

Public Shade Canopies

an international survey 2017

The provision of shade is a recognized key strategy towards the prevention of skin cancer, especially in countries with fair-skinned populations. Little research has been undertaken into the range of possible designs to protect public spaces from ultraviolet radiation (UVR). This compendium gathers together examples of 90+ public shade canopies from around the world. The projects were identified through a review of international architectural journals from 2006 to 2016 and articles from online websites posted prior to February 2017. Projects were selected to present great variety in location, design concept, shading materials, and public use. Only projects with copyright approval are included. Profiles of 91+ precedents from over 25 countries illustrate how canopies provide shelter from rain and sun, but also can cool or warm outdoor spaces. Furthermore, their innovative and inspirational architecture can enrich and enliven the public realm. As the science of designing for UVR protection is not well known, the compendium includes a summary of design principles and briefly comments on how they are applied in each project. This resource is intended to promote shade provision in public spaces, and inspire and aid local government, planners and designers in its planning, designing and implementation.



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