

Studio — Saxe

Press Release

Nalu

May 2017

—Nalu



Nalu_1

JUNGLE YOGA AND FOREST DWELLINGS COMBINE IN COSTA RICAN ECO RESORT

Studio Saxe has completed a boutique hotel and yoga studio set into in tropical landscape of Nosara, Costa Rica.

The project is another in a long line of **sustainable buildings from the practice that blend contemporary design with local craftsmanship**, embracing the natural environment that surrounds and frames the architecture.

Nosara has become a destination for visitors from around the world for health, wellness and surfing and so the owners of Hotel Nalu-Nosara, Nomel and Mariya Libid, wanted a design that reflects the attitude of their guests. The yoga studio, which has also become incredibly popular as a multipurpose gym space, is enveloped by lush vegetation on all sides and therefore becomes a jungle retreat for exercise and relaxation.

Location: Nosara, Guanacaste

Date of completion: 2017

Client: Nalu Nosara

Area: 656 m²

Architecture Team: Studio Saxe

Design Director: Benjamin García Saxe

Project Architect: Alejandro Gonzalez & Cesar Coto

Project Coordinator: Laura Morelli

Construction Documentation: Roger Navarro

Structural Engineer: Sotela Alfaro Ltda.

Electromechanical Engineer: Dynamo Studio

Builder: Construction PROS

Photography: Andrés García Lachner

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Guests at the hotel are provided with individual pavilion 'homes' rather than rooms, located just a few minutes walk from the ocean. By breaking up the mass of the traditionally monolithic hotel, the architects were able scatter living spaces amongst the trees and create a sense of privacy while surrounded by the natural world.

Each pavilion has been carefully positioned following meticulous research into wind and sun patterns, while ensuring they are all provided with an individual view out to the landscape. Overlapping timber roofs project out over each pavilion providing shade from the intense equatorial sun.



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Nalu_6



Nalu_13

These roofs are made of recycled Teak planks, creating uneven patterns that further emphasise this tension between local craftsmanship and modern design. Rooms are connected via corridors that filter dappled sunlight down from the pergola roofs above and frame more views out the lush surroundings

Architect Benjamin Garcia Saxe said: “Our project at Nalu represents **the power of simple, low-key, modern tropical architecture**. It has quickly become a town favourite, which shows that there is a real desire to occupy spaces that bring people closer to nature, while addressing the needs of contemporary life.”

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About Studio Saxe

Benjamin Garcia Saxe set up his own practice in San Jose, Costa Rica in 2004, with the aim of exploring our relationship with the natural environment through architecture. Since then, Studio Saxe has grown into an award-winning international practice made up of a multidisciplinary team, creating buildings and spaces by blending **technological innovation** with handcrafted techniques to form truly sustainable designs. Founded on the belief that buildings must connect to their landscape – whether a tropical paradise or a concrete jungle – **Studio Saxe brings a global attitude to solve local problems.** Ideas and techniques from around the world can be harnessed to benefit communities, both at home and abroad. Local traditions and identities are explored and developed, ensuring a process whereby we learn from the past and build for the future.

Nalu



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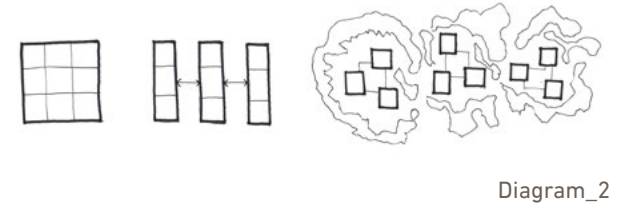
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Nalu_17



Diagram_1



Diagram_2



Nalu_25

The dedicated architects and designers at Studio Saxe uncover **new design solutions for every project**, treating each building as an opportunity to improve methods and approaches, responding to specific places. Working alongside clients and collaborators, the studio continually seeks new forms and functions that blur the boundaries between natural habitats and inhabited space.

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