

Building name, City (COUNTRY). Year..... Metres*

1. Youguo Temple, Kaifeng (CHN). 1049 56.4 ▲
2. Saint Basil's Cath., Moscow (RUS). 1561 47.5 ▲
3. Leaning Tower, Pisa (ITA). 1372 55.8 ▲
4. Sakayamuni Pagoda, Yingxian (CHN). 1056..... 67.3 ▲
5. Giralda, Seville (SPN). 1568 104.1 ▲
6. Yellow Crane T., Wuhan (CHN). 1985 (renv.)... 51.0 ▲
7. Temple of Kukulkan, Tinum (MEX).ca800 30.0 ▲
8. Himeji Castle, Himeji (JPN). 1346..... 46.0 ▲
9. Giant Wild Goose Pag., Xian (CHN). 652 64.5 ▲
10. St. Paul's Cathedral, Macau (CHN). 1640..... 25.8 ▲
11. Angkor Wat, Angkor (KHM). ca1150 57.9 ▲
12. Colosseum, Rome (ITA). A.D.82 47.8 ▲
13. Parthenon, Athens (GRC). 438 B.C. 13.7 ▲
14. Leifeng Pagoda, Hangzhou (CHN). 975 71.0 ▲
15. Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao (SPN). 1997..... 53.0 ▲
16. Porcelain Tower, Nanjing (CHN). ca1420..... 79.0 ▲
17. World Building, NY (USA). 1890 106.4 ▲
18. U.S.Capitol, Washington D.C.(USA). 1863 87.8 ▲
19. Park Row Building, NY (USA). 1899 119.2 ▲
20. Flatiron Building, NY (USA). 1902..... 86.9 ▲
21. Taj Mahal, Agra (IND). 1648 73.0 ▲
22. Wat Arun, Bangkok (THA). ca1820 (renv.)... 79.0 ▲
23. Palace of Westminster, Lond.(GBR). 1859... 120.7 ▲
24. Neuschwanstein Castle, (DEU). 1892 90.0 ▲
25. St. Paul's Cathedral, London (GBR). 1710 ... 111.3 ▲
26. Sta. Maria del Fiore, Florence (ITA). 1471 ... 114.5 ▲
27. St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City. 1626..... 138.0 ▲
28. Washington Monument, (USA). 1884 169.2 ▲
29. Pittsfield, Chicago (USA). 1927 168.0 ▲
30. Potala Palace, Lhasa (CHN).1645 (renv.)... 117.0 ▲
31. Sydney Opera House, Sydney (AUS). 1973... 65.0 ▲
32. Pyramid of the Sun, Teotih.(MEX). ca200 71.2 ▲
33. Great Pyramid, Giza (EGY).ca2500 B.C. 146.5 ▲
34. Cologne Cathedral, Cologne (DEU). 1880 ... 157.4 ▲

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35. Tianning Temp., Changzhou (CHN). 2007... 153.8 ▲
36. Notre-Dame Cath., Paris (FRA). 1345 96.0 ▲
37. Statue of Liberty, NY (USA). 1886..... 93.0 ▲
38. Berlin Cathedral, Berlin (DEU). 1905 116.5 ▲
39. Mangia Tower, Siena (ITA). 1348..... 102.0 ▲
40. Agbar Tower, Barcelona (SPN). 2004 144.4 ▲
41. Hopewell Centre, Hong Kong (CHN). 1981... 222.0 ▲
42. Dai Heiwa Kinen To, Osaka (JPN). 1970..... 180.0 ▲
43. Singer Building, NY (USA). 1908 186.6 ▲
44. Bank of America, Houston (USA). 1983..... 237.8 ▲
45. Palace Cul.& Sci., Warsaw (POL). 1955 237.0 ▲
46. Capital Gate T., Abu Dhabi (UAE). 2011 164.7 ▲
47. 500 Fifth Av., NY (USA). 1931 212.5 ▲
48. Woolworth Building, NY (USA). 1913 241.4 ▲
49. Philadelphia City Hall, Phi. (USA). 1901 167.0 ▲
50. 30 St Mary Axe, London (GBR). 2004 179.8 ▲
51. Carnegie Hall T., NY (USA). 1991 230.7 ▲
52. Metropolitan Life, NY (USA). 1909 213.4 ▲
53. Pan Am Building, NY (USA). 1963 246.3 ▲
54. Lake Point T., Chicago (USA). 1968..... 196.5 ▲
55. GE Building-Rockefeller, NY (USA). 1933... 259.1 ▲
56. CCTV Headquarters, Beijing (CHN). 2012... 237.5 ▲
57. The Shard, London (GBR). 2013 306.0 ▲
58. Torre Costanera, Santiago (CHL). 2014 300.0 ▲
59. Capital City MT, Moscow. (RUS). 2010 309.8 ▲
60. Mercury City, Moscow (RUS). 2013..... 338.8 ▲
61. Grand Lisboa, Macau (CHN). 2008 258.0 ▲
62. HSBC Building, Hong Kong (CHN). 1985 178.8 ▲
63. Baiyoke TII, Bangkok (THA). 1997 328.4 ▲
64. Eiffel Tower, Paris (FRA). 1889 324.0 ▲
65. Bank of China, Hong Kong (CHN). 1990 367.4 ▲
66. F&F Tower, Panama City (PAN). 2011 236.4 ▲
67. Central Plaza, Hong Kong (CHN). 1992 373.9 ▲
68. The Trump Building, NY (USA). 1930 282.6 ▲

