

Biotech Center

JENA



In the break between two microscopic worlds, they stand side by side in the garden for a moment, as if they've accidentally slipped out of the experimental setup. Coffee bubbles like an impatient reactor, while somewhere a device beeps that really should be quiet. "Growth or contamination?" someone asks into the air. A shrug, a smile behind safety goggles. Then it's back to the experiment – as if time had briefly opened up, like a culture plate.

The landscape around the Biotech Center on the Beutenberg Campus in Jena – a modern research facility with advanced laboratories and part of the Leibnitz Association – speaks in a quieter, more relaxed way. Its design grows naturally out of the character of the site. What happens inside under the microscope finds a subtle reflection outdoors: in textures, transitions, and moods. The planting is inspired by the local Thuringian limestone landscape – pines, wild roses, and soft, grassy slopes – giving the campus a clear sense of place.

At the same time, contrasts shape the space: light and shade, dry and moist areas, more ordered zones alongside wilder ones. These shifts create a lively, changing environment that loosely echoes the dynamics of scientific processes.

This is not a garden made just to look pretty. It's a place that invites you to slow down and notice – the small details, the hidden layers, the sense of growth and change. In its own way, it reflects the spirit of the research happening inside.









Project data

Project Biotech Center (HKI)

Location Jena, GER

Client Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology (Hans Knöll Institute)

Planning period 2017-2023

Construction period 2022-2023

Completion 2023

Services Planning and construction management (phases 1-8)

Size 2.800 m²

Costs 1,6 million € net

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