

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD  
DESIGN VANGUARD 2006

136 141 : HOTEL REMOTA

12 2006  
MC GRAW HILL COMPANIES  
ILLINOIS, USA



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## Two: HOTEL REMOTA

### Puerto Natales, Chile

Germán del Sol captures the folk spirit and isolation of Patagonia, with architecture that envelops both guests and the landscape.

By Russell Fortmeyer

**Architect:** Germán del Sol Architects—Germán del Sol, principal and project architect; José Luis Duarte; Francisca Schuler, Rodrigo Arenas, Carlos Yruga  
**Client:** Daniel and Juan Pablo González Correa Inmobiliaria Faldas del Sur  
**Consultants:** Pedro Bartolomé (structural); Germán del Sol Architects (landscape, lighting, acoustics, interiors); Francisca Schuler (interiors); SALFA (general contractor); Guillermo Salinas Engineering; Francisca Arrigada Engineering

**Size:** 56,000 square feet

**Cost:** \$10 million

**Completion date:** December 2005

#### Sources

**Exterior asphalt membrane:**

Ardilos Chile

**Slate floors:** Pincelata Chile

**Glass facades and windows:**

Ventanas de PVC, Antonio Ponsill

**Insulation panels:** Hechos por Salfo

**Furniture:** Germán del Sol Architects

For more information on this project, go to Building Types Study at [archrecord.construction.com](http://archrecord.construction.com).

The Hotel Remota is for people who like their lattes made over a campfire. In a rugged and remote Patagonian landscape, outside Puerto Natales, Chile, the hotel beckons adventurous travelers with equal parts luxury and local folk style.

Germán del Sol, the Santiago-based architect behind Remota, has inadvertently cornered the market on luxe hotels in far-flung Chilean locales. His Hotel Explora in Atacama, San Pedro [RECORD, November 1998, page 112] and its earlier sister property in Patagonia offer urbane accommodations in a region better known for sheep barns and rustic lodgings for visitors who prefer sleeping bags to down comforters.

#### Program

The 72-room hotel lies at the base of the Patagonian Mountains on a sea channel 125 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Much of the construction material arrived on-site by boat. Remota's 56,000-square-foot complex includes a dining room, bar, and spa. A Santiago family of recreational sailors and outdoorsmen, who also happen to have backgrounds in construction and engineering, developed the hotel. Del Sol's understanding of the area, backed by the four years he spent in the early 1990s trekking the nearby Torres del Paine National Park and environs, helped convince the client to build his formally unconventional, jagged design.

Three long, partially enclosed wooden corridors embrace a grassy courtyard and connect the two guest-room buildings, the spa, and the main public building. The site's daytime color, set off by black structures, shifts between green and blue.



Erratic boulders from the Patagonia mountain range sprinkle the lower courtyard and

reinforce the mood of peaceful solitude the architects desired for Hotel Remota.

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SECTION A-A

The chimneys' curved flues prevent hard-driving rains and winds from entering the building (opposite, top). Hotel Remota overlooks a mountain range (below left and opposite, bottom) and is only 93 miles from Torres del Paine National Park. Guests of the all-inclusive hotel can choose from a number of day-long trekking options, depending on their skill level.



ENTRY LEVEL - MAIN BUILDING



1. Conservatory
2. Reading room
3. Exhibition area
4. Porte cochere
5. Living room
6. Reception
7. Dining room
8. Kitchen
9. Staff dining
10. Offices
11. Shop
12. Bar
13. Entrance
14. Typical guest room
15. Corridor
16. From main building



GUESTROOM WING