

# A Grand Project with a Humble Persona

This elegant, modern design looks to the future while preserving just a little of the past.



Above: Looking toward the house from the pine grove, the kitchen and dining room are visible through the glass.

VILLA BUTTER  
ATELJÉ Ö  
GOTLAND, SWEDEN

Villa Butter stands on the edge of a 66-foot (20-meter) cliff in Sweden's Gotland, with breathtaking views across the Baltic Sea. The dwelling lies at the heart of a beautiful, ancient pine grove, surrounded by ivy-clad tree trunks and the subtle scent of elderflower in late spring.

Building the house amid the ruins of an earlier structure on the site, the team from Ateljé Ö rendered the exterior in a textured cement to match the roughened surface of an old wall and combined it with oak, glass, and copper to blur the lines between inside and out. With a look that could be described as “modern organic,” they then styled the interior to represent “a tamed part of the lushness outside.” Spaces are large and open plan, with tiled flooring that continues beyond the facade to form an outdoor terrace. Furniture is predominantly made of wood—finely crafted floor-to-ceiling kitchen cabinets and an elegant, minimal wooden dining table surrounded by Hans J. Wegner's iconic Wishbone Chairs—with soft furnishings and textiles in taupes and tans.