

SITE CLOISTER

international architecture ideas competition

July 08, 2019 - October 26, 2019 | 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 Cloister** located near the '**Aldeia da Mata**' dolmen, in Crato, Alentejo, Portugal.

The '**Aldeia da Mata**' dolmen is a landmark 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 design proposal emphasises, respects and celebrates the megalithic monument, while providing visitors with a unique experience.

2. COMPETITION

The **Site Cloister** aims to create a **museological path** to enhance the historical significance and contemplative nature of the 'Aldeia da Mata' dolmen. It is an intimate and secluded place between the natural landscape and the '**inner courtyard**' where the megalithic monument becomes a powerful scenery. A sequence of spaces, above and / or below ground, welcome visitors and provide shade while stimulating movement between open-air and / or enclosed spaces and outdoor environments.

| Site Description

Climate: Warm and temperate climate. Summers are hot and dry while winters have moderate temperatures. The annual average temperature is 16.0 °C. The warmest months are July and August and daytime temperatures will generally reach highs of around 32.0°C; at night the average minimum temperature drops down to around 16.0° C. The coldest month is January with an average temperature of 9.0°C.

Latitude: 39°18'03.55"N

Longitude: 7°42'39.45"W

Altitude: 272 m

Rainfall: Total average annual precipitation is 754 mm. The driest month is July, with an average of 6 mm of precipitation and the highest rainfall is in January with an average of 105 mm.

Relative Humidity: The annual average relative humidity is around 60%.

Winds: Predominant winds are from the north.

| Site History

'Aldeia da Mata' dolmen, Crato, Alentejo, Portugal

The **'Aldeia da Mata' dolmen**, also known as the 'Tapadão' dolmen, is located two kilometers from the village Aldeia da Mata in Crato, Portugal.

This megalithic monument dates from 3000 BC and consists of seven megaliths covered by a massive granite slab of irregular shape. The megaliths are partially buried into the ground and the remarkable size of the burial chamber of 4 meters in diameter and 3.5 meters in height is only perceived from the interior. A long and narrow passage of 11 meters in length is formed with granite slabs on both sides. The entrance to the chamber faces east and is enclosed by a wide round-shaped granite slab that rests above the passage. Bone fragments and artifacts were found in the burial chamber. The extensive mound - or tumulus - which covered the megalithic dolmen is still apparent on the site and the prominent granite outcrops scattered in the surrounding landscape enhance the serene atmosphere of the place.

The **'Aldeia da Mata' dolmen** is a significant testimony to the historical and cultural heritage and one of many megalithic monuments that can be visited within the region.

| Program

SITE CLOISTER

The **Site Cloister** aims to create a **museological path** to enhance the historical significance and contemplative nature of the 'Aldeia da Mata' dolmen. It is an intimate and secluded place between the natural landscape and the '**inner courtyard**' where the megalithic monument becomes a powerful scenery. A sequence of spaces, above and / or below ground, welcome visitors and provide shade while stimulating movement between open-air and / or enclosed spaces and outdoor environments.

1. Site Cloister

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Entrance | * m2 |
| Permanent exhibition | 120 m2 |
| Multi-purpose space | 70 m2 |
| Administration office | 20 m2 |
| Meeting room | 30 m2 |
| Research office/s | 40 m2 |
| Archive for archaeological artifacts | 50 m2 |
| Classroom / Workshops | 60 m2 |
| Gift shop | 40 m2 |
| Cafe | 60 m2 |
| Restrooms | 20 m2 |
| Storage room | 15 m2 |
| Mechanical / electrical room | 15 m2 |

2. 'Inner courtyard' * m2

* Areas to be determined by each participant's design proposal.

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

Notes:

The overall design of the Site Cloister must be sensitive to the megalithic monument. There are no limitations in height or excavation. The spaces of the Site Cloister can be open and / or enclosed to the natural elements. Area of the Site Cloister spaces may be increased / altered according to the design proposal. Because this is an ideas competition, urban planning and building regulations will not be applied to the design proposal.

