdom.

• The Nabateans were an industrious Arab people who settled here more than 2000 years ago.

• The Nabateans turned Petra into an important junction for the silk, spice and other trade routes that linked China, India and southern Arabia with Egypt, Syria, Greece and Rome.

• Perhaps its most famous structure is 45m-high Al Khazneh, a temple with an ornate, Greek-style facade, and known as The Treasury.

• Number of visitors per year: 596,602

• UNESCO World Heritage Site inscription: 1985