



Architecture

21047

Las Vegas

USA





Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas

Stretching out over the desert floor, the City of Las Vegas boasts some of the most jaw-dropping architecture in the United States. What started as a small, isolated railroad town in 1905 is now the fastest growing city in the country and one of the most visited tourist destinations in the world.

For much of its history, Las Vegas created its own identity as a city by borrowing from everyone else's. Walk along the famous Las Vegas Strip and you'll see New York skyscrapers, the canals of Venice and even a version of the Eiffel Tower.

The city's architecture often stretches the bounds of the imagination and structural engineering. Constantly making things bigger, better, higher or longer is what drives Las Vegas forwards and what continues to create one of the world's most vibrant skylines.

*"So much of Las Vegas falls
under the heading
"it has to be seen to be believed."*

Jeff Maguire



Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas Sign

The classic 25 ft. (7.6m) tall "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign has stood at 5200 Las Vegas Boulevard since 1959. It was created by Betty Willis, who set out to design a roadside sign that was unique in its shape, style and content. Willis chose not to copyright her iconic work, instead seeing it as her gift to the city.

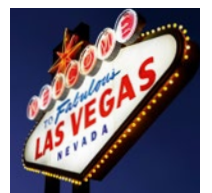
The sign is currently owned by the Young Electric Sign Company, who leases it to Clark County. Technically the sign isn't actually in Las Vegas; instead it stands approx. 4 miles (6.5 km) south of the city limits, in the town officially known as Paradise.

*"Las Vegas is the only place
I know where money really talks
– it says, Goodbye."*

Frank Sinatra

The white circles around the letters of the word 'welcome' on the sign portray silver dollars. Nevada is known as The Silver State.

On the rear of the sign stands the message "Drive Carefully, Come Back Soon".





Bellagio Hotel, LLC

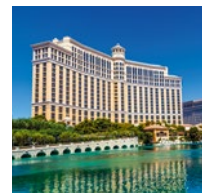
Inspired by the Lake Como town of Bellagio in Italy, Bellagio is one of the largest and most elegant resorts on the Las Vegas Strip. Completed in 1998 at a cost of \$1.6 billion, it has 3,933 guest rooms, including 512 suites, and a 100,000 ft² (9290m²) gaming area. Guests entering the lobby are met by the stunning Fiori Di Como (Flowers of Como) sculpture, made up of over 2,000 hand-blown glass flowers that hang from the ceiling.

The Bellagio's most renowned feature is the 8-acre (3.2 hectare) lake, situated between the building and the Strip itself. Home to the spectacular Fountains of Bellagio, thousands of visitors to Las Vegas gather every evening to enjoy the graceful ballet of dancing fountains choreographed to music and lights.

*"Everything and anything
you want to do,
you can do in Las Vegas"*

Drew Carey

The famous Fountains of Bellagio span more than 1,000 ft. (305m), with water soaring as high as 460 ft. (140m) into the air.





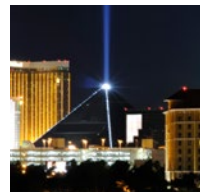
Luxor Las Vegas

The spectacular Luxor Las Vegas is the 30-story, 120,000 ft² (11,000m²) resort that brings the wonders of ancient Egypt to the ultra-modern Las Vegas. When it opened in October 1993, its iconic pyramid was the tallest building on the Strip and included a Nile River ride that encircled the casino and carried guests past re-created ancient Egyptian artwork.

Out of the top of the pyramid, the famous Luxor Sky Beam shoots the world's strongest beam of light up into the air. On a clear night it is said the beam can be seen 275 miles (443 km) away by aircraft cruising above Los Angeles airport.

The Luxor Las Vegas includes special elevators, known as Inclinator, to run along its diagonal sides.

The Luxor Las Vegas' Sphinx, a re-creation of the Great Sphinx of Giza, is 101 ft. (30.8m) high, 32.9 ft. (10m) taller than the original.





Encore at the Wynn

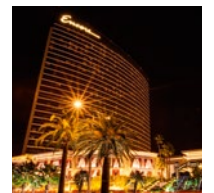
Originally envisioned as an extension to the neighboring Wynn Las Vegas, the Encore instead became a full-blown resort and was completed at the end of 2008, at a cost of \$2.3 billion. The 631 ft. (192m) tall and 93 ft. (28m) wide structure features 2,034 hotel rooms, a 74,000 ft² (6,900m²) casino and 27,000 ft² (2,500m²) of convention space.

