

## Floresta Branca / White Forest Project / Monsanto, Lisbon, Portugal

Monsanto Forest Park is Lisbon's largest green area and is considered the city's lung. The challenge launched by the Benfica Town Council, through the opening of a public tender, aimed to build a new space to support all those who visit Monsanto, as well as rehabilitate the outdoor spaces. This is an important step towards the requalification of various areas of the forest park, which the municipality had hoped for.

The company CVZ - Construções, which was given the contract, hired Bruno Câmara Arquitectos to design a new restaurant/bar with outdoor spaces, including several pedestrian routes and play areas in the surrounding areas.

With the aim of developing a contemporary and minimalist architectural project, harmoniously framed in the Monsanto landscape, Bruno Câmara Arquitectos created the concept of a “white forest”, around which it based its entire proposal.

Globally marked by the color white, the project started with the creation of pedestrian paths limited by 3,411 wooden trunks, painted white, which, due to their curved and organic shapes, form outdoor areas with different functions and perspectives, from small auditoriums to various recreational spaces. It is at the heart of this “white forest” that the main restaurant/bar space emerges, with an indoor and outdoor area, enhancing spatiality and connection to the surrounding nature. Defined by a structure of wood, iron, and glass, the building was designed with sustainable, self-supporting materials.

Standing out for its white, minimalist lines, the new building has brought a touch of innovation, plasticity, and elegance to the green of Monsanto, while at the same time achieving the desired landscape setting. The impact was softened by the surrounding white trunks, the harmony of its curved lines in harmony with the surrounding spaces and the materials used.