Rialto Towers

Facts

Official Name: Rialto Towers
Structure Type: Building
Status: Completed
Country: Australia
City: Melbourne
Street Address & Map: 525 Collins Street
Postal Code: 3000
Building Function: Office
Structural Material: Concrete
Construction Start: 1982
Completion: 1986

Rankings

Global Ranking: #402 Tallest in the World
Regional Ranking: #8 Tallest in Oceania
National Ranking: #8 Tallest in Australia
City Ranking: #5 Tallest in Melbourne

Companies Involved

Architect
- Design: Gerard de Preu & Partners; Perrot Lyon Mathieson
Structural Engineer
- Design: Meinhardt
Project Manager: Project Planning and Management Pty Ltd
Main Contractor: Grocon
Other Consultant
- Wind: MEL Consultants Pty Ltd
Material Supplier
- Elevator: Otis Elevator Company

About Rialto Towers

When completed in 1986, Rialto Towers was the tallest office building in the Southern Hemisphere and was the first building to surpass the 200 meter threshold in Melbourne. The surrounding Rialto district was named in reference to the Venetian gothic architecture found on many of the 19th century buildings developed during the Melbourne gold rush. When the Rialto Towers was first planned in 1981, many of these older buildings from that period had already been demolished, leading to public outcry and the partial preservation of the remaining structures. The main footprint of the Rialto Towers is set into the middle and southern end of the block, preserving the scale of the historic streetscape along Collins Street. The building then rises from a podium base as two interlinked reinforced concrete towers, reaching 43 floors and 63 floors respectively.

The building rests upon 76 reinforced concrete caissons reaching up to 1.8 meters in diameter and 40 meters in below grade. The building’s concrete structure is composed of central service cores in each tower, with floor slabs spanning the distance between the core walls and the perimeter columns, proving for maximum flexibility with interior layouts. As the building approached 30 years in age, a new podium

Figures

Height: Architectural: 251.1 m / 824 ft
Height: Occupied: 234 m / 768 ft
Height: Observatory: 234 m / 768 ft
Floors Above Ground: 63
Floors Below Ground: 3
# of Elevators: 33
# of Parking Spaces: 612
structure was designed and constructed around the base of the Rialto Towers and including a new interior atrium providing a new sheltered public space between the Collins Street sidewalks and the elevator lobbies of the office towers.

**Videos**

*How Vertical Transportation is Helping Transform the Modern City*
16 Sep 2014 – Glen Pederick, Meinhardt Group

**Research Papers**

*How Vertical Transportation is Helping Transform the Modern City*
16 Sep 2014 – CTBUH 2014 Shanghai Conference Proceedings

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