

OEIRAS HOUSE

DATE TYPE ENGINEERING 2018-2024 Commission TEKK, A3R Lda

LOCATION STATUS PHOTOGRAPHY
Oeiras, Portugal Build Fernando Guerra |
FG+SG

SIZE LANDSCAPE

350 m² P4

In the Portuguese town of Oeiras, this "earthenhouse" stands as an architectural response to the site's irregular terrain, harmonizing with the landscape through a semi-buried structure that thoughtfully leverages its natural characteristics.

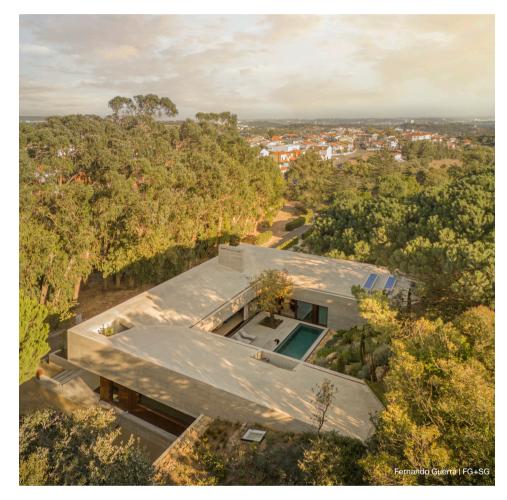
The westward slope, initially seen as an obstacle due to limited natural light, inspired the home's U-shaped design, which maximizes sunlight exposure throughout the day while providing private, secluded outdoor spaces shielded from view—an essential feature given the client's public profile. Aligned with the slope, the single-story volume maintains unobstructed ceiling heights and a welcoming openness.

A scenic pool acts as both a focal point and a source of enhanced light for the patio, which serves as a unifying element in the "patio-house" design, promoting spatial, structural, and material coherence. Surrounding the central courtyard void are fluid spaces designated for both social and individual uses, organized into a flowing, harmonious layout.

Geometric simplicity contrasts with rich materiality, with concrete and timber serving as primary materials. The upper volume is defined by concrete, chosen for its structural and aesthetic qualities, which enables a high beam to span across the space without pillars. This allows for wide-open rooms that blend with the exterior, creating a sense of continuity. The lower, habitable portion of the house features warmer materials like wood, creating a more intimate atmosphere and connecting the interiors with the surrounding natural landscape. Large transparent surfaces further refines this indoor-outdoor connection, creating a fluid dialogue between the two realms. In contrast to contemporary minimalist styles that avoid ornamentation, this design embraces fine details and ergonomic considerations, showcasing a respect for both craftsmanship and comfort.

The interior design reflects this idea of nature and tranquillity, with an open layout that invites natural light and promotes an indoor-outdoor flow. Warm, natural materials such as wood and stone continue into the interior to create a sense of grounded warmth. Custom furniture, recessed lighting and concealed storage maximise space, while subtle design choices ensure a balanced, human-centred aesthetic throughout.









ABOUT OODA

OODA (Oporto Office for Design and Architecture) is a dynamic studio founded by Diogo Brito, Rodrigo Vilas-Boas, and Francisco Lencastre, later joined by João Jesus and Julião Pinto Leite. With over 50 architects in Porto and Lisbon, the studio is known for innovative, contextually-driven designs across diverse project types, from residential to large-scale developments. Inspired by the OODA loop (Observe, Orient, Decide, Act), the studio emphasizes collaboration and cutting-edge technology, blending hand-drawn sketches with advanced digital tools. OODA is internationally recognized for its sustainable and forward-thinking approach.



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