

The Top Ten of the Highest Towers in Beirut Central District

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The highest towers of Beirut Central District (BCD) are located in Minet el Hosn, between the seafront and Omar Daouk Street. This is the neighbourhood designated by Solidere's Master Plan to host the skyscrapers of the new downtown of Beirut.

Yet, with four buildings counting more than 29 floors, BCD is not home to the tallest towers in the capital city; The Edge (52 floors) on Sassine Square and Sama Beirut (51 floors) on Sodeco Square are by far in the lead.

Around the Saint George Bay, the area of Zaitunay Bay is encircled by high rises. The seafront stretch is a succession of skyscrapers: The Platinum Tower, Beirut Tower, Bay Tower, and Marina Tower.

With 34 floors, the Platinum Tower is the highest building in BCD. Designed by Lebanese architect Nabil Gholam and the Spanish Ricardo Bofil, the project posts impressive numbers: 91,000 SQM of built-up area, 55,000 SQM of residential area, 14 elevators, and about 60 apartments, several of which measure more than 1,800 SQM. Completed in 2010 and financed by ZRE Group, The Platinum Tower remains one of the most prestigious residential buildings in Lebanon.

Second on the list is Project 3 Beirut, currently under construction. Located on a 7,500-SQM plot, this residential complex is comprised of three towers, the highest of which counts 32 floors. It is topped by a penthouse measuring 1,300 SQM, offered at USD 17.5 million.

The top ten ranking counts two hotels: Four Seasons and Grand Hyatt. Inaugurated in early 2010, Four Seasons Hotel is in the continuity of Marina Tower. The topmost floor (the 26th) of the Four Seasons Hotel includes a swimming pool and a lounge bar, which offers impressive views of BCD and the seashore.

Grand Hyatt Hotel stands today as an 18-floor concrete skeleton. Construction was stopped in 2011. To date, no specific time for re-launching construction works has been announced.

BCD was supposed to host several projects that would have changed this ranking: To the North of Martyrs' Square, one of the towers of The Phoenician Village was scheduled to reach a height of 160 meters. North of Allenby Street, Project Pinwheel was expected to count 66 floors. The Landmark – located on Riad el Solh – was a mixed residential and hospitality project 42-floor high. On Omar Daouk Street, Triple A was an office building of 20 floors. All of these projects have been shelved or put on hold!

Ranking of the 10 highest buildings in BCD				
	Building Name	Number of Floors	Residential / Hospitality	Delivery Date
1	The Platinum Tower	33	Residential	2010
2	3 Beirut	32	Residential	2016
3	Bay Tower	30	Residential	2011
4	Venus Towers	30	Residential	2019
5	Damac Tower	28	Residential	2016
6	Beirut Tower	27	Residential	2009
7	Marina Tower	26	Residential	2007
8	Four Seasons	26	Hotel	2009
9	Beirut Terraces	25	Résidentiel	2016
10	Grand Hyatt	18	Hotel	Construction stopped