


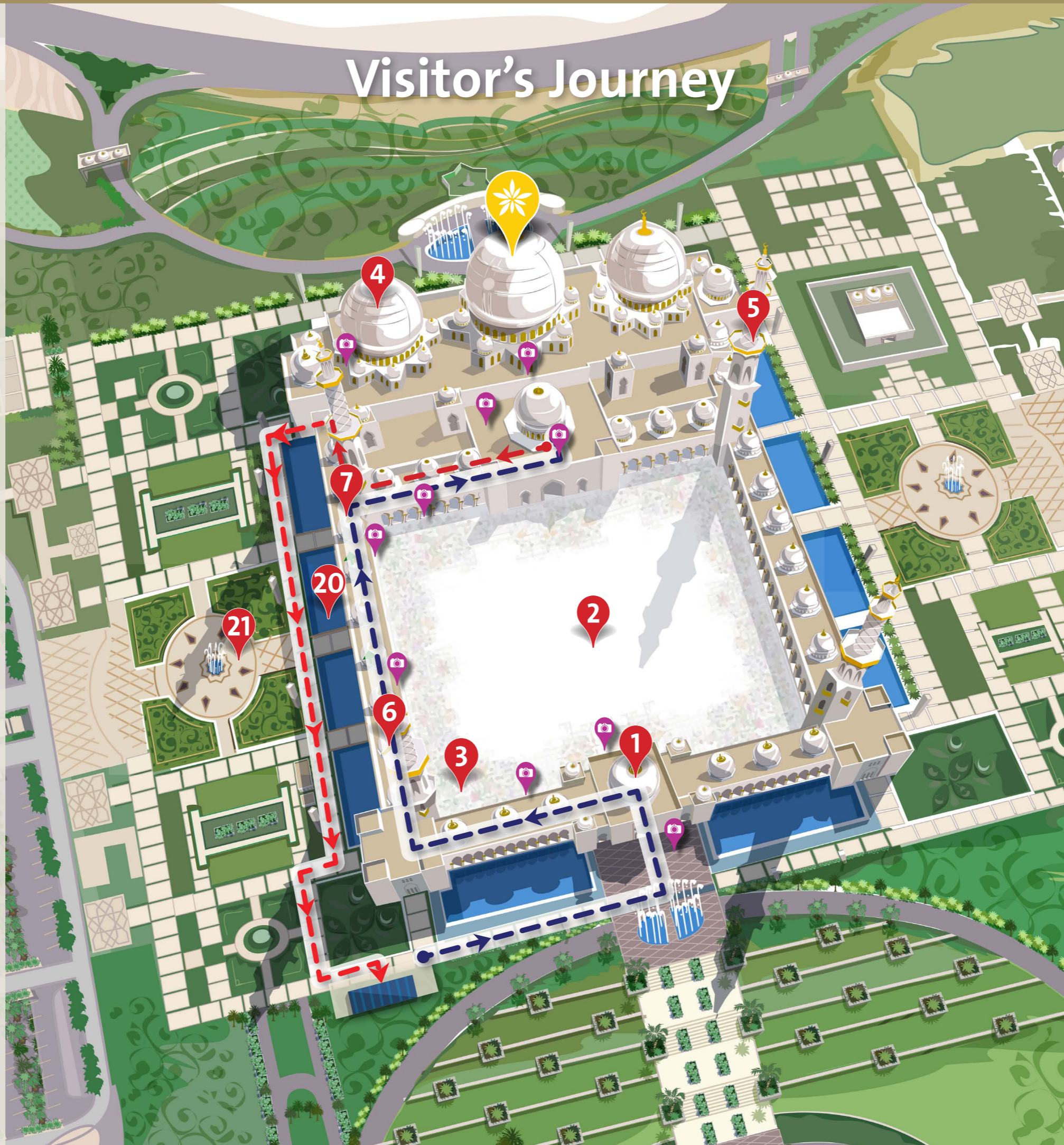
External Area

Visitor's Entry Route 

Visitor's Exit Route 

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Visitor's Journey



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1 Al Noor Entrance (main entrance)

