

# Taj Mahal facts for kids

## Quick facts for kids

### Taj Mahal ताजमहल.



Taj Mahal

<b>Location</b>	<a href="#">Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India</a>
<b>Height</b>	73 metres (240 ft)
<b>Built</b>	1632–53
<b>Architect</b>	Ustad Ahmad Lahauri
<b>Architectural style(s)</b>	Mughal architecture
<b>Visitors</b>	7–8 million (in 2016)
<b>UNESCO World Heritage Site</b>	
<b>Type</b>	Cultural
<b>Criteria</b>	(i)
<b>Designated</b>	1983 (7th <a href="#">session</a> )
<b>Reference no.</b>	252
<b>State Party</b>	<a href="#">India</a>
<b>Region</b>	<a href="#">Asia-Pacific</a>

The **Taj Mahal** is an [Islamic](#) religious building, [mosque](#) and tomb built in the 17th century by king Shah Jahan in memory of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Its chief architect was Ustad Ahmad Lahauri.

The building is in the city of [Agra, Uttar Pradesh](#). Widely thought as one of the most beautiful buildings in the world, it is one of India's biggest [tourist](#) attractions. It is listed as a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#), together with the Agra Fort, 2.5 kilometers away. It was listed as one of the [7 Wonders of the World](#) in 2007. It is located on the south bank of Yamuna river in Agra. It is a splendid monument, but because of pollution, the Taj Mahal is turning yellow. It is one of the most notable examples of [Islamic architecture](#) built. When the Taj Mahal was built most of India was ruled over by the Mughal empire which ruled over all of India except for the South. Shah Jahan was a Mughal emperor who came in to power around 1628. According to historians Shah Jahan loved Building and architecture which gave him the nickname “ The Builder Of Marvels”. The Taj Mahal was built for Shah Jahan’s third wife Mumtaz Mahal meaning the “Jewel of the palace”. She became ill giving birth to their 14th child and on her deathbed she asked Shah Jahan to make here the most beautiful tomb that was ever built. She passed away on 1631. In 1657 Shah Jahan fell ill. Shah Jahan died in captivity in 1666 and his tomb was placed besides Mumtaz Mahal’s tomb.

Fun facts:- In modern-day money the Taj Mahal would cost around 115 million to build. The Taj Mahal was built by 22,000 labourers, painters, stonecutters, and embroidery artists. It took 17 years to build It took over 1,000 elephants to transport the material used to build the Taj Mahal. Another Taj Mahal was supposed to be made by black marble but was cancelled due to war between The Mughal emperor Shah Jahan and his son

## Construction

The Taj Mahal is an example of [Muslim Architecture](#) – a mixture of building design influenced from [Middle Eastern](#), [Indian](#), [Turkish](#), and [Ottoman](#) architecture.

The Taj Mahal was constructed with materials from all over the world, and over 20,000 people were used to move building materials. It is generally thought that Ustad Ahmad Lahauri was in charge of the construction. The construction was finished in 1648. The construction of Taj Mahal is about 6000 feet..

## Tours

The Taj Mahal had 2 million visitors in 2001 and in 2014-2017 there are more than 7-8 million visitors.

## Damages

- Many people think it is one of the most beautiful buildings ever built. However, it is slowly being damaged by [acid rain](#) in the nearby Yamuna Basin. A nearby oil refinery has been blamed for some of the damage. In 1996, the Indian Supreme

Court said that local **industry** was harming the Taj Mahal. The court set up an area of 10,400 square meters around the Taj Mahal called the Taj Trapezium Zone. Industries within this zone must use **natural gas** instead of **coal**.

- Because of pollution Taj Mahal is getting yellower slowly.



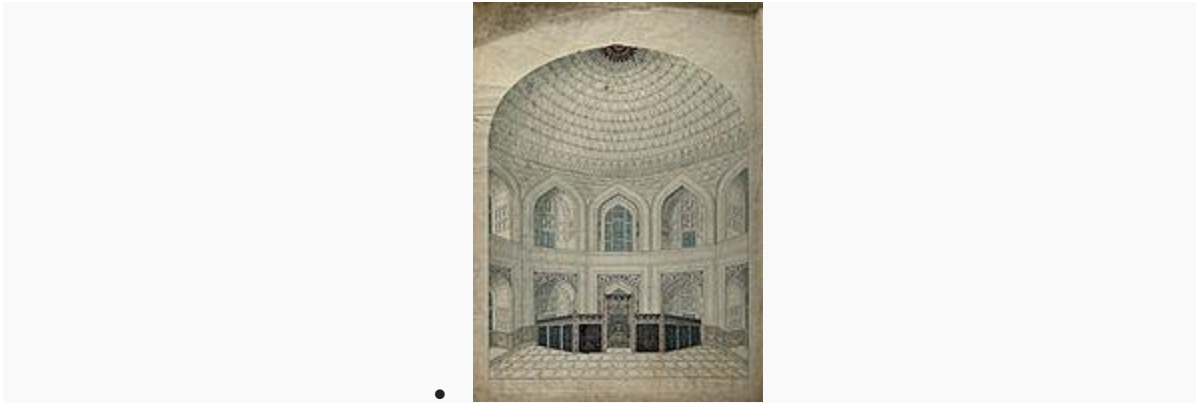
Taj Mahal minaret



Taj Mahal at sunrise from Main Entrance



Four minarets frame the tomb.



Sketch of the interior view of the vaulted dome over the tombs of Shah Jahan (left) and Mumtaz Mahal (right)



The false sarcophagi of Mumtaz Mahal (right) and Shah Jahan (left) in the main chamber



The actual tombs of Mumtaz Mahal (right) and Shah Jahan (left) in the lower level. Notice that Mumtaz's grave does not have a lower slab like that of Shah Jahan



Main marble dome, smaller domes, and decorative spires that extend from the edges of the base walls



Arabic calligraphy at the tomb entrance



A window view of Taj Mahal from Agra Fort