

SEVILLA

As it goes through the Guadalquivir

The new edition of Stainless Steel and the City brings us to the city of the special colour and the scent of orange blossom. We propose following the waterway that crosses the city. Since its origin the Guadalquivir river has been a key factor in the development of the city. It is the only navigable river in Spain, Guadalquivir has enabled Sevilla to enjoy the port 90 km from the sea. The river basin that guides water through of the city,

has suffered modifications along the years to adapt to the evolving needs.

We start our city tour with a government building sited in San Jerónimo, a developing district.

SEPE building

Built in 2010, it is the headquarters of the State Public Employment Service in Sevilla. UNIA Architects provided its industrial design with the answers to the

conditions of the site and the complex net where it is inserted. A committed team of architects that prioritise materials with lower carbon footprint. Stainless steel is the chosen material to accompany the visitor inside, through the panels that dress the ground floor façade.

It will only take some minutes to walk from San Jerónimo avenue to *Glorieta Olímpica*. Fully recognizable for being guarded by the Alamillo bridge which can be seen from a far distance.

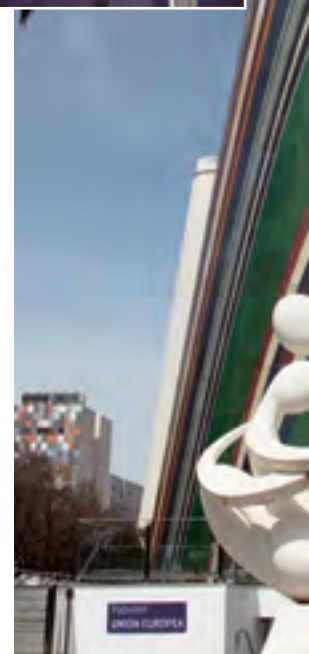
Olympic roundabout flagpole

We draw our attention to the huge flagpole with a stunning winding Spanish flag. It was installed in 2019, replacing the original one that was made for the Expo in 1992 when it came to the end of its lifetime.

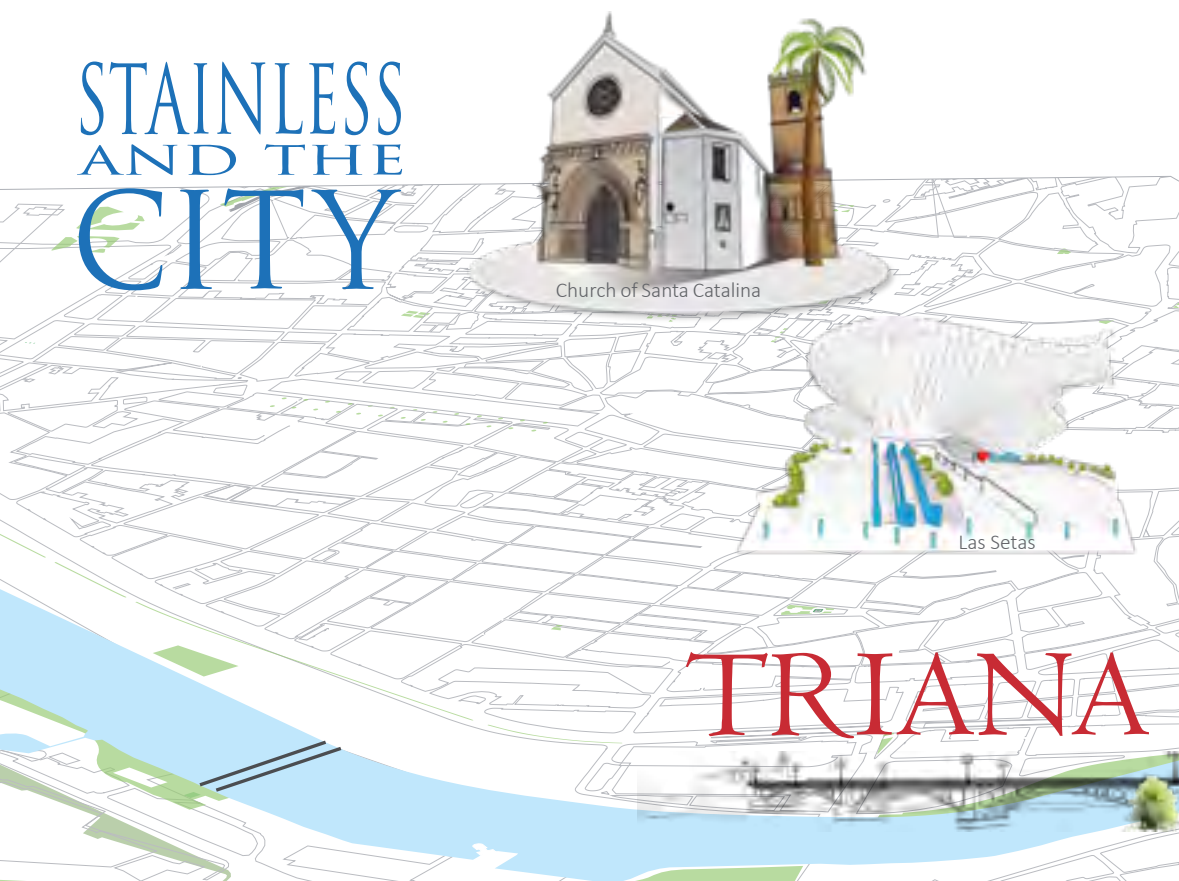
It is more than 40 m high and it was calculated to withstand wind loading even in extreme conditions. It was made with



