ARKXSITE
architecture competitions

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SITE LANDMARK

international architecture ideas competition

registration open | may 16 2016 - september 19 2016 | www.arkxsite.com

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1. OVERVIEW

This international one-stage architecture ideas competition invites all architecture students, young architects and young professionals with a degree in architecture studies (≤ 40 years old) to develop and submit compelling ideas for the design of a **Site Landmark** located on a site promontory in **Sagres, Algarve, Portugal**.

Sagres has a number of significant landmarks within a prominent landscape; it is a place of great cultural heritage and historical significance with characteristics that must be fully preserved.

When generating a vision for an intervention located within such a spectacular place, it is essential that each proposal emphasizes, respects and celebrates the site, while provide visitors with a unique experience.

2. COMPETITION

The **Site Landmark**, located between the Sagres Promontory and Cape St. Vincent, aims to create a new destination point within this spectacular landscape. A place to engage with the landscape, the sky and the sea, offering visitors a unique experience within the immensity of the place. There are no limitations in height, excavation or extension beyond the cliff edges.

| Site Description

Climate: Warm mediterranean / dry-summer subtropical climate that is mild with dry, warm summers and moderate seasonality. The annual average temperature in Sagres is 16.3°C. The hottest month is August with an average temperature of 22°C. The coldest month is January with an average temperature of 13°C.

Latitude: 37°01'10.5" N

Longitude: 8°59'10.0" W

Altitude: 75 m

Rainfall: Total annual precipitation averages 417 mm. The driest month is August and highest rainfall is in January.

Relative Humidity: December is the most humid month and May is the least humid month. The annual average relative humidity is around 75%.

Winds: Predominate winds are from the north. On average, the most wind is between May and August, with an average daily wind speed around 20 km/h.

Sagres, Portugal

Sagres is a powerful natural scenery with steep and massive cliffs, constantly pounded by the wind and the power of the waves with stunning panoramic views where visitors can experience the immensity of the Atlantic Ocean. The promontories of **Sagres and Cape St. Vincent**, with an average of 75 metre-high headlands dropping dramatically into the Atlantic Ocean, are remarkable landmarks within this vast territory.

In the 15th century, in the so called Age of Discovery (with Portuguese explorers sailing across the whole world), the promontory of Sagres became a hub of maritime activity where portuguese explorers, sailors and navigators embarked on exploratory journeys in the Atlantic Ocean.

From the **Sagres Promontory**, there are extensive panoramic views up the coast to **Cape St. Vincent**, Europe's most south-westerly point. The **Cape St. Vincent** is an important landmark for ships traveling through the southern and western coast of Portugal. The natural beauty and the historical significance of this place, offers the visitors a unique experience within a remarkable landscape.

Sagres Promontory Landmarks

The **Sagres Fortress** is located in a prominent location and was built in the 15th century during the Discoveries period led by Henry the Navigator. In the 16th century, the Fortress was severely damaged during the Sir Francis Drake incursions. The Fortress was rebuilt in the 16th, 17th and 18th Centuries.

Inside the Fortress facilities, the **Wind Rose** with a 50 metre-diameter circle was built on the ground with 48 stone tiers. Although it is commonly believed to be a wind rose, some theories argue that it may have been a sundial for study purposes and to support naval and military activities.

Cape St. Vincent Landmarks

The **Fortress** was built in the 16th Century to protect a Franciscan convent. The tower was destroyed by Sir Francis Drake and rebuilt in the 17th Century. The **Cape St. Vincent Lighthouse** was built in 1846 and is considered to be one of the most powerful lighthouses in Europe.

The **Beliche Fortress** is located one kilometer before arriving to Cape St. Vincent, in a dominant position on the beach cove of Beliche. Its construction date is undetermined. In 1632 it was rebuilt after having been destroyed by Sir Francis Drake in the 16th century. The earthquake of 1755 caused great damage and was gradually abandoned. The fortress was built as were the typical military structures of the time, with a polygonal shaped plan and strategically positioned batteries facing the sea.

SITE LANDMARK

The Site Landmark generates a new destination point, a place to engage with the landscape and sea.