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69. The Center, Hong Kong (CHN). 1998 346.0 ▲
70. The Torch, Dubai (UAE). 2011 336.8 ▲
71. Burj Al Arab, Dubai (UAE). 1999 321.0 ▲
72. Cayan Tower, Dubai (UAE). 2013 307.3 ▲
73. Chrysler Building, NY (USA). 1930 318.9 ▲
74. Q1 Tower, Gold Coast (AUS). 2005 322.5 ▲
75. The Index, Dubai (UAE). 2010 326.0 ▲
76. Almas Tower, Dubai (UAE). 2008 360.0 ▲
77. Marina 101, Dubai (UAE). 2015 426.5 ▲
78. Zifeng Tower, Nanjing (CHN). 2010 450.0 ▲
79. Empire State Building, NY (USA). 1931 443.2 ▲
80. Shun Hing Sq., Shenzhen (CHN). 1996 384.0 ▲
81. Petronas T1, Kuala Lumpur (MYS). 1998 451.9 ▲
82. CITIC Plaza, Guangzhou (CHN). 1996 390.2 ▲
83. Bank of America, NY (USA). 2009..... 365.8 ▲
84. Al Hamra, Kuwait (KWT). 2011 412.6 ▲
85. Two IFC, Hong Kong (CHN). 2003 412.0 ▲
86. Trump IH&T, Chicago (USA). 2009 423.2 ▲
87. Jin Mao Tower, Shanghai (CHN). 1999 420.5 ▲
88. John Hancock, Chicago (USA). 1969 457.2 ▲
89. Guangzhou IFC, Guangzhou (CHN). 2010... 438.6 ▲
90. KK100, Shenzhen (CHN). 2011 441.8 ▲
91. Princess Tower, Dubai (UAE). 2012 414.0 ▲
92. Willis Tower, Chicago (USA). 1974 527.0 ▲
93. ICC, Hong Kong (CHN). 2010 484.0 ▲
94. Shanghai WFC, Shanghai (CHN). 2008 494.3 ▲
95. Federation Towers, Moscow (RUS). 2016... 506.0 ▲
96. Taipei 101, Taiwan (CHN). 2004..... 508.0 ▲
97. One WTC, New York (USA). 1972..... 526.7 ▲
98. One WTC, New York (USA). 2014 546.2 ▲
99. Abraj Al Bait Tower, Mecca (KSA). 2012... 601.0 ▲
100. Shanghai Tower, Shanghai (CHN). 2015 632.0 ▲
101. Burj Khalifa, Dubai (UAE). 2010 829.8 ▲
102. Kingdom Tower, Jeddah (KSA). 2019..... 1,007.0 ▲

*The maximum architectural height indicated is provided by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat. The year indicates the date of completion or expected date of completion

The height of social values

Throughout history the world's tallest buildings have acted as barometers, symbolising the principles society holds dearest

"You can tell what's informing a society by what the tallest building is. When you approach a medieval town, the cathedral is the tallest thing in the place. When you approach an 18th-century town, it is the political palace that's the tallest thing in the place. And when you approach a modern city, the tallest places are the office buildings, the centres of economic life."

Joseph Campbell in *The Power of Myth* (1988)



Sources: Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, SkyscraperPage.com. Measurements are approximate. Tribute to George F. Cram

SCMP Graphic: Alberto Lucas López