EXPO ZARAGOZA 2008

DOSSIER DE PRENSA
PRESS RELEASE
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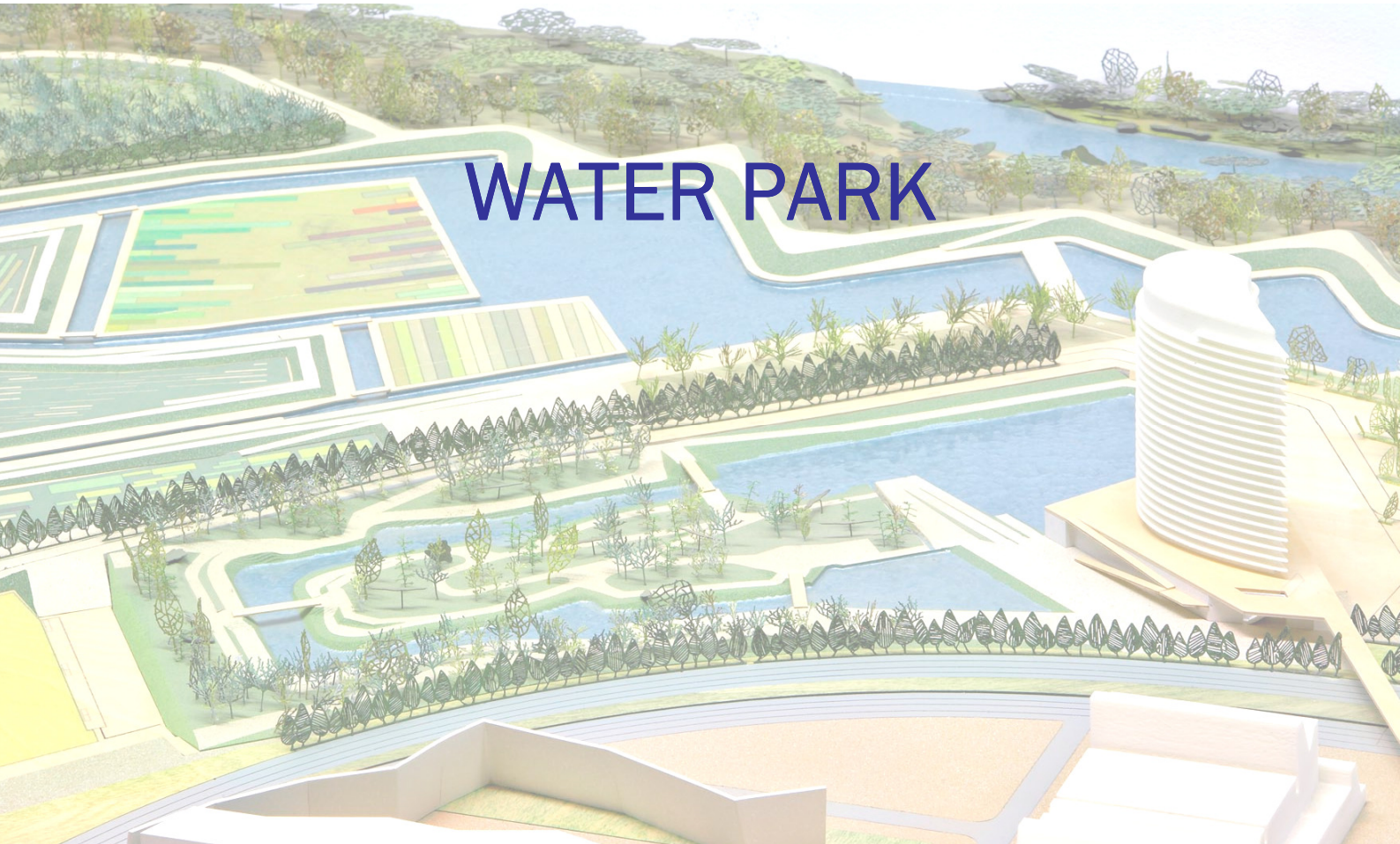
WATER PARK



