The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World is the first known list of the most remarkable creations of classical antiquity, and was based on guide-books popular among Hellenic eight-seers and only includes works located around the Mediterranean rim. The number seven was chosen because the Greeks believed it to be the representation of perfection and plenty. [1][2] Many similar lists have been made.

### Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wonder</th>
<th>Date started</th>
<th>Date finished</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Pyramid of Giza</td>
<td>2560 BCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanging Gardens of Babylon</td>
<td>c. 600 BCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Iran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statue of Zeus at Olympia</td>
<td>470 BCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple of Artemis at Ephesus</td>
<td>550 BCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mausoleum of Maussollos at Halicarnassus</td>
<td>350 BCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colosseum</td>
<td>70 CE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighthouse of Alexandria</td>
<td>287 BCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Seven Wonders of the Ancient World

The historian Herodotus (484 – ca. 425 BCE) and the scholar Callimachus of Cyrene (ca. 305 – 240 BCE) at the Museum of Alexandria, made early lists of seven wonders but their writings have not survived, except as references. The seven wonders included:

- **Great Pyramid of Giza**
- **Hanging Gardens of Babylon**
- **Statue of Zeus at Olympia**
- **Temple of Artemis at Ephesus**
- **Mausoleum of Maussollos at Halicarnassus**
- **Colosseum**
- **Lighthouse of Alexandria**

The earliest lists had the Great Pyramid of Giza as the seventh wonder of the world instead of the Lighthouse of Alexandria. The list known today was compiled in the Middle Ages—by which time many of the sites were no longer in existence. Today, the only ancient world wonder that still exists is the Great Pyramid of Giza.

### Medieval World

In the 13th and early 20th centuries, some writers claimed that lists of wonders of the world had existed during the Middle Ages, although it is unlikely that these lists originated at that time because the word medieval was not invented until the Enlightenment era, and the concept of a Middle Age did not become popular until the 16th century. Brewer's refers to them as 'later lists'[3][4] suggesting the lists were created after the Middle Ages.

Many of the structures on these lists were built much earlier than the Medieval Ages, but were well known. [5][6] These lists go by names such as Wonders of the Middle Ages (implying no specific limitation to this era). Seven Wonders of the Middle Ages, Medieval Mind and Architectural Wonders of the Middle Ages.

### Wonders of the modern world

Many organisations have made lists of the greatest structures built during modern times, or of the greatest wonders existing today. Some of the most notable lists are presented below.

#### American Society of Civil Engineers

The American Society of Civil Engineers compiled a list of wonders of the modern world: [10]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wonder</th>
<th>Date started</th>
<th>Date finished</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Channel Tunnel</td>
<td>November 16, 1990</td>
<td>May 6, 1994</td>
<td>Strait of Dover, between the United Kingdom and France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Gate Bridge</td>
<td>May 5, 1997</td>
<td>January 1, 1980</td>
<td>San Francisco, California, U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hagia Sophia</td>
<td>May 10, 1997</td>
<td>January 7, 1914</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaning Tower of Pisa</td>
<td>1173</td>
<td>1350</td>
<td>Pisa, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taj Mahal</td>
<td>1560</td>
<td>1648</td>
<td>Agra, India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Great Wall of China</td>
<td>220 BCE</td>
<td>1500 CE</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pyramids of Egypt</td>
<td>2560 BCE</td>
<td>2000 BCE</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### New7Wonders Foundation

In 2001 an initiative was started by the Swiss corporation New7Wonders Foundation to choose the New Seven Wonders of the World from a selection of 200 existing monuments. [11][12][13] Twenty-one finalists were announced January 1, 2005. Egypt was not happy with the fact that the only original wonder would have to compete with the likes of the Statue of Liberty, the Sydney Opera House, and other landmarks, and called the project absurd. In response, Giza was named an honorary Candidate.

