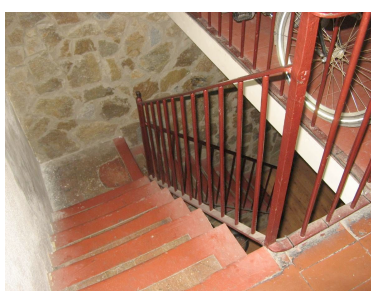


Design Resources > Design Responses > About Parking Facilities > Examples > **Cycle Centres**

My Beautiful Parking, Barcelona, (ES)



Access is by swipe card, outside of open-hours of the rental-shop.



Stairway for users of the facility.



Cycle parking on two levels (above and below) which correspond to different pricing



Location of cycle parking facility My Beautiful Parking.
Source: BACC/Googlemaps.

Facility:

My Beautiful Parking, cycle hire and parking and repair services.

Provider:

My Beautiful Parking, Nicolás Olave & Marion Hassler.
<http://www.mybeautifulparking.com>

Designer/ Architect:

Nicolás Olave & Marion Hassler.

Cost of Provision:

(unspecified)

Project Manager(s):

Nicolás Olave & Marion Hassler: 0034 933041580 / 0034 645130051

General Description:



Another method of storing & securing the cycles



Another method for storing the cycles.



A detail photo showing the accessibility of the two tiers of the cycle parking

My Beautiful Parking has been up and running for two years (since 2005).

Good atmosphere, possibility of renting or having bikes repaired. They do not ask the city council for subsidies, nor do they keep statistics of the data obtained in the records and use of entrance cards. There is no profile of a typical user. It is varied: entire families, young people, older people. (The proprietors do not formally collect statistics about usage and user genres of the facility. However, they take a simple count for the purpose of informing their business plan).

Aim:

To offer cycle parking, bicycle rental and repair services for bicycle users.

Location:

Calle Cervantes 5, Barcelona.

Scale/ Capacity:

120 bicycles. At present more than half the places are in use (>60).

Length of Stay:

Variable. Approximately half the users collect the bicycles infrequently and the other half collect them and use them every day. There are no exact statistics as the data collected from the entrance cards is not analysed.

Charges/ Cost to User:

€20 per month. (Cycle parking with good access), €15 (Cycle parking with more restricted access). Annually €180 for a cycle parking space with good access. There is more interest in the more convenient cycle parking spaces despite the higher cost.

Access:

The facility is in a small street in the centre of Barcelona, close to the Town Hall. Without a good map, it is difficult to locate and people do not know where it is.

It has 24-hour access, facilitated by a magnetic card. Between 1000-2000 it is open as a normal shop which repairs and rents bicycles.

Signage:

On the door there is a logo of a bicycle and a poster ('Rent a bike') outside.



Access from the street

Furniture:

The facility offers a mix of parking spaces via different types of furniture. There are custom built and installed, two tier steel racks for the main parking with lower pricing for the higher level of the racks. Additional spaces are offered via vertical storage hooks mounted to walls.



Another method of parking: vertical storage

Technical Requirements:

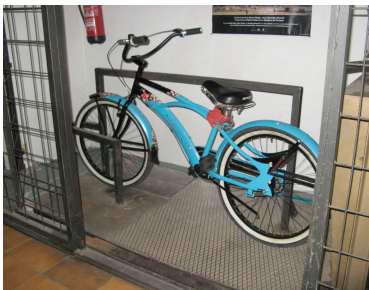
Some bicycle racks present access difficulties, which may be problematic especially for women or children.

Security, Guardianship and Lighting:

My Beautiful Parking is under camera surveillance. It is well-lit.



User of the facility puts his bike in the bike lift.



A cycle in the bike-lift.

Maintenance and Servicing:

The maintenance of the system is carried out automatically. The floor is cleaned once a week or if it is dirty.

Strengths:

- The location close to the Town Hall is good
- In addition, there is a lift to take bicycles up and down, to avoid the stairs

Weaknesses:

- While the bike is taken up or down in the lift, the user walks down or up to collect it
- I didn't really like the fact that motorcycles are allowed to park on the repair floor which must be crossed to collect the bicycle. It gives a bad impression and it greatly reduces the space

Evaluation:

The atmosphere of this shop is very good. The people there are very pleasant. In addition, bicycles can be rented or left for repair. While the bicycle is being repaired, another will be lent to the client without any cost. The price is a disadvantage. The employees say it would be more suitable to make smaller cycle parking facilities in different places rather than one big one. They consider My Beautiful Parking to be very big.