

Empire State Building Fact Sheet

ABOUT THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING:

- Soaring 1,454 feet above Midtown Manhattan (from base to antenna), the Empire State Building is New York City's most recognizable and celebrated attraction.
- Millions of visitors from all over the world marvel at the spectacular views from its 86th Floor and 102nd Floor Observatories.
- With new investments in infrastructure, public areas and amenities, the Empire State Building has attracted first-rate tenants in a diverse array of industries.
- The building is the center of New York City's broadcasting operations; the skyscraper's robust broadcasting technology supports all major television and FM radio stations in the New York metropolitan market.

VITAL STATISTICS:

- The Empire State Building has 102 floors, with 1,860 steps from street level to the 102nd floor.
- The Empire State Building also offers VIPs, celebrities and dignitaries exclusive access to its 103rd floor.
- Our 86th floor and 102nd floor Observatories offer the two highest vantage points in Manhattan at 1,050 feet (320 meters) and 1,250 feet (381 meters), respectively.
- The building sits on 79,288 square feet (7,340 meters) or approximately two acres and contains 2.7 million square feet of office space, making it one of the largest office buildings in the world.
- The total height of the building is 1,454 feet (exactly 1,454 feet, 8 9/166 inches) or 443.2 meters from the base to the top of the building's lightning rod/antenna.
- The building weighs 365,000 tons and its volume is 37 million cubic feet.
- The exterior of the Empire State Building is composed of 200,000 cubic feet of Indiana limestone and granite, 10 million bricks and 730 tons of aluminum and stainless steel.
- The Empire State Building is currently undergoing one of the world's largest elevator modernization and refurbishment programs, in partnership with Otis Elevators. Completion of the elevator upgrade and ongoing maintenance by Otis will deliver improved speed, energy efficiency, and passenger experience.

HISTORY:

- Groundbreaking of the building commenced on March 17, 1930.
- Following groundbreaking, construction of the building took only one year and 45 days from the setting of the tower's first steel columns on April 7, 1930, to the completed building by March 31, 1931 – a full month before the official opening ceremonies. This is the fastest construction to date for a project of its scale.
- Framework rose at a rate of 4 ½ stories per week.
- The building was erected on the site of the original Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, with New York City's popular governor Al Smith as the guiding force behind its construction.
- More than 7 million man hours were logged in the Empire State Building's construction.
- On May 1, 1931, then President Herbert Hoover pressed a button in Washington, D.C., to officially open the Empire State Building.
- In 2011, the Empire State Building celebrated its 80th anniversary.
- The Empire State Building is considered the "World's Most Famous Office Building," and was recently named "America's favorite building" in a poll conducted by the American Institute of Architects.

EMPIRE STATE REBUILDING:

- As part of the more than \$550 million capital improvement project, the world's most famous office building is undergoing substantial renovations to restore and retrofit the landmark.

Renovations

- An extraordinary refurbishment brought together world-class architects, historians, artists and craftsmen from Beyer Blinder Belle, Jones Lang LaSalle, EverGreene Architectural Arts, Inc. and Rambusch Studio to recreate the building's original Art Deco style while adding state-of-the-art enhancements. At the center of the renovation is the restoration of ESB's historic lobby, with its iconic celestial ceiling mural made of aluminum leaf and 23-karat gold.
 - All of the materials used on the replicated ceiling are the original materials used to create the lobby ceiling in 1931, with over 20,000 man hours spent on the project.
 - 12,000 linear feet of cast glass light fixture lenses were recreated to line the ESB lobby and side corridors.
 - The ceiling mural used over 15,000 square feet of canvas and 115,000 sheets of aluminum leaf.
 - As part of the recent renovations, ESB worked with the Landmarks Preservation Commission to approve the design and installation of two Art Deco chandeliers, which were originally planned for the building but never created. The new chandeliers were interpreted from original architects' drawings.
- As the final component of the renovations program, the Empire State Building announced a major elevator modernization and refurbishment program with Otis Elevators Company on June 16, 2011. Completion of the elevator upgrade and ongoing maintenance by Otis will deliver improved speed, energy efficiency, and passenger experience.
- On July 18, 2011, the Empire State Building unveiled a new, permanent exhibit that captures the global icon's astonishing history, engineering and construction. The installation is located on the 80th floor and serves to further enrich and enhance each visitor's Observatory experience.

Sustainability

- Using the Empire State Building as a test case and model, world-class environmental consulting, non-profit, design and construction partners comprised of the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI), Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), Johnson Controls Inc. (NYSE: JCI) (JCI) and Jones Lang LaSalle (NYSE: JLL) (JLL) came together to create an innovative process for analyzing and retrofitting existing structures for environmental sustainability.
- A series of initiatives are reducing the building's energy consumption by more than 38 percent and save an estimated \$4.4 million per year on energy costs, while serving as a replicable model for similar projects around the world.
- The innovative energy efficiency program at the Empire State Building has exceeded guaranteed energy savings for the second year in a row, saving \$2.3 million and providing a new model for building retrofits that is now being rolled out nationwide. In year two, the iconic property surpassed its energy-efficiency guarantee by nearly 4 percent.
 - As with the first year's results, all information and monitoring and verification reports can be viewed at www.esbsustainability.com.
- In July 2010, the Empire State Building Sustainability Exhibit was unveiled at the 2nd floor Visitor's Center showcasing the work of the award-winning, energy retrofit project currently underway. The interactive, multi-media experience aims to educate the millions of people who visit the building every year on the positive global impact of both energy efficient and sustainable living practices. It combines physical artifacts with impressive technology and integrates digital and sculptural elements to create a state-of-the-art display.
 - A downloadable mobile application program has additionally been developed to give visitors the option to retrieve more information following their visit to the building. To access the application, barcodes are displayed throughout the exhibit that when entered will reveal supplementary interactive, educational content.
- In January 2011, the Empire State Building became New York City's largest commercial purchaser of 100% renewable energy. The building signed a two-year contract with Green Mountain Energy Company, the nation's leading competitive retail provider of cleaner energy and carbon offset solution, to purchase 100% wind power.
- On June 13, 2011 The Empire State Building announced the receipt of its second ENERGY STAR certification from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The certification signifies that the property's energy performance is part of a select group of commercial office buildings, new and old, across the nation that have received this accolade.
- On September 13, 2011 The Empire State Building announced the receipt of its LEED Gold for Existing Buildings certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The Empire State Building is one of a small number of National Historic Landmarks to earn this designation.

