

## THE CENTRE

With its distinctive style, a collection of Oscar Niemeyer's best architecture, the Niemeyer Centre stands on a plot of 45,783 m<sup>2</sup> with a total built area of 16,624 m<sup>2</sup>.

The auditorium, the dome, the tower, the multipurpose building and the plaza make up the architectural complex. These are five independent yet complementary parts that make up this striking space, Niemeyer's only work in Spain and one of the few in Europe.

Oscar Niemeyer defines this complex as "a great plaza open to all the men and women in the world, a great stage on the estuary and the old city. A place for education, culture and peace."

## CENTRO NIEMEYER

Avda. del Zinc, s/n  
33490 Avilés  
Tel.: 984 835 031

[www.centroniemeyer.es](http://www.centroniemeyer.es)



#CentroNiemeyer



Photographs: Turismo Asturias, Kike Lamas, Centro Niemeyer / Manuel Cervera - D.L. AS 02034-2023

## Centro Niemeyer

ENGLISH

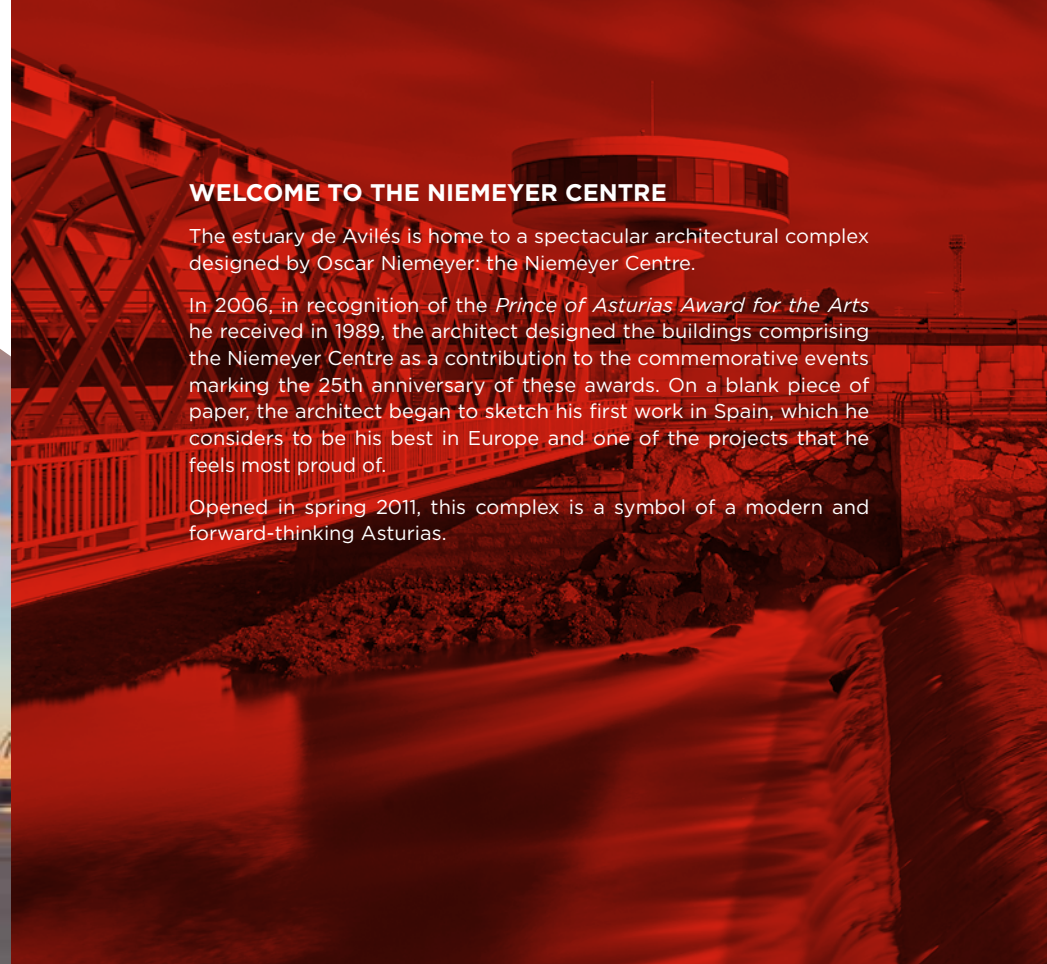


## WELCOME TO THE NIEMEYER CENTRE

The estuary de Avilés is home to a spectacular architectural complex designed by Oscar Niemeyer: the Niemeyer Centre.

In 2006, in recognition of the *Prince of Asturias Award for the Arts* he received in 1989, the architect designed the buildings comprising the Niemeyer Centre as a contribution to the commemorative events marking the 25th anniversary of these awards. On a blank piece of paper, the architect began to sketch his first work in Spain, which he considers to be his best in Europe and one of the projects that he feels most proud of.

Opened in spring 2011, this complex is a symbol of a modern and forward-thinking Asturias.





## OSCAR NIEMEYER

Niemeyer was an accomplished artist in all media. His work covered all formats of architecture and he practised all the creative arts. His figure as creator is comparable to that of Picasso, the artist he most admires, for his revolutionary ideas, the quality of his technique and the timeless appeal of his personal style.

Niemeyer's inspiration came from nature, from the mountains of Rio de Janeiro, as Le Corbusier told him, or from the curves of bodies tanning in the sun of Copacabana, as he himself confessed, smiling through the smoke of one of the cigars he smoked at sunset. The result of that inspiration was always powerful, yet very divergent. Niemeyer, as a man and as a creator, worked in the Renaissance style: a humanist of deep convictions, a master of graphic arts, architecture, engineering...

Niemeyer, already a legend of world architecture, donated his only work in Spain to the city of Avilés: "My most beloved work," in his own words.

### 1. THE PLAZA

Oscar Niemeyer designed this area as a social space. It is a place of connection with the environment, open to the public and intended for activities of a recreational and cultural nature. It is the best space for child and family recreation and learning, for practising and competing in sports and for open-air cultural programmes in the summer with concerts, plays and other acts.

### 2. THE MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING

With an aesthetic where the curve line is predominant, this space visually connects the two largest parts of the centre, the auditorium and the dome. This is where the cinema, meeting rooms and conference halls, the cafeteria, and the customer service area are located.

### 3. THE AUDITORIUM

This building is one of the most outstanding parts of the whole centre. It is 26 metres high, with a inside capacity for nearly one thousand people. It is the most versatile space in the architectural ensemble, with a foyer of more than 1000 m<sup>2</sup> used as an exhibition space throughout the year.

The main hall of the auditorium, with its 400 m<sup>2</sup> stage, allows for large-scale activities of theatre, dance, conferences and others. In addition, its acoustics mean it is the perfect space for big concerts.

The auditorium also has a club which is the perfect showcase for national and international bands on tour in Spain, bringing together an audience eager to enjoy independent live music. The most avant-garde theatre, the Off Niemeyer, is also ideally located in the club to showcase the creativity of its acts.

### 4. THE DOME

Open plan space of approximately 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> for exhibitions and artistic acts of various kinds. This semi-sphere made in concrete features a round-shaped lamp designed by the architect himself as well as an imposing spiral staircase of great artistic value.

As a building, it poses a series of challenges for artists exhibiting in this space, as it is the ideal location for site-specific installations. The work with forms, volumes, saturation of light and reverberation of sound are key in this space for the kinds of art displayed.

### 5. THE TOWER

The tower looks out on the estuary and the city of Avilés. At a height of 20 metres, the top, a disc surrounded by windows, can be accessed via a spiral stairway that wraps around the base column. The tower currently houses a restaurant.

