

Project: Hoji Gangneung

Team: aoa architects

Size: 383 m²

Location: Gangneung-si, KOREA



Feature:

Project - Nestled in the serene Korean countryside, the curiously sculptural concrete forms of Hoji Hangneung seem to hover lightly above the land. Designed by aoa architects, the cluster of symmetrical yet unconventional structures includes three guest houses, a community warehouse and the owner's home, connected by a circular walkway. Seeking to avoid an impersonal resort aesthetic, the architects crafted a humble, nostalgic design that feels intrinsically tied to the rural setting.

The three guest houses provide distinct living experiences through their thoughtful layouts and connection to nature. The octagonal house features an open central courtyard that blurs interior with exterior, while the long house has a continuous skylight to embrace views of the sky. The round house contains playful light reflections and seamlessly flowing spaces. Inside the raw concrete shells, wood features generously to evoke the sensation of entering a welcoming wooden box.

By allowing ample room for interpretation, aoa architects have created dwellings that seem familiar yet defy categorisation. The buildings sit in harmony with the surroundings rather than imposing themselves, enabling inhabitants to immerse themselves in the landscape and form personal connections that reach beyond conventional architecture. With their human-centric approach, aoa architects demonstrate architecture's power to poetically reshape our relationship with nature.

Design Team – aoa architects believes architecture, like air, is ubiquitous yet easily overlooked but essential to our lives. Architecture is not always the protagonist but more often just the backdrop of our living. As fresh air enables healthier lives, they hope their

buildings can carry human life humbly, beautifully and usefully. aoa architects strives to enable more prosperous relationships between people, objects and society through space and construction that adds value.