As you prepare to witness the breathtaking view of the mosque up close, it's important to note that the structure is elevated nine meters above the surrounding ground, accessible via 52 steps, ensuring its visibility from every angle. While experiencing the mosque up close is undoubtedly profound, its beauty is equally captivating from a distance. As visitors approach Abu Dhabi, they are greeted by the majestic silhouette of the mosque on the horizon. The late Sheikh Zayed was deeply involved in every detail of the mosque's planning, including its strategic location. Positioned at the city's entrance, the mosque is not only easy to access but also prominently visible from the surrounding areas. With its distinctive design and architectural style inspired by various eras of Islamic culture, the mosque stands as a symbol of harmony and unity.



2 The Courtyard (Sahan)

The courtyard, known as Sahan, holds a significant place in mosque architecture across the globe. At the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, the Sahan stretches across an impressive 17,400 square meters, providing abundant space for approximately 31,000 worshippers. This area is typically brimming with worshippers performing rituals and during major religious events.

What sets the Sahan of this mosque apart is its exquisite mosaic floral patterns, meticulously crafted from pieces of colored marble. These patterns twist and intertwine, starting from the edges of the Sahan and converging towards its center, creating a mesmerizing visual spectacle. The Sahan was designed by the renowned British artist Kevin Dean, who skillfully incorporated into his masterpiece a variety of flowers indigenous to the Middle East, including tulips, lilies, roses, and irises.



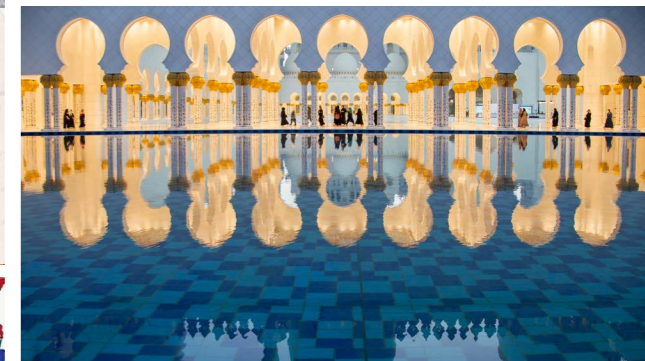
3 The Marble

The pure white color of the mosque is one of its most distinctive features. It encompasses over 165,000 square meters of exquisite Civic marble sourced from North Macedonia, adorning the outer surfaces of the domes, minarets, and walls. This magnificent structure boasts an impressive collection of 37 marble types, carefully selected from various countries, including China, Italy, India, and Greece. The colors of these marbles range from dark blue and purple to light pink and yellow.



