

Barcelos Fluvial Park

Location: Barcelos, Portugal **Designer:** PROAP Landscape Architecture
Photographer: Diogo Bento **Completion date:** 2009 **Site area:** 73,380 sqm

The proposal is characterised by the redefinition of the main connection routes with the city, through the integration of adjacent buildings and the definition of a cycle/pedestrian path along the River. Due to the land's major level variation, the proposal design is based on the definition of platforms and stairs that adjoin, in a smooth and natural, the land's slope while defining visual directions and paths of gradual approach to the water level. The limited range of materials used, concrete that defines benches and paths edges, highlights the green element and unifies the entire space while enabling the continuity of the design system and of a low maintenance regime.

The intervention area is a nuclear area, very important for the implementation of a new and desired relation between the city and the river. The construction of a boardwalk along the river will generate extensions upstream and downstream and enunciates the resumption of the connection to the opposite shore and to the fluvial beach on the south. The proposal sets a number of essential goals, in search of a complete answer to the questions posed by the intervention objectives: to establish the necessary formal and function unification of the space, and its unity with the city and the river, to recover the pre-existent valuable elements by dignifying them, to implement the correct management of the vegetative cover through the clarification of the covering typologies related to certain situations-type and precise objectives, simplifying the maintenance processes, thus enabling the continuity of the projected system.



1. Amphitheatre
2. Grassed Platforms
3. River
4. Water Canal

Right: General view of the park

