

Ocean

View

The Perfect Holiday Homes

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\$	Affordable holiday homes
\$\$	Sophisticated holiday homes
\$\$\$	Exclusive holiday homes



name **OCEAN EYE**

🏠 8 people

\$\$\$

➔ [homeaway.co.uk](https://www.homeaway.co.uk)

architect Benjamin Garcia Saxe

TO DO

Playa Hermosa, one of the most beautiful surfing beaches in Costa Rica; the Nicoya Peninsula

+ breath-taking view of the ocean and jungle; open architecture; swimming pool; designed with Costa Rican art and furniture; focus on sustainability

✘ Juan Santamaría International Airport (SJO)

Santa Teresa, Costa Rica

The house of terraces



What does an architect do with a location that has a view of the Pacific Ocean and the jungle? Build as many terraces as possible in order to enjoy the exceptional surroundings as much as possible. The Costa Rican hideout Ocean Eye is an eye-catching, exotic terrace house immersed in the ultimate holiday atmosphere.

Inside or outside? In the Costa Rican holiday home Ocean Villa, the boundary between the two is not so clear. Why would you erect so many walls in such breath-taking surroundings? Benjamin Garcia Saxe of the architectural firm Studio Axe aimed for a harmonious flow between inside and outside by constructing the house with poles, terraces, and walls that can be completely opened. Saxe: ‘The Holdener family bought a beautiful property with two breath-taking views: the ocean and the jungle. We decided to rest the house against the steep hill of the site in order to stabilize the soil and protect the house from falling debris. The house then transitions from a more solid and intimate construction at the back—where the bedrooms and bathrooms are located—to a light-weight and ephemeral structure that faces the ocean and jungle views. The result is a series of interwoven terraces that relate to each other in all dimensions creating not only an internal interaction between levels, but also varied and sometimes unexpected relationships between the inhabitants and the natural landscape. In these interstitial terrace spaces, which are never truly inside or outside, architecture fosters the inhabitants’ relationship, enjoyment, and appreciation of the natural world.’

Ocean Eye is a fantastic construction of about 300 square metres with four bedrooms and three bathrooms. The entire house is a tribute to sustainability and ecology. Saxe: ‘In this project we carefully analysed local wind patterns to create a comfortable cross ventilation that would cool the spaces without the use of air conditioning. We used photovoltaic panels to create the energy needed for the home as well as solar thermal technology to heat water. Every single item in the house is energy efficient and the entire lighting system has been developed with high-efficiency LEDs. The house collects rainwater from the roof structures, which is stored and used throughout the house. For the most part, the house is built from locally sourced, reforested, and certified Melina wood. Most of the sinks were hand-crafted and created on-site, as well as the doors, the kitchen cabinets, and the bathroom furniture. Even though it might seem very modern, this house was actually carefully handcrafted with local materials by local workers under extreme and remote tropical conditions with limited resources and equipment.’

Ocean Eye is located just above Playa Hermosa, one of the most beautiful Costa Rican surf beaches in the Nicoya Peninsula. The heavenly beaches, rough waves, charming bathing spots, and high quality of life make this peninsula one of the most popular destinations in Costa Rica.





