European Green Capital Award

An Initiative of the European Commission

European Green Capital Award

- The title of European Green Capital is awarded every year to a European city for its commitment to environmental, social and economic sustainability.
- The first city was awarded the title in 2010.

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Why Green Capital of Europe?

Today, about 70% of Europeans live in towns and cities and this number is predicted to rise. Urban areas concentrate most of the environmental challenges facing our society, but also bring together commitment and innovation to resolve them.

The European Green Capital Award promotes and rewards these efforts, recognising co-operation and partnerships between local authorities, citizens, businesses and other stakeholders to improve our urban living environment.

Financial incentive

The Commission will award €**350,000** to the winning city of the 2021 European Green Capital title (cities having more than **100,000** inhabitants) to help them with kick-starting their green year.

Who can apply?

- Applicant cities from EU Member States, EU Candidate Countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland.
- Applicant cities from the countries listed above which have more than 100,000 inhabitants.

Eligibility

- In countries where there is no city with more than 100,000 inhabitants, the largest city is eligible to apply.
- A 'city' is understood to be an urban area, excluding metropolitan areas, larger urban zones and conurbations, and is understood as an administrative unit governed by a city council or another form of democratically elected body.

Rules of Contest

- In any given year, cities can apply for either the European Green Capital Award or European Green Leaf Award, but not both at the same time.
- Past winners may not apply for a period of ten years after they held the European Green Capital title.

Application based on indicators

1 Climate Change: Mitigation
2 Climate Change: Adaptation
3 Sustainable Urban Mobility
4 Sustainable Land Use
5 Nature and Biodiversity
6 Air Quality
7 Noise
8 Waste
9 Water
10 Green Growth and Eco-innovation
11 Energy Performance
12 Governance

The Award Application Form has four sections per indicator:

A Describe the present situation.

B Describe the measures implemented over the last five to ten years.

C Describe the short and long term objectives for the future and proposed approach to achieve these.

D List how the above information can be documented; add links where possible.

Evaluation Process

- The city's overall commitment, vision and enthusiasm as conveyed through the presentation;
- The city's capacity to act as a role model, to inspire other cities, promote best practices and raise the awareness of the EGC model further – bearing in mind city size and location;
- The city's communication strategy actions
- The extent of the city's (local, regional and national) partnering to gain maximum social and economic leverage.

Benefits

- Increased tourism
- Positive international media coverage
- Increased international profile, networking and new alliances
- New jobs – a European Green Capital is more attractive to foreign investors
- Attracts public financial support
- More emphasis on environmental projects through sponsorship and grants
- Boosts local pride and generates a feeling of belonging
- Momentum to continue improving environmental sustainability
- Access to the European Green Capital Network of previous winners and shortlisted cities to share ideas and experiences.

European Green Capitals so far

- 2019 / Oslo
- 2018 / Nijmegen
- 2017 / Essen
- 2016 / Ljubljana
- 2015 / Bristol
- 2014 / Copenhagen
- 2013 / Nantes
- 2012 / Vitoria-Gasteiz
- 2011 / Hamburg
- 2010 / Stockholm

STOCKHOLM

European Green Capital 2010

2010

Green City - more than 90% of the population lives within 300 metres of a green area

Blue infrastructure

Fossil-free future (by 2050)

THE HAMBURG APPROACH:
Hamburg increases its green areas.

EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL

Hamburg

- A 25 hectare green area to cover the motorway
- Combination of green area and noise reduction

2011 Winner

Industrial City that turns into Green City

Train of Ideas

Massive energy savings

HAMBURG winner 2011

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VITORIA-GASTEIZ

Winner 2012

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City in Circles, City in the Centre, Green Beld around (reclaimed from degrade areas)

Monitoring of flora and fauna

Managing Water Scarcity

Carbon neutral in 2050

Nantes' green facts and figures

- Everyone lives within 300 metres of a green area in the city
- 57 metres² of green space per person
- 100,000 trees in the city
- 15% of daily travels are made using public transport
- Winner of the Civitas Award in 2009
- An ambitious Climate Action Plan to reduce CO_2 emissions by 30% per capita by 2020 in three sectors: residential, transport and tertiary (baseline 2003)
- 60% of land area is either agricultural or a natural or official green area
- Four Natura 2000 sites and 33 natural zones of floral, faunal or ecological interest

