

Sjövik Square

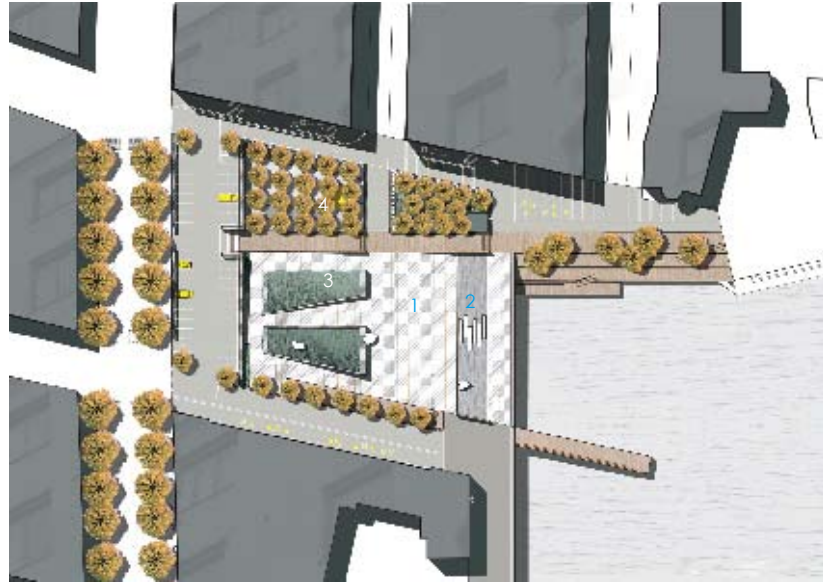
Location: Stockholm, Sweden **Designer:** Thorbjörn Andersson Landscape Architect **Photographer:** Åke E:son Lindman, Patrik Lindell **Completion date:** 2010 **Site area:** 12,000 sqm

Sjövik square is situated right on the quay of Årstadal. It opens up towards the water and thus includes the larger landscape in its design. To underscore this basic idea, the square is laid out as a flat plane which has then been tilted towards the view. Two recreational lawns furnish the upper part, outlined with a broad granite edge for seating. The lawns are horizontal and rise gradually from the ground plane, clarifying the plaza slope.

Two 100-metre-long wooden boardwalk promenades frame the plaza and direct the view. They have a Y-shaped configuration, where the western leg steps down towards the water in series of sun terraces. The eastern leg is a pier which passes the quay edge by 40 metres, hovering over the water.

To balance the openness of the triangular square, an equally triangular grove of semi-transparent Gleditsia trees has been added at the western perimeter of the plaza. The trees stand in a gravel surface, which also hosts a small playground and lanes for bouclé games. The grove transcends into a sunken garden with horticultural content, shadowed by cherry trees.

Included in the design is also a 35 metres wide water feature, with a thin layer of water rushing over a shingled surface of Norwegian slate, as well as an environmental sculpture by artist Jan Svenungsson. This artwork consists of three very large boulders, one of them engraved with headlines fetched from the daily newspapers of the day the square was opened to the public.



1. The Square
2. The Benches
3. The Grass Garden
4. Grove

Right: The square is tilted 3% towards the water in order to give focus on the view

