



ARCHITECTURE LUXURY REAL ESTATE

Jutta Hoehn on Portugal's Luxury Eco-Friendly Architecture

Architect Jutta Hoehn, the founder of JSH Algarve, is inspired by traditional tiles, classic modern lines, and Portugal's year-round warm weather, creating eco-friendly luxury homes.

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Located in the Golden Triangle of the Algarve, Portugal, Jutta Hoehn creates bespoke luxury properties in harmony with the area's beautiful natural surroundings from her JSH Algarve practice. Combining classical and contemporary design, with a focus on eco-friendly, energy-efficient living, Hoehn's designs reflect her love of the Portuguese landscape that the German-born architect has made her home.

Where did you grow up and what was home like?

I was born and raised in the spa town of Wiesbaden, in Germany—it's famed for its architecture. I think it was this exposure to the beautiful buildings that ignited an early passion for design and architecture.



JSH Algarve founder and architect Jutta Hoehn studied at Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz before being inspired by the traditional design of Portugal. Source: Image: Wika Viala Verde; Source: Fisher

Was it always your ambition to be an architect?

My family have vineyards in Germany, and although I enjoy the fruits of their labor, I never saw myself becoming a farmer. Even at an early age I loved design and interesting buildings, so architecture seemed a natural career choice. I studied architecture at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz.

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Why and when did you form JSH Algarve?

I led the redesign of what would become one of the Algarve's first five-star hotels in 1999. I decided to settle in Portugal and founded JSH Algarve. We specialize in bespoke design across Portugal, including both interior and exterior architecture, new builds, renovations, and remodeling.



Vila Vale do Lobo by JSH Algarve architect Jutta Hoehn features walls of glass to bring the outside environment in.

In what way does the Portuguese climate influence your designs?

My surrounding environment plays a fundamental role in my designs. Given the beautiful weather, we focus just as much on exterior living as we do on the interior. We aim to create light and cool open spaces to maximize the connection between indoor and outdoor and develop a harmonious duality between the two. We also strive for green solutions and sustainability.

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How do you approach a commission?

The design process begins with a conversation where we discuss ideas, the client's tastes and preferences, as well as the location and topography of the site. I then transform this into a 3D design concept. We also use virtual reality so that clients can get excited about the end product. I love working collaboratively with clients to make their visions reality, while injecting my own signature style.



Quinta do Lago Golf Links, one of a number of "super villas" that JSH Algarve is creating in the Quinta do Lago golf resort in Portugal.

Describe the Jutta Hoehn "look."

My style is a blend of contemporary and traditional elements. I often use authentic Portuguese tiles within my properties, which juxtapose well with the modern aesthetic of my projects. Challenges can lie in blending modern architecture with traditional finishes and striking the correct balance between the two.



The light-filled interior of Quinta do Lago Golf Links by JSH Algarve showcases architect Jutta Hoehn's attention to detail and trademark open, airy living spaces.

How do you unify your projects?

Our projects aim to show that green architecture and luxury can be seamlessly combined. The design approach always considers energy-saving solutions, local materials when possible, and water-saving solutions, as well as sustainable and recyclable materials.

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What inspires you?

I am always inspired by my surroundings, wherever I am in the world. I love to have a sense of duality in my projects, between traditional and contemporary, luxury and environmentally friendly, and especially unity between indoor and outdoor living.

Whose work do you admire?

Isay Weiszfeld of Brazil, Pinus Kodes of Israel, Jean Nouvel of France, and of course, Zaha Hadid.



Outdoor entertaining area in a residence for JSH Algarve and architect Jutta Hoehn when designing Vila Valente do Lago.

What is your own home like?

I have actually recently building my own home in Loulé and I am thrilled with the result! The overall style is a blend of contemporary features with eclectic artwork and unusual pieces of furniture. Of course I've included Portuguese tiles in my bath which look beautiful against copper fixtures and fittings.

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