1. **Resting / Look-out point**

Resting / Look-out point   * m2

(* Area to be determined by each participant's design proposal.)

2. **Information / Meeting space**

Multi-purpose space	45 m2
Restrooms	20 m2
Storage	10 m2

3. **Landscape / Exterior requirements**

Pedestrian paths / Seating   * m2

(* Area to be determined by each participant's design proposal.)

Total area of Site Landmark to be determined by each participant's proposal.

Notes:

The Site Landmark proposal shall not require maintenance, the intervention should age with the landscape. There are no limitations in height, excavation or extension beyond the limits of the cliff edge. The Site Landmark can be an enclosed area or an open space.

The Site Landmark should engage with the landscape and the sea, embracing the area between the Cape St. Vincent lighthouse and the Beliche Fortress, yet form a visual relationship to the Sagres Fortress / Promontory.

Detailed description of the program:

1. Resting / Look-out point

Provide a look-out point, an exterior / interior space/s for visitors to rest and engage with the landscape, the sky and the sea, offering visitors a unique experience within the immensity of the place. Area to be determined by each participant's design proposal.

2. Information / Meeting space

Multi-purpose space:
Provide a space for the display of general information about the history and memory of the place (brochures, books, video projections, etc); a gathering space where diverse activities for the local community and visitors can take place.

Restrooms:
Provide public restrooms located near the multi-purpose space.

Storage:
Support area for storing material that can be accessed from the multi-purpose space.

3. Landscape / Exterior requirements

• Provide pedestrian paths for the visitors to have access from the road to the Site Landmark. The existing paths can be removed or adapted, area to be determined by each participant's design proposal.

• Provide exterior seating to view and observe the landscape. Area to be determined by each participant's design proposal.

Notes:
The overall design of the Site Landmark must be sensitive to the surrounding context. Because this is an ideas competition, urban planning and building regulations will not be applied to the design proposal.

| Downloads

All documentation such as cad drawings, site photos and videos required to develop the competition proposal are available at **www.arkxsite.com**. Any additional information will not be provided during or after the registration period. All of the documentation was prepared, organised and published by the **ArkxSite** team for the sole purpose of this architecture ideas competition.

3. AWARDS

The jury members will award three prizes and seven honorable mentions.

1st Prize   **2000 € (Two thousand euros)**
2nd Prize   **1000 € (One thousand euros)**
3rd Prize   **500 € (Five hundred euros)**

7 Honorable Mentions

Publication

All submissions will be published on the **ArkxSite** website. All reasonable efforts will be made to publish and promote the winners and honorable mentions in architectural magazines and blogs worldwide; however, such results will rely on agreements made between the publication entities and ArkxSite.

Notes:
• Honorable Mention citations will not include a cash prize;
• This is strictly an ideas competition, an academic exercise and will not be built. ArkxSite or any other organisations do not have authority or intention to award contracts for design services as a result of this competition. Awarded proposals should consider their award as recognition of excellent work in this competition.
• Depending on which country, award prizes might be subject to tax withholdings.

4. JURY MEMBERS

| Evaluation Process

The jury members will be composed of international professional architects and will be announced on the **ArkxSite** website.

The jury members will review and evaluate all eligible competition proposals and will select the 3 winners and 7 Honorable Mentions. The jury members will base their decision on their own expertise, the work submitted by the participants and the information available on the competition website.

For whatever reason a jury member is unable to review and evaluate during the evaluation period, the jury member may be replaced by an alternate member selected by **ArkxSite**.

Evaluation criteria will be based on:
• Originality and quality of the proposal's design vision
• Responsiveness of the proposal to the competition's objectives
• Appropriateness to the site and its context
• Quality and clarity of the presentation

5. SCHEDULE

Competition opening	May 16, 2016
FAQ questions deadline	July 04, 2016
FAQ answers posted	July 11, 2016
Early Registration period	May 16 - July 18, 2016
Regular Registration period	July 19 - August 31, 2016
Late Registration period	September 01 - September 19, 2016
Submission Deadline	September 24, 2016
Jury Evaluation	October 14 - October 28, 2016
Announcement of Competition Results	November 07, 2016

Notes:

• FAQ (frequently asked questions) available on the **ArkxSite** website;

• All deadlines are established @ 23:59 hrs (Current local time in Portugal)

6. FAQ

Any questions related to the information found within this brief may be addressed by sending your questions to the email address: **info@arkxsite.com** or by using the contact form found on the **ArkxSite** website.

