

# And the **BCMmy** Goes to...



Peruse a bevy of inspired ideas in the 2021 Bowling Center Architecture and Design Awards competition.

[THEY] ARE NOT merely awful; I would consider it sacrilegious to say anything less than that they are god awful. They are so unbelievably horrible, so appallingly unmusical, so dogmatically insensitive to the magic of the art that they qualify as crowned heads of anti-music..."

Care to guess what rock group the music critic for the Boston Globe was writing about in 1964? The year should provide a clue. Yes, the critic was describing the Beatles.

Two years later, on New York's Madison Avenue, the Whitney Museum opened. The building was designed by Marcel Breuer. A review by New York Times critic Ada Louise Huxtable wasn't quite as brutal as the Boston Globe's assessment of the Beatles, but it wasn't exactly glowing. Wrote Huxtable: "The taste for its disconcertingly top-heavy, inverted pyramidal mass grows on one slowly, like a taste for olives or warm beer."

Yet the building's design has stood the test of time. While it may not be everyone's cup of tea... or warm beer... it's now included on architectural tours in the Big Apple, and is considered daring, strong and innovative.

Tastes in anything that could be criticized — be it music, literature, dining or architecture — are highly personal and can change over time. Unanimity in opinion is rare. So when BCM inherited the Bowling Center Architecture and Design Awards from Bowlers Journal International, which had conducted the competition for 36 years, it was time for a fresh approach.

intact, it now features additional categories that more accurately reflect the breadth of 21st-century business models. Further, winning centers now will receive actual awards (in addition to recognition in the magazine) in the form of the inaugural BCMmy certificates.

Boutique centers and family entertainment centers are spotlighted this month; hybrid centers and traditional centers will take center stage in the May issue.

The goal of the competition is to provide bowling center owners both current and prospective with a bevy of ideas to consider

as they ponder modernizing or developing their own facilities. As you'll see in the pages ahead, there is no shortage of ideas. Whether you consider them "unbelievably horrible," awe-inspiring or somewhere in between is a matter of personal taste.

Bob Johnson





Best New Boutique

Interior

**Sport & Chips Games Bar** Restaurant

▶ While the special-effects lighting in the bowlers' area is reminiscent of a Pink Floyd concert, other areas of Sport & Chips embrace elements of America's pastime (baseball), including the entryway and "big-screen" batting cages. Big screens also dominate the attractively illuminated bar.





Location: Coyoacan, Mexico City, Mexico

**Proprietor:** Victor Morales

Architectural Company: Gap Inmobiliaria

**Interior Design Company:** Gap Inmobiliaria SA CV

**Bowling Equipment Supplier:** 

QubicaAMF Worldwide

Lanes: Boutique

Scoring: BES X Ultimate With BES X

Experience and HyperBowl

Pins: AMFlite

Ball Returns: Harmony

**Bumpers:** HyperBowl

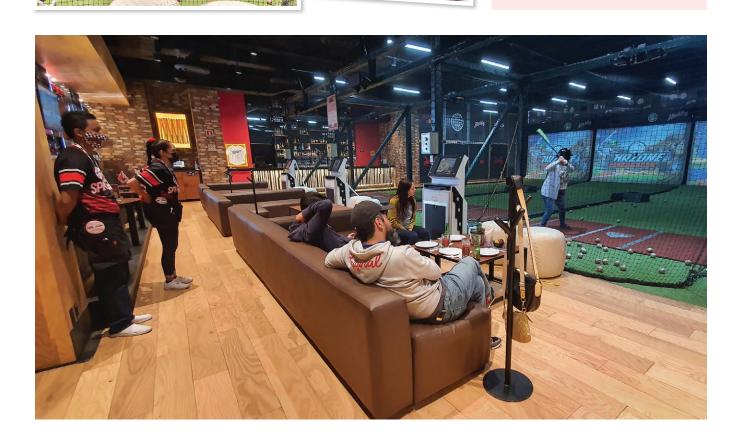
Lighting Equipment: Miguel Ochoa Sound Equipment: Boss System

