

# The New Seven Wonders of the World

*The First "Seven Wonders of the World" list was made 2000 years ago. Since then, most of the original list have been destroyed, except from the Great Pyramid of Giza. In 2000 a Swiss foundation started a campaign to choose the New Seven Wonders of the World. More than 100 million votes were made on the Internet or by text messaging. Some countries tried to promote their finalists others criticized the contest. The seven winners were chosen from 21 candidates and the results were announced in 2007.*

## Great Wall of China

The Great Wall of China is about 8,850 km long. The building started in in the 7th century BC and reached its final form in 1644 under the Ming dynasty. It was created as a barrier against invaders. There are many cities where visitors can see the wall, the most visited part is in Beijing.



## The Taj Mahal, India

The Taj Mahal is a white marble mausoleum on the bank of the Yamuna River in the city of Agra. The emperor built a temple as a tomb for his wife. It took 22 years to complete this temple. This building is surrounded by 42 acres of grounds, where there are gardens, a mosque, guest house and pool.



## *Chichén Itzá*

Chichen Itza is a Mayan city in Mexico, which flourished in the 9th and 10th centuries CE. There were built a number of important monuments and temples. Among the most famous is the stepped pyramid El Castillo ("The Castle"). This building has 365 steps the number of days in the solar year. It was built as a temple to the god Kukulcan. During the spring and summer equinoxes, afternoon sun casts shadows down the pyramid's north stairway that look like a snake



## *Christ the Redeemer, Brazil*

The statue of Christ the Redeemer stands over Rio de Janeiro on the top of Mount Corcovado. It was designed by the Polish-French sculptor Paul Landowski in the 1920s and completed by Brazilian engineer Heitor da Silva Costa, and French engineer Albert Caquot in 1931. The statue is 30 meters high and is made of reinforced concrete and soapstones. Christ the Redeemer overlooks the entire city of Rio.



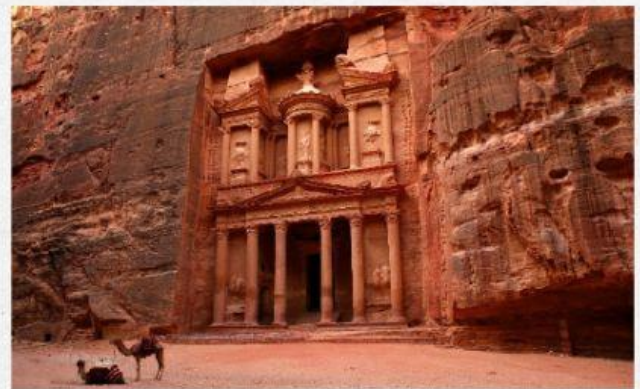
## *Machu Picchu, Peru*

Constructed in the 15th century, Machu Picchu was an Inca citadel located in Peru's Andes mountain region. The Incas left the city a century later and it remained hidden until 1911 when American historian Hiram Bingham discovered it. It is referred to as the "Lost City of the Incas". Some archaeologists believe that Machu Picchu was constructed as an estate for the Inca emperor Pachacuti



## *Petra, Jordan*

Petra, the ancient city in southern Jordan is also known as the 'rose city' for its golden hue. It is located in a remote valley, among mountains and cliffs. The history of the city comes back to 312BC. At some time there were 30,000 people but then Petra was gradually abandoned. It was unknown for the world for centuries until it was discovered in 1812 by Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhardt.



## *The Colosseum, Rome, Italy*

The Colosseum is the great amphitheater in the center of Rome. It was built in the first century by order of the Emperor Vespasian. It was capable of holding 80,000 people, who watched a variety of events.



1. Check if the following facts are True or False:

1. The Great Wall of China was created as a barrier against invaders.
2. Machu Picchu was discovered in 2011.
3. Petra is known as "the rose city".
4. The pyramid "El Castillo" was build as a temple to the emperor.
5. The statue of Christ the Redeemer is located in Mexico.
6. The Colosseum could hold 80,000 people.
7. Taj Mahal was built as a temple to the god.

TRUE FALSE

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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2. Choose the missing words

1. The First "Seven  of the World" list was made 2000 years ago.
2. The history of the city  back to 312BC.
3. It is referred to as the "Lost  of the Incas".
4. It took 22 years to  this temple.
5. The Colosseum is the great amphitheater in the  of Rome.
6. The statue is 30 meters .
7. There are many cities where  can see the wall.
8. Among the most famous is the stepped  El Castillo ("The Castle").
9. It was unknown for the world for  until it was discovered in 1812.
10. The Incas  the city a century later and it remained hidden until 1911.

center

complete

comes

visitors

pyramid

City

left

high

Wonders

centuries

3. Choose the name of the Building:



