MANSION GLOBAL

The Hottest New Amenity Offers a Rejuvenating Swim—If You Dare

Sky-high and cantilevered pools are all the rage **BY V.L. HENDRICKSON**

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Sky pools are going up in New York, London, and around the world. COMPOSITE: JAMES LAW CYBERTECTURE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LTD.; BALLYMORE GROUP; JDS

Swimming pools are a common enough amenity in luxury buildings, but a new wave of residential towers is lifting the humble pool to new heights—as many as 300 feet in the air, in fact.

Sky pools are going up in New York and London, which will allow for swimming high above the hustle and bustle of the city. In addition, cantilevered pools and terraces are part of a plan for a new development in Los Angeles that could be as tall as 57 stories, and a 30-story tower in Mumbai is also proposing individual pools as part of its design. The pools all benefit from advanced technology and engineering, but they definitely aren't for acrophobics.

The American Copper Buildings, two luxury rental towers on First Avenue between East 35th and East 36th streets, will feature the first new major skybridge in New York City in 80 years. The bridge will connect the two buildings and include a 75-foot lap pool suspended 300 feet up above the ground.

"The bridge will be all glass. You'll be able to see the skyline of Midtown Manhattan and the Empire State Building to the west and the East River on the other side," said Gregg Pasquarelli, a founding principal at SHoP Architects, which worked with developer JDS on the project.

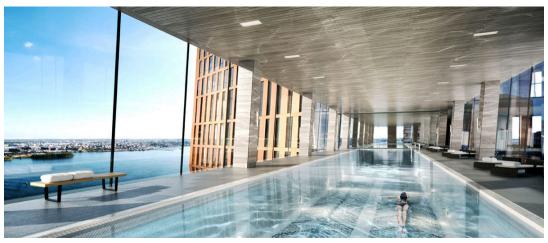


Exterior rendering of the American Copper Buildings JDS

The asymmetrical towers are closest together at the 30th floor. Instead of creating two smaller amenities areas, the architects decided to connect the buildings with a skybridge to help create community in the building and give all residents access to a bigger space that also includes private terraces, a bar and restaurant, a full fitness center with a climbing wall and a hot tub.

"Where else in Manhattan can you swim from one tower to another [300] feet in the air?" Mr. Pasquarelli said, adding that locals have been asking him and his team about the pool. "They are flabbergasted and excited. They think it's the coolest thing ever." The sky bridge is set to open in May.

The pool will be surrounded by glass walls and a wood surround, but it might give some a touch of vertigo just thinking about swimming that far up. But Mr. Pasquarelli said he thought the outdoor pool on the roof, with its infinity edge facing the river, will actually be more terrifying. Phew.



Rendering of the Sky Bridge Pool at the American Copper Buildings. JDS