

Trending City

URBAN SNAPSHOT 03


Architecture, design, culture and great trends for cities - Trending City is a platform for sharing ideas from across the globe on what's keeping our cities vibrant, diverse and innovative. For more information visit us at Trending City HQ - www.trendingcity.org



FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to Trending City's 3rd Urban Snapshot! Since getting involved with Trending City I've been consistently amazed by the incredible variety of interesting ideas popping up on the site from cities all across the world. But what I've found most inspiring is the way Trending City has transformed the way I think about the urban spaces I experience each day. I find myself not only looking out for cool ideas, but thinking of my own ideas about improving cities to become more engaging and ultimately more liveable spaces.

In this edition I focus on stories that reflect a trend towards improving cities as places people live. From crowd farming, renewable energy and architecture in a time of climate change to appreciating heritage and revitalising public spaces through design and public art, I hope there's something here for everyone. At Trending City we love new people just as much as we love new ideas. So get involved and let us know what's happening near you!

Billy Haworth
 BillyTusker

FROM THE GALLERY

CROWD FARMING SYDNEY

Every city has a few of them - creative pioneers leading the way for a better, greener more sustainable future. In fact with the Youth Food Movement, the Grow it Local campaign and crowd farming for TEDX, it seems we're embracing better food in a big way! Read more here.



Image courtesy of Instalizi.

BUOYANT HOUSING AMSTERDAM

A unique suburb in Amsterdam, Ijburg, sees residents floating and living on water. The ambitious housing project forms part of a plan for Holland's future in combating climate change and rising sea levels. Read more here.



Image courtesy of bowcrest.

DOWNTOWN BOUTIQUE HOTEL MEXICO

The Downtown Boutique Hotel in Mexico City is a breathtaking example of architecture and a diamond in the rough. The Hotel, designed by Abraham Cherem Cherem, combines historical elements like volcanic rock walls with the green wall to great effect. Read more here.



Image courtesy of Undine Prohl.

LIGHTRAILS, ALABAMA

Built in 1931, this neglected underground rail underpass, had reportedly become unsafe (or at least felt unsafe) in downtown Birmingham. So what did Bill FitzGibbons do? Where there was dark, there is now light! Read more here.



Image and post courtesy of Contemporisit.

FROM THE BLOGS

FROM MOTORWAY TO PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLEWAY: THE BANKS OF THE RIVER SEINE IN PARIS

by Jennifer Lenhart

The River Seine now has a new public space project worthy of its UNESCO World Heritage site status! With this, Paris now dedicates four kilometres of prime real-estate along the Seine as a public park and pedestrian/cycling zone.

With a car ban in place, the left bank's waterfront now consists of a floating green house and park space, a skate-park, a kids' climbing wall, a performing arts school, cafés and bars, an edible garden with seasonal vegetables, temporary exhibition spaces – and plenty of room for lounging along the river on a warm summer evening. Read more here.



Image courtesy of Jennifer Lenhart.

LISTER'S BUS 'CUT-OUTS' & GUERRILLA STREET ART.

by Harrumi Arrascue Watanabe

Guerrilla street art has found new ways of reclaiming urban space worldwide. Moving away from traditional graffiti art we find artists tackling urban objects: buses, trains, utility boxes, bollards, as well as taking over prime advertising space such as billboards, buildings and bus stops. Official or not, these works, christened by Lister as "cut outs" have been popping around the city, filling the position of advertisements with his own take (contempt or mockery) on the way electronics, the government and religion control society. Read more here.



Image courtesy of Harrumi Arrascue Watanabe.

COMMUNITY-BASED RENEWABLE ENERGY AND THE BEGA LIBRARY

by Billy Haworth

With Australia's environmental policies and strategies constantly being debated, particularly with reference to the Carbon tax or an emissions trading scheme, it's nice to see an effective forward-thinking renewable energy project with clear goals actually being realised for the benefit of both local community and the environment.

Read more here.



Image courtesy of Billy Haworth.

WALK THE STREETS WITH MELBOURNE ARCHITOURS


by John O'Callaghan

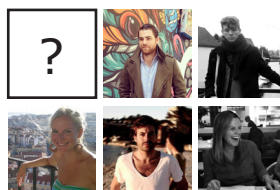
What started as a custom tour for two people, Architours is now a well established, but still very local, architectural tour of Melbourne. Shelley Freeman, Architect and Architours team member, says "It's now one of the ways I practice architecture. I love the research, the conversation, discussion and how being 'out there' means I'm meeting all kinds of people." Read more here.



Image courtesy of Architours.

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE? JOIN THE TEAM!

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