Though it officially has 63 floors, in reality there are only 48 floors in the building, as certain floor numbers have been omitted. The number 13 has traditionally been seen as unlucky in various Western cultures, while many Asian cultures are superstitious about the number 4.

"A little bit of this town goes a very long way"

Hunter S. Thompson

The Encore and Wynn includes a 60,000 ft² (5574m²) beach club and an 18-hole golf course on the resort ground.





Stratosphere Las Vegas

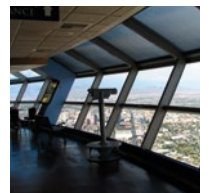
At 1149 ft. (350m), the Stratosphere is the tallest freestanding observation tower in the United States. It's also the tallest structure in Las Vegas and home to one of the most incredible views of the city. It has two observation decks, a revolving restaurant and four thrill rides that let visitors dangle, spin and plummet high above the city at 855 ft. (261m).

Bob Stupak, previous owner and entrepreneur who built the Stratosphere, claimed the tower would "do for Las Vegas what the Eiffel Tower did for Paris."

"Las Vegas is a city built on hopes, dreams, and a little bit of crazy."

Michael McDonald

Construction on the tower began in February 1992. It was completed in April 1996, at a cost of \$32 million.





Fremont Street

Fremont Street is where Las Vegas as we know it today began; it is home to the original Vegas Strip, as well as where the first street was paved in 1925 and where the city's first traffic light was erected in 1931. As the city grew, Fremont Street was the place to see and be seen, featuring Las Vegas's legendary entertainers, best-known establishments and iconic neon signs. By the late 1980s, the street and surrounding neighborhood found itself in fierce competition with the growth and expansion of the newer casinos on Las Vegas Boulevard.

In response, Fremont Street was revitalized by the development of the Fremont Street Experience, transforming the five-block area into a dazzling entertainment district. The centerpiece of the experience is the 1,500 ft. (457m) long and 90 ft. (27.4m) wide video screen canopy suspended 90 ft. (27.4 m) above the pedestrian mall below delivering a spectacular audiovisual show every hour in the evening.

"Las Vegas is the boiling pot of entertainment."

Don Rickles

The Viva Vision screen that hangs above Fremont Street is the largest in the world and contains 12.5 million LED lights.

Fremont Street was nicknamed "Glitter Gulch" due to the number of its colorful neon signs.





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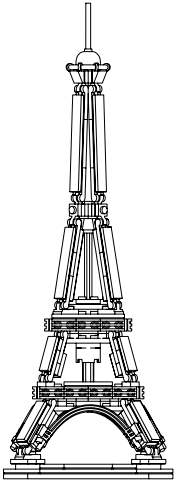
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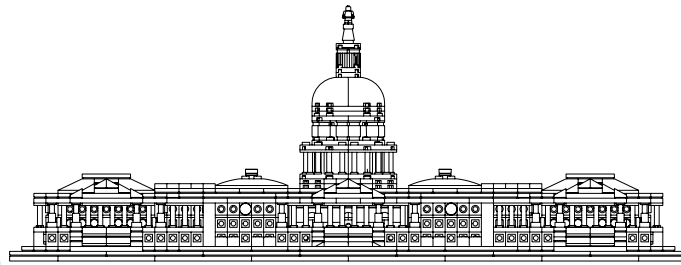
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Adam Reed Tucker is the co-developer of the LEGO Architecture product line.

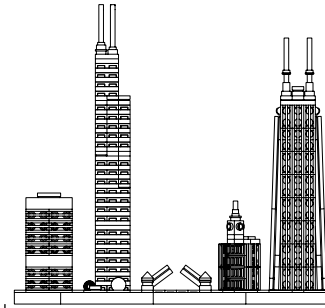
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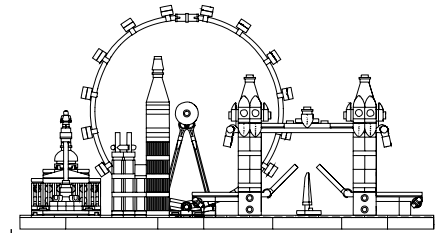
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The Eiffel Tower



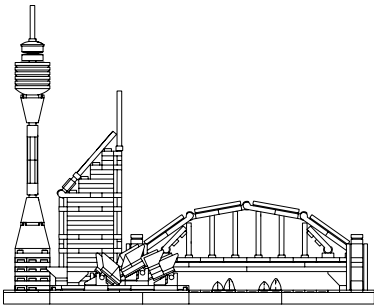
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United States Capitol Building



