

THE *mediterranean* HOME

gestalten

CONTENTS

5 A New Look at an
Old Way of Life

8 **KÁLESMA**
Mykonos, Greece

16 **CERCAL HOUSE**
Alentejo, Portugal

22 **LOVER’S HOUSE**
Mallorca, Spain

28 **IBIZA CAMPO ATELIER**
Ibiza, Spain

32 **THE OTHER SIDE**
Alentejo, Portugal

38 **MAS ANTIC**
Girona, Spain

44 **CASA BRAVA**
Algarve, Portugal

50 **CASA MORELLI**
Chianti, Italy

58 **CASA UM**
Algarve, Portugal

62 **CAN MONGES**
Mallorca, Spain

68 **CAMP ROIG 31**
Mallorca, Spain

72 **ISLAND HOUSE 02**
Kimolos, Greece

76 **TWO RESIDENCES IN FIRA**
Santorini, Greece

82 **TRULLO NOSTRANO**
Puglia, Italy

90 The Mediterra-
nean Interior

94 **MOVIMIENTO III**
Barcelona, Spain

100 **ILIOUPOLI APARTMENT**
Athens, Greece

104 **MERIKAS BEACH HOUSE**
Patmos, Greece

110 **ES BEC D’AGUILA**
Menorca, Spain

118 **CASA MINA**
Menorca, Spain

124 **CASA FANNY**
Menorca, Spain

134 **CAN STEPS**
Menorca, Spain

140 **BERBER LODGE**
Marrakech, Morocco

146 **RIAD JARDIN SECRET**
Marrakech, Morocco

152 The Making
of Paradise:
A Mediterra-
nean Model

158 **VILLA CARDO**
Puglia, Italy

166 **TRULLO GT**
Puglia, Italy

172 **ZIAD**
Marrakech, Morocco

176 **HOUSE IN FORMENTERA**
Formentera, Spain

182 **CASA DA VOLTA**
Alentejo, Portugal

192 **XEROLITHI**
Serifos, Greece

200 Back to Basics:
Modernism in the
Mediterranean

204 **E-1027**
Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, France

210 **CASA GOMIS**
Barcelona, Spain

216 **VILLA LA SARACENA**
Lazio, Italy

222 **CASA CODERCH**
Barcelona, Spain

228 **AVLAKIA HOUSE**
Antiparos, Greece

238 **CASA AZUL**
Grândola, Portugal

246 A Long
Tradition of
Innovation

250 **CANA GUESTHOUSE**
Aley District, Lebanon

256 **VILLA CHAMS**
Beqaa Valley, Lebanon

266 **CASA PA.TE.OS**
Alentejo, Portugal

272 **CASA MODESTA**
Algarve, Portugal

278 **VILLA LA GRINTOSA**
Sardinia, Italy

286 **INDEX**



Mediterranean architecture has been a site of innovation and experimentation for centuries. Today—whether in careful restorations of traditional homes, reinterpretations of the local vernacular, or exciting new contemporary spaces—that tradition is alive and well.

A New Look at an Old Way of Life

Ask someone to describe the Mediterranean and they will invariably speak of glittering waters that lap gently against pristine, sandy beaches, perhaps with a quaint village of traditional houses in the background. Yet the reality of life in the Mediterranean basin is far richer and more complex than this picture-postcard vision suggests. This is a region that stretches some 2,500 miles (4,000 kilometers) from the fertile shores of the Middle East to the Strait of Gibraltar in the west—a narrow stretch of water that separates Europe from Africa and where the Mediterranean meets the Atlantic. Despite the temperate climate and tranquil seas that the Mediterranean has become synonymous with, it can be inhospitable: the arid deserts of North Africa, for example, or high mountain ranges that quickly rise up from the shore, as with the Maritime Alps or the Cyclades. And it is not all picturesque villages of whitewashed houses and terra-cotta roofs; there are bustling

urban spaces, industrial centers, and deep-water ports serving vast modern container ships. Perhaps such diversity should be expected, though. After all, this is an area that is defined by the world’s largest inland sea and home to some 500 million people. Yet, although the Mediterranean basin spans three continents and 23 countries, the sea is a constant thread that runs through this patchwork of interconnected cultures. The climate, landscape, and shared history have informed a way of life and, in turn, the places where people live. This book aims to provide a window into the architecture and interiors that have developed along the shores of this great sea by looking at some of the most interesting modern homes, as well as by exploring in detail the area’s varied vernacular architecture, the influence of modernism and post-modernism, the interior spaces, and the landscape that continues to inspire new ideas.







The panoramic window slides back to open the living and dining room to the terrace, with expansive views over the rolling Chianti countryside.

