

ELLE DECORATION

FESTIVE & FABULOUS



ARCHITECTURE /

Offering the high life, these three starchitect-designed residential skyscrapers are set to change London's ever-soaring skyline

MANHATTAN LOFT GARDENS

BY SKIDMORE OWINGS & MERRILL (SOM)

Due to open this month is a striking 42-storey, double-cantilevered tower situated between the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Stratford International station. Designed by SOM, the masterminds behind Dubai's Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world, and the iconic Willis (formerly Sears) Tower in Chicago, it features three sky gardens, two restaurants and a design hotel, which is set to launch in spring next year. The 248 apartments – available for short- and long-term lets – are designed by chic Parisian duo Studio KO. Pale oak flooring is paired with white walls and contemporary furniture in the airy, open-plan interiors, which enjoy spectacular views across the capital (manhattanloftgardens.com).



WHITECHAPEL ESTATE

BY ADJAYE ASSOCIATES AND PLP ARCHITECTURE

Having designed the award-winning Idea Store, a colourful public library, in 2005, Sir David Adjaye will return to east London to work on residential towers within the proposed Whitechapel Estate regeneration scheme. Collaborating with urban planning experts PLP Architects, the concept is a diverse architectural landscape, with winding green spaces and façades chosen to blend with the colours of the local brickwork (londonnewcastle.com).

PRINCIPAL TOWER

BY FOSTER + PARTNERS

Joining the ranks of the Gherkin, Shard and 'Walkie Talkie' buildings is Principal Tower, a stylish 50-storey, 301-apartment skyscraper on the edge of the City set to open in March 2019. Designed by British architect Sir Norman Foster, the tower is artfully clad in curved black and bronze shading fins, creating a modern feel with an Art Deco edge. Equally luxurious are the interiors – also designed by Foster + Partners – which include oak herringbone flooring, bespoke dark-stained timber joinery and white marble bathrooms (principaltower.com).