ATM: Banorte

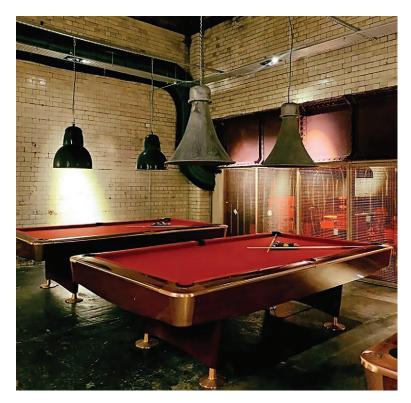
Virtual Reality: Baseball Bat / Formula 1

Online: Sport&Chips Games Bar

on Facebook







**Best New Boutique** 

**Ancillary Profit Center** 

### Lane7

▶ Billiards has been making a comeback throughout Europe, although with a much more upscale "persona" than could be found in the dark and dank pool halls of old. This space at Lane7's Leicester venue sits within brick walls and features dramatic lighting and fixtures that undoubtedly were intended for other uses — which renders them an inspired choice.

#### ▶>> AT A GLANCE

Location: Leicester, United Kingdom

**Architects and Designers:** John and Johnathan Taylor **Bowling Equipment Supplier:** QubicaAMF Worldwide

Lanes: Boutique Walnut Scoring: BES X Ball Returns: Harmony

Pins: String Pins Website: lane7co.uk





**Best New International FEC** 

Interior

## JoyVillage Rome Maximo

▶ Whether the house lights are turned down to accentuate the special-effects lighting, or turned up to show off gorgeous flooring and classy couches, the interior of JoyVillage lives up to the high standards of Italian design. The venue includes 12 lanes and four mini lanes among its attractions.





#### ▶▶▶ AT A GLANCE

Location: Rome, Italy
Proprietor: LED S.R.L.
Architectural and Interior Design
Services: Cap Design SRL
Bowling Equipment Supplier:

QubicaAMF Worldwide

Pinsetting Machines: EDGE String
Pinspotters

**Scoring & Entertainment:** 

BES X Ultimate With HyperBowling Lanes: SPL Lanes

**Ball Returns:** Harmony Ball Returns **Pins:** String Pins

Mini Bowling: Highway66
Masking Units/Screens:

**AVL Technology** 

**Sound Equipment:** AVL Technology **Arcade Game Distributor:** 

Elmac SRL, Tecnoplay SA and

Farogames SRL

Billiards: FAS Pendezza

Virtual Reality: Hologate

Virtual Room Ninja Attraction: Playmart

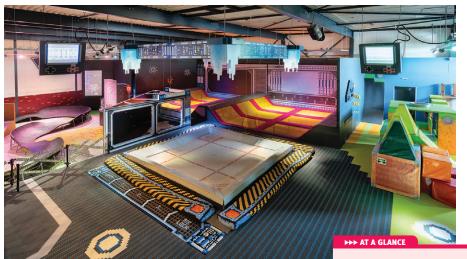
**Bumper Cars:** Sela Cars **Website:** joyvillage.it











**Best New International** 

FEC Ancillary Profit Center

### **FEC Sevenum**

▶ So how does one compete with nearby Attractiepark Toverland and its abundance of theme park thrill rides? One way is to appeal to a younger demographic, and FEC Sevenum does just that with its Mattel Play area for the little ones. (Patrons of all ages can have fun on the HyperBowling-equipped lanes.)



