

Tjuvholmen, Oslo

Location: Oslo, Norway **Designer:** Bjørbekk & Lindheim AS **Photographer:** Bjørbekk & Lindheim AS **Completion date:** 2010 **Site area:** 1,785 sqm

Oslo's waterfront, now called the Fjord City, is under transformation with the implementation of a comprehensive plan under the auspices of the local government of Oslo. The harbour and waterfront area have been released to open up the city to the waterfront and free the area for the development of a future-oriented urban environment.

The essence of urban planning for Tjuvholmen is defined by the promenade along the waterfront from City Hall and from the neighbouring district of Aker Brygge, which was transformed from a shipping wharf into a dynamic commercial and residential area between 1980 and 1990. Tjuvholmen is the end point of urban development along the waterfront to the southwest.

The street network of the district is laid out in a fan shape creating changing patterns of sunshine throughout the day. The terrain on Odden has deliberately been created with the highest point at the central square, Olav Selvaag Place. Three water features and a central tree create character with water features representing water's different characteristics: a still pond in massive dark granite, a fountain with six water jets and a third feature of rippling, splashing water inside a hollow pillar of rhomb porphyry. Water runs from the fountains in channels through the streets towards the fjord.

Street furnishing, lighting, planters for trees and edge stones offset height difference and are consciously designed so that they provide positive aesthetic touches and offer seating and places to dwell. The goal of the project, to create a varied and rich urban experience reflected in buildings and the urban structure, lies at the core of the wish to create a peaceful and cohesive street and floor plan. A solid floor in light tones was designed. The final floor materials consist of granite and concrete with steel elements moulded in. The use of these materials was chosen to reflect the history of the area with elements from the original pier and industrial communities.



1. Traffic Area
2. Arrival Area and a Water Fountain
3. Wooden Wharf and Outdoor Restaurants and Cafés
4. Wharf along the Canal
5. Small Park with Undulated Lawn and Trees
6. Open Area with a View towards the Oslo Fortress and the Sea
7. Central Square
8. Central Pedestrian Street

Right: Water features in the square