NANTES European Green Capital 2013

0 kB z ? - Požadovaná

COPENHAGEN

winner 2014

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Copenhagen: Green Facts

- Twice voted the world's most liveable city by Monocle magazine (2008 and 2013)
- 36% of commuters and 55% of Copenhageners cycle to work or school/ college
- District heating serves 98% of households
- 90% of building waste is reused
- 24% cut in carbon emissions between 2005 and 2012
- 96% of residents live within 15 minutes' walk of a recreational area
- In 2008, transport experts named the city's urban train system as 'The Best Metro in the World'

BRISTOL

winner 2015

EUROPEAN

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LJUBLJANA

winner 2016

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Ljubljana: Green Facts

- 542 m^2 of public green areas per inhabitant
- More than 46 % of the city area is covered by native forests
- 75 % of the city is green area
- With its 7000 trees, The Path of Remembrance and Comradeship (34 km) is the city's longest tree-lined avenue
- Drinking water comes from natural sources, requiring no prior treatment
- European capital with the largest share of separately collected waste

ESSEN

Winner 2017

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Quick statistics

53% of green and other unsealed areas

376 km of cycle paths

73 bus and train lines

3100 ha of green or wooded areas

3 million trees…and counting

92,000 m³ of excellent drinking water per day

9000 allotment gardeners

14 farm shops

26 stretches of rehabilitated stream or river

40,000 visits annually to Essen's 'Nature School' for children

NIJMEGEN

European Green Capital 2018

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Green Facts

- 92m² of green space per citizen
- Everybody lives less than 300m from a green space of at least 0.5ha
- Green space makes up to 24.8% of surface area
- Blue space makes up to 7.8% of surface area
- A 1,700ha park between the cities of Nijmegen and Arnhem, Lingezegen Park.

Oslo, European Green Capital 2019

CITY AS A ROLE MODEL

Before

now

EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL
LISBOA 2020

LISBOA'S SUSTAINABLE VISION

A greener, more resilient city offering quality of life and opportunities for its citizens.

ENERGY EFFICIENT | WATER WISE | GREEN SOLUTIONS

3 REDUCING EMISSIONS: A COLLABORATIVE CITY APPROACH

THE FUTURE IS YELLOW

Integrated shared electric mobility

Shared E-Scooters

Shared E-Cars

Shared E-Bikes

Open to towns and cities across Europe with a population of 20,000 and up to 100,000 inhabitants.

Example of other „chart“ – European Green City Index

- Also in other parts of the world (total 120 cities)
- In Europe – measures and rates the environmental performance of **30 leading European cities from 30 European countries.**
- It takes into account 30 individual indicators per city
- Indicators from environmental governance and water consumption to waste management and greenhouse gas emissions.

Overall			CO_2			Energy			Buildings		
	City	Score		City	Score		City	Score		City	Score
1	Copenhagen	87,31	1	Oslo	9,58	1	Oslo	8,71	=1	Berlin	9,44

Transport			Water			Waste and land use			Air quality			Environmental governance		
	City	Score		City	Score		City	Score		City	Score		City	Score
1	Stockholm	8,81	1	Amsterdam	9,21	1	Amsterdam	8,98	1	Vilnius	9,37	=1	Brussels	10,00

The cities

The European Green City Index measures and rates the environmental performance of 30 leading European cities from 30 European countries. It takes into account 30 individual indicators per city, touching on a wide range of environmental areas, from environmental governance and water consumption to waste management and greenhouse gas emissions.

It is easy to benchmark with Green City Index

Copenhagen
87,31

Bratislava
56,09

Prague
49,79

Conlusions 1

Winners of European Green Capital Award are really advanced in environmental protection

and quality of life

Core topics: climate change, energy, green space, blue infrastructure, transport, nature and biodiversity

They can inspire other cities in Europe and other parts of world for Greening

Sustainabe Cities!

Conlusions 2