

For thousands of years, people have been inspired to create giant monuments. Klaus Schmidt—the archaeologist who originally excavated the site—believed that Gobekli Tepe was a holy meeting place. Made of stepped pyramids, temples, and other stone structures, the ancient city is now one of Mexico's most visited tourist destinations. The largest building in Chichen Itza is the Temple of Kukulcan—a pyramid with 365 steps. The tallest pillars are 18 feet (5.5 meters) in height and weigh 16 tons (more than 14,500 kilograms). To build a pyramid, Mayan workers created a base and added smaller and smaller levels as the structure rose. Building the pyramids required many workers. The Mayans constructed the pyramids with carved stone.