





**Opposite top:** A recreation room has Nido chairs by Eliana Gerotto and Patricia Urquiola around a custom fireplace. **Opposite bottom, from left:** The ceiling, braced with Nordic spruce beams, rises to 50 feet. The 55 guest rooms each have a private balcony cut into the thatched roof.

**Top:** Custom sofas furnish the medical reception area.

**Bottom:** Obeche wood surrounds the sauna.



when you experience withdrawal, are especially challenging. "They take away everything," he begins. "You get *hangry*, feel nervous, and have serious headaches, and are also cold, since you have no energy. You can get every service, but you won't get anything to eat." As an architect, Ingenhoven could offer guests warm, generous, soothing spaces in which to recover, with minimal noise and distraction.

At the Lanserhof properties in Tegernsee and Sylt, there's no art or bright color, but a beige-and-white palette, wood floors, large windows, and a balcony in each of the generous guest rooms. They are tailored to their location. "Our approach is always to provide contemporary architecture with no compromise, but with a relationship to the vernacular," Ingenhoven says. Tegernsee, in the Bavarian Alps, evokes local monasteries with a square structure and courtyard. Lanserhof Sylt, in turn, reflects its setting in the Frisian archipelago.



The long, narrow landmass is the northernmost point in Germany, near Denmark. Like many Germans, Ingenhoven has visited Sylt since childhood—he compares Kampen, a popular beach destination on the island, to the Hamptons in New York. Under constant threat of erosion, Sylt has strict building codes that would normally prohibit the creation of a large new hotel atop the dunes. But the six-structure Lanserhof was effectively grandfathered in, because it occupies a former military complex dating to the 1930's, and the German government allowed construction on the existing footprints. The architect and the client worked closely with preservation and conservation officials throughout the process. "We could remove the hardscape but could barely touch the dune. It was a fight to get a square meter more to build on," Ingenhoven says. The volumes had to be compact, efficient, and sensitive to the surrounding nature reserve.

The six thatched-roof buildings are spread across 12 acres. The main building, the largest at 175,000 square feet, is five levels with 55 guest rooms; then there's the diagnostic building with 13 guest rooms, three seaside villas, plus a listed former officers' club under renovation. For now, all the action is in the main

building, which replaced an officers' accommodation block. In addition to guest rooms, it offers lounges, treatment rooms and medical offices, indoor and outdoor pools, a climbing wall, a sauna, and a steam room.

The design is a supersize version of the traditional Frisian house, found in coastal Germany and the Netherlands, which has a low vertical facade and a large overhanging thatched roof to protect against wind and rain. Ingenhoven subbed in triple-pane glass for the usual brick facade, gave the building an E shape to maximize views and sun exposure, and tucked upper floors within an enormous reed roof—at nearly 65,000 square feet, it's the largest thatched roof in Europe. The fine strands of reed let



him and his team create soft, rounded forms that integrate into the landscape and mimic the shape and color of the dunes.

Inside, the building centers on a 50-foot-high circular staircase that winds from the basement parking garage to the fourth floor, helping visitors orient themselves. The white-painted steel and oak structure, framed by slatted oak paneling and exposed Nordic spruce ceiling beams, adds drama to the otherwise subdued interiors. On the ground floor, it leads to a lounge furnished with an expansive curved sofa, a generous firepit, Eames armchairs, chessboards, and bookshelves. Behrens notes that the concept conveys a sense of security and connection with the outdoors, which is important to the treatment. Upstairs, each guest room has a unique plan, due to the curved roof, and opens onto an enclosed balcony. "Traditionally, you would build a dormer window," Ingenhoven notes. "We turned it 180 degrees and cut out a balcony instead." There, guests can isolate themselves, soak up the restorative power of nature, and try to ignore their hunger. 🍷

#### PROJECT TEAM

MORITZ KROGMANN; ANETTE BÜSING; ANDREAS CRYNEN; KARMIN SHIM; JUAN PEREG; MINA ROSTAMIYANMOGHADAM; IAN CHOW; MARTIN TRAWINSKI; PHILIPP NEUMANN; FLORIAN JUNG; KIARA HELK; INGENHOVEN ASSOCIATES. MWH MEBLE: CUSTOM FURNITURE WORKSHOP. TROPP LIGHTING DESIGN: LIGHTING CONSULTANT. WERNER SOBEK: STRUCTURAL ENGINEER. GEBR. SCHÜTT KG; WINKELS INTERIOR DESIGN EXHIBITION: WOODWORK. TKS GROUP: GENERAL CONTRACTOR.

#### PRODUCT SOURCES

FROM FRONT KETTAL: OUTDOOR FURNITURE (OUTDOOR POOL). VITRA: CHAIRS, OTTOMANS (LOUNGE). MANUTTI: SIDE TABLES. FLOS: FLOOR LAMPS (LOUNGE), BEDSIDE LAMP (GUEST ROOM). PAOLA LENTI: CHAIRS (REC ROOM). BOLEY: CUSTOM FIREPLACE. SICIS: TILE (STEAM ROOM). ART ROCK: BOULDER WALL (GYM). TECHNOGYM: FITNESS EQUIPMENT. BETTE: TUB (BATHROOM). THROUGHOUT TEKHEK ECOLOGICAL ROOFING: ROOF. KLAFS: SAUNAS. JAB ANSTOETZ: CURTAINS.

