

Bus station building, Zurich

2024



A temporary solution with that certain something. For the next 15 years, travelers can spend their waiting time in the new bus station on Sihlquai. There is also space for a ticket counter and toilet facilities.

The project

The site, a parking lot behind Zurich's main railway station, had long attracted little attention and had a negative reputation. The new operations building is intended to enhance this location by making it more accessible and friendly. The square will not only be used as a functional transportation hub, but also as a place where people can spend time. Instead of taking their cue from typical long-distance bus stations, the architects were inspired by simple, functional structures such as garages and storage buildings. This design language suits the location well, as the building does not need to be overly prestigious, but instead impresses above all with its simplicity and practicality.

The construction method

The building was planned and designed as a compact and simple timber frame construction with a flat roof made of horizontal glulam. Three-layer panels painted with Schlemmfarbe were used for the facade cladding. Simple standard steel profiles and a corrugated metal roof cladding were used for the canopy construction in order to create a structure that is as delicate and light as possible.

The challenge

Due to the short service life, care was taken to use materials that were as raw and simple as possible, and the construction was also to be designed as a «design for disassembly». Due to these framework conditions, some innovative and unconventional detailed solutions had to be developed and implemented.



A work of art—right in the city center

Construction costs

- BKP 1-9: CHF 5.45 million BKP 2: CHF 1.43 million

Services of Timbatec

- SIA Phase 31 Preliminary design
- SIA Phase 32 Construction project
- SIA Phase 41 Tendering and comparison of offers
- SIA Phase 51 Implementation project
- SIA Phase 52 Execution



Raw materials—also in interior design

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