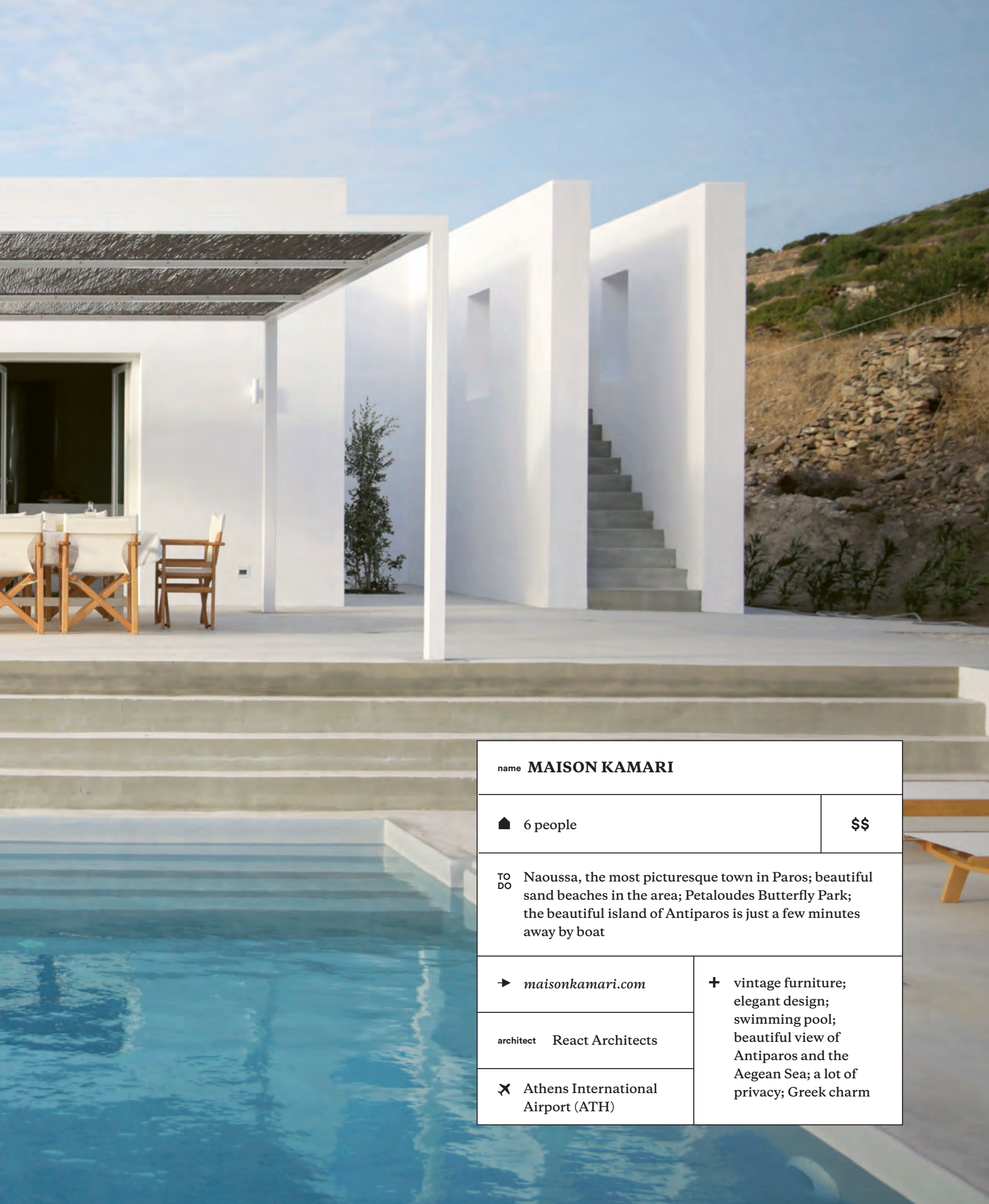
*The entire
house is
a tribute to
sustainability
and ecology.*



Paros, Greece

Cycladic architecture





name MAISON KAMARI	
🏠 6 people	\$\$
TO DO Naoussa, the most picturesque town in Paros; beautiful sand beaches in the area; Petaloudes Butterfly Park; the beautiful island of Antiparos is just a few minutes away by boat	
➔ maisonkamari.com	+ vintage furniture; elegant design; swimming pool; beautiful view of Antiparos and the Aegean Sea; a lot of privacy; Greek charm
architect React Architects	
✈ Athens International Airport (ATH)	

White cubes in a hilly landscape filled with olive trees. At first sight, Maison Kamari seems like a Greek cliché, but at second glance you may notice it is not a typical Greek home. Maison Kamari is a minimalist masterpiece with a lot of concrete and mid-century furniture.

In the heart of the Aegean Sea lies Paros, the third-largest island of the Cyclades, an authentic, pristine island group that is part of the Aegean archipelago. Mostly known for the islands of Mykonos and Santorini, it does hold many other hidden gems. One of these is Paros, which has been attracting more and more island hoppers. A quite recent attraction is Maison Kamari in the south-west of the island, designed by local architects Natasha Deliyianni and Yiorgos Spiridonos. They wanted to give the typical Cycladic architecture a modern and minimalistic twist, and they obtained an eye-catching result.

