

INNIN - the small city of contrasts



Behind the strategic plan lies the desire to gradually transform the small city of Nin into a living organism that BLOOMS in the summer but reaches its full potential ALL YEAR ROUND.

Considering its rich historic background and the layers upon layers that have made the town what it is today, the proposal seeks a balance between the existing urban fabric and specific intertwined elements that can attract visitors during the entire year. A city built only because of its haphazard location near the sea can now become one of multiple interests and possibilities, where the environment only provides the stage for its new performers.

In order to reach this goal, our research was based on three elements: connections between Nin and the surrounding cities with the resources they can offer, predominant occupation of the inhabitants in relation to the services provided and environment potential. This analysis allowed for a better understanding of the real problem and led to developing a simple and efficient way in which disadvantages can be turned into profitable outcomes.

the PROBLEM

Where can we begin...the city doesn't have a well identified town center with public spaces and places for gathering and activities, the beach is hard to reach and doesn't provide easy access to restaurants, terraces or adjoining services, the street layout is hectic and makes travelling from A to B a labyrinthine task, the salt mines with their beautiful scenery aren't in any way exploited, the eastern river is almost abandoned, there aren't any shops, offices or cultural institutions and the list can go on...

Although the city benefits from a variety of natural or manmade assets, not a lot of effort was put into shaping and offering them to the public. Ancient architecture is almost lost at a first glance and the new architecture doesn't seem to comply to a specific urban rule. Walking about the city is monotonous, it lacks vibrancy and maybe an element of surprise around the corner.

Therefore, our strategy proposes a long-term step by step approach that can be followed all the way through or can be put to a halt anywhere down the line, according to economic possibilities and urban restrictions. Without disregarding the shape into which the city has matured, the 5 main courses of action all serve the purpose of inserting new elements that can "bring chaos" to the normal, quiet pace of the seaside town.

the SOLUTION

1. Developing a new street layout that allows for better connections between important landmarks inside the city and generates a well though grid of urban axes. Travelling distances can this way be reduced but at the same time the entire plot can be accessed.



2. Identifying the plots that are suited for small developments, such as new housing units and those that can support larger investments
3. Inserting new services that can establish a point of interest and bring tourist from all the surrounding cities or even permanent inhabitants
4. Exploiting the natural resources – the beach and the river – by inserting elements of value
5. Improving the quality of urban life by adding a series of public spaces dispersed all over the town

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Therefore, keeping some of the existing streets, we found it beneficial to create a loop surrounding the Zdrijak neighborhood, with ramifications throughout.

In order to create a spatial composition, a new housing unit was proposed. A new typology that can benefit the pickiest tourist but also the long-term inhabitant. The same module can be used as a solitary element, but can also be joined together to form row house in order to adapt to the site requirements.

The area has an abundance of opportunities that can be exploited in order to achieve a safe heaven for tourist of any kind. The old town needs to be revamped and undergo a series of changes. This is where our proposal comes towards with innovative thinking and unique arrangements.



Our proposal allows the local inhabitants to increase their financial stability and thus creating an economical balance even in the so called hibernation months. To overcome the winter life we have looked into adapting the housing units to colder temperatures by creating touristic attractions that can be seen in the winter as well.

The important landmarks have been clearly located as main points of attraction in the local community.

The university is meant to keep local and overseas students in the city keeping the atmosphere alive. This will result in a potential increase of inhabitants of younger age and therefore contribute to the local economy.

The spa center is designed to accommodate a high quality clients with locally sourced raw material such as sea salt & mud. The space abounds in materials that can be used in a short cycle having reduced processing prices and making it

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The expo pavilion has a multipurpose use with the ability of accommodating multiple uses such as conferences, workshop events and other cultural activities.

The restaurant is meant to encourage locally sourced fish and vegetables grown in the near proximity having the opportunity of creating an aqua-culture business. The proposal also includes a watch tower which can become a main attraction point for local bird watching enthusiasts or just simple tourist.

The proposal brings the much required balance to the city and it's community, while increasing revenues and putting the bases for an economic boost.