



La Confluence® Lyon's creative heart

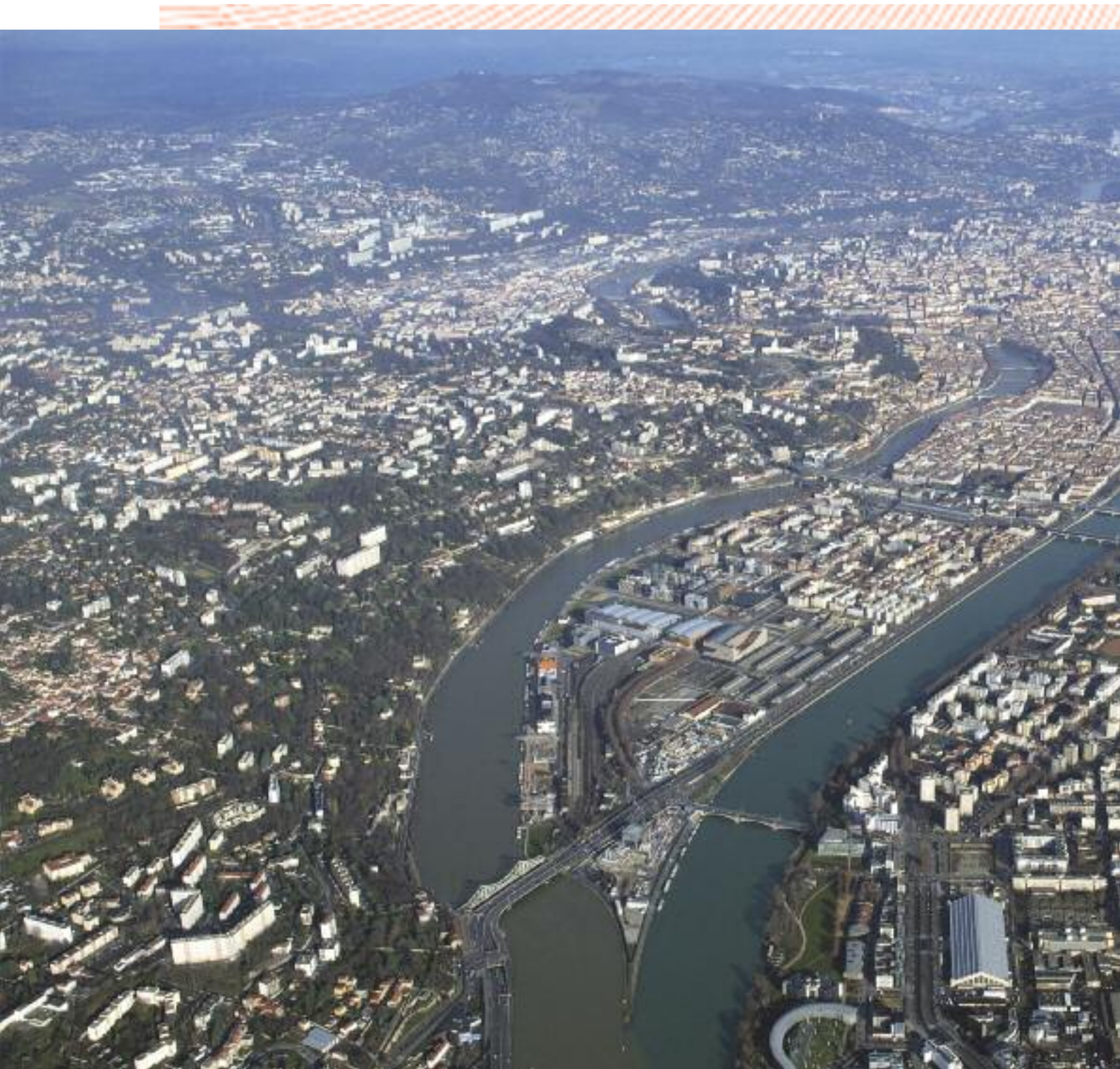
LYON CONFLUENCE

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aménagement urbain

In the core of central Lyon

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Between Rhône and Saône: a waterside identity

