



# A HOUSE BY THE SEA

## SHAVEY ZION, ISRAEL



This design focuses on the importance of establishing a connection between light and the horizon. The shining sun and the blue of the sea serve as the starting points that guide the architectural plan. The vernacular elements of the design are embedded in western, modern principles, but it is also inspired by Roman traditions and nowadays Israeli architecture. Alongside the functional, modern character of this design, one also feels the sheer mass, the asymmetry, and a sense of dismantled space. The outer, linear envelope of the building evokes the International Style, while

subverting it to its own purpose; protecting the building from overheating under the desert sun. Not only do the windows offer a resplendent view, they also provide comfort. The house uses certain traditional architectural traits, such as the use of a flat roof and a predominantly white volume – this is typical of architecture in a hot climate.



**Architect:** Pitsou Kedem Architects  
**Initial design and planning:** Irene Goldberg, Pitsou Kedem  
**Architect in charge:** Tamar Berger  
**Lighting designer:** Orly Avron Alkabes  
**Year of completion:** 2015  
**Gross floor area/site area:** 280 m<sup>2</sup>/700 m<sup>2</sup>  
**Luxury features:** swimming pool



Shavey Zion means: “Returnees to Zion”. The immediate proximity to the Mediterranean Sea could tempt one to stay there forever.



The stripes cut into the façade continue inside, where white walls, galleries and doors all feature the same stripes. This gives a sense of fluidity and continuation, where inside and outside are not opposed, but rather come together to form a coherent whole. The huge floor-to-ceiling windows are really magnificent. Sliding glass doors on the lower floor can also be opened out, making the terrace part of the living area and blurring the boundary between inside and outside.