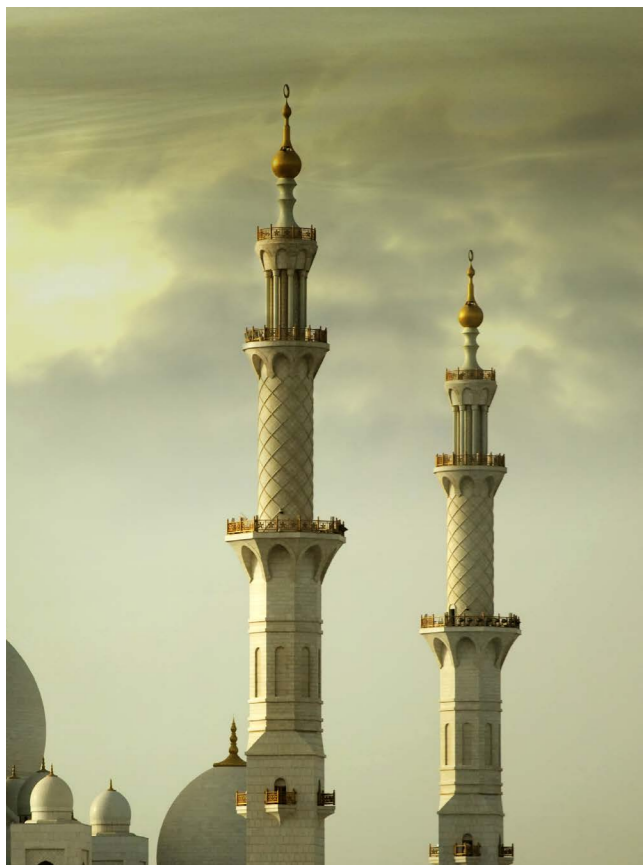
4 The Domes

The mosque is renowned for its magnificent architectural design, featuring 96 domes arranged in symmetrical and harmonious patterns. Among them, 82 domes cover the mosque's prayer hall, corridors, and rooms, while three domes adorn the tomb of Sheikh Zayed, may he rest in peace. The remaining 11 domes are scattered around the mosque's outer areas, arranged in a gradual and smooth manner that adds a special charm to the place. The largest dome is located in the center of the main prayer hall, with a diameter of 32.6 meters and a height of 84 meters. What distinguishes these domes is the diversity of their Islamic architectural styles and their harmony, with Moroccan and Mughal styles predominating in both their interior and exterior designs. The interior walls of the domes mainly feature traditional Moroccan design, using gypsum reinforced with glass, with the edges of the internal dome walls adorned with Quranic verses written in various forms of Arabic calligraphy.



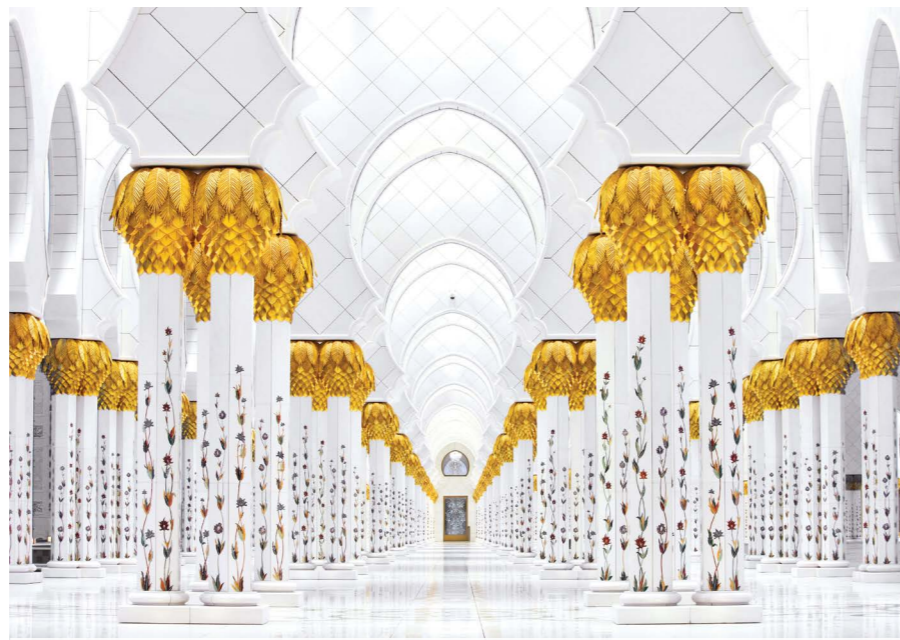
20 The Reflective Pools

The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque is enveloped by 10 reflective pools, stretching in their rectangular forms across an expansive area of approximately 7,000 meters. These pools are regarded as one of the prominent features of the mosque's architecture, as they exemplify the incorporation of pools and fountains as significant embellishments in Islamic gardens throughout history. The reflecting pools of the mosque are adorned with numerous mosaic pieces, showcasing a mesmerizing array of captivating blue hues.



5 The Minarets

The tallest architectural features of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque are its minarets, which rise to about 106 meters. Their design reflects the diversity and inclusiveness of the mosque's architectural style, incorporating various architectural styles from different eras.



