

SWISSPEARL

As Oy Pyörämäen Puisto

An impressive apartment building
by combining durable materials



Case



As Oy Pyörämäen Puisto is a sleek residential apartment building located in a beautiful location on the edge of the park area in Turku, the facade of which skilfully combines alternating quality and durable stone-based facade materials.

Asunto Oy Turun Pyörämäen Puisto was the first of three apartment buildings planned for the same property and was completed last November. The second apartment building will be completed at the end of this year.

“There is a really wonderful park and outdoor area next to the apartment buildings, which is why the quality goals of the location were ambitious from the cityscape point of view,” says Arco Oy’s Architect **Niko Mähönen**, who was responsible for the main and architectural design of the site.

According to planning regulations, the building was allowed to have a four-storey appearance to the west, but to the east in the direction of Pyörämäentie, the building was to look like a three-storey building. This was taken into account in the design, so that in one direction the top floor has been adapted to the roof shape by means of materials and structuring of the facade.

Facts

Product:	Swisspearl Plank and Swisspearl Carat (former Transparent)
Building:	Apartment building, As Oy Pyörämäen Puisto
Address:	Pyörämäentie 6, Turku, Finland
Architect:	Niko Mähönen
Architect office:	Arco Oy
Completion year:	2022



“The buildings form a courtyard complex that is connected to the park. The yard complex with the plantings has been integrated well into the plan. In the material world of the facade, we have aimed for clear features and timeless elegance,” says Niko Mähönen about the starting points of the design.

“The look of the building comes specifically from the materials and the rhythm of the openings. Minimalism has been an important starting point in the design. There was no desire to cover the building with all sorts of extras, which is often seen in architecture. Appropriate materials have been used at various points so that a successful end result is obtained.”

According to the architect, the feedback has been good.



“Even when visiting the work site, people have stopped next to the buildings and looked at them from the walkway. It seems that it is easy for people to like this site.”

Facade boards bring variation to the brick facade

The main material of the apartment buildings is brick laid on site. Swisspearl Plank panels have been used on the balcony walls and Transparent (current Swisspearl Carat) facade boards between the windows. The Plank panels are beige-brown and the Transparent facade boards are grey and dark grey.

“In the play of materials, the material world of the exterior cladding of the top fourth floor adapts to the tone of the metal roofing in terms of shades and appearance. This has been done to create the impression of a three-storey building in all directions. The facade alternates between sheet metal and fibre-cement board of the same colour, which is quite dark.”

According to the architect, the brick facade of the three-storey building mass strengthens the interaction of the materials.

“The brickwork continues to the edges of the end balconies, so the end balconies seem to hide in the building mass and make the whole look peaceful.”

According to Niko Mähönen, fibre-cement board has been used in many places, often for example in the walls of balconies or otherwise as smaller surfaces or details.

“If you want a variety of materials, fibre-cement board is an easy and safe choice. The installation of the sheet facade does not have to follow the same rhythm as the rest of the facade, and the installation can instead be done flexibly. Pyörämäenpuisto turned out to be a really nice building as a whole,” says Niko Mähönen.



No separate fire protection is needed

TKU-Rakennus Oy's Site Manager **Marko Kuusela** says that the residents of Pyörämäenpuisto have been satisfied with the apartment building.

"They like their apartments, the appearance of the building and its location. These are very beautiful buildings, and the property bordering the park on two sides is indeed a wonderful place to live in the city," says Marko Kuusela.

In December, the second of the three apartment buildings planned for the property, Asunto Oy Pyörämäen Raitti, will be completed. The buildings are almost identical externally and the same size in terms of mass. These residential apartment buildings are produced by the company itself.

Each building takes about a year to build. The decision to implement the third apartment building has not yet been made.

According to Marko Kuusela, special attention is paid to the durability of the materials used in developer contracting production.

"The main material of the facade is barracks red-brown brick, the back walls of the balconies are Swisspearl's beige-grey Plank panel, and the spaces between the windows and a bit of their extension up to the eaves are dark grey Transparent facade board," says Marko Kuusela.

For example, in the back walls of balconies, the significant advantage of the Plank panel is its fire resistance, according to Kuusela. The textured Plank panel does not need, for example, separate fire protection underneath it like a wooden panel.

Almost maintenance-free and weatherproof stone facade

“The fire-technical properties of the Plank panel enable its versatile use in different locations and for different purposes. From the perspective of the contractor and the residents, the advantage of fibre-cement boards in facades is good durability. Fibre-cement boards are obviously maintenance-free, just like a brick facade. In developer contracting housing production, the responsibility of the contractor is emphasised, and of course, when choosing solutions, we strive to ensure that the property is durable and easy to maintain,” says Kuusela.

Like brick, fibre-cement boards are very resistant to moisture and severe weather stress, when the temperature during winters often fluctuates above and below zero degrees and the facade alternately freezes and melts. As a ventilated structure, the sheet facade is also operationally reliable in terms of moisture, because any moisture that may have entered the ventilation gap can escape.



When the facade structure and thermal insulation remain dry, this also helps ensure good energy efficiency and living comfort, as well as healthy indoor air.

Marko Kuusela emphasises that in order to achieve a high-quality end result, all the structures and work phases in this site, from the support frame implemented on top of the shell elements with a raw concrete surface and thermal insulation, to the installation of the facade boards, must be planned and executed with care and professionalism.

“I gave Swisspearl’s Sales Manager Juho Ala-Uotila the width and height measurements of the zones to be coated with Transparent facade boards, and the boards were delivered to the site already sawn. All we have to do is drill the mounting holes in them, align them on top of the understraps and fasten them. If we had ordered stock-sized boards, there would have been a lot of sawing at the site and the waste would have been greater. Custom-made boards also save a lot of time on the worksite,” says Marko Kuusela.

Sawn to size boards are also utilised at As Oy Pyörämäenraitti.

“The cooperation with Swisspearl has gone very well,” says Kuusela.



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