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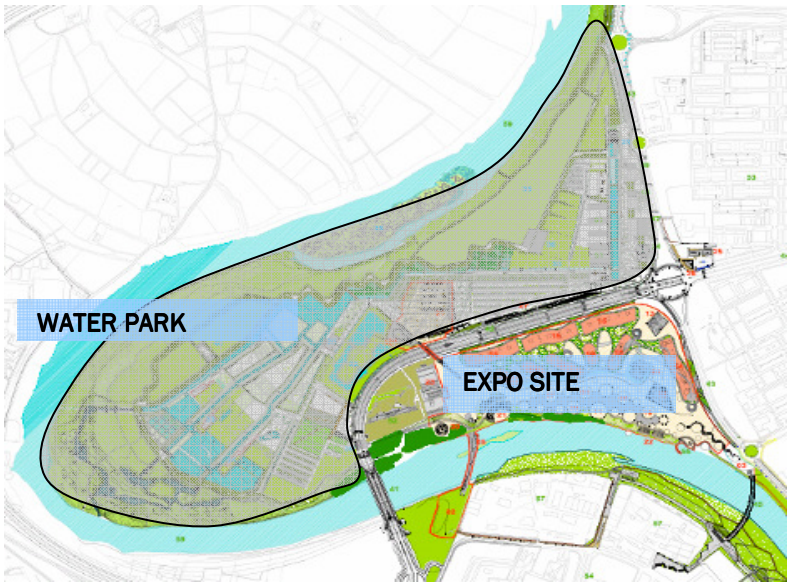
1. WATER PARK

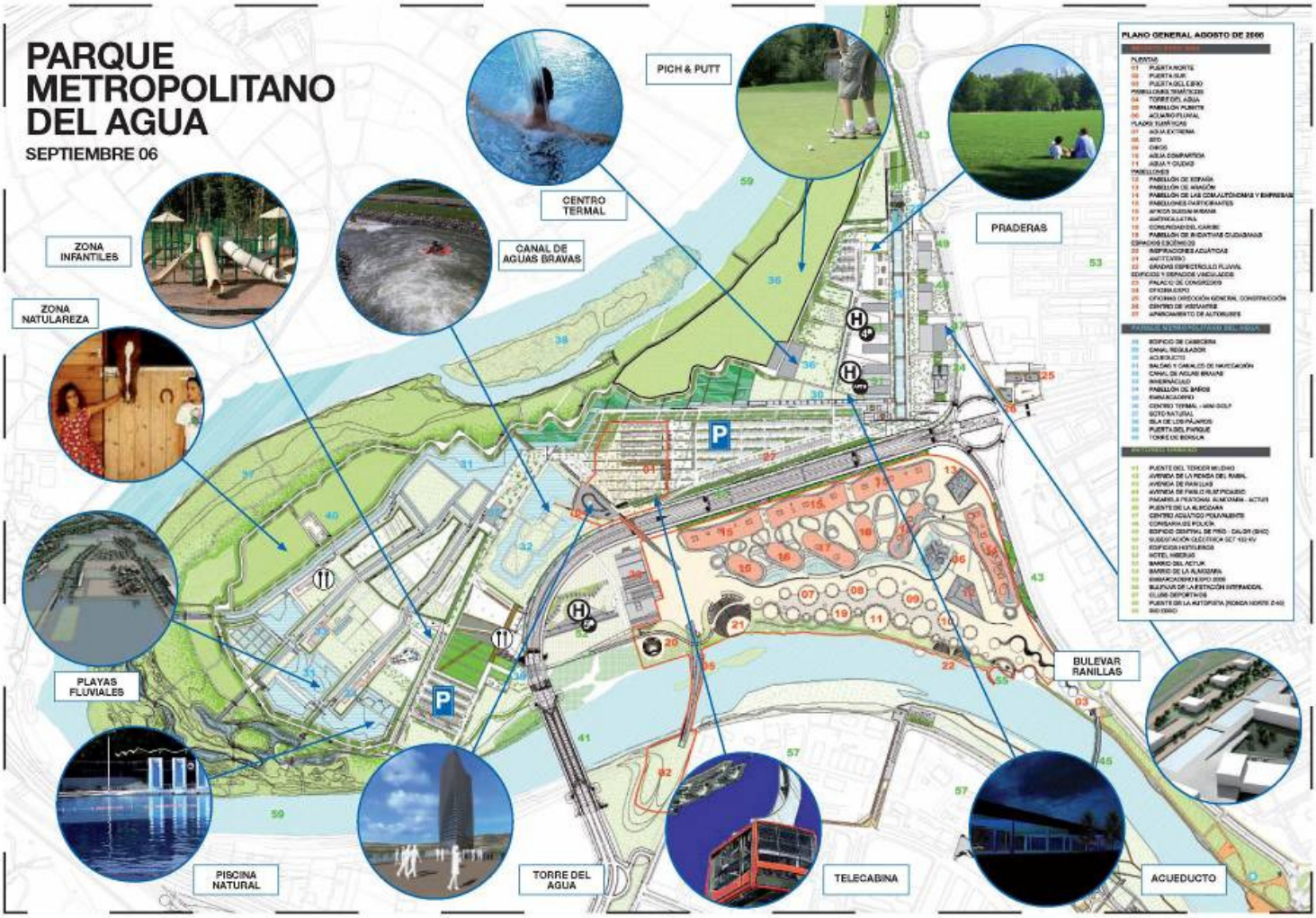
The Water Park is located on Ranillas Meander, next to the International Exposition site. The Water Park is a new concept of an urban park. It covers 120 hectares and combines spacious green areas with services and activities for all citizens.

