

OBSERVATION TOWER

Location: Austin, TX
Size: 251 ft (height)

Evoking the notion of split-second speed, the Observation Tower reflects the spirit of the Circuit of the Americas and serves to establish the complex as a world-class recreation and entertainment destination.

Like Formula 1 racecars, the Tower's form is directly influenced by its performance. The primary structure consists of a continuously-welded double-helix stair wrapped in a filigree-like diagrid that enhances the feeling of lightness and verticality that the Tower embodies. A roof of red steel tubes converges at the base of the Tower to form a "veil" that sweeps up and over the central elevator core, doubling as an outrigger column for lateral load resistance.

A viewing deck at an elevation of 230 feet offers a sweeping panorama of the entire track, downtown Austin, and the nearby Hill Country. A portion of the floor is structural laminated glass, allowing more daring visitors to look straight down below their feet.



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