Changzhi Island, Shanghai, China

A New Settlement: Connecting the Mountains to the Sea
The spirit of European urbanism is convincingly interpreted for this Chinese seaside location

President Song, Greentown Group

Changzhi Island is located south of Zhoushan in the Qiantang River Delta archipelago, close to the regional centres of Ningbo, Hangzhou and Shanghai.

The island runs from north-west to south-east. It is largely undeveloped and is connected to Zhoushan by a bridge. Two hills divide Changzhi into three areas; the middle and eastern parts are salt fields, while the west side is given over to farmland.

The brief was for a new settlement to accommodate 50,000 people, designed on sustainable principles to create a low energy, ecological town.

JTP won the project through an invited, international competition.

Project Delivery

- A brief developed through an intensive nine day design charrette process with the client and design team.

- A masterplan that encompasses the best traditions of European urban design and placemaking, adapted to Chinese culture and form.

- Creation of a compact town centre with a canal system around its perimeter, to reinforce a sense of place.

- A new freshwater lake south of the centre, designed as an attractive destination for residents and visitors.

- Architectural set piece buildings to define a cultural quarter, linked to the town centre by a linear urban park.

- Access improvements to open up the existing forested hill, to the east of the town centre, for outdoor activities.

- A new marina for a distinct arrival where the existing bridge meets the island.

- An executive golf course to the south, with high-quality, high value residential enclaves interspersed within the layout.

Client

Greentown Group

Awards

Successful Design Awards 2015
Social Innovation category – Winner