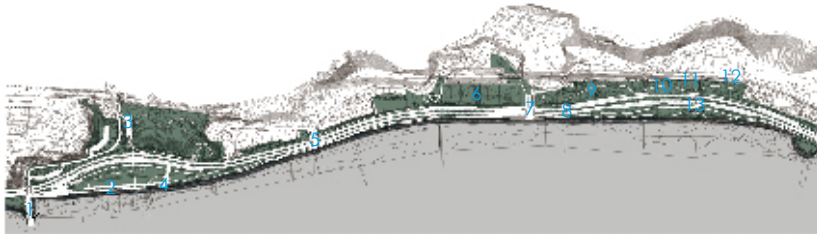


Promenade Samuel-De Champlain

Location : Quebec, Canada **Designer :** Daoust Lestage Inc., Williams Asselin Ackaoui, Option Aménagement **Photographer:** Marc Cramer **Length:** 2.5 km linear **Completion date:** 2008



1. Quai des Cageux/Pavilion/Tower
2. Coastal Promenade/Marsh/Bridge
3. Boisé Tequenonday/Stair Way/Pavilion
4. Quai No.5/Rest Area
5. Intersection/Rest Area
6. Soccer Field/Pavilion
7. Intersection/Rest Area
8. Quai No.10
9. Quai de Brumes
10. Quai des Flots
11. Quai des Hommes
12. Quai de Vents
13. Relocated Champlain Boulevard

Award description:

2010 Médaille du Gouverneur Général en Architecture
 2009 Award of Excellence – l'Ordre des Architectes du Québec – Category Urban Design
 2009 Urban Leadership Award, Canadian Urban Institute – Category City Renewal
 2009 National Honorable Mention, CSLA Awards – Category Design
 2009 Best of Jury of Project Management Institute – PMI Montreal
 2008 Best of Category Award – National Post Design Exchange Awards – Category Urban Design and Landscapes Architecture

The project reclaims a neglected infrastructural fringe into a generous public, leisure oriented naturalised environment, thus reactivating the city's access to St. Lawrence River and revitalising its shoreline.

Drawing on the site's unique past and genius loci, the project uncovers and showcases vestiges of natural and coastal heritage, while balancing the soft, luscious coastline greenery with the evocative artificial landscape.

The sinuous 2.5 kilometres course of the Promenade consists of a continuous leisurely river boardwalk and a rythmed sequence of four diverse thematic gardens. Each of these singular, dense landscape attractors captures and magnifies the material and poetic qualities of local coastal environment. They celebrate the mist, the wind and the sensory pleasures of water, as well as the memory of docklands' archetypes.

The rich, sublime atmospheres and textures are materialised as much with stone boulders, timber assemblies and corten steel thresholds, as with native plants and trees, and as with vapour haze, thick shade, mellow light glows and water reflections.

Immersed into an all-encompassing green tide, the gardens are linked by a pedestrian and bicycle path, acting as the project's connecting spine.

The urban furniture, specifically designed for this project, maintains the robust simplicity of maritime, harbour heritage, paramount to this site's genius loci. The linear rhythm of benches and lights is complemented by freely disposed furniture, dotting the landscape as rafts in the sea of greenery.

The project's underlying, yet seamless achievement is its strong contribution to the restoration of the uniquely rich and diverse, albeit fragile coastal eco-system, and to the renewed accessibility of the river.

Right: Quai des Hommes

