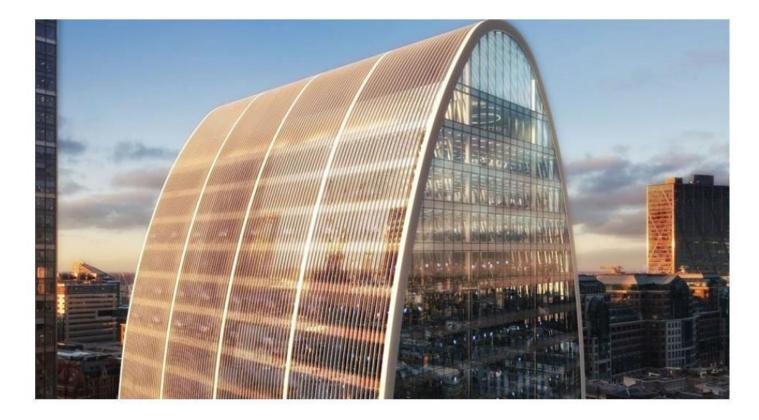


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Skyscrapers are to London as ukuleles are to Mumford & Sons, however much you flipping hate them, they really are an essential ingredient. The last decade has seen the unprecedented rise and high-rise of the skyscraper, as London transforms from a low-rise city where the views are dictated by an archaic rule about how easy it is to see St Paul's from Richmond Park (really, it's a thing, the view from King Henry VIII's Mound in Richmond Park to St Paul's Cathedral is, for some reason), to a modern metropolis where towers loom together like conspiring giants.

So what megalithic monsters do we have to look forward to? Here are some of the towers headed out way...



## The Can Of Ham

Yep, real name. But that's hardly surprising when we've had the Gherkin and the Cheesegrater. And, true to form, the new 24 storey tower does resemble a tin of spam. At least, if you sort of squint your eyes a little bit. The shape is intended to protect views, with the rounded top making it easier for neighbours to see past the curved buildings.



# One Nine Elms

One Nine Elms (not 19 Elms) is due to complete in 2020 and is presumably the reason they keep shutting the Wandsworth Road, sending me on crazy diversions of an evening. The 58 floor tower will include some of the tallest residential properties in town, as well as offices and a hotel and adds to the influx of South London skyscrapers.



#### Landmark Pinnacle

Anyone labouring under the impression that the last thing Canary Wharf needs is more towers would be sorely wrong, it's clearly exactly what it needs, and Landmark Pinnacle is here to help. The 75 storey building will house around 1,000 flats, perfectly placed for all the bankers to take a lift journey nearly as long as their walk to work.



# The Cucumber

Said to resemble a cucumber, though it could equally be described as one of those ribbed condoms, though that might not work as well for the marketing, One Merchant Square has received approval and is awaiting a completion date. If and when finished (ambitious statements suggested this year) it'll be Westminster's tallest building. Ooh, and it promises to have a sky bar too.