

THE MONOLITH – SCIENCE CATHEDRAL

The main inspiration is the monolith structure from the movie Space Odyssey as an artefact of non-human origin. The object represents the »evolutionary leap« of humans. The opening of the monolith reveals the timeline of the scientific discoveries made by humans in the form of a void named scientific cathedral. The space is designed as an open museum where the inventions levitate in space starting from prehistoric times to modernity leaving space in the upper levels for new science artefacts to be displayed in the future.

The ground floor consists of a larger plaza with a bar, sitting areas on the square and sitting platforms on the grass under the roof which is used as a display for movies and show lights. The landmark floors are an open museum which can be accessed by walking or using a bike until you come to the last floors containing technical areas, bicycle area, toilets, a restaurant and an open bar with the viewing platform. The roof has a 360 degree view on the surrounding area and a stairway with two slides that lead to the east side of the park. The east side is transformed into a small forest with local trees and a smaller lake. On the ground floor spanning the Guadalupe river is placed another bridge designed as a pavilion with a roof made of solar panels and a bar. The main idea is to connect the whole competition area into one unique experiences with different spaces.

The main construction, slopes and cores are made from recycled steel. The spanning ropes holds the cladding made of solar panels on three sides and black cladding on the northern side. The inspiration for the construction comes from the iconic suspension Golden Gate bridge. The span is 550 feet from the landmark to the other side of the green area where a platform is placed in a small lake among newly planted trees. The underground floor is made of concrete containing a visitor center. The main colours are black for the facade, white for the main construction and yellow for the underside of the roof and the slides. This choice of colour comes from the symbol of the country; the American Eagle. The whole area of the solar cells is 11942 ft² on east, west and south side generating electricity for a larger urban area.