



Dubai officially opened the world's largest and tallest ferris wheel on Thursday, as the city tries to build its status for tourism.

The wheel took more than six years to develop, and it opened with a lavish drone and firework show. Standing on the city's Bluewaters Island, the structure needed to be drilled down into the ground to hold the weight of the whole structure.

The Dubai's Eye, known as Ain Dubai in Arabic, stands around 250 meters tall, and it can hold 1,750 visitors. The construction used 11,200 tons of steel to build, which is about 33% more than the amount used to construct the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. The structure's **hub and spindle** weigh 1,805 tons, which is the equivalent to four large airplanes. 192 **spokes** hold the wheel, each made of 107 separate 9 millimeter-thick wires. Each of the 48 cabins fit 40 people. People designed Ain Duba to last 300,000 cycles, or 60 years, to **adhere** to strict design and safety codes.

Difficult words: **hub and spindle** (part of a machine for turning), **spoke** (one of the rods that connect the edge of a wheel to its center), **adhere** (to obey a rule or follow the practices of something).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *hub and spindle, spoke and adhere*
2. Where can we see the world's largest and tallest ferris wheel? And what is it called?
3. How long did it take them to finish building the wheel?
4. How many tons of steel was used to construct the worl'd largest and tallest ferris wheel?
5. How many people can the 48 cabins accommodate if each can carry 40 people?
6. About how many years is the ferris wheel designed to last?

Express Your Thoughts

1. Have you ever visited Dubai? When? *If no*, would you like to go to Dubai in the future?
2. Apart from this largest and tallest ferris wheel in the world, what else is Dubai well known for?
3. Where can you find the most famous ferris wheel in your country?
4. What are the major attractions in your country that are famous among tourists?