

IAG ACADEMY IR AWARDS 2024 – BEST OVERALL ARCHITECTURAL IMPACT OF AN IR



AN ICON IN A CITY

Marina Bay Sands holds its place among the world's most distinctive buildings, standing tall as an architectural wonder in Singapore. Envisioned by renowned architect Moshe Safdie and owned by Las Vegas Sands, the integrated resort has redefined Singapore's skyline since it opened in 2010. Its unique architecture frames the city skyline with its 1.2 hectare Sands SkyPark sitting atop three sloping hotel towers.

Beyond the hotel, Marina Bay Sands is also home to ArtScience Museum, Sands Theatre, The Shoppes and a wide selection of celebrity chef and signature restaurants. Sands Expo & Convention Centre houses one of the largest ballrooms in Asia and an outdoor Event Plaza offers the perfect vantage point to view Spectra – A Light & Water Show.

The waterfront promenade is adorned by various landmarks – ArtScience Museum, the world's only floating Louis Vuitton boutique in a Crystal Pavilion and the first Apple store in the world entirely surrounded by water and with 360-degree views of the city and the skyline.

SANDS SKYPARK



Notably longer than the Eiffel Tower and large enough to park four-and-a-half A380 superjumbo jets, Sands SkyPark is home to an Infinity Pool, an Observation Deck, a lush garden and three acclaimed restaurants.

Weighing 7,000 tonnes, Sands SkyPark comprises 14 steel structures weighing 330 tonnes each, hoisted 200 metres in the air. Each piece took up to 24 hours to lift to the top of the building and slide into place. This construction of the Sands SkyPark is among the highest strand jacking operations undertaken in the world and the highest in Singapore.

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Within Sands SkyPark is a 150-metre-long Infinity Pool – the largest in the world at that height when it was built. It extends to form one of the world’s longest public cantilevers – crowned by a 200-metre-high rooftop Observation Deck, offering stunning views of the cityscape and the sea.

A tropical oasis, Sands SkyPark has over 700 trees and palms, reflecting Singapore’s identity as a City in Nature. Additionally, a total of 536 solar panels on the rooftop generated 158,895 kWh of solar energy last year, enough energy to power all lighting on SkyPark.

Sands SkyPark has three acclaimed restaurants. LAVO Italian Restaurant & Rooftop Bar perches atop Tower 1, complete with a wraparound outdoor terrace, a luxurious lounge, and exciting nightlife programming including live DJ sets. Spago by Wolfgang Puck, located at Tower 2, offers Californian cuisine with global accents. Tower 3’s *CÉ LA VI* features an alfresco SkyBar & Club Lounge as well as a restaurant serving contemporary Asian cuisine.

HOTEL

Marina Bay Sands’ three 55-storey hotel towers were built at a phenomenal rate of one hotel floor every four days during the construction period. Each tower is slightly slanted at a 26 degrees angle. The innovative construction methods used for the hotel were recognised by Singapore’s Building and Construction Authority (BCA), which gave the engineering team two awards – Best Practices and Innovations – at the [Construction Productivity Awards 2012](#). BCA recognised the team’s work in overcoming construction constraints and increasing construction productivity through an innovative temporary supporting method of the sloping tower structure construction, which helped the project to achieve 43.8% savings in labour. BCA also recognised the team’s innovative restrain and guide cable system (RGCS) for access to the overhanging and slanting gable end wall to carry out external architectural works.

ARTSCIENCE MUSEUM



Located alongside the scenic Marina Bay Sands waterfront, ArtScience Museum is where art, science, culture, and technology come together. With a lotus-inspired design, the building is composed of 21 gallery spaces spanning nearly 5,000 square metres.

The building is composed of 10 "fingers", with the tallest standing at 60 metres above ground. Within the interiors of the fingers are unique gallery spaces with natural lighting streaming in from the "fingertips" to illuminate the abstract sculptural wall forms.

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Its design features both breathtaking form and environmentally-friendly function. The dish-like roof channels rainwater through the central atrium of the building, creating a 35-metre water drop into a small, reflecting pool. The rainwater is then recycled for use in the building's restrooms.

Material such as Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer, typically used for high-performance racing yachts, which had never been used in a project in Singapore at that time, was used for the construction of this architectural wonder.

THE SHOPPES

The Shoppes is Singapore's first large-scale luxury shopping mall in the heart of the Central Business District. Natural sunlight bathes the passageway of the mall, illuminating the interiors through magnificent glass windows and removing the need for façade lighting in the day. Other innovative concepts include a 150-metre canal, which takes visitors on a sampan boat ride through the mall, and the Digital Light Canvas attraction, which combines 4D vision display technology and an interactive LED floor to create an immersive, multi-sensory experience for visitors.



MARINA BAY SANDS ART PATH

The resort is a canvas for art, with 11 large-scale art installations created by eight international artists complementing the building design and adding visual interest to the property and its vicinity. Together, these artworks form the Marina Bay Sands Art Path.



Examples include **Sky Mirror** by Anish Kapoor, a 2.9-metre sculpture made of stainless steel. Located at ArtScience Museum's Lily Pond, it is positioned at a 30 degree angle to reflect the mesmerising views of the sky at dusk and the Museum's iconic structure. **Wind Arbor** by Ned Kahn comprises 260,000 aluminium metal flaps, fluttering in the wind and reflecting sunlight. Covering a 6,800 square metre area on the building facade, the artwork catches the eye, while keeping the building cool at the same time. **Rain Oculus**, also by Ned Kahn, is both a skylight and a rain collector. Located at the Marina Bay Sands Event Plaza, the Oculus transforms into a waterfall at certain timings of the day, sending 6,000 gallons of water cascading into the mall's Sampan Ride.