SITE CLOISTER

1. Site Cloister

Entrance:

Provide a space of transition to welcome visitors and articulate the access from the natural landscape to the 'Site Cloister'.

Permanent exhibition:

The permanent exhibition provides visitors with detailed information about the origin of Megalithism in the region and the 'Aldeia da Mata' dolmen (brochures, books, historic documents, video projections, etc) while displaying archaeological artifacts found within the burial chamber (bone fragments, potsherds and artifacts); spaces can be combined and / or separated.

Multi-purpose space:

Provide an area to accommodate temporary exhibitions, seminars and lectures, including a variety of seating arrangements.

Administration office:

Provide an area for 2 administrative staff members of the 'Site Cloister'.

Meeting room:

Provide an area for conducting internal meetings for personnel and researchers.

Research office/s:

Provide an area for research activities related to the origin of Megalithism in the region.

Archive for archaeological artifacts:

Provide an area designated for storing and archiving archaeological artifacts found in the region.

Classroom / Workshops:

Area for diverse educational activities related to the Megalithism.

Gift Shop

Provide an area where books, exhibition catalogues and souvenirs are sold.

Cafe:

Provide an indoor / outdoor cafe with 16 indoor seats and 20 outdoor seats.

Restrooms:

Provide public restrooms.

Storage room

Provide an area for storing maintenance equipment.

Mechanical / electrical room

Provide an area for mechanical and electrical equipment.

2. 'Inner courtyard'

The 'inner courtyard' is to be perceived as an open-air exhibition space, an intimate and secluded space to enhance the contemplative nature of the Megalithic dolmen and the experience of the place; a water feature might be contemplated in the design.

| Downloads

All documentation such as cad drawings and site photos 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 and may not be used for any other purposes.

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 | July 08, 2019 |
| FAQ questions deadline | September 20, 2019 |
| FAQ answers posted | September 27, 2019 |
| Early Registration period | July 08 - September 09, 2019 |
| Regular Registration period | September 10 - October 10, 2019 |
| Late Registration period | October 11 - October 21, 2019 |
| Submission Deadline | October 26, 2019 |
| Jury Evaluation | November 22 - December 06, 2019 |
| Competition Results | January 10, 2020 |

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.

| 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 3 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).

3. 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.**

Once both registration form and payment are completed and received by ArkxSite, the team leader will then receive a **Registration Code** by email within **48 hours** (2 business days) 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 | July 08 - September 09, 2019 | 60€ + VAT* |
| Regular registration period | September 10 - October 10, 2019 | 75€ + VAT* |
| Late registration period | October 11 - October 21, 2019 | 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 with one registration code.
- 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.**

ArkxSite, Lda.

Bank: Banco BPI, S.A.

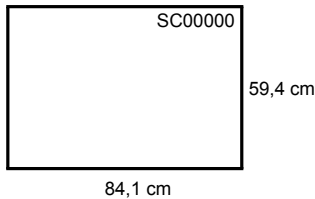
IBAN: PT50 0010 0000 5168 6920 0019 5

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.

8. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS



SITE CLOISTER

Submission Deadline: **October 26, 2019**

@ 23:59 hrs (Current local time in Portugal)

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

File Format:

- **(1) - A1 sized panel (84,1 cm x 59,4 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 file format.
- **File name** should only include the **Registration Code**.
For example: **SC00000.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 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.

| Submission Confirmation

Participants who submitted panels should receive an automatic confirmation email from WeTransfer. A second confirmation email will be sent from ArkxSite within **72 hours (3 business days) 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 (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 (refer to Eligibility). All competition submissions are to remain anonymous throughout the competition phase and will only be identified using a unique 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 mentions 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.

| 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.

| 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, after the competition results are made public, 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 contains any mark, logo or other indication of the identity the author/s;
- any competition submission does not abide by the online 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 cancel or suspend or alter the competition brief and schedule at any time during the competition, if deemed necessary in its opinion, and if circumstances arise outside of its control. Any such changes will be made public on 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 competition 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 nor legal action 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 to our newsletter mailing list via email for the latest news and updates of all future competitions, sign up at the bottom of the website.

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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