

The building of the Capital Wheel

Watch this timelapse of the construction of the Capital Wheel, a spectacular new way to see the sights of Washington DC 2:22PM BST 04 Jun 2014

Twenty minutes down the road from the White House, on the upmarket National Harbour at Fort Washington, a new London Eye style viewing wheel is now open to the public.

Named the Capital Wheel, the ride offers the chance to see the DC sights including the White House, Capitol Hill, the National Mall and the newly restored Washington Monument, which was rocked by an earthquake in 2011 and was under reconstruction until earlier this year.

The wheel stands at 180ft (54.8 metres) high and is perched at the edge of the Potomac River in Maryland. It's one of the few wheels wheels right on the water. From each of its 42 pods, sightseers can enjoy panoramic views.

It is open year round and costs 15 (£9) per person to ride.

