

Level 7 Pool Terrace: 1,500m² Level 7 Creche and Chef's Garden: 700m² Level 7.5 Gym and Spa Roofs: 280m² and 240m² Total Landscaped Area: 2,720m²

FACTS

R3 billion investment 56 floors in total, including ground floor 234m high Building area 125,500m² 1,251 parking spaces 6,050 steps to get to the top of the building

The Leonardo is a mixed-use development currently completing construction in the heart of Africa's richest square mile, Sandton, Johannesburg. This is now South Africa's tallest building, rising 234m from the street below.

This iconic 55-storey building is the latest venture by the Legacy Group, built in partnership with Nedbank CIB. The Leonardo serves as a beacon of hope, not only for the city, but the country as well.

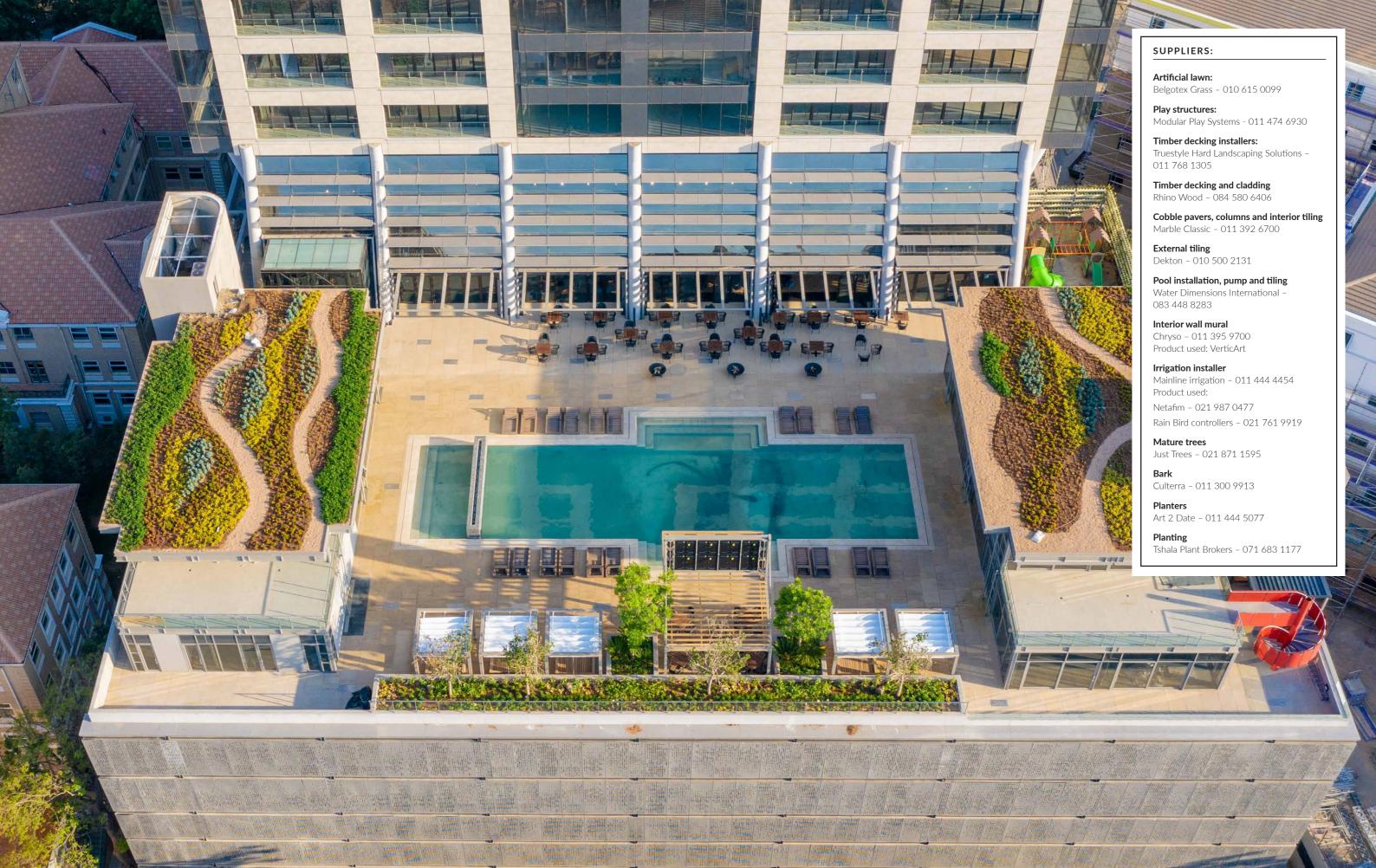
Built at a cost of R3 billion, the Leonardo contributed to almost 2,000 direct employment opportunities, as well as between 18,000 and 20,000 indirect employment opportunities, through materials supply chain, manufacture and industry. The Leonardo has not only redefined the city's skyline, but also how we view the concept of sustainable urbanism with options to work, live and play in one place.

A true mixed-use development, the Leonardo houses retail tenants on the ground floor, as well as, Leo's Lounge, Bar & Deli, and the Leonardo Conference Centre on the third floor.

