



View of the complex from the west | Entrance | View from the entrance through the courtyard garden towards the protruding entrance of the ambulatory | Prayer hall



Lisbon Ismaili Centre

Lisbon, Portugal

Architect	Raj Rewal
Client	Ismaili Community of Portugal
Completion	2002
Footprint	Entire complex 5500 m ² , prayer hall 875 m ²
Seating capacity	ca. 950

While the Ismaili Centre in London stands in the midst of a 19th-century urban environment, the newer and larger Ismaili Centre in Lisbon is situated on the outskirts of the capital and occupies an “island” surrounded partly by traffic arteries and partly by high-rise developments.

The entrance to this configurational composition of several buildings and six courtyards is marked by half an octagon. Immediately behind this small entrance hall, one enters a peaceful courtyard garden, whose longitudinal and transverse axes, with water channels and a fountain at their intersection in the centre, recall the Persian Chahar Bagh garden layout so popular in Moorish Spain. To the left of this artificial and primarily rep-