

London Sky Garden



CASE STUDY | LONDON SKY GARDEN



Client:
CBRE



20 Fenchurch
Street, London



January 2021 -
December 2023



Interior planting
and maintenance

In January 2021 *idverde* began a three-year contract to provide maintenance of the sub-tropical garden and living wall at the iconic London Sky Garden, situated at 20 Fenchurch Street in the City of London, on behalf of CBRE.

The Project

The stunning Sky Garden is extremely popular with Londoners and tourists alike, and affords stunning views over London, while wandering around spectacular landscaped gardens.

On taking on the contract, *idverde* developed a six-week project plan to bring the garden up to the standard expected by our client and visitors following damage from cold temperatures over the preceding winter months. The plan included:

- Pruning all damaged plants and removing any dead species
- Replanting using dramatic, exciting cultivars
- Twice-weekly treatment of all pests and diseases
- Hand picking all dead leaves
- Hand cleaning all plant leaves so they are free from pests (this was carried out twice)
- Pruning the dense crown on the large *Ficus nitida* trees
- Thinning out all plant species where they had been allowed to become overgrown
- Re-aligning each individual tree fern mister so water reaches the crown
- Re-staking all standards
- Mulching the entire landscape using 200 bags of a premium grade mulch

This live project plan was updated daily and sent to the client as part of a weekly update and regular site visits were carried out to walk the client through our plan and give them confidence in our ability to deliver.

Challenges

The majority of the contract is 35 floors up and (during Covid-19 restrictions excepted) is a tourist hotspot, so maintenance has to be carried out in close proximity to the public.

We have to be careful when arranging delivery of materials so that we only have enough for each day, therefore reducing risk of damage or failure due to having to temporarily store stock in locations that do not mirror the conditions of the tropical garden. Due to the sub-tropical nature of the garden a vast amount of irrigation and water systems are needed on-site.

We have recruited a highly-skilled head gardener with extensive experience in sub-tropical planting to lead our maintenance activities.

One of the challenges unique to 2021 has been the temperature of the garden, which fell significantly due to there being no visitors for several months due to Covid-19 lockdown restrictions.

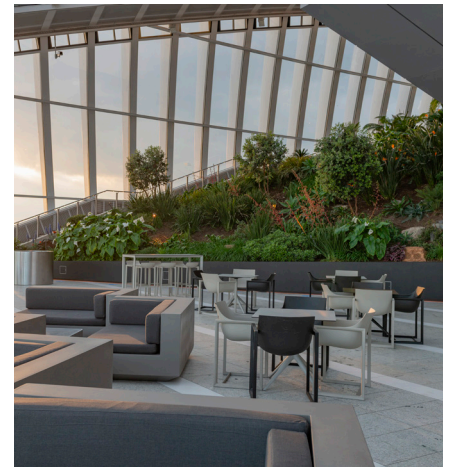


Results

idverde is six-months into the contract and has already delivered a marked improvement in the appearance and quality of horticulture at the Sky Garden. This is now a professionally managed space with skilled management both in terms of service delivery and horticulture.

We have also delivered cost savings on replacement planting and irrigation repairs, with our service including a built-in budget for irrigation repairs and plant replacement, enabling us to respond rapidly to any repairs required in the garden.

Our client is extremely happy with the service delivery to date, and we continue to work to improve the standard of the site so that it can continue to wow visitors now that the Sky Garden is able to welcome them back following lifting of Covid-19 restrictions.



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