



Winner: Architecture

A new roof for the entrance to Palma de Mallorca's Intermodal Station

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Palma's Intermodal Station was built in 2007 in Plaza de España, site of the existing railway station. The main entrance to the Intermodal Station is via an exposed flight of steps, which suffers occasional flooding due to the fact that it provides access to the underground metro facilities. Further inconveniences include passenger discomfort during hot or rainy weather and continuous escalator breakdowns caused by the inclement conditions.

The intervention resolved two key issues: a cover for the entrance to Palma de Mallorca's intermodal bus and railway station, consisting of a flat roof; and a focal point consisting of a tower information panel intended to draw attention to the location of the entrance due to its partially concealed location between two existing buildings.

The seemingly simple solution consisted of a volume featuring ceramic latticework, requiring a minimal impact on the surroundings yet effectively drawing attention to the entrance. Further benefits include protection for the station entrance from flooding and minimal maintenance thanks to its simple structure.

The latticework is aligned with a cornice of the existing buildings, establishing a harmonious formal dialogue between the colours and substance of the new ceramic tiles and the older constructions.

After dark, the latticework effect is transformed into an illuminating element, allowing the light to filter through the ceramic tiles thanks to a series of lights positioned around the perimeter.

The ceramic tiles were designed and manufactured specifically for the roof. Measuring 12 x 24 x 12 cm, they feature a diagonal section that can be positioned in either direction to create varying patterns, whilst also preventing birds from flying into the centre of the structure.