State Public Employment Service in Sevilla (SEPE)



STAINLESS AND THE CITY



satin finish stainless steel in order to guarantee durability.

Now, we are crossing the Alamillo bridge designed by Santiago Calatrava, engineer and architect.

Isla de la Cartuja

To understand the architecture of this area, it is necessary to go back to the social, political, and cultural moment Spain was experiencing in 1982, when Sevilla's bid for the 1992 Universal Exhibition was proposed. It was a perfect framework for opening up to the world after a long dictatorship. Spain would be the host, drastically breaking the international isolation of the preceding decades.

Spain's history was not the only one reflected in Expo'92, organized during the Cold War but inaugurated just after its conclusion. Germany participated, after the fall of the Berlin Wall, with a single space: "The unified Germany", while the pavilion of the Baltic countries showed three new countries: Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Likewise, the USSR pavilion became Russia's.

The chosen theme was "The Age of Discoveries" to commemorate the 5th centenary of the Discovery of America. The ideal location was Isla de La Cartuja, due to its proximity to the center and its position on the banks of the Guadalquivir. Its large area and the pre-existence of the Cartuja Monastery, where it is believed Cristóbal Colón spent some time before his first voyage, made it the perfect scenario.

After the decision, a Competition of Ideas was called to define the layout of the site. With the finalist proposals, the Expo'92 Master Plan was developed, and with it, the countdown to face the work to be carried out over the next few years started: infrastructures, pavilions, and public spaces.



Pavilion of the European Economic Community Expo in 92



Olympic roundabout flagpole

Among the various Pavilions, which welcomed more than 40 million visitors, we will stop at some that are preserved and of which stainless steel is a part.

The pavilion of the European Economic Community, formed at that time by 12 members, is located in the middle of Europa Ave., right in the centre of the boulevard. The project, carried out by German architect Karl Karsten, consists of a 50 meter high conical tower decorated with the flags of the member countries. Stainless steel surrounds the building at the entrance and rises to anchor the colourful panels that cover it.

The French pavilion, located at the intersection of two of the site's main circulation axes, was one of the main attractions. Designed by French architects Jean-Paul Viguier, Jean-François Jodry and François Seigneur. At first glance, the

pavilion appears as a thin sheet supported at its corners by four pillars. The pavilion's façade goes unnoticed; it is a large mirror that blends with its surroundings. Its space frame covers a large surface with only four supports, which are four hinged hollow circular section pillars made of stainless steel, making this structural feat possible.

This was not the only representation of stainless steel during the World Expo. Some of the regional pavilions also bet on this material. The pavilion of Galicia aimed to advertise the Jacobean Holy Year of 1993 and it was intended to be reused for this purpose. The stainless steel used in Franco Taboada's project highlighted the role of Galician industry through new technologies.

On the other hand, José Manuel Pérez Latorre, architect from Zaragoza,

designed the Aragón pavilion under the premise of being detachable because it should be returned to Zaragoza after the event. He opted for dry construction techniques, with a leading role of the polished stainless steel façade structure to contrast with the other main focus, alabaster, creating a poetic image that met the functional requirements.