TOWER ILLUMINATION:

- The Empire State Building's tower lights, illuminated to commemorate holidays, events and special causes, are a beloved beacon of light for New York City and the world.
- The first light to shine atop the Empire State Building was a beacon that told those within a 50-mile radius that Franklin Delano Roosevelt had been elected President of the United States in November 1932.
- In Fall 2012, the Empire State Building upgraded its tower lighting system from floodlights to one-of-a-kind LED tower lights. The state-of-the-art dynamic system allows customized light capabilities from a palette of over 16 million colors in limitless combinations along with effects previously not possible such as ripples, cross-fades, sparkles, chasers, sweeps, strobes and bursts. The new LEDs will deliver superior light and vibrancy levels in real-time, unlike the previous floodlights.
- The Empire State Building officially unveiled the new LED tower lights on November 26, 2012 with a first-of-its-kind light show in collaboration with Clear Channel Communications and 14 time Grammy® Award winner Alicia Keys. Alicia flipped a switch to kick off the light show which was choreographed to two of her tracks "Girl on Fire," followed by her hit "Empire State of Mind."
- The tower lights are illuminated daily from sunset until 2 a.m.
- For updates of the lighting schedule, please visit the Empire State Building website, www.esbnyc.com.

VISITOR INFORMATION:

- The Observatory has a heated, glass-enclosed area, which is surrounded by an outdoor open-air terrace, equipped with high-power binoculars.
- A new second floor Visitors Center offers spacious, fully air conditioned waiting areas, equipped to expedite the admissions and ticketing processes.
- Audio tours detailing the City's unique skyline are offered in eight different languages.
- Observatory hours are 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m. daily with the last elevators ascending at 1:15 a.m. Tickets may be purchased onsite at the Empire State Building Visitors' Center or online at www.esbnyc.com.
- Current ticket prices for the Observatory are: Adults (18-61): \$27; Child (6-12): \$21; Seniors (62+): \$24; US Military with ID: \$24; Military in Uniform: Free; Toddlers (5 and younger): Free.
- By purchasing the ESB Express Pass (\$50 for all visitors ages 6 or older) guests can avoid long wait times and will be automatically moved to the front of each and every line.
- The global icon is now connecting with fans globally and sharing information about the building through its social media channels on Twitter ([@EmpireStateBldg](https://twitter.com/EmpireStateBldg)), Facebook (www.facebook.com/EmpireStateBuilding), Instagram (www.instagram.com/empirestatebldg) and Pinterest (www.pinterest.com/empirestatebldg)

GETTING TO THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING:

- The Empire State Building is served by cross-town and Fifth Avenue buses and is within walking distance of the Port Authority Bus Terminal, Pennsylvania Station and Grand Central Terminal.
- Subway service is available: Lexington Avenue 6 line to 33rd Street station or **A, C, E, B, D, F, M, N, Q, R, 1, 2, or 3** trains to 34th Street.
- PATH trains and New Jersey Transit bring visitors into Pennsylvania Station.

FUN FACTS:

- The Empire State Building has been "home" to some of the most famous movies, including *King Kong*, *An Affair to Remember*, *Sleepless in Seattle*, *Elf*, *Oblivion* and *Anchoring in Seattle*.
- Tourists aren't the only ones taking in the 360-degree views at this iconic Art Deco skyscraper. ESB is one of the most celebrity-visited landmarks in the world attracting the likes of Mariah Carey, Justin Bieber, Rihanna, Emma Stone, Novak Djokovic, the cast of "Glee," Penelope Cruz, Heidi Klum, Roger Federer and Tom Cruise, to name just a few.
- Visitors reach the 86th Floor Observatory by elevator in less than one minute.
- On the clearest of days, visibility from the Observatories is 80 miles, with five states in view - New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Massachusetts.
- Hundreds of couples have been officially married at the Empire State Building as part of ESB's annual Valentine's Weddings contest. The first Empire State Building Valentine's Day Weddings event was held in 1994.

- Annually, the Empire State Building hosts its annual Run-Up event, where hundreds of athletes from around the world race a total of 1,576 steps from the ESB lobby to the 86th Floor Observatory. The first Run-Up was held in 1978.
 - The race climbs 1,050 feet, or 1/5 of a mile vertically.
 - The fastest ESB New York Road Runners Run-Up time ever was Paul Crake of Australia who reached the Observatory in 9 minutes, 33 seconds in 2003.

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