**Physical characteristics of the Statue of Liberty**

[**http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue\_of\_Liberty#Physical\_characteristics**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty#Physical_characteristics)

Except for a period of time between September 11, 2001, and July 4, 2009,[[57]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty" \l "cite_note-56) the interior of the statue has been open to visitors. Visitors must purchase crown tickets in advance. Once they arrive by ferry, they must check in at the information center, then go to the base for the start of the walk up the monument. The climb to the top is 146 stairs on the double-helix stair case. Inside the copper statue it is approximately 15 to 20 degrees (F) warmer than it is outside. The NPS allows 10 people at a time with 3 groups an hour up into the crown. This provides a view of New York Harbor (the orientation of the statue faces Brooklyn) through 25 windows, the largest approximately 18" (46 cm) high. The view does not, therefore, include the skyline of Manhattan, except through the smallest windows on the left side of the crown. The wait outside regularly exceeds three hours, excluding the wait for ferries and ferry tickets.

The grey-green [verdigris](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Verdigris) color is the [patina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patina) which is caused by a chemical reaction and produces such copper salts as brochantite, [atacamite](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atacamite), and [antlerite](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antlerite), resulting in the current hue.[[58]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty#cite_note-57)

The [sandstone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandstone) used in the base is from [Locharbriggs Quarry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dumfries#Architectural_geology) on the edge of [Dumfries](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dumfries) in south west [Scotland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scotland), [Great Britain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UK).[[59]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty#cite_note-58)

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Statue_of_Liberty_interior.jpg)

[http://bits.wikimedia.org/skins-1.5/common/images/magnify-clip.png](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Statue_of_Liberty_interior.jpg)

Interior view of the statue upward, when reopened to the public in 1986

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:NYC_old_torch.jpg)

[http://bits.wikimedia.org/skins-1.5/common/images/magnify-clip.png](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:NYC_old_torch.jpg)

Original torch, replaced in 1986

There are 354 steps inside the statue and its pedestal, with 25 windows in the crown which comprise the jewels beneath the seven rays of the [diadem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diadem_(personal_wear)). The keystone which the statue holds in her left hand reads, in Roman numerals, "July 4, 1776" the day of the adoption of the [Declaration of Independence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/US_Declaration_of_Independence).

The Statue of Liberty was engineered to withstand heavy winds. Winds of 50 miles per hour (80 km/h) cause the Statue to sway 3 inches (76 mm) and the torch to sway 5 inches (130 mm). This allows the Statue to move rather than break in high wind load conditions.

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| **Feature**[[19]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty#cite_note-Nps.gov_history-18) | **Customary** | **Metric** |
| Height from base to torch | 151 ft 1 in | 46 m |
| Foundation of pedestal (ground) to tip of torch | 305 ft 1 in | 93 m |
| Heel to top of head | 111 ft 1 in | 34 m |
| Length of hand | 16 ft 5 in | 5 m |
| Index finger | 8 ft 1 in | 2.44 m |
| Circumference at second joint | 3 ft 6 in | 1.07 m |
| Head from chin to cranium | 17 ft 3 in | 5.26 m |
| Head thickness from ear to ear | 10 ft 0 in | 3.05 m |
| Distance across the eye | 2 ft 6 in | 0.76 m |
| Length of nose | 4 ft 6 in | 1.48 m |
| Right arm length | 42 ft 0 in | 12.8 m |
| Right arm greatest thickness | 12 ft 0 in | 3.66 m |
| Thickness of waist | 35 ft 0 in | 10.67 m |
| Width of mouth | 3 ft 0 in | 0.91 m |
| Tablet, length | 23 ft 7 in | 7.19 m |
| Tablet, width | 13 ft 7 in | 4.14 m |
| Tablet, thickness | 2 ft 0 in | 0.61 m |
| Height of granite pedestal | 89 ft 0 in | 27.13 m |
| Height of foundation | 65 ft 0 in | 19.81 m |
| Weight of copper used in Statue[[60]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty#cite_note-59) | 60,000 pounds | 27.22 metric tonnes |
| Weight of steel used in Statue | 250,000 pounds | 113.4 metric tonnes |
| Total weight used in Statue | 450,000 pounds | 204.1 metric tonnes |
| Thickness of copper sheeting | 3/32 of an inch | 2.4 mm |

The statue is built top-heavy in order to create a slight [forced perspective](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forced_perspective) and appear more correctly proportioned when viewed from its base. When the statue was designed in the late 1800s (before easy air flight), there were few other angles to view the statue from. This became an issue for special effects technicians working on the movie [*Ghostbusters II*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ghostbusters_II).[[61]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty#cite_note-60)