Finally, the Canarias pavilion, known as the "Pavilion of Light", was the work of architects José Manuel Barrio and César Mezquita. Its restaurant delighted many, not only by its rich cuisine but also for its fine interior design where stainless steel combined with other metals Romanesque arcades, huge planters or ceiling lattices. From the beginning, there was a future plan for the Isla de La Cartuja towards a "Cartuja Technological and Scientific Park". It is now when our next destination comes.

Vorsevi building

Vorsevi's headquarters is a spacious and modern business centre adapted to

the established energy savings requirements. Its shell-shaped roofing is made of pre-curved stainless steel sandwich panels.

The high-speed train (AVE) to Sevilla was one of the infrastructure developments undertaken for the Expo. This includes the four new bridges, among which we highlight the Barqueta bridge that connects the exhibition area with the historic centre, which will be our next stop.

The Barqueta bridge

An iconic single-span structure that innovatively uses the simplicity of the arch for Spain in the late 1980s. A steel structure, a large cable-stayed



Francia pavillion Expo 92



arch that supports the metallic deck, which allowed for reduced deadlines, something so important in this race against time. Juan José Arenas and Marcos Pataleón's work was not merely functional. They paid special attention to the pedestrian experience, as access to the exhibition area was through this walkway. Thus, the arch rests on triangular arcades symbolizing access gates. Stainless steel accompanies us throughout the full walk with the 450 m of handrail made from tubing and topped with a banister made of the same material.



Church of Santa Catalina



After crossing the bridge, we enter the historic centre of the city, discovering some of its secrets. Santa Catalina church, our next destination, is one of those places that bear witness to the passage of different civilizations.

Church of Santa Catalina

Of Mudejar Gothic style, built in the 14th century on a former mosque, it preserves part of the mihrab and the minaret. Stainless steel was not a part of its construction until its restoration. In the

intervention, led by the architect Francisco Jurado, part of the work involved of the construction of a white concrete slab reinforced with stainless steel. In addition to the reinforcement of the pillars to adjust the structure to the safety requirements. The procedure followed the jacketing technique with a lining of stainless steel rebars that is later filled with injected mortar.

We reach the end of our first tour at "Las Setas" (the mushrooms), one of the most representative interventions of the 21st century in the Andalusian capital.

Las Setas

Metropol Parasol but naturally called by Sevillian people as "Las Setas" ("The mushrooms"). It is a unique urban space that hosts a multitude of activities spread across its different levels. On

the ground floor, there are the archaeological remains and the museum that resulted from the discovery. On a higher level, there is the square with its market and some metres above we find an elevated square. This innovative wooden structure covers the space. Six elements rise from

the ground with different heights and are unified through a sloping walkway that runs across the surface offering panoramic routes of the entire city. Stainless steel also has a presence, although it could not be in its structure but at the stairs that connect the market square with the elevated one.

The Barqueta bridge





The historical heritage of Seville is reflected in its architecture and urbanism. Of uncertain origin, it has been inhabited by Phoenicians, Carthaginians, and Romans, followed by a period of Visigothic kingdom and the Muslim conquest, when it reached its splendor and was

named "Ishbiliya", a name that would evolve to the current "Sevilla". Added to this the great impact of the three main religions that have populated its streets, Islam, Christianity and Judaism, which have coexisted in greater or lesser harmony throughout different moments in history.