6 The External columns

The outer corridors of the mosque are adorned with exquisite hexagonal columns crafted from pristine white marble, inlaid with semi-precious stones sourced from various corners of the globe. Lapis lazuli and red jasper, among others, have been meticulously incorporated into the marble, creating a mesmerizing display of colors and textures.

To further enhance the beauty of these columns, interlocking floral designs have been meticulously crafted using amethyst, purple, pearls, and shells. These intricate patterns add a touch of elegance and sophistication to the overall aesthetic. The technique employed to create these columns is known as "Petra Dora," It originated in sixteenth-century Italy and eventually made its way to the Mongol dynasty in the early seventeenth century.

Inspired by palm trees, the design of these columns is genuinely awe-inspiring. At the top of each column, gilded capitals stand proudly, serving as one of the most striking features of the mosque's exterior. These capitals, made from golden anodized aluminum, exude a sense of magnificence, perfectly complementing the overall architectural design.



7 The Iznik Tiles

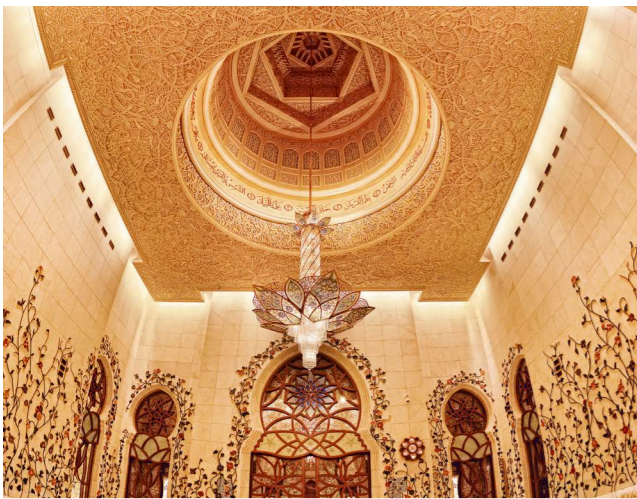
The mosque boasts 88 meticulously crafted ceramic panels adorned with verses from the Holy Qur'an elegantly inscribed in the thuluth font. These panels are not only adorned with verses but also designed in the form of exquisite botanical drawings. What truly captivates the eye is the stunning contrast these panels create against the pristine white walls that envelop them. The vibrant tiles adorning the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque are a testament to the mosque's unwavering dedication to promoting unity and cultural exchange. It is worth noting that the city of Iznik is renowned for its tiles.



21 The Islamic Gardens

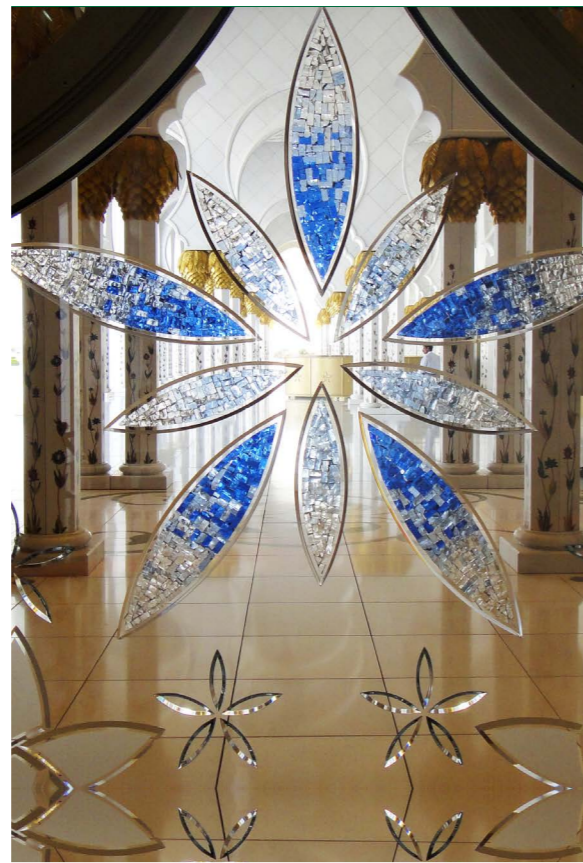
The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque boasts approximately 15,865 square meters of lush green spaces and gardens enveloping its four sides. These meticulously crafted gardens are a captivating testament to the Islamic civilization's profound appreciation for nature and the harmonious atmosphere that envelops mosques, seamlessly complementing the mosque's architectural splendor.

