

Spiritara's Pavilion

In Phase 2, I explored the idea of *Spiritara*, a spiritual community made up of people who believe in energy and strive to connect with their higher selves. What drew me to them was their search for emotional freedom. Amid the chaos of modern life — often driven by stress and the weight of self-consciousness — these individuals seek to return to nature as a source of balance and healing. They believe that nature, being neutral and untainted by the distractions of modern living, has the power to restore and realign their energy. Inspired by the simplicity and wisdom of life in the past, the Spiritara community looks to the natural world to help them reconnect with their true essence.

Many of them turned to this path because they were tired of feeling overwhelmed by their emotions, caught in endless cycles of overthinking, self-consciousness, or inner turmoil. For them, becoming a Spiritara is a way of letting go of these burdens — of finding peace, clarity, and a deeper connection to themselves beyond the noise and chaos of everyday life.

After defining the sub-theme, I chose *Sharing Value* because my nation has a deep-rooted belief in the power of sharing — especially the sharing of *energy*. There is clear evidence of this through the way people interact with nature and each other in daily activities and spiritual rituals. One example is *grounding*, where individuals walk barefoot on grass or touch trees, allowing themselves to feel the wind move through their bodies. This simple act reconnects them with the Earth's neutral energy.

Another practice is the *sound bath*, where meditation is guided by the resonating sounds of Himalayan singing bowls. These vibrations help calm the mind, encouraging self-reflection and rebalancing the body's energy centers — the chakras. Similarly, mindful meditation — simply sitting, closing the eyes, and breathing deeply — is used to bring awareness and balance within. Both activities are believed to help align the seven energy centers of the human body.

The *cacao ceremony* is a more communal example of sharing energy. In this ritual, cacao, considered a sacred plant, is used to 'restart' or recharge one's energy. Participants gather in a circle around a pot of cacao, often arranged like a mandala. They share personal stories and emotions, creating a collective space of vulnerability and connection. Through storytelling, they are not only exchanging words but also sharing energy, supporting each other emotionally and spiritually before resetting their intentions and clearing their minds.

After reflecting on the design of the **Spiritara Pavilion** for Expo 2035, I realized that while not everyone may fully grasp the deeper context or spiritual symbolism, one universal feeling we all share is the sense of connection to nature. That became my starting point.

I began with a **site analysis**, counting the trees and drawing a **grid** to ensure my architectural elements would not disturb the existing natural environment. The **trees inspired the form**, especially how their branches expand outward. From this, I created a **mandala**, mapping organic lines based on their natural growth.

Beside the site, there is a **water pond**, which inspired me to draw circles echoing **water ripples**. By finding the **intersection points** between the tree mandala and ripple circles, I began to plan the pavilion's layout—placing different activities in areas that felt naturally aligned with the landscape.

One large tree on the site became the heart of the design. Around it, I created a **public space** for people to sit, relax, and feel grounded. From there, the path leads into smaller rooms, each with **windows placed intentionally** to frame specific views—roots, sky, trees, or water. These windows don't just offer scenery—they guide people's attention and encourage inner reflection.

As visitors move deeper into the pavilion, the space becomes **quieter and more peaceful**, supporting a shift in awareness. The architecture gently invites people to slow down, reconnect with themselves, and reach a higher state of consciousness through their journey in the space.

