

## Skywalk Facts

### About the Grand Canyon Skywalk

- The Grand Canyon Skywalk is active and open to the public year-round, hosting approximately 2 million visitors since it opened in March 2007.
- The Skywalk is a horseshoe-shaped, glass-bottom structure that allows visitors to walk 70 feet past the edge of the Grand Canyon wall and stand 4,000 feet above the Colorado River.
- The phenomenal views are enhanced by glass walls and floor panels so visitors get unobstructed views of the Grand Canyon. Each of these glass panels is custom built to the highest standards for safety and clarity.
- The Skywalk is an engineering masterpiece that took four years and \$30 million to complete.

### Structure Facts

- The Skywalk foundation is strong enough to support about 71 million pounds – the equivalent of 71 fully loaded 747 airplanes.
- It consists of more than 1 million pounds of steel and 83,000 pounds of glass.
- In total, it weighs 1.2 million pounds.
- The glass walls are approximately five to seven feet high, extending four to six feet above the glass floor – safer than code, yet low enough that guests do not feel confined.
- The Skywalk is 10 feet wide.
- It is located 4,000 feet above the Colorado River.

### Engineering Facts

- In 1996, businessman David Jin, from Las Vegas, NV, approached the Hualapai Tribe with the idea of a glass walkway over the Grand Canyon. He won approval from the Tribe in 2003.
- The Grand Canyon Skywalk was designed and engineered by Lochsa Engineering & MRJ Architects and built by Executive Construction Management, all based out of Las Vegas, NV.
- Engineers conducted tests on the geologic stability of the site and researched the foundation by testing the compressive strength of the rock.
- Engineers also conducted extensive testing during the planning and design phase to ensure the Grand Canyon Skywalk could easily withstand the high winds that have been known to blow through the Grand Canyon.
- [Watch this video to learn more about the Skywalk's engineering and construction.](#)

### New Glass Panels

- Jin's company, Grand Canyon Skywalk Development, LLC, replaced the Grand Canyon Skywalk's 46 glass panels for the first time since it opened. The project was completed in May 2011. The new glass panes consist of five layers of glass bonded together and measuring two and a half inches thick.
- Each panel has a thin "sacrificial" layer of glass that can be removed and replaced by hand when it becomes scratched. The sacrificial layer will be replaced annually so visitors may always have a crystal clear view of the majestic canyon.
- Each panel can support 100 pounds per square foot, equivalent to about 800 people, although only 60 to 120 people are allowed on the Grand Canyon Skywalk at one time depending on the number of visitors on a given day.

### About the Developer



Las Vegas businessman David Jin is the developer of the Grand Canyon Skywalk and owns Grand Canyon Skywalk Development, LLC. He is a successful businessman who, through his tourism company, Oriental Travel and Tours, is also responsible for bringing hundreds of thousands of tourists from around the world to visit the beautiful West Rim of the Grand Canyon, owned by the Hualapai Nation.

In 1996, Mr. Jin approached the Hualapai Tribe with an idea to build the Grand Canyon Skywalk on tribal land. He said he would build it at his own expense and turn it over to the Tribe. The Tribe agreed. The Skywalk was designed and built using state-of-the-art architecture and technology and has become the most recognized cantilever structure in the world. The Skywalk opened in 2007 and has exponentially increased tourism to Grand Canyon West by creating hundreds of jobs and attracting more than 2 million visitors.

Jin signed over ownership of the Skywalk and visitor's center to the Hualapai people under a contract that allows him to recoup his \$30 million investment by handling day-to-day operations of the Skywalk for 25 years. Jin is a respected businessman in the United States and Asia. He has a strong sense of responsibility to the Hualapai people and believes a continued partnership with the tribe will maximize the visitation, experience and revenues generated by the Skywalk.