The results were announced July 7, 2007.[14][15] The new Seven Wonders of the World, chosen in a public vote by the public, were:

- **Great Pyramid of Giza**
- **Statue of Liberty**
- **Christ the Redeemer**
- **Eiffel Tower**
- **Petra**
- **Table Mountain**
- **Christ the Redeemer**

#### USA Today's New Seven Wonders

In November 2005 the American national newspaper USA Today, in conjunction with the American television show Good Morning America revealed a list of New Seven Wonders as chosen by six judges. The wonders were announced one per day over a week on Good Morning America. An eighth wonder was chosen on November 24, 2006 from viewer feedback.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Wonder</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Statue of Liberty</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Christ the Redeemer</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Great Wall of China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Colosseum</td>
<td>Rome, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Taj Mahal</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Christ the Redeemer</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Great Pyramid of Giza</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Seven Natural Wonders of the World

Similar to the other lists of wonders, there is no consensus on a list of seven natural wonders of the world, as there has been debate over how large the list should be. One of the many lists was compiled by CNN.[17]

- Grand Canyon
- Great Barrier Reef
- Harbor of Rio de Janeiro
- Mount Everest
- Aurora
- Paricutín volcano
- Victoria Falls

New7Wonders of Nature is a contemporary effort to create a list of seven natural wonders chosen by people through a global poll, organized by New Open World Corporation (NOWC), which ran the New Seven Wonders of the World campaign.

Seven Natural Wonders is a not-for-profit endeavour created to protect the seven natural wonders that have already been established.

Seven Wonders of the Underwater World

The Seven Underwater Wonders of the World was a list drawn up by CEDAM International, an American-based non-profit group for divers, dedicated to ocean preservation and research.

In 1989 CEDAM brought together a panel of marine scientists, including Dr. Eugene Clark, to pick underwater areas which they considered to be worthy of protection. The results were announced at The National Aquarium in Washington DC by actor Lloyd Bridges, star of TV's Sea Hunt.[18]

- Palau
- Below Barrier Reef
- Great Barrier Reef
- Deep-Sea Vents
- Galápagos Islands
- Lake Baikal
- Northern Red Sea

Seven Wonders of the Industrial World

Main article: Seven Wonders of the Industrial World

British author Deborah Cadbury wrote Seven Wonders of the Industrial World, a book telling the stories of seven great feats of engineering of the 19th and early 20th centuries. In 2003 the BBC made a seven-part documentary series on the book, with each episode dramatising the construction of one of the wonders. The seven industrial wonders are:

- SS Great Eastern
- Bell Rock Lighthouse
- Brooklyn Bridge
- London sewerage system
- First Transcontinental Railroad
- Panama Canal
- Hoover Dam

Other lists of wonders of the world

Numerous other authors and organisations have composed lists of the wonders of the world. Travel writer Howard Hillman published two books on the subject, one with 10 man-made wonders, and one with 10 natural wonders.[19] British biographer, science writer, and novelist Ronald W. Clark is another who has published a list of man-made and natural wonders, in his book Wonders of the World. Rather than having only seven wonders of the world to match the number of days in a week, Clark's list includes 52 wonders, one for each week of the year.[20]

See also

- Eighth Wonder of the World
- World Heritage List—a list of over 800 sites deemed by UNESCO to be of "outstanding universal value"
- National Seven Wonders
- Seven Wonders of Canada
- Seven Wonders of Poland
- Seven Wonders of Portugal
- Seven Wonders of Russia
- Seven Wonders of Ukraine
- Seven Wonders of Wales
- Seven Wonders of Fore (Fore Abbey, Ireland)
- Seven Blunders of the World—written by Mahatma Gandhi

Footnotes

1. ↑ Both the USA Today article and the Good Morning America broadcast described this wonder as "Jerusalem's Old City, Israel." However states and scholars alike are divided over the legal status of Jerusalem under international law. See Positions on Jerusalem.

References

5. ↑ Francis Trevor Miller, Woodrow Wilson, William Howard Taft, Theodore Roosevelt, America, the Land We Love (1919), page 261
8. ↑ The Rough Guide To (1994, page 566)
9. ↑ The Catholic Encyclopedia v.16 (1913), page 764
11. ↑ 11. New Seven Wonders[14] (viewer-chosen eighth wonder)

Further reading


External links

- Seven Wonders of the Modern World[252], a list of modern wonders compiled by the American Society of Civil Engineers at Seven Wonders of the World (accessed 01-01-2010). Categories: All articles with dead external links | Articles with invalid date parameter in template | Pages with broken file links | Ancient history | Cultural lists | Lists of buildings and structures

This page was last edited on 3 February 2011, at 03:00. Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 under the note. Privacy policy | About World Almanach | Disclaimers | Mobile view | Duration: Start, Finish: % Complete: Manually entered every day in the evening based on discussion with resources. For more, see below. Task Name: Duration, Start, Finish: % Complete: % | If Vendor uses case validation. As far as how much work should have been completed by a certain date, a formula similar to that above can be created, assuming the work spread is spread linearly over the duration. Hope this helps. John.