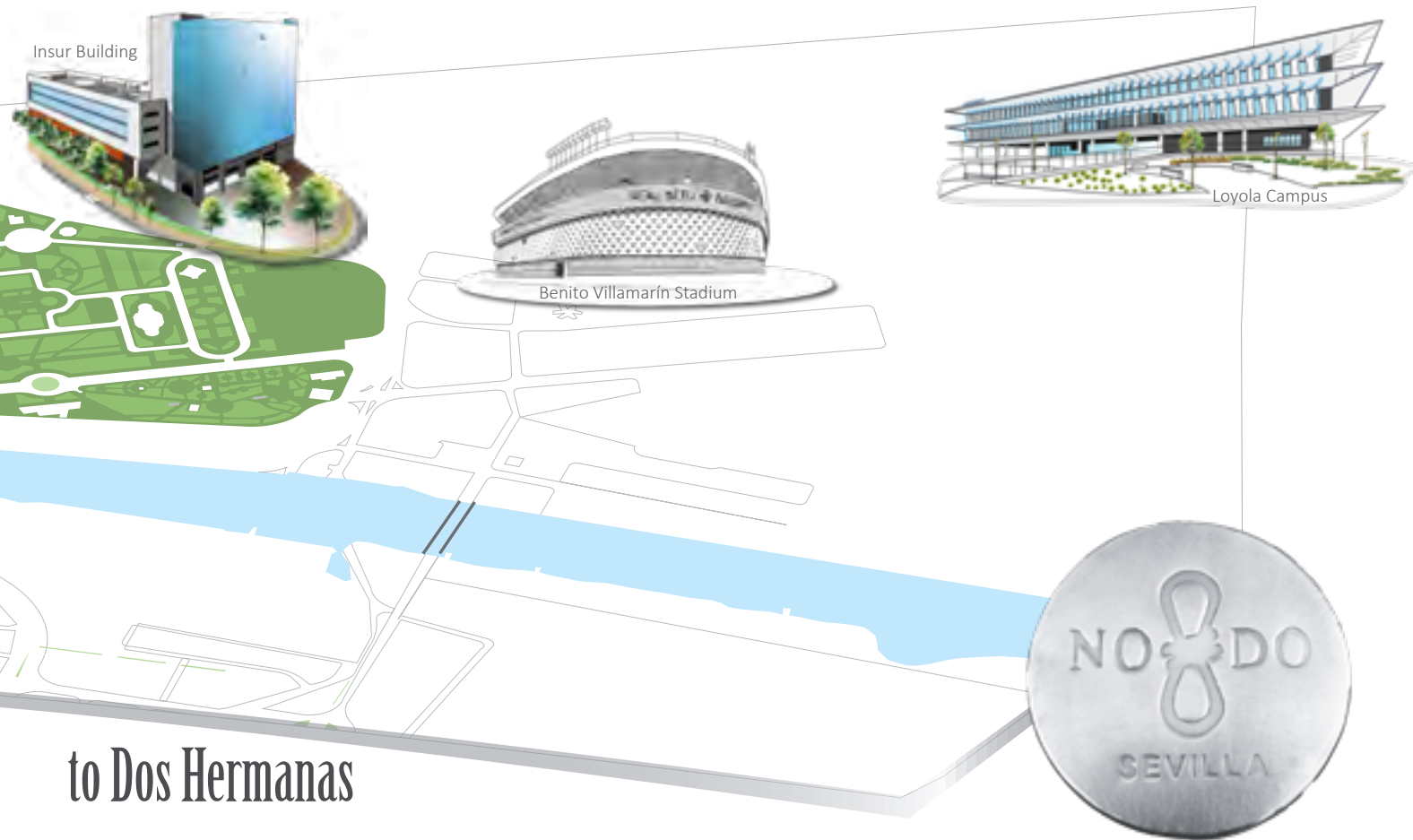
The Cathedral



We begin the second tour through the oldest streets of the city and head to its distinctive Cathedral, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, along with the Real Alcázar and the Archivo de Indias.

The Cathedral

It is a Gothic temple built in the 15th century on the remains of the Aljama mosque, from which it preserves its minaret, now known as the Giralda. It represents the greatest



to Dos Hermanas



Plaza de Cuba Metro station

testimony of Almohad culture in Andalucía, with horseshoe pointed and lobular arches that scale the body of the tower. Crowning the tower is the element that gives it its name, the Giraldillo. It is a bronze weather vane in the shape of a woman, that is part of the Renaissance finial that replaced the upper part of the minaret in the 16th century due to deterioration. One more example of the mixture of styles that Sevilla has cultivated by embracing

the new while respecting the old, giving rise to such a rich heritage. It is precisely in this mobile element where stainless steel plays a part. The internal forged iron structure that supports the bronze figure and ensures the movement

was completely damaged. It had to be replaced by a new identical one made of AISI 316L stainless steel.

Now we head to another neighbourhood of deep tradition, Triana. Located

between two channels, the Guadalquivir and its dock, the Isabel II bridge connects it with the old quarter, where we come from. Our next stop, just crossing the bridge, is in Altozano square.

