# 7 wonders (ancient)

The term "Seven Wonders of the World" describes a collection of extraordinary and impressive structures or creations recognized globally for their significance. These wonders encompass ancient architectural marvels as well as natural features that highlight human ingenuity and the beauty of nature. The original seven wonders, known as the Ancient Seven Wonders of the World, include iconic landmarks from classical civilizations, including The Great Pyramid of Giza, The Hanging Gardens of Babylon, The Statue of Zeus at Olympia, The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus, The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus, The Colossus of Rhodes and The Lighthouse of Alexandria. The Great Pyramid of Giza is the only ancient wonder that still exists today. The other six have either disappeared or are in ruin.

Conversely, the New Seven Wonders of the World emerged from a global campaign launched in 2000 to determine the most remarkable modern landmarks. Through a voting process involving millions of people, the final list was established in 2017. This modern list features enduring wonders including the Great Wall of China (China), Petra (Jordan), Christ the Redeemer (Brazil), Machu Picchu (Peru), Chichen Itza (Mexico), The Roman Colosseum (Italy), The Taj Mahal (India), which continue to captivate and inspire visitors worldwide.

### What are the Ancient Seven Wonders of the World?

The original seven wonders, also referred to as the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, were remarkable, humanly-constructed landmarks from ancient, classical civilisations:

- The Great Pyramid of Giza, Egypt;
- The Hanging Gardens of Babylon;
- The Statue of Zeus at Olympia;
- The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus;
- The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus;
- The Colossus of Rhodes;
- The Lighthouse of Alexandria.

The Great Pyramid of Giza is the only ancient wonder that still exists today. The other six have either disappeared or are in ruin.

## What are the New Seven Wonders of the World?

In 2000, a campaign was started to decide on seven new world wonders. Over 100 million people cast their votes in order to whittle over 200 places down to just seven. Then, in 2017, the new modern list of the Seven Wonders of the World, featuring landmarks that are still in existence today, was finalised.

- The Great Wall of China (China)
- 🔪 Petra (Jordan)
- Christ the Redeemer (Brazil)
- Machu Picchu (Peru)
- Chichen Itza (Mexico)
- The Roman Colosseum (Italy)
- Nahal (India)

## The Great Pyramid of Giza

- The Great Pyramid of Giza is located near Cairo, Egypt.
- It was built over 4,500 years ago, during the reign of the Pharaoh Khufu.
- It is the largest of the three pyramids at the Giza pyramid complex.
- The pyramid was constructed using over 2 million limestone blocks, each weighing several tons.
- Originally standing at 481 feet (147 meters) tall, it was the tallest man-made structure in the world for over 3,800 years.
- The Great Pyramid was originally covered in smooth, white limestone casing stones that reflected the sun's light, giving it a dazzling appearance.

- Inside the pyramid are several chambers, including the King's Chamber and the Queen's Chamber.
- The construction of the Great Pyramid remains a marvel of engineering and continues to intrigue archaeologists and historians.
- It is one of the most visited tourist attractions in Egypt and is recognized as one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.
- The building of the Great Pyramid stands as a remarkable feat of engineering, captivating both archaeologists and historians with its complexity and mysteriousness.



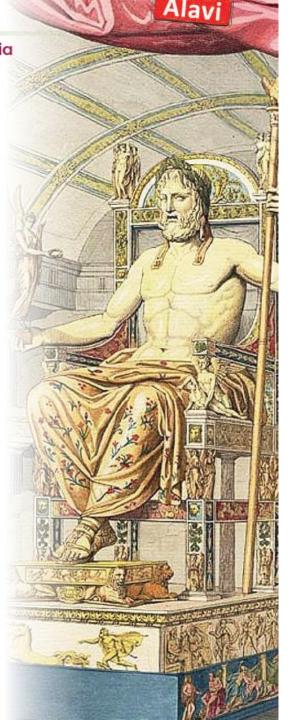


#### The Hanging Gardens of Babylon

- The Hanging Gardens of Babylon were one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.
- They were located in the ancient city of Babylon, near present-day Baghdad, Iraq.
- According to ancient texts, the gardens were built by King Nebuchadnezzar II around 600 BC for his wife, Queen Amytis.
- The gardens were renowned for their abundant greenery and towering trees, which were said to hanging in the air.
- To achieve this feat, the gardens were built on a series of terraces or platforms, possibly watered by a complex system of water channels.
- Despite their fame, there is debate among historians about the exact location and existence of the Gardens, as no clear physical remains have been found. Nevertheless, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon remain a symbol of human imagination, inspiring awe for centuries.