The main aim of the area is to strengthen the bond between the city and its land, conserving the natural environments along the meander. The activities taking place in the park are mainly recreational, with related facilities and services, all based around one clear theme — water.



2. WATER PARK DESIGN AND ACTIVITIES

A cross-disciplinary team led by Iñaki Alday (architect), Margarita Jover (architect) and Christine Dalnoky (landscape architect) won the competition to design the Water Park. The project highlights the vision of the meander as a “silvery forest”. With more than 40,000 shrubs and 25,000 trees (including black poplars, poplars, ash trees and willows) and grassed areas, the park is the biggest park in the Aragonese capital.



1. RIVERSIDE GROVE

The local vegetation and geomorphic processes on the Ebro riverbanks are conserved.
The well-maintained spaces just need general cleaning and some path maintenance work and the other spaces only require regeneration and landscaping work.

2. BULEVAR DE RANILLAS

A 450-metre-long sheet of water (approximately the length of Paseo Independencia in Zaragoza) dominates this area, beginning as a waterfall from the Main Building.

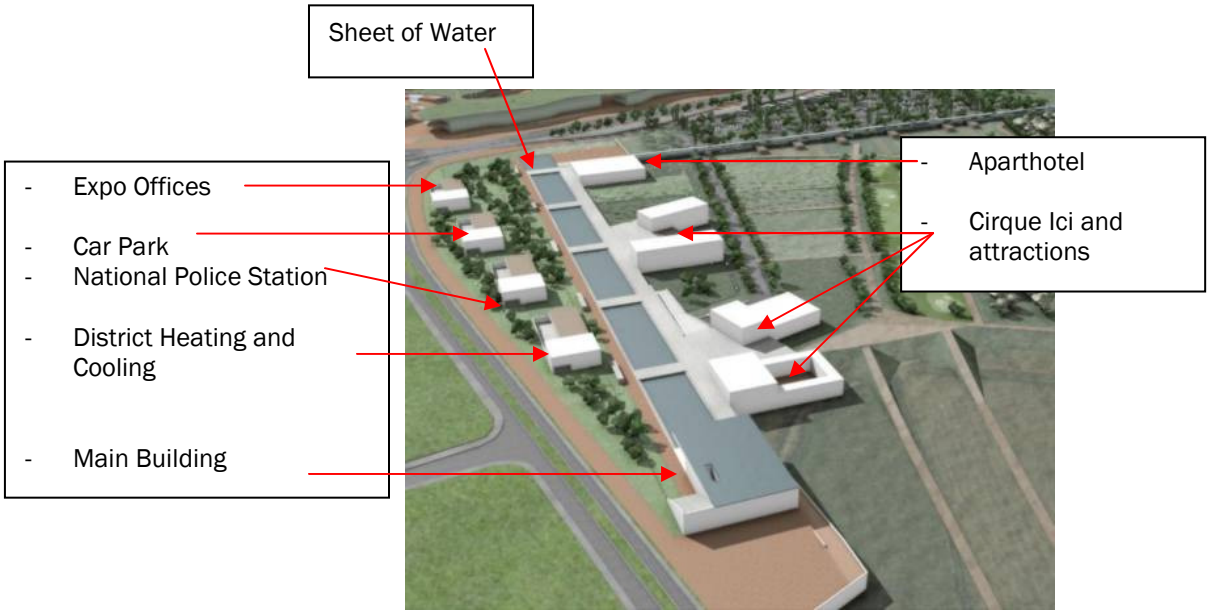
The water used in the Ranillas Meander water network and the different activities and features, for example, the sheet of water, comes from three different sources:

1. Rabal Irrigation Channel – this covers all the needs of Ranillas Meander. This channel is backed up by the other two sources depending on the water level.

2. River Ebro – the cogeneration building draws water from the river that is used to air-condition the Expo, when necessary.

3. Water table – this water has fewer substances to remove.

The buildings adjoining the Bulevar are:



3. MAIN BUILDING

This building covers 1,200m²; it purifies water and sends it to the channel via a waterfall that falls to the sheet of water along the Bulevar de Ranillas. The Main Building is the services and maintenance building for the park. Post-Expo it will continue this function and also house an exhibition on the Water Park.

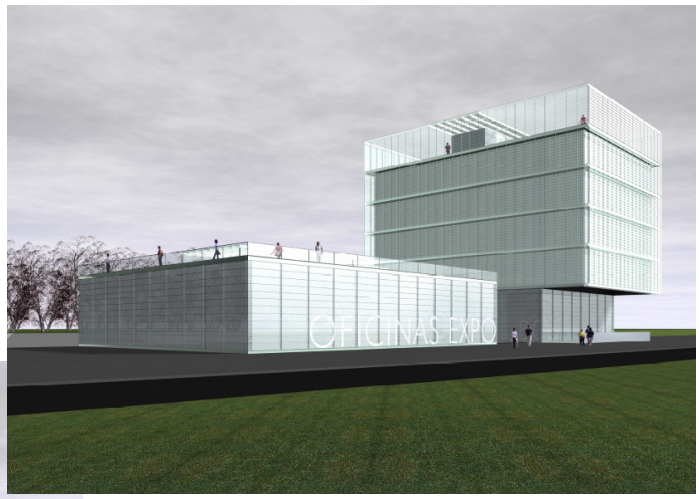
The management company of this building will continue their work post-Expo.

4. POLICE STATION

The National Police Force Station occupies an area of 4,200 m² and has the capacity for more than thirty police officers.

5. EXPO OFFICES BUILDING

The Expo Offices Building will containing the head offices of Expo Zaragoza 2008 until the International Exposition ends. The building covers a total area of 3,000 m².



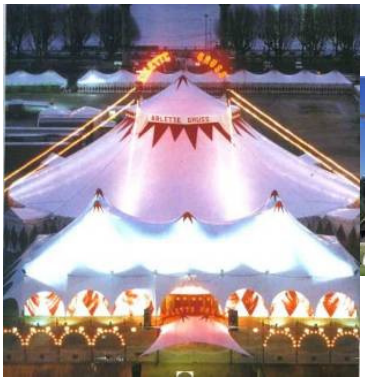
Post-Expo the building will become headquarters of the United Nations Secretariat for the Water Decade for Action (2005-2015) and will provide different services for citizens.