Location: Sevenum, Netherlands

**Proprietor:** Boy Knapen

Architectural Company: Janssen Wuts Architecten

Interior Design Company: FEC Sevenum and S-Design Interieurbouw

**Bowling Equipment Distributor:** Bowltech International **Bowling Equipment Supplier:** QubicaAMF Worldwide **Pinsetting Machines: EDGE String Pinspotters** 

Scoring: BES X Ultimate

**Entertainment System:** HyperBowling

Lanes: SPL Select **Ball Returns:** Harmony **Bumpers:** HyperBowling System

Pins: AMFlite II

**Lighting Equipment:** Holland Light Company

Children's Play Area: Mattel Play

Website: fecsevenum.nl





Best Modernized International FEC
Interior

### **WOOP!** Arena

An existing 28-lane traditional center was struggling. An operator of trampoline and karting parks was looking to expand and diversify. A deal was struck, and WOOP! Arena was developed with 10 fewer lanes but several more attractions. The signage is bold, the industrial-style ceiling is attractive and the bowlers' area is, in a word, gorgeous.





QubicaAMF Worldwide
Pinsetting Machines: EDGE String
Pinspotters
Entertainment System:
HyperBowling
Lanes: SPL-II
Masking Units/Screens: Harmony
Scoring: BES X Ultimate
Ball Returns: Harmony
Bumpers: HyperBowling System
Pins: EDGE String Pins
Sidewall Treatment: Prima IP
Lighting Equipment: Temsus

Sound Equipment: Dega Sistemi
Furniture/Fixtures: Mizarstvo Straser
Virtual Reality: Hologate
Laser Tag Arena Designer and
Equipment: Delta Strike
Lazer Maze Manufacturer: Delta Strike
Escape Rooms: GameOver
Website: arena.woop.fun







LIFT IN MONTHLY **REVENUE** 

**GROSS PROFIT INCREASE** 



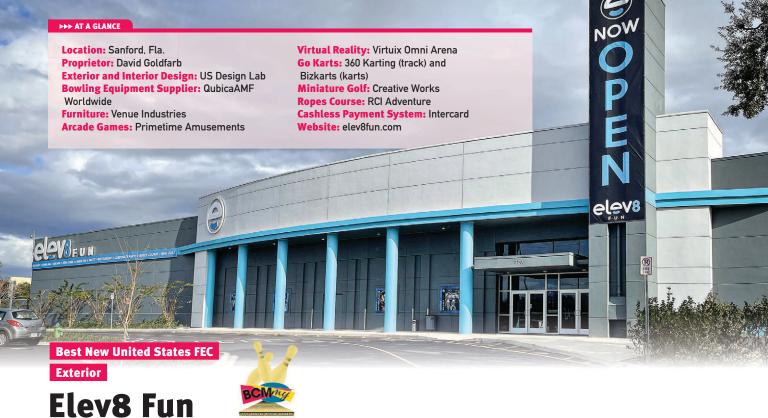
We installed HyperBowling about a year before the pandemic hit. Within six months our month-by-month total revenue was up 30%, and gross profit was up 25% compared to the same period the prior year. Revenue went up for the entire business, not just open bowling. We also had substantial growth in food and beverage, shoe rental, arcade business, as well as five-star ratings. Guests who come for HyperBowling are seeking a higher-end experience and are not shy to spend more through-out the facility.



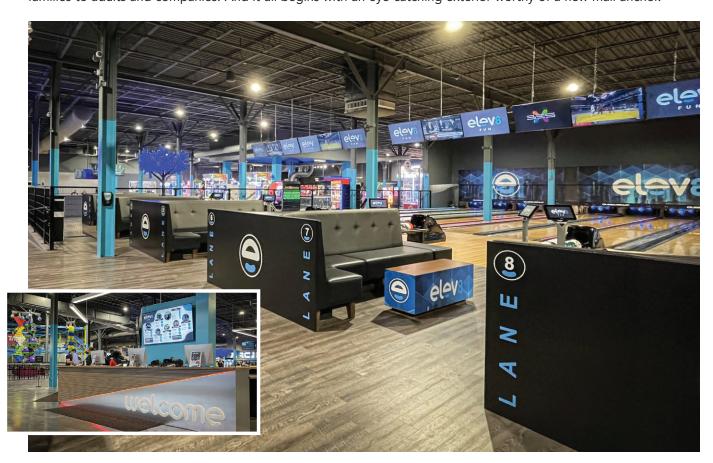
John Nelson, Owner Rose Bowl New Castle, IN



