The Taj Mahal is a magnificent white marble mausoleum located in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India. It is one of the most famous landmarks in the world and is renowned for its stunning architectural beauty and historical significance. Here are some key pieces of information about the Taj Mahal:

1. **Construction**: The Taj Mahal was commissioned in 1632 by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died during childbirth. Construction of the Taj Mahal took over 20 years and involved the work of thousands of artisans and craftsmen from India and beyond.
2. **Architecture**: The Taj Mahal is a masterpiece of Mughal architecture, blending elements from Persian, Islamic, and Indian architectural styles. It features a symmetrical layout with a central domed mausoleum flanked by four minarets. The mausoleum is built entirely of white marble, adorned with intricate carvings, inlaid gemstones, and delicate floral motifs.
3. **Symbolism**: The Taj Mahal is often regarded as a symbol of love and devotion. Shah Jahan intended it to be a testament to his undying love for Mumtaz Mahal, with the mausoleum serving as her final resting place. The Taj Mahal's beauty and romantic association have made it a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the Seven Wonders of the World.
4. **Gardens and Surroundings**: The Taj Mahal is set amidst beautiful landscaped gardens known as the Charbagh, or "four gardens," which symbolize paradise in Islamic tradition. The gardens are divided into quadrants by pathways and water channels, adding to the overall symmetry and elegance of the complex.
5. **Visitors and Tourism**: The Taj Mahal attracts millions of visitors from around the world each year, making it one of the most visited tourist attractions in India. Visitors marvel at the beauty of the monument, explore its intricate details, and learn about its rich history through guided tours and exhibitions.
6. **Conservation**: Over the years, the Taj Mahal has faced challenges such as pollution, environmental degradation, and wear and tear from tourist foot traffic. Efforts have been made to preserve and protect this cultural icon, including cleaning and restoration projects, as well as measures to control air pollution in the surrounding area.

Overall, the Taj Mahal stands as a timeless symbol of love, architectural brilliance, and cultural heritage, captivating visitors with its beauty and inspiring awe and wonder for centuries.