At the mosque, you will find 14 exquisite green glass domes adorning the ablution areas designated for both women and men. These green domes hold immense significance, as they are an integral component of the Islamic Garden design, tailored explicitly for mosques.



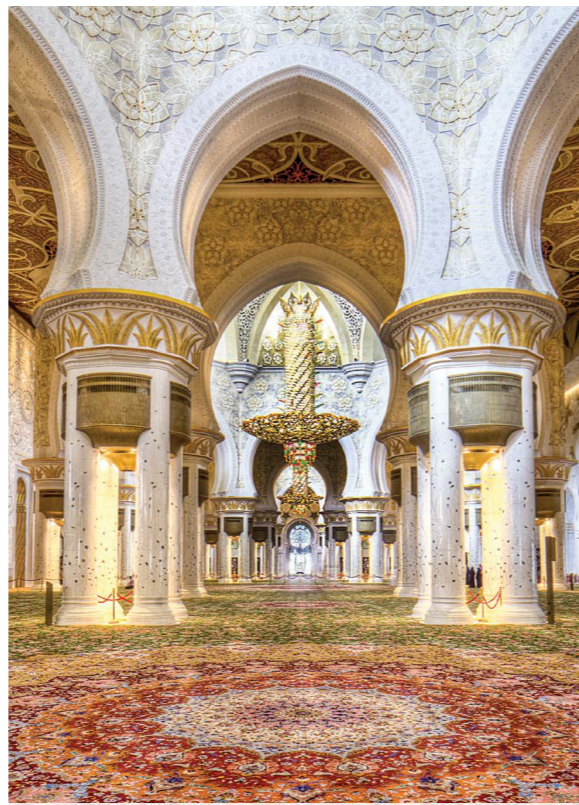
8 Al Noor Foyer (Eastern Hall)

The Al Noor Foyer, also known as the Eastern Hall, draws inspiration from the beauty of a garden. It is a design that conveys a powerful message of unity and coexistence among people from all corners of the world. Located to the east, the main foyer showcases a stunning array of flower varieties native to the Middle East, particularly those that thrive in the challenging desert environment of the United Arab Emirates. On the other hand, the northern and southern foyers are adorned with flowers representing the respective regions of the globe.



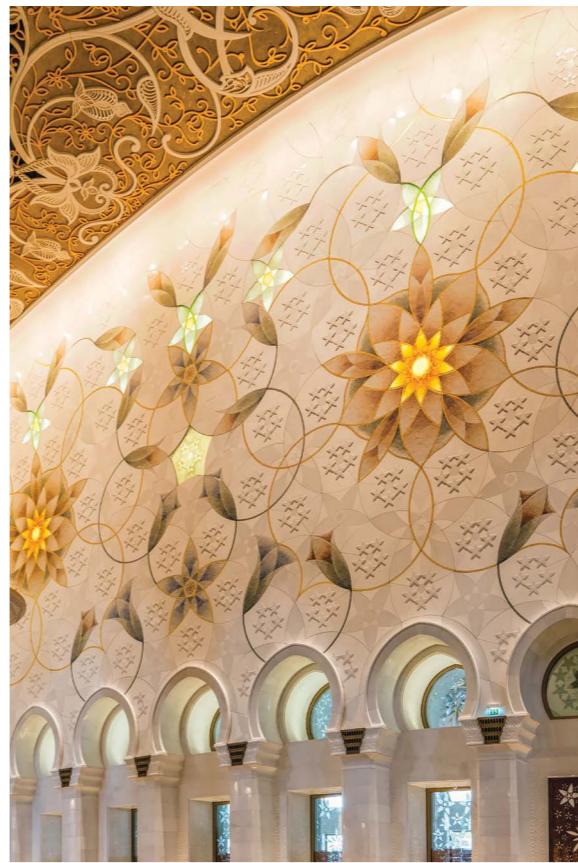
9 The Glass Designs

doors spread throughout the prayer halls and the surrounding corridors This is designed The doors have three separate panels made of Italian Murano glass. They are a central panel decorated with beautiful floral patterns designed Using mosaic, cutting, and blowing techniques; it comes between two undecorated outer panels.



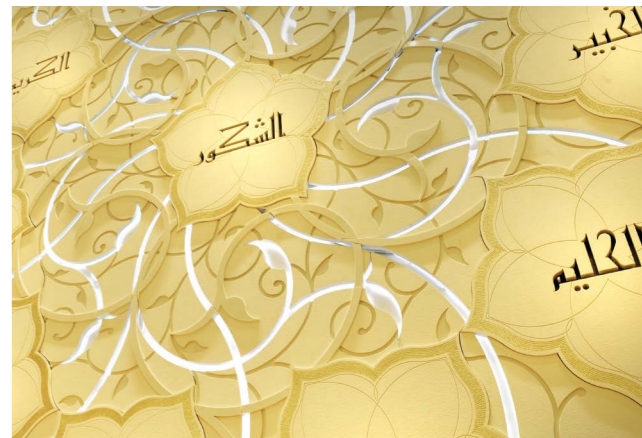
10 The Main Prayer Hall (Al Noor Hall)

The Al Noor Hall, the grandest prayer hall within the mosque, boasts an impressive area of 5,700 square meters, accommodating approximately 7,800 worshippers. This magnificent space serves as a gathering place for congregational prayers during significant religious events such as Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, the holy month of Ramadan, and the Friday prayers. The hall's design is characterized by perfect symmetry, with its walls adorned with intricate geometric patterns. This architectural feature holds great significance in Islamic tradition, as it creates a sense of harmony and balance akin to a mirrored reflection.



11 The Interior walls

The interior walls of the main hall are covered with luxurious Italian marble from the finest marble mines in the world. It is decorated with elegant glass mosaic designs that allow light to pass through to appear as if it were natural and added on. The place has a cheerful effect as these designs climb the walls.



12 The Qibla Wall

The Qibla wall carries great significance as it guides Muslims to face towards the Holy Kaaba in Makkah while praying. The wall is adorned with intricate floral shapes, each bearing one of the ninety-nine names of Allah, such as Al-Rahman, "The Most or Entirely Merciful," Al-Rahim, "The Bestower of Mercy," and Al-Sabour, "The Forbearing."

The Qibla wall, spanning an impressive 18.7 meters, is adorned with Bianco B marble sourced from Italian quarries. The meticulous craftsmanship continues with the addition of white gold mosaics, further enhancing its beauty. With a width of 37.8 meters, the Qibla wall stands as a testament to the devotion and reverence of the worshippers in this mosque.



13 The Mihrab

The mihrab holds immense significance in Islamic architecture, being a prominent feature in mosques worldwide. It is a semicircular recess located in the qibla wall, designed with captivating wavy lines in shades of yellow, white, and gold. This intricate design draws inspiration from Qur'anic verses that vividly describe the rivers of milk and honey in Paradise. A beehive motif emerges at the top of the mihrab, while golden lines gracefully flow from beneath it. The mihrab is adorned with a lavish covering of gold leaf and glass mosaic, creating a mesmerizing visual spectacle. Standing tall at 9.90 meters, with a diameter of 1.85 meters and a width of 4 meters, the mihrab commands attention and reverence.



