

# THE PARK'S ONE-OF-A-KIND SHADE STRUCTURES CAST COOL VIBES ON THE LAS VEGAS STRIP



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## Being cool never felt so good.

Color-changing art installations that elicit wonder and curiosity for all passersby provide aesthetic appeal to The Strip's first park. Standing at heights ranging from 55 feet to 75 feet tall, 16 stunning shade structures line The Park casting artsy shadows and creating countless iconic photo opportunities for guests walking through the outdoor retreat.



Shade Structures
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Built by IHC Studio Metalix, a Netherlands-based firm dedicated to the design and construction of high-performance ships, the structures are the first of their kind in Las Vegas. The production of each structure, from cutting and forming to welding and assembly, took more than 2,000 hours to complete. In total, IHC employees dedicated 32,000 labor hours to construct these beautiful

#### sculptures.



IHC Studio Metalix employee assembling the shade structure Click here to download this photo

IHC Studio Metalix Architectural Fabricator Hans de Klerk said, "The structures are a big contribution to The Park experience; they are incredibly eye catching and truly change the landscape of The Strip. The 3D shaping, metal stretching and lighting design of the structures showcase impressive technological advancements that give The Park that unbelievable 'wow' factor."



IHC Studio Metalix employee shaping metal Click here to download this photo

Creative designers at the New York City-based landscape architecture firm !melk used innovative 3D software to understand how the monumental perforated steel structures would work in sync with the forms and materials of The Park. As a result, every guest experiences a different visual array of designs and shapes based on the path they choose.

!melk Founder Jerry van Eyck said, "We studied how the movement of the sun would impact The Park and overlaid the pedestrian scale of the space to determine the ideal location and size for each group of shade structures. The varied perforations were inspired by patterns and textures from the desert environment and they cast a playful shadow on the colorful pavers below."

So what makes the structures so unique?

During the day, carefully designed perforations, nearly 1,200 per crown, cast delicate patterns on the The Park grounds. At night, the openings emit an intense glow, creating a magical light effect. Every 20 minutes, the structures look as if they transform into large cactus blooms with beautiful petals that exude awe-inspiring colors.

Arup Associate Principal Leni Schwendinger, lighting designer and artist, said, "The transformation is elegant and gorgeous. For people who know about the timing of the change, it is a moment to anticipate."



Shade Structures at night Click here to download this photo

The kicker? The lights were not installed until the shade structures were mounted into the ground at The Park. At that point, Schwendinger and her team traveled to Las Vegas for the installation, which included placing thousands of LED light fixtures by hand.

Schwendinger added, "Our approach melds material, color and human factors to create a visual identity. Naturally, the lighting follows suit. The Park's nighttime identity offers an antidote to the over-the-top displays surrounding the landscape, bidding the visitor respite and an alternate experience of beauty."

Opened on April 4, 2016, The Park serves as the official gateway to T-Mobile Arena, providing a reprieve from the hype of the Las Vegas Strip. Visitors can relax and unwind in the beauty of modern design while socializing with friends, enjoy delicious cuisine from neighborhood restaurants and bars or stroll through the space to take in the sights of The Strip's newest cultural destination.

#### **Did You Know:**

- The shade structures were made in the Netherlands
- Average time to put together one structure: More than 2,000 hours
- The average weight of each shade structure is between 12 and 20 metric tons
- Approximately 400 tons of steel was used in the construction of The Park's shade structures

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