

# The Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty, which is one of the best-known monuments in the world, presented to the United States of America in the nineteenth century by the people of France.



The French made this gift in memory of the help which France gave the Americans during the war of Independence against the English.

The great statue was designed by the French sculptor, Frederic Bartholday and it took ten years to complete. The statue is made of copper and it is supported by a metal



framework which was especially constructed by [Gustave Eiffel](#) the engineer who built the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The site chosen for the statue was an island at the entrance of New York Harbour. In 1884 the statue, which was 151 feet high, was erected in Paris. The following year it was taken to pieces and carried to America where it was placed in a large pedestal 151 feet high, so that the statue is altogether 305 feet high. It weighs 255 tons.

In 1885 the statue was put together again and it was officially presented to the American people by Bartholday. Ever since then, the great monument has welcomed the millions of people who have passed through New York Harbour.