A Contemporary Translation of an Island Vernacular



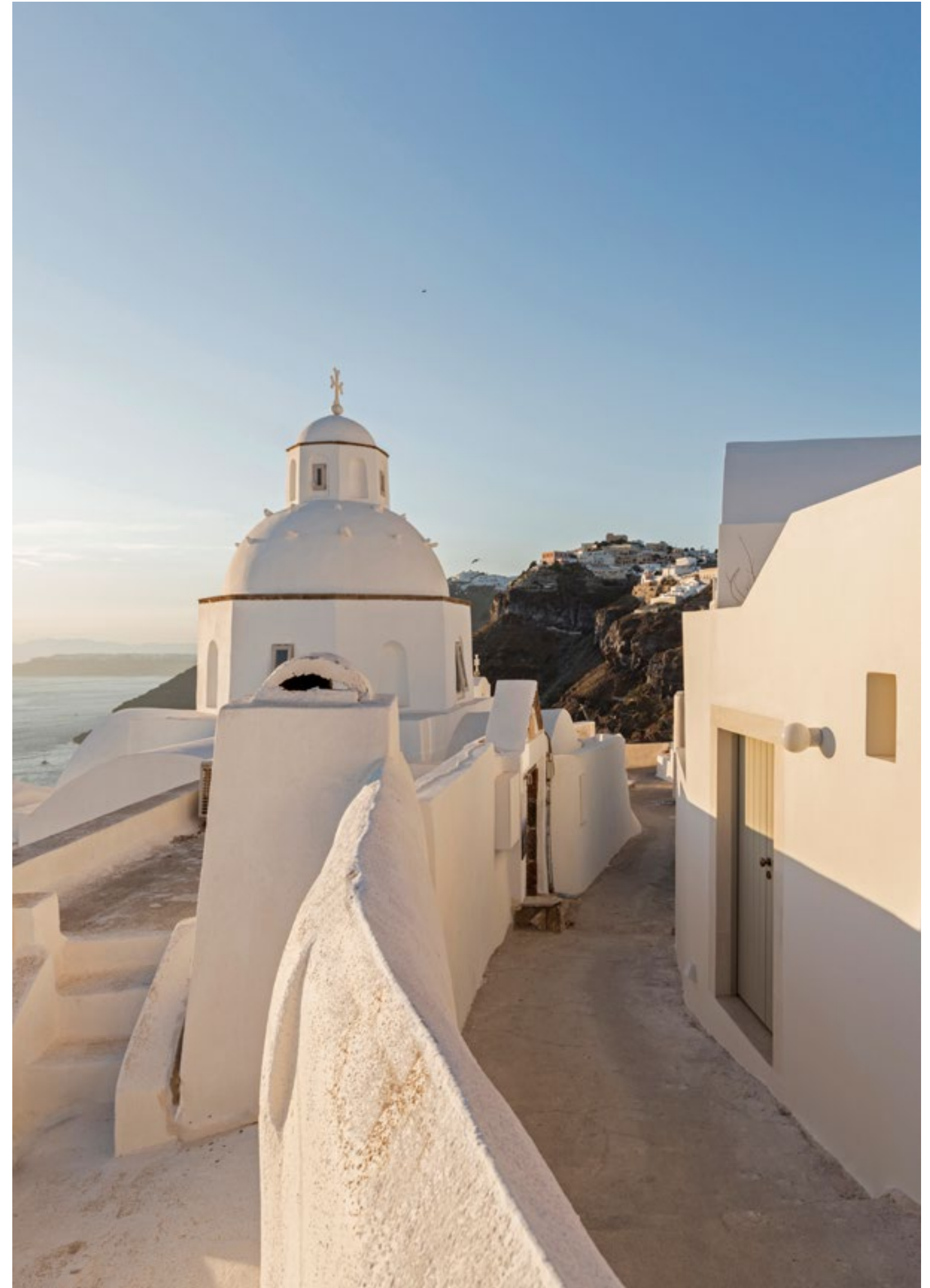
TWO RESIDENCES IN FIRA

Kapsimalis Architects
Santorini, Greece

Santorini is well known for the rectangular white-washed houses built into the caves of the island's hilly, volcanic landscape. For these two vacation homes in Fira, the main village in Santorini, Kapsimalis Architects developed a "contemporary translation" of the island's traditions. The site's existing property was converted into two residences, preserving as much of the original structure as possible. What had been the principal residence became the first home, with a wedge-shaped courtyard accommodating a pool and an exterior staircase leading to a small balcony. The second home was formed from the three caves that had previously been used for storage, with a hammam installed in the largest cave and the courtyard that includes a pool in a vaulted space beneath a staircase, an area for sunbathing, and views of the island's volcano from the terrace. From the cobbled street, the houses look largely the same, retaining a typical

whitewashed, rectangular form that ensures the courtyards remain private. For both, the courtyards are considered the central heart and have been intended as a point of transition.

In response to the crisp geometry and airiness of the first house, the architects used local flagstones—*maltezoplaka*—and a type of clay plaster filled with small rocks. The clean, contemporary take on a traditional way of life continues in the wooden furniture, produced by local craftspeople. For the second house, the architects emphasized the primitive atmosphere created by the smooth, curving surfaces of the caves. The cement mortar on the floor and the refractory mortar on the walls are a similar color, creating a sense of continuity between the surfaces, and the furniture has either been built into the structure or has shiny, reflective finishes that play with the muted quality of light in the cave.







The geometric form of the house is a contemporary interpretation of the traditional vernacular of Pugliese houses.







The traditional bamboo pergola that provides shade to the outdoor dining area is continued as the ceiling inside, creating a sense of continuity between interior and exterior spaces.







