

Eco-Friendly Swimming

An activity park built around an eco pool.

CLIENT

City of Saint-Chaffrey

TEAM

Patriarche (Architecture, Interior Architecture, MEP Engineering, EBQ, Cost, BIM, Urban Planning, Landscape, Signage)
Partners:
Green Concept
Credits: © Mohsen Ozlati

KEYPOINTS

Wood construction on pilotis
Plant and water landscaping.
Respect for biodiversity.

SUSTAINABILITY

Eco pool.
Pure, untreated water.
Plant-based water purification system.

The completely redesigned Parc des Colombiers covers four hectares and the guiding principle behind its development takes into account respect for the environment and the enhancement of the site's landscape.
The Chantemerle eco swimming pool fits naturally into this setting. This innovative design concept makes it possible to create a showcase aquatic space while being environmentally friendly. The site has been completely redeveloped, with the creation of a water feature, beaches, an open-air theatre and children's play areas.

Based on chalet architecture, the renovated buildings are clad in larch wood, and stand on pilotis in case of a rise in the water table. Particular attention was paid to the design of access points and areas around the bathing area, with the creation of a signposting system and a green pathway across the park.
A jetty that provides access to the fishing area was designed to meet People with Reduced Mobility (PRM) accessibility standards.



Typology	Construction cost	Status
Hotel and facilities	€3.1M	Delivered 2012
Surface area	Location	Allocation mode
2,522 m² of floorspace	Saint-Chaffrey, France	Public Works Management

Intentions

The bathing area is supplied by a borehole drilled into the groundwater of the Guisane. The filtration basin, a real purifier, is made up of a garden of plants and pourous rocks. It's a living space dedicated to our well-being, offering the pleasure of bathing in pure, untreated water in the heart of nature - a unique experience.

Timber-frame buildings benefit from a reinforced insulated envelope with no thermal bridges.



A nature leisure area in the heart of Parc des Colombiers



Saint-Chaffrey is one of the villages that make up the Serre Chevalier resort in the heart of the Guisane valley. Since the creation of the ski resort, tourism here has developed around a 4-season offering of a wide range of outdoor activities. The Parc des Colombiers, on the banks of the Guisane torrent, is a popular leisure area for users, set in unspoilt countryside. The aim of the project is to replace the old swimming pool with a variety of leisure activities while preserving the identity of the site. The swimming activity has been restored through an ecological pool using plant filtration. The exteriors of the leisure centre are designed to be natural, in keeping with the surrounding landscape. They are organised around six areas.



The central square

It features a tree-lined café terrace and a boules pitch. A palette of local trees, shrubs and perennials reflects the unique landscape of the Guisane valley, in particular the larch, an emblematic species of the Hautes Alpes.



The axis between the central square and the amphitheatre

A link between the square and the playground, this main axis distributes the buildings of the day-care centre and the restaurant, while connecting the square to the green amphitheatre.



The green amphitheatre

It has a capacity of 150 people and is made up of welded mesh gabions and wooden seats arranged in tiers. The 100m2 wooden stage is easily accessible via a wide walkway.



The public play area

The play area is made up of wooden play equipment and surfaces of rolled gravel or wood shavings. This natural look is in harmony with the overall layout.



Flower meadows and playgrounds

This large area becomes an ice karting track in winter. The design incorporates the layout of the track, dividing the space into several monochrome flower meadows, structured by hedges. The playground includes tennis courts, a fishing pond, a picnic area and promenades.



Biological bathing

The pool is integrated into the landscape with banks planted with aquatic species. Several water levels ranging from 25cm to 2m allow young and old alike to enjoy a swim. The water flows from the bathing pool to the lagoon, where it is purified before being returned to the bathing pool.



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