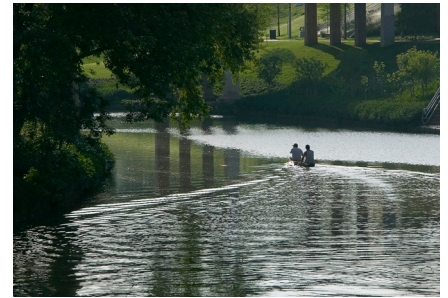
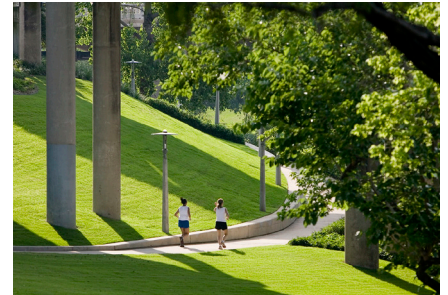


Buffalo Bayou Promenade



Location

Houston, Texas

Client

The Buffalo Bayou Partnership

Owner

City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department

SWA Scope

Landscape Architecture

Size

23 acres 23 acres (93,078 m²)

1.2-mile reach (1.93 km)

Consultants

L'Observatoire International and
Stephen Kornis - architectural lighting

Awards

- ASLA National Award of Excellence
- ASLA Texas Chapter Excellence in Design Award
- ULI Finalist for Award for Excellence: The Americas
- ULI Houston Development of Distinction Award
 - The Waterfront Center's Excellence Award
- Houston Business Journal Landmark Award for Best Community Impact Project and for Best Public/Private Partnership
- H-GAC (Houston-Galveston Area Council) Honor Award, Best Practices in Parks and Natural Areas

Buffalo Bayou Promenade is a 23-acre recreation area that has transformed an impenetrable urban wasteland into a thriving urban waterfront. This inner-city parkland provides a critical pedestrian and bicycle link, a pedestrian bridge that allows citizens to make a complete loop without traversing city streets, artistic safety lighting that mirrors the lunar cycle, and frequent stairway connections from the bayou to the city streets above.

Stone-filled gabions were placed along the water's edge as an ecologically friendly way to control bank erosion. Plant materials, as well as light fixtures and signage, were specially chosen to thrive in the midst of periodic flooding conditions along the bayou. The planting design also involved removing invasive monocultures and installing a large variety of native, flood-resistant riparian vegetation and trees, which significantly improved the area's wildlife habitat.

