Project Description

Drawn by a perfect view, the client chose the highest point on the Wartberg near the famous St Wenceslas Church as the site for his single-family residence. The site's other features, an abandoned barn and a 400-year-old vaulted cellar, proved particularly valuable later in the project. When the barn was removed, its beautiful granite was collected and reused in the new building, creating a unique eyecatcher. Restored to its original state, the 130-square-metre cellar is more than just a top-notch wine cellar. Rebuilt to extend from the exterior area into the interior, the old stone walls also serve as a connection between traditional and modern architecture.

In the rest of the house, the floor plan of which is oriented around the property’s unusual, pointed outline, the principle of openness dominates. The living and sleeping level on the first floor, which seems to float above the ground floor on projecting steel supports, receives the sunlight and offers views of the surrounding landscape through its large windows. Other special features include a built-in elevator that enables barrier-free access to all of the house’s floors and the courtyard garden, which is completely isolated from the outside world and allows absolute privacy. In terms of lighting technology, the client wanted as little as possible. Only frameless lamps were used. The client even renounced the obligatory chandelier over the dining table, opting instead for a modest band of light. The result is a quiet, structured ceiling and an equally tranquil atmosphere that is defined by the balanced softness of the lighting.

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