



Cabins Camouflaged in Natural Reflections

Sacromonte Landscape Hotel is part of a boutique winery situated on the remote rolling hills of Maldonado, Uruguay. Thirteen contemporary hospitality “cabins” dot the undulating vineyards, reflecting the landscape and highlighting the serene isolation of the location.

MAPA, a creative studio that describes architecture as its “field of action,” is recognized for creating novel materials while sensitively combining digital technology with natural realities. It made its mark on this project by designing structures that camouflage themselves from a distance but offer pleasant surprises close up.

“Sacromonte has a landscape of lush grassland, natural spring water reservoirs, and streams, surrounded by pristine vegetation, offering guests a wide range of scenarios,” the architects explain.

The visual journey is literally and metaphorically reflective, with circular pools adding to the multisensory experience. Glimmering one-way mirrors cover the front of the cabins. By day, they reflect the landscape and weather conditions, while, at night, the interior lights blend in with the Milky Way, which is clearly visible.

In contrast, the facades at the rear are made from layered logs—a nod to the piles of wood typically found in such rural settings. The circular pattern of the logs is juxtaposed with the organic shapes of the local stones used for the low walls that serve as the foundation’s base.

The steel carcasses of the cabins were prefabricated in less than 10 weeks in a factory in Montevideo, another example of MAPA’s bent toward material efficiency and functional transformation. “When these modular metal structures leave the factory and the city, they cease to exist as such and become landscape shelters,” say the architects. “They are no longer objects. Rather, they evolve into experiences.”

Architect MAPA
Project Sacromonte Landscape Hotel
Location Maldonado/Uruguay



At dawn and dusk, especially, the cabins melt into the landscape, their mirrored facades reflecting the vast expanse of open sky.