6. BULEVAR DE RANILLAS HOTEL AREA

Inside the park, there are two areas adjoining the Bulevar de Ranillas: an aparthotel and 4-star hotel with shared infrastructures such as a car park, function rooms and restaurants, among others. Both buildings will be open for business post-Expo.

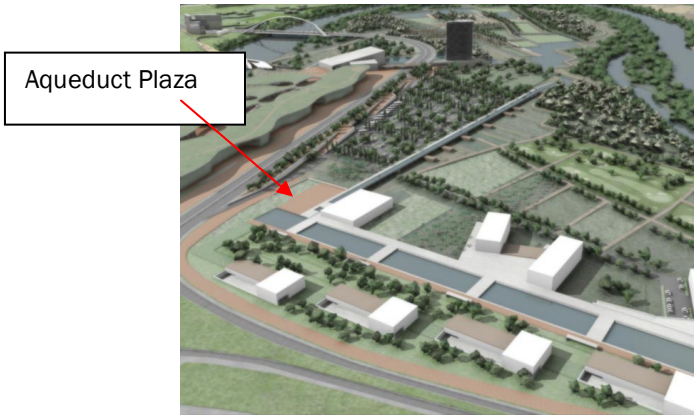
The Aparthotel is managed by Geexpark.

During the three months of the Expo, the hotel grounds will house leisure facilities and attractions. The French "Cirque Ici" circus will be one of the attractions in this area.



7. AQUEDUCT PLAZA LEISURE BUILDING

This building covers an area of 2,000 m² and is dedicated to gastronomy and leisure. It is located next to the roundabout of Avenida Ranillas with Avenida Pablo Ruiz Picasso and the Water Plaza car park.



The plaza is divided as follows:

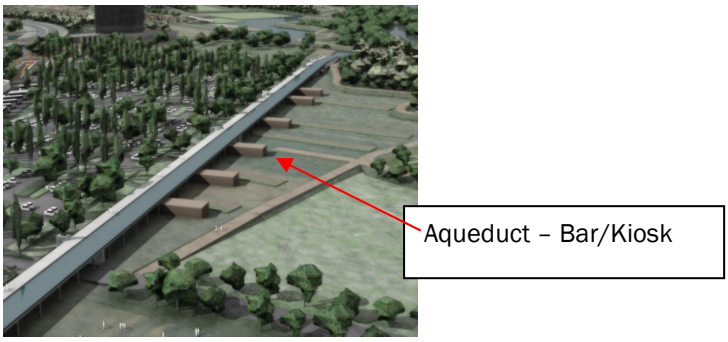
- 1,000m² for indoor games and entertainment spaces
- 1,000 m² for gastronomy

Post-Expo, the building will provide support services to the Business Park.

The concession company is Geexpark, paying an annual fee of €120,000.

8. AQUEDUCT

The aqueduct, starting at the Aqueduct Plaza Leisure Building, runs for 250 metres, carrying water to the purifying tanks. It is suspended four metres above the ground. Visitors can pass beneath it and along its roof.



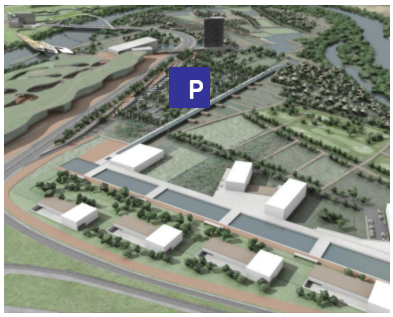
9. AQUEDUCT BAR/KIOSK

The bar-kiosk is a small restaurant covering 250 m² with a large open-air terrace and a children's play area. The licensee company is in charge of the building construction.

The concession company is Geexpark, paying an annual fee of €3,000 for a period of 30 years.

