

## House without Borders

Rostov Oblast, Russia

If some houses are content to bask in beauty and public attention, this one lies at the other end of the spectrum. The appropriately named, House without Borders tries to dispense with the concept of borders as much as possible in order to offer its owner freedom at its purest and most simple.

One effective way to 'erase' the borders of a house is by using panoramic windows and this is what Architectural Studio Chado did. Large floor-to-ceiling windows substitute most of the outer walls, allowing the surrounding nature to really become part of the house. The absence of conventional walls also serves to expand the modest 390-sqm size of the building by incorporating the boundlessness of nature outside. The ceiling, stripped down to the 'bare' skeleton of the roof, further conveys the sense of honesty and liberation in the design.

As for the interior, hand-molded bricks bring a taste of nature inside the house. Dark-colored furniture with occasional bright yet subtle accents from upholstery and ceramics blends gracefully with the existing palette. A fireplace occupies a central role, flanked by large, stained-glass windows on each side to allow the freedom of opening and closing them depending on the weather.

In their most conventional sense, borders exist to allow some privacy. House without Borders challenges this concept and turns it on its axis by stating that the ultimate kind of privacy is "the privacy to be free". Stars who have too little freedom and personal space in their lives will no doubt appreciate this kind of privacy—not by confining themselves between thick, restricting walls, but by an act of liberation, with endless nature only a curtain's opening away.