Questions will be answered and published on the FAQ page of the website on the date stated in the competition schedule. Questions related to this competition brief that are received after the FAQ deadline will not be addressed nor answered.

7. REGISTRATION

| Eligibility

The competition is open to all architecture students (undergraduate, graduate, master, PhD, etc.), young architects and young professionals with a degree in architecture studies (≤ 40 years old).

Each team may be composed of **1 up to 4 team members** and may include multidisciplinary members (landscape architects, urban designers, artists, etc) as long as a single architecture student, young architect or young professional with a degree in architecture studies is part of the team. It is not mandatory to be a registered architect.

All members of the team must be ≤ 40 years old on the date of the submission deadline.

Jury members or those involved with the preparation and organisation of this competition may not participate.

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| **Registration Process**

All participants are required to submit the online registration form and complete a payment prior to the registration deadline established by the competition schedule in order for their competition proposal to be reviewed and evaluated. The registration process can be completed in 2 simple steps:

1. Registration form
Complete and submit the registration form located on the **ArkxSite** website
www.arkxsite.com/registration

2. Payment
Select one of the following payment options: PayPal or by Bank transfer (see Payment Methods).

Registration Code: Upon submitting the online registration form and completing the payment, the participant should email a copy of the transaction receipt to **submission@arkxsite.com** as proof of payment. **The email subject must include the name of the team leader**.

The team leader will then receive a **Registration Code** by email confirming the registration in the competition. This **Registration Code** must be included in the **upper right hand corner** of the submitted panel.

| **Fees**

Early registration period	May 16 - July 18, 2016	**60€ + VAT***
Regular registration period	July 19 - August 31, 2016	**75€ + VAT***
Late registration period	September 01 - September 19 , 2016	**90€ + VAT***

* A tax of 23% (VAT rate in Portugal) will be applied to the fees listed above.

Early registration fee	**60€ + 23% = 73,80€**
Regular registration fee	**75€ + 23% = 92,25€**
Late registration fee	**90€ + 23% = 110,70€**

Notes:
- The registration fee refers to a single competition submission.
- Competitors may submit as many entries as they desire; however, each submission must have a unique registration code obtained through the registration form and payment process.
- Teams can not change the team leader or team members after submitting the online registration form and completing the payment.

| **Payment Methods**

PayPal *
Is a secure, fast and easy method for making international online payments. PayPal accepts debit cards and all major credit cards. (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, etc.). Upon completing the payment, the participant should email a copy of the transaction receipt to **submission@arkxsite.com** as proof of payment. **The email subject must include the name of the team leader**.

Bank transfer *

An alternative payment method can be made by bank transfer to the account listed below. Upon completing the payment, the participant should email a copy of the transaction receipt to **submission@arkxsite.com** as proof of payment. **The email subject must include the name of the team leader**.

Bank: Banco BPI, S.A.
IBAN: PT50 0010 0000 5168 6920 0019 5
SWIFT/BIC: BBPIPTPL

Notes:
• Any bank fees related to the bank transfer are the sole responsibility of those who are registering for the competition;
• Keep in mind the registration period deadline established by the competition schedule prior to making the payment.

| Refunds

Under no circumstances will the early, regular and late registration fees be refunded. The registration fees can only be applied to this competition and can not be transferred to a future competition under any circumstances.

8. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The competition submission will consist of a **single digital file** and should comply with the following requirements:

File Format:
• **(1) - A1 sized panel** (59,4 cm x 84,1 cm), **Landscape / Horizontal layout**
• **Registration Code must be located in the upper right-hand corner of the submitted panel**

Graphic layout:
• Graphic layout includes **text, drawings and renderings** to be determined by each team; however, the **program areas** should be clearly identified on the panel.