The urbanisation of La Confluence, at the southern tip of the peninsula formed by the Rivers Rhône and Saône, is opening a new chapter in Lyon's history. The city centre is doubling in size with this extra 150ha, and renewing its bond with an exceptional landscape and riverfront geography. A fresh 5km stretch of embankment is being offered to the people of Lyon; and a marina, whose basin reaches inland from the Saône, extends the river's presence. The new public spaces and travel routes in La Confluence reinterpret the general scheme laid out since the 18th century, and continue it in a contemporary and sustainable way. The new district is thus endowed with a central, accessible character that will foster its development.



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A respected, seriously revisited heritage

La Confluence is the heir to Lyon's industrial history. Each feature (the train station and Perrache intermodal hub, the Sainte-Blandine quarter, the wholesale market, the prisons, the port, the logistics and manufacturing sites, etc.) has been converted, refurbished or demolished as part of the renewal. As the project progresses, the district's old and new ingredients are blending more completely. The postal sorting office has become an all-glass building that houses the Municipal Archives. The port's warehouses have been converted to host vibrant cultural activity. And soon, the old halls of the wholesale market will impart a specific feel to the Rhône-side quarter.



Left: Aerial view of the site, from the south.

Above: The converted customs building by the Saône.

Top: Night-time view of "Saône Park" (plot A), overlooking the marina.

A service-sector cluster in the city centre

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Media and culture come first

As a host venue since 2003 of a world-class event, the Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, La Confluence put down the first markers of its local identity – dedicated to the creative industries, media, culture and leisure. This direction is being confirmed by the construction of the highly contemporary Confluence Museum and the arrival of prominent media groups. The Saône riverfront – with its barges, restaurants, little squares and promenades – offers an original, coveted setting for the many staff already working in offices in La Confluence.



Right: The embankments of Rambaud Port, with pieces of contemporary architecture that harness the site's industrial legacy.

Above: "Le Cube Orange", on Quai Rambaud, made by Jakob + MacFarlane, hosts the HQ of construction group Cardinal.

Top right: "Le Monolithe" is home to the regional HQ of GDP-Suez, among other business players.





A new address in Lyon

The Rhône-Alpes Regional Council, GDF-Suez, Banque de France, Eiffage, Euronews, Cardinal, Espace Groupe, Le Progrès, GL events... La Confluence is now home to leading companies and institutions in many business sectors. During the period 2011-2020, an average 20,000m² of new property will be completed each year, i.e. 17% of the Greater Lyon total. Eventually, 25,000 workers (double the current total) will share the district, which is ideal for firms that demand excellent access and tend to be seeking mid-sized premises.



France's first WWF Sustainable Neighbourhood

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A transport network of non-car alternatives

Designed like a city centre, La Confluence has transport and infrastructure to match. A new tramway line has served the district since 2005; and in 2014 it will be extended to connect with the metro network in Gerland, another very busy district of the conurbation, crossing a new bridge over the Rhône. In this densely-built and pedestrian-friendly central area, no building is more than 400 metres from public transport. La Confluence – with its tram and bus lines, a Saône river bus to the Old Town, and the Perrache multimodal hub, from which high-speed and regional trains and international coaches operate – is at the heart of Lyon, accessible and interconnected.



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Smart city: innovating sustainably

Right from its first new buildings, La Confluence reached beyond current thermal regulations. This ambition was singled out in 2005 by the European Commission and the Concerto programme, which supports efforts to improve energy efficiency and use renewables. This energy policy was again highlighted in 2009 when the district was designated as an eco-neighbourhood. La Confluence was then labelled France's first WWF Sustainable Neighbourhood – an accolade based on the district's success in, and commitments to, enhancing quality of life and shrinking its environment footprint. A pacesetter in environmental innovation, Lyon Confluence is today collaborating with Japan's New Energy and Technology Industrial Technology Development Organisation (NEDO), a Greater Lyon partner since 2011, to build the district's first smart grid. The objective? Develop an intelligent city that controls its energy destiny without giving up comfort.