The Statue of Zeus at Olympia

- The Statue of Zeus at Olympia was located in Olympia, Greece, where the Olympic Games were held.
- The statue was created by the renowned Greek sculptor Phidias around 435 BC.
- It depicted the god Zeus, the king of the Greek gods, seated on a throne and holding a scepter.
- The statue was made of ivory and gold, with intricate details and lifelike measurements.
- It stood approximately 40 feet (12 meters) tall and was housed in the Temple of Zeus, a grand structure dedicated to the god.
- Despite its significance, the statue was eventually destroyed and no longer exists today.



#### The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus

- The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus was located near the ancient city of Ephesus, in present-day Turkey.
- The temple was dedicated to the Greek goddess Artemis, who was considered as the goddess of hunting, nature, and childbirth.
- It was one of the largest temples of the ancient world, measuring approximately 425 feet (130 meters) long and 225 feet (69 meters) wide.
- The temple was destroyed and rebuilt multiple times throughout its history.
- Today, only a few ruins and fragments remain at the site of the temple, which is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Despite its destruction, the Temple of Artemis remains a symbol of the rich cultural and religious heritage of ancient Greece and Anatolia.



#### The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus

- The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus was located in the ancient city of Halicarnassus, which is now present-day Bodrum, Turkey.
- The mausoleum was built around 350 BC as a tomb for Mausolus, and his wife Artemisia II.
- The mausoleum was a magnificent marble structure, standing approximately 148 feet (45 meters) tall and surrounded by a colonnade of 36 columns.
- It featured intricate carvings depicting scenes from Greek mythology, historical events, and battles.
- The word "mausoleum" itself originated from the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus, which reflects its influence on architectural terminology.
- Over time, the mausoleum was damaged by earthquakes and today only a few fragments and ruins remain. Nevertheless, the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus remains a symbol of ancient architectural excellence and a testament to the power and wealth of the rulers of Caria.





#### The Colossus of Rhodes

- The Colossus of Rhodes was located on the Greek island of Rhodes, near the entrance of the city of Rhodes.
- The Colossus of Rhodes was made of bronze and stood approximately 98 feet (30 meters) tall, making it one of the tallest statues of the ancient world.
- It took over 12 years to construct.
- Despite its impressive size, the statue was toppled by an earthquake in 226 BC, just 56 years after its completion.
- The ruins of the Colossus remained for centuries, but they were eventually melted down and sold to be reused for their raw material value.
- Today, no traces of the Colossus of Rhodes remain, but its legacy lives on as a symbol of ancient Greek art and engineering skills.

#### The Lighthouse of Alexandria

- The Lighthouse of Alexandria, also known as the Pharos of Alexandria, was located on the small island of Pharos, near the ancient city of Alexandria in Egypt.
- It was designed by a
  Greek architect and stood
  approximately 330 feet (100
  meters) tall, making it one
  of the tallest man-made
  structures of its time.
- The lighthouse served as a navigational aid for ships entering the harbor of Alexandria, guiding them safely to port.
- It was constructed of limestone blocks and featured three tiers: a square base, an octagonal middle section, and a cylindrical top with a mirror system to reflect sunlight during the day and a fire at night.
- The Lighthouse of Alexandria
  was one of the most iconic

symbols of ancient Egypt and Hellenistic civilization.

'Ald VI

- It stood for over 1,500 years until it was severely damaged by earthquakes in the 14th century and eventually collapsed into the sea.
- Today, no visible remains
  of the lighthouse exist,
  but its legacy lives on in
  archaeological studies as
  a testament to ancient
  engineering and technology.