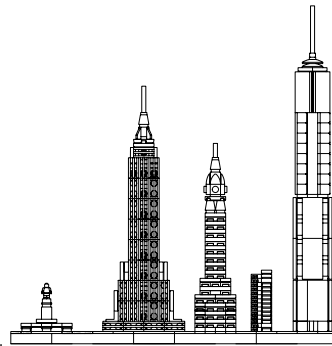
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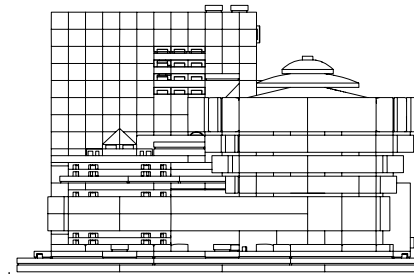
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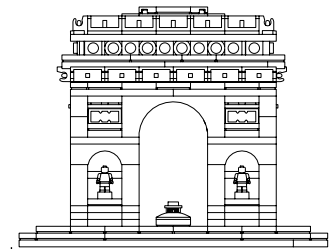
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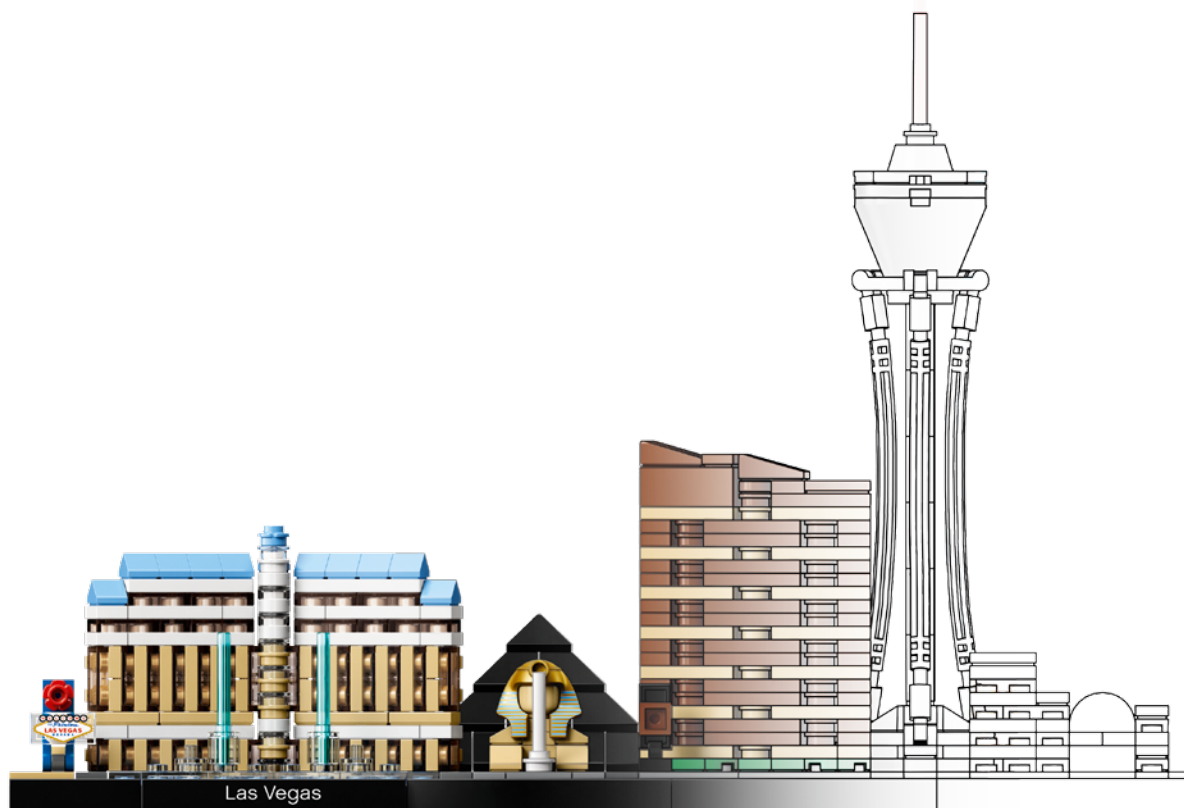
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