

SEASONAL CITY SPACES

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The thesis concerns creating a concept for urban green in the city center of Oulu, Finland. The concept connects the existing public urban green spaces into an independent green structure by creating new green spaces between the existing ones and by extending the existing. Moreover new urban green spaces attune to the changing seasons, so that they can be used and are attractive in winter as well. The efforts to enhance public green are concentrated on the most visible and visited locations, where they form a coherent addition to the urban form. In addition to creating a central independent green structure, this means strengthening Kirkkokatu Street as an axis crossing the whole city center. The axis showcases the new solutions for urban green spaces, which can be implemented on other locations in Oulu. The views towards the delta landscape are retained and any obstructions on the important sightlines removed.

In the competition between cities, residents, visitors, and companies are both the reward and the jury. Providing representative public spaces to attract their attention is a discipline in that competition. The literature review points out that for many jurors, especially in Finland, presence of urban nature improves the urban form. The success entails concentrating on the presence, visibility, and vivacity of the urban green instead of its size and abundance. City of Oulu should cultivate its individual, local qualities in urban green spaces as well as in its architecture and landscape.

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- 1 Strategy plan
- 2 Winter perspective
- 3 Summer perspective

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