To learn more visit:



▶ Big-box retailers had already been reeling for years because of the emergence of Amazon and other online platforms. They took another hit during the pandemic, causing more stores to close, including the Sears location at the Seminole Towne Center Mall in suburban Orlando. There's no evidence of what came before thanks to the blue striping and fun signage designed for Elev8 Fun. Everything about Elev8 — including its branding, design, attraction selection and food-and-beverage offerings — is intended to attract a wide demographic, from kids and families to adults and companies. And it all begins with an eye-catching exterior worthy of a new mall anchor.





Best New United States FEC
Ancillary Profit Center

## Andretti Indoor Karting and Games

▶ Let's face it: When "Andretti" is part of a venue's name, karting cannot be considered an ancillary profit center; it's the main event. So at the new Andretti venue in Buford, Ga., it's the giant arcade area that fits the category, with green and blue



fixtures hanging from the ceiling unifying the space visually. A cluster of same-colored balloon shapes look like giant grapes, and shiny flooring creates a wash of reflected color from the various games.

#### ▶>> AT A GLANCE

Location: Buford, Ga.
Proprietor: Samantha LaManga
Architect: Mark Klinger
Bowling Equipment Supplier: QubicaAMF

Worldwide

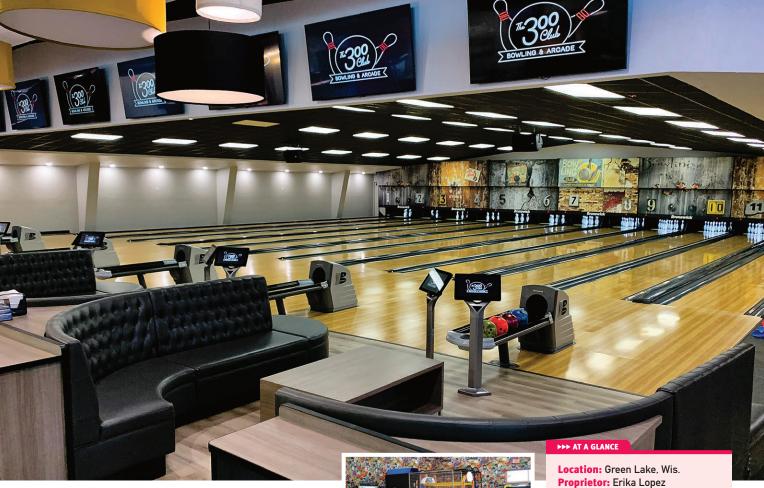
Music Source: Rockbot

Carpeting: Flagship Carpets

Arcade Game Distributor: Betson Enterprises
Redemption: Redemption Plus
Cashless Payment System: Embed
Virtual Reality: Hologate, Beat Saber,
Kong Skull Island, Vader Immortal
Lightsaber Dojo, Racing Simulator,
The Andretti 7D Experience

Laser Tag Arena Designer: Creative Works Laser Tag Equipment: Delta Strike Go Karts: 360 Karting (track) and Bizkarts (karts) Website: andrettikarting.com





Best Modernized United States FEC

## The 300 Club of Green Lake

▶ The little bowling alley in Green Lake, Wis.,

was known as Howie's through most of its history, and most recently went by the name of Paradise Island Lanes. In December 2020, during a COVID quarantine, it got a new owner — one who actually lives in Arizona, but summers in Green Lake with her family. The goal in reimagining the local alley: to create a unique and classy space with a clean and upscale feel. No area was left untouched, resulting in an upgraded bowlers area, bar, eating area and small arcade. Even the restroom doors received a unique (and fun) design touch.





