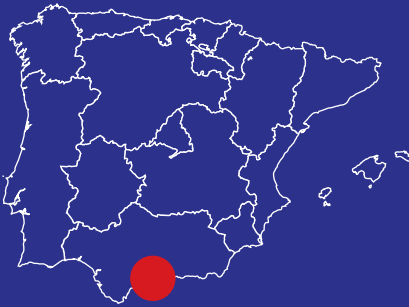


GREEN ASSET INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR

SONAE SIERRA – PLAZA MAYOR GARDENS



LOCATION:

Malaga, Spain.

SECTOR:

Retail – Shopping centres

 1ST REDESIGN DATE:

2010

INNOVATION:

Self-Regulated Ecosystem – planting native Mediterranean flora & creation of shelters and food for local fauna

Plaza Mayor’s Sustainable Garden initiative stands as a pioneer project establishing environmental excellence within the realm of sustainable shopping destinations. Plaza Mayor is one of Andalusia’s leading shopping destinations, with over 45,000 sqm of GLA, known for its wide range of retail and leisure options in line with changing market demands and trends.

The shopping centre, managed by Sierra, has earned prestigious certifications, including ISO 14001 and ISO 45001, as well as a BREEAM IN-Use certification rating of “Excellent” for both the Building and Building Management. In addition, the facility is also certified for its accessibility, according to the AIS 1/2018 standard.

In 2023, Plaza Mayor broke its record in terms of water conservation, energy consumption, and recycling. When compared to 2022, water consumption was reduced by 10.74%. Energy consumption also went down by 0.7%, compared to 2022 levels and the recycling rate ascended to an impressive 94.69%. The shopping centre’s green spaces absorbed 30 tons of CO2 and 8 tons of carbon.

To further strengthen its commitment to the environment and innovation, Plaza Mayor developed a Sustainable Garden, a fully self-regulated ecosystem by nature, featuring extensive green areas and distinctive natural landscapes within the shopping complex, a pioneer initiative in the sector that no shopping centre in Spain had done yet, reinforcing Plaza Mayor’s sustainability leadership.

The Plaza Mayor Sustainable Garden follows a naturalistic and sustainable model that prioritizes biodiversity, such as the planting of native Mediterranean flora and the creation of shelters and food for local fauna. This thoughtful approach is designed to seamlessly adapt to the conditions of the Mediterranean climate and contribute to reduce environmental impact.

Some of the main actions implemented so far with Plaza Mayor’s Sustainable Gardens include:

- Replacement of the grass with native species adapted to the region’s temperatures and humidity.
- Intelligent remote irrigation system and sensors.
- Created a shelter for birds and insects, drinking spots for animals and insertion of butterfly colonies.
- Ecological phytosanitary treatments
- Initiatives to raise awareness and delight its visitors

