

**Project:** Makai Villas

**Team:** Studio Saxe

**Size:** 1400 m<sup>2</sup>

**Location:** NOSARA, COSTA RICA



**Feature:**

**Project** - Perched on a hillside overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the striking Makai Villas in Nosara, Costa Rica designed by Studio Saxe exemplify harmonious integration with nature. The trio of architecturally distinct villas strategically frame breathtaking vistas through thoughtfully designed roof pavilions. These angular, geometric rooflines not only optimize ocean views but also respect existing trees, effortlessly integrating the structures into the lush landscape.

The steep terrain led Studio Saxe to creatively stabilize the hillside by using the homes' structure itself. This vertical design orients each room towards the endless ocean views. Elevated living pavilions set amid the treetops create an immersive experience of the jungle surroundings. The sustainability-focused design also takes advantage of solar exposure and natural ventilation. From the hillside pools to the minimalist interiors, the villas reflect a commitment to eco-conscious practices. The innovative construction adapts to the challenging topography, with a solid concrete base for bedrooms and a lightweight steel frame above housing the expansive living spaces. Through framed vistas, harmonious integration and green design, the Makai Villas embody a vision of human dwellings in unity with nature.

**Design Team** - Founded in 2004 by Benjamin Garcia Saxe, Studio Saxe has grown from a San Jose-based practice into an award-winning international architecture firm pursuing innovative and sustainable design. Studio Saxe aims to explore the relationship between architecture and nature, whether in tropical or urban contexts. Blending cutting-edge technologies with artisanal craft, the studio creates highly contextual designs that benefit local communities.

Led by Saxe and co-founder Erika Escalante, Studio Saxe brings together a multidisciplinary team of architects, designers and collaborators. Their dedicated team uncovers new design solutions tailored to each unique project, continuously pushing to improve methods and approaches. Working closely with clients, Studio Saxe finds new ways to integrate natural habitats with human-centered design.

Exploring local identities while incorporating global best practices, Studio Saxe solves local problems through worldly knowledge. Traditions are honored alongside forward-thinking techniques, learning from the past while building for the future. With a collaborative spirit and passion for exploration, Studio Saxe realizes innovative designs, from private residences to civic spaces, improving lives through intentional architecture.