



## A Deep-down Dining Experience Like No Other

UNDER  
LINDESNES, NORWAY  
SNØHETTA



At Under, diners merge with the sea much like the architecture housed inside. From the outside, Europe's first underwater restaurant, Under (which means both "below" and "wonder" in Norwegian) tilts into the sea, appearing half-sunken. "In this building, you may find yourself underwater, over the seabed, between land and sea," says its designer Kjetil Trædal Thorsen, cofounder of studio Snøhetta. "This will offer you new perspectives and ways of seeing the world, both beyond and beneath the waterline." Seating up to 40 guests, Under is located in the extremities of the Norwegian coastline, at a rough, rugged, and stormy confluence where sea storms from the north and south come together. Designed with a thick concrete shell, however, the 111-foot- (34-meter-) long structure is intended to weather the elements. To this extent, its interior

is calm and quiet, oblivious to any wave or wind outside, transporting diners to the beauty and mystique of the underwater world. Upon arrival, guests make their way into a hushed oak-clad foyer where glowing light from the North Sea streams up, beckoning them toward the sculptural staircase that marks their passage from land to water. Along the way down, finely woven ceiling panels in subtle colors that reference the breathtaking local sunsets accompany their tranquil journey to the dining room. From woven seats designed exclusively for the restaurant, visitors can watch the changing conditions and abundant marine life through a periscope-like window 16 feet (5 meters) below sea level. Combined with the gastronomic creations served from the kitchen, Under's unique site is sure to be one that diners will remember forever.