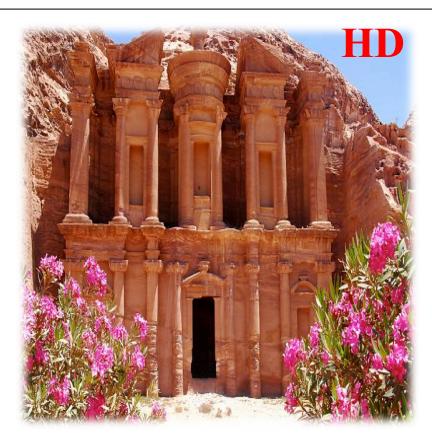


DISCOVERY



Jordan 2: Petra and the South



Directed by Jacques VICHET

A documentary of 52'

French Version English Version High Definition HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

Although the Kingdom of Jordan does not have access to the oil wealth of its immediate neighbours, it does possess a rich historical heritage.

Historic sites bear witness to the country's fertile past. A stunning example is Petra, which dates back to the Nabatean period.

Cut into the rock of the cliffs, PETRA, « the pink city », was the capital of the Nabateans, a caravan people who transported myrrh, incense, and other precious commodities of the far East towards the Mediterranean.

In the South, is the Wadi Rum desert, the largest and most majestic of the Jordanian deserts.

It is a large valley which sits on a plateau of granite, closed in by the grey-red cliffs that line the sides of the valley over a stretch of roughly 70km.

Still surrounded by the fortifications of the old city, the ancient crusader stronghold of Kerak, stands on the top of a hillside at some 900m above sea level.

A simple glance at the extraordinary forms of this city and of its fortified castle, leaves you in no doubt as to why, for thousands of years, the fates of Kings and nations were decided here.

Aqaba at the southern most tip of Jordan, fulfils a strategic role as the country's only port. It sits alongside the Israeli town of Eilat, and the frontier between Jordan and Israel is located within the city.

A visit to Jordan is also enriched by the day to day experience of the traditions of the Arab world; hookah pipes, belly dancing, camel rides, the muezzin calls to prayer....