**Interior Design Company:** Jacobi Interiors **Bowling Equipment Suppliers:** Brunswick Bowling Products and QubicaAMF Worldwide Pinsetting Machines: QubicaAMF **EDGE String Pinspotters** Masking Units/Screens: Brunswick Bohemian Scoring: QubicaAMF Conqueror X **Ball Returns:** Brunswick Pins: QubicaAMF EDGE String Pins **Sound Equipment:** Touch Tunes Furniture: Venue Industries Perfect Game Collection **Carpeting: Shaw Industries Restaurant Equipment/** Supplies: Edward Don and Company **Arcade Game Route Operator:** Midstate Amusements **ATM:** Midstate Amusements





#### Best New U.S. Hybrid Center

Restaurant/Lounge

## **District 850**

▶ Tallahassee is a college town, and that makes it an ideal location for District 850, which offers an array of attractions for young adults, from bowling to escape rooms and from axe throwing to bar and arcade games. For hungry and thirsty guests, food and beverages are served in elegantly designed spaces with attractive overhead elements and unique lighting fixtures.



#### **AT A GLANCE**

**Location:** Tallahassee, Fla. **Proprietor:** Nilesh Patel

Architectural Company: Dynamic Designs, P.C.
Interior Design Company: Dynamic Designs, P.C.
Bowling Equipment Provider: QubicaAMF Worldwide

Lanes: SPL Boutique

**Scoring: BES X Ultimate with Supertouch and Conqueror Pro** 

Pinspotters: EDGE String
Ball Returns/Racks: Harmony
Bumpers: HyperBowling
Pins: EDGE String
Lighting: CenterPunch

Video Masking Units/Screens: DFX Sound Vision

**Furniture/Fixtures:** Venue Industries

**Lighting:** DFX Sound Vision

**Sound Equipment: DFX Sound Vision** 

Carpeting: Flagship Carpets and J&J Modular "Energy"

Other Flooring: Daltile Fabrique

Restaurant Equipment/Supplies: Big Bend Restaurant Supply

Arcade Distributor: Alpha Omega Amusements
Redemption: Redemption Plus and Sureshot Redemption
Laser Tag Arena Designer/Manufacturer: Studio 41b

Laser Tag Equipment Manufacturer: Lasertag.com by Zone

Axe Throwing: Global Bowling & Entertainment

**Billiards:** Alpha Omega Entertainment **Cashless Payment System:** Intercard

**Escape Rooms:** Studio 41b

Music: FEC Music

**Ropes Course:** United Play

**Additional Amenities: XD Theater/Triotech** 

Website: district850.com



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#### DESIGN AWARDS



#### Best New International Hybrid Center

## **Seven Squares**

▶ There is a vast urban renewal effort underway in Saint-Etienne, located 37 miles southwest of Lyon. Long known for coal mining, it's now transitioning from an industrial center to a "design capital," and Seven Squares fits right into that effort. With glass elements as part of its exterior and a modern industrial look in many parts of its interior, the venue's design and theming are inspired, targeted to a 21st century clientele.











Location: Saint-Etienne, France
Proprietor: Garcin France
Architectural Company: Studio Mako
Interior Design Company: Ateliers Deletraz
Bowling Equipment Supplier: QubicaAMFWorldwide
Lanes: Integra Boutique SPL
Scoring: BES X
Pinspotters: EDGE String
Bumpers: DuraBowl
Pins: EDGE String
Furniture/Fixtures: Harmony Energy

Lighting: CenterPunch
Sound Equipment Company: Avecom
Restaurant/Snack Bar: La Cocotte Stephanoise
Restaurant Equipment/Supplies: MegaStoria

Bar/Lounge: Seven Squares/Ateliers Deletraz Arcade Distributor: NiceMatic Laser Tag Arena Designer/Manufacturer:

Laser Tag Arena Designer/Manufacturers
Maitrise Laser

Laser Tag Equipment Manufacturer: LaserBlast Lazer Maze Manufacturer: Maitrise Laser/ Plus De Couler

Billiards Manufacturer: Toulet
Bumper Car Manufacturer: Univers Loisirs
Music: Fully Centralized BOSE System
Ropes Course: Clip'n Climb/Entre Prises
Kids' Play Area: Tag Active and Ninja Warrior/

Website: sevensquares.fr

PlayMart

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qubicaamf.com/conquerorkiosk







#### **DESIGN AWARDS**





#### Best New International Hybrid

#### Interior

## **Playdome**

No detail was left to chance in the design of Playdome in southern Netherlands. The sidewalls are stunning (and can even be viewed from the restaurant), the lighting fixtures perfectly complement the rest of the décor, and there even are design elements on the posts. And check out the unique, understated masking units.

