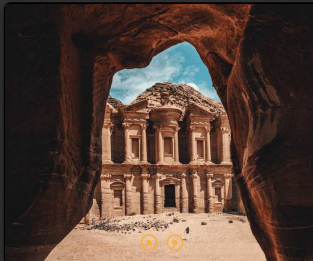


Main monuments



El Kazneh

Perhaps the most impressive of the troglodytic buildings is the tomb of a Nabataean king who died around 40. The architectural style of the facade is inspired by that of Alexandria, which can also be found in the decoration of some of the villas in Pompeii. Inside the monument is a vestibule leading to 3 completely underground rooms, the largest of which is 11*28 m in size.



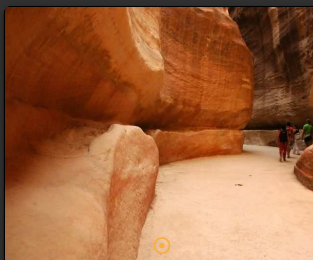
Ad Deir

This monument of impressive proportions (45 meters wide and 42 meters high) is also the tomb of a Nabataean king, probably Obodas I, who acceded to the throne in 96 BC. A 9-meter (30-foot) tall funerary urn stands at the top of the tomb. It was later used as a monastery by Christians who gave it its present name.



Nabatean theater

The Roman occupation also marked the city of Petra. A theater that could accommodate from 3000 to 8500 spectators was dug in the sandstone. It had a semi-circular orchestra and tiers in three superimposed levels in the shape of a growing moon.



The aqueducts

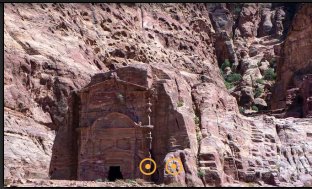
The city is located in a very arid area. Thus several systems of water management were set up. The water of the city came essentially from the rain, the ground being not very permeable, the inhabitants could recover it in the surroundings. To convey it, two aqueducts were dug in the wall along the Siq (rocky gorge leading in front of Al Kazneh), one fed by the Ain Moussa (a stream passing nearby), the other by rainwater. Finally, about 200 cisterns were used to store water near the cistern.



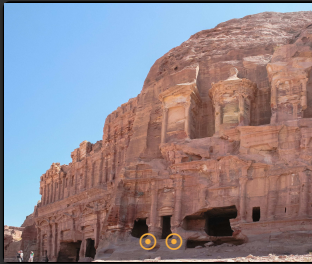
Roman soldier's tomb

It was wrongly so named because the soldier in the central niche above the doorway was probably a Nabataean. The tomb formed a complex with the triclinium opposite.





Al-Khubtha is a large mountain in which four tombs are dug: the royal tombs. The Palace Tomb, the Corinthian Tomb, the Silk Tomb and the Urn Tomb.



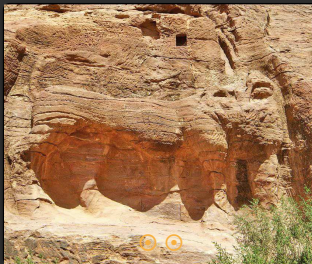
Royal Tombs

There are four of these tombs carved into the rock. Despite the name of the monument, there is no evidence to suggest that any monarch is buried there. However, in view of the size of the tombs, one can imagine that they must have belonged to high dignitaries of the kingdom.



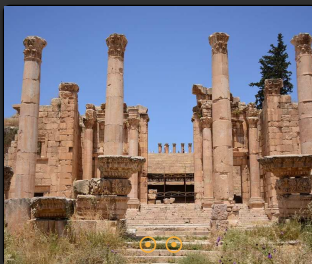
Qasr Al-Bint

The Qasr al-Bint was one of the main temples of the city of Petra and is one of the few built structures still relatively intact. Although the name given by the Bedouins (Qasr al-Bint Firaun) means 'the palace of the Pharaoh's daughter', it was in fact the largest place of worship in the city.



Lion fountain

This monumental relief of a lion is carved into the eastern rock face of the site, where a pool once stood. The canal above the (now partially destroyed) head of the animal is fed by a branch of the aqueduct that supplied the urban area with drinking water.



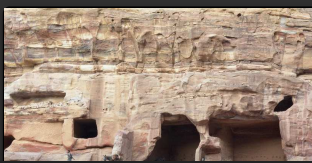
Nymphaeum

A Nymphaeum is a basin receiving its water from a sacred spring. Only the foundations remain today, in the shade of a tree.



Great Temple

Built at the western end of the columned alley, this temple was dedicated to the Nabataean god Dushares and his wife al-Uzza. The temple's shape is reminiscent of the Temple of Bel in Palmyra (which was destroyed in 2015 during the Syrian war).



Tomb of Unayshu

The tomb of Unayshu dates to the late 1st century AD. The corner pilaster of the tomb and those that frame the entrance are a typical Nabataean design. The smooth façade is in the same style as the tombs found at Madāin Sālīh in Saudi Arabia.





Tomb of the Obelisk

This tomb is located on the way to Petra, so it is the first monument that we come across. Moreover, it is actually two distinct temples superimposed on each other and not one as one might think. The four obelisks located on the upper level and framing a small niche are in reality nefesh representing the people buried in the burial chamber.