

LA TOUR EIFFEL

MEET THE CREATOR OF THE EIFFEL TOWER!

THE TOWER IS BUILT

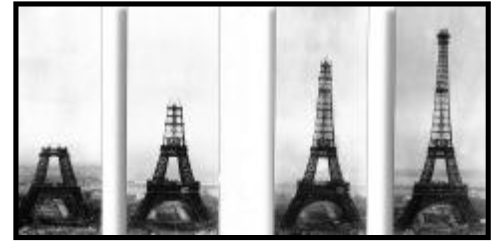
The World's Fair: Paris 1889



Courtesy of Michel Bernand



**Gustave
Eiffel**
1832-
1923



© Hulton-Deutsch Collection/Corbis

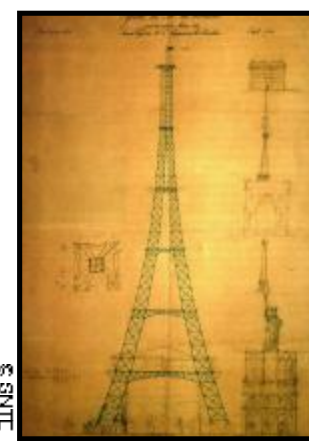
Weight of the metal in the structure:	7,300 tons
Total weight of the structure:	10,100 tons
Height of first level:	58 m (190 ft)
Height of second level:	116 m (380 ft)
Height of third level:	276 m (905 ft)
Total height (with antenna):	324 m (1,063 ft)
Construction began:	January 28, 1887
Construction ended:	March 31, 1889
Cost of construction (at the time):	\$1.5 million
Cost if we built the Eiffel Tower today:	\$163.5 million!
Number of steps to get to the top:	1,665

Gustave Eiffel was born in 1832 in Dijon, France. The name Eiffel was adopted by one of his German ancestors in the early 18th century, because the French could not pronounce his actual name of Bönickhausen. After graduating from the Ecole Centrale des Arts et Manufactures, he established an independent practice as an engineer and contractor. Soon after, he rose to the top of his field as a master of metallic structures. He was also an admired mathematical and scientific expert. Among the 700 proposals in the design competition for the tower, his was chosen in a unanimous vote. Under his watchful eye, the distances between the 2,500,000 rivets in the tower were calculated to within one-tenth of a millimeter. How's that for a perfectionist!?



Courtesy of Valérie Pignatelli E. Sillors

In 1889, exactly 100 years after the French Revolution, Paris held a World's Fair to celebrate its accomplishments in science and art. The French minister of commerce and industry selected Eiffel's plans for a 300-meter iron tower to grace the city avenues. However, many Parisians—including several famous artists—criticized Eiffel's tower before construction even began. François Coppée called it a "skinny pyramid of iron ladders," while Léon Bloy believed it resembled a "truly tragic street lamp."



© SNTL

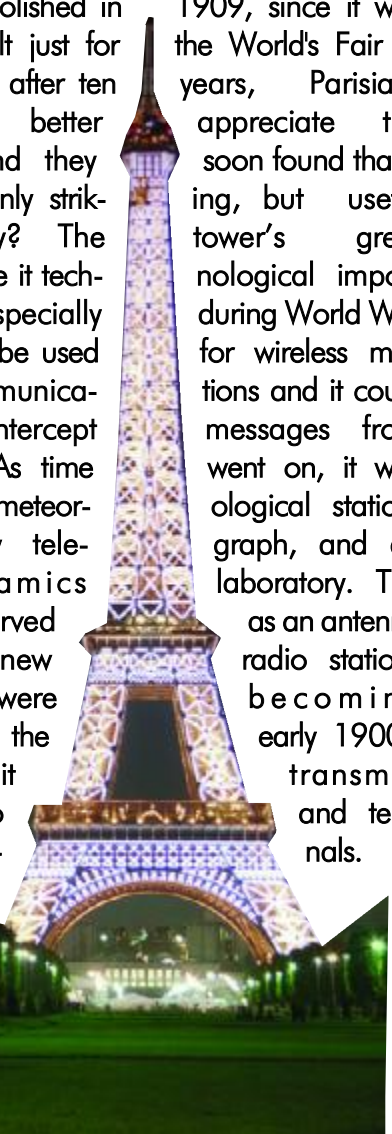
The construction was completed after 2 years, 2 months, and 5 weeks. When the fair opened, almost two million visitors climbed the Eiffel Tower to see a breathtaking view of Paris. As one impressed visitor later wrote, "Many people have laughed at the tower during the past year, but, I think, none who have seen it."

