



Altitude 44, Skegness, Lincolnshire

Altitude 44 is a 21m-high (over 70ft) urban high wire attraction in the centre of Skegness, Lincolnshire. Billed as the UK's highest, urban high-wire attraction, it features four giant-sized platforms within which 44 obstacles of different shapes and sizes sit, all of which have a distinct 'seaside' theme. The scheme was designed to encourage year-round tourism to the area and health benefits through physical activity.



Above Altitude 44 high wire activities

Altitude 44 has been designed by LK2 in association with German company, KristallTurm - a market leader in unique high-wire and rope structures.

During the design, careful consideration was taken to place the more transparent activity equipment at the higher level of the attraction to ensure the attraction's visual impact was complementing the existing street scene.

Building on Skegness foreshore brought technical challenges in terms of its location and proximity to the sea. The ground investigation at the site revealed a 2m crust of good ground overlying 12m of unsuitable soft clays and loose sand. The team worked together with the structural engineers to design a pad and ground beam foundation solution, which negated the need for a more expensive piled foundations.

The high wire installation involved a significant amount of technical crane work, with all operations subject to acceptable wind and weather conditions.

As part of the development, an existing café on the site was replaced, with a new single-storey café benefitting from a more efficient layout. This will support the surrounding recreational facilities and created additional jobs, a positive for the local economy.



The high wire structure is supplemented by a lighting scheme which illuminates the attraction, facilitating its maximum usage, especially through the winter months. A public address system was installed for reasons that were two-fold, to create an atmospheric experience for visitors and, together with the lighting, to maximise the safety of visitors with improved security.

The project team worked with the client to ensure that the facility was open in time to take advantage of the all-important summer season for its launch.

During the first month of trading, Altitude 44 exceeded forecasts in relation to expected income and feedback from visitor experience review sites indicate that the attraction has been positively received.

The new, innovative development has utilised, what would have been, surplus land on the site of existing, established leisure facilities – where the footprint was limited. The end product is a fantastic addition to the area that will combat the age-old problem of seasonality experienced by most traditional seaside resorts.



Altitude 44 won the Development under £5million category at the Lincolnshire Construction & Property Awards 2020 and FEB East Midlands - non residential project under 5 million.

“We have worked with Magna Vitae on various projects, all of which have centred around leisure, health and enhancing local communities. This award-winning, high wire is an opportunity to provide a high-quality leisure attraction in a prominent location in Skegness and attract visitors to the area throughout the year rather than just the holiday season.”

Andy Newman,
Associate, LK2 Architects