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15 Delicious Restaurants in San Jose, Costa Rica Every year, thousands of art lovers flock to La Casa Azul (The Blue House), the Frida Kahlo Museum in Mexico City, eager to immerse themselves in the world of the Mexican painter. There, visitors have long been able to explore her paintings, art tools, and correspondence with her husband Diego Rivera. Read Article People are often thinking of creative locations for their next selfie, so why not atop the Taj Mahal? Read Article There's a video making the rounds online of nudes with unexpected rhythm, and no viral clip isn't from a... Read Article According to a recent study, South Korea has the lowest proportion of children among the 37 countries in the world with the highest reproductive rates. But what if you could have it all? Read Article The Taj Mahal is one of the most visited monuments in the world, and its reputation as a symbol of love is well-deserved. However, the information they may be based on is always a little better than the truth. Read Article The Taj Mahal is a masterpiece of Mughal architecture, and its history is full of intrigue. Adventure seekers will get a lot of information about the Taj Mahal's incredible architecture and history, plus excellent advice on how to get the best photos using the reflecting pools. As of 2019, there's a time limit to visit the Taj Mahal. To prevent overcrowding and damage, the UNESCO World Heritage site has already capped the number of visitors per day at 40,000 and raised prices from 50 rupees to 250 rupees for Indian citizens, and from about \$16 to \$19 for international visitors. The latest measure is charging visitors who linger longer than three hours; the amount is equivalent to the original ticket price. Turnstiles at the exits enforce the time restrictions. If you stay over the time limit, expect to pay up. It's easy to get caught up in the crowds and vying for the best selfie angle at the Taj Mahal, but take a deep breath and appreciate what you're really looking at. The Taj Mahal was built with perfect symmetry in a time before power tools. There's nothing behind the complex to take away from or interrupt the view—an amazing feat in modern-day Agra. Of course, you're going to want a keepsake selfie at this marvel. One thing to note: If you're a female Westerner, you may find yourself approached by Indians who want to take a photo with you. While the attention can be fun and flattering at first, past tourists have felt mobbed and uncomfortable with the attention. If you don't want to take photos with strangers, it's best to politely decline the first person who asks for one. Agreeing to a single photo sets the precedent that you're open for selfie business. At the entrance, all visitors receive a pair of disposable shoe covers. You'll need to wear them, or walk barefoot (lots of Indian kids go this route). If you plan on going inside the Taj, this is an effort to protect the ivory marble floors. Visiting the Taj Mahal is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and it's worth the wait. This short documentary about the history of acid attacks in India and the pursuit of a gift shop of items made by local artists. Proceeds go to supporting the women and changing laws. It's truly an uplifting and educational experience that you won't forget. Marble mausoleum in Agra, India For other uses, see Taj Mahal (disambiguation). Taj MahalLocationAgra, Uttar Pradesh, IndiaCoordinates27°10′30″N 78°23′31″E﻿ / ﻿27.17500°N 78.04194°E﻿ / 27.17500; 78.04194Areal17 hectares (42 acres)[1]Height73 m (240 ft)Built1631–1653;372 years ago [(1653)](2)Built forMumtaz MahaArchitectUstad Ahmad LahoriArchitectural style(Mughal architecture)(Monuments & ar.)milion[3] (In Apr-22-Feb-23)Governing bodyMinistry of Culture, Government of India(ViaIndiaWebSiteTajmahal.gov.in In Monument of National ImportanceOfficial nameTaj Mahal and grounds(including the Masjid on the west side, the pavilions on the east and west sides of the grounds)Reference no.N-UP-A28-(and visitors a.p.) Location of Taj Mahal in Uttar Pradesh, India>Show map of Uttar PradeshTaj Mahal (India>Show map of India UNESCO World Heritage SiteCriteriaCultural: iReferenceNo.252Inscription(7th Session) Location of the Taj Mahal in Agra The Taj Mahal (tɑːdʒ məˈɦɑːl, tɔːdʒ - / TAHM tə-mə-HAHL, TAHZH - / Hindustani: [tɑːdʒ məɦɛl]) (lit. 'Crown of the Palace') is an ivory-white marble mausoleum on the right bank of the river Yamuna in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India. It was commissioned in 1631 by the fifth Mughal emperor, Shah Jahan (r. 1628–1658) to house the tomb of his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal; it also houses the tomb of Shah Jahan himself. The tomb is the centrepiece of a 17-hectare (42-acre) complex, which includes a mosque and a guest house, and is set in formal gardens bounded on three sides by a crenelated wall. Construction of the mausoleum was completed in 1648, but work continued on other phases of the project for another five years. The ceremony held at the mausoleum was an observance by Shah Jahan, on 6 February 1643, of the 12th anniversary of the death of his third son, Prince Aurangzeb, who had died of smallpox at the age of 15 million years old. The building is a masterpiece of Mughal architecture, combining elements of Persian, Islamic and Ottoman styles. It employed craftsmen and artisans under the guidance of a board of architects led by Ustad Ahmad Lahori, the emperor's court architect. The Taj Mahal was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 for being "the jewel of Islamic art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage". It is regarded as one of the best examples of Mughal architecture and a symbol of Indian history. The Taj Mahal is a major tourist attraction and attracts more than five million visitors a year. In 2007, it was declared a winner of the New 7 Wonders of the World initiative. The Taj Mahal and its setting, surrounding grounds, and structures are a Monument of National Importance, administered by the Archaeological Survey of India.[5] The name "Taj Mahal" is of Urdu origin, and believed to be derived from Arabic and Persian, with the words taj mahall meaning "crown" (taj) "palace" (mahall).[6][7][8] An alternative derivation of "taj" is that it was a corruption of the second syllable of "Mumtaz":[9][10] Abdul Hamid Lahuri, in his 1636 book Padshahnama, refers to the Taj Mahal as rauza-i munawwarah (Perso-Arabic: روضه منوآواره, rawdah-i munawwarah), meaning the illumined or illustrious tomb.[11] Shah Jahan, 17th century paintingArtistic depiction of Mumtaz Mahal The Taj Mahal was commissioned by Shah Jahan in 1631, to be built in the memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal, who died on 17 June that year while giving birth to their 14th child, Khadoorji Begum. 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