WHY IS THE TOWER STILL STANDING?

AS A VISITOR

DID YOU KNOW?

Believe it or not, the Eiffel Tower was supposed to be demolished in 1909, since it was initially built just for the World's Fair of 1889. But after ten years, Parisians began to better appreciate the Tower—and they soon found that it was not only striking, but useful too. Why? The height gave it technological importance, especially during World War I. It could be used as a meteorological station, a wireless telegraph, and an antenna for wireless military communications and intercepting enemy messages. As time went on, it was used as a meteorological station, a wireless telegraph, and an antenna for wireless military communications and intercepting enemy messages. Today, it transmits both radio and television signals.



If you're planning a visit to the Eiffel Tower, be sure not to miss anything!

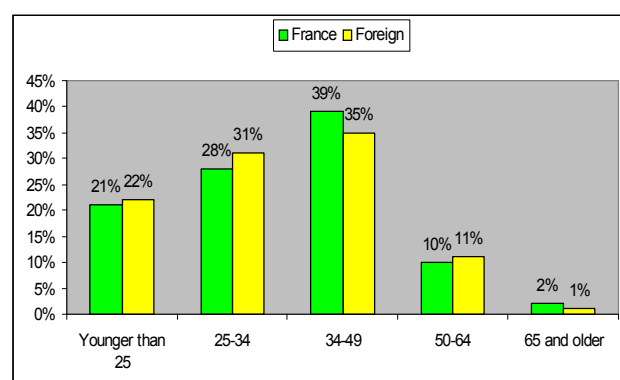
On the first floor, you will find the Paris-Tour Eiffel post office. Here you can buy special postage stamps and souvenirs from France. On this floor, you can also watch movies about the history of the Tower in CinEiffel, on one of its eight television screens. With the electronic telescope, you can survey every detail of the entire city of Paris!

On the second floor, dine at Le Jules Verne restaurant (but be sure to make your reservations several months in advance for this popular dining location!) Or, check out animated window scenes that talk about the history of the Tower's construction and explain its mechanics. From this floor, a special elevator takes visitors straight to the top of the Tower!

On the top floor, be sure to take plenty of pictures of the city of Paris. You can also examine the many viewpoint indicators informing you of the direction and distance to other cities all over the world.

The top three nationalities that visit the Eiffel Tower each year are:

1. French
2. Spanish
3. American



On this graph, you can see what age groups are most likely to be found visiting the Eiffel Tower! Where do you fit in?



© SNTL

Gustave Eiffel, the man who created the Eiffel Tower in 1889, also built the metallic structure of the Statue of Liberty in 1886. The Statue was a gift from France to America.

The Eiffel Tower is repainted every 7 years. Each paint job requires 52 tons of paint!

It took 300 steel workers 2 years and 2 months to build the Eiffel Tower.

The height of the Eiffel Tower can vary up to 15 centimeters (6 inches) depending on the weather!

- People have done strange things on the Eiffel Tower:
- *In 1923, Pierre Labric rode a bicycle down the stairways from the first level of the Tower!
 - *In 1954, a mountaineer scaled the Tower!
 - *In 1983, two Englishmen parachuted off of the Tower!

The Eiffel Tower has appeared in many films, including *An American in Paris* (1951), *The Lavender Hill Mob* (1951), *The Aristocats* (1970), *Superman II* (1980), *National Lampoon's European Vacation* (1985), *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country* (1991), and *French Kiss* (1995).



The Chrysler Building itself was soon surpassed by the Empire State Building, which was completed in 1931 and is 1,454 feet tall.

216,476,171 tourists have visited the Eiffel Tower from the time of its completion in 1889 to December 31, 2004 (date of the most recent figures).