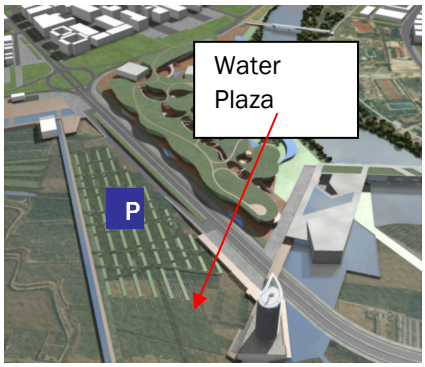
10. WATER PLAZA CAR PARK

Located next to the Water Plaza and parallel to the Aqueduct, the car park can hold 900 vehicles. During the Expo it is the coach station.



11. WATER PLAZA

The Water Plaza is a 17,000 m² multi-purpose area. It will be a location for exhibitions, markets, recreation, etc.



12. PITCH & PUTT

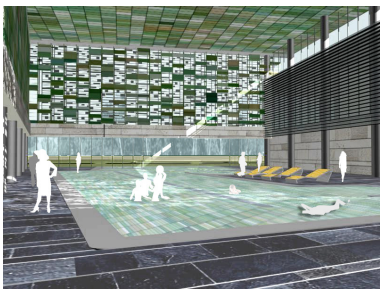
Pitch & Putt has a par-3, 9-hole golf course, a practice range and a mini-golf course, all covering an area of 82,000 m². There is also a clubhouse that is joined to the Spa.

This is the first Pitch & Putt in Aragon and is open to the general public.

The concession company is Geexpark, paying an annual fee of €200,000 for a period of 30 years (for the Spa as well).

13. SPA

Linked to the Pitch & Putt, the 2-storey Spa takes up an area of approximately 5,000 m². Among its many facilities, it has covered pools, a geyser, swimming against currents, 7 waterbeds, 18 water seats, a small beach and a solarium. The Spa also has a beauty centre, hydrothermal treatments, a fitness centre and sports activities.



The concession company is Geexpark

14. CABLE CAR

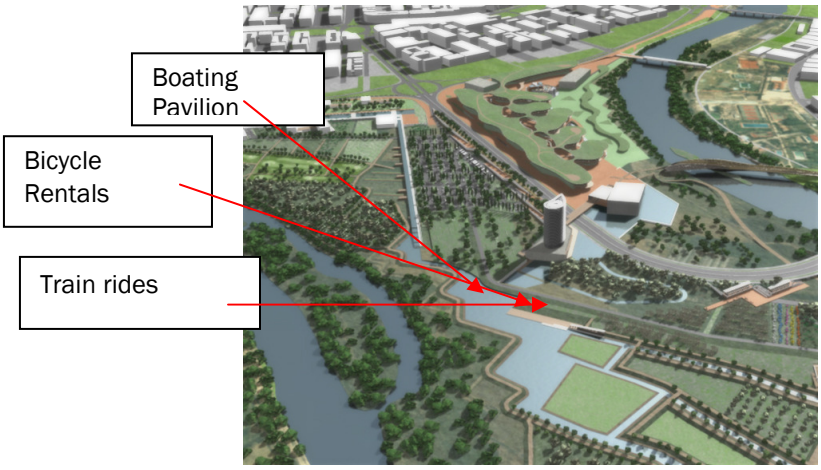
The cable car connects Zaragoza Delicias Intermodal Station with the Water Park with 70 cabins, each carrying 8 passengers. It can transport 2,300 visitors per hour. The Ice and Mountains Museum (by Reinhold Messner) is located in the Cable Car Station, next to the Water Tower.

Aramon – Leitner is the concession company.

15. BOATING PAVILION / BICYCLE RENTALS / TRAIN RIDES

Next to the White Water Course, in the Boating Pavilion, measuring 250 m², leisure craft can be hired for boating along the channels.

The management company of the White Water Course also rents bicycles and is in charge of the train rides.



Murillo Rafting S.L. is the concession company for these activities

16. ADVENTURE AREA

Visitors can enjoy an area of 7,000 m² full of adventure activities, for example a climbing wall, Tyrolean traverse, laserball among others, in the area closest to the Riverbank Groves.

