

Florence Cathedral

View of the façade with Giotto's Bell Tower.

One of the most amazing architecture made during the Renaissance was built in Italy by a man called Filippo Brunelleschi. Brunelleschi made the Santa Maria del Fiore cathedral in Florence, Italy. It took him 16 years to create and used mainly only two materials, marble and brick. The cathedral started its construction on 9 September 1296. Many experts do not understand the logic of how it was built. But what we do know is that Brunelleschi invented many new techniques to produce such an amazing cathedral. The **Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore** or **Florence Cathedral** is the [cathedral](#) church of [Florence, Italy](#). The [basilica](#) was designed by [Arnolfo di Cambio](#) with the dome by [Filippo Brunelleschi](#). The [bell tower](#) was designed by [Giotto](#). The outside is decorated with [marble panels](#) in [green](#) and [pink](#) bordered by [white](#). The building was begun in 1296 and was finished in 1469, except for the decoration. The [facade](#) (the main front) was decorated between 1876 and 1903. The dome, which is built of bricks with stone ribs, is one of the biggest in the world.

Statues

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From about 1464 the members of the [Wool Guild](#) wanted to have twelve statues of people from the [Old Testament](#) of the Bible carved for the Florence Cathedral. These statues were to go on the buttresses all around the outside walls, high up near the roof.

- Joshua in terracotta by Donatello 1410
- Hercules in terracotta by Agostino di Duccio 1463
- David In marble. This is the statue of David by Michelangelo 1501-1504. On 12 November 2010, a fiberglass replica^[1] of the *David* was installed on the roofline of Florence Cathedral, for one day only. Photographs of the installation reveal the statue the way the *Operai* who commissioned the work originally expected it to be seen.
- [Original David by Michelangelo](#)

Original David by
Michelangelo

- [Fiberglass replica of David at Florence cathedral seen from the north](#)

Fiberglass replica
of *David* at
Florence cathedral
seen from the
north

References

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1. ↑ "[Michelangelo's David as It Was Meant to Be Seen : Discovery News](#)". [news.discovery.com](#). Archived from [the original](#) on 25 May 2016. Retrieved 24 July 2014.

Other websites

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- [Rick Edmondson's Unfinished Buildings](#)

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