

A29- VGC; THE CLOSET MODERNIST

A29 is a house by the waterfront in VGC which sparked a rush of copies on the Island from its generously proportioned roof to its bay windows, its open fence and colour palette. A29 stood apart when it was built almost ten years ago and the proof of its impact is the adoption of its features into popular Island architecture.



Approach View, A29

THE SURPRISE

The essence of A29 really is not its external features but the contradiction it represents. From its external façade, A29 is just another traditional classic house. However, the writer has heard several visitors gasp audibly as they cross the threshold and behold a completely modern building with all the ground floor laid out as an open plan space.



Lounge, A29

INFLUENCED BY WATER

From the entrance to the house, the sweeping view to the water is completely unimpeded. All the public and major private spaces in the house have a direct view of the water. The upper floor 'floats' like a lily pad on supports anchored from the roof with column free views in every direction.

The first floor is an unfolding 'wave' that can be viewed from the double volume living room. The 'wave' is not empty aesthetics, though it houses the family living room on the first floor, behind its curved glass block façade.

The organic fluidity of the house is reminiscent of the fluid waves of the lagoon that lap at the open fence of the rear garden.

The house is a closet modernist – presenting a classic façade to outsiders, it reveals to the invitees who are invited in its truly modern soul of tight, open, soaring and floating spaces.



Open Lobby, A29