

Powerful drainage and water retention elements were used on the intensive Green Roof and roof landscape.

When the garden and green spaces around the private restaurant for the residents was planned, plant selection was carefully considered for seasonal colour variation.

The hallmark of the project is that it has no counterparts anywhere in Ukraine.

### Project Data

**Location:** Shevchenkivskiy district, Kiev, Ukraine

**Roof Area:** 700 m<sup>2</sup>

**Construction Year:** 2016

**Landscape Architects/Design:** Landscape Design Pro; [www.landdesigno.com](http://www.landdesigno.com)

**Client:** Poznyaki Zhilstroy



Outdoor recreation is possible within the city on the 32<sup>nd</sup> floor. © ZinCo UA

## New Residential Area Laan van Spartaan, Amsterdam: Beaver, Butterfly and Bird Roof Gardens

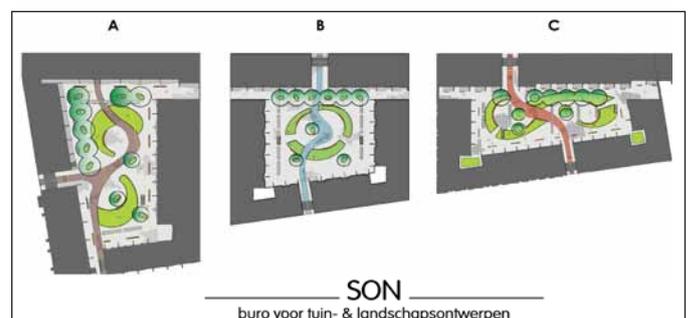
Laan van Spartaan is a new residential area in Amsterdam-West, the Netherlands. High apartment blocks, some over 30 meters high, border the area, whereas further inside smaller apartment blocks up to 12 meters high have been built. They are arranged around three carefully planned courtyards which cover the roof of an underground parking lot. The courtyards have been designed as private roof gardens for the residents and are not accessible to the public.

### General Design

The design of the three roof gardens was inspired by the adjacent Amsterdam ring railway (Ringspoorbaan). Each roof garden has a different theme, but they all complement each other.

As these gardens represent an ecological stepping stone in the city, the themes were chosen from nature and named accordingly. The designs consist of loose shapes which contrast with the sleek and urban development of the buildings.

In addition to their beautiful optical aspects, the gardens were created for recreation, games, etc. Besides walkways, each garden provides a number of meeting venues or places to relax. Seats have been scattered throughout the gardens, each one offering a different view and experience of the garden.



Floor plan of the three courtyards. © SON buro voor tuin- & landschapontwerpen, Sonja van Wieringen

Different elements have been used to bind the three gardens, for example a line of trees, the pavement, loose shapes, colourful vegetation placed in planters of varying heights, and integrated benches. To avoid any obstacles in the gardens, lights have been installed on tensioned cables.

### Design Courtyard A

The theme of courtyard A is birds, which has given the garden its name "Vogelvrij" (free as a bird).

The meandering brown path resembles a tree with branches. The curved raised planters represent birds' nests in the tree. The row of trees provides a spatial transition from the lower to the higher buildings. Smaller trees are scattered around the garden. Plants such as Rosa, Chaenomeles and Malus were selected to attract birds. In addition, the planting is interesting and attractive every season.



The meandering brown path of Courtyard A resembles a tree with branches. © ZinCo Benelux, Harmen Riemens

### Design Courtyard B

Courtyard B is dedicated to small mammals and is called “Beaverloop” (beaver walk).

The main blue accented walkway winds through the garden like a stream. The curved raised planters and seating areas are reminiscent of a beaver dam. The rushes, willows and irises of the garden are similar to the vegetation a beaver would actually use. A central meeting place in the middle of this garden represents the beaver’s lodge. A place where beavers find shelter and protection is also a good place for humans to rest and be comfortable.

The planting transports you to another place: ornamental grasses and reedy vegetation suggest the waterfront. These are preeminent plants that would fit in perfectly with water. This is where the beaver is at home.

The beauty of the grasses is not limited to the summer months, they are very appealing in autumn and winter too. The garden is a year round attractive location for the residents.

### Design Courtyard C

Insects are the theme of Courtyard C, so the garden is called “Vlinderschoon” (beautiful butterfly).

The garden is an ecological interpretation of butterfly wings. Looked at from both above and from garden level, you experience the ease of flying butterflies.



Courtyard C – an ecological interpretation of butterfly wings. © ZinCo Benelux, Harmen Riemens

The main trail through the garden has an orange-red accent, representing the body of a butterfly. Two meeting places have been created in this courtyard. The curved raised planters are the wings of the butterfly.

The fragrant and continuously flowering plants were chosen because they naturally appeal to butterflies. This ensures that butterflies, and insects like bees and dragonflies, visit, find pleasure, and return to this garden.

### Roof Garden Build-up

These three beautiful roof gardens were all built the same way and installed using ZinCo technology.

As they are on top of an underground parking lot, a protection layer was used to cover and protect the waterproofing of the garage. Drainage layers ensure a perfect and permanent drainage of rainwater below the paved areas. The drainage elements are filled with stone chippings to create a stable bedding layer for the concrete tiles and brick paving. A drainage layer of 40 mm was chosen for the raised planters which provide, in combination with an intensive growing medium, the necessary habitat conditions for the chosen plant communities in the three roof gardens.

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### Project Data

**Location:** Laan van Spartaan, Noordstrook Amsterdam, The Netherlands

#### Construction:

Phase A: 2016, 2,240 m<sup>2</sup>, Wieringen Prins Hoveniers

Phase B: 2014, 2,700 m<sup>2</sup>, Van der Tol

Phase C: 2011, 2,600 m<sup>2</sup>, Van der Tol

**Total Area:** 7,540 m<sup>2</sup>

**Architect/Design:** SON buro voor tuin- & landschapsontwerpen; [www.buroson.nl](http://www.buroson.nl)

**Year of Design:** 2008

**Developer:** BPD; [www.bpd.nl](http://www.bpd.nl)  
in cooperation with Ymere; [www.ymere.nl](http://www.ymere.nl)