

Carré Belge Cologne

Location
Cologne

Built

Brief: Conversion and new construction of a hotel with underground parking garage

GFA of new building and conversion: 12,300 m²

Construction period for hotel and retail area: 2018–2019



A green hotel between the Belgian district and Gerling quarter

ingenhoven architects are responsible for the overall concept for the change of use of Cologne's former CAPITOL TV production facility to a hotel. Key elements of the project are the facade design of the existing building and an extension building in the inner courtyard. The central inner city site between the Belgian district and the Gerling quarter has been chosen for the development of a four-star boutique hotel. The new 186-room building will be constructed on a 4,000 square meter site and have six upper stories; the site is the inner courtyard of the CAPITOL precinct and will be accessed from Hohenzollernring. In addition, the project includes an attractive retail area with a gross floor area of 1,800 square meters, which will be partly accommodated in the existing CAPITOL building and partly in a new building in the inner courtyard.

Since its opening in 1929 and its reconstruction in 1954, the Capitol had been Cologne's most important cinema. At the end of the 1990s the building became well known throughout Germany as the production facility of TV productions such as The Harald Schmidt Show and TV Total. Retaining the name, ingenhoven architects will provide a new face to the historic building. The guiding idea for the design is the image of a

stacked pyramid as a green lung in the midst of the new CAPITOL hotel. This involves numerous offset planted terraces and floor-high windows on the side of the new hotel building facing the inner courtyard. The facade facing Hohenzollernring presents a prestigious address for the hotel, offices, and shops, featuring an elegant, transparent front building with an opening to the green inner courtyard of the building complex, both of which will attract the attention of passers-by. The new inner courtyard provides shade, traps dust particles, and—with its many plants—controls the humidity in the air. It is in the form of a protective square that absorbs noise and sound.

In terms of urban design, the new development will further enhance the attractiveness of the Hohenzollernring area. In addition, the new buildings are an appropriate development adjacent to the Belgian district.

Awards, Nominations

Team

Client

Objektgesellschaft Capitol GmbH / PROXIMUS REAL ESTATE AG

Architect

ingenhoven architects, Düsseldorf

Team ingenhoven architects

Christoph Ingenhoven, Hinrich Schumacher, Marco Ossmann, Dariusz Szczygielski, Peter Pistorius, Andreas Crynen, Maximo Victoria, Elisabetta Sotgiu, Marko Salapura, Till von Roetel, Caroline Nathusius

Project management

IQ Real Estate GmbH, Düsseldorf

Structural design

WSK Ingenieure GmbH, Cologne and Düsseldorf

Facade design

DS-Plan, Cologne

Mechanical services installations

HPI Himmen Ingenieursgesellschaft mbH & Co.KG, Cologne

Fire protection

Burckhard, Pabst und Partner, engineers and architects, Cologne

Landscape design

Enzo Enea, Zurich

Soil expert

Althoff & Lang GbR, soil and environmental consultants, Cologne

Surveyor

SEAD Vermessung, Cologne

Building physics

ISRW Dr.-Ing. Klapdor GmbH, Düsseldorf