



A Clifftop Cabin Nestled in the Vast Wilderness of Eastern Canada

Entwined in the forest's shifting splendor, this off-grid hideaway reflects the spirit of its owner and the natural world that envelopes it.



“No house should ever be on a hill. It should be of the hill, belonging to it,” said architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Three years after sketching a plan on the back of a pizza box, Sacha Roy, the owner of this cliffside cabin—nestled in a forest of yellow birch, oak, hemlock, and sugar maple—has artfully fulfilled that vision with a home that mirrors the natural world enveloping it. Built entirely from scratch, the cabin needed only five trees to make way for its modest footprint, and all cues were taken from the local landscape: the exterior stairs, as well as the wraparound deck and gardens which follow the shape of the cliff and provide expansive views over networks of branches, surrounding mountains, and the glinting river below. Inside, the red pine is raw and unpainted, its creaking and sighing conjuring the sensation of being safely ensconced in an ancient tree.

With 20-foot (6-meter) ceilings, the cabin feels uncluttered, airy, and deeply entwined with the forest's shifting moods: “Facing south and high up on the cliff, you can't help but wake up with the first light,” says Roy of the cozy loft bedroom. “You can smell the cedar, the pine, the fresh air making its way along the cliff, and the soil of the forest. You can sense the changing seasons, hear trees drop seeds to the forest floor, and birds that let you witness the timeline of migration ... This home has given me an attentiveness to what's happening all around me.”

The choice of this profoundly peaceful setting in Eastern Canada grew out of a yearning to plant some roots after years traveling the globe as a