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WINTER RETREAT

La Luge
YH2 Architecture

Photography by Francis Pelletier





Nestled amid the lush greenery of the Laurentian Mountains in Quebec, Canada, is La Luge, a 1,300sq ft cottage-like home with stunning alpine views. Designed by Canadian firm YH2 Architecture, the compact structure has a simple, two-tone colour scheme which complements the minimalism evident throughout.

According to the architects, La Luge is a secondary home for its owners, and is designed in such a way they can enjoy Quebec's winters, as well as entertain a large number of guests. The residence blends two intersecting volumes – one made of oak walnut and the other cedar – set on different levels, thus creating distinct living spaces. Immediately past the entrance, square lights line the corridor of the cedar-clad hallway. A central spacious lounge feeds into an open-plan kitchen and a dining room furnished sparsely with wood walls, a sleek kitchenette, a sofa and a wood dining table. The three bedrooms feature the darker wood and are elevated about two feet higher, carving out as if an 'aspirational' space for added warmth and security. To make room for staying guests, a series of sliding doors connect the living area to the patio, and the children's bedroom can be subdivided into two smaller rooms. The design team also inserted floor-to-ceiling glass windows throughout the house, allowing sunshine to flood into the building.





La Luge is primarily heated with a floating fireplace in the living area, and if that isn't enough to keep the cold out, there's also a spa that accounts for almost a third of the gross useable area. Located at the rear of the house, the sauna and outdoor whirlpool certainly amp up the 'wow' factor of the overall design.

Surrounded by snow-covered trees, the contemporary home has the feel of a remote log cabin, while at the same time exhibiting the sophistication of a modern city apartment. Its welcoming exterior and soft, natural hues, not to mention the dreamy landscape against which the house sits, makes it a true retreat.