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The Guggenheim Helsinki gently occupies the Eteläsatama area, opening up the shoreline for the citizens of Helsinki. The museum not only entertains art lovers and international tourists, but reclaims the presently closed harbor dock for the people, creating new venues for casual city life: idling, enjoying the view, sunbathing, having a picnic or just taking a shortcut.

The Guggenheim Helsinki will not block the views across the bay with impenetrable structures. Instead it will open a new accessible urban space above the ground-floor of the museum. This space is reachable from all directions, accessible by ramps, stairs and a bridge. This structural extension of the rolling hill of Tähtitorninmäki is divided into zones using landscaping. A structure of crisscrossing wooden walkways and low-growing local flora brings a high-line like atmosphere to the harbor area, while shards of pack-ice penetrate the surface, creating ambiance into the open public space.