Murillo Rafting S.L. is the concession company

17. WHITE WATER COURSE

Measuring 350 metres long and with a total gradient of 6 metres, this is one of the main attractions in the Water Park. The White Water Course operated with 4+1 pumps that enable different water sports to be practiced, including:

- Canoeing: Free Style
- Slalom
- Canyoning
- Rafting
- Hydrospeed

The White Water Course has facilities in the plinth basement of the Water Tower, including lavatories, changing rooms, offices, shop, reception, etc and the access to the lower pool.
It is equipped to be able to host international competitions.

Murillo Rafting S.L. is the concession company.

18. BATHING AREA

Located very close to Rabal Ring Road on a site of approximately 16,700 m², the bathing area includes a building of 1,500 m² designed by the architect Iñaki Alday. The building has a steel structure, over which vegetation forms an outer skin. Over

time the building will be completely covered in vegetation. Visitor facilities include a Cafeteria and changing rooms, etc.

Visitors can enjoy two pools with naturally purified water, a 5,000m² sandy beach with more than 200 palms trees (with several species), sporting activities and a children's play area.

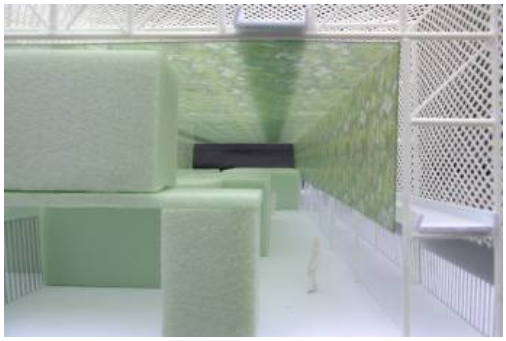
A heliport is located next to the bathing area during the three months of the Expo. Post-Expo this will be converted into a sports area.

Dream Sport Club is the concession company, paying an annual levy of €10,010

19. FUNCTION PAVILION- BANQUET RESTAURANT

Located next to Zaragoza City Council's Ceremonies Pavilion, the banquet restaurant covers 1,200 m², plus the adjoining areas: gardens, pools and channels in the Water Park. Iñaki Alday and Fermín Porta are the architects who designed this Function Pavilion.

A temporary marquee will be installed during the Expo period, with capacity to hold around 800 guests.



El Cachirulo is the concession company, paying an annual fee of €45,000.

20. CEREMONIES PAVILION – WEDDINGS BUILDING

This building is to be used for Zaragoza City Council public acts as well as civil weddings. It has two rooms each with a capacity of between 50 and 80 people, in addition to offices for staff and / or councillors.

Zaragoza City Council is the licensee

21. CHILDREN'S PLAY PAVILION

One of the areas in the Water Park, next to Rabal Ring Road is completely dedicated to children. In total this is a space of more than 2,600 m², which is divided into different sections: inside and outside children's games, a catering area and a children's theatre run by Teatro Arbolé. The rest of the building, 1,850 m², is run by Ocio Metropolitano S.L.

22. BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Botanical Garden, in the heart of the Water Park, with 13 hectares of land, is one of the largest single areas in the city. The garden is themed with different regions and has exotic gardens, grasses, grains, fruit trees, palm trees, aquatic plants, among others, showing the richness of the flora – all in one location.

The management company of the Botanical Gardens runs courses, workshops guided tours and a shop with botanical products.

Murillo Rafting is the concession company.

23. ARTISTIC CREATION – THE WATERWHEEL

Located next to the Main Building, the waterwheel moves the water that flows to the sheet of water along Bulevar de Ranillas.

This artistic creation is especially interesting as it represents the meeting of the river with an element of hydraulic archaeology, still being used today in Hama (Syria). Nicolás Camoisson and Marion Coudert have created a waterwheel with a 16 metre diameter that has been built by the Syrian artisans who safeguard this thousand-year-old wisdom.

24. GREEN AREAS

The park has many paths, bicycle lanes, jogging circuits and spacious relaxation areas such as grasslands, all open to the general public. The park will be the new lung of the city, breathing new life into Zaragoza.

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