**Project Description**

Summer on the Greek islands: That means enjoying the great outdoors as much as possible and yet always having a shady retreat nearby, especially one that offers the most comfortable escape from the heat of the sun in the middle of the day. A harmonious blend of indoors and outdoors and a stimulating dialogue between bright light and cool shade was therefore the objective of the architects in their draft for the luxurious yet consistently simple design language of the summer residence on the small, idyllic island of Skiathos, population 5,000, in the west of the Greek Aegean. To avoid large building volumes and impeding the surrounding nature with the outsized character of a foreign body, the architects inserted into the slope of the building site a series of staggered horizontal levels that simply and efficiently create platforms for the various situations and functions: sunbathing, swimming in the pool, living, cooking, eating, sleeping, or simply relaxing in the shade. Flattening and stretching out the extensive building in this way offers a maximum amount of openness despite a clear demarcation of the individual areas through various flexible panels and glass surfaces, which is effectively emphasised by the breathtaking 270-degree panoramic view through the large areas of glazing to the surrounding coastal landscape. Intelligent building technology completes the impressive architectural concept, which is perfected down to the smallest detail. For example, the position of the pool, whose pump system is powered by photovoltaic cells, is strategically aligned to the winds coming off the slopes to the north in order to generate a cooling breeze that blows across the surface of the water and the terrace into the house for natural air conditioning. Also thought out: The waste water recycling system for watering purposes, toilet flushing, and the fire extinguishing system. In the twilight and evening hours, the crowning glory is the sophisticated lighting technology that enables constantly new lighting moods in the individual areas of the house through playful programming on a central touchscreen control system. This fulfils the claim of the architects to make consistent use of light as an integrated element that gives the house structure and identity, even in the absence of sunlight.

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