

Tyven envisions a bold concept for revitalizing the Helsinki archipelago through flexible, environmentally responsible and iconic design. Experiential architecture respects both the built and the biological environment. Village-like, accessible services welcome both locals and tourists to enjoy the archipelago. The new construction is arranged in a way which burdens nature as little as possible.

UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

Floating architecture enforces the sea as an inseparable part of the visitor experience. Intimate connection to the water conducts the maritime services to their fullest potential. The architecture balances brightly between the modern and the old, developing a unique and intriguing and recognizable layer in the Helsinki archipelago. The buildings form an easily recognizable group, and the typology serves a varied range of services in an inventive way.

The facades are inspired both by modest boathouses and by ornate villas by the sea. Undulating horizontal cladding recalls the embellishment of a summer house and complies with the Helsinki city brand. The horizontal grating blocks direct sunlight and allows indirect surface reflections to the interior. This features the ever-shifting playful archipelago light as an integral part of interior spatial experience.

Flexibility to expand in phases:

1. Location-specific piers are an entry point for boaters and invite them to the islands.
2. Next minimal vital services eg. toilets are built on land. They require no operating personnel.
3. Saunas, cafés and other services can be added on demand in modules.
4. Historical, existing villas can be activated and house diverse services.

FLOATING AND FLEXIBLE

The small scale of the new construction respects existing villas and the archipelago. The buildings are directed to the sea for the roof shapes to create a precise, recognizable silhouette. Floating structures leave a minimal footprint to nature and the above-ground structures focus on establishing functional routes and activating the present villas. The concept responds to the demand of radical environmental innovations: structures are spatially adaptable, flexible for moving and resilient to the rising sea-level.

Modular pieces allow connecting to the piers and each other in multiple ways, creating compositions that suit their surroundings. The functions can be easily added or removed according to the needs of numerous sites. Eg. The relation of accommodation units and the docks can be changed according to demand or an extra sauna be included mid-season. The concept is functionally extremely flexible and allows for tweaking mid-season based on the needs of visitors or recovery of nature. Floating structures can be lifted out of the water for winter storage and maintenance.

HELSINKI ARCHIPELAGO FOR EVERYONE

Bathing suits are used in the sauna facilities and changing of clothes and washing takes place in private changing rooms. The floating structures are connected to each other. The connection between the floating structures and the arrival pier is made with duckboards. Visitors travelling on a connecting ferry can access the floating services easily but a significant part of the beach and the island remains untouched. Different user groups are taken into account. Piers are included to serve the local boaters, and the same structures also enable luxurious camping accommodation for example international tourists. Beaches, toilets and fireplaces serve traditional hikers year round. The sauna and restaurant facilities are separate and can be rented as event spaces. The smaller sauna unit can also be rented as a more traditional archipelago recreational sauna.

BIODIVERSITY

The diverse birdlife of the Helsinki archipelago is valued with bird friendly architectural decisions. UV patterned glass combined with a double facade, and a trellis acknowledges bird-friendly design. The floating structures are sensitive to underwater environments and designate sheltered spots for the marine life to habit under and are resilient to rising sea levels. The minimal ground footprint allows the delicate environment to flourish.

