

The Skyscraper of the year is Korean: Lotte World Tower wins Emporis Skyscraper Award

Hamburg, December 13, 2018 – The world's most renowned architecture prize for skyscrapers, the Emporis Skyscraper Award, has been awarded to the *Lotte World Tower* in Seoul, South Korea. Every year Emporis' (www.emporis.com) expert international jury chooses the top ten skyscrapers that have been completed in the previous calendar year. The award is being given out for the 18th time.

Lotte World Tower is currently South Korea's tallest completed building and, in many ways, a skyscraper of superlatives. The 555-meter-high tower houses the world's highest glass-bottomed observation deck. Even the elevator is record-breaking: at 600 meters per minute, it is currently the fastest in the world. The winner especially impressed the jury with its harmonious design that gives the skyscraper a soft and natural dynamic. "*The design combines modern elements with classical forms from Korea's art and cultural history, making Lotte World Tower a particularly harmonious skyscraper,*" explains the jury.

Emporis Skyscraper Award 2017

#	Building Name	City, Country	Height	Stories	Architect(s)
1.	Lotte World Tower	Seoul, South Korea	1819 ft.	123	Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates, Baum Architects
2.	Generali Tower	Milan, Italy	582 ft	44	Zaha Hadid Architects
3.	150 North Riverside	Chicago, USA	752 ft	54	Goettsch Partners, Inc.
4.	Raffles City Hangzhou	Hangzhou, China	845 ft	61 and 59	UNStudio
5.	The Ellipse	Jersey City, USA	444 ft	41	Arquitectonica, Haines Lundberg Waehler
6.	Azrieli Sharona	Tel Aviv, Israel	782 ft	57	David Azrieli Group, Moshe Zur Architects and Town Planners Ltd.
7.	River Point	Chicago, USA	730 ft	52	Pickard Chilton Architects, Inc.
8.	Ping An International Finance Center	Shenzhen, China	1965 ft	116	Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates, China Construction Design International
9.	Arena Tower	London, UK	489 ft	45	Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP
10.	Britam Tower	Nairobi, Kenya	656 ft	31	GAPP Architects Western Cape, Triad Architects

Source: www.emporis.com



This year's second place went to the *Generali Tower* in Milan, designed by recently deceased architect Zaha Hadid. The skyscraper's extravagant form earned it the nickname "Lo Storto" which means the "Twisted One". The jury especially praised the building's high standards in terms of energy efficiency. The building has a double skin façade and a sophisticated sunscreen, which ensures excellent energy performance on each floor. Generali Tower has therefore also received LEED Platinum, the highest certification given out by the US Green Building Council.

The third-placed project is *150 North Riverside* in Chicago. Designed by Goettsch Partners, it is the building's innovative and complex engineering work that stands out. The skyscraper is located next to the Chicago River on one side and several active train tracks on the other. The extremely narrow lot that the tower sits upon had been deemed impossible to build on for years due to its limited size. Goettsch Partners then came up with the tower's daring design that features only a very small footprint while the building grows outward to its full size on the higher floors. A masterpiece of structural engineering.

This year's award marks the first time the prestigious award is given to a South Korean building. Surprisingly there is not a single Canadian skyscraper among the winners this time. Nevertheless there is still cause for celebration for North America: Three projects from the USA made it into Top Ten. Also for the first time in the history of the Emporis Skyscraper Award, a project from

Africa is among the winners. The Britam Tower, currently one of the tallest buildings in East and Central Africa, made the 10th place.

About Emporis

Emporis is a leading database of information about building and construction projects, based in Germany. For over a decade Emporis has helped companies, organizations and individuals stay informed about the building industry. The Emporis Skyscraper Award is the world's most renowned prize for high-rise architecture.

About the Award

The Emporis Skyscraper Award has been given since 2000. The jury is formed of architecture experts from all over the world, who judge nominated buildings according to aesthetic and functional design criteria. Previous winners include *VIA 57 West* (2016) in New York City, *Shanghai Tower* (2015) in Shanghai, *Wangjing SOHO* (2014) in Beijing, China.

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