#### **>>>** AT A GLANCE

Location: Roosendaal, Netherlands
Proprietor: Nicky Broos
Architectural Company: Kraak ontwerp-en
Ingenieursbureau
Interior Design Company: Marjin De Kok
Interieurarchitecten
Bowling Equipment Distributor:
Bowltech International
Bowling Equipment Supplier:
QubicaAMF Worldwide
Lanes: SPL Boutique

Ball Returns/Racks: Harmony
Bumpers: HyperBowling
Pins: AMFlite II String and EDGE String
Sound Equipment: Snow & Event Service
Restaurant/Snack Bar: Playdome
Roosendaal / Marijn De Kok
Interieurarchitecten

Scoring: BES X Ultimate

**Pinspotters: EDGE String** 

Roosendaal / Marijn De Kok Interieurarchitecten Restaurant Equipment Supplies: Bouter / Marjin De Kok Iterieurarchitecten Bar/Lounge: Playdome Roosendaal /
Marijn De Kok Interieurarchitecten
Axe Throwing: Playdome Roosendaal
Laser Tag Equipment Manufacturer: Ultra Tag
Cashless Payment: Untill/Upta
Go Karts: SODI Kart/360 Karting
Music: Snow & Event Service
Additional Amenities: Curling, Karting –
everything in a winter Alpine theme
Website: playdome.nl



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#### Best Modernized U.S. Hybrid Center

# Maple Lanes / Kingpin Social

▶ Maple Lanes was built in 1959, expanded in 1964, sold in 2012 and experienced a devastating fire on Feb. 4, 2020. The decision was made to rebuild with a "more adult feel," including four lanes of duckpin bowling and a mezzanine above it. That mezzanine has

become a popular draw with its pool tables, pinball machines, dart boards, automated beer pong and more. The main level originally included two steps down to the lanes, but the new design eliminated those steps to better accommodate senior and specialneeds clientele. Other changes included all-new design elements (fixtures, lighting, etc.) and relocating the reception desk to a more central location.









#### **>>>** AT A GLANCE

**Location:** Waterloo, Iowa **Proprietors:** Rich and Kathy Eighme, Fran and Linda Eighme, **Zach Beschorner** 

**Architectural Company: Modern** 

**Interior Design Company: Modern** Design

**Bowling Equipment Provider: QubicaAMF Worldwide** 

Lanes: SPL

**Scoring:** BES X Ultimate with

SuperTouch

Pinspotters: XLi Free Fall **Ball Returns/Racks: Harmony** 

**Bumpers:** DuraBowl Pins: AMFlite

**Lighting:** CenterPunch Deck

Lighting

**Furniture:** Harmony

Masking Units/Screens: Allied Bowling, LLC; artwork and design by Mitchell Eighme

Sidewall Treatment: Allied

Bowling, LLC

**Lighting:** Ventola Projects Sound Equipment: Maximum

Sight and Sound Carpeting: Mohawk

Other Flooring: Mohawk Vinyl

**Plank** 

Restaurant Equipment/Supplies:

Wilson Restaurant Supply **Arcade Distributor: Moss** 

Distributing ATM: Hyosung

**Billiards:** Valley Dynamo

Music: RX Music **Vending:** AMS

Website: maplelaneswaterloo.com





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Scan the QR code to see what the Hype is about!









#### Best Modernized International Hybrid Center

## **Aischgrundcenter**



Northern Bavaria now has an upscale bowling-based venue where locals can meet for recreation and socializing. In addition to its color-splashed



bowling area with cushy couches, Aischgrundcenter is home to the Village Restaurant and the River Island Sky Lounge with still more comfortable seating and lots of creative dishes and drinks.

