



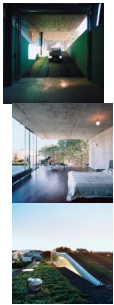
Green Roof Design | While the practice of building green roofs is centuries old, it has experienced a renaissance as the structural philosophy of the future. A living green roof reduces the costs of heating and cooling, encourages the local wildlife and naturally filters the rain water it receives. Here, we celebrate the work of some of today's most talented, most progressive architects, who have adopted green roof design techniques to yield beautiful, sustainable works of architecture.

Villa Bio by Enric Ruiz-Geli



The green roof design of [Villa Bio](#) stands out amongst a community of cookie-cutter, Mediterranean-style homes in Llers, Spain. While it was first met with controversy, the completed Villa Bio reflects the nature of the local landscape much more intimately than its neighbors. That nature does not end at the corner of its plot, but continues on to the home's hydroponic garden that snakes along its green roof. Architect Enric Ruiz-Geli has masterfully designed a home with a seamless connection with the Mediterranean environment, an organically-inspired structure with a lush, productive green roof.

Villa Bio Green Roof Gallery



Mill Valley Residence by McGlashan Architecture



This terraced, multi-family home in Mill Valley, California is as hilly and green as the environment around it. The [Mill Valley Residence by McGlashan Architecture](#) includes three sections, each with its own green roof, built into the hill of the lot. The green roof design of the Mill Valley Residence may not produce vegetation of the garden variety, but plants that hail from the home's local flora. The result is a stunning home with a green roof that reduces heating and cooling costs and stimulates the habitat of local Mill Valley wildlife.

Mill Valley Residence Gallery



Mountain Dwellings by BIG Architects



Nanyang School of Art



The Nanyang Technological University of Singapore recently erected a green roof building to house their School of Art, Design and Media. The five story structure features two curved sections with stretches of green roof fully accessible to students. In the [Nanyang School of Art](#)

, the line between landscape and building are blurred. Beyond the aesthetic value of this green roof design, this living skin saves heating and cooling costs and collects rainwater for landscape irrigation.

Nanyang School of Art Gallery



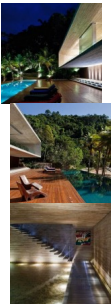
Paraty House by Marcio Kogan Architects



It is no coincidence that one of TheCoolist's favorite works of architecture features a green roof as its crown. The [Paraty House by Marcio Kogan Architects](#) is a sprawling tropical retreat, fully immersed in the vibrant nature of island life. Once its occupants arrive by boat, taking frequent trips back for groceries isn't on the menu. Instead, its inhabitants tend to a large, well-stocked vegetable garden over its top floor. This green roof provides the herbs and

veggies needed to compliment the freshly caught seafood just steps away from Paraty House's magnificent deck.

Paraty House Gallery



Green Technology Showroom by Vector Architects

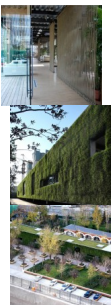


The benefits of green roof design and other green technologies are not always apparent. To help communicate their values to the public, the [Green Technology Showroom by Vector](#)

Architects

is an example in eco success. The Green Technology Showroom in Beijing, China is blanketed in thick, climate-controlling grasses attached to an inner steel skeleton. It now stands in a residential development, a temporary symbol of sustainable design.

Green Technology Showroom Gallery



California Academy of Sciences by Renzo Piano



The [California Academy of Sciences by Renzo Piano](#) is a stunning achievement in green roof design. Such structures are no stranger to Italian architect Renzo Piano, who designed a long time favorite of TheCoolist, the [Vulcano Buono](#) in Nola, Italy. The CAS building in San Francisco, California features a 2.5 acre green roof that is blanketed by local plants, acting as a habitat for bay area wildlife. Within, the CAS features a planetarium, an aquarium and a man-made rain forest, all three of which rest right under the dome sections of this amazing green roof.

California Academy of Sciences Green Roof Gallery



OS House by NOLASTER Architects



The harsh coastal winds of Santander, Spain can make enjoying this rocky shore quite difficult. Where most houses in this stretch focus back inland, the [OS House by NOLASTER Architects](#) is centered around the water below. It is built in a low-profile fashion that merges with the plot's topography, as well as continuing the foliage around it with a full-size green roof. Unlike many others on this list, the green roof design of OS House is habitable, a soft, grassy bed on which to enjoy the coastal nature of Spain's north shore.

OS House Gallery

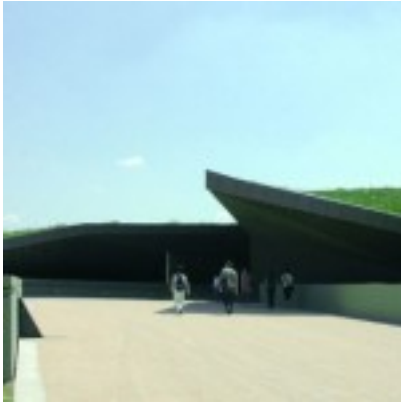


Historial de la Vendée by PLAN01



When it comes to green roof design, there are many different types of systems that can be used. Some of the most common types of green roof systems are extensive green roofs, intensive green roofs, and semi-intensive green roofs. Each type of system has its own unique benefits and challenges. For example, extensive green roofs are typically the most cost-effective and easiest to maintain, but they may not be able to support a wide variety of plants. Intensive green roofs, on the other hand, can support a wide variety of plants, but they are typically more expensive and require more maintenance. Semi-intensive green roofs are a middle ground between extensive and intensive green roofs, and they can be a good choice for many applications.





OUTrial House by KWK Promes

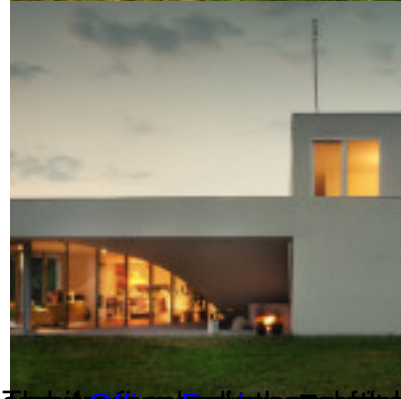


The plot for this amazing green roof home called for a rather specific characteristic— a field

clearing within a forest. The [OUTrial House by KWK Promes](#) appears to have been excavated right out of the rolling Polish countryside, then covered over with the very grass it broke to be constructed. The smooth curves and shaggy grass roof give this home a dreamy appeal, as if it were inspired only by childhood wonder and imagination.

OUTrial House Gallery





Source: <http://www.greenroofdesign.com/10-stunning-sustainable-works-of-architecture>