File type / size / name:
• **JPG** (RGB Color) with **5 Megabytes** (maximum). Recommended **300 dpi** resolution. The JPG file may be compressed to a ZIP or RAR file format.
• **File name** should only include the **Registration Code**.
  For example: **LM00000.jpg**

| Online Submission

The competition panel must be submitted **only once** using the online file-transferring platform **WeTransfer.com** as a single file (JPG file may be compressed to a ZIP or RAR file format) and addressed to **submission@arkxsite.com**. Any submission made by other methods will not be downloaded.

| Submission Deadline

The competition panel should be sent prior to the deadline established on the competition schedule. Competitors are responsible for the arrival of their proposals within the corresponding deadline; therefore, time should be allowed for uploading the files via **wetransfer.com**. No proposal will be evaluated if received after the submission deadline.

9. RULES

| Language

The official language of the competition is **English**.

| Anonymity

This is an international, anonymous, single-stage design competition open to all architecture students, young architects, young professionals with a degree in architecture studies (≤ 40 years old) and multidisciplinary teams composed of landscape architects, urban designers, artists, etc. All members of the team must be ≤ 40 years old. (refer to Eligibility). All competition submissions are to remain anonymous throughout the competition phase and will only be identified using a registration code assigned by ArkxSite during the registration process, (refer to the submission requirements). No entry will be reviewed or evaluated that contains any mark, logo or other indication of the identity of the team members located on the competition panel. The identification of the 3 winners and 7 honorable mention awarded competition panels will only be revealed after the jury evaluation phase and at the time the competition results are published on the ArkxSite website.

| Ownership and Copyrights

Full ownership and copyrights of all submissions in connection to this competition are retained by the author of the work; however, ArkxSite retains the rights to publish (printed or online) and promote the submitted material at their own discretion regarding formats, sizes and composition layouts. All submissions will subsequently become part of the ArkxSite's digital archive.

If any participant wishes to publish, exhibit or promote their competition submission on any website, publications or social media, they are granted the rights to do so, as long as the title of this competition together with ArkxSite are properly referenced and credited as the competition organiser.

| **Award notification**

All awarded teams will be notified by email.

| **Disqualification**

Competition submissions will be automatically disqualified if:

- any attempt of any form of communication regarding this competition is made with the jury members or those involved with the preparation and organisation of this competition;
- any competition submission is received after the deadline as stated on the competition schedule;
- any competition submission panel includes any language other than English;
- any competition submission contains any mark, logo or other indication of the identity the author/s;
- any competition submission does not abide by the submission requirements and rules as stated in this competition brief.

| **Conditions**

- By submitting a proposal for this competition, each team member agrees and accepts the requirements, rules and conditions as listed in this competition brief, as well as final decision of the jury;
- ArkxSite reserves the right to vary, omit or make adjustments to this competition brief at any time during the competition phase. Any such changes will be made public on the website and an updated competition brief will be uploaded onto the website;
- This is strictly an ideas competition, an academic exercise and will not be built. ArkxSite or any other organisations do not have authority or intention to award contracts for design services as a result of this competition. Awarded proposals should consider their award as recognition of excellent work in this competition;
- Awarded competiiton participants may be asked for proof of their eligibility;
- Urban planning and building regulations will not be applied to the design proposal. The competition is organized by ArkxSite as an academic exercise to promote debate and reflection, encouraging new perspectives and innovative strategies of intervention within the territory;
- The jury members reserve the right to award any competition submission that reinterprets the parameters of the competition's objectives, when it is justified by the originality and quality of the proposal's design;
- Participants shall have no claim against ArkxSite in respect to this competition or any alteration made to this competition brief or the documentation such as cad drawings, site photos and site videos that were provided to develop the competition proposal.

10. CONTACT

For general questions please contact us at the email address: **info@arkxsite.com** or fill out the contact form on the website. Any question related to this competition brief should be emailed prior to the FAQ deadline. (see competition schedule). Any questions regarding the registration process and/or payment methods can be made until the Registration Deadline.

If interested, you may also sign up via email to our mailing list for the latest news and updates of all future competitions.

On behalf of the **ArkxSite** team, we welcome you and wish all the participating architecture students and young architects the very best of luck in the competition.

The **ArkxSite** Team
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