

serge
schoemaker
architects

Jonschwil Villa

In 2025, construction will begin on an exceptional villa located at the edge of a steep river valley in the canton of St. Gallen, Switzerland. The robust home is designed with two distinct living atmospheres: the lower floor is sheltered and partially embedded into the slope, while the upper level offers light, air, and expansive views.

The design and preparation process took two years, during which the client and architect carefully refined every detail. A solid, high-quality construction and weather-resistant finish were chosen to ensure the house endures for generations. Built to Swiss Minergie standards, the sustainable villa will feature an energy-efficient building envelope, a heat recovery ventilation system, and solar panels integrated into the roof.

The lower floor's layout is defined by two monolithic volumes, one of which is embedded in the slope. This level accommodates covered parking, guest quarters, and a wellness area. Constructed from local natural stone, the walls anchor the building harmoniously within the landscape.

Between the two stone volumes lies an open living space that connects the entrance at the front with the terrace at the rear. A continuous floor finish and large sliding glass doors enhance this spatial continuity. Beneath the terrace, a swimming pool can be revealed via a manoeuvrable platform.

A circular, wood-clad staircase links the stone-clad lower level with the light, airy upper floor. This upper living level is structured as an open concrete frame that appears to rest gently on the landscape below. Here, the main living areas are arranged around floor-to-ceiling windows that frame sweeping views of the surrounding greenery.

In contrast to the enclosed lower floor, the upper level features an open-plan layout. At its centre stands a sculptural, furniture-like core around which one can circulate along the panoramic glazing. In the sunniest corner, a covered balcony offers the finest views of the impressive river valley.

LOCATION	Jonschwil, Switzerland
YEAR	2021-2026
STATUS	Ongoing
CLIENT	Private
PROJECT TEAM	Serge Schoemaker, Henrik Holte, Maiara Camilotti, Farimah Chaman Zadeh, Ottavia Profumo, et al.