The architecture firm React Architects: ‘The architects were focused on expressing a pure design, with simple volumes to meet the owner’s needs. The owners are a filmmaking/art direction/music composition duo, with a shared aesthetic preoccupation and common language, so they were deeply involved with the design and execution from the project’s conception. Intimacy, cosiness, and comfort were key elements, and the en suite bedrooms are physically separated from each other for privacy. As for the living room and the kitchen, conviviality, liveability, and minimalism were a real obsession when conceiving the interior architecture. To decorate their interior, the owners curated a mix of smart mid-century pieces from emblematic designers sourced from markets in Paris, Athens, and Paros, lending a chic Mediterranean-bohemian style to the house.’

Maison Kamari is 180 square metres and stands on a plot of 4,000 square metres. The main building houses a huge open kitchen with a living room, two bedrooms, and two bathrooms. The separate guesthouse has an additional bedroom and bathroom. ‘The house has been positioned on the plot in such a way that one can fully enjoy its amphitheatrical view of the valley, the Aegean Sea, and Antiparos. The design of the main terrace’s stairs, which follow the natural curve of the plot and continue naturally into the pool, invites residents to enter the water. Another staircase leads to the amazing rooftop and offers a splendid panoramic view of the mountain and the sea.’

The owners: ‘The house is part of the Kamari settlement, fifteen minutes away from the main port of Parikia. The location is a mix of traditional Cyclades islands and charming Greek countryside. It is five minutes away from Farangas Bay and the elegant fishing village of Aliko, one of our favourite spots on the island, where you’ll find the best bakery and butcher’s on the island, along with fine traditional taverns and beaches. What we love about Paros and Antiparos is that you can discover a new beach every day and very easily explore the island by car, motorcycle, or boat. Paros is also a hotspot for amateur kite surfers.’







*Conviviality,
liveability, and
minimalism
were a real
obsession when
conceiving
the interior
architecture.*

Steigen, Norway

The dream of adventurers





name **MANSHAUSEN**

🏠 4-5 people

\$\$\$

✈ Bodø Airport (BOO)

➔ manshausen.no

TO DO hiking in Måløya and Grøtøya; Resshola cave; snorkelling and diving in the area

architect Snorre Stinessen

✚ beautiful hut made from wood and glass; stylish interior design; incredible view

A stylish hideout on the edge of the world, that is the atmosphere that Manshausen creates in the Steigen archipelago in northern Norway. This incredible resort consists of four holiday homes made from wood and glass that stand on the edge of Manshausen Island, attracting adventurers from all over the world.

Manshausen is the dream come true of Norwegian polar explorer Børge Ousland, who bought the entire island in 2010. Ousland: 'I had never been to Steigen before, but totally fell in love with the place. Manshausen is a relatively small island (fifty-five acres) just across the fjord from Lofoten. What I fell in love with is the nature, protected islands, islets, beaches, high mountains, midnight sun in the summer, and northern lights in the winter. My background is polar exploration, but I am a relatively active person in general and a lot of what I like to do can be done here: kayaking, diving, climbing, trekking, caving, sailing, fishing. A couple of years ago I decided to share this pristine and lesser-known area of northern Norway with others. Through friends I got in touch with architect Snorre Stinessen, known for his modern style and ability to integrate his architecture into nature. We finalised a design we both liked, with the idea of being outside and as close to nature as possible, while at the same time comfortable, protected and warm inside. With the big glass windows and the huts overhanging the water, it's like being both outside and inside at the same time.'

Manshausen currently has four cabins, all with two bedrooms, a kitchen, and a bathroom. In the master bedroom of each cabin you can enjoy the stunning scenery while lying in bed. 'With floor-to-ceiling glass walls facing the sea, all four cabins were positioned to maximize the view while providing the guests privacy. Three of the four cabins are cantilevered over the stone moorings above the water, while the fourth is set on a rocky ledge at an angle to the coastline. A restored 18th-century farmhouse was converted into a communal kitchen and dining lounge for guests with a library stocked with books. There are two relaxing hot tubs, a salt-water pool and a private beach, along with endless wilderness for adventure.'

Situated in the Steigen Archipelago off the coast of Northern Norway, the island of Manshausen lies in the middle of the Grøtøy strait between the dramatic peaks of the Lofoten Mountains and the Barents Sea. Comprised of 55 acres, the island and surrounding archipelago are an outdoor adventurer's dream, with endless winter and summer sports, and dramatic, unspoiled natural beauty. The small village of Nordskot is the heart of the island's commercial centre, with a coastal museum and a shop or two. For more services, shops and cafes, you can grab a short boat or car ride to neighbouring Leinesfjord or Helnessund.





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