



Margaretengürtelbrücke Wien, Austria

Client: City of Vienna
Architect: Knight Architects
Structural Engineer: Knippers Helbig

Competition: 2010 (Winner)

In the competition-winning design, the 380m-long bridge at Margaretengürtel links recreational parkland to the west with Bruno-Kreisky Park to the east to provide a pedestrian friendly route across a busy traffic corridor. The linear form of the bridge evolves from the landscape at each end, establishing itself as a new topographic element.

The bridge will be a major new element in an urban environment that includes the 1898 Margaretengürtel

U-Bahn Station building by Otto Wagner amongst its historic neighbours. The massive minimalism and formal simplicity of the new structure is considered in counterpoint to the rich architectural language of the neighbourhood.

The solution explores a new direction in bridge design through the use of massive timber with minimalist detailing – an approach to construction which is both spectacular and environmentally responsible,

being both a carbon sink and an efficient use of resources. The body is an efficient hybrid structure with a glulam core of spruce layers or 'lamella' of varying qualities, depending on the stress level in the particular location.

