

# The Eiffel Tower

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Scott 6411 — Eiffel built bridges and railway stations as well as the internal scaffolding of the Statue of Liberty before work began on his tower for the World's Fair.

## Tower Fast Facts

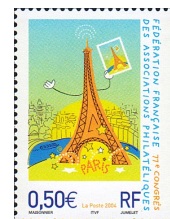
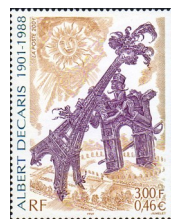
Originally dubbed The 300-Meter Tower, the structure is located southwest of Central Paris along the Seine. Construction began January 26, 1887 and was completed in record time: 2 years, 2 months and 5 days. Many resources enabled the construction:

- ◇ 5,300 workshop designs
- ◇ 50 engineers & designers, 300 workers
- ◇ 18,038 metal pieces
- ◇ 7,300 tons of iron
- ◇ 2.5 million rivets
- ◇ 60 tons of paint
- ◇ 5 elevators

A one-of-a-kind structure was a tall order to accommodate the 1889 World's Fair in Paris, but Gustave Eiffel had a vision. His now-famous tower was presented to the world on May 15, 1889. It remains the iconic symbol of Paris.



First illustrated postcard in France. Illustrator: Leon-Charles Libonis. Mailed from a postal station at the top of the Eiffel Tower to England on October 9, 1889 during the World's Fair. Circular cachet on left of inset confirms where it was posted.



Above (l-r), Scott 2841, Eiffel Tower and Arc de Triomphe dance to celebrate life of stamp designer and engraver Albert Decaris. Scott 3039, Eiffel Tower holding "selfie" stamp. Scott 4919, plant roots in the shape of the Eiffel Tower commemorate the 2015 climate conference in Paris.



Above left: Eiffel Tower held proudly aloft by Marianne, the traditional symbol of the French Republic. Print-to-order label was issued at a 2007 stamp exposition. Above middle and right: 1948 postcard shows top of the Eiffel Tower. A Scott 591 is joined by four poster stamps featuring the tower along with a pictorial tower cancel. Want to enjoy a glass of bubbly at the top of the Eiffel Tower? A ticket to ride the elevator costs \$37. A flute of champagne adds \$24 to the experience.