Left: Under the Sustainability Action Plan signed with the WWF, La Confluence must not emit more greenhouse gases in 2020 than in 2000, despite growth in the district's population and business activities.

Top: The vaporetto (river bus) and bicycles are good ways to reach La Confluence without using a car.

Innovation and urban quality

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A response to nature's request

Buildings designed to operate frugally and offer a better quality of life – such is the stated purpose of any urban project today. In La Confluence, one of the ways to meet this twofold social imperative is to give public spaces a bigger role. The district's squares and routes, functional by definition, offer comfort and sustained vegetation that make them agreeable places for a stroll as well as elements of visual enhancement. Nature steps straight into the city with parks and green spaces that stretch inward from the river, colouring the whole site. The marina, like an extra arm of the Saône, and the water gardens either side of it, provide cool spots in summer and contribute to wellbeing. The profusion of wetland and planted spaces form a habitat friendly to biodiversity.

Above: Inviting nature into plots A and B. Right: The southern part of the district, called Le Champ (The Field), has been master planned by urbanists Herzog & de Meuron and landscapist Michel Desvigne. Top right: In 2014, three new positive-

energy buildings will form the "Hikari" complex. Designed by architect Kengo Kuma and built by Bouygues Immobilier, Hikari is the first smart-grid demonstrator in Europe.



Creative urbanism

Architectural diversity and quality are two characteristics of La Confluence. The accomplishments around Place Nautique (marina) and along the Saône are arrestingly innovative and urban. They have created a new destination for tourists, complemented by a fine array of restaurants.

The solutions delivered district-wide to achieve a pleasantly dense fabric, to reconcile public and private spaces, and to blend various heights of building, are an immediate response to residents' needs but also an experiment which the city's stakeholders are tracking closely.



A city for everyone

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Social mixing: a criterion for success

From the outset, social mixing was considered one of the criteria for La Confluence's success, and a necessity for metropolitan-scale balance. This requirement has actually been strengthened over time: the average proportion of social housing has now reached 25%. This pro-active policy is making La Confluence a fairly young community with plenty of families.

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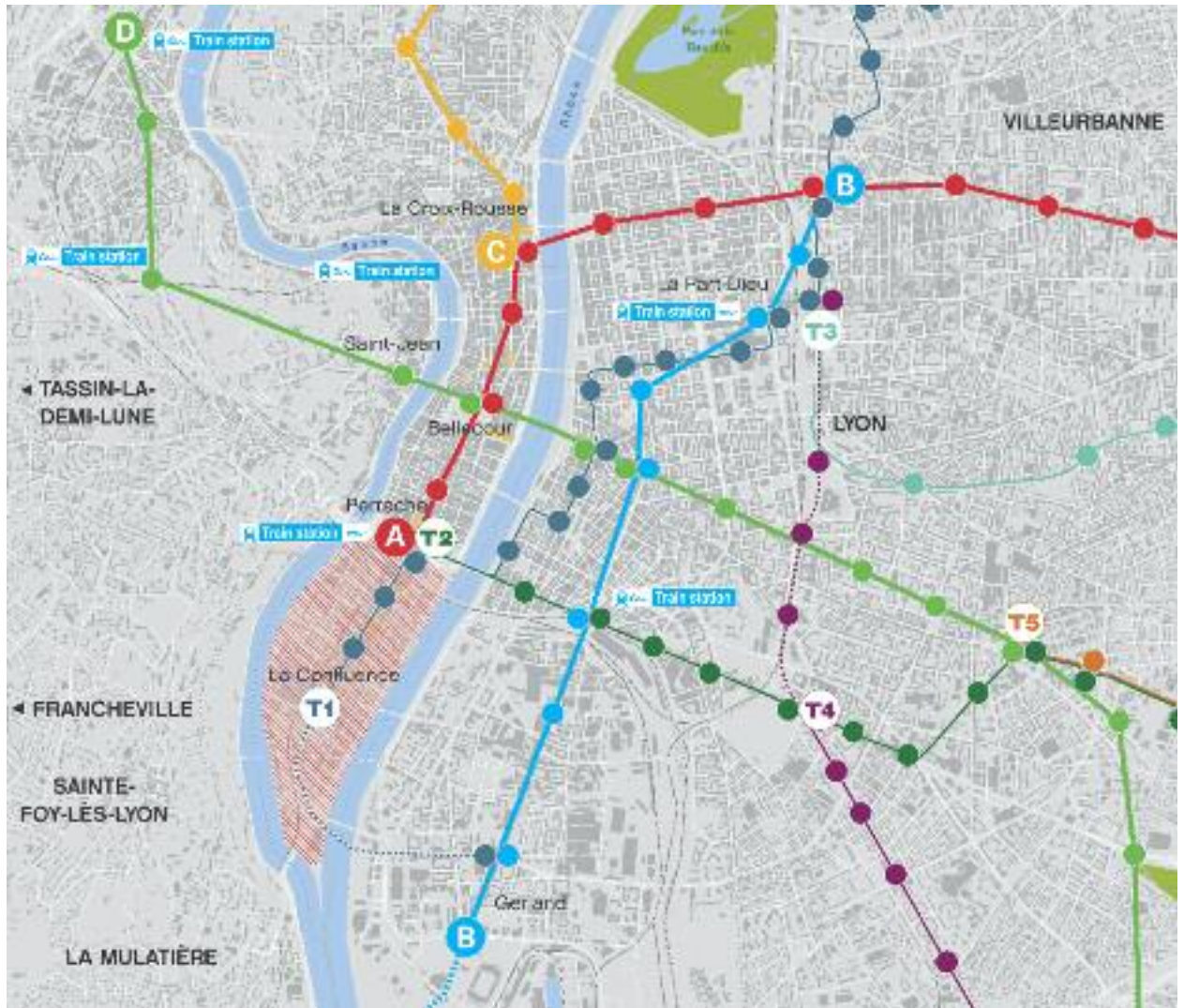


Diverse backgrounds = guaranteed vitality

La Confluence is benefiting from a wealth of new users, who come from a variety of social backgrounds and generations. They join the residents of the existing Sainte-Blandine quarter, known for its lively festive and community-association activity. Thanks to new and spectacularly suitable venues, such as Place Nautique, this vitality will continue to grow. The marina basin, a mooring-place and stage for celebrations, has played host to large-scale events on its surrounds. Retail activity has increased very quickly – and with the opening of the Shopping & Leisure Centre, where some stores have made their Lyon debut, La Confluence is becoming a highly coveted shopping address.

Many events are held every year in La Confluence (left and above: "Cherry Season in La Confluence®"). Top: Sainte-Blandine market.

In the core of central Lyon



Metro **A B C D** Tram **T1 T2 T3 T4 T5** Under construction

Key figures

150 ha

Lyon Confluence covers a 150ha area stretching from Perrache to the Rhône-Saône confluence.

400,000 m²

Phase One of the project (in French: ZAC 1), by and near the Saône, now 80% complete, comprises 400,000m² of new buildings covering more than 41ha.

The mix:



420,000 m²

Phase Two (ZAC 2), by and near the Rhône, comprises 420,000m² of new buildings covering more than 35ha.

The mix:



4,000

The total number of homes planned for construction in La Confluence. The number of residents is ultimately expected to be 16,000, compared to 7,000 in early 2000.

25,000

The number of jobs ultimately expected in the district, compared to 6,000 in early 2000.

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