





DA HOUSE BY IGOR
SIROTON On a vast plane
skirting the dramatic Black
Sea coast in Bulgaria, this
house has been designed to
harmonise with its
environment, while in every
room celebrating the
spectacular views. Inspired
by Japanese architecture,
the stark concrete structure
is balanced by glass and a
tree to bring cosiness and
heat. Light from the picture
windows works hand in
hand with artificial light to
create dramatic spaces
across the single floor,
through which the car port
is visible - a quiet space that
has a pacifying influence on
the living experience.
igorsirotov.com

MAGE COURTESY OF IGOR SIROTOV



VILLA KOGELHOF BY PAUL DE RUITER This awardwinning house is energy neutral. Employing the latest technology it is climate controlled all year round while being totally energy efficient. The building itself, striking and abstract, is two stacks, one underground, the other floating above it - in an uncompromising glass box supported by a steel frame. The climate-facade exterior is eco-smart. The clear insulated glass, covered with sun reflecting fabric, can be rolled up or down depending on the weather. Meanwhile electricity is provided by PV-cells on the roof and soon, a wind turbine.



One of the main principles of the villa was to translate luxury into "happy independence." The goal was to make the home self-sufficient in every sense; to generate its own energy, to heat its own water and to recyle garbage. Aside from its practical and ecological benefits, the home is an impressive contribution to the landscape, providing nature of the Dutch coastline





HOUSE BETWEEN TWO GARDENS BY PITSOU KEDEM ARCHITECTS

This imposing private residence hovers between two courtyards, allowing natural light to flood into the interior spaces. The brilliant white cube has double height glass doors that at the touch of a button open up an entire facade of the house connecting the inside with the lush garden, bathing the open-plan living, dining and kitchen areas in light from both the east and west. From the back garden, the strip infinity pool appears to recede into the home while from the street the house is barely visible. pitsou.com









CLIFF HOUSE BY MACKAY-LYONS SWEETAPPLE ARCHITECTS

This project is the first of a series of projects for a large 455-acre site on Nova Scotia's Atlantic coast. This pure box in the landscape is precariously perched off a bedrock cliff as if it's floating on the seas. The effect is vertiginous, heightening our experience of the landscape.

The large galvanized steel superstructure anchors it to the cliff, while the skeleton itself is made from light steel, clad in cedar shiplap. Believe it or not, this is affordable luxury, built with the express intention of being a second home. It's a prototype that can be repeated as desired.

Not being an everyday home, the rustic 960sqm retreat justifies its comparitively diminuitive proportions. The main level contains a great room and in the open loft a cosy sleeping perch for windy nights. Such a dramatic setting wouldn't be complete without a large south-facing deck to absorb the first rays of the sun and extend the living space out through the large windows. **mlsarchitects.ca**