



Image by Tom Fox

November, 2016 - Shanghai Tower is awarded “Best Tall Building Worldwide 2016” by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH). Landscape architect John Wong and his design team in Sausalito are proud to have created the groundscape for Asia’s tallest building, currently the second tallest in the world.

Wong describes his thinking: “Our overall design approach was to create a “Tower in the Park,” suggesting the integration of nature and urbanity in a contemporary setting. Terraced ground planes are planted with seasonal trees, shrubs, and ground cover, with curved pedestrian pathways referring to the twisted form of the tower structure. The north and east-facing sides of the site contain a paved plaza in front of the retail podium and relate to neighboring skyscrapers and the area’s urban character. Unique to this tower are six “sky lobby” atria, located every 22 floors, which are designed as places for occupants to gather and relax. Each features planting that corresponds with the landscape in various regions of China. These interior park designs required working early on with the architects and structural engineers to plan for the availability of soil depth (1.5 meters) to accommodate large trees. The trees needed to be lifted by cranes to their locations or boxed and transported to each sky lobby. Plants were selected from a limited interior palette due to being enclosed by the glass skin insulating the tower core. The materials planted at these significant heights will be protected by the outer skin exposure to high winds at extreme elevations.”

Please find the announcement from the CTBUH here: <http://bit.ly/2fkDMsd>

