A photograph of the ancient city of Petra, showing its intricate sandstone cliff facades and narrow, winding paths. The warm, orange-red tones of the rock are prominent under a clear sky.

**Petra** was an ancient city carved from the sandstone cliffs of southern Jordan. It was an important trading center from the late 400's B.C. to the early A.D. 200's.

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A photograph of the Burj Khalifa skyscraper in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, illuminated at night. The building's distinctive tiered, spiraling design is clearly visible against a dark sky.


**Burj Khalifa**, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is the tallest building in the world. Unlike many skyscrapers, Burj Khalifa does not have a steel frame. The building is supported by a core of reinforced concrete that was cast on the site.

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A photograph of an Arabian oryx standing in shallow water. The animal has a distinctive black and white face and long, spiraling horns. The background shows a rocky, arid landscape.

**The Arabian oryx** has been brought back from the verge of extinction by extensive captive breeding programs in several countries of the Persian Gulf.

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