

Mediterranean charm with a contemporary touch



THE FORMER FARMHOUSE FEATURED HERE WAS DESIGNED BY BB ARCHITECTS IN LINE WITH THE STUDIO'S AIM OF BLENDING IN WITH THE ISLAND'S LANDSCAPE AND TRADITION WHILE ALSO PROVIDING A CONTEMPORARY REINTERPRETATION OF RURAL MEDITERRANEAN ARCHITECTURE.



More information about the property:
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It is located just a few kilometres from the La Colonia San Pedro and Costa de Los Pinos mountain passes, in a rolling setting featuring a widely diverse variety of vegetation.

The 80,000 square metre plot is surrounded by holm oak and pine forests, connected by olive and barley fields. The building extends over 600 square metres and two storeys, with an annexed structure near the pool.

With a focus on colour and texture, the finished home is described as “a reinterpretation of traditional techniques and materials on the island, with a nod to other cultures – in particular, northern African.”

Special attention has been paid to integrating the property into the natural environment, both in the choice of finishes (adobe walls on the patios and stucco façades) and landscaping featuring wild native flora – to create an expansive “natural garden”.

The exterior areas are highlighted by austere lines, in contrast to the warm and cosy ambience of the interior rooms, with a combination of traditional and contemporary furniture and numerous exclusive details such as coffered ceilings, carved wooden furniture, unexpected little corners of natural light, individually-created colours for the walls and woodwork, and renovated Arab-style doors.

Founded by Sergi Bastidas 30 years ago, BB Architects offers architecture, construction, planning and design services in Palma. The studio’s main values are “staying true to the Mediterranean form and making sure that designs are functionally right”. Its aim is “to realise the maximum potential of environmental integration whilst remaining true to the original concept definition”.

Currently working with architect Gerard Bastidas, the studio has “entered a new cycle focused on integrated architecture and respect for the environment, while maintaining the finest and highest quality aesthetic finishes”.

Interview with Gerard Bastidas

Gerard Bastidas spoke to Home Couture about the concept behind this renovated farmhouse and the studio’s *raison d’être* in general...



From left to right: Boris Bastidas (Director financiero), Sergi Bastidas (arquitecto fundador), Gerard Bastidas (arquitecto).

What was the main philosophy behind the design of the house?
 Creativity that respects the environment and tradition.

How would you define “rural Mediterranean architecture”?
 Architecture with a human touch that plays with space – such as light and shade.

How would you describe your own style of architecture in general?
 A style centred on the search for harmony and proportion, and a commitment to highlighting the quality of materials and traditional techniques through the simplicity of form and shapes, providing each project with the studio’s distinctive stamp.

Many developers these days tend to describe their new projects as a harmonious mix of traditional Mallorcan style with modern touches. Have you integrated that kind of blended style into this house?
 I would define it more as a reinterpretation of the classic Mallorcan home adapted to the comfort of the 21st century.

What are the latest trends in design that you expect to feature in Mallorcan architecture over the next decade?
 A return to Mallorca’s roots and to nature, and construction that is more respectful of the environment – which will require a partial adaptation of the current regulations.

Taking into account the increasingly significant issue of climate change and renewable energy, have you incorporated “new materials” in this house, and in your architecture in general?
 Yes, organic coverings, geothermology, Arab-style walls...

What do you expect to be the main construction material of the future?
 Natural insulators.

Can you offer a practical piece of advice for readers thinking about building a new home and commissioning an architect?
 Find someone who has sensitivity, a firm commitment to their profession and respect for the environment.