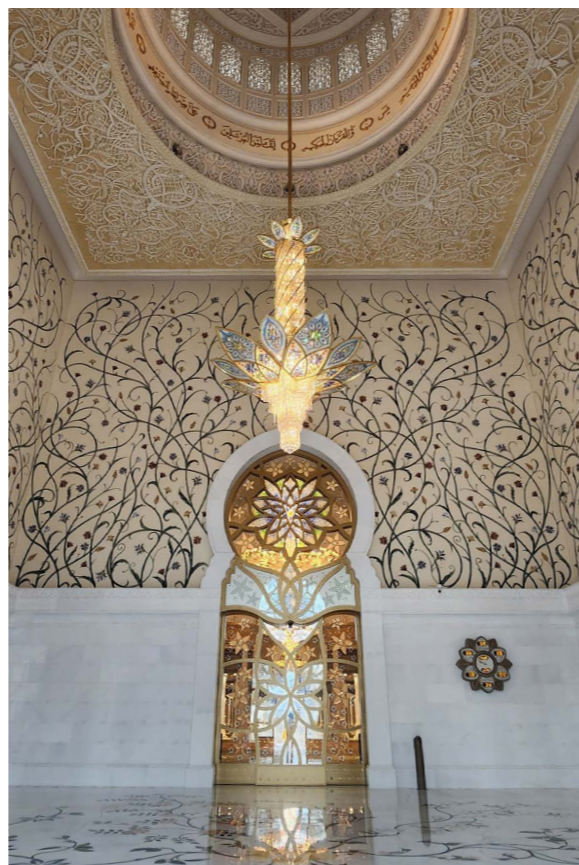
14 The Minbar (Pulpit)

The pulpit, an early architectural feature of Islamic design, takes center stage in the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque. This pulpit stands out with its 11 stairs strategically positioned to elevate the preacher and ensure visibility to the vast congregation of worshippers. Crafted with utmost precision and skill, the pulpit is a masterpiece carved from walnut wood. Its exquisite beauty is enhanced by intricate floral and shell designs, meticulously inlaid with mother-of-pearl, stained glass, and white gold. Crowned with a dome, the upper portion gracefully curves into a crescent shape, symbolizing the Islamic faith. The pulpit serves as a platform for delivering sermons and stands as a testament to the artistry and devotion embedded within Islamic architecture



