

Tower 42

Identification

EBN	110590
Name	Tower 42
Alternative Name	NatWest Tower, International Finance Centre, National Westminster Tower
Construction Type	skyscraper
Current Status	existing [completed]

Location

Continent Name	Europe	District (1st level)	City of London
Country Name	United Kingdom	Postcode	EC2N 1HQ
State Name	England	Address (as text)	25 Old Broad Street
Metro Area Name	London Metro Area	Main Address	25 Old Broad Street

City Name	London
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Description

Structural Material	composite structure	Architectural style	modernism
Facade System	curtain wall	Main Usage	commercial office
Facade Color	black brown	Side Usage	restaurant

Spatial dimensions

Height (structural)	600.39 ft	Floors (overground)	43
Height (tip)	600.39 ft	Parking places	60
Height (roof)	600.39 ft	Elevators	13
Floors (underground)	3	Usable Floor Area (UFA)	Buy full PDF

Years and costs

Year (construction start)	1971	Year (last renovation)	1995
Year (construction end)	1980		

Features & Amenities

- One of the city's famous buildings
- City landmark
- Raised floors are available

Facts

- Tower 42 (then known as the NatWest Tower) was the tallest building in the United Kingdom for 10 years, from its completion in 1980 to the topping-out of One Canada Square in November 1990.

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- On completion, Tower 42 was the world's tallest cantilevered building.
- During a comprehensive refurbishment in 1995, a new glass and steel entrance hall was built on Old Broad Street and the external steel cladding was replaced.
- NatWest vacated the building in the aftermath of an IRA bombing on 24th April 1993, which ripped through the City's financial district, killing one person and causing damage to this and several other office buildings, including 99 Bishopsgate.
- For a brief period following its refurbishment, Tower 42 displayed a large '42' at its crown, with large numerals affixed directly onto the central services core.
- The three cantilevered sections hang from the building's central core and are asymmetrical in height.
- External cleaning of the building is provided in part by an automated mechanical cleaning system.
- Tower 42 contains two restaurants: Rhodes Twenty Four, which is located on the 24th floor and operated by renowned chef Gary Rhodes and; Vertigo 42, a champagne and seafood bar located on the 42nd floor.
- It was the first skyscraper in Britain to reach the 600-foot (182.8-metre) mark in height.
- In 2005 Tower 42 became the first office building in Britain to accommodate a restaurant which can boast a prestigious Michelin star.
- Planning permission was granted in May 1970, excavation began in 1971 and occupation commenced in April 1980; the building was officially opened by the Queen on June 11th 1981.
- National Westminster Bank initially planned a tower of 137m (450ft), but after it retained Richard Seifert as chief architect in 1964 he submitted a preliminary design at 197m (647ft). The proposal called for demolition of two historic buildings - the City of London Club (1834) and the small National Provincial Bank. After prolonged investigation, in 1964 the Environmental Secretary upheld a preservation order on the banking hall, but permitted demolition of the City of London Club, and the tower's height was reduced to 183m (600ft).
- The cross section of Tower 42 was designed to resemble the logo of the National Westminster Bank (NatWest), for whom the tower was built.
- The building's foundations descend to a depth of 50 metres (164 feet).
- The top of the core's floodlighting and signature blue lighting design were installed in 2001.

Involved companies

Architect.....

R. Seifert & Partners
164 Shaftesbury Avenue
WC2H 8HZ London

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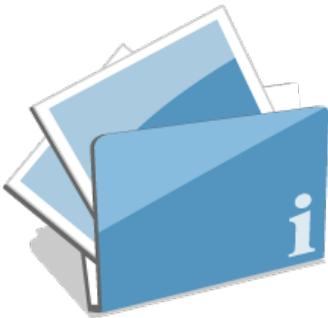
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Additional company data available for this building

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