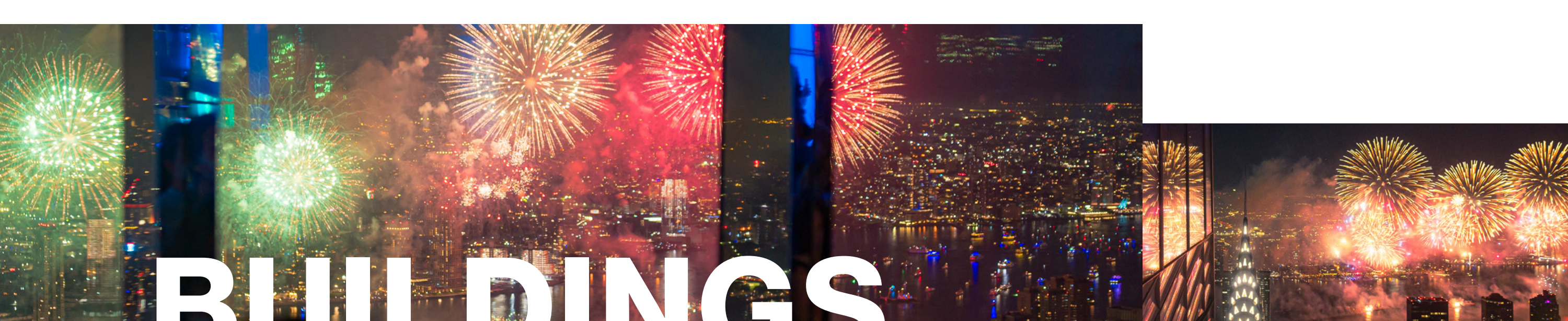




BUILDINGS

1. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING (92nd floor)

Built in just 1 year and 45 days, the Empire State Building opened in 1931 and became the tallest building in the world. Rising above New York during the Great Depression, the building embodies the spirit that has shaped America for 250 years: the belief that each generation can reach higher than the last.

2. CHRYSLER BUILDING (92nd floor)

Completed in 1930 during the race for the world's tallest building, the stainless-steel crown celebrated the machine age and America's belief that bigger was always possible. Look closely for the famous eagle gargoyles adorning the side of the building on the 61st floor which were inspired by Chrysler hood ornaments and fittingly, resemble America's national bird keeping watch over the city.

3. STATUE OF LIBERTY (91st floor)

More than 12 million immigrants passed the Statue of Liberty on their way to Ellis Island. For generations, the first greeting they received from America was the salute of Lady Liberty. The Statue was a gift from France and was officially unveiled on July 4th, 1884, making this year her 142nd Birthday.

4. THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY MAIN BRANCH & BRYANT PARK (91st floor)

The New York Public Library opened its doors in 1911, providing a place for citizens and visitors to seek knowledge and expand their horizons, making it one of America's great public institutions. Countries and cities are shaped as much by knowledge as they are by steel and stone. And that gorgeous green grass field in Bryant Park? There's about 4 million books stashed in the stacks that lay beneath the lush green.

5. NEW YORK LIFE BUILDING (93rd floor)

With its recognizable gold pyramid on top, the New York Life building is in a Neo-Gothic style. Originally clad in copper and later painted with 24-karat gold-leaf paint, the pyramid reflects how American architecture often draws inspiration from civilizations that came before it.

Architect Cass Gilbert designed both the New York Life Building and the Woolworth Building, using striking crowns and soaring silhouettes to create two enduring New York landmarks.

6. JP MORGAN, 270 PARK AVENUE (92nd floor)

While America celebrates its 250th birthday, 270 Park Avenue is a fresh new face on the skyline scene in New York. Just finished last year, the JP Morgan HQ reminds us that our story is still being written.

7. HEMSLEY BUILDING (91st floor)

America runs on railroad. The Hemsley Building was constructed as the headquarters for the New York Central railroad right next to the crowning jewel Grand Central and reflects an era when the railroad industry moved a rapidly growing nation of people.

8. GRAND CENTRAL (91st floor)

The crown jewel of NYC. "Europe has its cathedrals, New York has Grand Central." Philip Johnson assigned Grand Central her divine purpose to this city with that description during the fight to save Grand Central. And thank goodness we did.

Bonus: Another nod to America and the national bird, look out for the two Eagles sprinkled on the perimeter of Grand Central. You can get a birds eye view of the one on Vanderbilt Avenue from SUMMIT.

9. FRED FRENCH BUILDING (92nd floor)

The classic Art Deco building is a fan favorites because it's a building that exudes whimsy and optimism. Built in the 1920s, it embodies the American spirit and it always sticks out with its many setbacks, brick facade, and lime green detail ornamentation on the top.

10. TRINITY CHURCH & ALEXANDER HAMILTONS GRAVE (93rd floor)

Hundreds of years before skyscrapers dominated Lower Manhattan, Trinity Church was the heart of colonial New York. The church is home to the final resting place of Alexander Hamilton, a Founding Father of America.



BRIDGES

QUEENSBORO BRIDGE (93rd floor)

America grows when people are connected. The Queensboro bridge was finished in 1909 and connected Queens to the East Side of Manhattan.

BROOKLYN BRIDGE (93rd floor)

When it opened in 1883, it was the longest suspension bridge in the world and a symbol that engineering could unite a growing nation and two bubbling boroughs.

Fun Fact: On May 17th 1884, 21 elephants and 17 camels marched across the bridge to quell anxiety about the strength of the new suspension bridge.

GW BRIDGE (93rd floor)

Named after America's first President, this is the busiest motor vehicle bridge in the world. It might be seeing more foot traffic this summer as it's one of the only ways to get to Met Life stadium for World Cup matches on foot from Manhattan.



OTHER FACTS

WATER TOWERS

Water towers are an iconic symbol of New York life. The tanks use gravity, not pumps, to deliver water to millions of New Yorkers daily. As an infrastructure nerd, I love the water towers in New York and think of them as monuments too. Without them, New York would not be the size and scale it is today!

BUS NUMBERS ON TOP OF MOVING BUSES

For 250 years, America has found new ways to navigate growing cities. At SUMMIT, you can see this from an entirely different POV. Look down and spot a bus, their numbers are painted on top to track the vehicles, something you can also see from up here.



BOAT PARADE (EAST RIVER)

A fleet of international tall ships will set sail in New York's harbor on the 4th of July. The maritime tradition holds a special place in New York's heart, don't forget, Manhattan is an island! Ferries were the original subway and the placement of New York at the mouth of the Hudson River made this city one of the world's great gateways.

BLUE ANGELS (WEST SIDE)

Look to the skies and watch out for the Blue Angels' flight showcasing the precision and skill of the U.S. Navy's elite aviators as America rings in 250 years.



Special thanks to @lizabanks11!

Lizabanks Campagna is a stand-up comedian, creator, and cultural commentator who makes history, culture, and civic life accessible through humor.

Named a Creator to Watch at the 2025 New York Comedy Festival, she has built a devoted audience through her tours at The MET, Grand Central Terminal and Fifth Avenue, along with her personality-driven social content and as host of Overheard's Happy Hour. Lizabanks has been featured by The Cut and Today, performs stand-up across New York, and is currently on her first headlining tour.

@lizabanks11

lizabanks.com