

# Mosque–Cathedral of Córdoba



# Location of the Mosque-Cathedral

- The **Mosque-Cathedral of Córdoba** also known as the **Great Mosque of Córdoba**, whose ecclesiastical name is the **Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption**, is the Catholic cathedral of the Diocese of Córdoba dedicated to the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and located in the Spanish region of Andalusia.

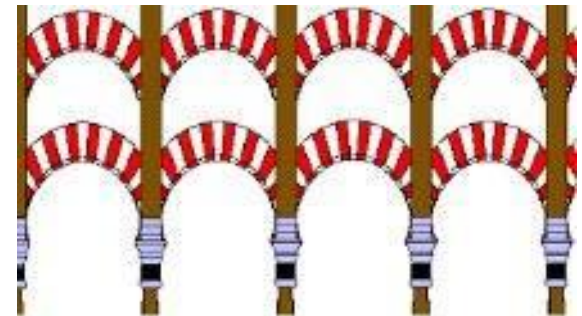


# History

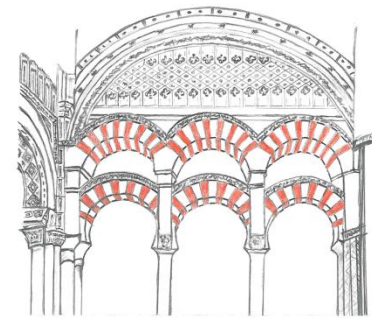
- The site was originally built by the Visigoths as the Catholic Basilica of Saint Vincent of Lerins. When Muslims conquered Spain in 711, the church was first divided into Muslim and Christian halves. This sharing arrangement of the site lasted until 784, when the Christian half was purchased by the Emir Abd al Rahman I, who then proceeded to demolish the entire structure and build the grand mosque of Cordoba on its ground. Córdoba returned to Christian rule in 1236 during the Reconquista , and the building was converted to a Roman Catholic church, culminating in the insertion of a Renaissance cathedral nave in the 16th century

# Features

- The building is most notable for its arcaded hypostyle hall, with 856 columns of jasper, onyx, marble and granite. These were made from pieces of the Roman temple which had occupied the site previously, as well as other destroyed Roman buildings, such as the Merida amphitheatre. The double arches were also very innovative and impressive .



- The double arches were a new introduction to architecture, permitting higher ceilings than would otherwise be possible with relatively low columns. The double arches consist of a lower horseshoe arch and an upper semi-circular arch.
- You can see a drawing by Fani Bliatka, a student who is going to Montoro right below the original.



- ....and also resemble those of the Aachen Cathedral , which were built almost at the same time.
- Horseshoe arches were known in the Iberian Peninsula since late Antiquity, as can be seen on the 3rd-century "Estela de los Flavios", now in the archaeological museum of León.



# The mihrab

- The edifice also has a richly gilded prayer niche called mihrab. The mihrab is a masterpiece of architectural art, with geometric and flowing designs of plants.



- Other prominent features were: an open court (sahn) surrounded by arcades, screens of wood, minarets, colourful mosaics, and windows of coloured glass. The walls of the mosque had Quranic inscriptions written on them.





# Pictures



# The Spanish Team who can't wait to visit Montoro and Cordoba are:

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