

THE HINTERLAND

CABINS, LOVE SHACKS
AND OTHER HIDE-OUTS



gestalten

– Valais, Switzerland –

SNOW DAYS

SAVIOZ FABRIZZI ARCHITECTES

A lone barn from the 19th century
lives on as a welcome
mountain respite backed
by enchanting
panoramas of the Swiss Alps.

Dating back to 1878, a rustic barn persists on its secluded slope 1,760 meters above sea level. Before this recent conversion, the structure was used for housing during the pasture season with the animals sheltered on the ground level. The original charm remained intact over the centuries despite small modifications. Distinctive yet typical, the spirit of the barn drives this final incarnation. Added annexes were dismantled to reveal the cabin's initial shape. Now used as a holiday home for winter skiing, the timeless form enjoys a privileged position on the Swiss Alps. The masonry walls remain untouched, save for one large band of glass overlooking the valley. This horizontal opening brings in sunshine to the warm larch interiors and frames a vivid, shifting scene of the expansive mountain ranges. Emphasizing the comfort of the barn while keeping its rudimentary style, the building spends much of the winter months endearingly obscured under the banks of snow. ♦



– Valais, Switzerland –

RUSTIC RESURRECTION

SAVIOZ FABRIZZI ARCHITECTES

A palimpsest of Alpine ideals
and rural nostalgia, this rugged
log cabin reinvents itself
high above a valley summit.





“The flush windows and their dark frames disappear into the timber façades.”



Saved from demolition and lovingly repurposed, an unused granary in the Swiss Alps enjoys its second life as a second home. The thoughtful renovation retains the dimensions of the original structure, safeguarding its essential character while adding needed updates. Aside from floating the cabin off the ground on elevated foundations to add an underground games room, the exterior’s rustic vernacular remains largely untouched. The two-story pitched roof structure includes covered balconies

and porches that revel in prime Alpine vistas. Several large windows punctuate the weathered façade, framing new connections to the picturesque landscape from the shared spaces below and bedrooms above. The flush windows and their dark frames disappear into the timber façades. This historic shell leads to a completely updated interior. Clad in larch, the contemporary interior enjoys a refreshing simplicity unencumbered by the weight of time. ♦