On level 7 of the building you will be met by the building's recreational facilities which include the AURUM restaurant, Nature and Nurture Montessori Pre-School, an outdoor pool and deck with a gym and spa, five daybeds, and the wood-fired meal offering in Octo Bar - this level takes centre stage.

Rising above this is the tower itself, with premium grade offices on the lower section of the tower and the upper section being purposed for residential apartments.











The seven top floors accommodate eight duplex penthouse suites with the building crowned by the third level, the 360° view Leonardo Suite. Measuring 3,000 m² – 1,900m² under roof and 1,100m² of terrace, the Leonardo Suite is the most sought-after home in Africa and has redefined the opulent sophistication of modern African luxury lifestyle living. The structure is topped off by a viewing platform and future Sky Bar, with 360° views of the Johannesburg skyline.

Design of the Leonardo was driven by principles of sustainable development and green building with acclaimed architects, Co-Arc and interior designers Steven Falcke and Varoom, tasked to create Africa's ultimate living experience, embracing the latest in technology and energy efficient luxury living in the sky. All of this is supported by original works of art created by some of South Africa's established and upcoming artists.

Co-Arc explains their appointment onto this iconic build as the consequence of a lifelong professional relationship and history of successful development with the client.

Using an approach that establishes the economic, social and environmental parameters for each new building, the tower is an appropriate response to climate and social factors, as well as a highly innovative commercial model, designed to be complete and viable at a variety of heights. The structure and servicing are expressed in the form of the building, resulting in an articulated slender tower that exceeded commercial expectation. The orientation and layout of the plans provide flexible floor space at every level, maximising views and minimising climatic effects.

With due regard to South Africa's high level of unemployment, to maximise safety and labour utilisation, the building is largely constructed from concrete and aerated light-weight concrete blocks and drywall partitioning with the external skin consisting of transportable components, assembled and erected from the inside. Its groundbreaking use of engineered 'stone' as a cladding material allows for a lightweight perimeter skin that forms a weather shield and creates shaded deep recesses for glazed balconies at every level. The refinement, detailing and careful consideration of materials results in an apparent simple yet timelessly elegant facade.

The public is welcomed into the building via a triple-volume arcade and a series of ground public rooms to a variety of public facilities including a seventh floor podium terrace and 57th floor sky

PORTFOLIO

The landscape architects, Landmark Studios, were appointed to the Leonardo in 2015. Although design began in earnest at the beginning of 2018. The landscape installation was largely complete at the end of 2019, with the approximate duration of the landscape contract reaching two years.

The client's brief for Landmark Studios was to work in collaboration with Co-Arc to develop a contemporary roof terrace, inclusive of large lap pool, edge planters, bespoke timber gazebos and shaded structures.

To complement this, high-end terrace, the roofs of the gym and spa building were designed as 'green' roofs, and an abstract geometric pattern was used in the application of a variety of carefully selected succulents.

On the southern crèche terrace, Landmark Studios assisted the playground contractor in developing detail drawings for the focal play mound, as well as developing the planting palette for the chef's garden.

Following presentations to the client and consultant team, the focal trees were chosen through discussion with the landscape contractor, Greenacres. Special care was taken to ensure the trees were wind-tolerant, frost hardy, evergreen, and of a species that wouldn't shed fruit or have invasive root systems.

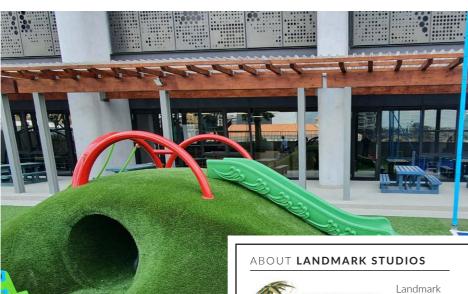
The planting palette was selected to be fit within the urban Highveld context, whilst still providing the luxury feel required by the client.

Belgotex was approached to provide the artificial lawn, as their high performance product is available in a range of colours that added whimsy and vibrancy to the children's play area.

In terms of complications, the elevated paving – to achieve effective stormwater mitigation – meant that the timber decking had to be carefully designed to avoid interfering with this drainage. The timber decking material, Rhinowood, was chosen after various samples were presented in order to ensure a natural look with low maintenance. Certain planting species were also chosen for the perimeter planters to achieve a trailing garden look over time. This is still in the process of establishing itself.

This iconic building is a key indicator for the development potential in South Africa's built industry and is a brilliant addition to the Johannesburg skyline.









Landmark Studios is a cutting-

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edge landscape architectural practice that carries out exceptional work internationally. A trusted name in the industry, Landmark Studios is known for its remarkably talented team and commitment to excellence throughout the design process and project execution. Landmark Studios was formed in 1986 by Mark Young, one of three shareholders along with Glenn Wagner and Juan Jacobs. The close relationship between the Landmark Studios team and the developer results in a collaboration par excellence. Understanding the vision and feel of projects and designing to support these, the Landmark Studios team continually delivers classy and prestigious work, fulfilling and exceeding briefs.







Proud Design & Supply Swimming Pool & Water Feature Service Providers to The Leonardo & The Houghton Hotel

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