

## Rheinauhafen Cologne

**Location:** Cologne, Germany **Designer:** FSWLA Landschaftsarchitektur GmbH  
**Photographer:** Manuel Kubitz **Completion date:** 2011 **Site area:** 118,500 sqm



1. Boardwalk
2. Central Axis
3. Urban Space
4. Play and Recreation

When port activities were transferred to other areas of Cologne, a new urban design challenge arose for Rheinauhafen. The area that once served as the river port is to acquire new functions. As part of the restructuring process, a competition for the open spaces was held in 1999. FSWLA Landschaftsarchitektur GmbH emerged as the winner and was commissioned with planning the open spaces.

Rheinauhafen is very close to the town centre of Cologne, with a direct link to the Rheingarten redesigned in the 1980s, and stretches for about 2 kilometres down to the popular southern district of the city. This much favoured location within the urban context is to be reinforced by an attractive, structured design of the open space. The interplay of historical and modern architecture sets up a tension echoed in the outdoor terrain. The historical significance of the port area is linked into the modern architecture by combining historical materials such as natural stone paving, old rail track and restored cranes with large concrete slabs, glass, steel and a sophisticated lighting design. This will enable Rheinauhafen to present a new face to the world while retaining its original character as a port.

**Award description:**  
 2010 Germany Urban Planning Award



Right: The Rhine promenade viewed from Southern Kranhaus to the southern cape

