



Twisting Torso, Malmö



Västra Hamnen:Malmö

The Västra Hamnen district in the city of Malmö, Sweden is at the cutting edge of mixed-use urban sustainability.¹ The development aims to reverse years of economic decline caused by the death of the ship building industry, by reinventing the area as a city of knowledge with a focus on ecological sustainability. The project covers 395 acres of land, and is due to be finished in 2010, when 10,000 people will live and 20,000 people work on the site.

The project is joint-funded by a consortium of 22 developers, the Swedish government which invested \$42.7 million CAD for the purchasing of the land and its decontamination, and the European Union which gave \$2.8 million CAD.

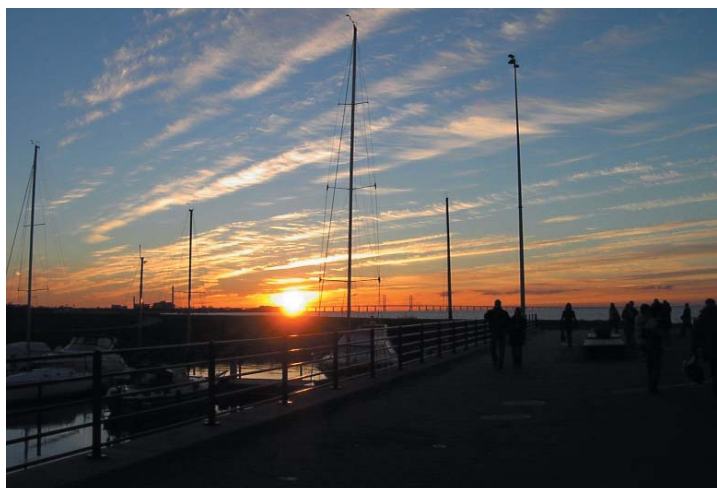
A key theme of the development is sustainable use of energy with extensive use of wind turbines, solar panelling, heating from seawater, porous paving surfaces and priority given to cyclists and pedestrians.

Using high quality and innovative architecture and design has also been central to the development's popularity. It has been described as being a cross between a medieval town and a holiday village – linking the past and the future. In order to achieve this, different developers were contracted for each building, so no two properties are the same, giving the feeling of uniqueness and diversity.

Although adopting these approaches has increased the original costs for the developers, it has positioned the development as a pioneer in this field and has given the development an international profile. The development is firmly established as a summer destination favourite with tourists and residents, with the development of street cafés, bars, restaurants, landscaped seafront and bathing pools.

¹ Building Green: The Daily Journal of Commerce, March 2005

www.malmo.se



Malmö Marina