Triana Market

Full of life, built on the site originally occupied by San Jorge Castle. Despite being a 2001 construction, the neighbourhood had a fresh food market in the same location centuries ago.

We encourage you to go inside and breathe the energy of the market, focused on local products and its bars where you can enjoy a snack. It is necessary to look up to see the stainless steel, found in the trusses that support the roof offering an image of absolute lightness.



Triana Market



Insur building

The large building follows the alignment of Diego Martínez Barrios Avenue. The design consists of a low volume with a granite façade, featuring an excavated strip of horizontal openings and a corrugated sheet metal in the horizontal division, to accentuate the perspective of the avenue. In contrast, a second predominantly vertical volume appears, with a large glass façade that reflects the surroundings.

We could not leave Sevilla without talking about football, and its great fans. Our next site is a witness to the laughter and tears of the *verdiblanco*s.

Benito Villamarín Stadium

It is the playing field of the Real Betis Balompié, by Sevillian architect Antonio González Cordón. Like many other stadiums, this one has been built on the Club's former one, much more modest field and has undergone successive renovations and expansions to adapt to each moment. As we enter the stadium, we can see the stainless steel mesh enclosures in the access carpentry at different levels, and the vertical surfaces of bars and restrooms with pictograms marked on the surface of the material, work by GMetal. With the stadium about to embark on a renewal project by Rafael de la Hoz and Gensler, as announced by the club in 2023, it is worth coming to see the concrete skin that constantly alludes to the club's crest, with its triangular lattice.

Our city tour will follow the riverbank along the emblematic Betis street, which offers beautiful views of the historic centre. Colourful and narrow houses and countless bars and terraces flank our way. Soon we will arrive at Cuba square, where we will make a brief stop to comment on the Metro stations of Sevilla. Conceived as glass parallelepipeds with a flat roof and stainless steel structure, they are designed to make the transition to the underground more pleasant by offering the natural light entry.

We will cross the river one last time through the San Telmo bridge.

Plaza de España

An architectural complex of Andalusian Regionalist style by architect Aníbal González, created on the occasion of the Ibero-American Exposition of 1929. It is semicircular-shaped of huge dimensions, its framing construction embraces the visitor. The Spanish provinces are represented on the decorated ceramic benches, which along with the use of brick are characteristics of the traditional Andalusian

architecture that extols the regionalist style. In order to detect the stainless steel we must approach the canal, which is crossed by four magnificent bridges. It is used as a crash barrier for recreational boats. A common use of the material in a unique enclave.

In just a 10 minutes walk we will reach the next building in the Nervión neighbourhood, a commercial and financial area of the city. This is a perfect site for a corporate headquarters.

Plaza de España





Bus shelters

We are saying good-bye to Sevilla from the municipality of Dos Hermanas, part of the metropolitan area. This zone has experienced significant growth in recent decades due to its proximity to Sevilla and its industrial activity.

Loyola Campus

The Loyola University campus obtained LEED Platinum certification due to the design by Luis Vidal + Architects. The building is articulated around a large square which, based on traditional Andalusian architecture, promotes gathering. Around it, following a transversal and a longitudinal axis, the spaces for classrooms,

library, chapel, cafeteria and laboratories are organized. The building's envelope is composed of textile elements,



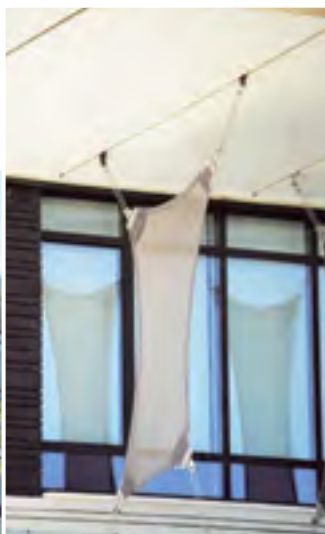
Benito Villamarín Stadium

tensioned sails that ensure solar control and user comfort. The position and orientation of these elements change for each façade. The anchoring of the sails are made of stainless

steel vertex plates and screw terminals that keep the sails perfectly tight.

And so, we conclude our personal guided tour of Sevilla, where stainless steel exists although often in a silent and discreet way. We encourage you to discover more icons on our virtual map.

See you soon!



Loyola Campus

