

The Tulip

London, United Kingdom
2018 –

Client:	Bury Street Properties (Luxembourg) SARL
Architects:	Foster + Partners
Location	Land adjacent to 20 Bury Street, City of London
Appointment:	2018
Planning Application:	13 November 2018
Estimated Construction:	2020 - 2025
Site Area:	2,889m ² (31,100sq ft)
Number of buildings:	2 – Entrance Pavilion and Visitor Attraction
Building dimensions:	Height: 305.3m (1,000ft) Diameter of concrete shaft: 14.3m (47ft) Diameter of widest floor: 34.5m (113ft)
Structure:	High-strength concrete shaft with steel framed observation deck levels.
Parking facilities:	284 bicycles 2 disabled car spaces
Materials:	Concrete shaft for strength, maintenance and durability High performance glass: unitised and glazed Steel and aluminium framing Composite floor slabs
Sustainability:	Targeting BREEAM 'Excellent' rating. Additional 130m ² (1400sq ft) plaza space and 8.5 times green surface area: two green walls, pocket park and roof garden, supporting the Mayor's goal for London to be the first National Park City. Positive impact on air quality: zero combustion, improving the Gherkin's systems, to support the Mayor's goal of London having the best air quality of any major world city by 2050. Optimised design combined with efficient systems and zero-carbon technologies give a 42% carbon saving, contributing to the Mayor's goal of London being zero-carbon by 2050.

Designed using circular economy principles and 'zero waste to landfill' operations, discouraging single-use plastics, in support of the Mayor's move towards London as a zero-waste city.

48% overall water reduction, with 100% recycled water for irrigation.

Car free, with 284 cycle parking space, equivalent to taking 28 cars off the street.

Design Features:

As a purpose-designed visitor attraction the building adds a new asset to the city. Its height and location will provide incomparable views of the London skyline and the activities within will offer guests a memorable experience.

Provides a unique new education facility for the use of local state schools with a view onto 2,000 years of London's history.

Increased public realm permeability improves connections to public transport, pedestrian and cycle routes.

The new entrance pavilion enhances the existing active ground level of 30 St Mary Axe (the Gherkin) through its public roof terrace and additional retail while also accommodating 284 bicycle parking spaces for staff and visitors.

The significantly extended landscape with two green walls, a biodiverse roof garden and a pocket park including a water feature improves the site's ecological value.

Interesting Facts:

The building's weight is equivalent to 80 fully loaded Airbus A380s on a footprint that is half the size of a single plane.

Each of the three buttress ribs takes the force of 1,200 London double decker buses.

You could pack 9 London Underground trains within one level of the concrete shaft.

If laid end to end, the steel reinforcement bar would reach as far as Paris – 300 miles away.