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# SKIGARD HYTTE: INTIMATE CONNECTION TO SURROUNDINGS

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Tags: Architecture & Nature, Comfortable environment, Dealing with Nature, Extreme environments, Norway, Private housing, Rural environment, Structural grid, Thermal comfort, Vernacular, Wood construction

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On top of a mountain in Kvitfjell, Norway is a regular grid of 45 wooden columns. The columns lift a 144 sqm cabin 1.5 m above the ground, allowing native grasses that sheep and cows graze on to grow below.



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The columns are clad with *skigard*, a long and narrow quarter-cut log that is traditionally laid out diagonally for use as fencing by Norwegian farmers. The roof is overgrown with the same native grasses found on the ground below and on centuries-old Norwegian buildings.

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The cabin is accessed through a series of wide wooden steps that lead to a veranda, which frames the view of the valley and river below. Internally, the wood cabin is divided along its length into four smaller spaces, each housed under a frustum ceiling capped with a skylight. The spaces are scaled intimately but are open visually and physically to the landscape below and to the small grove of trees that surrounds the cabin.

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