Seaside Residence For Katajanokka

This work represents my intention to think through the residential design agenda and focus on contemporary seaside residence. The project proposes a place- and time-specific design of a new housing area in response to the novation urban settings.

Living in the city by the sea is a statement guiding the project. The aim of the design is to illustrate the possibility to expand the city. The design approach of the project is to ensure a variety and relevance of the apartment solutions, establish a neighborhood and support the urban lifestyle. Specific yet neutral shared and public spaces as a continuation of the living space, emphasizing and taking in use the picturesque location of the site.

Since the development of the Katajanokka shore line is going towards lively public space and the location of the site is right next to the city center, I propose living environment supplied with attractive shared spaces. The area is targeted for residents who wish to live in the heart of the city and apply for convenient services as well as spaces for free time and creativity. Nevertheless, the location of the site is somewhat on the periphery, which makes me consider the family-oriented tenants as well and adapt the design for a hassle-free living. The focus is on the middle-sized studios with an excellent orientation and thoughtful layout. The other apartment solutions vary from spacious family apartments to extra-efficient micro accommodations which can be considered as a second home or a short-term primary residence.
The City

The green roof tops provide the opportunity to enjoy the marine panorama. The blocks’ courtyards continue into a semi-private terraces. The interior streets waves through the blocks, stitching the sites together. Creating enclosed blocks, but with an opening towards the south to let the sun into the courtyard. The interior streets waves through the blocks, stitching the site together.

The Neighborhood

The City of Katajanokka to the city center and approaching change in the South Harbor towards more public-oriented chyscape attracts people with dynamic lifestyle and certain requirements to living environment.

One of these blocks, the front block is a link between the new residential area and the rest of the city. Therefore, give it more public character by placing the commercial free-time and issues spaces on the ground floor instead is growing and the sector of knowledge and creative workers expands. That is why those spaces need to be flexible. There is a co-working environment place for meeting or just spending time by your own with a cup of coffee and view towards the South Harbor. SW is a place for education, so the residential is a suitable concept – contemporary citizens value time and knowledge. Along the street, I design commercial and office studio places so that they are easily accessible and make the street more livable.

To make the area more efficient it schematically draw public building along the shoreline. These can be occupied by, for example, a daycare center, education center, healthcare and wellness facility. The current service key harbor on a very eastern tip of peninsula can be extended and rearranged into a new sort of traffic unit, since one of the perspective for city development includes the ferry connection from Katajanokka to Kruunuvuorenranta. The Mediateque is a suitable concept – contemporary citizens value time and knowledge. Along the street, there are people who spend time by your own with a cup of coffee and view towards the South Harbor. Still it is a place for education, so why those spaces need to be flexible. There is a co-working environment place for meeting or just spending time by your own with a cup of coffee and view towards the South Harbor. SW is a place for education, so the residential is a suitable concept – contemporary citizens value time and knowledge. Along the street, I design commercial and office studio places so that they are easily accessible and make the street more livable.

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Block shape logic

Reasonable geometry
The block is designed so as to fulfill the demands for a comfortable micro-climate inside of the courtyard and pleasant orientation according to the sun. The block is open towards the sea.

Quality of shared spaces
Common rooms and seaside terrace take a beneficial position so the residents can enjoy the view and experience the sea. Green rooftops as well provide possibilities for recreation.

Front block features

City oriented
The geometry of the block is open towards the city and directs towards the seaside terrace. The block has a bit more public character.

Open use spaces
The ground floor is flexible and transparent. The open use spaces include working places, as well as cafe, mediatheque and library. Together with the courtyard they form a place for social meetings with an excellent orientation and marine view.

Ekaterina Ishimova
I expect that, while living in the city by the sea, one applies for reasonable sized yet comfortable apartment with pleasant orientation and views. Therefore, that is what I define as a focus of my apartment solution. One of the most important thing in the design is to make sure that apartments are accessible or can be rearranged as such. Also, I pay attention to the arrangement of the shared-use spaces, supporting facilities since they as well contribute to the comfort of living.

Following the trend of residential development in Helsinki, I make an accent on medium-sized one-bedroom apartments. Taking the advantage of pleasant south and west orientation, uniform apartments are placed in gallery scheme. Each of those homes have a spacious terrace towards the sea. In each of the gallery units include a shared living room with sauna and access straight to the seaside terrace. Such spaces can be used for community events, celebrations, as well as rentable spaces for tenants’ own use. Storages and some supporting facilities are on each floor of the galleries.

Single room apartments are also designed in units along with bigger up to three-bedroom apartments. Those apartment units take sheet and eastern sides of residential blocks with most of living room towards the sea. For these apartments, my intention is to ensure efficiency while keeping them comfortable and functional. Supporting facilities are on the ground or underground floors. Blocks along the street have direct access to the underground parking.

Somehow experimental are the extra-small apartments in a form of serviced co-housing. I would like to include them in the project so to emphasize the dynamic life flow in the center of capital city. Such apartments are design for singles, who are likely to use it as a second home or for rent. For the service facilities, I propose in a red color, by that refer to brick buildings right next to the area. Walls behind the translucent facades, in corridors, shared rooms leave the space for imagination – could be clad in any material, unless it is fire-resistant. For instance, tiles, graphic or exotic patterns gives an eclectic look, which is quiet organic in Katajanokka artistic ambiance and also relevant to harbor as it reminds of traveling and faraway countries.