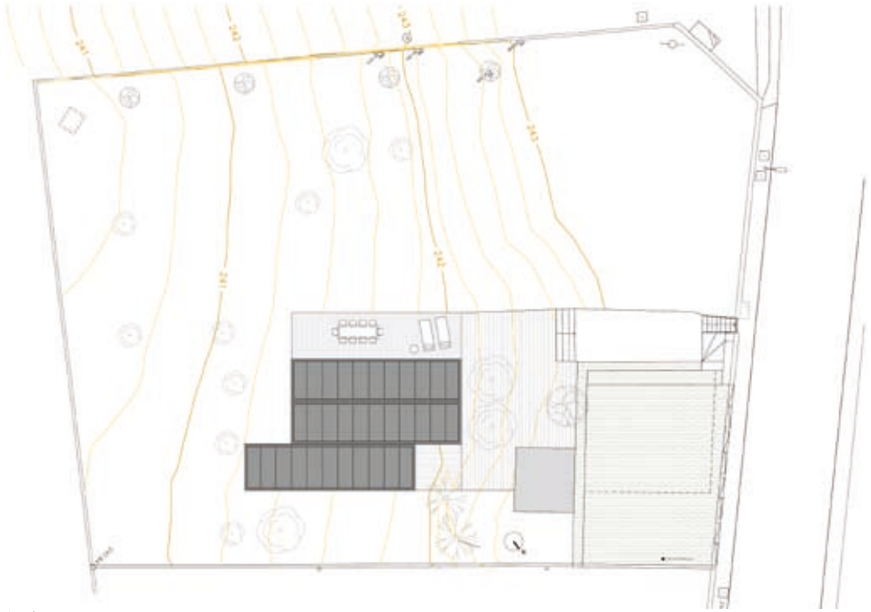
Mint House

Located in the countryside, the 100 square meters (1,076 sq. ft.) house is conceived as a weekend house, easy to use, efficient, and taking full advantage of its natural surroundings. The fluid transition between exterior and interior areas is one of the main characteristics of the project. The house is shaped as a functional cube or, in the words of the architects, a "living box" that can be opened, closed, switched on, heated, and cooled down easily and rapidly.

Architects: James & Mau
Location: Reus, Spain
Photography: © Luis Salazar



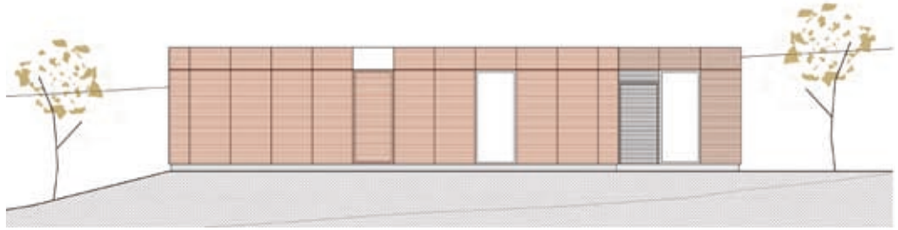
Site plan

The project relies on a bioclimatic architecture, adapting the form and positioning of the house to its energetic needs: natural ventilation, passive solar design, intelligent façade system, and natural shade.

087

Modular construction is cost effective because most of the construction takes place in a workshop. This minimizes on-site waste production and reduces mounting and dismounting time.

South elevation



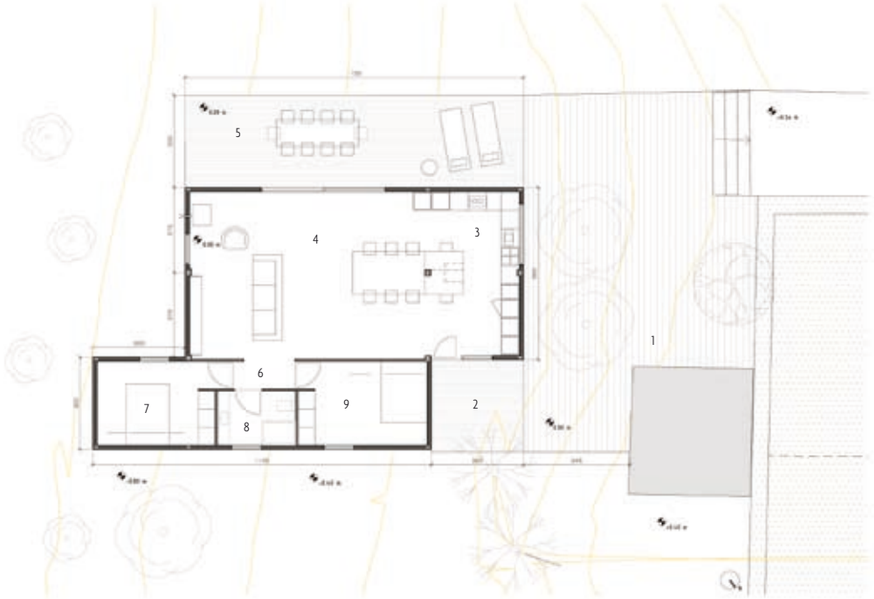
North elevation

088

A bioclimatic design, the use of eco-friendly materials, and the utilization of renewable energies contribute to a highly efficient sustainable house.

089

An east orientation will benefit from the morning sun, but will leave the west wall more exposed to overheating. This factor should be taken into account when placing windows.



1. Access esplanade
2. Access terrace
3. Kitchen
4. Living room
5. Terrace
6. Vestibule
7. Bedroom
8. Bathroom
9. Bedroom

Floor plan

090

Generally, to take full advantage of sun exposure, buildings should have their long sides oriented along an east-west axis. This means that most windows should face south.

091

In addition to complementing a building's structure and defining its aesthetic appearance, exterior wall finishes make a major contribution to sustainability.

The shutters play an important role both for the aesthetic value of the house and its energy efficiency. The shutters, which are integrated in the façade, use perforated panels of Corten® steel.