

Mandarin Oriental Melbourne — Melbourne, Australia

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Mandarin Oriental Melbourne is a new mixed-use signature hotel and luxury residency that is slated to open in 2023 in Melbourne, Australia. This contemporary skyscraper is located west of Melbourne's Central Business District, a fast-growing and evolving commercial precinct. The establishment will include 420 high-luxury apartments, retail and office spaces, a plaza open for public domain, a public sustainable roof terrace, and a new pedestrian link to aid foot traffic congestion. The Mandarin Oriental Melbourne stands at 178 meters tall, has 54 stories, and covers a gross floor area of approximately 70,075 m². The Collins Street façade is a conglomerate of sculptural, curved columns that embody Melbourne's Central Business District's historic architecture.

Zaha Hadid took inspiration from the building's mixed-use intent, and designed the tower's overall volume into a collection of stacked "vases".¹ This concept plays on the idea of sectioning off the vertical volume of the building to integrate smoothly into the surrounding streetscapes. Each "vase" beautifully tapers inwards towards the base to provide a communal space for the public and residents. These sculptural columns surround the volume of the building to produce uniform façades on all faces of the tower. The strategic façade design mirrors Melbourne's iconic architectural surroundings by reimagining it as filigree colonnades that "gently envelops the building".¹

The Mandarin Oriental Melbourne strategically integrates its design to improve the flow of pedestrian traffic and increase connectivity with established transport infrastructure. Accounting for pedestrian connectivity not only facilitates a healthier environment for Melbourne's CBD but also emphasizes the sustainable design that Zaha Hadid Architects considered for the Mandarin Oriental. It was designed to use 50 percent less energy than conventional mix-use buildings.² The delicate filigree façade facilitates a decrease in solar gain of emissions. The skyscraper utilizes a high performance glazing system, high efficiency central cooling and lighting, and grey-water reuse systems will reduce emissions consumption.³

Sources

- ¹ <https://www.architectmagazine.com/project-gallery/mandarin-oriental-at-600-collins-street> 1 o
- ² <https://www.e-architect.com/melbourne/600-collins-street-in-melbourne>
- ³ <https://archello.com/es/project/600-collins-street>

Images