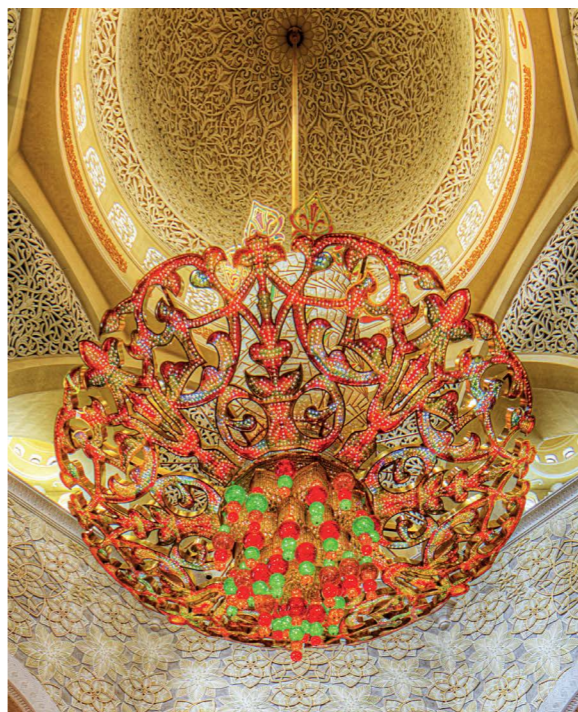
15 The Clocks

Within the interior halls of the mosque, there are 11 exquisite clocks crafted from stainless steel and adorned with lustrous pearls. These timepieces were meticulously created in the United Kingdom and designed to resemble a six-pointed rose. The central part of each clock elegantly displays the hour and minute hands, while the delicate petals of the flower feature dynamic digital screens that indicate the different segments of the day. Additionally, the upper section of these remarkable clocks signifies the commencement of the (Fajr) dawn prayer, which typically occurs approximately an hour before sunrise. As the hands move clockwise, the time of sunrise is revealed, followed by the subsequent prayer times. Moreover, the topmost digital screen within the inner circle of the clock showcases the date according to the Gregorian calendar. In contrast, the lower screen displays the date according to the Islamic calendar, also known as the Hijri calendar.



16 Al-Salam Foyer (The Southern Foyer)

The Al-Salam (Peace) Foyer is designed with interwoven floral designs based on the types of flowers that grow in the Southern Hemisphere. Among these flowers are the Levantine jasmine, the wax flower, the African violet, designs of small white climbing flowers, climbing ivy, and large purple flowers. All designs here are made using the colorful inlaid marble technique.



17 The Chandeliers

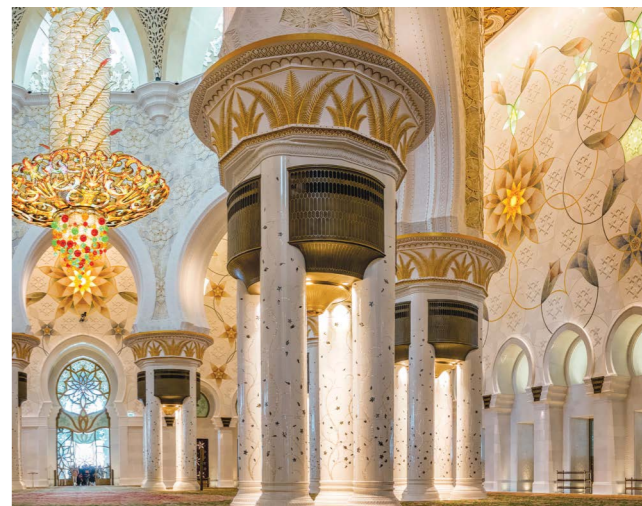
Three magnificent crystal chandeliers hang inside the main hall from the three domes. These chandeliers share a similar design, but the middle stands out as the largest and most impressive, weighing 12 tons. With a diameter of 10 meters and a height of 15.5 meters. This masterpiece is adorned with 15,500 LED lighting valves, illuminating the prayer hall with a mesmerizing glow. The two smaller chandeliers weighing 8 tons are no less remarkable. Standing at a height of 12.5 meters and boasting a diameter of 7 meters, they add to the grandeur of the space.

The renowned Fostig Company in Munich, Germany, crafted these extraordinary chandeliers. The manufacturing process involved gilded stainless steel, which was then embellished with exquisite Swarovski crystals. Green crystal balls and vibrant red and yellow lights were incorporated to enhance their beauty further. The radiance emitted by these chandeliers fills the entire prayer hall, creating an enchanting atmosphere.



18 The Carpet

The main hall includes the largest carpet in the world, recorded by the Guinness Book of World Records in 2007, and is hand-made in the Islamic style. (The medallion) was made by the most skilled carpet craftsmen in the world, as approximately 1,200 craftsmen participated in making the carpet. In the final stage, the carpet comprised an area of 5,400 square meters and weighed about 35 tons, with New Zealand wool making up 70% of its weight and cotton making up 30%. The aesthetics of the medallion and decorative design are evident in the beautiful harmony between it and the chandeliers just above it.



19 Internal Columns

The grandeur of the main hall is accentuated by an impressive array of 96 columns arranged in groups of four. These awe-inspiring columns are enveloped in pristine white marble, exquisitely embellished with grape arbors intricately crafted from oyster shells. Adorning the summits of these columns are miniature gilded palm branches, adding a touch of opulence to their already captivating presence. These remarkable columns were meticulously designed by skilled artisans from Dongguan in China.