

Library in timber construction

Nord-Odal, NO



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Project details

Client	Kommune Nord-Odal
Architecture	Helen & Hard
Project type	Office and administration, Residential construction apartement building
Construction type	Wood element construction
Services	Timber construction
Construction	2019
Locality	Nord-Odal
Country	Norway

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Village library forms an architectural highlight

The spectacular timber building in Nord-Odal houses the village library, a bank branch and 10 apartments. The 'Samling' structure constitutes the first stage in the planned development of the landscape of the village. With its timber construction and location, it creates a place for meeting and connecting.

The building itself is reminiscent of a snail shell with an inner courtyard. The architecture of the single-storey, high-ceilinged library with its balcony and of the bank's premises is especially striking. Distinctive frame structures imbue these interior spaces with their very own character. The geometry of these frame structures proved complex and challenging to implement. At the request of the architect, our timber construction team found a bespoke solution for the corner joints of the framework beams without using visible steel connectors. Erecting the ready-to-install frame structures was not part of our brief and was instead carried out by local partners. To ensure that on-site installation ran smoothly, we put together a construction kit with instructions and approvals all ready for the Norwegian team of installers to use.

Specific Contact



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The unusual timber structure gives the 'Samling' its distinctive appearance.



The spacious design and ample glazing let plenty of natural light into the high-ceilinged, single-storey library space.

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The welcoming furnishings and the design of the library's spaces underpin the intention for the building as a meeting place.

The timber used in the building's structure and interior finishing makes for a comfortable temperature and good air quality in the library.



Timber predominates in the building's structure and interior finishing.

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The timber frame construction defines the appearance of the building from the inside.



Timber also has a strong influence on the outside appearance of the 'Samling'.