LA TOUR EIFFEL

Bonjour! My name is Jean-Luc. Let's have fun discovering the Eiffel Tower!



Level Three:

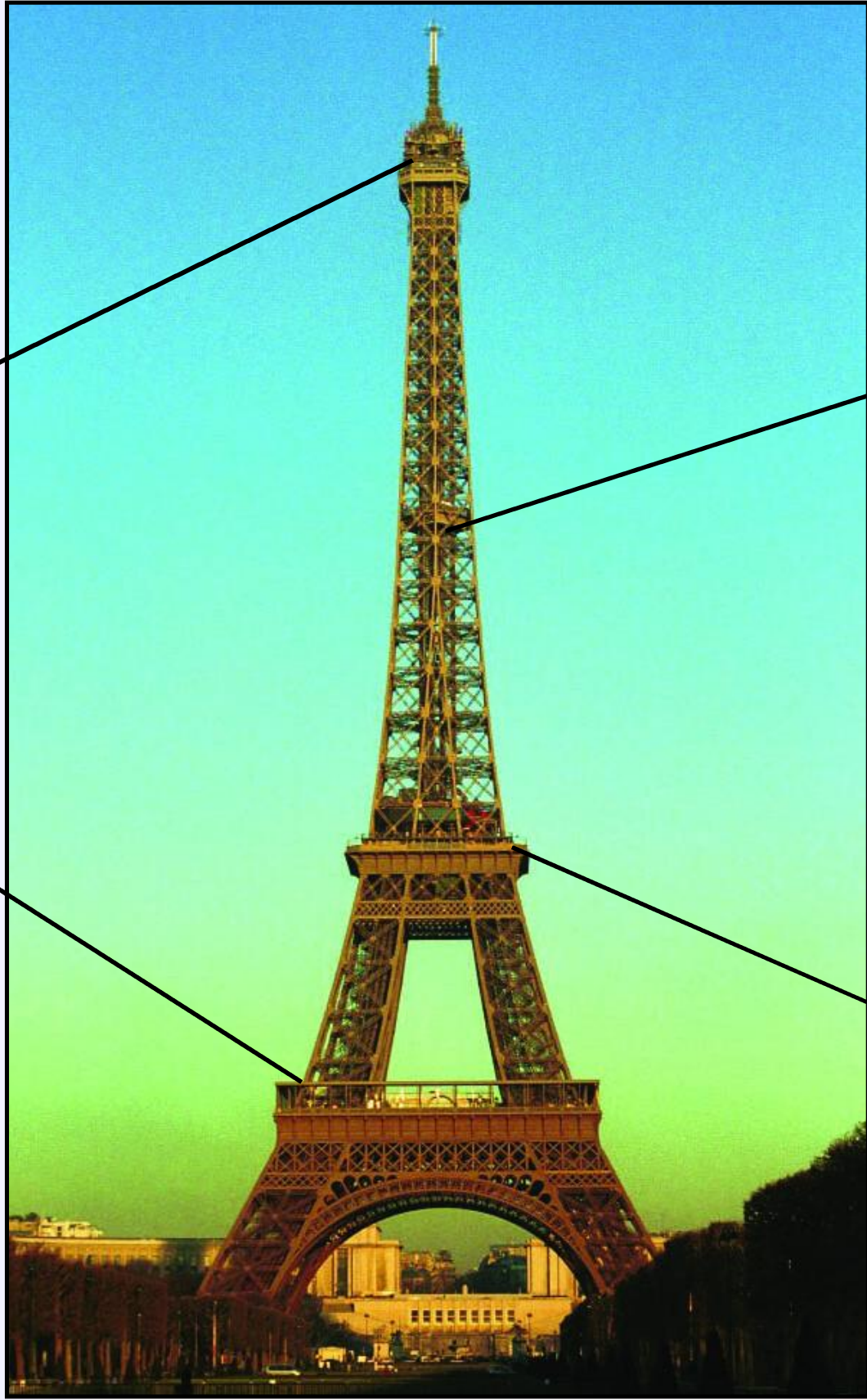
- 276 meters / 905 feet high
- A fantastic 360-degree view of Paris, complete with explanatory displays
- Gustave Eiffel's office (including a wax figure recreation of Mr. Eiffel welcoming Thomas Edison!)
- Dioramas retracing the platform's history

Level One:

- 58 meters / 190 feet high
- Observatory
- Souvenir shops
- Restaurant "Altitude 95"
- "CinEiffel" film center
- Post office
- Panoramic gallery



The Altitude 95 restaurant



An elevator like this one will take you from the second level ALL the way to the top of the Eiffel Tower!

