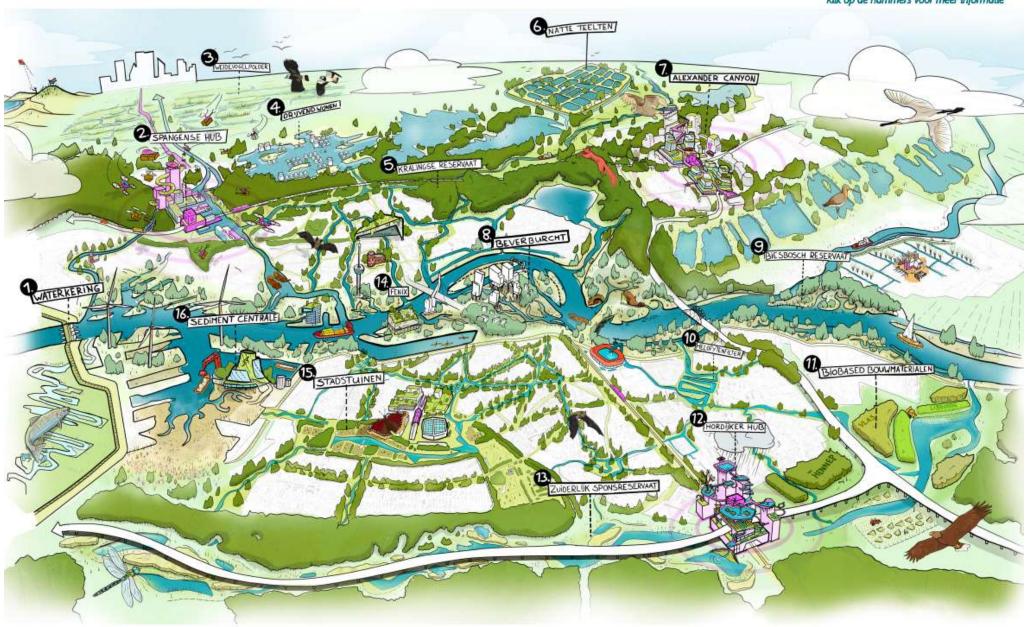
Nationaal Park Rotterdam

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Key 'Rotterdam as national park'

1. Flood defence

Due to rising sea levels, the salty seawater accumulates in the mouth of the New Meuse River. This makes the river discharge from the New Meuse difficult, causing salinisation inland. To guarantee water security and protect 'fresh' nature for the long term, an extra or recessed flood defence is a radical but realistic measure.

2. Spangen Hub

To create more green in the city, the car will disappear from the street scene. The city will be accessible through several large mobility hubs on the edge of the city. Here, people will switch from the car to smaller forms of transport (vans, (cargo) bikes, by foot) or public transport (train, water taxi or monorail). Drones will deliver parcels and small freight in the city.

3. Meadow birds polder

The Midden-Delfland will be protected, re-saturated and redesigned as a nature reserve for meadow birds. This nature reserve is a sanctuary between Rotterdam and Delft. This area is also a production landscape for wet construction materials like reeds.

4. Floating homes

This is the former location of Rotterdam-The Hague airport. In Rotterdam as National Park, there is no place anymore for an airport so near the edge of the city. This low-lying location in the polder is one of the future sites for floating homes. This lake is also connected with the urban water network, whereby the lake contributes to storing and capturing water during periods of heavy rainfall.

5. Kralingen nature reserve

The north side of Rotterdam is bordered by a robust forest structure which connects the existing parks. This reserve is home to the source populations of the tawny owl, the fox and the red squirrel, as well as many other animal species. From this reserve, the animals spread out through the city via the green arteries.

6. Wet crops

The current greenhouse area to the north of the city is making way for sustainable wet crops like rice, arrowhead and cattail. Besides production, this also helps retain fresh water in the region.

7. Alexander Canyon

The shopping area of Alexandrium will be transformed into something resembling a canyon landscape in terms of morphology. The area will feature extensive densification of buildings which behave like a mountain landscape with different habitats for nature. The tawny owl nests here and hunts in the neighbouring Kralingen reserve. On the roof landscape for pedestrians, crops are grown. These are then processed on the ground floor into local food and textiles. Here the local economy and interaction between people and nature comes together on a small scale. Also known as an ecological hotspot.

8. Beaver lodge

The Kop van Zuid and Feijenoord are located outside the dykes and are part of the dynamic river landscape of the New Meuse. The buildings are on stilts through which streams flow and where new sedimentation banks are created. This landscape is home to the beaver, hence its name Beverburcht or Beaver lodge.

9. Biesbosch reserve

The banks of the New Meuse are being partially returned to nature. The nature in the Biesbosch is being extended to the mouth of the New Meuse. This creates a contiguous marsh landscape with a swamp forest along the river.

10. Helophyte filter

The natural banks of the New Meuse ensure good water quality, so we can also obtain local drinking water from the river. This drinking water is purified via a natural helophyte filter in the middle of the city and stored locally, for example in De Kuip.

11. Biobased construction materials

In the south of the city, wet crops are grown, including flax, cattail and hemp. These are used as raw material/insulation material for housing.

12. Hordijker Hub

Like the Spangen Hub and Alexander Canyon, this hub is an interchange for the regional and local transport network. This hub is also about water collection, purification and redistribution.

13. Southern sponge reserve

The southern edge of the city is formed by a fresh salt marsh landscape. This swampy landscape acts like a big sponge for the city. Water is let in during heavy rainfall, while in periods of heat and drought, the water flows from this reserve back into the city via the green-blue arteries. This provides cooling for the city.

14. Fenix

The Fenix warehouse is an example of an existing building which is being 'greened' with green facades and roofs. So, being transformed from building into habitat.

15. Urban gardens

In the urban gardens, urban agriculture takes place. Here, every Rotterdam resident can contribute to local food production.

16. Sediment centre

We stop dredging and use local sewage sludge and sediment as raw material to generate energy and for construction material for the city.