

Blending In with the Raw Icelandic Landscape

Aska Cabin by Studio Heima
Lake Mývatn, Iceland

Aska Cabin lies low in a vast north Icelandic landscape of lava formations, volcanoes, and hot springs, its charred timber facade echoing the patches of bare rock that peek out from under the snow. Its roof, planted with indigenous vegetation for insulation, embeds it within its beautifully bleak surroundings, as does its name—aska translates as “ash”. With a footprint of just 225 square feet (21 square meters), the cabin has a high ceiling to give the impression

of space. The humble accommodation is simplicity itself. Inside, guests have only what they need: a double bedroom, a bathroom, and an open-plan kitchen. And though it feels totally integral to the landscape, it stands on pre-cast foundations that would allow the land to be returned to its original state should the cabin be removed. In contrast to its dark exterior, the cabin’s interior is light, bright, and warm, thanks to its light pine plywood surfaces. Designed by Danish-Icelandic Studio Heima, Aska Cabin is located in the national reserve that surrounds Mývatn lake. It is one of several sustainable structures in which visitors can enjoy the natural spirit of this unique setting to the full.