Level Two:

- 116 meters / 380 feet high
- Telescopes so you can see all of Paris
- Learn how the elevators work
- Jules Verne Restaurant
- More Souvenir Shops!



Can you solve the crossword?

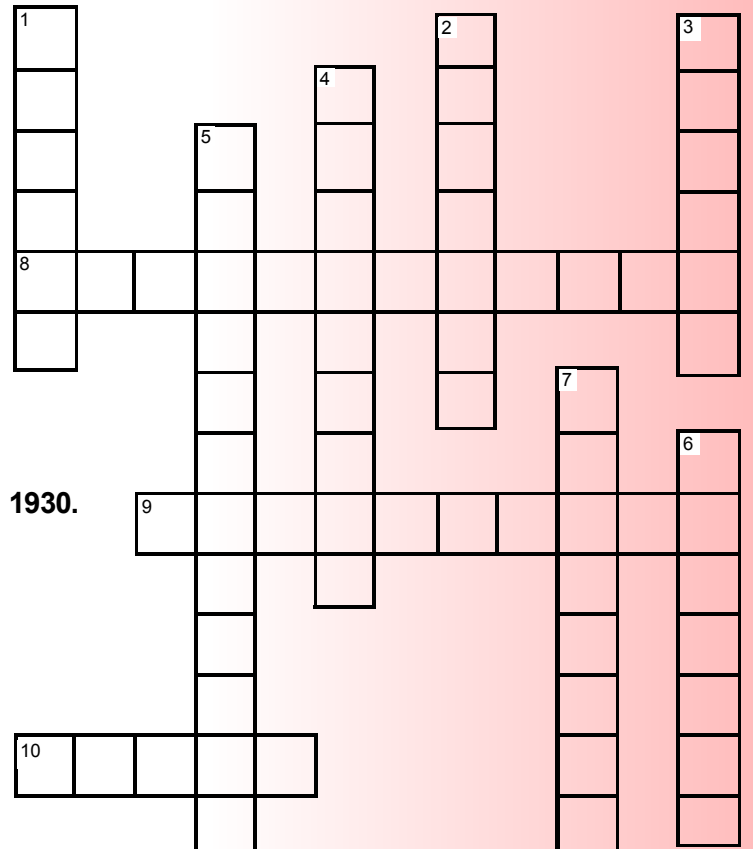
(all the answers can be found in this brochure!)

DOWN

- You can buy these in the Eiffel Tower's post office.
- The first name of the person who designed and built the Eiffel Tower.
- The country where the Eiffel Tower is located.
- Where you can watch movies about the history of the tower.
- The number of steel workers it took to build the Eiffel Tower.
- The tower's height varies depending on the _____.
- The _____ Building surpassed the Eiffel Tower as the world's tallest structure in 1930.

ACROSS

- The man who rode a bike down the first level stairway of the Eiffel Tower.
- The restaurant on the tower's second floor.
- The tower is repainted every _____ years.



ANSWERS -
Down: 1. Stamps, 2. Gustave, 3. France, 4. CinEiffel, 5. three hundred, 6. weather, 7. Chrysler, 8. Pierre Labric, 9. Jules Verne, 10. seven.
Across: 1. Altitude 95, 2. Gustave Eiffel, 3. France, 4. CinEiffel, 5. three hundred, 6. weather, 7. Chrysler, 8. Pierre Labric, 9. Jules Verne, 10. seven.



Courtesy of Julia E. Green

Courtesy of Anthony Alkelski

Courtesy of Christopher Daniels