#### **AT A GLANCE**

Location: Uehlfeld, Germany
Proprietor: Caroline Anar
Architect: Caroline Anar Interiors

Interior Design Company: Caroline Anar

Interiors

**Bowling Equipment Supplier: QubicaAMF** 

Worldwide Lanes: SPL

Scoring: BES X and Conqueror Pinspotters: XLi Free Fall Ball Returns/Racks: Profile

Pins: AMFlite

Masking Units/Screens: Bespoke by

**Caroline Anar Interiors** 

**Sidewall Treatment:** Bespoke by Caroline

**Anar Interiors** 

Furniture/Fixtures: Bespoke by Caroline

**Anar Interiors** 

**Lighting:** Bespoke by Caroline Anar

Interiors

**Sound Equipment:** Lienhart **Carpeting:** Vorwerk

**Other Flooring: Parador** 

**Restaurant Equipment/Supplies:** Bespoke by Caroline Anar Interiors, Morello Forni

and Distinctive Chesterfields

**Billiards:** Toprak

**Bumper Cars:** Danny Bilgic, Ltd. **Cashless Payment System:** AGP mbH

Music: ABG mbH

Inflatables: Danny Bilgic, Ltd. Vending: Danny Bilgic, Ltd. Website: aischgrundcenter.de







Location: Maastricht, Netherlands
Proprietor: Bas van Oldenborgh
Architectural Company: Marco Scheren
Architect
Interior Design Company: Daph Studio
Bowling Equipment Distributor: Bowltech
International
Bowling Equipment Provider: QubicaAMF

Worldwide

Lanes: SPL Select with Ultraslide Approach Scoring: BES X

Pinspotters: Xli EDGE

Ball Returns/Racks: Harmony

**Bumpers:** DuraBowl **Pins:** AMFlite II

**Escape Rooms:** Prison Island/Identity Games

Website: olroundmaastricht.nl

Best New Traditional Center
Interior

## Olround Bowling Maastricht

Nith its well-furnished bowlers' area, its classy wall treatment above the pin decks, and its comfortable spaces away from the lanes for socializing, Olround Bowling provides an inviting and welcoming atmosphere for the residents of Maastricht. Known as the birthplace of the euro, the city is a thriving cultural hub, and Olround Bowling fits right in.



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## DESIGN AWARDS



Best New Traditional Center
Ancillary Profit Center

## Ozone Bowling Centre Alcala de Henares Madrid

▶ The arcade at Ozone Bowling includes seven traditional games and 30 redemption games, but it's the inviting, uncrowded design of the space — with colorful carpeting and lighting — that really stands out. Also serving as a magnet for gamers is the colorful, bright, well-stocked prize area.



#### **AT A GLANCE**

Location: Alcala de Henares (Madrid), Spain

**Proprietor:** Ozone Bowling

Architectural Company: Oscar Vidal Studio
Interior Design Company: Oscar Vidal Studio
Bowling Equipment Distributor: Hispa Bowling
Bowling Equipment Provider: QubicaAMF Worldwide

Lanes: SPL

**Scoring:** BES X Ultimate Conqueror

Pinspotters: XLi EDGE
Ball Returns/Racks: Harmony
Bumpers: HyperBowling
Pins: EDGE String







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# **Benidorm Bowling Centre**

▶ This seaside resort town now has a modern venue for out-of-the-sun fun. Ozone has an inviting exterior with big picture windows, and an interior with attractive flooring and eye-catching ceiling elements.

#### **AT A GLANCE**

**Location:** Benidorm, Spain **Proprietor:** Ozone Bowling

Architectural Company: Oscar Vidal Studio
Interior Design Company: Oscar Vidal Studio
Bowling Equipment Distributor: Hispa Bowling
Bowling Equipment Provider: QubicaAMF Worldwide

